

From: Blonde Rock <l
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 10:01 AM
To: Chris Frotten <cfrotten@barringtonmunicipality.com>
Subject: Seal Island Lighthouse - Concerned Citizens

Good Morning

As per my telephone call to the Municipality of Barrington this morning, I am forwarding our request as well as attaching a copy of the petition we sent to Ottawa via Chris d'Entremont.

This regards our concerns for the deplorable condition of Seal Island Lighthouse (the original Lighthouse Located On Seal Island) and requesting the Federal Government to allot funds for the repair and maintenance of this Historical and Critical back-up for local and all mariners because of its strategic location.

We are asking the Municipality of Barrington to forward a similar letter of concern to the Government as well supporting these concerns.

Without your support, we fear Seal Island Lighthouse will fall into complete disrepair and be demolished.

Can we count on your support?

Sincerely,

Sonia Symonds-Newell
for Concerned Citizens
Seal Island Lighthouse

Petition to the Government of Canada,

WHEREAS

- The Seal Island Lighthouse was established in 1831 as a crucial guide for shipping traffic entering and leaving Bay of Fundy area. Strong tides, weather systems and reefs and rocks around the island have made Seal Island a major hazard to shipping for more than three centuries. Those dangers continue to this day.
- The original settlers of the island, the Hichens and Crowell families, lobbied for the building of the lighthouse. Samuel Cunard (founder of the Cunard Line) as a Commissioner of Lighthouses was instrumental in having the Seal Island lighthouse established.
- Seal Island is home to the second oldest wooden lighthouse still in use in Canada/North America
- The tower is a classic wooden octagonal tower; an increasingly rare colonial design, complete with original hand-hewn timbers and natural-growth knees supporting the lantern platform
- The tower displays a powerful (solar-powered) light and the station has one of the very few large electric foghorns still use in the province.
- Seal Island is located amidst a very busy, high-risk lobster fishery, with hundreds of lobster licenses and several hundred fishers operating in the area. Seal Island lighthouse provides a critical backup for local mariners in the event of modern navigation equipment failure, as well as acting as a daymark, with its distinctive red bands. The lighthouse and its nearby foghorn also provide guidance for recreational vessels transiting the area.
- Seal Island Lighthouse is extremely important to local residents of southwest Nova Scotia and to seasonal island dwellers, many of whom have direct ties to the lighthouse through generations of lightkeepers and families who served at the lighthouse from 1831 to 1990.
- The Lighthouse is a Classified Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental value.