



Canadian Wildlife Conservation Partners

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October 27th, 2025

Minister Ian Bushie
Minister of Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures
301 Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

To: Minister Ian Bushie,

With over two million lakes and rivers, 30 per cent of the world's forest and a vast array of public land, Canada is home to a rich variety of opportunities for outdoor conservationists. Almost six million Canadians participate in hunting, fishing, trapping, or shooting sports. Based on a 2019 national study by The Conference Board of Canada, these Canadians contribute

- \$18.9 billion in direct spending,
- \$13.2 billion to our gross domestic product – 0.6% of the Canadian economy;
- 107,000 direct jobs, and labour income estimated at \$6.4 billion; and
- federal and provincial government revenues of \$6.1 billion.

Beyond this economic impact, access to public lands is an essential part of our national fabric and is the reason many Canadians choose to live here and contribute to the conservation of these outdoor spaces.

This access is being eroded by current government policies that appear to exclude segments of the population from our public spaces, or by allowing unelected bodies to turn some Canadians away. Recent examples include:

- closures of parks to non-indigenous Canadians;
- proposals to delegate control and management of public lands to unelected management boards;
- Reductions of hunting licenses without scientific justification or consultation; and
- unauthorized blockades of public highways to licensed anglers and hunters.

Access for all Canadians to our public lands is your fundamental responsibility as Manitoba's Minister for Natural Resources. We urge you reverse these decisions, and share what steps your department is taking to ensure public lands can be enjoyed by all Canadians.

Sincerely,

Alberta Professional Outfitters Society

British Columbia Trappers Association

Born To Hunt, It's a Lifestyle

Canadian Coalitions for Firearms Rights

Delta Waterfowl

Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association

Manitoba Wildlife Federation

Northwestern Ontario Sportsmen's Alliance

Safari Club International – Canada

University of Victoria Fish and Game Club

The Veteran Hunters

Wild Origins Canada

Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia