



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 31, 2019

Date: January 30, 2019

From: Councillor Ben Isitt

Subject: Resolution: Revitalizing Island Rail

Recommendation:

THAT Council endorse the following resolution and direct staff to forward copies to the Premier of British Columbia, the Minister of Transportation, Members of the Legislative Assembly representing constituencies on Vancouver Island, the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Annual Convention, and member local governments within the Capital Region and AVICC, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support:

Resolution: Revitalizing Island Rail

WHEREAS One of the conditions of the original Order-in-Council establishing the Esquimalt and Nanaimo (E&N) now Island Corridor Foundation (ICF) railway corridor is that if the corridor is no longer needed or used for railway purposes, it goes back to the original owner;

AND WHEREAS Assembling a similar multi-modal corridor connecting the Alberni Inlet to the Comox Valley to Greater Victoria in the context of current land values and land uses would be impossible to replicate;

AND WHEREAS Repair of the railway infrastructure can only reasonably be accomplished by way of capital investment from senior levels of government;

AND WHEREAS Rail transport and a parallel trail system are integral sustainable transportation options in the context of climate change, including the option of electrified rail for the sustainable movement of people and goods on the island;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Province of British Columbia take immediate actions to provide sufficient funding in a timely manner to restore the railway infrastructure of Vancouver Island and ensure that the corridor remains intact and available to future generations of indigenous and non-indigenous peoples.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Isitt".

Councillor Isitt