March 20, 2003

## **Society Members**

Dogrib Treaty 11 Council
Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Lutsel K'e First Nation
North Slave Metis Alliance
Yellowknives Dene First Nation
BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc.
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development

## **Re: IEMA Support of Recommendations from the Traditional Knowledge and Monitoring Workshop**

As a follow-up to the Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Monitoring Workshop held March 12-14, 2003, the Independent Environmental Monitoring Agency (IEMA) is pleased to provide you with the attached letter. The letter is directed to the signatories of the Environmental Agreement for Ekati and strongly encourages them to work towards the quick establishment of a Regional TK Panel as recommended by the Aboriginal Caucus.

The Agency commends the Aboriginal Society Members on their unanimous support for the formation of a Regional TK Panel. The Panel will help provide an integrated approach for addressing environmental effects related to the diamond mines. We reiterate our support for a Regional TK Panel and our willingness to work with the Environmental Monitoring Advisory Board to establish such a panel.

Sincerely,

-ORIGINAL SIGNED BY-

Red Pedersen Chair