



**ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND
AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES**
525 Government Street, Victoria, BC V8V 0A8

May 26, 2011

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
Box 9041, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark:

**RE: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR SEASPAN SHIPYARDS CONTRACT BID
NATIONAL SHIPBUILDING PROCUREMENT STRATEGY**

The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) is the association representing the interests of its 51 member municipalities, regional districts and other local governments of Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River and the Central Coast.

We are writing to request your government's support for Seaspan Shipyards' bid for a significant portion of the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy, a 30-year, \$35 billion program to replace Canada's aging navy and coast guard ships. The benefits from the success of this bid to the BC economy are substantial: an overall provincial economic impact of more than \$15 billion and approximately 4,000 jobs.

The timing of a strong show of support is critical to the success of this bid as we understand that the announcement of the successful bid is to be made in July. We have been advised that Quebec and Nova Scotia, the competitors in this bid, are working hard to demonstrate the importance of these contracts to their communities. British Columbia needs to do the same.

We understand that Mayors Walton, Mussatto and Desjardins have requested a meeting with you and other key representatives to discuss ways in which we can help to re-establish a world-class marine industry in British Columbia. AVICC asks that you and your government make this issue a priority by meeting with representatives as soon as possible and looking for ways to support the bid.

Sincerely,

Chair Joe Stanhope
AVICC President

Cc Honourable Kevin Falcon, Minister of Finance
Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation
Honourable Ida Chong, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Mayor Barbara Desjardins & Council, Township of Esquimalt
Mayor Richard Walton & Council, District of North Vancouver
Mayor Darrell Mussatto & Council, City of North Vancouver
John Shaw, Vice-President, Program Management, Seaspan Shipyards

Representing Local Government on Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River and Central Coast
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