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June 4, 2019  
File No.: 0530-02

The Honourable J. Wilkinson  
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Min@dfm-mpo.gc.ca

The Honourable D. Donaldson  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
& Rural Development  
FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Wilkinson & Minister Donaldson:

**RE: Letter of Support for the Okanagan Basin Water Board Regarding Reducing Conflict Between Native Mussel Protection and Invasive Milfoil Control in the Okanagan**

The Regional Board at its regular meeting of May 27, 2019 adopted a resolution to approve forwarding a letter of support regarding the above.

As you are aware, the Okanagan Basin Water Board provided extensive information to your respective ministries on concerns regarding the negative effects of invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil on the aquatic environment, as well as the social and economic impact, the methods of milfoil control, history of the control program and numerous science-based supporting reports.

This is a serious issue to the Okanagan Valley and the citizens of the valley, and one that will have a negative impact to the citizens and visitors to the valley. We respectfully request your ministries consider the fact-based evidence provided by the Okanagan Basin Water Board and permit the effective traditional treatment of this invasive weed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Gail Given  
Chair