



GREATER VANCOUVER  
BOARD OF TRADE

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade  
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**DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL [Panel.RBT2@ceaa.gc.ca]**

Ms. Debra Myles  
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
22nd Floor, Place Bell  
160 Elgin Street  
Ottawa ON, K1A 0H3

Dear Ms. Myles,

**Re: Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project Environmental Impact Statement**

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the sufficiency and technical merit of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade has worked on behalf of our region's business community to promote prosperity through commerce, trade, and free enterprise for 129 years. Our mission is to work in the enlightened interest of our Members to promote, enhance and facilitate the development of the region as a Pacific centre for trade, commerce and travel. Our comments reflect the concerns and priorities of our board of directors and more than 5,000 Board of Trade Members from across the Greater Vancouver region.

British Columbia is Canada's Pacific Gateway, a natural position which offers immense economic opportunity to our region, province and country. As identified in the [2016 Greater Vancouver Economic Scorecard](#), our region is one of the top world jurisdictions in "Port Cargo Tonnage" and "Port Container Throughput." To retain this enviable position, it is of national importance that we continue to invest in trade-enabling infrastructure to ensure the private sector can continue to supply future capacity to retain a highly efficient and environmentally responsible gateway. The success of the port, terminal operators, and supply chain partners to date is a testament to the significant investments that have been made by the Federal and Provincial governments, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (the "Port") and private industry over the past 15 years.

The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project has been carefully considered by the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade's Regional Transportation Infrastructure Committee, as well as our Board's Policy Council. We offer our support for this project, as it is consistent with our long-term support of trade-enabling infrastructure, and will enable the continuing growth and strength of the container sector within the Port of Vancouver and British Columbia.

We have specifically reviewed the following sections of the Environmental Impact Statement prepared by the Port:

- Section 2.0 (Project Overview);
- Section 19.0 (Labour Market); and
- Section 20.0 (Economic Development).

We have confidence in the work that has been undertaken by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority as the proponent in developing this information, which has included more than 70 individual studies, conducted over four years. We are encouraged by and concur with the conclusions of this expert analysis, especially the economic opportunities that would accrue to the region as a result of the construction and operation of this project. The project will create and maintain well-paying jobs in the construction and transportation sectors, and provide spin-off benefits for local businesses throughout Greater Vancouver.

As long-standing supporters of free enterprise and a more competitive and prosperous region, we recognize and thank the Port for seeking input from the community, Aboriginal groups, and the public throughout the development of the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade has thus reached the position of formally supporting this project, and believes that the Port has demonstrated the expertise to develop the project in such a way that strengthens Canada's ability to get Canadian goods to market, while mitigating any potential impacts to the environment that we all share.

The Board of Trade strives to enable and empower its Members to succeed, grow and prosper in the global economy. Therefore, we believe building a stronger and more competitive port, capable of enabling economic activity, is vital to the prosperity of both our region, province, and country.

Once again, thank you for considering our comments on the proposed Robert Banks Terminal 2 Project. We look forward to any future opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process.

Sincerely,

**Greater Vancouver Board of Trade**, per;

<Original signed by>

Iain J.S. Black ICD.D  
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Hon. Marc Garneau, Minister of Transport  
Hon. Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Hon. Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities  
Hon. Mary Polak, Minister of Environment  
Hon. Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and Deputy House Leader  
Ms. Vicki Huntington, MLA for Delta-South  
Mr. Scott Hamilton, MLA for Delta-North  
Ms. Lois Jackson, Mayor of Delta  
Chief Bryce Williams, Tsawwassen First Nation