

Deputy Minister
18th Floor, Commerce Place
10155 – 102 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4L4
Canada
Telephone 780-427-4826
Fax 780-422-9561

May 18, 2022

Aaron Roth
Committee Clerk, Research and Committee Services
Legislative Assembly of Alberta
3rd Floor, Federal Building
9718-107 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 1E7
email: aaron.roth@assembly.ab.ca

Dear Mr. Roth,

As requested by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts at the April 19, 2022 meeting, my department has prepared written responses to two questions posed, namely:

- How many times did the department brief the Premier while he was away on holidays last summer during the delta wave?
- Was any other minister assigned to take the Minister of Municipal Affairs' portfolio during November 2020 - January 2021 if necessary?

Please contact my office if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,


Brandy Cox
Deputy Minister

Attachment

cc: Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs

Standing Committee on Public Accounts- April 19, 2022 8 AM to 10 AM

Questions for Written Response

Question 1- Briefings to the Premier while Premier on holidays last summer

PA-705

Mr. Schmidt, MLA-Edmonton-Gold Bar

“...How many times did the department brief the Premier while he was away on holidays last summer during the delta wave?...”

PA-706

Mr. Schmidt, MLA-Edmonton-Gold Bar

“...That wasn’t the question, Madam Chair. The question was whether or not the deputy minister would be willing to research that information and provide it to the committee at a later date.”

Ms Cox, Deputy Minister

“Yes.”

Department Written Response:

- During the period in question, Alberta Health led COVID-19 pandemic briefings.
- As such, the department of Municipal Affairs did not brief, or seek to brief, the Premier.

Question 2- Any Minister acting for Minister of Municipal Affairs during November 2020 - January 2021

PA-711

Mr. Loewen, MLA Central Peace-North

“During that time period was there any other minister assigned to take the minister’s portfolio if necessary?”

Ms Cox, Deputy Minister

“Not that I’m aware of.”

Mr. Loewen, MLA Central Peace-North

“Okay. Do you know who would be aware of that?”

Ms Cox, Deputy Minister

“It’s something that we can look into if I may.”

Mr. Loewen, MLA Central Peace-North

“Okay. Could you undertake that?”

Ms Cox, Deputy Minister

“Yes.”

Department Written Response:

- During the period in question, Order in Council 252/ 2020 was in effect. The following Ministers were designated to be the Acting Minister of Municipal Affairs:
 - Minister of Children's Services (first acting); Minister of Transportation (second acting); Minister of Infrastructure (third acting); Minister of Seniors and Housing (fourth acting) and Minister of Justice and Solicitor General (fifth acting).