

## CANADIAN POLITICIANS

### **The Honourable Loyola Hearn, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans**

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Parliament Buildings, Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario; Canada, K1A 0A6  
ph: 613-992-0927; fax: 613-995-7858  
email: [Hearn.L@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Hearn.L@parl.gc.ca), [mp@loyolahearn.nf.net](mailto:mp@loyolahearn.nf.net), [min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

### **The Honourable David Emerson, Minister of International Trade**

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6  
ph: 613-943-0267; fax: 613-943-0219; email: [Emerson.D@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Emerson.D@parl.gc.ca)

### **The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada**

Office of the Prime Minister, 80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, K1A 0A2  
ph: 613-992-421; fax: 613-941-6900; email: [pm@pm.gc.ca](mailto:pm@pm.gc.ca), [Harper.S@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Harper.S@parl.gc.ca)

### **The Honourable Gerald Keddy**

Parliament Member for the South Shore of Nova Scotia  
HOUSE OF COMMONS, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6  
ph: 613-996-0877; fax: 613-996-0878; email: [Keddy.G@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Keddy.G@parl.gc.ca)

## CANADIAN EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES

**FIND EMBASSY IN YOUR COUNTRY:** [www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/world/embassies/cra-en.asp](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/world/embassies/cra-en.asp)

### **The Embassy of Canada in the United States**

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Office of the Ambassador  
501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW; Washington, DC 20001  
ph: 202-682-1740; fax: 202-682-7726; email: [canada@canadianembassy.org](mailto:canada@canadianembassy.org)

## CANADIAN TOURISM

### **Canadian Tourism Commission (CTC)**

Suite 1400, Four Bentall Centre; 1055 Dunsmuir St./Box 49230  
Vancouver, BC V7X 1L2, Canada • ph: 604-638-8300

### **CTC's U.S. Leisure Marketing Department**

Siobhan Chretien, Executive Director: 604-638-8392; [chretien.siobhan@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:chretien.siobhan@ctc-cct.ca)  
Ernst Flach, Manager: 604-638-8375; [flach.ernst@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:flach.ernst@ctc-cct.ca)  
Yolaine Dupont, Marketing Specialist: 604-638-8379; [dupont.yolaine@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:dupont.yolaine@ctc-cct.ca)  
Paul Nursey, Marketing Specialist: 604-638-8378; [nursey.paul@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:nursey.paul@ctc-cct.ca)  
Katherine Mulligan, Project & Administration Officer: 604-638-8377; [mulligan.katherine@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:mulligan.katherine@ctc-cct.ca)

**CTC's U.S. Leisure Sales Department:** [iris.susan@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:iris.susan@ctc-cct.ca), [campbell.monica@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:campbell.monica@ctc-cct.ca),  
[dolan.heather@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:dolan.heather@ctc-cct.ca), [brown.saunders@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:brown.saunders@ctc-cct.ca), [karins.tom@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:karins.tom@ctc-cct.ca)

**ALL EMAILS IN THIS ALERT:** [Hearn.L@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Hearn.L@parl.gc.ca), [mp@loyolahearn.nf.net](mailto:mp@loyolahearn.nf.net), [min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca),  
[Emerson.D@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Emerson.D@parl.gc.ca), [pm@pm.gc.ca](mailto:pm@pm.gc.ca), [Harper.S@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Harper.S@parl.gc.ca), [Keddy.G@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Keddy.G@parl.gc.ca),  
[canada@canadianembassy.org](mailto:canada@canadianembassy.org)

[chretien.siobhan@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:chretien.siobhan@ctc-cct.ca), [flach.ernst@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:flach.ernst@ctc-cct.ca), [dupont.yolaine@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:dupont.yolaine@ctc-cct.ca),  
[nursey.paul@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:nursey.paul@ctc-cct.ca), [mulligan.katherine@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:mulligan.katherine@ctc-cct.ca), [iris.susan@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:iris.susan@ctc-cct.ca),  
[campbell.monica@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:campbell.monica@ctc-cct.ca), [dolan.heather@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:dolan.heather@ctc-cct.ca), [brown.saunders@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:brown.saunders@ctc-cct.ca),  
[karins.tom@ctc-cct.ca](mailto:karins.tom@ctc-cct.ca)

Dear Prime Minister Harper and Honourable Government Officials Of Canada:

I urge you to terminate the government-subsidized slaughter of seals. If Canada resumes its seal hunt in March 2008, I renew my pledge to boycott Canadian seafood and tourism.

In the last two years, 98% of seals killed ranged from 2 weeks to 3 months in age. During the annual ambush on whelping grounds, pups are gunned down, bludgeoned, kicked, and thrashed with hakapiks. Some are left to rot on the ice floes.

Last year, sealers killed 215,000 seals, even as more pups perished amid melting ice. Global warming threatens to deplete ice fields in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off Newfoundland where harp seals breed. If Canadian authorities intend to initiate "real action" on global warming, they should phase-out this unsustainable hunt rather than inflate kill quotas.

It's time to close a contentious industry. In January 2008, the Fur Institute of Canada's Bruce Williams told The Canadian Press the sealing trade is in "crisis" due to anticipated seal import bans in Germany, Italy and Austria. Belgium and Holland have already enacted bans on seal goods.

As you know, the European Commission is considering a ban throughout the European Union. Ironically, Canadian Fisheries Minister Loyola Hearn recently interpreted a scientific review from the European Food and Safety Authority (EFSA) to mean Canada "upholds the...humaneness of hunting practices and techniques." In fact, EFSA's report reveals critical flaws in Canada's Marine Mammal Regulations with regard to animal welfare.

In one of several examples, EFSA recommends seals not be moved, gaffed or hauled until confirmed dead or irreversibly unconscious. Canadian law presently lets hunters hook seals without verifying unconsciousness or death. Photographic documentation depicts sealers dragging alert animals with boathooks. A team of impartial veterinarians once determined 42% of examined seals failed to become insensible from cranial injury. They concluded the seals were cognizant when skinned.

Since ethical concerns do not seem to influence policy, I reiterate my commitment to the international boycott of Canadian seafood and tourism. In the U.S. alone, seafood exports bring billions to Canada's economy. Conversely, the seal hunt has little financial relevance in Newfoundland, where most sealers reside. Sealers fish the rest of the year. Sealing generates a minute portion of their livelihoods.

The hunt lacks ecological, financial or ethical justification. Though officials have used the decline of cod populations in the North Atlantic as grounds to kill seals, there is no conclusive evidence linking harp seals to diminishing cod. Over-fishing is the likely culprit, as noted in past statements from the government's own scientists.

Polls indicate most Americans and Europeans disapprove of the seal hunt, with many prepared to boycott Canadian seafood until it ends. Please permanently cancel the Canadian seal hunt.

Thank you,