



July 30, 2026

The Honourable Ravi Parmar, MLA  
Minister of Forests  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Sent via email: [FOR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FOR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Parmar,

The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) is the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) area association representing the interests of local governments and member First Nations in the British Columbia region of Vancouver Island, qathet, the Sunshine Coast, Central Coast and North Coast.

Following consideration at the 2026 AVICC Annual Convention, AVICC members endorsed a resolution sponsored by the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District that is pertinent to your Ministry. The resolution and supporting background information are included for your review and consideration:

- **AVICC Resolution 2026-R39 – CC-130H Hercules Fleet**

The resolution recognizes the increasing impacts of severe wildfire seasons on British Columbia's forests, forestry-dependent communities, critical infrastructure, Indigenous rights and regional economies. Uncontrolled wildfires threaten timber supply, disrupt forestry operations, damage forest resources, and create significant economic consequences for communities that rely on a healthy and productive forest sector. It calls on the Province of British Columbia to collaborate with the Government of Canada, First Nations, and the private sector to retrofit a portion of Canada's retired CC-130H Hercules fleet into large air tankers and deploy them as part of a strengthened national wildfire response capacity.

AVICC members believe this made-in-Canada approach would enhance British Columbia's ability to rapidly suppress wildfires, helping to protect valuable forest assets, support long-term fibre security, safeguard forestry employment, and strengthen the resilience of communities and industries that depend on the sustainable management of forest resources. Investing in additional wildfire suppression capacity would contribute to the long-term environmental and economic sustainability of British Columbia's forest sector.

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Representing Local Government on Vancouver Island, qathet, Sunshine, North and Central Coasts

**We respectfully request your consideration of this resolution and any information you can provide regarding provincial efforts to strengthen wildfire response capacity through creative solutions-based collaboration with federal and provincial partners.**

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact Theresa Dennison, AVICC Executive Director, at 236-237-1202 or [tdennison@avicc.ca](mailto:tdennison@avicc.ca).

Sincerely,



Vanessa Craig  
AVICC President  
Director, RD Nanaimo, Area B (Gabriola, Mudge, and DeCourcy Islands)

**cc:**

John Jack, Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District; [jjack@acrd.bc.ca](mailto:jjack@acrd.bc.ca)

Hon. Kelly Greene, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Resilience; [EMCR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:EMCR.Minister@gov.bc.ca);

Hon. Brittny Anderson, Minister of State for Local Government and Rural Communities; [MSP.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MSP.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Hon. Eleanor Olszewski, Minister of EMCR (Canada); [eleanor.olszewski@parl.gc.ca](mailto:eleanor.olszewski@parl.gc.ca)

Hon. David McGuinty, Minister of National Defence (Canada); [david.mcguinty@parl.gc.ca](mailto:david.mcguinty@parl.gc.ca)

Daniel Sailland, CAO, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District; [dsailand@acrd.bc.ca](mailto:dsailand@acrd.bc.ca)

**Attachment: R39\_ACRD\_CC130H Hercules Fleet.pdf**