



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Board Members  
Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority

**From:** Alan Weitzner, Chief Investment Officer  
Project Finance and Asset Management

**Through:** Tom Boutin, CEO/Executive Director

**Date:** March 6, 2019

**Subject:** Resolution No. G19-09  
Ketchikan Shipyard Assembly Hall Naming

### GENERAL

Doug Ward retired in December 2018 as Business Development and Government Relations Director for Vigor Alaska LLC, operator of the Ketchikan Shipyard. The executive management of Vigor Industrial has requested that AIDEA name the Ketchikan Shipyard's Assembly Hall after Doug Ward in recognition of his 25 years of steadfast, relentless advocacy for workforce development in Alaska's maritime sector and a champion of economic development initiatives within the Ketchikan community.

In making this request, Vigor management has noted the following achievements by Doug Ward leading to the continued development of the Ketchikan Shipyard and its world class facilities:

- Steadily built the workforce at the shipyard from an initial base of 35 in 1993 to a peak permanent workforce of 200 skilled craftsmen over 2018.
- Initiated and led the preparation of the Ketchikan Shipyard Development Plan completed in 1998. It was through this development plan that the planning for the Assembly Hall and associated facilities emerged.
- Over the past 25 years, engaged the Ketchikan community's support for the shipyard through numerous resolutions representing over \$14.5 million in financial support from the City of Ketchikan and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough in addition to the authorization of the Memorandum of Understanding between AIDEA, the City of Ketchikan, and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough providing tax and electricity rate incentives to the operation of the shipyard.
- Arranged two Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants, allocated in 2002 and 2006, leading to the construction of the second dry-dock and related berth at the shipyard.

- In 2006, through close partnership with the Honorable Don Young U.S. House of Representatives, then Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, secured an appropriation for close to \$50 million for the shipyard over five years under the “Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users” or “SAFETEA-LU” law.
- Secured state assistance, matching funds and appropriations to facilitate all of the Federal government programs directed at the shipyard and established the working processes still in place today between AIDEA and the Federal Transit Administration.
- In 2012, with the leadership of State Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, obtained approval for US\$10 million in State of Alaska funding for the final outfit and mechanical assembly of the Ketchikan Shipyard Assembly Hall enabling Alaska’s premier facility for passenger and commercial ship building.
- Successfully steered the initiative to construct two new Alaska Class Ferries, the M/V *Tazlina* and the M/V *Hubbard*, in the newly built Assembly Hall. These 280 foot vessels, going into service this year, are the first ferries to fulfill Doug Ward’s directive – built in Alaska, by Alaskans.

Board Member Julie Sande discussed Vigor’s request with the mayors of the City of Ketchikan and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, who both expressed support for the proposal. In addition, we have received a letter of support from Alaska’s esteemed Legislative Delegation signed by U.S. Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan and Congressman Don Young, which is attached to this memorandum. This letter incorporates a list of Doug Ward’s numerous local and statewide civic activities representing his constant presence in driving workforce development in the Ketchikan community and throughout the State of Alaska. As said so succinctly in our delegation’s letter, “He is a great example of the Alaskan spirit of independence, creativity, ingenuity and relentless pursuit of a dream.”

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff notes the strong support of the state and community stakeholders. We recommend approval of Resolution No. G19-09.

## **ATTACHMENT**

February 11, 2019 Alaska Legislative Delegation Letter

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

February 11, 2019

AIDEA Board of Directors  
813 West Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Board Members:

We are jointly writing in support of your consideration of naming the Assembly Hall on the Ketchikan Shipyard operated by Vigor after a great friend to Alaska, Doug Ward.

Doug has very recently retired and there is no more appropriate tribute to his effectiveness and dedication over his career than to name this great state asset, the assembly hall on the Ketchikan Shipyard, in his honor.


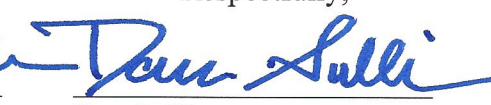
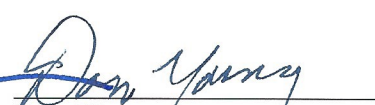
As you likely know, Doug spent decades working first to see the Shipyard built, the Operation Plan adopted and then to grow the skilled workforce that both made the Ketchikan Shipyard successful and changed peoples' lives through learning and practicing a skilled trade.

We are attaching to this letter a list of many of Doug's civic activities in support of economic development in Alaska and the growing of workforce development in the maritime sector.

It is difficult to put into words the commitment over many years Doug has demonstrated. He is a great example of the Alaskan spirit of independence, creativity, ingenuity and relentless pursuit of a dream. Fortunately for Alaska, Doug's dream was aimed at the public good – creating an economic engine for SE Alaska and the community of Ketchikan that contributes to the economic wellbeing of the broader community. Each of us has worked personally with Doug to support a number of the efforts he undertook during his notable career.

We strongly support the proposal for the shipyard Assembly Hall to be named in his honor.

Respectfully,

		
Lisa Murkowski	Dan Sullivan	Don Young
U.S. Senator	U.S. Senator	Congressman for all Alaska

**ALASKA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT AUTHORITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. G19-09**

**RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA INDUSTRIAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT AUTHORITY  
NAMING THE KETCHIKAN SHIPYARD'S ASSEMBLY  
HALL FOR DOUG WARD**

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**WHEREAS,** the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (the “Authority”) owns the Ketchikan Shipyard located in Ketchikan, Alaska, which is operated by Vigor Alaska, LLC under a contract with the Authority;

**WHEREAS,** Doug Ward, a longtime employee of the Ketchikan Shipyard, retired in December of 2018 after 25 years of outstanding service to the shipyard, the Ketchikan community, and the State of Alaska as a whole;

**WHEREAS,** as a result of Doug Ward’s tireless efforts the Ketchikan Shipyard has grown from a small operation to an important economic engine for Southeast Alaska;

**WHEREAS,** Doug Ward was instrumental in securing the funding for and planning the construction of the 70,000 square foot assembly hall at the Ketchikan Shipyard, which is the premier Alaska facility for passenger and commercial ship building;

**WHEREAS,** Doug Ward also was instrumental in securing the funding for and planning the construction or installation of other significant improvements to the shipyard, as well as in securing the major shipbuilding projects the shipyard has handled over the last many years;

**WHEREAS,** Doug Ward has been a relentless champion for economic development and workforce training in Alaska, and he has selflessly devoted time and effort to many other important civic and community efforts; and


**WHEREAS**, the Authority desires to honor Doug Ward’s peerless service to the shipyard, the Ketchikan community, and the citizens of the State of Alaska by naming the assembly hall building at the Ketchikan Shipyard after him.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ALASKA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:**

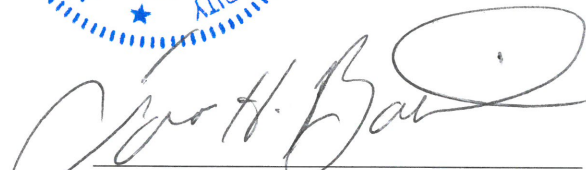
The assembly hall building at the Ketchikan Shipyard is hereby named the “Doug Ward Assembly Hall.” The Authority authorizes Vigor Alaska, LLC to install appropriate signage on the building to display this name.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

ALASKA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
AND EXPORT AUTHORITY

  
Chair



  
Secretary