

Minister of Infrastructure
and Communities



Ottawa, Canada K1P 0B6

Ministre de l'Infrastructure
et des Collectivités

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

For Information:

CAO Mayor/Council

RECEIVED: OCT 26 2017

Referred:

For Action For Response COTW

For Report Council Agenda IC

OCT 19 2017

Her Worship Barbara Desjardins
Mayor of the Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt
Municipal Hall
1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, British Columbia V9A 3P1

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your letter of September 21, 2017, regarding the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority's cruise terminal project at Ogden Point in Victoria, British Columbia.

The Government of Canada has a long history of making strategic investments in a wide range of infrastructure categories. Infrastructure is the foundation of sustainable and inclusive communities—it removes barriers, brings people together and allows all Canadians to be active participants in their community. Moreover, good infrastructure fosters an environment where the best of Canadian innovation can grow.

Your proposed project for a cruise ship terminal in Victoria may be eligible for funding under the Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component of the New Building Canada Fund. Under this program, proposed projects must first be prioritized by the province before they are submitted to Infrastructure Canada for consideration. I would encourage you to provide your proposal to the British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure so that it may determine whether the project should be prioritized for funding consideration.

Your proposal may also be eligible under the federal Gas Tax Fund—the largest component of the New Building Canada Plan—provided that the municipalities involved, as the ultimate recipients under the program, choose to apply their allocation to such a project.

The Government of Canada is investing more than \$180 billion under the long-term Investing in Canada Plan. Our priority is to promote infrastructure that will create good, well-paying jobs that can help the middle class grow and prosper. Key areas for investment include public transit, green and social infrastructure, transportation infrastructure that supports trade, and infrastructure in rural and northern communities.

Through Budget 2017, the Government has also announced plans to invest \$20.3 billion towards public transit that would transform the way Canadians live, move and work. Green infrastructure projects will also be prioritized through an investment of \$16.9 billion over 11 years that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, deliver clean water, safely manage wastewater, and help communities prepare for challenges that result from climate change.

Infrastructure Canada has started discussions with its partners in British Columbia to sign a long-term agreement that would see \$4,129,680,161 invested in infrastructure over the next 11 years.

Thank you for writing on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Sohi".

Amarjeet Sohi, P.C., M.P.