



MAYOR'S OFFICE

DEC 11 2017

VICTORIA, B.C.

Reference: 312078

DEC 06 2017

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

Dear Mayor Helps and Council:

Thank you for your letter of September 15, 2017, regarding my appointment as Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the work that the City of Victoria is doing to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. I apologize for the lengthy delay in responding.

First, let me say that I appreciate your kind words of congratulations. While we face many challenges, this is an exciting opportunity to take action on climate change, while building a sustainable economy. I am enjoying the challenging portfolio and look forward to working together with British Columbians on issues of mutual concern.

I am particularly pleased to hear of the climate action activities that communities across British Columbia are undertaking. Through your collective work on land use, transportation, waste, water, energy and other infrastructure and service provisions many local governments are demonstrating leadership and applying innovative approaches to reducing GHG emissions and creating resilient communities. I applaud Victoria's decision to back up its vision by setting targets. You will find that you have a partner in our new provincial government, starting with the inclusion of local government voices on our new Climate Solutions and Clean Growth Advisory Council.

I enjoyed the opportunity to speak at the opening plenary of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives Canada's Livable Cities Forum in September that was co-hosted by the City of Victoria. My gratitude to you and ICLEI for inviting me to speak, engage with participants and learn more about community resiliency across Canada.

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Thank you again for writing and I look forward to continuing to work with the City of Victoria on issues of mutual concern. I know we are scheduled to meet soon and I know our discussion will be productive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G. Heyman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

George Heyman
Minister