

Town Point Consulting Inc.

September 29, 2020

Clerk of the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board
P.O. Box 2223,
Halifax, NS
B3J 3C4

Re: Grand Pass Oysters Ltd, Application for New Marine Shellfish Licences/Leases

Dear Sir;

As per instructions included in the Notice of Public Hearing, I wish to submit the following statement to be considered by the board.

A) Full Name; Stanley Ernest and Jane Elizabeth Porter

B) Civic Address;

C) Application; Grand Pass Oysters Ltd for New Marine Shellfish Licences/Leases

Factor b) the contribution of the proposed operation to community and Provincial economic development;

It would be appreciated, if time permits, that I be permitted to read the following statement during the hearing.

I am the owner of Town Point Consulting Inc. and we have submitted to NSDFA an application for an operation similar to that proposed by Grand Pass Oysters Ltd. Assessment of our application has progressed beyond internal review by NSDFA, has been shared to the relevant network of other government departments and has been posted on the NSDFA website.

The several thousand hours of work spent by my family and me to compile our application gives me a deep appreciation for the effort it takes to arrive before this panel. I wish to commend Grand pass Oysters and their supporters, especially Nolan D'Eon for their diligence and dedication in pursuing this goal.

I also wish to acknowledge and congratulate the municipal government of the District of Argyle for their foresight, wisdom and progress in helping to foster a positive civic consciousness regarding the many beneficial impacts related to oyster aquaculture. Knowledge based on fact and science combined with open and honest communication are the bedrock of progress and it seems to this casual observer that The District of Argyle now has a solid foundation upon which to harmoniously build a very beneficial and necessary eco-friendly industry.

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Dr. Ivany made it abundantly clear to us as Nova Scotians that in order to slow and reverse decades long negative trends related to provincial GDP, population median age, outmigration of our youth to seek employment, etc. that we have no choice but to more effectively engage our abundant natural resources to produce valuable products, create employment opportunity particularly in coastal and rural communities and do it in a responsible and sustainable manner.

Oyster aquaculture is a bullseye, a no brainer, and can be a grand slam that will help reverse these negative trends. With continued effort by committed entrepreneurs like Mr. d'Entremont, more visionary leaders like those in the District of Argyle, ongoing efforts by NSDFA and a welcoming general public we can grow this industry to be a significant contributor to reversing the negative trends.

I can see a day when Nova Scotia's shellfish production stands as a peer to our world leading lobster catch both in value and prestige. As One Nova Scotia points out, on a worldwide basis, "Aquaculture is projected to surpass the value of the capture fishery by 2023". I believe it is imperative that Nova Scotia engage, in a thoughtful manner, a greater portion of our abundant seacoast to provide significant contribution to community and Provincial economic development through new operations such as that proposed by Grand Pass Oysters Ltd.

Please add our endorsement to the long list of those who support this application.

Thank you,
Jane & Ernie Porter

Town Point Consulting Inc.
Ernie Porter, P.Eng., President

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