## Fashion in Harmony with Nature

We are professional trappers, 59 and 47 years-old, living about two hours north of Quebec City.

Before receiving our trappers' licenses, we had to take professional training courses on wildlife management and habitat conservation. We are always updating our skills because, as trappers, we have a direct personal interest in protecting vital wildlife habitat.



Claire and Lucy Hardy (Pont-Rouge, QC, Canada)

We also care very much about animal welfare. Many people don't realize that trapping is used in virtually every country (even where there is no fur trade) to control wildlife populations and disease, to protect endangered species, farmland and natural habitat. For people who care about nature, trappers are society's "eyes and ears" on the land. We are the first to sound the alarm when wildlife is threatened by disease, pollution or poorly planned development projects.

The fur trade uses only a small part of the surplus nature provides every year. In fact, thanks to excellent management practices, all the furs used by the trade are abundant. Absolutely no endangered species may ever be used. This is an excellent example of what biologists call "the sustainable use of natural resources", a principle promoted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and every major world conservation organization.

The fur trade supports the way-of-life of thousands of aboriginal and other trappers who live close to the land in some of the most remote regions of North America. Many of our families also rely on beaver, muskrat and other fur animals for food. Animals not eaten are returned to the woods to feed wildlife through the winter. Nothing is wasted!

Fur is again making headlines on fashion runways around the world. We would like you to know that when we wear fur we are enjoying one of Nature's most beautiful gifts...a garment we can wear with pride!

For more information: furcouncil.com

