



MAY 26 2022

Ms. Erin Hartley
Director of Corporate Services
Municipality of Shelburne
< Erin.Hartley@municipalityofshelburne.ca >

Dear Ms. Hartley:

Thank you for your correspondence of March 8, 2022, regarding funding for the Sustainable Fisheries Solutions and Retrieval Support Contribution Program (Ghost Gear Fund).

I would like to commend the Municipality of Shelburne for supporting the removal of abandoned, lost, and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) from our waters. This is no small task. The work done to date has brought together like-minded groups and highlighted this important problem. Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Ghost Gear Program has taken measurable action to reduce the amount of ghost gear found in Canadian waters, and we are hopeful that the Program has built local capacity to continue this important work.

Since signing on as a member of the Global Ghost Gear Initiative in 2018, the Government of Canada has taken great strides to tackle ghost gear, both domestically and abroad. Since its launch in 2019, the Ghost Gear Program has supported the inclusion of mandatory reporting of lost (and subsequently retrieved) fishing gear in all commercial fishing licences in Canada, has improved data collection from both harvesters and authorized ghost gear retrievers, and has launched the first funding program in the world dedicated to the reduction of ghost gear.

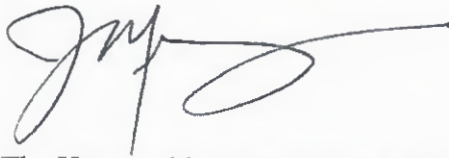
The Ghost Gear Fund has supported 49 projects and provided more than \$16.7 million in funding to support retrieval activities, the responsible recycling of ghost gear, new technologies to prevent ghost gear, and projects to help address ghost gear in other coastal nations. As of mid-March, the Program has helped remove approximately 1,261 tonnes of ALDFG, including more than 127 kilometres of rope from Canada's Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

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In Budget 2022, the Government of Canada dedicated an additional \$10 million to renew the Ghost Gear Fund. Those interested in the Program are encouraged to visit the [Ghost Gear Fund website](#), where upcoming calls for proposals will be announced.

Once again, thank you for writing and expressing your support for the Ghost Gear Fund.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Murray', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Honourable Joyce Murray, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Steve Craig, E.C.N.S., M.L.A.
Nova Scotia's Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture



Naturally Yours

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March 8, 2022

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
The Honourable Joyce Murray
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NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Minister Steve Craig
Suite 607, WTCC
1800 Argyle Street
Halifax, NS
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To whom it may concern:

Re: Ghost Gear Funding – Letter of Support

Municipality of the District of Shelburne is very pleased to provide a letter in support of continued federal and provincial funding for the Federal Ghost Gear Fund that was launched under the Sustainable Fisheries Solutions and Retrieval Support Contribution Program in 2019.

While the efforts of the Titan Maritime have made great impacts in Nova Scotia, continued support for their work is necessary. The ongoing issue of ghost gear is prevalent in the waters off our rural fishing communities

Municipality of the District of Shelburne acknowledges the importance of the Federal Ghost Gear Fund as well as the dedication and support of its partners on the ground to ensure its programs and services contribute positively to our environment, communities and residents.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erin Hartley".

Erin Hartley

Director of Corporate Services

/eh

c: Titan Maritime

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