

November 21, 2012

The Honourable Peter MacKay
Minister of National Defense
National Defense Headquarters
Major-General George R. Pearkes Building
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K2

Dear Minister MacKay:

I am writing regarding the Halifax International Security Forum held recently in our city.

Canada is not immune to threats to its security and this annual Forum provides a crucial opportunity for leaders and experts to meet to discuss present and future global security issues. It positions Canada as a key player on the international stage. At the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, we know well the value of building relationships at face to face meetings and the significance of accessing these contacts when needed.


Minister, you have brought over 300 delegates from 50 countries from around the world to proudly showcase our city. Besides the obvious economic benefits to our city's hotels, shops and restaurants, our city will see many future spins offs from a conference with this profile and global attendance. In addition to the important investment in our national security, our city has been literally showcased to the world.

We appreciate this opportunity for Halifax.

Sincerely,



Paula Gallagher
Chair, Board of Directors
Halifax Chamber of Commerce



Valerie Payn
President & CEO
Halifax Chamber of Commerce