



**Calgary**

Jyoti Gondek, Mayor

May 20, 2022

Honourable Minister Jason Nixon  
Minister of Environment and Parks  
Office of the Minister  
323 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Nixon,

Since the 2013 floods, the City of Calgary has undertaken significant effort to reduce Calgary's flood risk, protecting Calgarians and preventing future catastrophic damage to homes, businesses, and vital infrastructure. Flood mitigation work completed to date has reduced our city's exposure to flood damage by more than 50 per cent. This would not have been possible without your government's commitment to the safety of Calgarians and considerable investment in flood mitigation.

Once the Springbank Reservoir is complete, most of Calgary's remaining flood risk will be on the Bow River. Your exploration of options to build additional flood mitigation and drought storage capacity on the Bow River, through the *Bow River Reservoir Options Study*, is critical to long-term watershed resilience. A new reservoir will contribute greatly to ensuring a secure water supply to support long-term regional growth while managing flood and drought risks in a changing climate. The City remains supportive of the Province's exploratory process and strongly encourages your continued commitment.

Adding to the resilience provide by flood mitigation infrastructure, we continue to examine building and development in the floodplain. Updated flood hazard maps are key to this process. The new provincial flood hazards maps are expected to reflect the latest understanding of how a 1:100 flood would impact Calgary and introduce refinements to flood hazard zone classifications. The City has worked closely with your team on updating the maps; however, there have been notable delays. I would appreciate an update as to the timing for the release of the new maps. The timely release of the maps will provide clarity for future development and reduce the introduction of additional risks to flood hazard areas.

Calgary is more resilient to flooding than we were in 2013. Your government's leadership is vital to our ability to protect Calgarians and manage significant climate risks. Again, I sincerely appreciate the results our partnership has yielded so far and look forward to working with you to further Alberta's water security, flood mitigation, and climate resilience.

Sincerely,



Jyoti Gondek  
Mayor  
City of Calgary

cc: Bev Yee, Deputy Minister, Environment and Parks  
Tom Davis, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Stewardship Division  
David Ardell, Executive Director, Water Infrastructure and Operations Branch  
Carcey Hincz, Executive Director, Environmental Knowledge and Prediction Branch  
Calgary City Council  
David Duckworth, City Manager