



PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BRITISH COLUMBIA FERRY SERVICES INC.
1112 FORT STREET
VICTORIA, BC V8V 4V2

TEL: (250) 978-1297
FAX: (250) 381-7238

DECEMBER 4, 2009

Mayor and Council
City of Victoria
#1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6



Your Worship and Council Members:

RE: 2010 - 2011 CITY BUDGET: VICTORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Let me start by saying that I understand the cost pressures we all have to operate within; however, I feel compelled to provide input into the budget deliberations for the City of Victoria.

I am concerned that the downtown core is wanting and does not promote a safe environment. I firmly believe that the Victoria Police are under resourced and need additional funding in order to increase their presence and improve the image of our region's downtown.

The downtown area has been plagued by property crime, homelessness and panhandling for many years. This has severely damaged the reputation of our community. The problems associated with these issues are repeatedly cited by BC Ferries' customers. They love the city, they just don't feel safe.

I would hope serious consideration will be given to increase the Victoria Police Departments' funding. The safer the downtown, the more vibrant our City will become.

Regards,

David L. Hahn
President & CEO

Copy: Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
Tourism Victoria
Chief Constable Jamie Graham