



PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER : **July 10, 2023**

This letter is designed to assist individuals concerned with the issue of Unregulated Float Homes and wishing to talk directly or indirectly to their MP via their MP's staff in their home or cottage riding this summer.

We want every MP to speak to the Minister of Transport and communicate to him the negative impact stemming from the vessel classification for float homes on Ontario lakes.

We want Transport Canada to reclassify these objects from vessels to float homes.

Context & Key Messages for an individual to share with your MP

1. Float Homes in Ontario are classified by Transport Canada as Vessels
2. The same objects in British Columbia are classified by TC as a Float Home
3. As a vessel, these objects are totally unregulated in Ontario waterways. There are no standards pertaining to construction, construction materials, buoyancy criteria, navigational equipment and managing septic and grey water.
4. They are not registered and do not contribute to municipal tax revenues.
5. Float Homes as Vessels open the door to widespread AIRBnB abuse by property owners who park one of these off their dock with no regulations to manage them.

We are petitioning TC to "reclassify" these objects from vessel to float homes and provide Ontario residents parity to TC's classification of float homes in B.C. 22 years ago.

THESE OBJECTS ARE FLOAT HOMES NOT VESSELS.





One further bit of context regarding Premier Ford's announcement of Friday July 23, 2023, pertaining to float homes specifically:

1. Ontario's government is banning overnight camping stays for floating homes on Ontario lakes and rivers.
2. These structures have been classified by Transport Canada as being vessels subject to and bound by all the rights and privileges provided under the umbrella jurisdiction of the Canada Shipping Act, 2001.
3. In a court of law, which is where anyone owning one of these float homes will present their case, an owner will point to the Transport Canada classification that these floating homes are ruled as vessels and for that reason aren't affected by this ruling.
4. The result is that Ford's communication banning float homes only applies to what has been defined as float homes and is therefore unrelated to our current situation as long as these float homes remain designated as vessels and until such time as Transport Canada rescinds the vessel designation.