

November 1, 2019

For Immediate Release

## South Island Prosperity Partnership welcomes Island Corridor Foundation to its membership

Victoria, BC — The South Island Prosperity Partnership (SIPP) today announced the Island Corridor Foundation (ICF) as its newest member. Island Corridor Foundation is a nonprofit society and federally registered charity established for the purposes of owning and managing the rail corridor on Vancouver Island. Island Corridor Foundation joins several other transportation-focused SIPP members, including BC Transit, BC Ferries, Wilson's Group, Harbour Air, Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, and Victoria International Airport.

"Approximately 80% of the population of Vancouver Island lives within 5 kilometers of the railway, the main exceptions being the North Island and Saanich Peninsula," says Andrea Thomas, Manager of Corridor Development for ICF. "The rail corridor offers tremendous potential as a green transportation alternative and as an important connection between communities, both economically and socially. Rail is a key element in an integrated transportation system that encompasses all modes of transportation, including buses, ferries, and other modes. We're thrilled to be a part of SIPP and look forward to working together on improving transportation options in the region."

As the economic development partnership for Greater Victoria, SIPP's mandate is to bolster the local economy, in part, by forming partnerships and collaborating with organizations that contribute to a strong, robust local economy.

"SIPP is pleased to welcome Island Corridor Foundation aboard," says SIPP's Interim CEO Bruce Williams. We look forward to collaborating with our newest member on transportation initiatives in the region."

-30-

## **Media Contact**

Taryn Malcolm Marketing & Communications Specialist South Island Prosperity Partnership 778-676-9755

## ABOUT SOUTH ISLAND PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP

The South Island Prosperity Partnership (SIPP) is the economic development organization for Greater Victoria, B.C. Comprised of 50+ members, including 10 local governments, seven First Nations, three post-secondary institutions, nine industry associations and nonprofits, and more than 30 major employers. SIPP works to bolster our region's economic and social prosperity. This will happen by catalyzing the creation of high-quality, household-sustaining jobs, so that more families can afford to live, work and build a life here. www.southislandprosperity.ca