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For information.

October 27, 2020

Kevin Flynn, Chair
Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Email: kflynn@csrd.bc.ca

Dear Chair Kevin Flynn and Board:

I am writing to follow-up on the telephone meeting that Parliamentary Secretary Jennifer Rice and I had with your delegation at this year's virtual Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention. It was a very good opportunity for us to hear first-hand the matters of importance to you and your community that relate to the emergency management portfolio.

I appreciate your keen interest in emergency management given the responsibilities that local governments have under the *Emergency Program Act*, as well as your commitment for the safety and security of the people of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD). The global pandemic has been a significant challenge to us all, and I want to recognize the leadership you have demonstrated to your residents and community during this stressful time.

Our discussion this year focused on the responsibility of flood hazard management and the recent legal proceedings. I recognize the stress and anxiety felt by those who are impacted by flood and erosion in your community. We understand that following your meeting with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, another funding stream was identified as a potential source of funding support. The Province will do all that it can to support the CSRD in their pursuit of this funding. I have requested Emergency Management BC senior regional manager Andrew Morrison to connect with Regional District staff, as well as with the consultant that is engaged with the Regional District on this issue.

As mentioned during the meeting, we continue the important work to modernize emergency management legislation to ensure that it embraces all four pillars of emergency management and reflects the lessons learned from recent emergency events including the current pandemic. During this modernization process, a point of focus is to find more flexible solutions to these types of issues. I would like to thank you for the valuable feedback you submitted during the engagement period. Input such as yours is crucial in this modernization process.

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Ministry of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

Emergency Management BC

Office of the Deputy Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9201 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9J1

Location:
Block A – Suite 200
2261 Keating X Road
Saanichton BC V8M 2A5
Telephone: 250 952-5013
Facsimile: 250 952-4871

Now that we are in the interregnum period, issues regarding future funding programs and other policy decisions must be deferred until after the election is complete and the incoming government is in place. All topics brought up in your meeting will be shared with the incoming elected official for this portfolio.

Thank you, again, to your delegation for the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Halls". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lori Halls
Deputy Minister
Emergency Management BC

pc: Charles Hamilton, CAO, Columbia Shuswap Regional District

Reference: 576894