



Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly

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The Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Room 310, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Minister Robinson,

I am writing today in support of the communities of North Westside and Central Okanagan's request for a reconsideration of a statement from Assistant Deputy Minister, Tara Faganello, in her decision of March 2nd, 2018.

In the decision, it stated "In light of the low-growth vision, relatively small population, narrow tax base, and the concerns expressed regarding sensitivity to service costs, it would not be appropriate to recommend a municipal incorporation process to the Minister."

Recently, a petition of 800+ signatures of local residents has come forward stating that they would like to better understand the cost-benefit analysis of incorporation as a rural community. Central Okanagan Regional Chair, Gail Given, has agreed to hear from the North Westside Communities Association's Self Governance Director, Callie Simpson, on this topic.

The Ministry relies on local governments to direct and give input on the feasibility of incorporation. With that in mind, I ask that you accept my support of the North Westside resident's interest to self-determine an alternate model to the current regional district model.

I am available, at your convenience, to discuss the options for a proper governance study for this community.

Respectfully,

Dan Ashton, MLA
Penticton