

July 15, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Office of the Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

I am writing with regard to the reopening of Canada's international border and to request federal consideration with respect to the easing of pandemic-related border restrictions related to non-essential travel between Saint-Pierre et Miquelon and Newfoundland and Labrador.

For the past several months, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has received representation from the Territorial Council of Saint-Pierre et Miquelon, as well as the French Consulate General in Moncton, advocating for our Province to reopen the border with Saint-Pierre et Miquelon. Our message has consistently been that the reopening of Canada's frontier is a matter of federal jurisdiction, but that we remain interested in further dialogue and wish to ensure that public health and safety considerations remain foremost as decisions are made.

Newfoundland and Labrador has a long-standing and positive relationship with Saint-Pierre et Miquelon, including a variety of well-established business and trading partnerships, and strong cultural and educational ties. Prior to and throughout the pandemic, the province has also provided essential health services to Saint-Pierre et Miquelon patients.

Saint-Pierre et Miquelon residents have close personal and family ties with Newfoundland and Labrador and there are approximately 200 secondary homes in the province belonging to Saint-Pierre et Miquelon residents. Tourism is also an important priority for both jurisdictions and many businesses and operators are anxious to resume people-to-people tourism ties, including via the direct ferry service to and from the port of Fortune, which will be paramount in the pathway towards economic recovery.

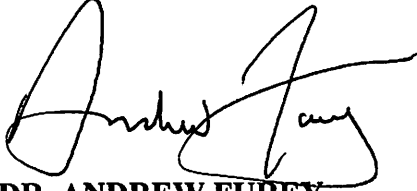
My Government released its reopening plan, *Together Again*, on June 2, 2021. Through a phased approach, our Plan recognizes the benefits of epidemiological trends, public health measures, and vaccination in the context of non-essential travel. On June 23, we reopened to residents of Atlantic Canada, and on July 1, we reopened to all Canadians.

The Province's Chief Medical Officer of Health has consulted with the Public Health Agency of Canada and it is the Province's view that the people of Saint-Pierre et Miquelon represent a very low risk population group given the high vaccination level of eligible residents (over 75% with two doses), favorable epidemiology, and the existence of border measures within Saint-Pierre et Miquelon to monitor the arrival of air travelers from beyond the archipelago.

Given the above, the Province would support a significant easing of travel restrictions between Saint-Pierre et Miquelon and Newfoundland and Labrador. I look forward to further dialogue with the Government of Canada on this subject to ensure that public health and safety considerations remain foremost as decisions to reopen the international border are made.

Thank you Prime Minister for your continued commitment and support to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Furey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

DR. ANDREW FUREY

Premier

Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs

- cc. Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada
and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs
Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources
Honourable Dr. John Haggie, Minister of Health and Community Services
Honourable Steve Crocker, Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation
Mr. Paul Pike, Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier and Member of the House of
Assembly for the District of Burin-Grand Bank