



BRITISH COLUMBIA
REAL ESTATE
ASSOCIATION

March 17, 2017

Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, MLA
Minister of State for Emergency Preparedness
Room 227, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Sent by email: ep.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister,

Re: Provincial investment in emergency preparedness

The British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA) welcomes news that the provincial government has invested over \$80 million in emergency preparedness activities, including \$60 million toward flood mitigation.

Flooding poses catastrophic risks to BC's economic vitality, safety, environment, property owners and communities. Investing in key infrastructure is crucial to mitigate the impacts of floods and other natural disasters, as it ensures communities can adequately plan and implement flood protection responses. Provincial leadership is also critical in providing local governments and other stakeholders with clear, attainable goals. BCREA appreciates the provincial government's leadership on this file.

The announcement of the new Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is also a welcome development. CEPF's \$3 million investment into flood risk assessments, floodplain mapping and flood mitigation plans will further help communities develop sound and locally-specific flooding information. BCREA advocates strongly for floodplain mapping and robust flooding data to better plan for and adapt to changing conditions in the future.

BCREA is also pleased that the Fraser Basin Council will receive \$2.13 million from this investment. The Fraser Basin Council's Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy will provide vital flood risk information and resources to Lower Mainland municipalities and stakeholders, and BCREA is proud to be a partner on this project.

As you know, BCREA is the professional association for more than 21,000 REALTORS® in BC, focusing on provincial issues that impact real estate. Working with the province's 11 real estate boards, BCREA provides continuing professional education, advocacy, economic research and standard forms to help REALTORS® provide value for their clients.

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Hon. Naomi Yamamoto

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Laing". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Robert Laing
Chief Executive Officer

Copy:

Todd Stone, MLA – Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, minister.transportation@gov.bc.ca

Mike Farnworth, MLA –Public Safety Critic, mike.farnworth.mla@leg.bc.ca