## THE CITY OF VICTORIA

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Barbara Desjardins 1229 Esquimalt Road Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

March 8, 2017

Dear Mayor Desjardins,

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT
For Information:

CAO Mayor/Council

RECEIVED: MAR 1 7 2017

Referred:
For Action For Response COTW
For Report Council Agenda IC

The City of Victoria is reaching out to you for advice in considering the future of the McPherson Playhouse.

We've put together a working group comprised of Royal and McPherson Theatre Society (RMTS) Board Directors and staff, my Deputy City manager and staff, and Councillors Pam Madoff and Marianne Alto, to contemplate opportunities for municipal support for the McPherson Theatre, beyond the status quo.

We've given this team a few months to speak with you, seek your counsel, and return with a plan for the McPherson's future operation. We've asked that this work be completed by mid-June 2017.

At that time, the City of Victoria will propose options to the CRD for 2018 and beyond, reliant on the outcomes of our conversations with you, and the further direction of Victoria City Council. That timing will enable timely CRD and/or municipal budget considerations for 2018 and future years.

Here's how you can help.

I'm asking you to allow a few members of this team to attend one of your upcoming Council meetings, make a short presentation, and hear your questions and feedback.

One of my colleagues will follow up with you by phone to find a convenient date.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and guidance.

Yours truly,

Lisa Helps

Victoria Mayor