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6589 Chebucto Road, Suite 201
Halifax, NS B3L 1L9

Tel. 902.423.4480
800.948.4267
Fax. 902.422.0184

www.tians.org

Dear Member of Parliament for Nova Scotia,

On behalf of the TIANS Board of Directors, we would like to commend the federal government for the significant financial supports implemented to date, in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We are writing today to further reinforce the ongoing need for targeted support for the Tourism Industry. While the July 30th announcement to extend the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) to October 23rd was welcome news to many, Canada's tourism industry needs continued targeted assistance.

Tourism is at the centre of the COVID-19 pandemic and will be at the centre of a full economic recovery. We appreciate and support the need to pivot away from broader programs that have benefitted all sectors. TIANS now urges the federal government to extend CEWS and CERS, specifically for the Tourism Sector, to the end of 2021.

Current supports have been lifelines for tourism businesses awaiting a more fulsome return of travel activity. While recent announcements around reopening of the American border and the eventual return of international travel have been well received, Destination Canada reports a full recovery to pre-pandemic levels is not expected for 3-4 years. As a result, there remains a great deal of concern around the short-term viability of many businesses across the Country.

Tourism is an extraordinarily resilient industry, and businesses need the confidence they can survive long enough to get to the rebuilding phase in 2022. While we lend our support to our partners from the Tourism Industry Association of Canada (TIAC) and the Hotel Association of Canada (HAC) in their efforts to establish a tailored wage and fixed-cost support program, we stress the importance of the continuation of CEWS and CERS as a bridge, until new supports are put in place.

On behalf of the Nova Scotia Tourism Industry, we urge continued efforts to support Canada's hardest hit sector, as we emerge from this extraordinary time.

As a Member of Parliament for Nova Scotia, we thank you in advance for your continued leadership.

Sincerely,


Judy Saunders
TIANS Chair


Darlene Grant Fiander
TIANS President

cc Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Finance
Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages
Premier Iain Rankin
TIANS Board of Directors