**Template letter to the leaders of federal party leaders**

*Please adapt this template as appropriate*

September 12, 2019

[Insert Recipient]

[Insert Greeting]

The Federal Government implemented the Wastewater System Effluent Regulations (WSER) in 2012. Newfoundland and Labrador is one of the most impacted regions in Canada with 197 outfalls in 115 different municipalities and an initial estimated capital cost of more than $600 million. Without a federal funding plan dedicated to financially support the strategy, many municipalities simply cannot comply.

[Insert name of municipality here] supports the policy goals set out through the WSER. We want to be good stewards of our coastal environment, but we cannot do this and meet the requirements of the WSER without more time and money.

We are asking candidates to support our request to reopen the window for a transitional authorization (TA) application under the WSER so municipalities with outfalls exceeding the 100m3 threshold can do the work needed to research wastewater system upgrade needs and plan their execution. Receiving a TA will ease the enforcement burden on municipalities and put them back on a compliance path.

Current infrastructure funding available in our province is not adequate to address our wastewater system needs and to meet the other pressing infrastructure issues we currently have, including providing safe drinking water to our residents. We are calling on candidates to support a permanent doubling of the Gas Tax Fund so that municipalities can support their upcoming wastewater infrastructure needs.

[Insert name of municipality here] looks forward to your support.

Sincerely,

Municipal Representative

c: Bill Karsten, FCM President

c: Tony Keats, MNL President