



June 26, 2018

Stein Kruse
CEO, Holland America Group

Dear Mr. Kruse,

Re: Purchase of White Pass and Yukon Route Railway

This letter is intended as a comment by the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board regarding the purchase of the White Pass and Yukon Route railway by the Holland America Princess Alaska Tours Company, owned by Carnival Corporation & plc. The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board (the Board) is the “primary instrument of Fish and Wildlife management in the Territory”, as established within the modern land claims process set out within the Umbrella Final Agreement and Yukon First Nations’ Final Agreements, constitutionally protected agreements that are signed by the Canadian federal government, the Yukon Government, and 11 individual First Nations governments in Yukon. The Board provides advice to all governments on any fish and wildlife issues that are Yukon-wide in scope. The White Pass and Yukon Route railway passes through the Traditional Territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation who, along with the Carcross/Tagish Renewable Resources Council, have jurisdiction on local fish and wildlife conservation and management.

We recognize the railway provides an opportunity for tourists to encounter the Yukon landscape and biodiversity, which is an important and valuable experience. However, the reality is that the railway has had a negative legacy when it comes to impacts on fish and wildlife populations in the area. Particularly, the issue of downed telegraph wire along the railway has been a concern for many years. This telegraph wire has been in place for over 100 years, spanning almost 3,000 km in the backcountry from Atlin, BC to Dawson City, Yukon, including along both active and inactive sections of the railway right of way. Many animals, particularly moose and caribou, are tangled and killed in this abandoned wire every year.

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation, along with the Carcross/Tagish Renewable Resources Council, have been working since 2015 to remove this wire and have previously requested further commitment from White Pass and Yukon Route on this project, as additional funding is required to continue this removal work. We understand the White Pass and Yukon Route company was removing wire on an “as discovered” basis, however we stress here the urgency in continuing this clean up as quickly and efficiently as possible, in partnership with the First

Nation, to avoid further impacts to wildlife. The question of whether remediation falls under federal or territorial jurisdiction remains unanswered by the Canadian and Yukon governments, and as such this is an opportunity for the Holland America Line to contribute directly to a community-led initiative that is connected to your business.

The Board recognizes the historical and cultural value of the White Pass and Yukon Route railway, and the economic value of this purchase for the Holland America Group. We hope that your company will work in partnership with the Board, the First Nation, and the RRC to actively support the sustainable management and conservation of wildlife and their habitat in the area.

Sincerely,



John Burdek

Chair, Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board

*Cc: Hon. Ranj Pillai, Yukon Minister of Economic Development
Hon. Catherine McKenna, Canada Minister of Environment*