



July 2, 2025

The Honourable Mike Moyes  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Government of Manitoba  
Room 344 Legislative Building  
450 Broadway Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Sent via email: [minecc@manitoba.ca](mailto:minecc@manitoba.ca)

Dear Minister Moyes:

Re: Request for Defined Consultation Protocols for Bordering Municipalities

On behalf of the Rural Municipality of Gimli, I am writing to express our concern regarding a recent development that has highlighted a critical gap in Manitoba's environmental review and consultation framework—specifically, the absence of a defined requirement for early and meaningful consultation with bordering municipalities.

Despite the potential for significant impacts on our residents, infrastructure, and shared ecosystems, the RM of Gimli was not engaged at any stage of the planning process. This lack of communication has undermined trust and left our municipality without a clear role in decisions that affect our environment and regional development.

**Key Issues:**

*Lack of Defined Consultation Requirements for Bordering Municipalities*

While The Environment Act provides for public consultation and acknowledges the role of municipal governments, it does not currently mandate consultation with adjacent municipalities whose communities and ecosystems may be directly affected by proposed developments. This omission has resulted in bordering municipalities being excluded from critical discussions and decisions.

*Need for Legislative and Procedural Reform*

We urge the Province to review and amend The Environment Act and related regulatory processes to explicitly require early, structured, and meaningful consultation with bordering municipalities for any development with cross-boundary impacts. This should include clear timelines, notification protocols, and mechanisms for collaborative planning and dispute resolution.

*Environmental and Community Impacts*

Recent experiences have demonstrated that emergency discharge protocols, climate vulnerability assessments, and cumulative impact evaluations are often inadequate or absent. These concerns could be addressed more effectively through early inter-municipal dialogue and shared planning.

MAYOR

Kevin Chudd

DEPUTY MAYOR

Kurt Reichert

COUNCILLOR

Richard Petrowski

COUNCILLOR

Thora Palson

COUNCILLOR

Andy Damm

INTERIM CHIEF  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Valorie Unrau

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI**

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As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of Icelandic settlement in Gimli—a legacy built on cooperation with First Nations and the Red River Métis—we are reminded of the importance of inclusive and respectful planning. We are not opposed to development, but we insist that it be done transparently, responsibly, and in partnership with all affected communities.

We respectfully request that your office initiate a review of current consultation protocols under The Environment Act and work with municipalities to establish a clear, enforceable framework for inter-municipal engagement.

This is essential to ensuring that future projects are environmentally sound, democratically legitimate, and regionally coordinated.

Sincerely,

Kevin Chudd, Mayor  
Rural Municipality of Gimli

cc: Municipal Council Members  
Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Valorie Unrau

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