

The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Mayor's Office

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Sent via email: pm@pm.gc.ca

June 15, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin P.J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Re: Threat of Permanent Bypass of Cruise Ships to Canada

On June 14, 2021, Saanich Council considered a Report to Council and resolved as follows:

"That Council direct the Mayor to write a letter to the Prime Minister and other appropriate Federal Ministers expressing the need for the Government of Canada to rescind the cruise order this Fall 2021 in order to send a signal directed to the cruise industry that there will be no further extension of the order on prohibition of cruise vessels in Canadian waters beyond February 28, 2022."

Cruise is a valuable part of Greater Victoria's visitor economy, contributing more than \$130 million annually and supporting more than 800 jobs. Cruise passengers choose Alaska for their cruise, and, while Victoria is positively received by cruise passengers, their intentions in choosing this market are based on a journey to Alaska, not British Columbia. The Government of Canada needs to send a signal that there will be no further extension of their order suspending the cruise industry in Canada beyond February 28, 2022.

In addition to our economic vibrancy, the cruise industry is critical to the region as revenue from cruises allows the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority to sustain community amenities such as the Breakwater, Lower Causeway and Ship Point, - amenities that residents from across the region frequent.

On behalf of Saanich Council, we request the federal government make this announcement for the 2022 cruise season along with the expected and pending announcement of the reopening plan for the Canada – United States of America land and marine borders.

A link to the report dated June 14 can be found <u>here</u>. The meeting minutes will soon be available on our <u>website</u>.

Yours Sincerely,

Fred Haynes Mayor

c:

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue

The Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development, and Disability Inclusion

The Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard

The Honourable Omar Alghabra, Minister of Transport

The Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia

The Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure

District of Saanich Council

Ian Robertson, CEO, Greater Victoria Harbour Authority