DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

File No. 0400-08

July 21, 2022

Hon. Omar Alghabra, Minister of Transport of Canada
Hon John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia
Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure of British Columbia
Capital Regional District Councils

Dear Minister Alghahra, Premier Horgan, Minister Fleming, and Capital Regional District Councils,

Re: Support for Island Rail Corridor

At the Regular Council meeting held on June 27, 2022, the District of Metchosin Council expressed it's support for the following Town of View Royal Island Rail Corridor resolution to be considered at this year's convention:

> **WHEREAS** the E&N Rail Corridor, now known as the Island Corridor, which has connected Vancouver Island communities, businesses and services for more than 135 years is at risk of being lost forever by March 15. 2023 without the financial support and commitments of the Provincial and Federal governments;
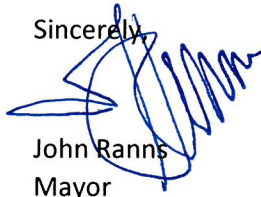>
> **AND WHERAS**, because 80 per cent of Vancouver Island's population lives within five kilometers of the corridor, it presents viable options for commuter and inter-regional passenger rail, as well as strong economic opportunities for excursion and freight services that will reduce traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions;
>
> **THERFORE BE ITE RESOLVED** that the UBCM call on the Provincial and Federal governments to commit to making the necessary investments to preserve the Island Corridor so that it can continue to connect communities, establish safe and environmentally sound passenger and freight rail service, and strengthen economies up, down, and across Vancouver Island.

Time is running out to ensure the preservation of this priceless asset on Vancouver Island, and we urge all to work together to protect this contiguous transportation corridor on Vancouver Island for the future.

We need to draw as much attention to this issue in the coming months as we can, and we ask for your support and help with this.

Sincerely,

John Ranns
Mayor

cc: Mayor David Screech, Town of View Royal
    Island Corridor Foundation