

À l'intention de Marie-Josée Méthot,  
Coordonnatrice du secrétariat de la commission  
pour les audiences publiques sur l'environnement.

Projet d'aménagement d'une centrale hydroélectrique sur la rivière Magpie.

June 17<sup>th</sup> 2004

I am a lawyer and occasional expedition kayaker.

In August, 2001 I paddled the Magpie River from Eric, Quebec to the St. Lawrence as half of a group of two kayakers. Having paddled all over the world, I can say with confidence that the Magpie is a rare and wondrous river.

In the Duplessis region, I have paddled many of the rivers flowing into the St. Lawrence River and of these, the Magpie is my favourite.

Except for the dams at the bottom of the river, it flows freely in an absolute wilderness environment. I spent two nights on Lake Magpie - a glorious setting. The river and the lake have huge potential for eco-tourism given the dramatic scenery and that it is a short flight in to the lake.

While in the area I spent hundreds of dollars on hotels, food and flights into the river.

I hope to return to the Magpie in several years with my children. It would be a travesty if the river was dammed and future generations denied this unique experience.

  
Doug McIntyre