

November 9, 2020

Ref: 112054

His Worship Robert Vagramov Mayor of the City of Port Moody

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Dear Mayor Vagramov:

I am writing to thank you for meeting with Minister Bruce Ralston via teleconference during the week preceding the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention September 22 to 24, 2020.

Discussed during the meeting were the City's concerns regarding BC Hydro's management of Buntzen Lake Public Use Management Area, specifically its closure during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Buntzen Lake contains a hydro-electric reservoir managed by BC Hydro. BC Hydro manages this and its other public-use areas to balance operational needs and public safety. Reservoirs and waterways have hazards that are different from other lakes and rivers. As a hydroelectric utility, BC Hydro has the expertise and resources to identify, assess and control public safety hazards specific to Buntzen, and is therefore best equipped to manage the site. The Buntzen Lake public-use area was closed to follow Public Heath advice that encouraged people to stay home.

Thank you for sharing your views on this important issue with the Ministry and BC Hydro. I have asked BC Hydro to keep me informed.

Sincerely,

Fazil Mihlar Deputy Minister