Fort Frances, Ontario
Canada
August 7. 1980

Dear Nell Dorr and Pamela Wheatley:

Greetings from the Canadian semi-wilderness! We have been here since early July and leave for California next week. Your letter was forwarded to me here, but we don't get in to town very often to pick up mail.

I understand your requests for a matte finish and full-bleed format, but there are some technical problems. We print 18 postcards on a form, and the entire sheet is put through "markoting" process that protects the image before the sheet is sent to the bindery for cutting. The markoting produces

a gloss that usually enhances the photograph, while at the same time it prevents scratching during handling and mailing.

When the marketing is finished, the sheets are sent to the bindery where they are trimmed and cut. I'm afraid that if the bindery made a slight error (which has been known to happen), your cards would end up with a fraction of a white margin along one edge or some of the other cards might get a black edge. That white border gives us a little leeway for human and mechanical error.

The cards have not yet been run. I don't have my files here, but I believe I wrote to you earlier this year to tell you that there would be a delay. Until I

Get back to the office, I won't know exactly when we can go to press. I am still negotiating for the use of the final scenes for this set of postcards by women photographers. I certainly hope you will bear with me a little longer, and that you understand why I can't comply with your requests. If you would prefer that I not use your photographs at all under the circumstances, I will be very sad - I feel that your work is important and should be represented in this set, but I'll abide by your wishes.

I'll write again when I get home.

Warmest regards,

Anne Helms