



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

JUL 31 2018

Her Worship Lisa Helps  
Mayor of the City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria BC V8W 1P6

MAYOR'S OFFICE

AUG 01 2018

VICTORIA BC

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your letter of May 24, 2018, written on behalf of 15 mayors across Canada, concerning the parliamentary review of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA) by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development and its subsequent report entitled "Healthy Environment, Healthy Canadians, Healthy Economy: Strengthening the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*." I regret the delay in responding.

The Standing Committee's work and its resulting 87 recommendations provide important information and direction as to where the Government of Canada should focus its efforts. The Government's follow-up report to the Standing Committee was published on June 29. It provides a detailed discussion of the federal government's approach to addressing these recommendations, including those pertaining to environmental rights. For example, many of the Standing Committee's recommendations can be addressed through improved implementation of CEPA. Other recommendations may require further study and engagement with stakeholders and partners. Some recommendations would have to be addressed through legislative amendments. A copy of the report is available on the CEPA Registry at [www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/review.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/canadian-environmental-protection-act-registry/review.html).

I hope that you will review the report with interest. Environment and Climate Change Canada officials would appreciate any feedback you have on it and will be reaching out to interested stakeholders in the fall to discuss the report. If you have comments on the report and/or would like to participate in these discussions, I invite you to contact the departmental officials at [ec.gouvernancelegislative-legislativegovernance.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.gouvernancelegislative-legislativegovernance.ec@canada.ca).

I trust that this information is helpful. Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.