



36 Quidi Vidi Road, St. John's, NL A1A 1C1

Dwight Ball, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador
Paul Davis, Leader of the Official Opposition
Lorraine Michael, Leader of the Third Party

RE: Threat to Rural NL Requires United Action

Dear Sirs and Madam:

The surf clam quota award which Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Dominic LeBlanc made last week, expropriates jobs in Grand Bank without compensation, and transfers those jobs to Nova Scotia. The Minister's decision sends a message that well-paying, year round jobs that support a sustainable economy in rural NL don't matter to Ottawa. It is a needless blow to confidence at a time when our faith in the future of this place we love is under siege.

This needless attack on our rural economy and our way of life can be defeated by an all party show of unity. The Trudeau government has slipped in polls and knows that substance has to take precedence over style.

I call on the leaders of the three official parties in the legislature to set aside their disagreements and join hands across the aisle to demand a meeting with the Prime Minister, travel to Ottawa, and not leave until the meeting is held. The presence of other representatives such as the Member of Parliament and the members of the House of Assembly for the area, the union, Paul Lane MHA, and the mayor of Grand Bank would add weight to the delegation, and impress upon the Prime Minister and his advisors that this province speaks with one voice: *the surf clam quota decision must be reversed!*

To underscore our common resolve, the House of Assembly should pass a unanimous resolution in support, and should suspend sittings until the meeting with the Prime Minister has occurred.

Respectfully yours,

Ches Crosbie
Candidate for PC Party Leader