

September 2, 2021

File No. 2480-26

Hon. Katrine Conroy  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development  
PO Box 9049 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9E2

Hon. Rob Fleming  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
PO Box 9055 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9E2

*Via email: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca*

*Via email: Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca*

Dear Minister Conroy and Minister Fleming:

**Re:** Dog Creek Road - Transfer to Provincial Road Network

Further to my letter of August 9, 2021 (copy attached for reference) requesting Provincial funding for rehabilitation works to address the ongoing deterioration of Dog Creek Road from Highway 20 to the municipal boundary, we note we have not yet received a response.

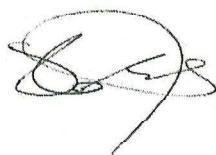
At its Regular meeting of August 31, 2021, City of Williams Lake Council resolved to offer the Province the City's portion of Dog Creek Road to become part of the Provincial network.

As the geotechnical issues span multiple jurisdictions, the City considers transferring the responsibility for maintenance to the Province a sensible option. As well, Dog Creek Road provides essential access for rural and First Nations communities, and as an arterial roadway should form part of the Provincial road network.

At this time, the City of Williams Lake is pursuing the road closure process, as this is the only option it has to address the worsening conditions on Dog Creek Road. Without assistance and support from the Province, we have no choice but to divert traffic to other Provincial roadways until the groundwater and slide issues are adequately addressed.

The meeting request submitted through the UBCM Convention booking process to meet with you the week of September 7<sup>th</sup> has been declined. We will make ourselves available to meet at a time that works with your schedules. As time is of the essence, we request a reply no later than September 17, 2021.

Sincerely,



Mayor Walt Cobb



c: Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs [MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)  
MLA Lorne Doerkson, Cariboo Chilcotin [lorne.doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:lorne.doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca)  
Regional Executive Director, Min. FLNRORD, Williams Lake, BC c/o [monica.larden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:monica.larden@gov.bc.ca)  
Sandra Griffiths, District Manager Transportation, MOTI [Sandra.griffiths@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sandra.griffiths@gov.bc.ca)  
Chair Margo Wagner and Directors, Cariboo Regional District [mailbox@cariboord.ca](mailto:mailbox@cariboord.ca)  
Chief Hank Adam Sr. and Council, Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation [general@sxfn.ca](mailto:general@sxfn.ca)  
Chief Fred Robbins and Council, Esk'etemc First Nation [adminassisant@esketemc.ca](mailto:adminassisant@esketemc.ca)

Attch.



August 9, 2021

File No. 2480-26

Hon. Katrine Conroy  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
and Rural Development  
PO Box 9049 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9E2

*Via email: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca*

Dear Minister Conroy:

**Re:** Urgent Funding Request – Dog Creek Road Remediation

On August 4, 2021, City of Williams Lake Council held a Special Committee of Whole Council meeting to discuss options to address the ongoing deterioration of the City-maintained portion of Dog Creek Road. As you are aware, this area has been challenged by ground instability for decades.

Although the road instability issues for the remainder of Dog Creek Road and associated issues on Highway 20 fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (copied on this letter), this portion of Dog Creek Road is maintained by the City. It is our understanding that the underlying groundwater issue is within the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's jurisdiction.

The City of Williams Lake is hereby requesting Provincial funding for rehabilitation works for Dog Creek Road from Highway 20 to the municipal boundary to address the immediate requirements, and on an ongoing basis as needed. To expedite the process, local quotes have been obtained, at an approximate initial cost of \$430,100 - \$433,100 plus 20% for contingency and engineering costs. As the road worsens due to ground water and resulting slide issues originating from Crown land, Provincial funding is critical to cover the expense of the remediation work until such time as the underlying issues are addressed. The City is fully prepared to facilitate the works upon confirmation of funding.

Due to the serious safety concerns, the City would be forced to consider undertaking a road closure process should funding not be provided in a timely manner. A closure would result in traffic being directed to other Provincial roadways, such as Roberts Drive or Bond Lake Road, with a view to rehabilitating and reopening that portion of Dog Creek Road once ground water/slide issues are permanently addressed. This will place a huge burden on these side roads, especially with the diversion of heavy trucks.

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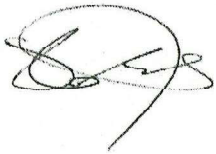
Short-term repairs to Dog Creek Road are a temporary and expensive band-aid that will not adequately address these worsening conditions. The City simply cannot afford to continue to pay increasing maintenance costs. It is time for the Province to listen to its Cariboo constituents - it's only a matter of time before someone gets seriously injured.

The City has heard from many concerned residents, and they have been encouraged to send their concerns directly to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, with a copy to Cariboo Chilcotin MLA Lorne Doerkson.

As time is of the essence, we are requesting your prompt attention to this matter and confirmation of funding no later than August 23, 2021.

We look forward to your favourable response.

Sincerely,



Mayor Walt Cobb

c: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure [Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca)  
Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs [MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)  
MLA Lorne Doerkson, Cariboo Chilcotin [lorne.doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:lorne.doerkson.MLA@leg.bc.ca)  
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Chair Margo Wagner and Directors, Cariboo Regional District [mailbox@cariboord.ca](mailto:mailbox@cariboord.ca)