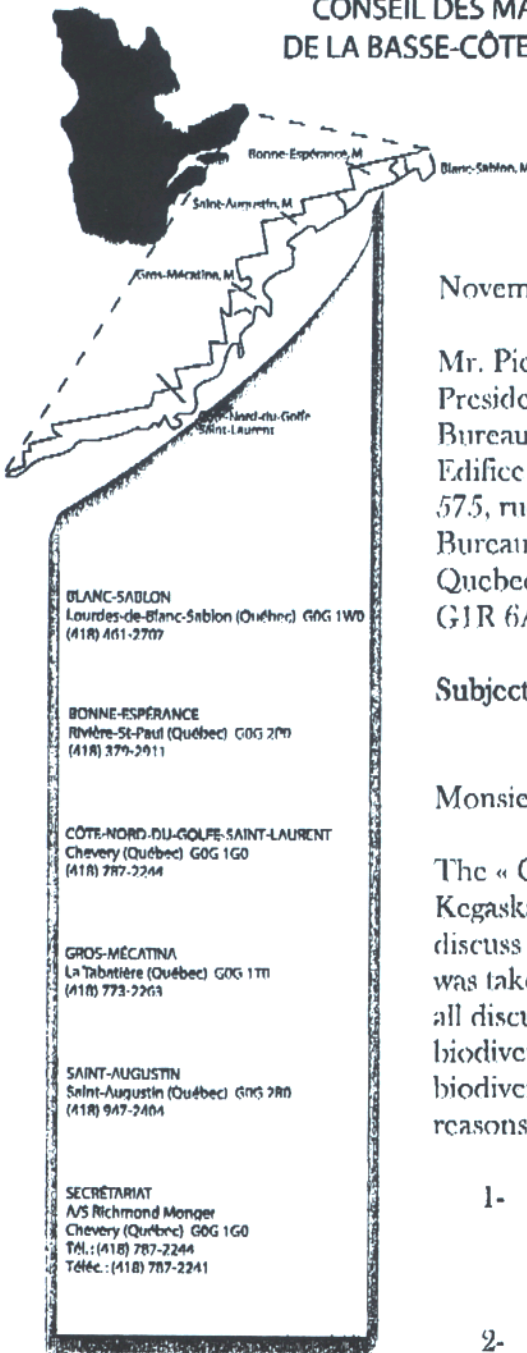


## CONSEIL DES MAIRES DE LA BASSE-CÔTE-NORD

Quatre projets de réserves de biodiversité dans  
la province naturelle du Plateau de la Basse-  
Côte-Nord

Basse-Côte-Nord

6212-01-206



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November 21, 2006

Mr. Pierre Beland  
President  
Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement du Québec  
Edifice Lomer-Gouin  
575, rue Saint Amable  
Bureau 2.10  
Québec (Québec)  
G1R 6A6

Subject : **Projets de réserves de biodiversité dans la province  
Naturelle du Plateau de la Basse Côte Nord**

Monsieur le président,

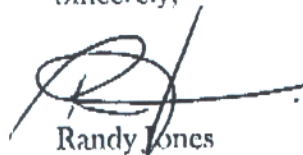
The « Conseil des Maires » represent five (5) municipalities from Kegaska to Blanc Sablon. The Council met on November 20, 2006 to discuss the above-mentioned subject matter. At that meeting a decision was taken to request to the Conseil des Ministre du Québec to suspend all discussions and hearings on the proposed Guernese Lake foot hills biodiversity reserve which covers 2000 square km and the Brador Hills biodiversity reserve which covers 32 square km. This for the following reasons:

- 1- Considering that two of the five Municipalities concerned (Bonne Esperance and Gros Mecatina) has not been consulted or invited to attend this process;
- 2- Considering that we are in the process of preparing a diversification plan for the Lower North Shore and we must look at the mining, forestry, tourism and hydro electric potential;
- 3- Considering that the full potential of this region has not been explored;

- 5- Considering that the proposed reserves from Natashquan to Blanc Sablon represents much more than 8% of the territory;
- 6- Considering that we are in the process of forming an MRC;
- 7- Considering that we are also requesting to the Minister of Natural Resources to lift all restrictions which was put into place on the region since 2003;
- 8- Considering that if we are to prosper and grow as a region we must have all the necessary tools to help us achieve our goals.

With this in mind, we are requesting that these hearings be suspended until such a time that an in depth exploration of the territory can be obtained to fully understand the potential of our region.

Sincerely,



Randy Jones  
President

RJ/ss

Cc: Mr. Camil Fequet, Mayor Municipality of St. Augustine  
Mr. Lionel Roberts, Mayor Municipalite de Bonne Esperance  
Mr. Richmond Monger, Administrator Municipalite de la Cote Nord du Golfe St. Laurent  
Mr. Armand Joncas, Mayor Municipality of Blanc Sablon