



BRITISH COLUMBIA
REAL ESTATE
ASSOCIATION

August 5, 2015

Honourable Naomi Yamamoto
Minister of State for Emergency Preparedness
Room 227
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

RE: Congratulations

On behalf of the British Columbia Real Estate Association, which represents the provincial interests of 11 real estate boards and more than 19,000 REALTORS® in BC, congratulations on your recent appoint as Minister of State for Emergency Preparedness.

Yours is an important portfolio, and we appreciate the emphasis placed on it with the creation of your mandate. Of particular interest to BCREA is your direction from Premier Clark to “work with BC communities that could be impacted by floods to determine what measures could be taken to reduce these risks and report to Cabinet by March 31, 2016.”

Since 2008, BCREA has made several recommendations to the provincial government regarding flood management and protection. Since 2012, we have emphasized the need to update existing floodplain maps, which are an essential foundation for flood management, emergency management and community development. Unfortunately, existing maps in BC are an average of 26 years old, which means important decisions are being made on unreliable data, which puts communities and citizens at risk.

In recent years, BCREA has worked with many stakeholders all around the province to raise awareness about the importance of floodplain maps and encourage actions to update them. I am interested in meeting with you to discuss this further. To schedule a meeting, please contact BCREA Manager of Government Relations Norma Miller (nmiller@bcrea.bc.ca, 604-742-2789).

BCREA is the professional association for REALTORS® in BC, focusing on provincial issues that impact real estate. Working with the province’s 11 real estate boards, BCREA provides

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continuing professional education, advocacy, economic research and standard forms to help REALTORS® provide value for their clients.

To demonstrate the profession's commitment to improving Quality of Life in BC communities, BCREA supports policies that encourage economic vitality, provide housing opportunities, respect the environment and build communities with good schools and safe neighbourhoods.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Laing". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Robert Laing

Chief Executive Officer

Copies: Hon. Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
Mike Farnworth, MLA – Port Coquitlam