



Making a difference...together

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Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada
Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program

To Whom it may Concern:

RE: SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF VICTORIA'S GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GREEN AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY BUILDINGS PROGRAM FUND

On behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD), I write in support of the City of Victoria's \$25M grant application to the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program Fund to assist with funding the construction of the new Crystal Pool & Wellness Centre.

The City of Victoria proposes to replace the aging Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre, built in 1971, to meet the needs of the growing capital region population, support climate action and accessibility objectives, and facilitate community inclusion through new public space and recreational amenities.

The Crystal Pool is the City of Victoria's only public pool and recreation centre. It is a critical part of the network of municipal and regional facilities that serve the growing region on Southern Vancouver Island.

The project fulfills several objectives identified in the Regional Growth Strategy including:

- Significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Keeping urban settlement compact
- Creating safe and complete communities
- Increase transportation choice and multi-modal connectivity

The City of Victoria and the CRD work cooperatively to facilitate low-barrier access to recreation centres in the region. We both offer the LIFE (Leisure Involvement for Everyone) Program designed to provide no cost and low-cost recreation opportunities for individuals and families with limited incomes. The City of Victoria's grant application aligns with the [CRD Board Strategic Priorities 2023 – 2026](#), supporting low-carbon transportation and building initiatives across the capital region.

The CRD fully endorses the City of Victoria's application for this funding and encourages your support for this transformative project. Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative, which will benefit current and future generations in the capital region and contribute to a healthier, more inclusive, and greener community.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant
CRD Board Chair

cc: Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD
Jocelyn Jenkyns, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Victoria