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MEMORANDUM

- TO: Regional Board
- FROM: Chairperson Wooldridge
- DATE: November 21, 2023
- **SUBJECT:** Emergency Support Services (ESS) Provincial Response Programs Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate

At the November 16, 2023, regular meeting of the Board, a response to a letter from Chair Wooldridge to the City of West Kelowna related to the Grouse Complex Wildfire was provided, and both letters were received for information.

At the meeting it was noted that a formal request to the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Resiliency, for an email or online platform for our communities to share their lived emergency support service experiences directly with the province, had been made. Further, it was noted that the RDCO was awaiting a response.

I am pleased to advise that Emergency Support Services (ESS) has provided an email for additional feedback from evacuees wishing to share their experience with the province:

essmodernization@gov.bc.ca

The ESS sub-committee is tasked to find ways to address the need for timely access to shortterm financial supports and accommodation, and we appreciate this opportunity for our residents in the Central Okanagan to help inform their recommendations.

I encourage you to share this information as appropriate in your communities.

Regards,

Coletie

Loyal Wooldridge Chairperson