

January 14, 2005

The Right Honourable Paul Martin  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A2

**Re: Support for Canada hosting the first Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in 2005**

Dear Prime Minister,

This letter is to urge you to put Canada forward as the host of the first Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in late 2005.

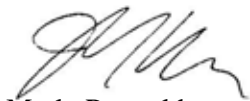
This meeting, the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) serving as the first Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP 11/MOP 1), will be of unique importance in the series of annual sessions of international climate change negotiations. COP 11/MOP 1 will not only be the first session following entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, but it will also be the session at which negotiations must begin on post-2012 emission reduction commitments, as required by article 3.9 of the Protocol.

International efforts to address climate change started right here in Canada with the 1988 Toronto Conference on the Changing Atmosphere. But Canada has never hosted a session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC. Given the opportunity and importance of demonstrating that Canada is among the leaders in addressing the critical global issue of climate change, and with no countries formally having offered to host COP 11/MOP 1 during the recent COP 10 in Buenos Aires, we strongly urge you to put Canada forward as the host of the COP 11/MOP 1 meeting.

Canada is uniquely positioned to host COP 11/MOP 1. Firstly, Canadians overwhelmingly support our country's participation in the Kyoto Protocol. Secondly, according to both the recent Arctic Climate Impact Assessment and previous Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change assessments, Canada is projected to be severely impacted by climate change if we fail to take decisive action. Holding COP 11/MOP 1 in Canada is a great opportunity to re-engage Canadians in an agenda of action on climate change and to demonstrate Canada's international leadership and commitment on this critical issue. Our close ties with the United States also present a unique opportunity to increase US participation in coordinated international action on climate change. Hosting COP 11/MOP 1 would be the clearest possible way to give effect to Minister Dion's December 2004 statement in Buenos Aires that the Canadian government is "proud [...] to have ratified the Kyoto Protocol" and "committed to the Kyoto Protocol and to being an *active participant* in the exploration of what an optimal 'next generation' would look like" [our emphasis].

The Pembina Institute is a prominent advocate of Canada's effective implementation of the Kyoto Protocol through our policy research and analysis, our commentary in the media and our public outreach projects. We are encouraged by your government's repeated statements of Canada's determination to meet its Kyoto Protocol commitments. We hope very much you will soon be able to announce Canada's hosting in 2005 of the first Meeting of Parties to the Protocol.

Yours sincerely,



Marlo Raynolds  
Executive Director

Matthew Bramley  
Director, Climate Change