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September 6, 2002

Honourable Robert Thibault, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
Centennial Towers, Suite 1570
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

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Dear Minister ~~Thibault~~: *Robert*

I am writing with respect to Nova Scotia's stated priorities of improving our national highways system and cleaning up Halifax Harbour, as reflected in my letter of July 31 to the Honourable John Manley, Deputy Prime Minister and then-Minister responsible for Infrastructure, a copy of which was forwarded to you.

I note with interest your public statements that there is room under the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF) for both of these priorities. Our government welcomes this news.

We are hopeful that we will be able to finalize and announce our provincial contribution to the Halifax Harbour Clean-up Project shortly. At that time, we will be requesting a meeting with Honourable Allan Rock to negotiate an agreement covering our two priorities.

I look forward to your support of these two initiatives.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
John F. Hamm

cc: Honourable Allan Rock, Minister of Industry
✓ Mayor Peter Kelly, Halifax Regional Municipality

*Halifax
Regional
Municipality*



Peter J. Kelly

Mayor

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September 6, 2002

Honourable Allan Rock
Minister of Industry
Rom 441-S, Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Rock:

I thought it would be helpful after your visit here to Halifax, and the recent transfer of the Canadian Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF) to your portfolio, to reiterate the importance of the federal funding contribution for the Harbour Solutions project.

I have had an opportunity to meet with Chris McInnes of your Atlantic Office and, as you have learned, HRM is now poised to begin the Harbour Solutions Project. With screening by the CEAA virtually in hand, the only remaining element that needs to be satisfied is an adequate level of funding from the provincial and federal government. What makes the Harbour Solutions project unique is that construction on our project could begin within days of a favorable announcement from the other levels of government.

It is also important to recognize that when Regional Council originally endorsed a two thirds/one third split for cost sharing, it did do so, in part, to facilitate the funding participation of the other levels of government. The taxpayers of the Regional Municipality, which represent almost 40% of the population of Nova Scotia, are 80% in favor of the project and prepared to shoulder two thirds of the cost. We feel therefore that \$105 M contribution (\$30 M provincial / \$75 M federal) is a very reasonable expectation.



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Furthermore, Premier Hamm in a personal meeting with me today, underscored the importance of this project to the region and we anticipate the Harbour Solutions project will be featured as one provincial priority considerations under CSIF and any other funds and/or programs that may be accessible or available.

In closing, Mr. Minister, we hope your office will give due consideration to the Halifax Harbour Solutions project under the CSIF and/or any other funds which may be available. We understand that project announcements are planned to be made in late September/ early October. For HRM it is extremely important that we hear from you by the end of October.

Therefore, we look forward to receiving the necessary \$75 M Federal, plus \$30 M Provincial in order to move forward with this very important project. Should your staff require any information I would ask that they contact our Project Director, Mike Labrecque at (902) 490-4851 or via e-mail labrecm@region.halifax.ns.ca.

We also look forward to your presence at the FCM Big City Mayors' Caucus Meeting in Halifax, October 4 and 5. I am sure you will enjoy our hospitality.

Respectfully, I remain,



Peter J. Kelly

Mayor

/jc

c. Prime Minister Jean Chretien
Deputy Prime Minister Manley
Hon. Robert Thibault
Premier John Hamm
Geoff Regan, MP
Halifax Regional Council