

## Heritage Vancouver

www.heritagevancouver.org info@heritagevancouver.org 604 254 9411 PO Box 74123, Hillcrest Park PO Vancouver BC V6G 3E1 Canada

February 11, 2016
Port Metro Vancouver
Attention: Centerm Expansion Project Team
Canada Place/Vancouver

Re: Historic Ballantyne Pier

We are writing in response to the Centerm Expansion Project, as outlined in the January – February 2016 Discussion Guide.

We are pleased to note that you have addressed the future of the historic Ballantyne Pier, as part of a new Operations Administration Building in one of two ways. You are studying "the feasibility of repurposing the vacant Ballantyne Pier cruise ship terminal, or, at a minimum, incorporating the (imposing brick and stone) façade in a new administration building". Either approach would reflect the importance of Ballantyne Pier in the history of the Port of Vancouver. We hope that, in addition to the façade, you will endeavour to incorporate the original structural bays that remain behind the existing façade.

The period of phenomenal growth in port activity after 1918 led to the construction of Ballantyne Pier, a 1200 foot long covered cargo facility with an impressive 3-bay brick and stone classical revival façade (there was actually a second shed with its own façade but was demolished when the pier was upgraded in the 1990s). At that time, Canadian Pacific ships sailed to local and international destinations from Pier B-C, at the foot of Burrard Street. In 1986, long after CP passenger shipping had declined, Canada Place opened on the site of the original CP Ships Pier B-C. The new facility includes an international cruise ship terminal and with the growth in cruise ship traffic, in 1995 Ballantyne Pier was upgraded as a multi-purpose terminal to serve cruise ships and some cargo traffic. Since the cruise ship passengers no longer use Ballantyne Pier and the area will be incorporated into the Centerm expansion, your team is now looking at new uses for this facility.

Ballantyne Pier is also remembered for a black day in the history of the Port of Vancouver. On June 18, 1935, about 1000 longshoremen marched to the pier to protest an unresolved labour dispute. The police waiting at the pier told the crowd to disperse, and then used tear gas to break up a melee, which resulted in 28 injured men and two-dozen longshoremen thrown in jail. The press called it "The Battle of Ballantyne".

Given the significance of Ballantyne Pier to Vancouver's heritage, we strongly support your efforts to find a suitable future for the historic Ballantyne Pier.

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Yours sincerely,

Javier Campos

President, Heritage Vancouver Society