

MAYOR'S OFFICE

JUN 27 2015

VICTORIA, B.C.,

June 21, 2016

Ref: 104515

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

## Dear Mayor Helps:

Thank you for your letter of May 18, 2016 expressing concern over the condition of the two houses located at 506 and 514 Government Street. The Province manages a diverse portfolio of owned and leased buildings across British Columbia, with a variety of maintenance and funding requirements. The Province has a well-organized maintenance and rehabilitation program in place which ensures budgets are optimized and taxpayers' money is prioritized appropriately.

The Province's Real Property Division (RPD) has completed facility condition assessments on these architecturally significant properties, the outputs of which help inform our investments in these buildings.

RPD is currently laying the groundwork to restore 506 Government Street, by firstly seeking a qualified heritage consultant, and identifying code, safety, and other issues. The commencement of the restoration is expected to coincide with the occupants vacating the property, likely in the winter of 2016.

RPD has invested significantly in 514 Government Street in recent years, including remediating hazardous materials and exterior painting. Our priority focus is currently 506 Government Street, with plans to continue the restoration of 514 Government Street in the future.

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The Province will be engaging the City of Victoria, through Development Services, once the full requirements for the restoration of 506 Government Street are known. We look forward to continuing our support of the City's heritage in the built environment.

Sincerely,

Amrik Virk Minister

pc: Honourable Christy Clark, Premier, Province of British Columbia