



**Council Member Motion**

**For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 6, 2017**

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**Date:** June 27, 2017

**From:** Councillor Ben Isitt

**Subject:** Advocacy for Provincial and Federal Investment in the E & N Rail Corridor

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**Recommendation:**

That Council endorse the following resolution and request that the Mayor write, on behalf of Council, to the Provincial and Federal Ministers responsible for Transportation and Infrastructure, forwarding this resolution and requesting favourable consideration, with copies sent to the Premier and Prime Minister, the Island Corridor Foundation, the Capital Regional District, and local governments and First Nations governments on Vancouver Island:

***Resolution: Provincial and Federal Investment in E & N Rail Corridor***

WHEREAS the City of Victoria's Strategic Plan 2015-2018 identifies the strategic action to work with other municipalities, First Nations and other partners to get the train running between Victoria and Langford;

AND WHEREAS rail provides a viable long-term option for the transport of people and goods on Vancouver Island that aligns with a commitment to climate action and compact, complete communities;

AND WHEREAS a lack of investment in the Esquimalt & Nanaimo (E & N) Rail Corridor between Victoria, Courtenay and Port Alberni has resulted in unrealized economic opportunities and limited transportation options;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests Provincial and Federal investment in the E & N Rail Corridor in the next Provincial and Federal budgets, to allow for the establishment as soon as possible of efficient commuter rail service between Victoria, the Western Communities and the Cowichan Valley, and restoration of inter-city passenger rail service between Victoria and Courtenay;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT consideration be given to electrification of the rail line between Victoria and Courtenay, to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and provide a clean energy option for the transport of people and goods on Vancouver Island.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Isitt", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Councillor Isitt