



June 29, 2022

Mayor Brendan Kelly  
Town of Black Diamond  
Box 10  
Black Diamond, Alberta T0L 0H0

**RE: Black Diamond Housing Needs Assessment**

Dear Members of Council;

In partnership with the Town of Black Diamond, Westwinds Communities and Habitat for Humanity, please find enclosed the Black Diamond Housing Needs Assessment.

The Needs Assessment outlines the need for an additional 279 housing units comprised of 56 affordable rental units, 56 market rental units and 167 market ownership units in addition 103 continuing care units are needed in the community by 2031. The report also identifies community challenges for housing and encourages local agencies, government, developers, and non-profits to work collaboratively to enhance services to meet our community needs.

Westwinds Communities will be developing long term organizational strategic priorities arising from the report over the next few months and in alignment with Ministry of Seniors and Housing *Stronger Foundation 10 Year Plan*, which requests Housing Management Bodies like Westwinds to develop local affordable housing needs assessments.

A key initiative arising from the report, is urging the community of Diamond Valley to request from the Ministry of Seniors and Housing, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and MLA, RJ Sigurdson to transfer the property title of 3.61 acres of vacant property adjacent Glen Mead Park III, 709 Government Road, Black Diamond and High Country Lodge, 707 Government Road, Black Diamond to Westwinds Communities to develop the site for housing needs identified in the report. The need for affordable housing options in the community is an integral part of two Towns amalgamation and is key to future growth of the new community. We hope the Diamond Valley community will assist Westwinds Communities in pursuing this endeavor and to ensure continued growth of local affordable housing.

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It is hoped the Town supports the publication of the report to encourage future economic and community development and is used as a long term planning tool.

Westwinds representatives and the study's consultant Resilience Planning will be presenting the report to council on July 20, 2022, via a combination of in person and online. We hope to provide an opportunity for dialogue on the study and further discuss the land transfer request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ted Mills', is positioned above the printed name.

Ted Mills  
Chairperson

/Encl.