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June 24, 2010

The Honourable Sterling Belliveau
Minister
Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture
P. O. Box 2223
Halifax, NS
B3J 3C4

Dear Minister Belliveau:

Thank you for your letter of June 9th, 2010.

We have appreciated the close working relationship between UNSM and your staff. Although we are somewhat disappointed that the Provincial Oceans Network (PON) remains limited to those within Provincial Government, I am encouraged to know of your plans to establish a municipal practitioner's technical panel to capture municipal insight into the development of the Coastal Strategy.

I understand the municipal consultation session in Halifax this morning was well attended and participants were very engaged. This is a complex issue and although there may be some divergent opinions in how we get there, I think we all share a common goal of ensuring our beautiful seacoast continues to offer Nova Scotians and visitors access to this valuable resource while recognizing the continued role it plays in environment and financial sustainability.

We very much look forward to your presentation of the Draft Strategy to the UNSM Board once you have completed this phase of your work.

Sincerely,

Councillor Clarence Prince
President, UNSM

CP/tv

cc: The Honourable Ramona Jennex, Minister, Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations
Ms. Geri Kaiser, Acting Executive Director, UNSM
UNSM Board of Directors

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