

September 15, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

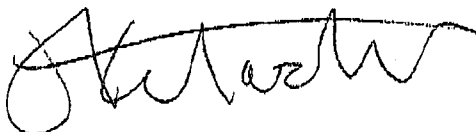
Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Joan Kotarski supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

I have already sent letters concerning my opposition to this project. In short, I believe the scale of the marina is inappropriate for the proposed location. I am particularly concerned that as an outrigger paddler of the harbour, this project will significantly impact my enjoyment of this waterway and limit my ability to paddle safely. I am also concerned that the increased traffic is an accident waiting to happen. I have always been very proud of the fact that our harbour is managed so safely with a no serious accident record. I can not believe that a project of this scale will not impact our wildlife particularly the migratory birds in winter. Please consider all these concerns before we damage other species irreversibly.

Yours truly,



Joan Kotarski
1144 BALMORAL RD
VICTORIA, BC
V8T 1B1



1824 Store Street
Victoria, British Columbia
Canada V8T 4R4

Phone: (250) 381-4233
Fax: (250) 361-3536
Toll Free: 1-800-909-4233
Email: mail@oceanriver.com

September 18, 09

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

I own and operate Ocean River Sports, an outdoor and paddle sports company. We are part of the fabric of Victoria's working harbour for the last 28 years. Our retail store is our face to the community. But, we also instruct kayaking, run kayak tours and rent kayaks off our docks on the Harbour.

Our livelihood depends on a vibrant and healthy harbour. The right to navigable waters is a key to our success and ability to introduce so many people to the sport of kayaking and canoeing.

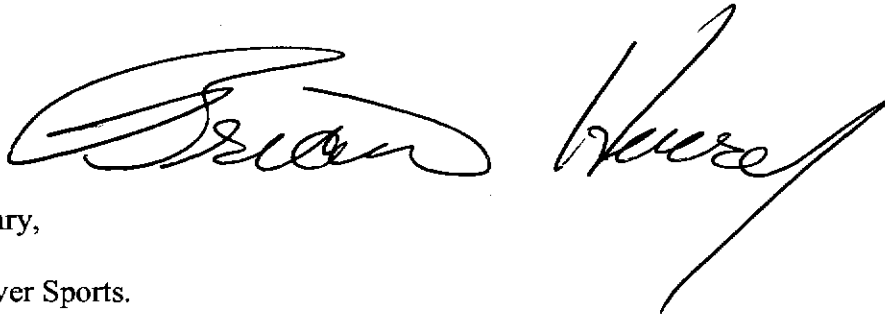
We also run a performance paddling club of approximately 120 members that focuses on racing and training in outrigger canoes and kayaks. The Harbour and the Gorge is alive with good energy where all the users presently co-exist.

The only safe passage in and out of the harbour for canoes and kayaks is along the north shore of the Songhees. The proposed Victoria International Marina if permitted would block the safe passage in and out of the Harbour. The recent changes proposed by the developer are so slight and leave so many questions unanswered that it is essential that a community focused review be carried out.

Please be advised that Ocean River Sports supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

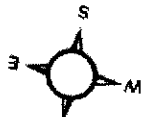
As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Henry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Brian Henry,
President
Ocean River Sports.

Attached:.



WARNING: PADDLING BEYOND OUTER HARBOUR NOT RECOMMENDED FOR NOVICES

WARNING: STRONG TIDAL RAPIDS UNDER TILlicum BRIDGE

JAMES BAY

Victoria International Marina

VICTORIA WEST

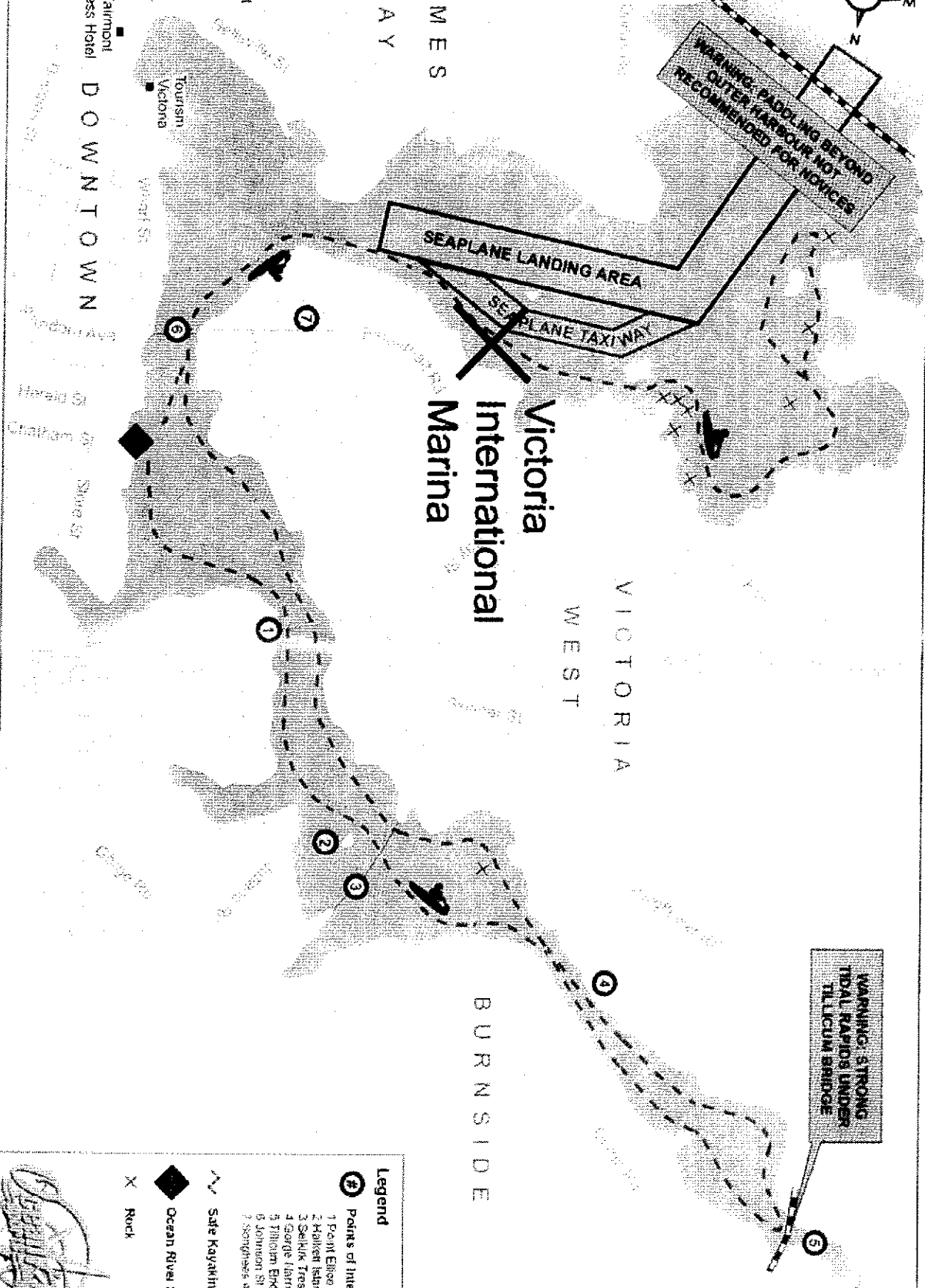
BURNSIDE

The Fairmont Empress Hotel DOWNTOWN

Parliament Buildings

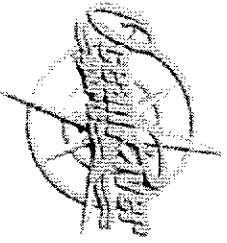
Tourism Victoria

Self-Guided Paddling Tour of the Gorge

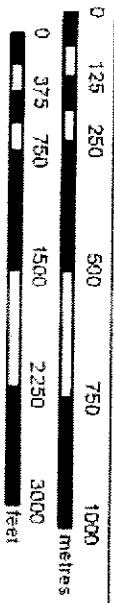


Legend

- ① Points of Interest
 - 1 Point Elliot Bridge
 - 2 Halkett Island
 - 3 Selkirk Treasts
 - 4 Gorge Harrows
 - 5 Tillikum Bridge
 - 6 Johnson St Bridge
 - 7 Songheess Area
- ~ Safe Kayaking Route
- ◆ Ocean River Sports
- X Rock



Disclaimer: This map is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. FOR PRECISE NAVIGATION USE CANADIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE CHART #3415



Scale: 1:14,000

September 16, 2009

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Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Pacifica Paddle Sports Inc. supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

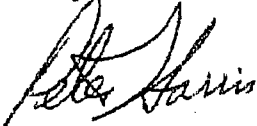
The public consultation has been inadequate and residents and user groups are deeply concerned but they have been excluded from having any input into this project.

Another source of concern surrounding the proposed project has been the lack of proper public consultation for a project that will potentially forever change Victoria Harbour. For example, concerns raised in the submissions of key stakeholders have not been addressed.

This lack of consultation has engendered distrust towards the developer and towards the government officials responsible for overseeing the environmental assessment and for providing necessary project approvals. Public hearings by an independent review panel are necessary to restore public trust in the process.

In summary, I strongly urge you to refer the proposed Victoria International Marina project to an Independent Review Panel for a full public hearing. The magnitude of this project in Victoria's small and congested harbour and its potential to change the character of Victoria forever demands that a full and open public process is engaged. Not only does the proposed marina pose potentially significant adverse environmental effects, the concerns expressed to date by a wide cross-section of Victoria residents demands that this project be given full scrutiny in open public hearings. This is necessary not only to fully assess the environmental impact of the proposed marina, but also to restore the public trust.

I trust you will give this request favourable consideration. I look forward to your timely response.



Peter Harris, Owner

(On behalf of Pacifica Paddle Sports Inc.)

Contact information: 250-665-7411

peter@pacificapaddle.com

September 17, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Roger Patterson supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Mr. Minister, I have been sailing for over 25 years and a paddler for over half a decade. Green boating are objectives in the organizations I am an active participant including the Juan de Fuca Power and Sail Squadron and the South Island Sea Kayak Association. The document you have before you raises numerous concerns on the adverse environmental impacts of the proposed development. I urge you to use your authority under the CEAA based on the evidence presented.

Respectfully,

Roger Patterson

Contact information:
4277 Panorama Place,
Victoria, B.C. V8X 5A9

September 16, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that the **Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club** supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

The **Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club** is primarily concerned with issues to do with the safety of operating large and small paddle craft in and around the proposed structure and the adjacent aircraft taxiways.

Yours truly,

Douglas A Linton,
Director, Safety and Standards,
Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club
1071 Jasmine Avenue,
Victoria, BC V8Z 2P5

September 17th , 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

2821 Blackwood Street

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Victoria BC.

V8T 3W7

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that the Group of Former Victoria Mayors supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Among our many grave concerns are the following issues.

- The adverse environmental impact of the marina on the harbour including congestion of large yachts with marine traffic and other users such as kayakers, harbour ferries, float planes and shipping. Water safety is a crucial issue.
- The public concern about the adverse impact of the marina and mooring of large vessels on the ambiance of both the waterscape and the Songhees walkway. This area is used for recreational purposes by people all over the region and not simply local residents.
- The creation of this mega-yacht marina will have a substantial impact on the physical environment. As former mayors we have long been aware of the potential hazard of sediment toxicity in the Harbour because of past heavy industrial use and run-off. Such

disturbance for construction and dredging puts the health of all users around the Harbour, residents and wildlife habitat at serious risk.

- The size of the proposed marina in Victoria's small but beautiful harbour is out of all proportion to the site, impacting view corridors and violating the intent of community and neighbourhood plans, as the current mayor Dean Fortin, points out.
- Huge public concern about these issues and the lack of serious public consultation have come to our attention.
-

We believe any one of the above concerns merits a full review of the proposal and its potential impacts.

Peter Pollen
3410 Upper Terrace
Victoria, B.C.
ppollen@shaw.ca

Peter Pollen

David Turner
2821 BLACKWOOD ST.
VICTORIA B.C.
dturner@uvic.ca

David Turner

Please contact David Turner at 250-385-7585 or dturner@uvic.ca if you have any questions. Thank you.

September 18, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

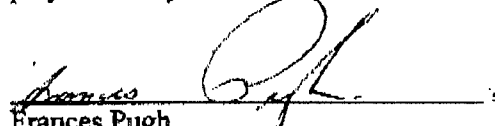
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Saanich Inlet Protection Society supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*.

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.



Frances Pugh
Director

On behalf of : Saanich Inlet Protection Society

Contact information:

Phone (250) 652-9758 Email: francespugh48@yahoo.com

Tim Houlihan, BA MUP

Urban and Regional Planner

Box 8692

VICTORIA BC V8W 3S3

250 388-0017 - tim.houlihan@mail.mcgill.ca

he Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment

Environment Canada

Les Terrasses de la Chaudière

North Tower, 28th Floor

10 Wellington Street

Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

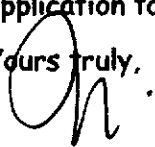
Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that I, Tim Houlihan, personally, and, as a long term crew Captain of Team Mana Hoe, the "fun and fitness and sometime outrigger racing crew" established in 2000, and operating from Ocean River Paddling Club in Victoria Harbour; supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Besides that, taking 6.4 acres of shared waters from Victoria's Harbour to moor ships is akin to taking 6.4 acres of Beacon Hill Park to put up an RV park. Would any prudent government entertain an application to do that?

Yours truly,



Tim Houlihan

b cc:

September 18, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Anne Fedora supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

I highly support a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel. We must save our spectacular open uncluttered harbour. This is what draws the tourists who arrive on the Coho and the Clipper.

Sea plane safety is of great concern as a more narrow water runway would be necessary and cause for great concern.

I have sailed, canoed, kayaked, OC6 paddled, voyageur paddled and dragon boat paddled safely to West Bay Marina and further in association with SALTS Sailing & Life Training Society, VCKC Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club, GO Gorge Paddling, THSA Turkey Head Sailing Assoc and regattas with RVMC Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

Contamination to water, air, sight, taste & noise will occur.

Our marine life will be altered, both below water and above. Subsequent dredging will totally destroy the sea bed.

This proposed venture is Wrong, Unsafe, Monstrous, Damaging to current resident owners & to walking public.

How will Canadian Customs control these mega yachts at this proposed sight. How will Canadian or American yachts be monitored to ensure they are not bringing in drugs & ? etc.

These will be mega yachts to search, requiring more staff, facilities and budget.

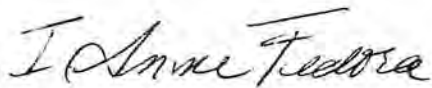
I understand the individual dockage slips will be Sold and not rented or leased to the boat owner.

What then if no one buys?

This area will become a trailer park on the water for the rich and famous who will fly in, be driven to their yachts and take off. Will they demand a "pump out" facility of their holding tanks?

This area will become a "parking lot" of yachts, not sail boats, but yachts.

They will not participate in our Victoria society; they will use our society.



I. Anne Fedora

Suite 504

69 Gorge Rd W

Victoria BC V9A 1L9



September 17, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

**Re: Call for an Independent Review Panel -
to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina**

Please be advised that this society, IslandTransformations.Org, supports the request, by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association, that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

IslandTransformations.Org has a goal of achieving sustainability for Vancouver Island, and has commissioned independent studies, participated in public processes, and supports other groups who wish to achieve that goal.

In our opinion, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts, public concerns about the project, its jurisdictional complexity, and the lack of transparency and due process surrounding the project to date clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel before decision-makers can act in the public interest.

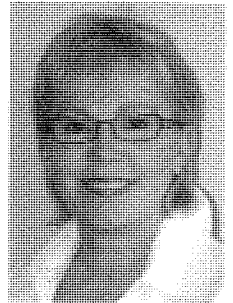
Yours truly,

Irwin Henderson
President, IslandTransformations.Org
Contact: islandtransformations@shaw.ca

Maurine Karagianis, MLA
(Esquimalt-Royal Roads)
Room 201, Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4
T: (250) 387 3655
F: (250) 387 4680



Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly



Maurine Karagianis, M.L.A.
(Esquimalt-Royal Roads)

Community Office
A5-100 Aldersmith Place,
Victoria, BC V9A 7M8
P: (250) 479 8326
E: maurine.karagianis.mla@leg.bc.ca

September 16, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister,

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

The South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) has requested that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent review panel for a full public hearing process. As MLA for Esquimalt-Royal Roads, the provincial representative for the area, I am writing to express my strong support for this measure.

SISKA's submission clearly demonstrates that the marina proposal warrants a referral to an independent review panel. The project has the potential to cause significant environmental, health, and socio-cultural harm in our local community. Over the last year, I have heard from many constituents and local groups, understandably concerned about the impact and possible repercussions of this proposed development. They feel that their concerns have not been meaningfully considered by government.

Minister, I have long supported the stewardship and preservation of the Gorge Waterway and Inner Harbour. I have worked with local groups such as the Veins of Life to ensure that this fragile environment is protected today and in the future. I share the concerns I have heard from my constituents about the potential impact of this proposed marina project.

This marina project clearly requires extensive, independent scrutiny in a public hearing process. On behalf of the many constituents who have voiced their concerns to me, I urge you to favourably consider SSKA's request. It is the best way to ensure that all those affected by this project have a voice in its future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maurine Karagianis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the closing "Yours sincerely,".

Maurine Karagianis, MLA
(Esquimalt-Royal Roads)

cc Hon. Barry Penner, Minister of Environment, Province of BC
Carole James, MLA, Victoria Beacon Hill
Rob Fleming, MLA, Victoria-Swan Lake

September 16, 2009
#109 - 165 Kimta Rd
Victoria, BC V9A 7P1

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

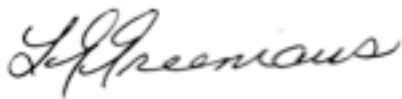
I strongly support the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

The submission by SISKA to you outlines a litany of problems associated with the marina, including the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project and the procedures in its evaluation by the federal, provincial and municipal bodies. This has been compounded by the incomplete, sometimes inaccurate, and often inconsistent information provided at various times by the developer.

I have been particularly concerned about the impact of the attenuator on the dynamic wave patterns in the harbour and the resulting safety issues to boaters and the heavy seaplane activity close to the marina. I believe documents provided by the developer underestimate potential safety issues. The minor changes in the current version of the proposed marina do nothing to address the concerns I have raised.

In my view a referral to an independent Review Panel is warranted.

Sincerely,



Dr. L.G. Greeniaus
(250) 388-7960
lgree@shaw.ca



SIERRA
CLUB
BC

302-733 Johnson Street
Victoria, BC V8W 3C7

T (250) 386-5255
F (250) 386-4453

E info@sierraclub.bc.ca
W www.sierraclub.bc.ca

September 17, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Sierra Club BC supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Sincerely,

George Heyman
Executive Director
Sierra Club BC

September 16, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that the Aloha Paddlers fully support the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

The “Aloha Paddlers”, a group of thirty recreational outrigger paddlers affiliated with the Gorge Rowing and Paddling Centre in Victoria, utilise the harbour on a regular and frequent basis throughout the year.

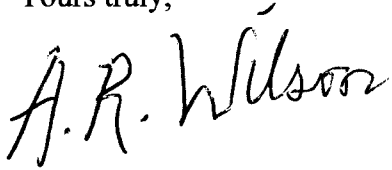
Comments in the body of the SISKA submission that are particularly relevant to our group are as follows:

- Concern has been expressed by the GO Rowing and Paddling Association that the current marina proposal will impede the only available passage for human-powered water craft to safely transit in and out of the harbour.
- The revised plan does not address the concerns raised about access to navigable waters and about marine safety, particularly as it relates to passage of outrigger canoes that are typically up to 45 feet in length and almost nine feet wide. Minor adjustments to the arched bridge still do not permit reasonable access for large six person outrigger canoes. There is no evidence that impacts of tidal fluctuations on the utility of this arched bridge have been considered.
- There is also considerable risk involved with non-power driven vessels paddling through a private marina. Requiring paddlers to transit through an operating marina raises safety issues that were previously identified. Yachts have extremely restricted sightlines of vessels close aboard and the discharge current of the yachts’ thrusters while they are maneuvering within the marina can present as an extreme hazard to outrigger paddlers.

- The revised plan does not mitigate the safety issues with respect to transiting through the marina or navigating the narrow area between the perimeter of the marina and the aircraft taxiway.

In conclusion, as expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. R. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the name.

Alastair Wilson

Safety Officer, "Aloha Paddlers"

1643 Warren Gardens, Victoria, BC, V8S 1S9

e-mail alawilson@shaw.ca

tel 1 250 598 6056

September 16th, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

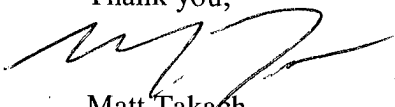
Please be advised that Dogwood Initiative supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

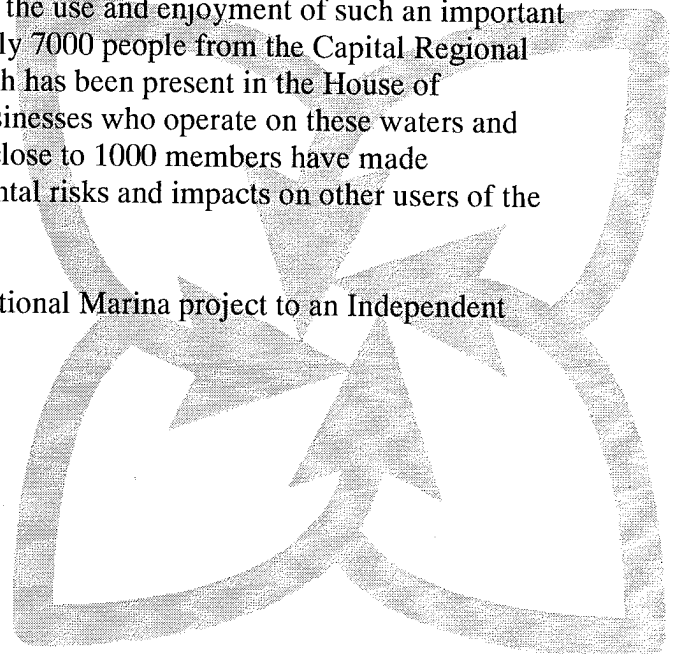
Much concern has been expressed that the public consultation process has been grossly inadequate for a project of this scope that could permanently change the use and enjoyment of such an important public asset and turn it over to private use. Approximately 7000 people from the Capital Regional District have signed a petition opposing this project which has been present in the House of Commons. In addition, marine users, including local businesses who operate on these waters and several rowing and paddling organizations representing close to 1000 members have made submissions outlining serious concerns about environmental risks and impacts on other users of the waters if this project proceeds.

I strongly urge you to refer the proposed Victoria International Marina project to an Independent Review Panel for a full public hearing.

Thank you,



Matt Takach
Operations Director



THE CITY OF VICTORIA



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

August 25, 2009

Stuart E. Soward
406 – 11 Cooperage Place
Victoria BC V9A 7J9

Dear Mr. Soward and the Victoria Harbour Defence Alliance:

Thank you for your letter dated August 13 regarding the proposed mega yacht marina.

Let me start by assuring you that I agree with the concerns you raise in your letter. Simply put the scale and scope of the proposed marina is far beyond the community interests and expectation.

As you are aware, that area is currently zoned for a marina. However, the footprint of the proposed marina is much greater than originally conceptualized in relevant City Planning policies. In other words, although this zoning does permit docks for pleasure boats, the underlying intent of the Community Plan has been to support a range of marine uses that are oriented to public use and that are compatible with adjacent residential and park uses.

Council believes the proposed mega yacht project is out of balance with the current plans for the neighbourhood and runs counter to the original vision for this location. We seek a balance between the interests of a working harbour and those of recreation and conservation.

We have been communicating our concerns to both the provincial and federal governments, and will continue to do so in hope that our comments and community plans will be taken into consideration. To date we have been given little insight into the processes the two senior levels of government are undertaking with regards to this project.

I want to assure you that Council is advancing the public interest on this issue. As I stated before, the plan for a marina remains part of the Community Plan for the Songhees neighbourhood, but the scope and size of the proposed project is out of balance with the original vision.

Thank you for your insight and comments on this important issue. I appreciate your commitment to this community and your efforts to advance a sustainable future for our harbour.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DFortin", written over a circular stamp.

Dean Fortin
MAYOR

September 16th, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Victoria Harbour Defence Alliance (VHDA) supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS:

- (1) Troubled financial History of the Applicant, lack of Business Plan of Project and Liability for Financial Responsibility in event of failure to complete Project and/or subsequent bankruptcy.
- (2) Lack of Dredging Plan and approved Disposal Plan of toxic waste in the estimated amount of 4000-5000 truckloads.

Stuart E. Soward (On behalf of Victoria Harbour Defence Alliance)

Contact information: stuart_soward@telus.net

13 August, 2009

The Mayor and Council
City Hall
1 Centennial Square
Victoria B.C.
V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Victoria and on behalf of Victoria Harbour Defence Alliance (VHDA), consisting of Messrs Peter Chance, Patrick Finnigan, Terry Milne, Peter Pollen and myself, we respectfully request a meeting be held with the Mayor and Council at your early convenience to discuss clarification of the current status of Community Marine Concepts LP proposed marina on the north side of Victoria Harbour.

It is our stated opinion that such a massive structure creating a major obstruction in the already crowded harbour is neither in the public interest nor is it of public benefit. In spite of several letters, public meetings and media comments opposing such a project, there continues to be misrepresentation by the promoter of the marina, while at the same time there is a growing public perception that Victoria City Council has yet to clarify the City's position in this important matter.

Recently we have seen media statements by two executives of the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA), voicing their support for the Marina, while a senior City Councillor has recently stated that the Marina is "a done deal". All these statements were made following the April 17, 2009 letter to the Provincial Government by the City Planning Services enclosing an attachment expressing additional concerns by City Council. What was the response from the Province? Were GVHA officials told to refrain from making politically sensitive statements in matters outside their mandate? We outlined these and other questions to Councillor Pamela Madoff months ago with no response.

Due to the perceived foregoing confusion, a level of secrecy and a failure to communicate, we feel it is essential for us to meet with Council to determine their position in this important matter, which not only involves the future of the Victoria Harbour but also its continued use in the best interest of the public.

Sincerely,

VICTORIA HARBOUR DEFENCE ALLIANCE



The Veins of Life Watershed Society

205 – 338 Lower Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, British Columbia V8K 2V3
Tel: (360) 566 - 2760
<http://www.salishsea.ca>
Email: volws@salishsea.ca

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment

Environment Canada

Les Terrasses de la Chaudière

North Tower, 28th Floor

10 Wellington Street

Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that The Veins of Life Watershed Society supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John R. Roe'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

**John R. Roe
President & A Founder
Veins of Life Watershed Society
www.salishsea.ca**



Articled Student <elc.uvic@gmail.com>

The proposed Mega Marina

Kaethe Lawn <rklawn@shaw.ca>

Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 8:32 PM

To: elc.uvic@gmail.com

Scott Bernstein

We would like to add our voice to the call for a full Public Hearing by an independent review panel to consider the environmental assessment of the proposed international Marina Project CFAR Ref. No. 08-01-36286 .

As long time residents of Victoria we are deeply concerned about the disastrous environmental impact that the construction of that marina will have on the quality of water and air and the habitat of marine mammals and sea birds .

Furthermore the quality of life of the people who live in the Songhees area , the enjoyment of beautiful vistas and pleasant shore walks by the local population and visitors alike will greatly suffer , if not destroyed entirely.

Small crafts such as kayaks , canoes and sailboats will lose valuable space as the boundaries of the proposed marina will significantly narrow the harbour and make water sports very dangerous , probably even impossible. A very sad loss indeed.

We hope that ways will be found to stop this ill conceived, environmentally disastrous , entirely unnecessary project .

Robin and Kaethe Lawn
Victoria

September 17, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec
K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that the Victoria West Community Association supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina Project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*.

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

The Victoria West Community Association is on record as being opposed to this development because of both safety and environmental issues, as well as the impact on the viewscapes. We have also previously asked for a review of the handling of this file by Transport Canada (TC) because of our concerns of a bias towards the development and the lack of transparency, and accountability on the part of TC, Pacific Region.

This projects requires full scrutiny in a open public hearing and such we hope you will refer the proposed Victoria International Marina project to an Independent Review Panel as requested by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association.

Yours truly,



Jo-Ann Youmans, President
Victoria West Community Association

September 20, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Victoria Harbour Ferry Co. Ltd. supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Victoria Harbour Ferry has operated in Victoria Harbour for the past 20 years. Victoria Harbour Ferry is frequently asked for input regarding the 'safety of operations' in the Harbour by public and private sectors alike. The current successful level of safety for marine and air operations in the harbour is a result of years of consultation between operators, Transport Canada and the community at large. For the most part, these same private/public interests are expressing opposition to the proposed International Marina project. Arguably, Victoria Harbour Ferry operates more hours on the harbour waters than the total of all other operators in the same area. Our position on the insertion of the proposed marina in a harbour that is at the limit of safety of operations is it will result in the inevitable incident involving property damage, injury and or loss of life. There is no doubt that any agency, public or private, will not want as a legacy attached to the propose project, the responsibility for creating a public danger that leads to the loss of life.



B .D. (Barry) Hobbis – Director
Victoria Harbour Ferry Co. Ltd.

Contact information:

Phone: (250) 708-0201 – Fax: (250) 708-0401 – Email: bhobbis@victoriaharbourferry.com

September 17, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

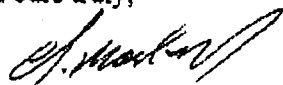
Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

The West Bay Residents Association strongly supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*.

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Members of our association live adjacent to the west end of the harbour and transit these waters using non-powered vessels for recreational purposes. Residents' use and enjoyment of West Song Walk-way that extends from West Bay to downtown Victoria will be negatively impacted by this project. West Bay Residents Association did not receive a formal notice of the September 18th, 2008 meeting organized by the proponent and attended by Mr. Schellenberg, the Navigable Waters Protection Officer, in spite of having requested that our association be placed on the list of stakeholders to be consulted. Concerns about the safety issues and environmental impacts of this project that were submitted to your government by WBRA have yet to be adequately addressed. The complexity of the potential adverse impacts and the complex jurisdictional issues warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Yours truly,



Colin MacLock
President
workpointarts@islandnet.com



WESTERN CANADA
**WILDERNESS
COMMITTEE**

VICTORIA OFFICE
651 Johnson Street Victoria, BC V8W 1M7
Phone: (250)-388-9292 Fax: (250)-388-9223
www.wcwcvtoria.org

September 18, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that the Wilderness Committee Victoria Chapter supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*.

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

[Insert other comments particularly relevant to your group. If you wish, you may want to quote pertinent portions of the SISKA submission.]

Ken Wu

Victoria Campaign Director,
Wilderness Committee

SAVE VICTORIA HARBOUR

Suite 903-75 Songhees Road
Victoria, B.C.
V9A 7M5

www.savevictoriaharbour.com

Telephone: 250-361-7997

September 18, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K2A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR Reference Number 08-02-36286).

Please be advised that our group, **SAVE VICTORIA HARBOUR**, which represents a diverse group of citizens fully supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to **s.28 of the of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)**.

The **Save Victoria Harbour** group was responsible for organizing a petition. In a very short time frame we received over **7,000 SIGNATURES** from individuals who are against the proposal for this project. This petition was presented by our MP Denise Savoie to the House of Commons. A copy was also delivered personally to the Honourable John Baird. The petition is also being presented to our Provincial Legislature on September 23, 2009.

As expressed by **SISKA** in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

Victoria's Harbour is a jewel in Canada's landscape – it deserves to be treated with the utmost of respect – and we sincerely request that you refer this proposal to an Independent Review Panel.

Sincerely,

SAVE VICTORIA HARBOUR

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lynn MacDonald". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Per: Lynn MacDonald

September 18, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.

Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Please be advised that Sea to Sea Greenbelt Society of 1252 Montrose Ave. Victoria B.C. V8T2K4 supports the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s.28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

The greatest asset of any harbour is its water surface. The water surface is finite. What is seldom considered in harbour use is the cumulative effect of reductions in surface area. There have already been too many of those reductions.

Ray Zimmerman, Director

(On behalf of Sea to Sea Greenbelt Society)

B. MAVIS RAY, B.A., L.L.B.

999 FORT STREET
VICTORIA, BC V8V 3K3
TEL: 250-388-7881
FAX: 250-388-7324

September 18, 2009

**Minister of the Environment
Environment Canada**
Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

I have been a member of the Gorge Rowing and Paddling Association for over 5 years. I support the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) that you refer the Victoria International Marina project to an independent Review Panel for a full public hearing process, pursuant to s. 28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel.

As a past member both the Island Breaststokers dragon boat team (present world champions) and as a current outrigger canoe paddler, I regularly paddle through the area of water that will be affected by the Marina project. The seaplanes land and take off every few minutes. Based on my recent observation of the planes and the project boundaries, paddlers will be pushed out into the lanes reserved for the Seaplanes or will at least be hazardously close to their flight path. Also, outrigger canoes have a low visibility and may not be seen emerging from behind another vessel or structure. There is a clear issue of public safety.

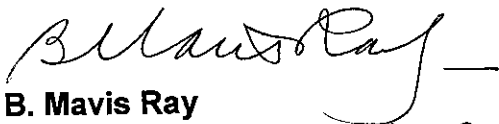
I have vacationed in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico where there is significant environmental impact from the crowded moorage for yachts and noted to myself how the environment beauty of the area is negatively impacted by the scene. I

do not want to see Victoria's Inner Harbour spoiled for public use and enjoyment by this private exploitation of a public natural resource.

Finally, as a survivor of stage 4 Breast Cancer for over 5 years, I can attest to the positive health benefits from the paddling activities in this area. Dragon boating and outrigger canoeing provide an important contribution to full recovery from illness, maintenance of a pain free body, and psychological well-being without anti-depressants. The health and social benefits many survivors derive from paddling and the community support at our events keep us out of the cancer clinic because we are actively working on our own recovery. Therefore, government support of a safe and stable environment for these users is in the public interest. The paddling activity should not be undervalued or discounted as simply a hobby or fun activity. Therefore, there is a public health issue to be taken into account.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



B. Mavis Ray

c.c. UVic Environmental Law Centre
c.c. The Honourable Denise Savoie, MP
c.c. Gorge Rowing and Paddling Centre

Dr. Keith Martin, M.D., P.C., M.P.

September 21, 2009
Victoria, British Columbia

M.P. for Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca

Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., M.P.
Minister of the Environment
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
North Tower, 28th Floor
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Re: Call for a full Public Hearing by an Independent Review Panel to consider the Environmental Assessment of the proposed Victoria International Marina project (CEAR reference number 08-01-36286).

Dear Minister Prentice,

I am writing to draw your attention to the Victoria International Marina project and the request by the South Island Sea Kayaking Association (SISKA) for the project to be referred to an independent review and full public hearing as per section 28 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

As you know, this marina project has received a lot of attention lately from citizens and user groups who are concerned that the project will have a negative effect on our environment and on the usability of the waterway for paddlers and rowers. As expressed by SISKA in its submission to you, "the project's potential for significant adverse environmental, health and socio-cultural impacts and the profound public concerns about the project clearly warrant a referral to a Review Panel."

I respectfully request that you order the independent review and work with community groups to ensure that the public is fully aware of their opportunity to participate.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Dr. Keith Martin, P.C., M.P.
Esquimalt - Juan de Fuca