



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

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Aaron Dinwoodie, President
Union of British Columbia Municipalities
60 - 10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond BC V6X 2W9

FAXED
Mar. 15/05



VANCOUVER 2010

Dear Mr. Dinwoodie:

I am writing in regard to implementation of the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR).

I appreciated the input provided by Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) at my meeting on March 2, 2005, with Mayor Frank Leonard, Past President, and Robert Hobson, Vice-Chair, Environment Committee. I have also reviewed their letter of March 8, 2005, summarizing their understanding of that meeting. Officials of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection and I also had the opportunity to hear the views of many local governments at the UBCM Environment Conference held on March 3 and 4, 2005.

Based on consideration of that input, I intend to proceed as follows. The Riparian Areas Regulation will come into effect on March 31, 2005, as scheduled. Those local governments that are ready to implement the regulation may proceed at that time. For those local governments that require extra time to make the changes necessary to comply with the *Fish Protection Act*, I will extend the implementation date by Ministerial Order to June 30, 2005. I will consider limited additional extensions beyond June 30, 2005, in exceptional circumstances.

As discussed with Mayor Frank Leonard and Robert Hobson, this approach requires that we have a clear identification of those local governments that wish to proceed with implementation effective March 31, 2005, so that the Ministerial Order will provide an extension to the rest. It was agreed at that time that UBCM was well positioned to poll its affected members to obtain this information. I would appreciate it if you could provide my Deputy Minister, Gord Macatee, with the names of the local governments that wish to proceed with implementation effective March 31, 2005, by no later than March 29, 2005.

Sincerely,

Bill Barisoff
Minister

pc: Mayor Frank Leonard, Past President, UBCM
Robert Hobson, Vice-Chair, UBCM Environment Committee