



Reference: 33903

May 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL: bccattle@cattlemen.bc.ca

Brian Thomas, President
BC Cattlemen's Association
4-10145 Dallas Dr
Kamloops, BC
V2C 6T4

Dear Brian Thomas:

I would like to thank you for your contributions to our engagement regarding the proposed amendments to the *Land Act*. I committed to engaging deeply on our government's proposal and to listening to British Columbians throughout the process.

Over the past several weeks, I have engaged with over 650 representatives of stakeholder groups from across British Columbia representing tens of thousands of British Columbians and the Ministry has received hundreds more written submissions. These engagements provided an opportunity to not only hear from individuals about the proposed *Land Act* amendments but also surfaced other challenges facing sectors such as adventure tourism, agriculture and others. Ministry staff and I are committed to continue to further engage on these topics as well.

It is clear the vast majority of people want to work together to move beyond divisive court battles and towards working together to create economic benefits for First Nations and all British Columbians.

I have also heard that we need time to demonstrate the benefits of shared decision-making before enabling such provisions in the *Land Act*. As such, this is not the right time for the amendments and the right decision is to not proceed with the proposed amendments to the *Land Act*.

Moving forward, my priority is to keep working with all our partners to demonstrate how shared decision making creates benefits for everyone. Reconciliation is about working together for stability and opportunity for all, First Nations and non-First Nation.

Page 1 of 2

It may not be easy, but it is vitally important now and for future generations. We will continue to engage with people on how we can keep improving the way we work together.

Thank you once again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Cullen". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nathan Cullen
Minister

pc: Werner Stump, Vice President
Kevin Boon, General Manager
Elaine Stovin, Assistant General Manager
Mike McConnell, Land Stewardship Committee Chair
Andrea Harwood, Land Stewardship Coordinator
Rick Mumford, Indigenous Affairs Committee
Sandy Thomas