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ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

Office of the Minister Government House Leader MLA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre

Dan Rude, Chief Executive Officer Alberta Urban Municipalities Association 300, 8616 - 51 Avenue Edmonton AB T6E 6E6 <u>drude@auma.ca</u>

Dear Dan Rude:

Recently our government announced the creation of three caribou sub-regional task forces, fulfilling our commitment to establish a Caribou Range Task Force and furthering our intention to engage Albertans in land-use planning.

The sub-regional task forces will provide our government with recommendations that allow for the creation of sub-regional plans. The task forces will be chaired by Alberta Environment and Parks and will be capped at 16 members to enable efficient decisionmaking. Recommendations from each task force will incorporate economic, environment and social outcomes for current and future Albertans.

I am pleased to invite your organization to put forward the names of:

- One (1) individual for the West-Central Sub-regional Task Force Upper Smoky Planning Area
- One (1) individual for the Northwest Sub-regional Task Force Bistcho Lake Planning Area
- One (1) individual for the Northeast Sub-regioanl Task Force Cold Lake Planning Area

There will be two municipal representatives on each task force; one from AUMA and one from Rural Municipalities of Alberta. Your representative on each task force should be prepared for a focused effort to advance sub-regional plans in the near term. This may include periods of time over the next year where meetings or working sessions will be required more than once per week. I realize that choosing nominees will be difficult and that you may have many who are interested. Broader stakeholder participation beyond the task forces will be needed to develop workable sub-regional plans. The task forces will advise government on how to significantly involve Indigenous groups and other impacted land users in the planning process. Affected land users will have opportunities to contribute to working groups or planning committees working under the guidance of the task forces.

Finally, we will also be conducting thorough public and Indigenous consultation related to any draft sub-regional plans that flow from recommendations of the task forces, and thus there will be future opportunities for all Albertans to shape plans before they are finalized.

Attached you will find a copy of the Terms of Reference. To confirm your nominees by **August 30, 2019** or if you have questions, please contact Craig Dockrill, Director, Land and Environment Planning - North, at <u>craig.dockrill@gov.ab.ca</u>, or 780-427-8019 (toll-free in Alberta, dial 310-0000).

We look forward to working with you on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Jason Nixon Minister

Attachment

cc: Brian Makowecki Environment and Parks

> Craig Dockrill Environment and Parks