

Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin
MLA Cumberland North



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Nova Scotia Legislature

January 30, 2025

The Honourable Kent Smith, M.L.A.
Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1701 Hollis Street
P.O. Box 2223
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3C4

Dear Minister Smith,

Thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Nova Scotia as Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Governing is about people. On November 26th, 2024, Nova Scotians entrusted us with a mandate to shape a brighter future. We share a belief in the strength of our communities, the ingenuity of our industries, and the rich heritage that defines Cumberland County. Together, we will harness this potential to foster economic growth, improve healthcare, and elevate the quality of life for all residents.

Cumberland County stands on the precipice of tremendous opportunity. By investing in our people, supporting innovation, and ensuring sustainable development, we can unlock prosperity and lead Nova Scotia into a new era of progress. Our collective success hinges on collaboration, bold action, and a steadfast commitment to addressing the unique needs of our communities. As Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, your leadership will be pivotal in advancing the sustainable management of Nova Scotia's fisheries and aquaculture industries. Your work will play a crucial role in supporting coastal communities, fostering innovation in the sector, and ensuring the long-term health of marine ecosystems.

Specifically, I ask that you prioritize:

1. Visit the Malagash area and explore the untapped potential for oyster farming in the Malagash Bay. Increasing oyster farming and ensuring all licenses are being used could improve the economy in this area of the province. Neighbouring PEI is a good model for oyster farming and supplies global markets. Currently there is more demand than supply and Malagash Bay could help to address the supply shortage.

2. Advocating for expanded access to international markets for Nova Scotia's seafood products, ensuring our fisheries thrive in the global economy.
3. Collaborating with coastal communities to strengthen infrastructure and support local economic development in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

I would like to request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss these important priorities and how we can work together to address the unique challenges and opportunities in Cumberland County. Collaboration is key to ensuring that we deliver meaningful results for our communities, and I look forward to engaging with you to advance I look forward to working with you to build a stronger, more vibrant Cumberland County. Together, we will seize the opportunities before us and create lasting positive change for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin
MLA for Cumberland North