



MAYOR'S OFFICE

OCT 23 2017

OCT 26 2017

Ref: 133402

VICTORIA, B.C.

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

Dear Mayor Helps:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations on my recent appointment as Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology (Ministry) for the Government of British Columbia (BC). I apologize for the delay in responding.

Our government has made three key commitments to British Columbians that we intend to deliver on: make life more affordable; improve delivery of services; and build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy. Protecting our environment and addressing climate change are essential to building a sustainable and prosperous economy and supporting the well-being of citizens. At the same time, as technology and innovation increasingly impact how our economy works, creating good-paying jobs will help citizens meet their full potential.

I am pleased to see the alignment of the Government of BC's priorities with those of the City of Victoria. To support the technology sector, we have committed to establishing an Innovation Commission to support innovation and business development in the technology sector, and appointing an Innovation Commissioner with a mandate to be an advocate and ambassador on behalf of the BC technology sector in Ottawa and abroad.

As you know, the Ministry is also initiating an Emerging Economy Task Force that is taking a long-term perspective on the changing nature of business and potential social, environmental and economic outcomes for British Columbians. The Task Force will advise government on how to anticipate and address future opportunities and challenges.

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We are actively working on establishing the Innovation Commission and the Emerging Economy Task Force. We look forward to engaging British Columbians and working closely with municipal partners on these and other key economic initiatives.

I would like to congratulate the City of Victoria on the great work that is underway to make the city a livable, affordable, prosperous and vibrant place to live. I look forward to collaborating with you to fulfill this vision.

Once again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Ralston', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Bruce Ralston
Minister