



Minister of Transport

Ministre des Transports

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

MAR 1 2 2018

Mr. Gary Blundell  
Program Manager  
Canadian Arctic Resources Committee  
PO Box 2822, stn Main  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2R2

Dear Mr. Blundell:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 31 , 2018, regarding vessel traffic and its effects in the Arctic.

I recognize that we must protect the fragile Arctic environment and its many inhabitants, while encouraging sustainable growth in Canada's North. I also understand the importance of the region's waterways to deliver products and re-supply essential goods to northern communities.

As you are likely aware, the Government of Canada is investing \$ 1.5 billion in the Oceans Protection Plan as part of its commitment to create a world-leading marine safety system that provides economic opportunities for Canadians today, while protecting our coastlines for future generations.

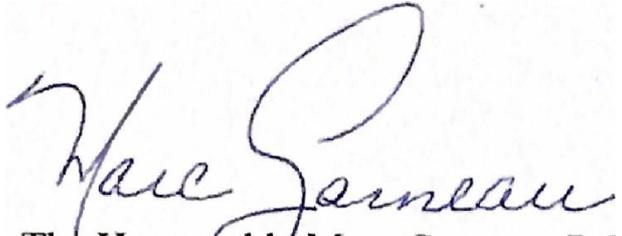
As part of this strategy, I announced several measures in August 2017 to help protect Arctic waters and the regions that surround them. One such measure that you referenced in your correspondence is Low-Impact Shipping Corridors through Arctic waters, where the necessary infrastructure, marine navigational support, and emergency response services will provide safer marine navigation. I want to emphasize that the development of these corridors will carefully consider the environmental, ecological, and cultural dimensions of the North. The Corridors will be used as a framework to guide future federal investment in infrastructure, services, and activities within the region, while enhancing Indigenous partnerships and reducing the environmental impact of shipping.

Canada

Transport Canada officials will be working with partners across the federal government, provinces, and territories, as well as Indigenous groups, communities and other stakeholders, to advance this work.

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns.

Yours sincerely,



The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Transport

- c.c.        The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
- The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
- The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, P.C., M.D., M.P.  
Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
- The Honourable Jim Carr, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Natural Resources