

A Petition to The Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans

**A CALL TO STOP THE REPLACEMENT OF CCG POINT HENRY,  
WITH A 14.4 METRE MULTI-TASK LIFEBOAT**

The Coast Guard plans to replace the 21-metre (69-foot) Multi-Tasked Patrol Cutter Point Henry - and its Vancouver Island based sister Point Race - in the spring with 14.4-metre (47-foot) Multi-Task High Endurance Lifeboats, also called 'motor lifeboats'.

*We, the undersigned Residents of the Northwest Coast of BC, draw the attention of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to the following:*

**Whereas,** The 8 - hour Service time of the replacement vessel will **not** allow it to travel to most areas of the North Coast, and then to carry out Search and Rescue Services once it has reached Station.

**Whereas,** The Smaller size of the Vessel will limit its ability to travel in the extremes of weather and sea-state and further limit its time on station.

**Whereas,** The replacement vessel is not equipped to transport patients, also called "Medi-Vacs" due to both space and service time, from villages to Prince Rupert Hospital, as the Point Henry is equipped and is utilized approx. 55 times per year whenever the "Medi-Vac" Helicopter is unable to fly because of Weather or operational conditions.

**Whereas,** The replacement Vessel is not equipped with Washroom and essential cleanup and warming facilities for rescue victims as the "Point Henry" class vessel is.

**Whereas,** There are no other SAR vessels on the Mainland North of the Central Coast to provide Backup Services to the 14.4 metre Lifeboat, should it be unable to carry out its task due to Service Limits.

**Whereas,** The Current practice of sending out a Fast Response craft, then following with the Cutter to relieve crew and recover victims will not be possible with the 14.4 metre vessel due to crew size and vessel size.

**Whereas,** Loading rescued victims at sea from a portable life raft, over the side and onto the Deck of a 14.4 metre vessel is hazardous to both rescued and rescuer alike, unlike the current practice of launching and recovering the Hard-Hull rescue craft onto the stern of the Point Henry.

**Whereas,** The Removal of the 21 metre Class of Vessel, **Point Henry**, from this area and assignment of a 14-4 metre Class Vessel will Limit the ability of SAR on the North Coast and will almost certainly lead to failed rescues and "Medi-Vacs" in the Area and result in **Loss of life**.

**THEREFORE, your petitioners call on the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to stop the replacement of the 21 metre Coast Guard Cutters with a smaller, less functional craft.**

	Name (printed)	Signature	Address (City, Province,)	Postal Code
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				

When complete please return to Jim Martin at **250-624-9407** or deliver to  
**North Coast Constituency Office**  
**818 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave West**  
**Prince Rupert, BC**  
**V8J 1M6**