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Prime Minister Steven Harper

Office of the Prime Minister

80 Wellington Street

Ottawa

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A Hi-Tech Perspective on Environment

Dear Prime Minister Steven Harper,

Now that the New Year is upon us, I hope you and your family have enjoyed Christmas immensely. However looking back at 2006 I continue to feel a sense of urgency about the state of Newfoundland's ecosystems, as well as our global ecosystems. I don't mean to be this serious so soon in the New Year, but it is just as well to take the bull by the horns. Everyone is optimistic now, with hopes and dreams of the future. I'm just hoping that we all have our priorities straight.

I had the opportunity to study some of the incredible pictures taken by N.A.S.A'S Rover, Spirit, Opportunity, and Voyager (1) space craft. It is becoming even more obvious with modern technology, how fragile mother earth is. With nine planets in our solar system, earth is the only planet that supports life, and at the rate we are going, we are threatening life here too. We just can't continue to poison, develop and exploit every ecosystem as previous generations have done. If certain individuals and governments still feel it takes too much time and money to protect our environment from indiscriminate dumping, car wrecks, and habitat destruction, then we might as well throw in the towel. For what is the good of a \$250,000 home, a \$40,000 car, and all the modern luxuries of the 21st century, if every creature we share this planet with, and their ecosystems are extinct. It is the health of these ecosystems that give us our quality of life. Thanks to the scientists of N.A.S.A and E.S.A, they have proved this point. Also in the past our ancient ancestors had the option to migrate from continent to continent. If we destroy this earth, we do not have that option.

So what is it going to take for modern hominids, armed with this great space age technology, to finally turn things around for the benefit of all life on this planet? Our cities have become toxic waste lands, and our country sides void of the bio-diversity to sustain itself. What is it going to take?

What we have done to the northern cod, capelin, and possibly the polar bear is a perfect example of mans lack of respect for natural law. We seem to like walking on dangerous

ground, until all hell breaks loose, and then we realize we have to do something. Given mans quest for extra terrestrial life, and the trillions of miles of space travel to find it. We better get wise fast, or we too could end up like the dinosaurs. I don't mean to ruin anyone's good mood, but what the heck; I am not much for illusion anyway. As an outdoorsman I have experienced Newfoundland's great woodland caribou herds rutting later and later in the fall. What's that all about? Our environment is changing faster than all its life forms could naturally evolve. It's time for all our world leaders to work together diligently, and understand that it is not going to matter what political, religions, or geographical part of the world you are from if natural law kicks in. So the next time someone decides to dump bunker fuel on the grand banks, indiscriminately dump their garbage in our remote wilderness areas, or poison our air, lakes, and streams. Try living on Mars!

All the best

Danny Williams, Steven Harper, and George Bush.

May you all have a great, great environmentally friendly New Year.

What a great legacy to leave behind. Good stewardship to mother earth.

The Science is There!

I will leave you with the words of William Morton Wheeler.

“Why animals and plants are as they are,” Wheeler said, “we shall never know; how they came to be what they are, our knowledge will always be extremely fragmentary; but that organisms are as they are, that apart from members of our own species, they are our only companions in an infinite and unsympathetic waste of electrons, planets, nebulae, and stars is a perennial joy and consolation.

Cc: George Bush

President of the United States

Premier Danny Williams

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Honourable Clyde Jackman

Minister Environment Conservation

Juanita King, The MVSE

Honourable Tom Osborne

Minister of Health

Ms. Charlene Johnson, M.H.A

Trinity-Conception

Cc: Mr. Shane Mahoney

The Compass

The Herald

Evening Telegram

Newfoundland Sportsman