



CANADIAN LIGHTHOUSES OF LAKE SUPERIOR

246 North Court Street

Thunder Bay, ON

P7A 4W1

August 5, 2014

Standing Committee on Finance
House of Commons,
Ottawa, ON

Dear House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance:

We thank you for the opportunity to address priorities for the 2015 Federal, pre-budget consultation, specific to the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act (HLP).

As a not-for-profit, incorporated organization, Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior is asking for the committee's consideration: to support the HLP by reallocating a portion of Department of Fisheries and Oceans capital expenditure budget for lighthouses, to create a national Heritage Lighthouse Fund and a matching grant program, which leverages corporate support and private donations.

Here in the north of Ontario, we are already witnessing the effects of donations, corporate support and sweat equity from our volunteers to restore two of our regional lighthouses. As a small economic development opportunity for our region we are positioning our group to provide access and enhance historical relevant interruptive tours for our visitors.

Lighthouses are landmark structures, attracting tourists, locals, and identifies with our culture and history. Readapting lighthouses has a direct impact to our economy, our society and our culture heritage.

Once rehabilitated, these lighthouse stations can be used for research, education, eco-tourism and special events. Not only then providing opportunity to explore our history, but also providing economic impact, when for example, summer students are hired to manage guest visits on-site.

There is a very short window available for the public, to pickup on restoring, reusing and implementing lighthouse programming, because many lighthouses are condemned. Public, private partnership can help us hold onto our history into the future, helping build a stronger, unified country through economic incentives, invested in remote areas that exemplify Canada.

We would be pleased to appear before the committee, if they so desire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Morralee', written in a cursive style.

Paul Morralee

Secretary, Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior