

Appendix 4
Letter from Honourable John Baird February 8, 2010

Minister of Transport,
Infrastructure and Communities



Ministre des Transports,
de l'Infrastructure et des Collectivités

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

His Worship Dean Fortin
Mayor of Victoria
City Hall
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor *Fortin*

I understand that the City of Victoria is considering the option of rehabilitating the Johnson Street Bridge rather than replacing the structure, as per our joint announcement. As indicated in my letter of December 4, 2009, I have already approved-in-principle federal funding under the Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component for the Johnson Street Bridge replacement project, for up to one-third of total eligible project costs, to a maximum contribution of \$21,000,000.

I would be amenable to receiving a revised proposal for the rehabilitation of the Johnson Street Bridge. However, any new proposal would be required to undergo a federal review by my officials, and only following a successful review would I be in a position to give approval-in-principle to a new proposal.

I would also note that in your Johnson Street Bridge replacement project proposal, reference was made to a condition assessment study and a life-cycle evaluation which concluded that the most sound business decision involved replacement of the bridge. It was also noted that the current bridge was not built to any seismic standard and would be extremely vulnerable to an earthquake. In any new proposal to rehabilitate the Johnson Street Bridge, I would expect the City to explain how these issues would be addressed through rehabilitation of the existing structure rather than through replacement.

Thank you for your collaboration to date and I look forward to continuing to work together to move this important project forward.

Sincerely,

John Baird, P.C., M.P.

Canada

03-0386 (2602-01)