



November 6, 2020

Ref: 256883

Kevin Flynn, Chair
and Members of the Board
Columbia Shuswap Regional District
PO Box 978
Salmon Arm BC V1E 4P1

Dear Chair Flynn and Board Members:

Thank you to your delegation for meeting with ministry representatives during this year's virtual Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention process. Due to the evolving COVID-19 situation, we have had to develop new approaches and adaptations to many aspects of our everyday life. I thank your delegation for its flexibility with provincial appointments this year and I am pleased that our governments still had the chance to connect.

As Deputy Minister, I write to acknowledge topics raised during your conference call, which included flood risk management and the challenges faced at Newsome Creek with respect to jurisdictional questions about whose responsibility it is to protect property owners from flooding. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAH) staff appreciated the productive conversation and hearing about the Regional District's concerns, which I understand have also been expressed with representatives of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG). While I cannot speak for my colleagues, Deputy Minister Lori Halls, Emergency Management BC, PSSG, and Deputy Solicitor General Mark Sieben, PSSG, I can advise that I have asked Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division, MAH, to raise this matter for cross-ministry consideration following the provincial election.

MAH staff advised that another concern raised was an apparent funding gap for mid-sized projects between what is available from provincial flood mitigation grants and federal programs. You mentioned that a flood mitigation project you are contemplating in the range of \$5 million falls outside of those programs. Ministry staff are reviewing further and will contact you with more information.

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In the meantime, I encourage you to look into the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). More information about the ICIP can be found online at: www.gov.bc.ca/Investing-in-Canada-Infrastructure-Program. If you have any specific questions regarding this grant program, I encourage you to contact John Antill, Acting Director, Infrastructure and Engineering, by telephone at: 778 974-2132, or by email at: John.Antill@gov.bc.ca.

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

Sincerely,



Kaye Krishna
Deputy Minister

pc: Mark Sieben, Deputy Solicitor General
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Lori Halls, Deputy Minister, Emergency Management BC
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division
John Antill, Acting Director, Infrastructure and Engineering
Charles Hamilton, Chief Administrative Officer, Columbia Shuswap Regional District