

### **Resolution 3C**

#### **INTERNATIONAL FERRY SERVICE REAFFIRMATION (PASSED)**

⇒ District of Yarmouth

**WHEREAS** the economy in Southern Nova Scotia continues to encounter significant difficulty;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that** the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities reaffirm its support of the immediate reinstatement of the ferry service between Nova Scotia and Maine.

Forwarded to:

*Minister of the Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism*

#### **RESPONSE:**

*Thank you for recent letter with the resolutions passed at the Annual Conference of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM). I have consulted with staff about the resolutions you shared, I hope UNSM finds the following information helpful to address issues of concern to its membership.*

*The province convened an arms-length panel of industry experts to assess whether the ferry service between Yarmouth and Maine could be operated as a self-sustaining business with the right set of conditions. Based on the panel's report, Nova Scotia announced it will make up to \$21 million of financial assistance available over seven years to create the conditions to support the re-establishment of the route. Obviously, the Province cannot do this alone. We will need strong partners who are willing to do their share to make the service possible, including both federal and municipal levels of government. On October 23, 2012, the province announced the release of a draft request for proposals. You are welcome to review and share this document, which can be found online at [http://www.gov.ns.ca/tenders/general/ERDT\\_Ferry\\_Draft.pdf](http://www.gov.ns.ca/tenders/general/ERDT_Ferry_Draft.pdf).*

*Thank you again for sharing UNSM's Annual Conference Resolutions. I look forward to working on these issues with our municipal partners across Nova Scotia.*

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*The Honourable Percy A. Paris  
Minister*

*November 13, 2012*