

## Janet Hawkins

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**From:** Morris Furball [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, Jun 8, 2015 10:47 AM  
**To:** Public Hearings; Lisa Helps (Mayor); Geoff Young  
**Subject:** Roundhouse development.

I'm not sure if I can attend the Roundhouse development meeting on the 11th, or will even remember to attend if I can, so I would like to put my 2c worth in here regarding the roundhouse development plans. So I'm writing this to the people of the public hearing and forwarding this for the record to Mayor Lisa and Geoff Young as well.

In 1878 Sir John A MacDonald didn't win his riding though his party won the election so he was parachuted into Victoria and won his by-election on the basis and promise of bringing Victoria and BC into the Country on the promise he would build the rail-road right into Victoria. That promise, as a side note touched off the only Indian uprising in Canada in the attempt to bring the rail to the island where the mainland is closest to the island. But eventually the rail, such as it was, came right into Victoria and until recently was the most historically important piece of rail in the entire country of Canada...it signified the building of the country. Mister Fortin forgot this piece of history, and we Victorians are the poorer for it.

That length of rail was callously ripped out by the previous Mayor by tricking Victorians by saying it would cost less to build a new bridge than repair the old one when in fact it would cost more than ten times more. Consequently the only Twin Bascule bridge in the world was destroyed in the process. Every time the Train crossed the bridge and entered Victoria, and blew its whistle, Sir John A's promise was echoed in the city. That promise has been forgotten by so many and that echo has been silenced.

Needless to say, based on previous 'accomplishments', My hope for truly historic and significant roundhouse "Development " project is minimal at best.

I feel that since we've lost both the rail we were promised by Sir John A, and the unique bridge that was so amazing it should have been on a par in city pride and touristy merit as the Eiffel Tower in Paris that this development of the Roundhouse should make up for losses Victoria has sustained, if that is even possible. That development should reflect these historical important Victoria heritage sites we've lost and not be a kichy amusement center, bar, or concert hall. It seems at least part of the site should be museum in nature and free at that as we were never charged to cross the bridge or look at that last historic 100 yards of rail Sir John A promised us...that rail that made us all Canadians.

I don't know the plans for the roundhouse, but it should be as original as possible with a series of models and photos of the rail, Sir John A with Victoria in the backdrop if such photos exist, and historic pictures of the rail, the bridges, the History of the Indian war as it was connected with the rail building (though that segment was never built) and other pertinent historic facts regarding this part of Victoria and Esquimalt history. Clinging to, and presenting to Victorians and other local residents and visitors what little history remains.

Rick Pilotte

Born In Victoria 1958

Author of Earth, Man, & Devolution

Victoria Artist



# ***Esquimalt and Nanaimo Division***

## ***Of The Canadian Railroad Historical Association***

**VIA E-MAIL**

June 10, 2015

**For the attention of:**  
**Patty Mariash, Bayview Place**

Dear Patty

**Re: Roundhouse Project**

I write with regards to the proposed Roundhouse Project

I would like Thank you and your team, for allowing our Division members to meet with you and discuss work planned on the redevelopment of the Roundhouse Properties.

After listening about and seeing the development plans, that on behalf of the members and executive of the E&N Division, Canadian Railroad Historical Association, we fully support the project, and ask the City of Victoria, Mayor and Council to approve the project.

Sincerely,  
Glenn Migneault, Secretary  
E&N Division, CRHA

cc: Jimmy Sturgill  
Scott McCormick

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