

SUN PEAKS INCORPORATION STUDY COMMITTEE

c/o - P.O. Box 1002
Sun Peaks, BC V0E 5N0 Canada
Ph: 250-319-0035

November 4, 2009

File: 11.33

The Honourable Bill Bennett
Minister of Community & Rural Development
PO Box 9056, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. ,V8W 9E2

Dear Mr. Minister:

In response to our letter dated October 26, 2009, expressing concern about the Sun Peaks incorporation time line, your staff gave us a schedule that would allow the process for municipal incorporation to complete by June 30, 2010. This is, provided the Sun Peaks Incorporation Study Committee (Committee) proceeds promptly and the community votes in favour of incorporation. In response, two public meetings to be held in the resort on November 27th and 28th, 2009 have been scheduled and a public notice will be published in our local paper at the beginning of November. Based on the response received during the public meetings, the Committee will make a recommendation regarding an incorporation referendum to you before the end of November.

Your office has provided us with answers regarding the hotel tax, Small Community Grant, and the school tax. We understand that the road deficiency report prepared for Sun Peaks as part of the updated Incorporation Technical Report has been provided to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI). This report identified just over \$1 million in required road works.

We have not yet received a response from MoTI and the Study Committee remains concerned that your current offer is expecting the new municipality to take over roads that have deficiencies.

According to the report from Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Limited Consulting Engineers, road work that requires immediate attention amounts to \$681,700. Repair work that should be undertaken in the next couple of years totals \$366,600. This is a huge burden for a new municipality, especially since these roads were turned over to MoTI in good condition and have received little or no maintenance over the past 12 years.

We believe that the public will question the service they have received from payments made over the years to the Province for road maintenance and might see the turnover of deficient roads, with the expectation that the new municipality assumes all maintenance responsibility, as a form of unfair double taxation. It would be a shame if incorporation support were compromised because of a large capital works requirement.

We respectfully request that your ministry pursue a definitive answer to this ongoing question so that a proper response can be give at the upcoming Public meetings at the end of November. We look forward to a timely response. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Darcy Alexander
Co-Chair



Ines Popig
Co-Chair

cc: Dr. Terry Lake, MLA Kamloops-North Thompson
Hon. Kevin Krueger, Minister of Tourism, Culture & the Arts and
MLA Kamloops-South Thompson
Sun Peaks Incorporation Study Committee