



**Resilience and Mitigation**  
Alberta Community Resilience Program  
3rd Floor, 4920-51 Street  
Red Deer, AB T4N 6K8  
Phone: 403-340-4326

April 21, 2016

Ray Romanetz, Chief Administrative Officer  
Town of Drumheller  
224 Centre Street  
Drumheller, AB T0J 0Y4

Dear Mr. Romanetz,

**Subject: Property Buyouts under the Alberta Community Resilience Program**

The purpose of this letter is to outline the process for property buy-outs as a long-term community-based mitigation solution under the Alberta Community Resilience Program. This is a follow up from the March 10, 2016 conference call between Alberta Community Resilience Program staff, the Town of Drumheller, and Stantec.

✓ The Alberta Community Resilience Program allows for the purchase of property where mitigation is inappropriate, not feasible, and when a cost-benefit analysis supports this approach as a cost-effective long-term mitigation strategy.

Property buyouts funded through the Alberta Community Resilience Program are based on the process used for the Flood Recovery Erosion Control (FREC) Program. The municipality is responsible for developing project proposals including assessments of economic and environmental feasibility and submitting them to the province. If approved, up to 90% of the funding may be provided by the province however the municipality handles the property purchase and the demolition/remediation of the site. The municipality will own and manage the property in the long term as it would for any other project funded under this program. In order to prohibit future development properties purchased are required to be designated as an Environmental Reserve by the municipality.

Other key points are:

- The Alberta Community Resilience Program provides purchase funding only; the municipality facilitates the purchase of the land as well as the cleanup, naturalization and maintenance of properties.
- Offers to purchase are made on the basis of the most recent municipal tax assessed value of the property. Property owners are under no obligation to accept the offer and no further negotiation will be undertaken if the offer is declined.

The 2015 ACRP Grant Review Committee deemed the West Rosedale Berm project ineligible under the program as it 1) Was not supported by the cost-benefit analysis, and 2) Preliminary project details included obstructive work in the floodway, contradicting current provincial policy. For these reasons the

Grant Review Committee identified that a buyout of the four properties would be the preferred long-term mitigation solution, thereby eliminating future risk in a cost effective manner.

Property buyouts are reviewed on a case-by-case basis where structural flood mitigation has been examined and has been determined not to be a feasible option. In such cases the Town of Drumheller is welcome to submit an application for property buyouts under the Alberta Community Resilience Program for review. The next ACRP submission deadline is September 30, 2016.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Lamb', with a small dot at the end.

Andy Lamb  
Director  
Alberta Community Resilience Program

CC: Darwin Durnie, Stantec  
Cathy Maniego, AEP