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March 22, 2016

Mr. Craig Curtis
City Manager
City of Red Deer
Box 5008
Red Deer, AB T4N 3T4

Dear Mr. Curtis:

I would like to provide you with the outcome of the resolution on pollinator protection submitted by the city in 2014, which called for research and regulations to control the use of neonicotinoids (neonics).

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) holds the authority to evaluate the effects of all pesticides registered for use in Canada, including the effects of pesticides on bees and other pollinators. The PMRA is working with the US Environmental Protection Agency to analyze information from over 300 peer reviewed scientific articles and to conduct technical consultations on the effects of different formulas of neonics and varying application techniques. Findings are being used to restrict products shown to be harmful and to provide further guidance to farmers and the pesticide industry on best practices for risk reduction.

Both the province and federal government are also engaged in a roundtable overseeing broader research on the wide range of factors that may be contributing to declining bee populations.

In addition, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is working with the honey-producing industry and the crop production sector to mitigate potential concerns related to seed treatment compounds and honey bee health and productivity.

Thank you for raising this important issue through our resolution process.

Yours truly,

Sue Bohaichuk, CPA, CMA; ICD.D

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AUMA CEO