CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

October 28, 2022

Colin Plant Chair Capital Regional District Board <u>crdchair@crd.bc.ca</u>

Dear Colin Plant:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Vancouver Island rail corridor. I apologize for my late reply.

As you know, the British Columbia Court of Appeal has given the Government of Canada until March 2023 to determine whether the restoration of rail service on the line is in the public interest, and whether it will fund such a restoration.

The Government of Canada is actively considering the issues raised in the ruling and is committed to better understanding perspectives across Vancouver Island, including those of First Nations, regional districts, and other levels of government, to inform the path forward.

While Transport Canada will not be leading an engagement process of its own, the Government of Canada's decision-making will be informed by the ongoing engagement of the British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Thank you for sharing your views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jungh

The Honourable Omar Alghabra, P.C., M.P. Minister of Transport