

# Appendix A

## Exchange of correspondence between Coalition and Minister for International Trade

Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G2

December 18, 1986

The Honourable Pat Carney, PC MP  
Minister of International Trade  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G6

Dear Minister:

The Exporters' Coalition on Canadian Maritime Policy, comprising 17 organizations from coast to coast representing over 80 percent of Canada's export trade, was organized in early 1984 out of a concern that Canada's international trade interest was not being adequately addressed in the consideration of maritime shipping policies.

The Coalition prepared and submitted the exporter's position to the Task Force on Deep Sea Shipping chaired by Professor Gunnar K. Sletmo. The Task Force's mandate was to evaluate changing conditions in the international shipping market and the possible need for measures to encourage the expansion of Canada's deep-sea fleet.

The Task Force concluded that Canada's economic health depends upon the vitality of its export sectors and, as such, shipping policies cannot be separated and dealt with in isolation from our overall trade policies. The Coalition firmly supports this conclusion.

The Task Force, furthermore, correctly recognized that international shipping is subject to continuous change because of diverse and often conflicting forces. There is increasing evidence of disruptions in a number of Canadian trades, particularly with certain developing countries.

In order to respond to this situation on a current basis, the Coalition sees the urgent need to again develop a trade position on a number of issues relating to shipping policy.

The Coalition proposes to organize a series of seminars amongst importers and exporters across Canada to develop and recommend policies that properly consider the importance of our international trade in response to those changes. Meetings would be held in each region in a workshop format to identify all transportation related trade problems and regional characteristics in order to formulate recommendations. A final conference would be held in Ottawa to develop a Canadian trade position through coordination of regional input thereby ensuring that the perspective of each region has been considered. Your involvement in the final conference would be desirable and provide a valued contribution to the deliberations.

The officials in your Transportation Division have always been very helpful to exporters and importers in matters involving international shipping. It is for this reason that the Coalition seeks the active assistance and endorsement from you and your department in our planned program to formulate recommendations that will effectively represent the vital interest of Canada's International Trade during the review of Canadian policy on international shipping.

We look forward to obtaining your support for this endeavour, possibly through co-sponsorship of the seminar series, and the active participation of your department in this process.

Sincerely,

C.H.J. Hibbeln  
Chairman  
Exporters' Coalition on  
Canadian Maritime Policy