

July 2, 2020

Ref: 255149

Dear Mayors and Regional District Chairs:

In this unprecedented time, I believe it is more important than ever that we continue to connect and work together. I have deeply appreciated our calls throughout the pandemic and hearing directly from you about how you are supporting your communities, and how we can support you. Your feedback has been invaluable and has informed our government's responses to COVID-19 as we all work together to keep the people of British Columbia safe.

While this year's UBCM Convention will be different in many ways, I am looking forward to the opportunity for all of us to come together and to spend time discussing the needs of your community.

I am writing to provide you with some initial information regarding the process for requesting a meeting with me during the UBCM Convention, taking place this year from September 22 to 24, 2020.

As the UBCM Convention for 2020 will be held in a virtual and abbreviated format, Provincial Government meetings will be held by conference call and will likely occur outside of the shortened program to allow delegates to fully focus and participate in the Convention.

You will receive a separate letter from the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, containing information about the online process for requesting a meeting with the Premier or other Cabinet Ministers.

If you would like to indicate your interest in meeting with me around Convention time, please complete the online request form at: MAH Minister's Meeting and submit it to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing before August 4, 2020. Meeting times and dates will be confirmed by early September. In the event that I am unable to meet with you, arrangements may be made for a meeting post-Convention.

To get the most out of your delegation's meeting with me, it continues to be helpful for you to provide as much detail as possible on the topic you wish to discuss in the online form. Providing this information in advance gives me a better understanding of your delegation's interests and helps us to make progress on delivering for the people of your community.

Regarding staff meetings, ministry staff will email you shortly with the Provincial Appointment Book. This document lists all government, agency, commission and corporation staff expected to be available to meet with delegates around Convention time, as well as details on how to submit an online staff meeting request.

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This year's UBCM will be my fourth Convention as Minister responsible for local government, after four years attending as the opposition spokesperson for local government and four years of attending as a City Councillor, and I believe this will be the most important Convention yet. The pandemic has shown how important governments are in keeping people healthy and safe, and all of the work that local governments do for the benefit of British Columbians. As we move forward with restarting B.C., I am looking forward to hearing more about your communities and exploring ways we can continue to work together to make life better for British Columbians, now and for the future.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson

Minister

pc: Honourable John Horgan, Premier

Her Worship Mayor Maja Tait, President, Union of BC Municipalities