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October 23, 2016

(via email: gosia.cichy-weclaw@gov.ab.ca)

Registrar of Land Agents
Attention: Gosia Cichy-Weclaw
Land Agent Licensing
9th Floor
108 Street Building
9942 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2J5

Re: Land Agents Licensing Bulletin 2016/04

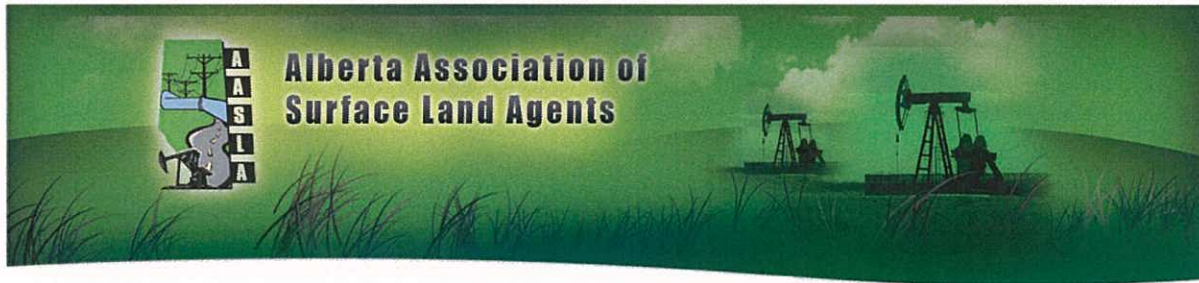
Dear Ms. Cichy-Weclaw

The Alberta Association of Surface Land Agents (AASLA) has reviewed the 2016/04 bulletin and thought it prudent to provide some perspective regarding some of the items of concern identified. AASLA is based in the Edmonton area and represents Licensed Land Agents, providing educational opportunities, networking opportunities, and a forum for discussions regarding matters that may affect our esteemed profession.

AASLA acknowledges that the Energy industry in Western Canada is under significant strain, and good number our members have felt the strain first hand, either by direct loss of employment or reduction in workloads, and all members likely all have felt a financial impact in one form or another. AASLA stands behind the notion that Licensed Land Agents working within the Province of Alberta should be held to the highest standard of professionalism, and believe that Land Agents Licensing serves an important role in the industry, both as the registrar but also as a licensing body who can help to better our profession by ensuring complaints against a Land Agent are heard, investigated and addressed.

There has been a great deal of publicity in the media over the last few months regarding the handling of 5 year rental reviews under Section 27 of the Alberta Surface Rights Act. AASLA is of the view that in some cases rental reviews notices and negotiations have been completed by individuals who may have a position within a given "Land Department" but they may not be a Licensed Land Agent. It has been reported that in some cases, Oil and Gas operators have sent notices, arbitrarily reducing annual rentals without the consent of a landowner.

AASLA would propose that amendments be made to the Land Agents Licensing Act to assist in upholding the professionalism of the energy industry. Currently the Land Agents Licensing Act states that when



acquiring an interest in land, the negotiations must be conducted by an Alberta Licensed Land Agent. AASLA would suggest that the scope identified within the act be amended to also include the following items. These additions would help to bring the Land Agents Licensing Act into perspective with the current issues facing Licensed Land Agents and the energy industry.

- Alberta Surface Rights Act, Section 27 Annual Rental Reviews.
- Damage Claims and Settlements arising from Oil and Gas projects and operations.
- Negotiations for Temporary Working Space(Interim Surface Rights)



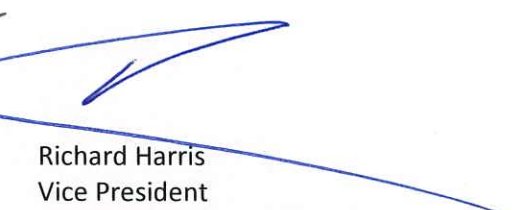
It is a fact that currently there are not a lot of Licensed Land Agents currently “acquiring an interest in land”. It has become quite apparent that the majority of work that most Licensed Land Agents are tasked with at this point in time falls within the three bullet points listed above, and consequently there are more landowners who are dealing with the same items. That being said, shouldn’t these activities fall under the guise and oversight of Land Agents Licensing to ensure activities are being completed with the highest regard for professionalism?

We are of the opinion that the requirement of an Alberta Licensed Land Agent to conduct the following activities will assist in addressing the challenges with public perception in this challenging time for the energy industry. The ethics, professionalism and integrity that are demanded of Licensed Land Agents will assist in curtailing further poor practices by a small number of energy operators.

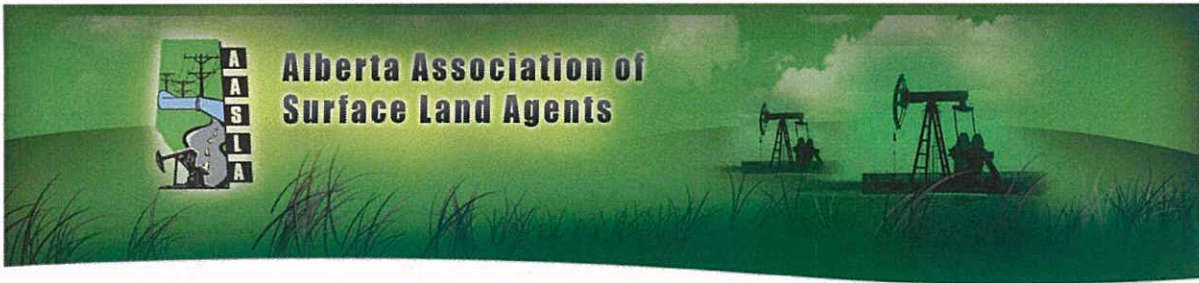
We would invite you to contact the undersigned to further discuss our concerns and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Alberta Association of Surface Land Agents

		
Greg Satre President Land Agent License #4539	Adam Creech Past President Land Agent License #4842	Richard Harris Vice President Land Agent License #4976

*See listing of copies to this transmittal below



Cc: The Honourable Ms. Rachel Notley – Premier of the Province of Alberta
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The Honourable Ms. Marg McCuaig Boyd – Minister of Energy
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