

The Honourable John Horgan, M.L.A  
Premier, Province of British Columbia  
P.O. Box 9041, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E1

February 27, 2020

**Re: The urgency of a Bamfield Road upgrade**

Dear Premier Horgan,

The Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (BMSC) has been offering life-changing and award winning education and research for over 48 years. As a not-for-profit society governed by five Western Universities (UVic, UBC, SFU, UofC and UofA), the BMSC hosts over 225 university students, 3000 K-12 students, and over 100 Canadian and international researchers annually. The BMSC recently invested \$3m in renovations and upgrades with a post-secondary strategic infrastructure fund (SIF) and holds one of the largest federal *Promoscience* grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada to educate youth from British Columbia and Alberta. As the largest employer in Bamfield, our research and education routinely have impacts provincially, nationally and internationally with respect to the health and sustainability of our oceans, climate change and the blue economy.

Yet, the degrading condition of the Bamfield Road continues to present significant risk to the safety of our community, clients, and families and impedes our ability to operate in Bamfield. Indeed, the recent and tragic loss of life for two university undergraduates from the University of Victoria was another stark reminder that the Bamfield road needs our immediate attention to improve public safety standards towards enabling safe passage to Bamfield. We have been pleased with the work of the Bamfield Road Reconciliation Group and understand that the stakeholders have agreed on a number of recommendations to meet these shared goals. I urge your government to meet your commitment to upgrade the safety of the Bamfield road so that the BMSC may continue to promote the economy of Bamfield, educate youth and support life-changing exploration and discovery to the benefit of all British Columbians and Canadians.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sean M. Rogers  
Director



Dr. Jonathan Driver  
President, Western Canadian Universities Marine Sciences Society



**bmsc** BAMFIELD MARINE  
SCIENCES CENTRE

