



October 16th, 2024

Mayor Garth Gillis
13056 Shoer Road- Unit 103
Wood Islands, PE

Dear Mayor Gillis,

Thank you for your letter outlining the concerns regarding the disruptions to the Wood Islands ferry service. I have been in communication with both the MP for the area and the CEO of Northumberland Ferries, stressing the urgent need for repairs and long-term solutions to ensure reliable ferry service for Islanders.

The Wood Islands-Caribou ferry is a crucial part of our Island's transportation infrastructure, connecting Islanders, businesses, and visitors to Nova Scotia and beyond. These continued service disruptions not only inconvenience travellers but also have a significant impact on the local economy—particularly businesses in Eastern PEI that rely on ferry traffic to thrive, even outside the peak tourism season.

I want to assure you that I am a strong advocate for the complete restoration of the ferry service. For years, we have seen a reduction in crossings and diminishing services, which have been detrimental to both Islanders and local businesses. Reliable transportation links are essential to our province's economy and quality of life. I will continue to push for immediate action to restore service while pursuing a long-term solution to secure two reliable vessels for this route.

Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the meeting on October 16th due to a prior commitment. Nevertheless, I remain dedicated to advocating for the full restoration of this essential service and will continue to engage with our federal counterparts on this matter. I am attaching a letter I sent to the Prime Minister, which I encourage you to share at the meeting.

Thank you again for your advocacy on this important issue. I look forward to continued collaboration as we work together to ensure this crucial service is restored.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. King".

Hon. Dennis King
Premier of Prince Edward Island