



October 18, 2024

Ref: 275297

Their Worship Mayor Ward Stamer  
and Members of Council  
District of Barriere  
PO Box 219  
Barriere BC V0E 1E0

Dear Mayor Stamer and Councillors:

Thank you for bringing a delegation to meet with ministry representatives during this year's Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention. As Deputy Minister, I am writing to acknowledge the topics raised during the meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs, which included your community's economic development initiatives and joint Crown Land acquisition efforts with the Simpcw First Nation. It was valuable to hear the discussion on the unique growth pressures Barriere is facing, and the collaborative efforts you are advancing with the Simpcw First Nation.

The ministry understands that it is your intention to apply for the [Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program \(REDIP\)](#) grant to support housing and economic development in partnership with the Simpcw First Nation. The REDIP is administered by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation. For questions regarding applying, program staff can be contacted by email at: [RuralDevelopment@gov.bc.ca](mailto:RuralDevelopment@gov.bc.ca), or by telephone at: 250-356-7950.

The ministry also heard your efforts to explore additional grant options. Both the ministry's [Infrastructure Planning Grant Program](#) and the [Asset Management Planning Grant Program](#), administered by UBCM, can assist local governments in strengthening asset management practices and preparing for future capital programs. For questions related to infrastructure planning or future infrastructure funding, I encourage you to connect with Brian Bedford, Executive Director, Local Government Infrastructure and Finance Branch, by email at: [Brian.Bedford@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Bedford@gov.bc.ca).

For questions on the implications of Section 16 reserve maps on Barriere's Crown Land Tenure application, I encourage you to contact Brent Mueller, Director, Governance Relations, Governance and Structure Branch, by email at: [Brent.Mueller@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brent.Mueller@gov.bc.ca), or by telephone at: 778 698-3220.

Now that we are in the election 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 minister.

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**Ministry of Municipal Affairs**

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Deputy Minister

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Thank you, again, to your delegation for the meeting. With compliments, enclosed is your picture with the Minister at the 2024 Convention.

Sincerely,



Okenge Yuma Morisho  
Deputy Minister

Enclosure

pc: Daniel Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer, District of Barriere  
Brian Bedford, Executive Director, Local Government Infrastructure and Finance Branch  
Brent Mueller, Director, Governance Relations, Governance and Structure Branch