



October 31, 2018

Mayor-elect Brian Taylor
City of Grand Forks
PO Box 220
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0
Sent via email: info@grandforks.ca

Roly Russell, Chair
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
202 - 843 Rossland Ave.
Trail, BC V1R 4S8
Sent via email: rrussell@rdkb.com

Colleen Ross, Councillor
City of Grand Forks
PO Box 220
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0
Sent via email: cross@grandforks.ca

Graham Watt, Manager
Boundary Flood Recovery Team
PO Box 2162
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0
Sent via email: gwatt@grandforks.ca

Dear Mayor-elect Taylor, Ms. Ross, Mr. Russell, and Mr. Watt:

The catastrophic flooding season of 2018 showed the resilience and determination of the community of Grand Forks in the face of adversity. My deepest gratitude goes to those on the front lines during the disaster and those who are helping in the recovery.

The Province has been working with the City of Grand Forks and Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) on recovery since the flood occurred in May 2018. We have seen a number of challenges with recovery efforts, and I appreciated hearing from your delegation about the strains on local capacity and the need for stronger coordination and response from our government programming.

We have been working hard to address some of the most pressing issues to come out of the disaster. Since the flooding, over \$10 million in recovery funding over and above the response funding has been provided by the Province. BC Housing has begun construction on two housing projects in the community, including a six bed women's transition house and three Habitat for Humanity houses. We are planning two additional affordable housing projects; the first is a 50-unit affordable housing project for families and the second is a 50-unit supportive housing project for individuals at risk of becoming homeless. As well, ministry staff continue to work closely with the RDKB Economic Recovery Team, Community Futures, Downtown Business Association and Chamber of Commerce to refine their request for funding to assist economic recovery.

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Office of the
Premier

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W&G 03 - re Recovery of Flood

However, we still have more work to do to be more responsive in a coordinated fashion across ministries when moving from disaster response to recovery stages. The previous government did not have adequate systems or funded programs that were effective in recovery from natural disasters and we need to work to remedy this.

Your delegation called for a central point of contact for recovery efforts. That's why I am happy to announce that I have designated Parliamentary Secretary Jennifer Rice to work with Grand Forks and the Regional District on carrying out resilience and recovery efforts going forward. Parliamentary Secretary Rice will report directly back to me on accomplished objectives.

Thank you once again for your strength, advocacy and continued hard work in the recovery process for the community of Grand Forks.

Sincerely,



John Morgan
Premier

pc: Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Honourable Doug Donaldson
Minister of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

MLA Jennifer Rice
Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness