



**Lighthouse Country Marine Rescue Society for  
Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary-Pacific  
Station 59, Deep Bay  
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Senate Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans  
The Senate  
Parliament Buildings  
Ottawa, ON

The marine community values our manned lightstations very highly. We have seen unmanned stations fail to provide regular weather reports. We have also worked with our local lightstation operator in locating boaters in trouble. In one case, the lightkeeper was on scene before search and rescue personnel arrived, as he saw the situation was dire. On two other occasions, he has personally pulled people from the water.

In these days of increased concern for security, patrols by CCG Auxiliary, the Canadian Coast Guard, and the police boats are far too infrequent to do a proper job. The lightkeepers are aware of local traffic for far more hours in the day. Furthermore, they are usually located in dangerous areas where rapid response to incidents is especially important.

For search and rescue personnel concerned with boater safety, the idea of reducing the number of eyes on our waters is anathema to us. We are very concerned that decisions are being made based upon poor data, or for all the wrong reasons, or both. We strongly request that manned lightstations be maintained or (better yet) increased in numbers.

On behalf of the members of CCG Auxiliary Station 59,

(Signed)

N.W. Eddy, President  
Lighthouse Country Marine Rescue Society

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