

-----Original Message-----

From: Wayne and Joanne Austen [mailto:austenjw@cadvision.com]

Sent: September 16, 2000 11:26 PM

To: D'Auray, Johanne: #CB - BC

Subject: canadian diamond question

From : Austen Jewellers Ltd.

103 3rd ave. Box 5549

High River, Alta T1V 1M6

403-652-1162 Fax 652-3611

In response to the four questions regarding origin of Canadian diamonds, here are my views.

1. A diamond "comes into being" when it is brought to the surface by whatever means or mined.
2. I believe that a Canadian diamond should be mined and cut in Canada where the standards can be maintained by Canadians. I also believe my consumers believe the same, due to the advertising that they have received from magazines and from ourselves.
3. ii) mined, cut, and polished in Canada.
4. I believe, that the only other time when I would refer to a country of origin, is when the item displays a distinct features to that region, ie a Ceylon Sapphire is naming the overall color and banding in a stone. An Australian boulder opal, has the host rock attached etc. A Canadian diamond has been known so far as a diamond that has been grown,mined,and finished in Canada, and I believe it would confuse my consumers if this was to change.

Please feel free to contact me if I have not made myself clear.

Wayne P. Austen