

Date: June 19th, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons

**Call for Meaningful Consultation on Bill C-5:
Safeguarding Communities and the Environment**

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

The National Council of Women of Canada is dedicated to safeguarding our nation's natural heritage. We are deeply concerned by your government's efforts to expedite the Building Canada Act (Bill C-5) through Parliament this week. If passed, this legislation will facilitate major infrastructure projects—including highways, railways, pipelines, mineral extraction, and nuclear developments—which may have significant environmental, health, financial, and social impacts on Indigenous communities and broader Canadian society.

We join the Chiefs of Ontario Assembly of First Nations and non-governmental organizations such as the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA), West Coast Environmental Law, and Environmental Defence Canada in urging the withdrawal and reconsideration of Bill C-5, with meaningful public and Indigenous consultation. If the bill proceeds, it must be amended to ensure legal certainty, transparency, and accountability in decision-making.

We respectfully ask you, your Ministers, and Opposition Party leaders the following questions:

- 1. Why were First Nations and the general public not consulted prior to advancing this legislation?**
- 2. How does the emphasis on industrial mining for critical minerals in the James Bay Lowlands align with Canada's carbon reduction objectives?**
- 3. If approved, what assurances will be provided to Indigenous communities and the general public that Canada's natural heritage will be protected for current and future generations?**

Sincerely,

Penny Rankin
NCWC/CNFC President
613-712-4419/514-931-3067

cc. The Hon. Nathalie Provost, The Hon. Mandy Gull-Masty, The Hon. Julie Dobrusion,

The Hon. Rebecca Alty, Elizabeth May, Don Davies

Mission Statement:

To empower all women to work together towards improving the quality of life for women, families, and society through a forum of member organizations and individuals.