



FEB 25 2020

Carl Jensen, Councillor and President  
Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities  
525 Government Street  
Victoria BC V8V 0A8

Reference: 291616

Dear Councillor Jensen,

**Re: Island Rail Corridor**

Thank you for your letter regarding the Island Rail Corridor.

As you may know, the Province is close to completing an “all-in” assessment to determine the costs associated with restoring rail service in the corridor. We will also need to determine the cost of imperative safety work, including a seismic risk assessment and rock fall review, to ensure any potential passenger rail service meets today’s safety standards.

The ministry anticipates that with this assessment, we will have a clear understanding of the costs, scope and potential risks of restoring this corridor to its full potential. The ministry may consider funding strategies or partnership with the federal government once the assessment is complete.

Moving forward with a solution will require constructive discussions between communities along the route, First Nations, the provincial government and the Island Corridor Foundation (ICF), who own the corridor. Partnership with First Nations is key to this work and must be in line with government’s commitment to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It is crucial the ICF consult with Indigenous governments regarding the future of the corridor as we work together to find a solution.

If you have any questions or would like an update on the assessment, please do not hesitate to contact the ministry’s District Manager, Michael Pearson. He can be reached at 250 751-3287 or at [Michael.Pearson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Michael.Pearson@gov.bc.ca) and would be happy to help you further.

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Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Claire Trevena', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Claire Trevena  
Minister

Copy to: Premier John Horgan

Honourable Carole James  
Minister of Finance  
Deputy Premier  
MLA, Victoria-Beacon Hill

Michael Pearson, District Manager  
Vancouver Island District