

Dr. Ray Gosine,

In keeping with the beliefs of the Indigenous peoples, we are merely stewards of this planet.

Being a steward involves taking responsibility to sustain and care for Mother Earth; however, as environmental stewards, we are despoiling the earth, endangering the very existence of all life, merely to satisfy our own selfish desires.

Our current approach to planetary management leaves much to be desired. To be able to demonstrate wise human stewardship requires a significant evolution of our understanding and behaviour; we are not yet there.

As stated by Joss Tantram, a founding partner at Terrafiniti LLP, "we are running down finite natural resources and degrading our life support systems at a time when we need them to support" those living on the planet. ¹

Josh Tantrum also shares that "transcending our unfit approaches to managing vital resources for the good of all species is the defining challenge of our evolutionary history. To become globally sapient, we need to imagine a future that overcomes this challenge and plan for its creation." ²

¹ <http://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/blog/are-we-fit-stewards-of-earth>

² Ibid.

It is my hope that we will be able to evolve into a species that has the ability to demonstrate planetary intelligence.

I now call upon you, Mr. Gosine, to demonstrate this intelligence in recommending that a complete, and unequivocal, ban be put in place with regards to hydraulic fracturing within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador; such will take us one step closer in demonstrating this much needed evolution.

In the words of Chief Seattle *The earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons and daughters of the earth. This we know. All things are connected. Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.*

Sincerely,

Ms. M. Doucette