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December 10, 2013

AASHE STARS Committee
University of Victoria
Victoria, BC

Dear AASHE STARS Committee:

The new UVic Campus Bike Centre is an example of how the University of Victoria is leading the way in promoting, supporting and providing facilities for active and sustainable transportation. This facility demonstrates how the transformation of part of an existing structure for 28 cars, can be turned into a well-lit, dry and secure space with bike racks for 234 bikes and lockers for those who cycle to work or class.

The University of Victoria has been a longstanding supporter of active transportation choices for both students and faculty. It has sponsored the Greater Victoria Bike to Work Week since 2000 as well as supported many Bike Skills and Safety Courses on campus as part of their planning for sustainable transportation. While Bike to Work Week and the Bike Skills Courses encourage people to try cycling as a mode of transportation, many people cited that the lack of safe, dry and secure bike lock up was an impediment to them cycling to campus for work or school on a regular basis.

The new Bike Centre at the University of Victoria has removed many of these perceived barriers to cycle commuting. Studies have shown that when commuting by bike is made easy, with bike friendly routes and end of destination facilities, people are more likely to choose cycle commuting as their mode of transportation.

We commend the University of Victoria for its vision of sustainable transportation choices, and for allotting the resources to help make cycling a viable commuting choice for both its faculty and students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "F. Hudson".

Frank Hudson, Executive Director
Greater Victoria Bike to Work Society