



Agricultural Land Commission

201 – 4940 Canada Way
Burnaby, British Columbia V5G 4K6
Tel: 604 660-7000
Fax: 604 660-7033
www.alc.gov.bc.ca

April 16, 2021

Via Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca

Peace River Regional District
1981 Alaska Avenue
Dawson Creek, BC
V1G 4H8

Dear Board of Directors,

Re: Bill 15 ALC Amendment Act

I wanted to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 18, 2021 expressing concern with recent amendments to the Agricultural Land Commission Act (ALCA) and clarify the ALC's understanding of the reasons behind the change.

As an independent tribunal the Commission receives its regulatory framework, operational authority, and mandate from the Province through the ALCA and its regulations. The Ministry of Agriculture is the agency responsible for the drafting and development of amendments to our legislative framework.

It is our understanding changes to the exclusion process tabled in Bill 15-2019 were the result of recommendations put forward by the BC Minister of Agriculture's Independent Advisory Committee for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). The Minister's Independent Committee recommended Government "*remove section 30(1) of the Act that allows individual applications for exclusion of land from the ALR by landowners*", in order to "*..curb speculation through better land use planning.*" A copy of the Independent Committee's final report to Government can be found at https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/121/2019/04/Final-Committee-Report-to-the-Minister-of-Agriculture-Recommendations-for-Revitalization-December-4-2018_Optimized.pdf. The Independent Committee's recommendation on changes to the exclusion application process and their reasons for making the recommendation can be found starting on page 69 of their final report.

The Board may wish to consider directing questions respecting any future legislative changes to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Sincerely,

Kim Grout
Chief Executive Officer



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

March 18, 2021

File No: 0400.20.5

Via Email: Kim.Grout@gov.bc.ca

Kim Grout, Chief Executive Officer
Agricultural Land Commission
201 – 4940 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 4K6

Dear Ms. Grout,

Re: Bill 15, ALC Amendment Act

At its December 11, 2020 meeting, the Regional Board approved a recommendation from the Electoral Area Directors Committee regarding the implementation of Bill 15.

The resolution of Regional Board reads as follows:

“That the Regional Board authorize a letter to be sent to the Agricultural Land Commission expressing the Board’s concerns with downloading from the Agricultural Land Commission to local governments with the implementation of Bill 15, which prevents landowners from submitting Agricultural Land Reserve exclusion applications to the Agricultural Land Commission and requires Local Governments, First Nation Governments, the Province of BC, and prescribed public bodies to make the application.”

On behalf of Peace River Regional District Board, please accept this letter expressing the above-noted concern related to the implementation of Bill 15.

The Regional Board would like to thank you for your consideration of this concern and would welcome a response explaining the reasons for the change, and confirming whether there is any opportunity for property owners in the future, to be able to submit Agricultural Land Reserve exclusion applications governing their private property.

If you require more information, please contact us via by telephone at 250-784-3200 or by email to prrd@prrd.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Tyra Henderson

Tyra Henderson
Corporate Officer

diverse. vast. abundant.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☒ Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca