



ALBERTA

Minister of Community Development

M.L.A. Calgary MacKay

December 15, 2005

AR3223

Mr. Ed Rondeau
Chairperson
Alberta's Lakeland Destination Marketing Organization
Box 874
St. Paul, Alberta
T0A 3A0

Dear Mr. Rondeau:

Thank you for your letter of November 29, 2005, and the update on marketing the Iron Horse Trail in northeastern Alberta. The efforts of your organization, combined with the many partners in this area, are helping to make the Iron Horse Trail a showpiece of the Trans Canada Trail, and a significant tourism attraction and economic generator for this part of the province.

Alberta Community Development through the Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation has been pleased to participate, together with Alberta Economic Development, in supporting this project over the last three years. I believe we are beginning to see some positive impacts that demonstrate to other municipalities the importance of accommodating managed recreation trail opportunities, not only for their economic benefit, but from a healthy and active living perspective as well.

I look forward to receiving a final accounting of the previous grant expenditures and would be pleased, along with Alberta Economic Development, to consider any new proposal once this is finalized. Our ability to provide additional funding will be based on an evaluation, in partnership with Alberta Economic Development, on the merits of any new proposal, its demonstrated impact on the communities involved, and our own budgetary constraints.

Thank you again for updating me on the Iron Horse Trail.

Sincerely,

Gary G. Mar, Q.C.
Minister of Community Development
M.L.A. Calgary MacKay

cc: Honourable Clint Dunford, Minister of Economic Development

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