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Safety and Security

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*Your file*    *Voire référence*

*Our file*    *Notre référence*

RDIMS 12595796

January 9, 2017

Mr. David G. Colford, President  
The Canadian Maritime Law Association  
2020 Robert-Bourassa Blvd. Suite 2020  
Montreal, QC H3A 2A5

Dear Mr. Colford:

**SUBJECT: SMALL VESSEL COMMERCIAL REGISTRY**

Thank you for your letter dated November 15, 2016 regarding your concerns about the level of service currently provided by the Small Commercial Vessel Registry.

We acknowledge the dissatisfaction with the current service standard of 45 working days for transactions. Due, however, to the extensive volume of work, not all transactions can have shorter service standards at the present time.

However, we recognize that transfers of ownership, as you have pointed out clearly in your letter, not being done more quickly has a negative impact on our clients. Small Commercial Vessel Registry, therefore, is making transfers of ownership a priority, and attempting to complete these, as are done for renewals, within 5 working days. This new prioritization began in December 2016 as a result of your comprehensive explanation of undue hardships being experienced by the clients regarding time required to complete transfers of ownership for commercial vessels.

I trust this change in prioritizing transfers of ownership will provide a viable solution to the issue you have raised.

Yours sincerely,

Naim Nazha  
Executive Director  
Navigation Safety and Environmental Programs