



May 19, 2015

Dr. Ray Gosine (via e-mail)
Chair, Hydraulic Fracturing Review Panel
c/o Office of Associate Vice President (Research)
Bruneau Centre for Research and Innovation IIC-3067
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, NL A1C 5S7

RE: Hydraulic Fracturing Review

Dear Dr. Gosine,

The Western Newfoundland Destination Management Organization (Western DMO) represents more than 600 registered tourism operators in the western region of Newfoundland. Our role is to market and continue to develop western Newfoundland as a world-class multi-season tourism destination. Among others, we are close partners with our industry operators, not for profit attractions, sub-regional groups including the Gros Morne Co-operating Association and Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Western DMO is a full partner in the provincial scale 2020 Uncommon Potential tourism vision. We are excited by the tourism sector's continued growth. As a province, we have surpassed a billion dollars in tourism spending and feel the western region's contribution to this figure is a significant one. Our key assets are considered primary non-resident demand generators and a great deal of investment (private, provincial and federal) has contributed to the generation of this income to the province to date.

Our Board of Directors respectfully requests that the review panel carefully consider the impacts of hydraulic fracturing activity specifically on how it will detract from our area's visitor appeal. We respectfully submit these concerns on behalf of tourism stakeholders throughout our region. This type of industrialization in western Newfoundland will jeopardize our collective efforts and would put at risk not only important designations such as Gros Morne's UNESCO status, but our ability to diversify our rural economy through long-term, sustainable tourism development overall.

Respectfully,

E. English