



ALBERTA
ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Lethbridge-West*

DEC 16 2016

Mr. Alden Armstrong, Chairman
Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance
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205 First Street East - WC Kirkland Building
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Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Thank you for your letter regarding our meeting on August 9, 2016, in Grande Prairie, where my colleague, Honourable Marg McCuaig-Boyd, and I had the opportunity to discuss key items with your board and staff representatives. The Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance is an important partner in the Government of Alberta's integrated resource management system.

Strategic partnerships, such as the one shared by your alliance and our government, support Environment and Parks in achieving its outcomes by providing collaborative forums to leverage resources, capacity and a shared responsibility for environmental stewardship.

I am pleased to note that the Government of Alberta is committed to the principles of the Water for Life Strategy and the role watershed planning and advisory councils have in facilitating meaningful engagement with community leaders and stakeholders in the management of land and water resources. Collaborative planning and citizen engagement provide the foundation for our province to successfully manage and protect our watersheds. Our department is currently reviewing opportunities to clarify the role of watershed planning and advisory councils, including evaluating the feasibility of multi-year funding to ensure the continuity of this important long-term work.

Thank you again for sending your kind words and for your continued environmental stewardship.

Sincerely,

Shannon Phillips
Minister

cc: Honourable Margaret McCuaig-Boyd
Minister of Energy