



Canadian Restaurant  
and Foodservices  
Association

Association canadienne  
des restaurateurs  
et des services  
alimentaires

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January 19, 2010

Premier Darrell Dexter  
Province of Nova Scotia  
1700 Granville St.  
P.O. Box 726  
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

Dear Mr. Premier:

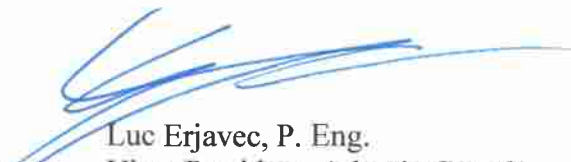
On behalf of the Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association (CRFA) and our members in Nova Scotia, I am writing to express the association's support for continuation of the ferry service between Yarmouth, Nova Scotia and New England in 2010 and beyond. This service is essential and acts as a gateway for tourists to the province and a lynchpin for economic activity in southwestern Nova Scotia.

The elimination of this essential service will have a dramatic impact on foodservice operators in the immediate area. Those in other areas of the province will also feel the impacts of this loss. As you are well aware, foodservice operators and our employees are an integral part of the economical and social fabric of the province. In financial terms, our 2,000 small business operators generate \$1.5 billion in sales. On top of this, for every dollar spent in a restaurant, an additional \$1.85 is spent in direct economic spin-offs. With nearly 30,000 employees we employ more Nova Scotians than the farming, fishing, logging, finance and insurance industries combined. Every million dollars in sales translates to 27 jobs in the industry.

Loss of ferry service in 2010 will mean fewer tourists to the province. Since foodservice is the second highest expenditure by tourists, the negative impacts on small business operators will be immediate. Foodservice operators in the immediate area will also suffer because of the local decrease in economic activity of all kinds related to the ferry elimination.

Working with your federal colleagues, your government must act now to find a short-term solution to ferry service in 2010 and develop a sustainable, long-term solution to travel between Nova Scotia and New England. Time is of the essence, as people are already starting to make their 2010 travel choices and businesses are making their investment decisions. I trust your government will act to protect this essential service.

Sincerely,



Luc Erjavec, P. Eng.  
Vice- President, Atlantic Canada

**Cc: Hon. Percy Paris - Minister of Economic and Rural Development, Minister of Tourism,  
Hon. Peter MacKay - Minister of National Defense  
Hon. Keith Ashfield - Minister of State for Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency  
Hon. Robert Moore - Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism  
Greg Kerr - MP, West Nova  
Senator Gerald Comeau  
Richard Hurlburt – MLA, Yarmouth  
Phil Mooney - Mayor of Yarmouth**