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*MLA, Leduc-Beaumont*

AR95443

OCT 24 2018

His Worship John DeMerchant  
Mayor  
Village of Bawlf  
PO Box 40  
Bawlf AB T0B 0J0

Dear Mayor DeMerchant and Council,

Thank you for your participation and cooperation with the viability screening conducted by my ministry for the Village of Bawlf.

A viability screening was conducted based on a sufficient petition received in June 2018 from village electors. The screening was used to assess the village's situation and to identify what processes or supports would effectively address issues faced by the community. The screening confirmed there are viability issues that, if left unaddressed, may threaten the viability of the village. As a result, I believe a more comprehensive review would be beneficial, and I will be undertaking a viability review for the village.

To help inform the review, the village will be asked to first conduct a study to determine the current condition of its assets and infrastructure.

The review will be guided by a viability review team. I will be asking for the village's participation on the team, along with representatives from Camrose County and from Alberta's municipal and administrative associations. The review will examine the village's governance, administration, services, and finances to determine how the community can best move forward. My ministry will follow up with your council to appoint representatives to the team when the infrastructure study is near completion – likely sometime in 2019.

Council, residents, and property owners will be invited to participate in public meetings and to provide input to the viability review team.

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The viability review will result in recommendations to the village to address identified concerns. At the end of the review, I may choose to hold a vote to determine whether citizens prefer to have the community remain as a stand-alone municipality or to have the community be governed and receive services as part of Camrose County. Regardless of the outcome, the community will continue to be serviced and supported as an important centre in the region.

During the course of the viability review, council, residents, and property owners will be notified of updates through letters from my ministry and by updates on the Municipal Affairs website at [www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/viability-reviews](http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/viability-reviews).

I have asked ministry staff to follow up with the village administration to initiate the viability review. In the coming weeks, the ministry will work with the village to obtain a mailing list of residents and property owners so I may inform them directly of the review and next steps.

If you wish to discuss the viability review further, please contact Marnie Lee, Municipal Viability Advisor, toll-free at 310-0000, then 825-468-4274.

Sincerely,



Hon. Shaye Anderson  
Minister of Municipal Affairs

cc: Tracy Ormsbee, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Bawlf  
Marnie Lee, Municipal Viability Advisor, Municipal Affairs