



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E6

OCT 16 2012

His Worship Mayor Mike Frazier  
Resolution Committee Chair  
North Central Local Government Association  
206-155 George Street  
Prince George, British Columbia  
V2L 1P8

Dear Mayor Frazier:

This is in response to your correspondence of July 26, 2012, addressed to the Honourable Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, regarding resolutions passed by the North Central Local Government Association. Your letter was forwarded to me for my consideration as Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and I welcome the opportunity to respond.

With regard to your concerns about oil spill response, please note that the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) remains prepared to ensure an appropriate response to any ship-sourced pollution incident in Canadian waters. However, the polluter is always responsible for addressing any pollution they have caused under Canada's *Marine Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Regime* (MOSPRR). Oversight of Canada's MOSPRR falls under the purview of Transport Canada.

Please note that drinking water falls under the purview of Health Canada, so I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to my colleague, the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, for her consideration.

The CCG's number one priority is maritime safety. I remain committed to ensuring maritime safety in British Columbia as well as in the rest of Canada.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Ashfield

c.c.: The Honourable Denis Lebel, P.C., M.P.  
The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.  
The Honourable Peter Kent, P.C., M.P.