

December 1, 2008

Honourable Ted Morton  
Minister of Sustainable Resource Development  
Legislature Office, 420 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Morton:

**Re: Draft Land-use Framework and Role of the Alberta Association Canadian Institute of Planners (AACIP)**

On behalf of the many professional planners working across the Province of Alberta and represented by the Alberta Association, Canadian Institute of Planners (AACIP), thank you for attending our 2008 Conference in Banff and participating in our Opening Reception. Your presence and address on the Land-use Framework reaffirmed to our membership and all conference delegates that the Alberta Government recognizes the tremendous importance of managing our land and natural resources, and emphasizes how critical the role of planning for development is to the future of the communities of Alberta.

Our membership is committed to working with the Alberta Government to achieve the long-term economic, environmental and social goals which the Land-use Framework aims to address. We anticipate that AACIP members will participate in the process by either serving on a Regional Advisory Council or as stakeholders and professional advisors in the development of the six regional plans. However, given that our Association's mandate is to champion and lead progress and change in planning practice, we feel that AACIP should take a more clearly defined and supportive role.

Accordingly we request that AACIP be represented on the Land-use Secretariat established to support the Cabinet Committee. As a professional Association representing a constituency larger and more comprehensive than our individual members, we can bring critical resources to the table and we maintain that we have both a public duty and a vested interest in ensuring that Alberta succeeds with this initiative. We recognize that the Province, municipalities and interest groups will be challenged to bridge the gap between the stated strategies in the Land-use Framework and the actual implementation of those strategies. Trade-offs are inevitable and we believe that AACIP offers specific skills that can help frame those trade-offs in an informed manner. That is what we do as professionals every day. This informed framing is a pre-requisite to achieving outcomes that have broad public support.

We have established a Land-use Framework Committee to assist in this regard and representatives from that working group would like to meet with you personally to fully explore the role that AACIP can play, as we move forward together with the implementation of the Framework. Ms. Beth Sanders from our Association will be Chairing the Committee and is available to meet with you at your convenience. Ms. Sanders may be contacted directly at 780-886-0354.

In closing, I want to express my personal appreciation for your leadership on this initiative and for your defining contribution to our conference, and to say how much I enjoyed our brief conversation beforehand.

Thank you for attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Brian J Kropf, ACP MCIP  
President

cc: Gary Buchanan, ACP MCIP, President Elect  
Beth Sanders, ACP MCIP