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June 5, 2006

Mr. Garry Breitzkreuz, M.P.
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Breitzkreuz,

Congratulations on the inaugural meeting of the "Outdoors Caucus" scheduled for June 7, 2006.

On behalf of the Canadian Marine Manufacturers Association (CMMA) and our members from across Canada, it is my pleasure to thank you and the other members of this bi-partisan caucus for your efforts in creating this important group. The recreational boating community includes boat, engine and accessory manufacturers together with retail store owners, boat dealers, and marina operators. We heartily welcome future opportunities to discuss issues of mutual concern with members of the new Outdoors Caucus.

The Canadian Marine Manufacturers Association is a not for-profit, recreational marine industry association representing the interests of manufacturers, distributors and service companies whose products are used by all of the 6million Canadians who enjoy boating on Canadian waters each summer.

In 2001, recreational boating had 84,000 full-time Canadian employees plus an additional 20,000 seasonal workers. Our industry generated over \$11billion in gross economic activity with a GDP contribution of over \$7billion. That economic activity placed our industry well ahead of many of the more widely recognized industries in Canada.

The CMMA would like very much to be engaged with the Outdoors Caucus and to bring forth concerns and ideas that would not only help our industry grow, but serve to protect our community so that the enjoyment of Canadian waterways can be expanded to include more Canadians and attract larger numbers of foreign "boater tourists" to our great country.

I wish you the best of success with your forthcoming inaugural meeting and look forward to meeting with you and other Outdoors Caucus members to discuss our member and broader boating community issues in the near future.

Sincerely,

J. A. (Sandy) Currie
Executive Director

Canadian Marine Manufacturers Association



**Association canadienne des manufacturiers
de produits nautiques**