



Ref: 47379

September 7, 2022

Their Worship Mayor Lisa Helps
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6
Email: mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca

Dear Mayor Helps:

Thank you for your letter of August 15, 2022, addressed to the Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. On behalf of Minister Mark, I am happy to provide a response regarding Point Ellice House funding.

As a Provincial Heritage Site, the Provincial Government provides funding to Point Ellice House to maintain the provincial asset, support its basic operations and ensure conservation and public access. The Ministry recognizes the site's importance in Victoria and the work the site manager has completed by expanding narratives of public history at the site.

The Province has made significant financial investments in Point Ellice House since 2019 when the Vancouver Island Local History Society assumed the role of site manager under contract with the Province. To be specific, \$425,000 has been provided for annual site operations, \$337,813 for site maintenance, and a one-time grant investment of \$226,000 through the BC 150 Time Immemorial program.

Point Ellice house is an important property within the provincial historic properties portfolio and will continue to be considered for funding within available resources. Fluctuations in financial assistance is not uncommon as the Province services a broad portfolio of heritage property and related commitments.

Heritage Branch staff will continue to work with site operators, including Point Ellice House, to help meet growth demands by exploring uses for properties that conserve their heritage value, provide for public access, and reduce reliance on public funds.

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Their Worship Mayor Lisa Helps
Page 2

We appreciate your interest in Point Ellice House specifically and provincial heritage properties in general.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Neilane Mayhew', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Neilane Mayhew
Deputy Minister