

**MACKENZIE REGION****MACKENZIE RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

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October 15, 2006

Dear Honourable Michael McLeod, Honourable Kevin Menicoche, and Dennis Bevington,

The Mackenzie Recreation Association was shocked and dismayed to learn of the federal cut of \$1 billion dollars over the next two years. As long time northerners, we are sure that you are aware of the importance of volunteers in all our communities, large and small. Indeed, without volunteerism, many key activities would not even occur. These include days of celebration, community team building, conservation and cultural activities and most sporting events.

Our volunteers ask little or nothing for themselves, but we must continue to provide leadership development education and support activities for them. We must recognize their valuable input, and encourage others to follow.

Please reexamine this decision. It is one that will be so detrimental to the movement of healthy living!

Sincerely,

Paul Stipdonk
Executive Director

