



17 May 2019

Robert Wilds, Executive Director  
BC Marine Terminal Operators Association  
c/o Western Stevedoring Company Limited  
15 Mountain Highway  
North Vancouver, BC V7J 2J9

Dear Mr. Wilds:

The Ministry of Finance is currently undertaking an internal review of the ports competitiveness initiative as part of our standard practice to periodically review our tax programs.

In 2003, the Province announced the B.C. Ports Competitiveness Initiative to support the competitiveness of B.C.'s marine transport industry. This initiative was brought into force in 2004 as a 5-year, temporary program. The program was extended for ten years in 2007 and then made permanent in 2014. The ports competitiveness initiative includes the *Ports Property Tax Act* and rules for land valuation in the *Assessment Act*.

The *Ports Property Tax Act*, *Assessment Act* and associated Regulations are available at <http://www.bclaws.ca/>.

The marine industry has provided the Province with investment updates and reports in support of the program, most recently providing an Economic Impact Assessment report by KPMG in 2018. The Province recognizes that the industry has done this analysis on reviewing the impacts of the Ports Competitiveness Initiative.

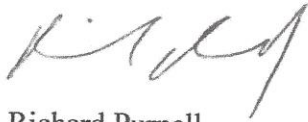
As part of our own review, the Ministry would like to meet with the BC Marine Terminal Operators Association and any members to hear how the program is working and discuss any feedback you may have.

If you intend to provide feedback or would like to meet to discuss the Ports Competitive Initiative, please contact [shauna.sundher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:shauna.sundher@gov.bc.ca) by June 14, 2019. Please provide contact information and we will reach out directly to arrange a phone call or in person meeting.

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Thank you and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Purnell', written in a cursive style.

Richard Purnell  
Executive Director  
Tax Policy Branch  
Ministry of Finance