

JAN 2 0 2016

Reeve Bill Neufeld MacKenzie County PO Box 640 4511 - 46 Avenue Fort Vermilion AB TOH 1N0

Dear Reeve Neufeld:

Thank you for your letter requesting a resolution to Mr. John Wiebe's land disposition request and I appreciate your concern about this matter.

I understand that Mr. Wiebe has been working with staff in my office, who are facilitating information sharing and guiding him to a resolution. I have also been advised that Environment and Parks staff have made Mr. Wiebe aware of his appeal options under the *Public Lands Act*.

Currently there are two appeals before the Public Lands Appeal Board related to this matter. Because these appeal processes are underway, I am not able to intervene or make any further decisions at this time.

Our department recognizes the high and sustained demand for farmland and residential acreages in Mackenzie County over the last few years. We are committed to ensuring that the decision process regarding dispositions is transparent and fair for all residents. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Glen Gache, our Regional Approvals Manager for the Peace River region. Mr. Gache can be reached at 780-836-7307, or email glen.gache@gov.ab.ca.

Sincerely,

Shannon Phillips

Minister

cc:

Glen Gache, Environment and Parks

JAN 2 6 2016

MACKENZIE COUNTY FORT VERMILION OFFICE