

August 19, 2014

VIA E-MAIL

LARP Review Panel
c/o Land Use Secretariat
9th Floor, Centre West Building
10035 – 108 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5J 3E1

Dear Sir/ Madam:

**Subject: LARP Review Panel Information Request No. 1
(Our File: #7900-10-33)**

On July 30, the LARP Review Panel issued an information request. The Government of Alberta (Crown) objects to the information request as premature, and contrary to the Rules of Practice for Conducting Reviews of Regional Plans. The Crown also objects on the basis that the information requested relates to matters outside of the Panel's jurisdiction.

Rule 28 provides that "after the Panel has received and reviewed the written submissions, the Panel may request that a party provide further information necessary to permit a full and satisfactory understanding of the matters in the review" (emphasis added).

The Panel's covering memo of July 30 indicates that the Panel has not reviewed any of the 6 applications. The information request is therefore premature and not in keeping with the first portion of Rule 28.

Without having reviewed the written submissions, the Panel is not yet in a position to find that the information requested is "necessary", within the meaning of the second portion of Rule 28, to understand the matters brought forward in the review. Similarly, the Panel is not yet able to state whether the information so requested is "relevant to the proceeding" within the meaning of Rule 29(c).

In addition, as is set out in the Crown's response submissions, concerns about LARP implementation, potential future development activities, and potential future consultation obligations are not within the Panel's jurisdiction. The vast majority of the items referenced in the information request fall within these categories.

The Panel is limited in its jurisdiction to reporting to the Minister as to whether the Applicants are directly and adversely affected by the content of specific, identified provisions of LARP. The Panel's role is not to monitor progress on achieving or maintaining objectives in regional plans or to investigate compliance with regional plans.

Therefore, the Crown objects to the information request of the Panel and will not be providing the information as requested.

Sincerely,



Witek Gierulski
Barrister and Solicitor

/gs