LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

November 19 2026

MLA Lorne Doerkson
Premier-designate
Via email

Dear Premier-designate Doerkson,

I am grateful that you took the time to visit the Sea to Sky last week after the flooding that affected the region. Our communities are still reeling from the impacts, and the past two weeks have underscored the urgent need for British Columbia to get serious about emergency readiness and response.

As you establish your new government, my request is simple: emergency readiness and response needs to be a top priority, with an all-of-government approach centred in the Premier's Office.

We cannot simply keep responding to disasters as they happen. We need to prepare our communities for what is coming with proactive investments in infrastructure to withstand extreme conditions. The Sea to Sky region is in urgent need of funding for emergency readiness. Pemberton was only a few hours of rainfall away from full-scale disaster, and another atmospheric river event could wreak havoc this winter.

That's why I'm calling for:

- Emergency funding for repairs and upgrades to Pemberton's diking system
- Infrastructure upgrades to Pemberton's wildfire base
- Replacement and re-sizing of critical culverts and bridges to mitigate flooding in the Pemberton and Squamish valleys
- Authorization of Disaster Financial Assistance to affected residents and businesses

These devastating emergency events do not respect bureaucratic boundaries or political positions on climate action. I urge your government to establish a coordinated approach that can mobilize resources, override administrative silos, and get support to people quickly when disaster strikes.

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British Columbians need a government that prioritizes emergency readiness and response. I ask that it be a central mandate of your new government.

With gratitude,



Jeremy Valeriote
MLA-elect, West Vancouver-Sea to Sky