



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

*Jim Eglinski*

Member of Parliament – Yellowhead  
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OTTAWA: August 01, 2019

Kim Rhodes  
President  
Canadian Sportfishing Industry Association  
PETERBOROUGH ON K9J 2J6

**Response to Elevating Recreational Fishing to a National Priority**

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

I am responding to the Canadian Sportfishing Industry Association's report entitled "Elevating Recreational Fishing to a National Priority," released in March of this year.

Recreational fishing is a Canadian heritage activity. As stated in your report, approximately 8 million Canadians enjoy spending time fishing. In fact, this generates \$9 billion annually for Canadian economy and supports countless jobs across the country.

CSIA's report outlines 9 specific recommendations for action – each of which have my full support.

In 2015, the Liberal Party promised "evidence-based" policy-making. On this file, and so many more, they have failed to live up to this promise. It is time that facts and science become the basis for decision-making and for Canadians who use public waters to have a say on policy.

I sincerely hope that Canadians will take the time to read your report. At the very least, I hope that this report will encourage DFO to start listening more to associations like yours.

Sincerely,

Jim Eglinski, MP  
Yellowhead