



September 4, 2025
Our Ref. 23996

Jordan Knox, President
Michael Magnusson, Executive Director
Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce
185 Lakeshore Drive W
Penticton BC V2A 1B7

Email Address: mmagnusson@penticton.org

Dear Jordan Knox and Michael Magnusson:

Thank you for your letter of May 20, 2025, addressed to The Honourable David Eby, Premier, regarding the new *Infrastructure Projects Act* which was given Royal Assent by the Legislative Assembly on May 29, 2025. As your enquiry falls under the purview of the Ministry of Infrastructure, I appreciate the opportunity to respond on behalf of Premier Eby to the issues you have raised. I apologize for the lengthy delay in responding to your letter.

Communities across BC have faced record growth and government has responded with unprecedented investments in the infrastructure people rely on. Since 2017, government has invested nearly \$30 billion to build schools, hospitals, long-term care facilities, student housing and other important provincial infrastructure projects.

While we continue our work to address broader permitting delays, government is also aware that there exists an opportunity to expedite key infrastructure projects by streamlining administrative processes, helping us deliver essential services faster. Delays can mean missed opportunities for BC and higher costs for developing the infrastructure communities need.

I acknowledge the important considerations raised in your letter, including the need to develop transparent and precise criteria for designating provincially significant projects, to uphold the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local governments, and to continue addressing the systemic causes of unnecessary red tape and permitting delays.

.../2

Understandably, there are many questions about the new legislation. To ensure a collaborative approach on the development of regulations, the Ministry of Infrastructure is working with local governments, interest holders, Indigenous Peoples and partners to develop the policies that will support the implementation of the legislation. I am pleased to share that there is an engagement website already available to capture feedback like yours. You will find it here: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/infrastructure/>.

Engagement related to the *Infrastructure Projects Act* will follow a phased approach and focus on three main topic areas:

- **Defining Criteria for Provincially Significant Projects** – July to September 2025
- **Developing a Qualified Professional Reliance Model** – July to November 2025
- **Developing an Expedited Environmental Assessment Process** – Starting in Fall 2025

We will take your letter into account as part of these engagements, and encourage you and your team to add any further specific feedback through the online engagement on these topic areas.

I appreciate your interest in the new *Infrastructure Projects Act*. Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bowinn', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Honourable Bowinn Ma
Minister of Infrastructure

pc: Honourable David Eby
Premier