

Maritime Museum of BC announces offer of financial support

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 20 August 2015

The Maritime Museum of BC (MMBC) is excited to announce a conditional offer of financial support by The TK Foundation to assist with fitting out the lower level of the CPR Steamship Terminal Building for use as a new location for the Museum. The \$500,000 indication is conditional on, among other things, the MMBC's successful negotiation of a long-term lease of the space, located on Victoria's Inner Harbour.

The TK Foundation is a private independent foundation based in the Bahamas which supports maritime educational and youth development initiatives around the globe.

The MMBC Society and Board are immensely appreciative of this initiative at this crucial time in the Museum's history. The Museum intends to submit an Expression of Interest for a long term lease of the lower level of the Steamship Building space by the August 24 deadline.

This support is immensely significant in helping the MMBC to secure a long-term home, and in assisting us to fulfil our mandate to tell BC's maritime story, in an iconic new location. If a lease can be successfully negotiated, this generous private financial contribution will be used as the basis for raising matching funds from the Federal Government and from a local fundraising campaign.

As The TK Foundation's support is contingent upon the successful negotiation of a long-term lease of the CPR Steamship space, we encourage the Provincial Government to continue to partner with the MMBC and the TK Foundation in a public-private partnership to find a mutually agreeable permanent home consistent with the Province's historic obligations to the museum.

We are grateful to the Province for its efforts to support the MMBC's transition from Bastion Square thus far. We hope that we can reopen the dialogue on finding a long-term home for the Museum in the CPR Steamship Terminal Building, that would not only help us to be more viable and self-sustaining in the future, but would also help us to fulfil our mandate to engage with all British Columbians in the story of our invaluable maritime heritage.

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