



June 27th, 2019

County of St. Paul No. 19
5015 - 49 Avenue,
St. Paul, Alberta
T0A 3A4

Dear Reeve:

Re: Meeting Request

I hope all is well.

After discussions with many of our peers from Northern Alberta, I think it would be beneficial for us to have a meeting together to discuss what we believe the roles of our rural MLA's should be regarding the municipal issues we face.

It has been a long time since we have had a strong united rural caucus and I think that we need to act quickly and together to drive forward our issues from Infrastructure to Health care and the social needs of rural Alberta.

You can tell by the Minister's appointed that there is a strong urban representation out there and we need to remind the Premier and his Minister's that without the solid blue in rural Alberta the sitting arrangements at the legislature would be quite different.

Rural Albertan's many times have the joy of being first; first to pay, first to be cut; first to be ignored, when the big cities are at the trough.

In no way do I mean to circumvent RMA in a harmful matter however we should run in parallel with them as I believe we need to strategize together and take forward to rural caucus the direction that rural Alberta needs to take.

With that note I am proposing a meeting inviting all rural Counties and M.D.'s with a maximum of two (2) attendees per municipality to get a strategy together and get ready for a fall meeting with rural caucus. I propose two meetings; one hosted by our Southern municipalities in southern Alberta, the second hosted by Northern Alberta. Northern Alberta would comprise of any municipality north of Red Deer but including Red Deer. I would suggest a late August or early September meeting.

And someplace central depending on response. I am totally open to suggestions.

We need to help our MLA's understand what our position is and to make sure they drive it forward.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Blakeman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joe Blakeman
Reeve
Lac Ste. Anne County

JB/cs

cc: Lac Ste. Anne County Council
Mike Primeau, County Manager