

October 1, 2021

File: 0280-30 Ref: 196018

His Worship Mayor Bill Dingwall and Council City of Pitt Meadows 12007 Harris Road Pitt Meadows, BC V2T 2B5 Email: <u>bdingwall@pittmeadows.ca</u>

Dear Mayor and Council:

I would like to thank you and your colleagues for meeting with me during this year's virtual Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention process to discuss agriculture in the City of Pitt Meadows. I thank your delegation for its flexibility with provincial appointments again this year, and I am pleased that our governments still had the chance to connect by phone.

At our meeting, we discussed the proposed Canadian Pacific Rail (CP) logistics park expansion, which would lead to the loss of viable farmland in Pitt Meadows. The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (AFF) recognizes that the project in its current location will have impacts on 100 acres of prime agriculture within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). I thank you for strongly advocating to make agriculture a priority in your community.

AFF staff have reviewed the project documents and raised concerns regarding agricultural impacts with CP Rail Representatives at Pitt Meadows AAC meetings. The Agriculture Land Commission (ALC) has concerns about the file and will continue to work with the City. If any information is received by Pitt Meadows regarding this development proposal, please continue to share with both AFF and the ALC.

Thank you for your gracious invitation to tour the City of Pitt Meadows. I will have my staff connect with your office to organize a date at your earliest convenience.

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Mailing Address: PO Box 9043 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9E2 Telephone: 250 387-1023 Facsimile: 250 387-1522 If you have any specific questions, I encourage you to contact Mikayla Roberts, Regional Agrologist by email at: <u>Mikayla.Roberts@gov.bc.ca</u>.

Thank you, again, to your delegation for the meeting and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Lana Popham Minister

cc: Mikayla Roberts, Regional Agrologist, <u>Mikayla.Roberts@gov.bc.ca</u>

Kim Grout, CEO, Agricultural Land Commission, <u>Kim.Grout@gov.bc.ca</u>