



① chair not  
② board members  
attach our Oct 17 letter.  
③ Non fishes. 78.

RECEIVED  
DEC 06 2013  
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF  
NORTH OKANAGAN

DEC 03 2013

Mr. Patrick Nicol  
Chair  
Regional District of North Okanagan  
9848 Aberdeen Road  
Coldstream BC V1B 2K9

Dear Mr. Nicol:

Premier Christy Clark has asked me to respond to your October 17, 2103 letter regarding flooding concerns in the North Okanagan.

The Province takes the threat of flooding very seriously. In addition to the regulatory functions provided by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations' Water Management Branch, the River Forecast Centre, Flood Safety and Dam Safety Sections provide extensive monitoring of hazards, stream flows, water courses to monitor potential threats and hazards. All information gathered is used by interprovincial agencies to provide ongoing support to local governments prior to, during, and after a flood event.

The unique and rugged landscape of British Columbia contributes to the number, type and frequency of natural hazard events. Local authorities and residents have the background and "on the ground" knowledge of their respective areas. The Province looks to the local authorities to identify local risks and to develop and implement plans to lessen these risks.

The Province recognizes that flood protection is a shared responsibility and its success is dependent upon support from all levels of government. As per the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter*, local authorities are responsible for land use planning, including designating bylaws (e.g. flood plains, hazard areas), zoning and development and approval permits. The *Land Title Act* also includes provisions regarding approval of subdivisions on lands with potential for flooding and other natural hazards.

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Ministry of  
Justice

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Minister of Justice  
and Attorney General

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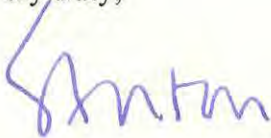
Telephone: 250 387-1866  
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Mr. Patrick Nicol  
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Local authorities, including regional districts, are the first responders to any emergency including flooding. This responsibility is outlined in the *Emergency Program Act*. The Province supports local authorities in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergency incidents and events.

Thank you for writing.

Yours very truly,



Suzanne Anton QC  
Attorney General  
Minister of Justice

pc: The Honourable Christy Clark