



NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Senior Attorney

May 22, 2008

Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier
Province of Ontario
Legislative Building, Rm 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 Canada

Fax: (416) 325-3745

Dear Premier McGuinty,

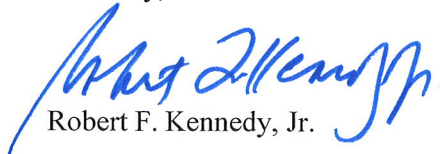
I am writing to ask you to halt the drilling projects on the lands of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) and the Ardoch Algonquins so that Bob Lovelace and the KI Six can be released from jail. As you know, members of the Ardoch Algonquin and KI communities have been jailed for peacefully opposing mineral exploration on their lands. It is appalling that this could happen to Aboriginal leaders in Ontario who are standing up for their people and their traditional lands in the face of antiquated and unjust mining laws.

That mineral exploration could go forward in the face of such strong opposition on the traditional lands of these Aboriginal communities shows that Ontario's mining rules – especially the free entry system - need to be reformed. Leaders of communities such as the Ardoch Algonquin and KI should be the ones making decisions about the long term conservation and sustainable use of their traditional lands.

I have great respect for the way in which these community leaders have faced threats to their traditional lands. I know that for these communities the land and waters of their traditional territory is their life, their livelihood and the future for their children.

It is clear from this situation that it is high time for reform of the Ontario mining rules. In the meantime, I ask that you do what you can to stop the drilling and to right this continuing injustice and secure the release of these honorable men and women. I hope you put in place new legislation that never allows this to happen again.

Sincerely,



Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.