



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

JAN 21 2019

Mr. Arlin Hackman
Board Chair
Nature United
4579 Rithetwood Drive
Victoria BC V8X 4P4

Dear Mr. Hackman:

This is further to your e-mail message of December 12, 2018, requesting a ministerial letter to recognize the accomplishment of your colleague, Mr. John Honderich, who visited all of Canada's national parks in 2017-2018.

Please find enclosed the requested letter. Mr. Honderich's achievement is indeed quite impressive and deserves to be praised.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jamie MacDonald
Director of Policy

Enclosure





Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

JAN 21 2019

Mr. John A. Honderich
Director
Nature United
331 - 366 Adelaide Street East
Toronto ON M5A 3X9

Dear Mr. Honderich:

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you for your inspiring odyssey throughout every one of Canada's 47 national parks during 2017-2018. Your initial accomplishment, to visit all 45 national parks in existence in 2017, the 150th anniversary year of Confederation, was remarkable and quite possibly unique. To this, you added in 2018 Canada's two newest national parks, Qausuittuq National Park and Akami-Uapishk-KakKasuak-Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve, a crowning achievement.

The remoteness of some of the national parks you visited at the extremes of Canada's vast expanse, combined with often unpredictable weather patterns, make your exploits an extraordinary logistical feat. Your passion for nature, and the determination and resourcefulness you exhibited to accomplish your remarkable journeys, are in the best traditions of the peoples of this land, both ancient and modern. What is more, you have publicized your travels to a large audience, importantly contributing to building Canadians' understanding of, and appreciation for, our national park system. Thank you for these efforts.

Canada's national parks and protected areas play a significant role in shaping our national identity, protecting biodiversity, fighting climate change, and supporting jobs and local economic development across the country. The Government of Canada is committed to preserving our natural and cultural heritage for generations to come.

Your spirit of adventure and passion for Canada are an inspiration to us all. Keep exploring and enjoy!

Sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.

