



ALBERTA
TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti



AR63618

November 25, 2014

Ms. Helen Rice
President
Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
300, 8616 - 51 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6

Dear Ms. Rice:

Thank you for your letter to my colleague Honourable Jonathan Denis, QC, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General, regarding increasing to the penalties associated with speeding on residential streets. As Minister of Transportation, I am pleased to respond.

Public safety is supported in a number of ways, including education, awareness, infrastructure design, and enforcement. Increasing the fines associated with speeding is one tool that could be used to try to change driver behaviour regarding excessive speeding.

Speeding fines currently range from \$50 to \$306 for violations between one kilometre per hour to 50 kilometres per hour over the speed limit. Anyone driving above the speed limit by more than 50 kilometres per hour is required to appear in court where an appropriate fine is determined along with a possible license suspension. The fines associated with speeding in Alberta are consistent with fines given by other Canadian jurisdictions.

In addition to fines, my department is currently focussing on education to reduce speeding by making speeding the focus of the *Traffic Safety Plan Calendar* in April. For more information on the *Traffic Safety Plan*, including the *Traffic Safety Plan Calendar*, please visit Alberta Transportation's website at www.transportation.alberta.ca/3112.htm.

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Local road authorities, such as municipalities, have several tools at their disposal for encouraging drivers to reduce their speed. These tools include designing roads with traffic calming measures, working with local enforcement to penalize drivers in areas where excessive speeding is known, educating drivers through public awareness campaigns, and reducing maximum speed limits so drivers who speed are not likely to go as fast, or if they do, they will receive a higher fine.

Alberta Transportation is also currently working with Alberta Justice and Solicitor General, Service Alberta, and other ministries on a review of the provisions of the *Traffic Safety Act*. In addition to suggestions coming from within the government, we are collecting proposals made by members of the public. Your concerns have been added to this list for review.

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Drysdale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wayne" being more prominent than the last name "Drysdale".

Wayne Drysdale
Minister

cc: Honourable Jonathan Denis, QC, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General