



Making a difference...together

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File: 0550-01

Transport Canada
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0N5

To Whom it May Concern:

RE: FUNDING FOR THE GREATER VICTORIA HARBOUR AUTHORITY'S SHORE POWER PROJECT FOR THE GREEN SHIPPING CORRIDOR PROGRAM CLEAN PORTS STREAM APPLICATION

Recognizing the importance of collaboration in accelerating decarbonization efforts, the Capital Regional District (CRD) wishes to acknowledge our support for the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority's (GVHA) application to the Transport Canada's Green Shipping Corridor Program Clean Ports Stream for their project to electrify the deep-water terminal at Ogden Point and provide shoreside electricity to ocean going vessels.

The CRD is a founding member of GVHA and continues to participate in the governance of the GVHA through a representative on their Board of Directors to help steer the strategic direction of the organization. I write to you today as Chair of the CRD Board, the regional government for the 13 municipalities and 3 electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island.

The Shore Power Project is an important step towards significant reduction of greenhouse gas emission from cruise and non-cruise vessels while in port and will contribute to meeting local, regional, and national emission reduction targets. The four (4) phased project will enable the development of a longer-term electrification strategy and investment for GVHA and its partners and stakeholders. In doing so, it will contribute to the establishment of the Pacific Northwest to Alaska Green Corridor and demonstrate partnership between shoreside infrastructure as well as vessel owners/operators.

The cruise ship industry is extremely important to our region's economic sustainability. Victoria is situated in the capital region, the nation's busiest port of call, welcoming 970,000 cruise visitors to the city between April and October 2023. Cruise related business is worth more than \$143 million to the regional economy and supports more than 800 jobs in the capital region.



The Victoria cruise ship terminal at Ogden Point is located near a residential area where the GVHA works diligently with area residents to mitigate the impacts of these visits. This effort would reduce climate impact considerably. Through GVHA's discussions with BC Hydro, we understand there is enough power on Vancouver Island to manage this load, but significant infrastructure upgrades would be required in the surrounding neighbourhoods. Our shift to clean energy is being championed by the CRD [Climate Action Strategy](#) and the City of Victoria through their [Climate Leadership Plan](#). The GVHA's Shore Power Project also aligns with the Federal Government's climate goals.

We would appreciate your support on this important project for our region.

Sincerely,



Colin Plant
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board
Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD
Robert Lewis-Manning, Chief Executive Officer, GVHA