



ALBERTA  
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Lesser Slave Lake*

AR85351

JUN 07 2016

Ms. Karen Somerville  
President  
Canadians for Properly Built Homes  
PO Box 11032, Station H  
3659 Richmond Road  
Ottawa ON K2H 7T8

Dear Ms. Somerville,

Thank you for your letter of May 24, 2016 regarding the importance of rebuilding homes in Fort McMurray to the Alberta Building Code. I commend you and the Canadians for Properly Built Homes for your diligence in supporting compliance with safety codes for construction.

Please be assured that the rebuilding of Fort McMurray will be done in accordance with the current Alberta Building Code and all other applicable safety codes. Much has changed with the approach to construction in Fort McMurray in recent years with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) demonstrating outstanding commitment to safety code compliance. The RMWB now employs its own safety codes officers for building and other safety disciplines, which was not the case during the boom years of construction.

In addition, Alberta's *New Home Buyer Protection Act (NHBPA)* came into force February 1, 2014. The *NHBPA* makes home warranties mandatory and regulates minimum coverage requirements, thereby providing homeowners with improved consumer protection and recourse options. A builder cannot receive a building permit in Alberta without providing proof of home warranty coverage.

The reconstruction of Fort McMurray is a collaborative effort of the RMWB, the Government of Alberta, and the Government of Canada. Compliance with the *Safety Codes Act*, the Alberta Building Code, other applicable safety standards and the *NHBPA* will be enforced.

Thank you for your support and your kind words for the people of Fort McMurray and Alberta.

Sincerely,

Hon. Danielle Larivee  
Minister of Municipal Affairs