



ALBERTA
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

Office of the Minister

39539

May 11, 2017

Ms. Amanda White
Team Lead, Surface Landmen
Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen
1600, 520 5 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 3R7

Dear Ms. White:

Thank you for meeting with me and my officials in Calgary on April 24, 2017 regarding the renewal of the *Government of Alberta's Consultation Policy with First Nations on Land and Natural Resource Management, 2013 (Policy)* and associated Guidelines, and the Enhanced Consultation Capacity Initiative (ECCI). Your ongoing support and input is critical to further my department's understanding of the needs of industry and municipalities in the consultation process, and to hear your thoughts regarding how we can work together toward a refined consultation framework that will benefit Alberta.

During our time together we discussed the concerns my department has heard so far from the majority of First Nations, such as insufficient consultation capacity, the interpretation of Treaty rights, short timelines and inflexibility of the consultation process, economic benefits from development, how consultation is assessed, site visits, cumulative impacts, dispute resolution, and a greater role overall for First Nations in the consultation process. We met with industry and municipal stakeholders on April 24 and 26, 2017 as well, and they stated more regulatory alignment between the Aboriginal Consultation Office and the Alberta Energy Regulator is required to create more efficiency and predictability both for industry and First Nations.

We want to further hear from you in relation to these matters. Please also advise of any other concerns you may have or processes that work well and should remain unchanged. I encourage you to provide a formal written submission further detailing your feedback by July 1, 2017 to fncprenewal@gov.ab.ca.

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Our immediate next step is to review all information we heard during our first meetings with First Nations, industry and municipalities, in addition to reviewing written submissions as we receive them, to determine how best to continue our dialogue as the policy renewal progresses. My office will be in contact with you again in the near future to make arrangements to continue our discussion on the Policy renewal and ECCI. I anticipate reconvening in the fall to discuss specific proposals with you developed from our discussions to date and your July 1 submissions.

Once again, thank you very much for our valuable conversation and your ongoing participation in the policy renewal and ECCI.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Feehan', written in a cursive style.

Richard Feehan
Minister of Indigenous Relations