



Exhibit "A"
Port Commission Special
Meeting of March 5, 2009

Opening Doors to the Maritime World

March 5, 2009

Mr. Tay Yoshitani
Chief Executive Officer
Port of Seattle
PO Box 1209
Seattle, WA 98111

Dear Mr. Yoshitani,

I am Co-Chair of the annual Maritime Career Day that has been held in the space previously occupied by Odyssey. We had to postpone the 2009 annual event originally scheduled for February 12 because of the lack of an agreement between the Port and Columbia Hospitality. We have tentatively rescheduled with Columbia Hospitality and teamed up with the Seattle Propeller Club to hold the Career Day on May 7 to coincide with the annual Maritime Festival, but this depends on the Commission's approval of the Requested Action at your March 5 Commission Meeting, Agenda Item 10a. If we are going to have a successful Career Day we need to give vendors and schools as much lead time as possible to set their plans to participate. By teaming up with the Propeller Club, we will get much broader media exposure than in past years but this also requires significant lead time to develop the advertising materials. In past years we have had as many as 800 students and 40 vendors participate when we had a much longer lead time. We hope 2009 will meet our past attendance levels but we are now up against the drop dead date if we are going to have a successful Career Day on May 7. The mission of YMTA is to promote and support our State's school programs and associated youth organizations that provide maritime education, training and experiences for our students. The Maritime Career Day introduces students and job seekers to maritime career pathways and opportunities in our Port and is a significant event in support of our mission. I encourage all of you to please make your decision (I personally hope you approve the requested action) on March 7 so that, if approved, we can move forward in getting the word out to the schools, maritime businesses and media.

Sincerely,

Gary Stauffer
President, YMTA