



Ref: 180781

OCT 3 1 2011

Honourable Denis Lebel  
Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Honourable Denis Lebel:

The Province of British Columbia still sees a proliferation in the number of vessels being abandoned on our coast. I am requesting an update on your ministry's initiative to fund and remove abandoned and derelict vessels and floating structures (vessels) along the Pacific Coast and within the inland waters of British Columbia.

I understand that Transport Canada has been preparing a study to assess the scope of the problem of derelict and abandoned vessels in Canada, however, the arm of Public Works and Government Services Canada that would carry the study out has been closed. The province hopes that the study will continue and would be disappointed to see any momentum lost on this important study.

The province appreciates that Transport Canada has recently allocated resources to manage a few of the outstanding derelicts in British Columbia. This initiative has gained support from local governments and I encourage you to consider an annual allocation until a permanent solution for the Pacific Region is established by your agency.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Steve Thomson  
Minister

Page 1 of 2

pc: Honourable Peter Kent, Minister Responsible for Environment Canada  
Honourable Keith Ashfield, Minister Responsible for Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Sheila Malcolmson, Chair, Islands Trust Council