

February 16, 2021

Shannon Frank, Executive Director Oldman Watershed Council shannon@oldmanwatershed.ca

Dear Ms. Frank: ALANDAN

Thank you for meeting with me and Heather von Hauff, Executive Director of Water and Waste Policy, Environment and Parks, in November, for an initial discussion about potential changes to the Oldman Order.

The Alberta government recognizes the importance of water allocations to many Albertans - particularly those in the south. Our November meeting was intended to gather early input to inform the engagement process.

Environment and Parks and I appreciate your thoughtful input. Department staff are reviewing the initial input provided at our meeting. Your input will help inform future discussions with local stakeholders.

The Alberta government is focused on identifying economic opportunities while upholding strong environmental protections and consideration of treaty rights and traditional uses. I assure you of the importance that local priorities are heard and reflected.

To avoid any confusion, I want to emphasize that government is not considering changes to the licence priority system. Existing licence-holders will maintain their priority.

I reiterate my ongoing commitment to hearing your views, and I thank you for all feedback given so far. I look forward to continuing discussions and working together to identify opportunities in future conversations, when all the input from these initial discussions has been evaluated.

MLA, Livingston McLeod

cc: Honourable Jason Nixon
Minister of Environment and Parks

Heather von Hauff Environment and Parks