

**Local 2182**

*Coast Guard Marine Communications Officers*  
Officiers Communications Maritimes Garde Côtière

May 23, 2012

Honorable Keith Ashfield  
Minister Fisheries and Oceans  
200 Kent Street  
13th Floor, Station 13E228  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6  
Canada  
Sent by email: [keith.ashfield@parl.gc.ca](mailto:keith.ashfield@parl.gc.ca)

Subject: Closure of ten marine communications and traffic services centres

Dear Mr. Ashfield,

I am writing to voice our concerns over the proposed closure of ten marine communications and traffic services centers in 2014 and 2015. After reducing staff at those same centres and closing the two marine rescue centres at St-John's NL and Quebec City, the mariner's safety net is being dangerously reduced.


CAW Local 2182 requests that the existing centres that were strategically located following the integration of Coast Guard radio and Vessel Traffic Services in 1995 remain open. It is most important that the service providers be close to the users, so they have a good knowledge of geography, currents, tides and users needs.

The essential services we provide require intimate local knowledge and a redundancy / overlap with adjoining centers in case of technical failures, which happen on a regular basis. Mariners needs MCTS assistance to handle strong currents, storm force winds, rough seas, reduced visibility and all kinds of situations that can be life threatening on a daily basis.

For all the above reasons, we ask that the ten MCTS centres that have been identified for closure remain open.

---

**Martin Grégoire**

2412 route Carrier, Scott (Québec) G0S 3G0  
Tel: (418) 387-3128 - Fax: (418) 386-3000 - Cell: (418) 564-2047  
Email: [gregoire@globetrotter.net](mailto:gregoire@globetrotter.net) 

**Local 2182**

*Coast Guard Marine Communications Officers*  
Officiers Communications Maritimes Garde Côtière

We also request a meeting to discuss our concerns at your earliest convenience, to explore options that would meet the objectives of the DRAP and the needs of the mariners we serve.

  
Martin Grégoire  
President

---

**Martin Grégoire**

2412 route Carrier, Scott (Québec) G0S 3G0

Tel: (418) 387-3128 - Fax: (418) 386-3000 - Cell: (418) 564-2047

Email: [gregoire@globetrotter.net](mailto:gregoire@globetrotter.net) 