



## Village of Haines Junction

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Sent via email: [tmorphet@haines.ak.us](mailto:tmorphet@haines.ak.us)

Haines Borough  
PO Box 1209  
Haines, AK, USA 99827

Dear Mayor Morphet,

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. Your kind words and recognition of the deep and longstanding ties between Haines and Haines Junction are truly appreciated by our residents. As you note, our familial, cultural, social, economic, and political ties are the foundations of our communities. Many of our community members, including Champagne and Aishihik First Nations citizens, have friends and family members that live in Haines, Klukwan and Juneau. These ties have bound our communities together over centuries.

In times of uncertainty, it is reassuring to be reminded of the strong bonds of friendship, shared history, and mutual support that define our relationship. We, too, hold Haines in the highest regard, cherishing the connections we have built through community events, personal relationships, and a shared way of life in the North.

We recognize that both of our communities are home to individuals with diverse perspectives, and we value the understanding that our friendship is based on more than political affiliations. We are happy to be together regardless of whether we are republican or democrat, liberal or conservative.

That being said, most Canadians are deeply troubled by President Trump's recent comments about making Canada the 51st state. We encourage your Council to consider publicly articulating support for Canada's sovereignty. Unwavering solidarity on this matter with our American family, friends, neighbours and trading partners is of critical importance to us and will allow our cross-border bond to stay as strong as ever.

The remarks of one elected official should not overshadow the respect and goodwill our communities have for one another. It is the relationships, experiences, landscapes, and histories we share that truly unite us. We are grateful for your steadfast commitment to warm and peaceful relations.

We would like to warmly invite you and your family to visit us during our upcoming Glacier Nights festival, March 7-8, 2025. This would be a wonderful opportunity for us to further discuss how we can keep our friendly relations together.

Sincerely,

Mayor Diane Strand