



CAFES Ottawa

Community Associations for
Environmental Sustainability

November 28th, 2023

The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Transport and Quebec Lieutenant
Transport Canada
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N5

Dear Minister Rodriguez,

On behalf of the CAFES Ottawa network, I would like to express my support for the efforts of the Save Hunt Club Forest community group to save the local pine forest and its access to nearby residents. The Hunt Club Forest is a widely used and deeply valued natural area for local residents. After 60 years of growth, it has become a flourishing forest inhabited by hundreds of diverse plant and animal species.

While I understand the Hunt Club Forest is under the jurisdiction of the Ottawa International Airport Authority (OIAA), it is situated on federal land. I feel that it is reasonable for the federal government to delay the decision made by the OIAA in order to find a way to save a portion of the forest.

Given the Ministry of Transport's **mission** to be environmentally responsible, it would seem this action should receive your support. It appears that it is in your **mandate** to support Canada's transition to net zero emissions and address the climate-related challenges that communities are already facing, and removing valuable greenspace in the middle of a climate crisis does not seem to align with your identified priorities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Erica Shardlow

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