



Reference: 293776

December 21, 2015

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

Dear Mayor Lisa Helps:

On June 15, 2015, the Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment, announced that British Columbia will be creating a world class spill response regime to address a wide range of potential land and marine-based spills. We intend to build that new regime collaboratively with First Nations, communities, local governments, industry and other regulators.

I am sending this letter to provide you with an update on the regime progress and notice of our upcoming engagement efforts. We will be engaging a broad range of First Nations, industry organizations, communities, stakeholders and regulators on a new report which will set out the details of our proposed new spill response regime.

I encourage your organization to provide detailed comments on the new report through our online information portal on the ministry's Land Based Spill Preparedness and Response in British Columbia website at www.gov.bc.ca/spillresponse. From this webpage, you can subscribe to receive updates which will notify you when new content is posted, including the new report. As noted, we anticipate the new report being available mid-January 2016 and we will provide you with another notice just prior the commencement of our formal engagement.

In the meantime, we invite you to review the previously published intentions papers and the results of a past Spill Response Symposium posted on the portal.

If you have any questions about the new proposal or the engagement process, I encourage you to contact Ms. Sara Bacic, Logistics Coordinator for the Spill Response Regime. She can be contacted at Sara.Bacic@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Anthony Danks
Executive Director
Spills Response Regime Project
Environmental Protection Division