

From: Dane
To: Shea.G@parl.gc.ca
Cc: PM@PM.gc.ca
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2009 5:47 PM
Subject: Proposed closure of manned lighthouses

Minister Shea,

I commercial fish from one end to the other of the B.C. coast. My vessel, CFV Carte Blanche, is 38 feet long which is probably about the average size for the small boat fleet on our coast. My crew are 14 and 16 years old and their mother understandably worries when they're out on the boat but also appreciates that the experience and income are important. Her concern is well founded as our coast can be treacherous and our occupation has a high incidence rate of injury and death. In 2008, for instance, we called in a mayday for a vessel which overturned off of Langara Island and in which one of the occupants drowned. In a situation like this, having a lighthouse keeper close at hand is critical, both to coordinate and assist in rescue efforts, as well as prevent such tragedies from occurring through accurate and current weather reporting. I would welcome anyone who questions or doubts the necessity or value of manned lighthouses on our coasts to join us for a day's fishing when an adverse weather system arrives. I can assure you that they would be at the front of the cue of those who are encouraging you to rethink the closure of the manned lighthouses.

I'd be happy to provide any additional information should that be of interest.

Regards,

Dane Chauvel

Area D, E, F,H, L and W licenseholder

Area H Harvest Committee Member

Gulf Trollers Association Director and Treasurer