

Subject: FW: Family Law Act - Requesting a Rush AG Draft reply

From: Lake, Terry [mailto:T.Lake@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: January-09-14 2:50 PM

To: Anton, Suzanne JAG:EX; Ives, Andrew JAG:EX; Southern, Evan JAG:EX

Cc: Morris, Kirsty L LASS:EX

Subject: Family Law Act

Dear Minister Anton

I would like to make you aware of a constituent's concern regarding the Family Law Act and what appears to be an unintended consequence of the provision that allows the designation of a standby guardian.

In this case, the constituent and his former spouse signed a court order in November of 2010 designating them as co-guardians of their twin children. The court order specifically directed the parents to discuss any significant decision involving the children. The constituent's spouse ^{s.22} but unbeknownst to my constituent, the mother appointed her mother (constituent's mother in law) as a standby guardian ^{s.22}

My constituent was not consulted about this designation and has appealed to have the designation voided. A court date has been set for October of 2014 and my constituent has paid in excess of ^{s.22} in legal bills to date.

My constituent is gravely concerned that he has to continue joint custody with a person other than his spouse, preventing him from making independent decisions regarding his family.

While he understands he must seek remedy through the legal system, he is passionate that the legislation should be examined and provision be made to ensure any designation is not in violation of court orders that are in place.

I wanted to bring this to your attention so that your ministry may consider examining section 55 to determine if there may be reason to address this issue.

Sincerely

Terry Lake, DVM
MLA Kamloops North Thompson
Minister of Health

Dear Andrew,

s.22 a constituent of Vancouver-False Creek has asked that MLA Sam Sullivan contact the s.22 Ministry to arrange an Inquiry concerning an intra-family loan that resulted in his personal loss of

Please see below: I have copied his correspondence to MLA Sullivan for your review and follow-up. If possible, MLA Sullivan would prefer to have ministry staff contact s.22 by telephone to further discuss his situation and options.

Regards,

Cris Garvey
Constituency Assistant to
MLA Sam Sullivan
Vancouver-False Creek
Ph: (604) 775-2601
Cell: 778-996-2340

Contact Info:

s.22

Pages 3 through 5 redacted for the following reasons:

s.22

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**Province of
British Columbia**
Legislative Assembly



Laurie Throness, M.L.A.
Chilliwack-Hope

January 14, 2014

Hon. Suzanne Anton, Minister of Justice and
Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness BC
Legislative Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

Further to our conversations about dyking over the last several months, you requested an explanation of the exact needs of our area, so I pursued this information for your convenience. Please find attached two very recent letters from the City of Chilliwack and the District of Kent, describing the situations in their areas, giving their highest priority items, and the amounts necessary to fund them. This will assist you and your staff with future planning.

This issue remains top of mind in the wake of flooding in Calgary and other extreme weather events across North America. We need to be prepared for any eventuality, and given our inability to remove gravel from the Fraser, there is only one other option.

Note that I have also written to the Minister of Finance with this information, in hope that Budget 2014 could provide some kind of response for the Fraser Valley.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Laurie Throness
MLA Chilliwack-Hope

cc: City of Chilliwack
District of Kent

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Thompson, Angella N JAG:EX

From: Minister, JAG JAG:EX
Sent: Friday, January 10, 2014 4:05 PM
To: Thompson, Angella N JAG:EX
Subject: FW: Public Safety in Surrey

Hi Angella,

Over to you for a rush reply direct – many thanks,

Candice

From: Ives, Andrew JAG:EX
Sent: January-09-14 3:09 PM
To: Minister, JAG JAG:EX
Subject: FW: Public Safety in Surrey

Hi Candice,

Could we please have a RUSH reply direct to this incoming with the MLAs office included on the response.

Thanks,
Andrew

From: Cadieux.MLA, Stephanie [<mailto:Stephanie.Cadieux.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: January-09-14 10:00 AM
To: Ives, Andrew JAG:EX
Subject: FW: Public Safety in Surrey

Hi Andrew,

Do you have any messaging that could assist our office is responding to enquiries such as this?
Thanks,

Regarding the crime/murder wave in Surrey. As a former police officer it is clear and has been clear since 2005 that the police in the lower mainland are understaffed and underfunded and this situation will not change. There needs to be a fundamental change in how public safety is delivered. The Police are simply over tasked and spread to thin. Efforts to change this culture of service constantly fail because the police community and the provincial government have been unable to change the status quo for various political reasons. And this is simply unacceptable.

In 2006 the Alberta government faced with the same issues as BC is facing right now made some fundamental changes to how certain law enforcement services are delivered. The biggest being the expansion of the Alberta Sheriff Department from essentially a tied down organization which provided court security only to a bona fide public safety agency. Sheriffs in Alberta currently undertake highway/traffic enforcement, criminal surveillance, drug enforcement via the community charter and protection of the premier and legislature. All duties previously ONLY conducted by police. By empowering sheriffs in Alberta they freed up significant police resources to be deployed to take care of more serious and complex criminal files. We simply don't have the money or luxury anymore to simply keep adding more duties and responsibilities to police agencies. Do we really need to spend \$160,000+ in wages and benefits for a police officer to sit on Highway 99 writing MVA tickets or sitting in a unmarked van watching a drug house? Of course not. The province has investigated the Alberta Sheriff model and was close to

sending sheriffs on the road in 2010 but politics not logic, not empirical data or pilot project analysis shelved the idea.

Until the province is pushed by cities like Surrey who are fighting this battle against drugs and organized crime essentially by themselves, nothing will change. The entire culture of how policing services are delivered must be looked at. H

But the evidence from Alberta is clear. Expanded sheriff mandates benefit everyone.

Surrey tried a similar approach a few years back when it tried to get the community safety officer program rolling however in speaking with some of my former colleagues there is talk of shutting down the program while Vancouver expanded its program to 25 members. Once again it works in England but the police in Surrey once again fear and oppress any initiative to improve public safety by alternate methods of delivery. It wasn't so long ago that the very thought of allowing by-law officers to patrol our street was scoffed at.

The police need help in BC and although we were skeptical in Alberta when the Alberta Sheriffs hit the road on their new duties, it has been a huge success and of great assistance to the police.

Of course it won't solve all of our major crime issues however it is a cost effective start. Allowing fully trained police to concentrate on major crime and delegating other less duties to other public safety agencies.

And with every single detachment in the lower mainland running under authorized strength now more than ever new methods of service delivery must be contemplated. But unless cities stand up to the BC Government and force them to abandon political motives for failing to modernize policing services this province is simply going to be overwhelmed by major crime. We will never be able to outspend organized crime but we surely can deploy resources more effectively to put up a much better fight.

See for yourself . Why is this not happening in this province?

https://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs_and_services/public_security/sheriffs/Pages/default.aspx