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AR 52714

October 23, 2017

Ms. Jennifer Fuchinsky
Fatality Inquiry Coordinator
Justice and Solicitor General
9 Floor Peace Hills Trust Tower
10011 109 Street
Edmonton AB T5J 3S8

Dear Ms. Fuchinsky:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Public Fatality Inquiry report on Mr. Stephen Murray Gibson's fatality and the recommendations developed by Judge A.J. Brown. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Advanced Education can only accept the recommendation in principle. Alberta's public post-secondary institutions are board-governed entities that operate under the legislative authority of the *Post-secondary Learning Act*. The post-secondary institutions are responsible for their individual management, including academic policies and curriculum development. The curriculum offered in post-secondary institutions is intellectual property that is owned wholly by the institution.

While we are unable to mandate public post-secondary institutions to accept the recommendation outlined in Judge A.J. Brown's report, we are able to encourage the post-secondary institutions to consider the recommendation. We will notify them by sending correspondence to the senior officials at the post-secondary institutions, advising of the Public Fatality Inquiry report and the resulting recommendation. We will also advise the post-secondary institutions of the importance of incorporating farm safety training into the curriculum, where relevant.

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Advanced Education will also forward any relevant recommendations developed from the Ministry of Labour's consultations with stakeholders on farm and ranch safety to post-secondary institutions. It is our understanding that there are a number of recommendations pertaining to learning and training, and it is our intention to share these with the post-secondary institutions.

We will also ensure that relevant post-secondary institutions are kept up to date on future changes in occupational health and safety practices as they pertain to agriculture, and are included in any resulting consultations.

Advanced Education is committed to working with the post-secondary institutions and relevant partners to ensure that Albertans have the education and the training they require to be successful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rod Skura', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rod Skura
Deputy Minister