



Technical Committee  
Sudbury Soils Study  
c/o Marc Butler, Xstrata Nickel

November 22, 2006

To the partners in the Sudbury Soils Study,

I am writing this letter to affirm Xstrata Nickel's ongoing commitment to the Sudbury Soils Study.

This study is an important initiative for the community of Greater Sudbury. Xstrata Nickel is committed to the principles of Sustainable Development and strongly believes in conducting our business in a manner that is beneficial both to the company and to the community. Environmental stewardship and the health and safety of community members are fundamental and important components of this consideration.

While the study was initiated under prior ownership of our company, please be assured that Xstrata Nickel's commitment to the study process remains strong. Mike Romaniuk is Xstrata Nickel's senior representative in Sudbury and an integral part of the Sudbury community. I know he supports both the study process as well as the involvement of the Xstrata Nickel representatives on the Technical Committee and Working Group.

Finally, I would like to commend the study partners and community members involved in the study for the tremendous amount of effort that has been put forth to date. The Sudbury Soils Study has the potential to emerge as an example of best practice for multi-stakeholder, consensus-oriented risk assessments in our global industry.

We look forward to seeing the final results released to the community in early 2007.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Pearce', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ian Pearce  
CEO, Xstrata Nickel

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