



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

21 December 1999

Dear Mr. Beaton,

On behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme, I would like to express my gratitude to you for providing us with a copy of your new film "Mohawk Wisdom Keepers". We have viewed the film and would like to congratulate you on the quality and powerful images conveyed in recording and documenting, through the voices of the Native American Elders, the contribution of the indigenous peoples to the promotion of environmental awareness and protection.

From the beginning, the United Nations Environment Programme has recognized the critical importance of the role of indigenous peoples and that most indigenous cultures are based on a profound respect for nature. In keeping with the spirit of the International Decade for the World's Indigenous Peoples, UNEP's support of your activities during these past years is one expression of the importance that we attach to the contribution that indigenous peoples make to the conservation of many of the earth's most fragile ecosystems through their traditional sustainable resource use practices and culture-based respect for nature.

In this respect, I look forward to seeing the final version of your new film project: "The Iroquois Speak Out for Mother Earth". We would encourage all those interested in supporting indigenous peoples to support its production and your continued efforts in strengthening the active participation of indigenous peoples in promoting environmentally sound and sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,

Adnan Z. Amin

Director UNEP/RONA

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