

From: [Standen, Jim ENV:EX](#)
To: [Polak, Mary ENV:EX](#); [Kapac de Frias, Martina E ENV:EX](#); [Shoemaker, Wes ENV:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Most recent correspondance re: Okanaga
Date: Friday, December 16, 2016 1:16:03 PM
Attachments: [SIGNEDREPLYMPFuhr.pdf](#)

Minister – FYI – this is the messaging currently being used by the federal minister in responding to SO.

From: kevin.mcnamee@pc.gc.ca [mailto:kevin.mcnamee@pc.gc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 11:14 AM
To: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Cc: Morrison, Ken ENV:EX
Subject: Most recent correspondance re: Okanaga
Hi Jim,

I am passing this letter on to you as our most recent statement on the status of the Okanagan proposal.

Please do not circulate.

Kevin



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

DEC 13 2016

Mr. Stephen Fuhr, M.P.
Kelowna—Lake Country
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Fuhr:

Thank you for your letter of September 29, 2016, sharing the highlights of the Pacific Caucus meeting regarding the proposal to establish a national park reserve in the South Okanagan and Lower Similkameen region of British Columbia.

I am pleased to hear about the level of support you received from various stakeholders and partners.

While the British Columbia government did consult in 2015 on its proposed Protected Areas Framework for British Columbia's South Okanagan, which included two areas being designated as a national park, to date, Parks Canada has not received a clear sign that the Province has changed its official position regarding the proposal. However, should circumstances change, the Agency would welcome an opportunity to once again engage stakeholders and all the parties that are directly implicated in this proposal.

Please be assured that Parks Canada is committed to expanding its national parks system and ensuring that national parks continue to protect Canada's natural heritage and provide Canadians and visitors the means to experience and connect with the country's natural legacy.

I appreciate you taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.

Ensemble: Pensez à l'environnement

