To the Government of Canada:

We, the undersigned, oppose the Government of Canada's decision to close the Canadian Coast Guard's Inuvik Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) Centre, and to reduce staff at 11 other MCTS Centres across Canada. We oppose the closure of the Coast Guard's Marine Rescue Coordination Centres in Quebec City, Quebec and in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. We urge the Government of Canada to acknowledge that cuts to staff and the closure of Centres threatens the lives of fishers and other mariners and puts the marine environment at risk. We call for the reversal of this decision as:

- cuts to staff at MCTS Centres increase the risk of accidents involving passenger ships, ferries, and ships carrying crude oil or other dangerous cargo that navigate all year round on the west coast, as well as in ice-infested waters of the St. Lawrence and the Canadian Arctic;
- the closure of the Inuvik MCTS Centre weakens Canada's sovereignty in the North, and contradicts the government's own Senate recommendations to strengthen the Coast Guard's presence in the Arctic;
- the closure of the Marine Rescue Centres in St-John's and Quebec City threatens mariner safety, while other Rescue Centres will be forced to rely on under-staffed MCTS Centres to assist with rescues;
- the closure of the Quebec City Centre increases the risk to francophone fishers and mariners who may not be understood by staff in anglophone Centres in situations of distress;

Therefore, we ask that the government reverse its decision to reduce Coast Guard staff and close MCTS and Marine Rescue Coordination Centres.

Signature	Street Address	Province, City and Postal	Name (Please
	(123 Main Street)	Code (Ottawa, ON 1A2 3B4)	Print)
Please return this petition with original signatures to:			
Philip Toone, M.P. – House of Commons – Ottawa – Ontario – K1A 0A6 No postage required			