



June 12, 2014

The Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, M.L.A. North Vancouver-Lonsdale  
Ms. Jane Thornthwaite, M.L.A. North Vancouver-Seymour  
Mr. Shane Simpson, M.L.A. Vancouver-Hastings  
Mr. Richard Lee, M.L.A. Burnaby North

Cc: The Honourable Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Patrick Livolsi, Regional Director South Coast Region, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Graeme Schimpf, Operations Manager North Shore, Howe Sound & Sunshine Coast, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Jay Porter, Senior Project Manager, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Richard Campbell, President, BC Cycling Coalition  
Gavin Joyce, General Manager, Engineering, Parks & Facilities, District of North Vancouver  
Jerry Dobrovolny, Director of Transportation, City of Vancouver

### **Ironworkers Memorial Bridge cycling access: risk of serious injury/death**

Dear Ms. Yamamoto, Ms. Thornthwaite, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Lee,

Thank you for meeting with us in May about the safety issues on the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge and for Ms. Thornthwaite's detailed response by email.

Just before meeting with you, we were informed by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure that they plan to widen the Dollarton off-ramp sidewalk, fence the sidewalk and move the off-ramp crosswalk, which were our requests 2, 3 and 4 in our letter to you dated April 14, 2014. We thank the Ministry for the planned improvements and for implementing them very soon so that crossing the bridge will be safer after August.

There remains an immediate need to address the dangerous situation on the Main Street on-ramp sidewalk in North Vancouver (request #1 in our April 14 letter). We strongly urge the Ministry to proceed with the improvements to this side before the new bridge west sidewalk will be opened next year. Unless the on-ramp sidewalk is resurfaced, widened and fenced, it is only a matter of time until a cyclist falls into the highway on-ramp traffic.

We have just received from the Ministry a consultant report on potential future bridge access improvements (*Ironworkers Memorial Bridge Cyclist Access Improvement Project: Final Report December 2013*). The report marks a significant step forward towards improving bridge access. We greatly appreciate the good work that the staff and consultants have done on this report and throughout the process.



The report provides much needed details on the costs, challenges, grades and the travel distances of various options that will be very useful in helping us provide further feedback. Due to the grade changes and the complexity of the highway interchange on the Vancouver side of the bridge, it will take us more time to provide feedback to the options presented in the report. We are very encouraged that it includes design standards that are appropriate for the speed and volumes of cyclists and pedestrians that will likely use the bridge. We are, however, concerned that a few of the recommended options in the report do not adhere to these standards. We hope to meet with Ministry staff soon to discuss options that may help achieve the standards at a similar or less cost.

Sincerely,

Antje Wahl  
Chair, North Shore Committee  
HUB: Your Cycling Connection  
[northshore@bikehub.ca](mailto:northshore@bikehub.ca)

Lisa Slakov and Jeff Leigh  
Co-chairs, Vancouver/UBC Committee  
HUB: Your Cycling Connection  
[vancouver@bikehub.ca](mailto:vancouver@bikehub.ca)

Dennis Hansen  
Chair, Burnaby Committee  
HUB: Your Cycling Connection  
[burnaby@bikehub.ca](mailto:burnaby@bikehub.ca)