



**The Canadian  
Chamber of Commerce**  
in Hong Kong

La Chambre de Commerce Canadienne à Hong Kong  
香港加拿大商會

25 August 2017

Miss Tanya Chan  
Chairperson of Panel on Environmental Affairs  
Legislative Council  
Room 814, Legislative Council Complex,  
1 Legislative Council Road,  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Chan,

**Re: Request to Continue Supporting the Hong Kong Government's Ivory Trade Ban and  
Objection to the Issue of Compensation**

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce wrote to you earlier this year on March 15 to seek your help in voicing the Chamber's support for the Hong Kong Government's efforts to ban the Hong Kong ivory trade and to increase maximum penalties for wildlife crime.

Since then, it has come to our attention that the issue of compensation for ivory traders has arisen and we now write to you to further elaborate our position on this as well.

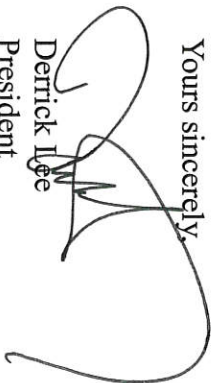
We believe that there has been more than sufficient time and notice for those in the ivory trade to diversify/transition to other trades and sell down their existing stock, given the international trade ban was imposed in 1990. The tightening of regulations and/or banning of ivory trade has been happening internationally for many decades and ivory traders cannot have a legitimate expectation the government or tax payers would compensate them for the business risks that they chose to continue undertaking.

In addition, by compensating traders for their existing ivory stock, this may have the unintended consequences of artificially setting a floor and certainty on ivory prices, thus prolonging or even creating a sudden increase in poaching/supply.

We therefore recommend our lawmakers to take a positive stand, not only to continue supporting the Hong Kong government's efforts to ban our own city's ivory trade, but to stand firm on the issue of compensation.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Derrick Lee  
President

Cc Lawrence Nutting, Chairman

Joseph Law, Chair of Sustainable Development Committee

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