



Making a difference...together

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October 13, 2022

File: 0550-01

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc  
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
Via email: [dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca](mailto:dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Minister LeBlanc:

**RE: FUNDING FOR THE GREATER VICTORIA HARBOUR AUTHORITY'S SHORE POWER PROJECT**

I am writing to you today as Chair of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, the regional government for the 13 municipalities and 3 electoral districts on southern Vancouver Island. The CRD is seeking your support for funding of the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority's (GVHA) Shore Power Project.

The GVHA has concluded their business case to transition to shore power for the cruise ships and other vessels that visit the port of Victoria and are now seeking financial support to complete the project. The GVHA is a not-for-profit organization and cannot complete this project without financial assistance. Their current funding model is consistent with the way the shore power was funded in Vancouver.

The cruise ship industry is extremely important to our economic sustainability and we are delighted to have the vessels return since COVID restrictions have lifted. In Victoria, we are in the nation's busiest port of call, welcoming more than 700,000 passengers and 300,000 crew members to the city in 2019. Cruise related business is worth more than \$143 million to the regional economy and supports more than 800 jobs in the capital region.

Our cruise ship terminal 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. In discussions with BC Hydro we know 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Colin Plant', is positioned above the printed name.

Colin Plant  
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board  
Robert Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD  
Ted Robbins, General Manager, Integrated Water Services, CRD  
Ian Robertson, Chief Executive Officer, GVHA

