



Smoky Lake County

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August 17, 2020

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry
Office of the Minister
229 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Invitation to Tour - State of Agricultural Disaster

Honourable Devin Dreeshen,

Further to our declaration of a State of Agricultural Disaster within Smoky Lake County and our letter dated July 20, 2020, Smoky Lake County Council passed the following resolution #941-20, July 17, 2020:

That Smoky Lake County Council recommend a written invitation be extended to the Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agricultural and Forestry, to tour Smoky Lake County for the purpose of understanding the full impact of the devastating state of agriculture in our region in respect to the Municipal Agricultural Disaster declared on June 25, 2020, to bring awareness to the unseeded acres due to excessive moisture and/or the inability to complete the 2019 harvest, the loss of seeded acres due to excessive moisture, as well as pastureland and hay crops under water; and carbon copy Glenn van Dijken, MLA for Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock, as well as Shannon Stubbs, MP for Lakeland.

We respectfully urge you to tour our area to see firsthand the devastation caused by the persistent and excessive precipitation which has caused: the inability to complete the 2019 harvest, failure to complete 2020 seeding, flooded pasture and hay crops, livestock displacement, inability to use productive land, loss of farm income, and increased expenses for rehabilitating the land.

We would be pleased to meet with you or your staff to further discuss this issue. On behalf of Smoky Lake County Council, we thank you in advance for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Lukinuk".

Craig Lukinuk

Reeve, Smoky Lake County

Cc: Mr. Glenn van Dijken, MLA for Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock
Ms. Shannon Stubbs, MP for Lakeland