

Date

Via Email - justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Urgent Funding Support for Long-Term Flood Infrastructure Funding

We are writing to urgently request your government's support in securing infrastructure funding to address long-term flood mitigation in the City of Abbotsford.

As you are aware, the 2021 flood event in the Fraser Valley region of British Columbia left devastating and lasting impacts and caused significant damage to regional and provincial infrastructure, property and businesses, and severely impacted food production in the most productive agricultural community in Canada.

The 9-day closure of the Trans-Canada Highway through the Fraser Valley, the closure of major railway lines, as well as the closure of the Sumas US/Canada border, collectively halted the movement of people, goods and services, resulting in severe disruptions to the Asia Pacific gateway supply chain. In the Fraser Valley region alone, the devastating event resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in repairs at both the municipal and provincial level, and was one of the highest private insurance claim events in Canadian history.

[FOR AGRICULTURE RELATED ASSOCIATIONS] Additionally, the financial strain on Abbotsford farmers and agricultural producers was significant, with repair costs and disrupted operations impacting their livelihoods. Members of ASSOCIATION were particularly hard hit. (ADD DETAILS ON IMPACTS TO ASSOCIATION MEMBERS)

While we recognize there have been funding announcements for some infrastructure improvements in this area, not enough has been done to prevent a future and similar disaster from reoccurring. It is crucial for government to take the steps needed ensure that our local and provincial infrastructure is upgraded to protect our businesses and our provincial economy from future impacts related to extreme climate events fueled by ongoing climate change.

Prime Minister, we support the City of Abbotsford with their \$1.6 billion Urgent Works grant applied for through the Disaster Mitigation Adoption Fund for their long-term flood mitigation plan. We ask that your government prioritize and allocate the necessary funds for flood prevention and infrastructure improvements in the City of Abbotsford so they can take the proactive steps required to safeguard the critical infrastructure, supply chain and economic prosperity of our province.

Sincerely,

XXX
Title
Association

c. The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, President of the King's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada, harjit.sajjan@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs, dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development, mary.ng@parl.gc.ca

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MLA: Hon. Bowinn Ma, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, EMCR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

MLA: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca

MLA: Hon. Pam Alexis, Minister of Agriculture & Food, Abbotsford-Mission, AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

MLA Bruce Banman, Abbotsford South, bruce.banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca

MLA Michael de Jong, K.C. Abbotsford West, mike.dejong.mla@leg.bc.ca

Mayor Ross Siemens and Council – rsiemens@abbotsford.ca