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COLUMBIA

**JAN 12 2011**

His Worship Ken Melamed  
Mayor of the ~~Resort~~ Municipality of Whistler  
4325 Blackcomb Way  
Whistler BC V0N 1B4

Dear Mayor Melamed:

Thank you for your November 9, 2010 letter, regarding your community's participation in the Green Building Leaders project. I am pleased to respond on behalf of my colleagues, the Honourable Stephanie Cadieux, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and the Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Energy.

I would like to commend you on taking a leadership role in creating a more sustainable built environment. The willingness of individual communities to be leaders in green building is significant in helping the Province meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

You requested that the Province explore and implement changes in several areas of provincial jurisdiction related to green building. The Province is currently working in a number of areas identified in your letter.

- The LiveSmart Efficiency Incentive Program provides rebates to owners of single-family detached homes who improve energy efficiency or add renewable technologies to their homes.
- A regulation requiring single family homes to be solar hot water-ready has been developed for optional adoption by local governments.
- New BC Building Code provisions are under development that will increase the energy efficiency requirements for all new construction, including single-family dwellings, multi-unit residential and commercial buildings.
- New technical requirements are under development for existing buildings that are undergoing construction work or a change of occupancy, including energy and water efficiency requirements.
- The Province is exploring options for the energy labelling of buildings.

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In the future, the Province will continue to consider requirements for optional adoption by local governments, like the solar hot water-ready requirements, that help local governments take a leadership role in green building. I appreciate your interest in a province-wide approach to green building policies and regulations, rather than a community-by-community approach.

The Province will continue to work with local governments to ensure the built environment is developed in a way that contributes to the Province meeting its aggressive greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed by

Naomi Yamamoto  
Minister of State for Building Code Renewal

pc. The Honourable Steve Thomson  
The Honourable Stephanie Cadieux  
The Honourable John Yap  
The Honourable Murray Coell  
✓ Mr. Matt Horne, Director – BC Energy Solutions, The Pembina Institute