



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA



Tony Clement

M.P. for Parry Sound—Muskoka

May 8, 2012

Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec

Transport Canada
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, ON
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Dear Minister ^{Lebel} Lebel,

During the week of April 23, a number of constituents from my riding of Parry Sound-Muskoka attended the spring session of Transport Canada's Marine Advisory Panel. They were attending as a delegation to present concerns over Small Commercial Vessel regulations that they contend do not consider several unique aspects of their businesses.

In my riding, like several others across the country, there are many small commercial vessel operators who assist in driving the local economy. These include resort and barge operators, who rely upon seasonal business. They have taken the step of organizing an association to represent their concerns in the face of these regulations, and have been particularly concerned that consultation has not fully engaged their community. As a result there are gaps in regulations that can now be enforced upon them.

It has been reported to me that the local delegation was heartened by Transport Canada officials' responsiveness to their concerns, and their willingness to open up ongoing discussions. I am fully supportive of Transport Canada continuing to be open to suggestion on how to better regulate small commercial vessels and their operators. I trust that through ongoing collaboration with those on the frontlines of the industry, we will address these concerns and improve processes for the betterment of the entire system.

Sincerely,


Tony Clement, M.P.
Parry Sound-Muskoka

Cc Small Commercial Vessel Association
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1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee.

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