

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

July 17, 2008

The Editor  
Victoria Times-Colonist

I wish to clarify some of the remarks attributed to me in your coverage today of the Auditor General's report on private land deletions from TFL 6, 19, 25.

I recognize and appreciate the independence of the Auditor General's office. There are some valid points he makes in his report that the ministry will address, for example, the need for more extensive public consultation.

My objections are to the inclusion of information outside the scope of his review that casts aspersions on the integrity of ministry staff, such as the reference to the possibility of insider trading. A call to the BC Securities Commission has confirmed that they are not pursuing an investigation.

Sincerely,  
Pat Bell  
Minister of Forests and Range