

Minister of Transport



Ministre des Transports

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

MAR 27 2018

Her Worship Lisa Helps  
Mayor  
City of Victoria  
200-737 Yates Street  
Victoria BC V8W 1L6

MAYOR'S OFFICE

APR 06 2018

VICTORIA, B.C.

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your briefing note of February 6 and 26, 2018, regarding Victoria Harbour Water Airport. It was a pleasure to meet with you while you were in Ottawa.

Transport Canada is presently reviewing the draft water aerodrome regulations and is taking steps to incorporate them into the regulatory framework. I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm there will be a 30-day comment period following pre-publication of the proposed regulatory amendments in the *Canada Gazette, Part I*.

With respect to the issue of emergency response, Victoria Harbour Water Airport is a certified airport operating under a Civil Aviation Airport Certificate. In accordance with the certification requirements, procedures for managing emergencies are in place.

Representatives from the City of Victoria's fire and police departments attend regular meetings of the Victoria Harbour Emergency Response Coordination Committee, which includes numerous agencies responsible for emergency response in the Port of Victoria. The Committee provides an avenue for communication and coordination, including emergency and risk planning. Paragraph 41 (1)(b) of the *Oceans Act* states that the Canada Coast Guard is the agency responsible for all on-water emergencies.

In addition, the Victoria Harbour Emergency Procedures Manual contains procedures for responding to marine fires. In the past, Transport Canada's Civil Aviation has reported that this document meets the requirements found in Canadian Aviation Regulation 302.202. The Manual meets the provisions contained in the Draft Water Airport Standards.

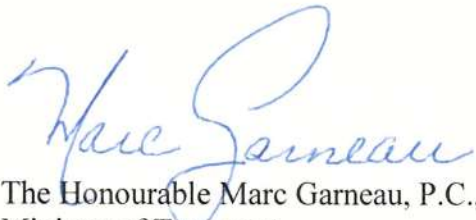
With respect to float plane operations, the airport operator will continue to monitor activities in order to ensure the highest possible compliance with the noise abatement provisions in place in Victoria Harbour, in addition to mitigating air emissions. These provisions are contained in the Port of Victoria Traffic Scheme, as well as the *Canada Flight Supplement* for Victoria Harbour Water Airport.

Transport Canada chairs regular meetings between air carriers and operators. These are attended by federal agencies and departments, as well as businesses involved in operations in the vicinity of the Harbour. They provide a regular opportunity for communication, coordination and collaboration in managing both aviation and marine operations within the Harbour. Invitations have been extended to the City of Victoria to attend.

Finally, I should note that the general email address for Victoria Harbour is [TC.PAC.TH.PortVictoria-PortVictoria.TC@tc.gc.ca](mailto:TC.PAC.TH.PortVictoria-PortVictoria.TC@tc.gc.ca). The public is welcome to submit feedback to that address at any time.

Again, thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Marc Garneau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marc" and last name "Garneau" clearly distinguishable.

The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Transport