



Ref: 166067

October 17, 2024

Their Worship Mayor Joan Atkinson
District of Mackenzie
Email: jatkinson@rdffg.bc.ca

Dear Mayor Atkinson:

Thank you for meeting with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention on September 18, 2024. The UBCM Convention provides a great opportunity to discuss issues of significance to your community.

I am very pleased to hear about your community's ongoing commitment to economic development and about the recent developments between the Tsay Keh Dene and Provectus Biofuels. I look forward to learning more about this important project in your region.

As discussed during the conversation, the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) supports rural economic development projects that promote economic capacity building, resilience, clean economy opportunities, and infrastructure development. The 2024-25 intake is currently open with a fast-approaching application deadline of October 31, 2024. The website can be found at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/economic-development/support-organizations-community-partners/rural-economic-development/redip>.

We also discussed the BC Manufacturing Jobs Fund (BCMJF). This program helps manufacturing companies modernize, innovate, and grow by providing funding for capital projects in all regions in British Columbia (BC), particularly in communities affected by economic impacts or downturns. However, it is currently oversubscribed and is closed to applications.

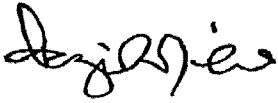
Ministry staff are available to support the application process and other economic development opportunities. The Regional Manager for your area is Dave Christie who can be reached by email at: Dave.Christie@gov.bc.ca or by telephone at: 250 649-7801. BCMJF staff can be reached by email at: manufacturingjobsfund@gov.bc.ca.

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Thank you again for meeting. I appreciate your dedication and commitment to help grow BC's economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fazil Mihlar', written in a cursive style.

Fazil Mihlar
Deputy Minister

pc: Dave Christie