



December 7, 2007

File No. 146-45-291

Gloria Wills, Chair  
Forestry CIO Forum  
3rd Floor - 722 Johnson Street  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8W 1N1

Dear Gloria Wills:

**Re: New directions with TRIM and GeoBaseBC proposal**

Further to our evolving discussions at the Forestry CIO Forum over the past year, I am pleased to announce that we are embarking on new directions with our TRIM base mapping program.

As such, we are looking to forge new ways of doing business with the forest and other industries, including:

- The abandonment of TRIM Data Exchange Agreements (DEAs)
- Free access to TRIM data for those legislated to provide disturbances back to government
- Reduction of orthophoto procurement fees to \$50 per orthophoto
- Greater access to GeoBC products and services using Web Map Services and other tools, including free access to orthophotos and other data through Google Earth
- Streamlining of base map updates through greater collaboration with land based operators and the utilization of common tools (e.g. Electronic Submission Framework for forest industry updates)

GeoBC is the emerging new organization that our ADM, Kevin Jardine, is forming to better enable the utility of geographic data for all citizens. Underpinning GeoBC will be GeoBase BC, which will redefine the base mapping components as currently served through TRIM and related programs.

Already, you will have seen the solid work done under the North-East B.C. data update and maintenance pilot project, whereby stakeholders from forestry, oil and gas and government have openly reviewed the requirements for effective base mapping. I am pleased to also note that Canfor has stepped forward to pilot the update and maintenance strategy with roads data. The question of effective management of resource roads is also paramount to the proposed Resource Roads Act and is critical for land based management and operations.

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Ministry of  
Agriculture and Lands

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In order to move forward on the new agenda, we are not only revising our strategy on how we keep the base up to date but are also recognizing that funding is needed to keep priority components of the base up to date. We are looking to the forests and oil and gas sectors for that key support. I am looking to you to work with us collaboratively as we seek to establish a viable base mapping update and maintenance strategy that enjoins the above directions.

As you know, to keep the common base up to date and relevant requires multi-sectoral cooperation. Our plan is in-keeping with that approach and sees the success with your sector as a critical first step in the unveiling of the new directions with GeoBaseBC, under GeoBC.

ADM Kevin Jardine and I look forward to your engagement as we chart the new course with TRIM and base mapping. We look forward to your feedback and support in clarifying the plans and in obtaining the requisite funding.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amin Kassam', written in a cursive style.

Amin Kassam, Director  
Base Mapping and Geomatic Services  
Integrated Land Management Bureau

Cc: Kevin Jardine, ADM, GeoBC, Integrated Land Management Bureau  
Evert Kenk, Executive Director, Chief Resource Information Office

