

THE CANADIAN MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE DROIT MARITIME
www.cmla.org



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19 March 2013

The Honourable Denis Lebel

Minister of Transport
Transport Canada
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0N5

Dear Minister Lebel,

Re: Maritime Transport of Hazardous and Noxious Substances: Liability and Compensation

The Canadian Maritime Law Association (“CMLA”) was founded in 1951 by Canadians interested in Canadian and international maritime law. The mandate of our Association is to promote effective modern maritime laws within Canada and internationally. CMLA is Canada’s representative association to Comité Maritime International (CMI), a private non-governmental international organization founded in Belgium in 1897 the main purpose of which is the promotion of uniformity in and unification of international maritime law. The CMLA now consists of over three hundred members from across Canada, including lawyers, judges, cargo interests, marine insurers, ship owners and other individuals and organizations engaged in the many facets of Canadian shipping. The Association is incorporated and is managed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership.

The CMLA would like to commend the Government on its decision to implement *The International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea* (the “HNS Convention”). As you are aware, the CMLA has long been, and continues to be, a supporter of the HNS Convention. The liability and compensation regime in the HNS Convention is an efficient and effective regime

that is fair and equitable to all parties. More importantly, the implementation of the HNS Convention will encourage safety in the carriage by sea of hazardous and noxious substances, will promote environmental protection and will minimize damage to the environment in the event of a shipping incident. The shipping industry and the general public are well served and will both benefit by the implementation of the HNS Convention.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher J. Giaschi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "C".

Christopher J. Giaschi
President
The Canadian Maritime Law Association