

November 23, 2021

Honorable Katrine Conroy Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development Room 248, Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

RE: Peace Region Crown Land Wildfire Danger

Dear Minister Katrine Conroy,

On June 30, 2021 a powerful storm swept through the Peace Region with wind gusts up to 100 kilometres per hour. Since then, BC Hydro has replaced more than 330 spans of wire, 60 cross arms, 30 power poles and 15 transformers. I witnessed overturned grain silos, lifted structures right off the foundations, and ripped various roofing materials from buildings. Many property owners reported hundreds of thousand of dollars in damages.

The Peace River Regional District has emailed my office requesting assistance regarding the clean up of these areas impacted by this powerful storm. The current concern is the swaths of large trees that were downed on Crown land during the storm and the potential for these downed trees to become a wildfire hazard in the Peace Region.

PRRD has reached out to BC Wildfires asking for assistance with the debris on Crown land. However, wildfire crews were not available this summer due to the numerous wildfires that ravaged our province. It is critical that we establish a clean-up plan for the Crown land in these impacted areas.

We would like to request the assistance of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development to assist with the debris removal and clean up of Crown lands in the areas of Red Creek, Coffee Creek, Doig, Blueberry, and Prespatou.

We would like to put a clean-up plan into place for Spring of 2022 that involves all stakeholders before the 2022 fire season.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and would be happy to host an organizing meeting.

Sincerely,

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Dan Davies, MLA Peace River North MLA Dan Davies, Peace River North

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Cc: Honorable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General <u>M.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca</u> MLA John Rustad, Official Opposition Critic – <u>John.Rustad.MLA@leg.bc.ca</u> MLA Dan Davies – <u>Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca</u> Peace River North Regional District – <u>prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca</u>