



August 25, 2020

His Worship Craig Copeland  
Mayor of the City of Cold Lake  
5513-48 Avenue  
Cold Lake, Alberta T9M 1A1

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Thank you for your letter of January 28 and email of April 7, 2020, in which you express concerns over the disagreement between Public Services and Procurement Canada and the City of Cold Lake regarding payments in lieu of taxes for the Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake.

I understand that this is a difficult time, including for the City of Cold Lake. The Government of Canada remains committed to working with municipalities and continuing to make payments in lieu of taxes that are fair to all parties and that are equitable in comparison to other property owners.

As noted in your letter, there are two issues that need to be resolved: the land valuation of Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake for the calculation of payments in lieu of taxes; and the exclusion of the Cold Lake Golf and Winter Club from the payments in lieu of taxes paid to the City of Cold Lake.

The land valuation for the period from 2013 to 2019 is currently being reviewed by the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Dispute Advisory Panel, which is an expert panel that will advise me following a hearing where both parties deliver presentations. The hearing is expected to take place sometime in 2020.

The issue regarding the exclusion of the Cold Lake Golf and Winter Club is before the Federal Court since it involves the legal interpretation of the *Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act*. The proceedings are underway and are following the schedule determined by the Court.

Therefore, while I appreciate your invitation, I would suggest that we seek to discuss this matter following the upcoming reviews by the Dispute Advisory Panel and Federal Court, as their advice and direction will be key for the resolution. In the interim, please do not hesitate to contact Madison Taipalus in my office at [Madison.taipalus@canada.ca](mailto:Madison.taipalus@canada.ca) if it would be helpful.

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Please be assured that the Government of Canada is committed to resolving this long-standing issue.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anita Anand', written in a cursive style.

The Honourable Anita Anand, PC, MP  
Minister of Public Services and Procurement

c.c.: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, PC, MP  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Mr. David Yurdiga, MP  
Fort McMurray—Cold Lake

Mr. Kevin Nagoya  
Chief Administrative Officer  
City of Cold Lake

Mr. Andrew Serba  
Strategic Initiatives Manager  
City of Cold Lake