



## FIRE SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

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Manager, Mobile Technology and Services  
Industry Canada  
300 Slater Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A

**RE: FSANS Submission regarding Canada Gazette Notice No. SMSE-018-10 – Consultation on a Policy and Technical Framework for the 700 MHz Band and Aspects Related to Commercial Mobile Spectrum**

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter is to express the support of the Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia (FSANS) for the detailed responses to the subject Consultation put forward by the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs and the Maritime Radio Communications Initiative partners to secure 10+10 MHz of dedicated 700 MHz spectrum for wireless broadband applications and in opposition to any suggestion of auctioning that spectrum to commercial interests. Allocating the 20 MHz of spectrum in the upper 700 MHz band directly to public safety is the only route to ensure modern and, more importantly, reliable public safety grade interoperable wireless data networks.

Our Association represents all fire services throughout the Province of Nova Scotia and realizes only too well the importance of them having the right tools to protect and save lives and property. These include a communications network that allows real-time information sharing which can only be achieved through an appropriate, dedicated band of spectrum that is available to all emergency first responders. The upper 700 MHz block of spectrum provides this opportunity; the Nova Scotia fire service has already gone on record with the Nova Scotia Public Safety & Field Communications office as desiring to migrate from the current VHF spectrum to the 700 MHz P25 system when it is implemented over the next few years in order to improve interoperability with other public safety/public service agencies.

We do not want to see this one time opportunity for public safety lost, therefore we strongly voice our support through this letter. If you wish to discuss this matter further I can be reached at (902) 694-0219.

Yours truly,

Andy Yarrow  
President  
Fire Service Association of Nova Scotia