From: Davenport, Hali N TT:EX <<u>Hali.Davenport@gov.bc.ca</u>> Sent: Friday, June 20, 2025 1:16 PM Subject: RE: 334386 - Twinning of Highway from Fort St. John to Alberta Border

Hello Carmen,

Would you kindly forward the following response to Chair Hiebert:

On behalf of the ministry, thank you for your letter of June 12, 2025, sharing the Peace River Regional District Board's support to revisit the twinning of Highways 97 and 2 from Fort St. John to the Alberta border.

We fully recognize the importance of this corridor and remain committed to ensuring its continued safety and mobility.

The ministry monitors performance through various efforts, including our traffic data count program and corridor analysis studies such as the Collision Information System. Current data indicates that the corridor is functioning effectively, with approximately 50% of the route now four-laned or equipped with passing lanes to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.

We will continue to assess the corridor and consider opportunities for improvements in alignment with provincial transportation planning priorities. Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Hali Davenport
District Manager, Transportation
Ministry of Transportation and Transit 300, 10003 – 110 Avenue, Fort St. John, BC V1J 6M7
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June 12, 2025

File#: 0400.20.13

Honourable Mike Farnworth Minister of Transportation and Transit PO Box 9055 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via Email: TT.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Honourable Mike Farnworth,

Re: Twinning of Highway from Fort St. John to Alberta Border

During an Interprovincial meeting held between the County of Grande Prairie and the Peace River Regional District, the Regional Board was asked to provide a letter of support to the County of Grande Prairie for use when they advocate the Province of Alberta to twin Highway 43 between Grande Prairie and the British Columbia border. Accordingly, at the Peace River Regional District Board meeting held on May 22, 2025, the Regional Board discussed the need to facilitate cross border trade/movement of goods, enhanced safety for the travelling public and safer emergency response and resolved to provide the letter of support to the County of Grande Prairie as requested. At that meeting, the Regional Board also determined that it would be beneficial to also approach the Province of BC regarding twinning of the highway on the British Columbia side and passed the following resolution:

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,

That the Regional Board send a letter to the Ministry of Transportation to ask them to revisit the twinning of the highway from Fort St. John to the Alberta border as a result of conversation with our Alberta neighbours.

On behalf of the Peace River Regional District Board, thank you for your consideration of this request; we look forward to your Ministry's response in due course.

Sincerely,

Leonard Hiebert

Leonard Hiebert, Chair

c: Larry Neufeld, South Peace MLA <u>Larry.Neufeld.MLA@leg.bc.ca</u> Jordan Kealy, North Peace MLA <u>Jordan.Kealy.MLA@leg.bc.ca</u>

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