



ALBERTA
ABORIGINAL RELATIONS

Office of the Minister

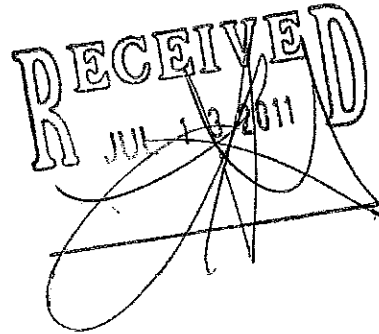
July 8, 2011

Grand Chief Ernest Gadwa
Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations
Suite 204, 10310 – 176 Street
Edmonton, AB T5S 1L3

Grand Chief Charles Weaselhead
Treaty 7 Management Corporation
Suite 400, 9911 Chilla Boulevard
Tsuu T'ina, AB T2W 6H6

Grand Chief Arthur Noskey
Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta
Santa Fe Plaza
18178 – 102 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5S 1S7

Chief!



Dear Grand Chief Gadwa, Grand Chief Weaselhead and Grand Chief Noskey:

I am writing to propose a number of changes to the process to review the Government of Alberta's *First Nations Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development*. These changes are intended to address the concerns raised by representatives of your organizations, including those noted by Joseph Jobin and Clayton Kootenay in recent letters to Stan Rutwind, Assistant Deputy Minister, Consultation and Land Claims.

These changes are proposed to further the objective of achieving a revised *First Nations Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development* that will provide an improved process for consultation. I remain committed to the view that more dialogue to gain a better understanding of our respective perspectives will be of benefit to all. As a result, I am prepared to offer several adjustments to the process for dialogue agreed to during our Protocol Agreement meeting on March 21st and reflected in the joint letter Grand Chief Weaselhead and I signed on April 21st.

I am proposing to make the following changes:

1. An extension of the time frame for the dialogue on the *First Nations Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development* to October 31st.

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2. An expansion of the items for discussion to include any of the consultation-related issues identified in your written submissions provided last fall.
3. A written response, which I will provide to you very shortly, identifying Aboriginal Relations' perspectives on the issues identified in your submissions provided to the Government of Alberta last fall.
4. An increase in the amount of funding available to facilitate participation of your organizations in the review process from \$100,000 to \$200,000.
5. Establishment of an ongoing process for dialogue, after the review of the *First Nations Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development* comes to a close on October 31st, to discuss other important issues identified in your written submissions. This would include mutual benefits. Through dialogue pertaining to matters like mutual benefits, we will have the opportunity to better understand each other's views and to seek approaches that will enhance our relationship.

With these changes to the process in place, it is my hope that our officials can have productive discussions over the summer and into the fall leading to an improved *First Nations Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development*. I look forward to hearing from you regarding your participation in the adjusted process.

Sincerely,



Len Webber
Minister

Copy: Clayton Kootenay
Interim Director of Operations, Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations

Ryan Robb
Chief Executive Officer, Treaty 7 Management Corporation

Joseph Jobin
Chief Operating Officer, Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta