



MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
Tweed Hungerford Agricultural Building  
617 Louisa St., Tweed, ON

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Pages

**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

Land Acknowledgement

The Municipality of Tweed recognizes that our work takes place on traditional Indigenous territories including the Huron-Wendat, Anishnaabe, and the Haudenosaunee peoples.

We recognize and respect the history, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Metis, Inuit and all Indigenous peoples whose presence continues to enrich our communities.

**2. Purpose of Special Meeting**

The purpose of the Special Meeting is to provide an informal Town Hall-type setting for Council to receive information and concerns from individuals impacted by the July 2022 tornado event.

**3. Approval of Special Meeting Agenda**

**4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

**5. Delegations**

In accordance with Procedural By-law No. 2020-49 all Delegations will be limited to 10 minutes in order to provide the opportunity for all who wish to speak at the Meeting.

Please provide your name and civic address for the record before providing your comments.

If you have prepared a written submission please provide a copy to the Clerk.

**6. Adjournment**

# Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the July 2022 Tornado

## 1. Why is tornado damage to my home not an automatic reassessment of property value?

Property values are calculated and set by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). The Municipality has no control over the values set by MPAC. If a resident feels a reassessment is required, they will need to complete an application which can be submitted to the Municipality. The Municipality then forwards an application from the property owner to MPAC for review of the information. MPAC then provides the Municipality with the information it needs to enable Municipal Council to determine whether a tax refund, cancellation, reduction, or increase is warranted in property tax adjustment appeals. If required, MPAC will conduct an inspection of the property. Any further questions regarding reassessment should be directed to MPAC. 1-866-296-6722, TTY 1-877-889-6722

## 2. What is a Municipal State of Emergency?

When an emergency or disaster (either natural or manmade) cause significant disruptions to normal operations and channels of communication, significant strain is placed on available resources for response and recovery. The strain on resources is only considered a potential State of Emergency if there is a significant danger or risk for substantial damage to property or harm to persons within the Municipality due to forces of nature, disease, accident or other situations.

## 3. What is required to declare a State of Emergency?

Each Municipality must develop and implement an emergency management program to protect the lives and property of its citizens. All levels of local government (both single-tier and two-tier) must complete the mandatory annual program required by the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. E.9*, as amended.

The Head of Council of a municipality may declare that an emergency exists in the Municipality or in any part thereof and may take such action and make such orders as he or she considers necessary and are not contrary to law to implement the emergency plan and to protect property and the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the emergency area.

## 4. What is required to cancel a State of Emergency?

Once all conditions that existed that created the need for the declaration of a State of Emergency have been mitigated, eliminated, or addressed, then the declaration is required to be cancelled. The Head of Council or the Council of a Municipality may at any time declare that an emergency has terminated. The Premier of Ontario may at any time declare that an emergency has terminated.

## 5. Does cancelling a State of Emergency affect property owners seeking public funds for damage?

Municipal States of Emergencies declarations have no direct link to funding supports from Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) or other government support programs. Once a State of Emergency has been declared, the DRAO can be activated by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Even if the State of Emergency is cancelled before funding has been guaranteed, the conditions for the DRAO eligibility have already been met.

## 6. Why did the Municipality end the State of Emergency on August 18th?

The Municipality no longer met the definition of being in an emergency. All roads were opened, no further public infrastructure was required. Non-Governmental Organizations supporting the clean up had left. The immediate tornado damage and hazards that were the reason for a state of emergency (not the forest fire loads or flooding concerns) had been eliminated or mitigated adequately, no imminent threat to life remained, no further reception centre required, and most residents had power provided back to their properties.

## 7. How does the DRAO Program work?

The Province must make an “activation” in a disaster area to “open up” the program to affected residents. This has not happened to this date.

Please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/apply-disaster-recovery-assistance> for full details about:

- Program overview
- Eligibility and coverage
- Activation areas
- How to apply
- Caps for household items

## 8. Where to get municipal information during an Emergency?

Media is always a place to start. Before the traditional media streams receive information from the Municipality, we have already posted information to residents online through our local website and social media channels. The Municipality will post status updates on our website [www.tweed.ca](http://www.tweed.ca) and/or our Municipality of Tweed Facebook page. These online channels are the quickest way to get the most up to date information from the Municipality in the event of an emergency. Regular news releases are also provided to all local media outlets and information is then shared on radio channels and other news sources.

## 9. Are the trees along the riverbed and in the river a cause for concern?

Quinte Conservation (QCA) has reviewed the damage along the waterway using drone footage and noted to Council that a large number of downed trees are still rooted to the riverbank. While there is a concern for the possibility of infrastructure damage and flooding there is no imminent threat as outlined by QCA review.

Quinte Conservation is prepping a plan for MPP Ric Bresee to use to help push for support of our region at the Provincial level. At the same time, the Municipality is planning to meet with Provincial Ministers and staff next month in Toronto at the ROMA Conference to seek support.

## 10. Where can I receive immediate financial support?

Ontario Works office in Madoc (in some situations) may be able to provide financial support to some residents who qualify. Please reach out to their office at 613-473-5258

## 11. I have insurance related questions, who can help?

For those that have been affected that require assistance/have questions about insurance, they can contact their insurance representative or IBC's (Insurance Bureau of Canada) Consumer Information Centre at 1-844-227-5422 or via email [ConsumerCentre@ibc.ca](mailto:ConsumerCentre@ibc.ca)

## 12. Who can help with reforestation?

Forests Ontario may be able to help with reforestation efforts in areas that are prepped for planting. You can contact them toll free at 1-877-646-1193.

**13. Why didn't the Municipality clean up my property from the tornado when the roads crews were already out at the location clearing the road?**

The Municipality is using taxpayers funds to provide public and civic services. The Municipality does not have the authority, nor the budget or resources, to clean up private property at the full tax base's expense. Our insurance coverage also does not cover work completed on private property.

Personal property is the responsibility of the individual property owner. However, those seeking help should reach out to Forests Ontario for reforestation efforts and a list of local contractors equipped to help with brush and log removal can be provided from the Municipal office.

**14. When there are hundreds of acres of forests flattened that are creating an increased fire load risk for forest fires, why doesn't the Municipality act under the Emergency Management Plan to prevent this?**

As outlined in the *Forest Fires Prevention Act*, private property is the responsibility of the property owner to reduce or eliminate forest fire risks. Section 18 of the *Act* details out Provincial Officers can issue orders to reduce fire dangers and these would be done at the expense of the landowner. We are aware of the substantial financial burden this would cause to the local residents as well as the limited resources and expertise to locally managed these forests.

The Municipality is currently working at renegotiating the contract with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to expand their forest fire fighting coverage. Currently the agreement provides for airtanker coverage by the Province for forests north of Highway 7. The Municipality is working on negotiating the contract to cover all the downed forest areas from the tornado for forest fire coverage.

We rely on the MNRF fire coverage for forest fires as our volunteer fire department does not have the expertise, resources, equipment or insurance to tackle large forest fires. Especially in forests of downed trees which make traversing difficult.

# **Municipality of Tweed**

## **Tornado Response Timeline**

### **Sunday, July 24, 2022**

- Severe Thunderstorm alert issued for area during the day
- At or around 8:30 pm, alert upgraded to Tornado warning
- Shortly after 8:30 pm storm/tornado struck (map of path attached – Att.#1)
- First call from 911 dispatch at 8:54 pm
- Volunteer firefighters were enroute at 20:59 pm
- Others called out: Hydro One, OPP, Hastings County Paramedics, Tweed Roads Department – all working all night in dark

### **Monday, July 25, 2022**

- As sun began to rise, Manager of Public Works identified the extent of damage and called Mayor Albert at around 6:00 am and followed by calling the CAO/Treasurer at 6:30 am
- CAO/Treasurer contacted CEMC at 6:33 am and Emergency Working Control Group was called together to meet at 9:00 am
- During this time, the Public Works Manager took the Mayor on a quick tour to see the extent of damage that was accessible (as most roads could not be traversed)
- Group met at 9:00 am until 10:24 am
- Contacted Library CEO to arrange for Emergency Reception Area to be hosted there to provide residents a location to go, get water, food and register in case anyone searching for them – 9:55 am and confirmed 10:07 am
- Reached out to Hastings County Emergency Planning Coordinator who was on the way down with other County Community & Human Services department support at 10:03 am
- Declared State of Emergency during meeting
- Issued Social Media Post at 10:24 am
- Public Works and Hydro continued clearing roads and freeing people trapped down Varty Road, Potter Settlement Road, Black River Road North, French Settlement Road North, Ekblad Road, and Bridgewater Road and in the other areas
- Fire Department started door to door assessment for those trapped or in need
- Note OPP completed fly over with helicopter with video of damaged areas
- Second meeting of Emergency Working Control Group at 3:00 pm
- All roads opened for local traffic except Ekblad Road and Potter Settlement Road
- Note reception centre open until 8:00 pm that night and will be held at Library again on Tuesday from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm – staffed by Hastings County Emergency Planning and Community & Human Services departments
- Meeting ended at 3:58 pm
- Departments and staff continued to work providing emergency response
- Fire department continued with door-to-door visits
- All roads opened by 5:00 pm for local traffic access only
- Emergency Reception Centre closed 8:00 pm

# **Municipality of Tweed**

## **Tornado Response Timeline**

### **Tuesday, July 26, 2022**

- Emergency Reception Centre opened at 8:30 am at library
- Emergency Working Control Group Meeting 9:02 am
- Power noted as returning to some areas but still had 800 customers out across their detachment (which includes Tweed)
- Noted a Non-Government Organization (NGO) reached out to offer free clean-up for those under insured or lacking insurance
- Meeting ended at 9:45 am
- Coordinated with Community Care, Lions, and Christian Aid Ministries for supporting local residents
- Public Works continued expanding road access to wider widths
- Fire completed several more wellness checks
- Received information from Insurance Bureau of Canada
- Installed new tap on outside of Arena
- Phone conversation with Province at 1:00 pm
- Emergency Working Control Group Meeting at 3:08 pm
- Adjourned at 4:09 pm
- Emergency Management Ontario reached out with list of potential NGOs 3:41 pm
- Hastings County Emergency Planning Coordinator contacted Province on our behalf with update 7:32 pm
- Emergency Reception Centre closed at 8:00 pm

### **Wednesday, July 27, 2022**

- Emergency Reception Centre opened at 8:30 am at Arena – offering water, food, showers, gas cards, etc.) – again manned by County staff
- Ministry responded to information provided night before that it was received 10:43 am
- Public Works continued pushing back brush off roads
- Power getting restored to more homes by Hydro One
- Continued coordination of volunteer groups (NGOs – Community Care, Christian Aid Ministries, Lions)
- Emergency Working Control Group met 3:00 pm
- MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman spoke of her tour of damage
- Warden Rick Phillips spoke of his tour of damage
- Reported that Reception Centre saw total of 46 individuals/households come through in 3 days
- Meeting ended at 3:43 pm
- Emergency Reception Centre closed at 8:00 pm

### **Thursday, July 28, 2022**

- Emergency Reception Centre opened at 8:30 am at Arena manned by Municipal staff

## **Municipality of Tweed Tornado Response Timeline**

- Continued coordination of NGO's
- Continued clearing of final brush off travelled portion of roads
- Continued restoration of hydro
- Province reached out for phone call 9:58 am
- Call completed 12:26 pm – confirmed deployment of Provincial Disaster Assessment Team for August 2, 2022
- Emergency Working Control Group met 3:04 pm
- Arranged for Byers to accept brush but at price to residents
- Noted all power available at time of meeting
- Confirmation of new NGO – Team Rubicon Canada – to be onsite next week to assess and help private land owners
- Meeting ended at 4:02 pm
- Emergency Reception Centre closed at 8:00 pm

### **Friday, July 29, 2022**

- Emergency Reception Centre opened at 8:30 am at Arena manned by Municipal staff
- Emergency Reception Centre closed at 12:00 noon

### **Tuesday, August 2, 2022**

- Tour with MMAH (2 representatives and 1 insurance adjuster appointed by Province), Emergency Management Ontario representative, Emergency Working Control Group, MPP Ric Bresee, Hastings County Emergency Planning Coordinator, and 2 representatives from Team Rubicon Canada – tour started at 9:30 am
- Tour ended at about 1:40 pm
- Sent map of tornado route and damaged areas to Province's insurance adjuster to ensure they had all information 2:32 pm
- Emergency Working Control Group Meeting 2:38 pm
- Meeting ended 3:27 pm
- Team Rubicon Canada began assessments on properties for establishing work orders sorted by priority levels
- Team Rubicon Canada took over management of NGO's (Mennonite Disaster Services and Christian Aid Ministries)

### **Monday, August 8, 2022**

- Team Rubicon Canada done and fully cleared out after Emergency Meeting
  - o Noted they issued total of 55 work orders
  - o Managed 20,500 cubic yards (estimate) of brush
- Emergency Working Control Group Meeting 3:00 pm
- Identified property in Actinolite owned by the Municipality that had easy access to water source and limited structures near – agreed to arrange to make into new

## **Municipality of Tweed Tornado Response Timeline**

brush dumping site for tornado victims and controlled burns to be considered when safe to do so

- Meeting ended 3:50 pm

### **Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

- Opened site at end of Quarry St in Actinolite for brush from tornado victims

### **Tuesday, August 16, 2022**

- Received final report from Team Rubicon Canada of work orders issued and brush managed

### **Thursday, August 18, 2022**

- Emergency Working Control Group Meeting 3:03 pm
- Reviewed State of Emergency requirements and compared to situation
  - o All roads opened
  - o Hydro restored
  - o No NGOs remain in area
  - o Do not meet any requirements for keeping State of Emergency for Tornado
- Cancelled State of Emergency at 3:35 pm
- Meeting ended at 4:05 pm

### **Tuesday, August 23, 2022**

- Reached out to City of Ottawa Public Works department for how they are addressing disaster recovery issues this year

### **Monday, August 29, 2022**

- Mayor issued letters to Hon. Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry requesting aide for forest and river clean up (see Att.#2)
- Mayor issued letter to Quinte Conservation Authority (see Att.#3)

### **Thursday, September 8, 2022**

- Received response from Quinte Conservation Authority – supporting our request for aide from MNRF (see Att.#4)

### **Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

- Received response from MNRF that they received a letter and would receive a more detailed response later (see Att.#5)

### **Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

- Sent email requesting response from Province as to whether the Disaster Relief Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) program would be open – 2:00 pm

## **Municipality of Tweed Tornado Response Timeline**

- Responded with information about the Municipal infrastructure program 4:38 pm

### **Thursday, September 29, 2022**

- Responded back to the province that the MDRAP was not what we were asking about but whether the DRAO was going to be opened 8:13 am
- Province responded only with how program works 12:35 pm

### **Thursday, October 6, 2022**

- Hastings County received same response back from MNRF that Municipality did on September 27, 2022, that letter was received and response would come in more detail later (see Att.#6)

### **Friday, October 21, 2022**

- Received news that MPP Ric Bresee contacted Quinte Conservation Authority and wants them, plus our CEMC and Public Works Manager to meet at the river and review the potential flooding concerns and provide a plan to the Province

### **Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

- Quinte Conservation Authority, CEMC, and Manager of Public Works met to assess the tornado debris in the river and were informed that the Province indicated that Quinte Conservation Authority may receive financial assistance for removal of trees from river (though this has not yet been confirmed)
- Received detailed response from MNRF in relation to letter previously sent (see Att.#7)

### **Sunday, October 30, 2022**

- Resident received response from MMAH in relation to DRAO (see Att.#8)

### **Monday, November 14, 2022**

- Sent letter to MMAH, MNRF, MPP Ric Bresee, and Premier Doug Ford for lack of response and concern for the fire load issues, increased flooding concerns due to brush and lack of response for DRAO (see Att.#9)

### **Tuesday, November 22, 2022**

- Mayor Don DeGenova announced Special Council Meeting (Open House) to be hosted on December 13, 2022 for tornado victims to share stories, experiences, photos and videos for the Municipality's upcoming delegations at ROMA

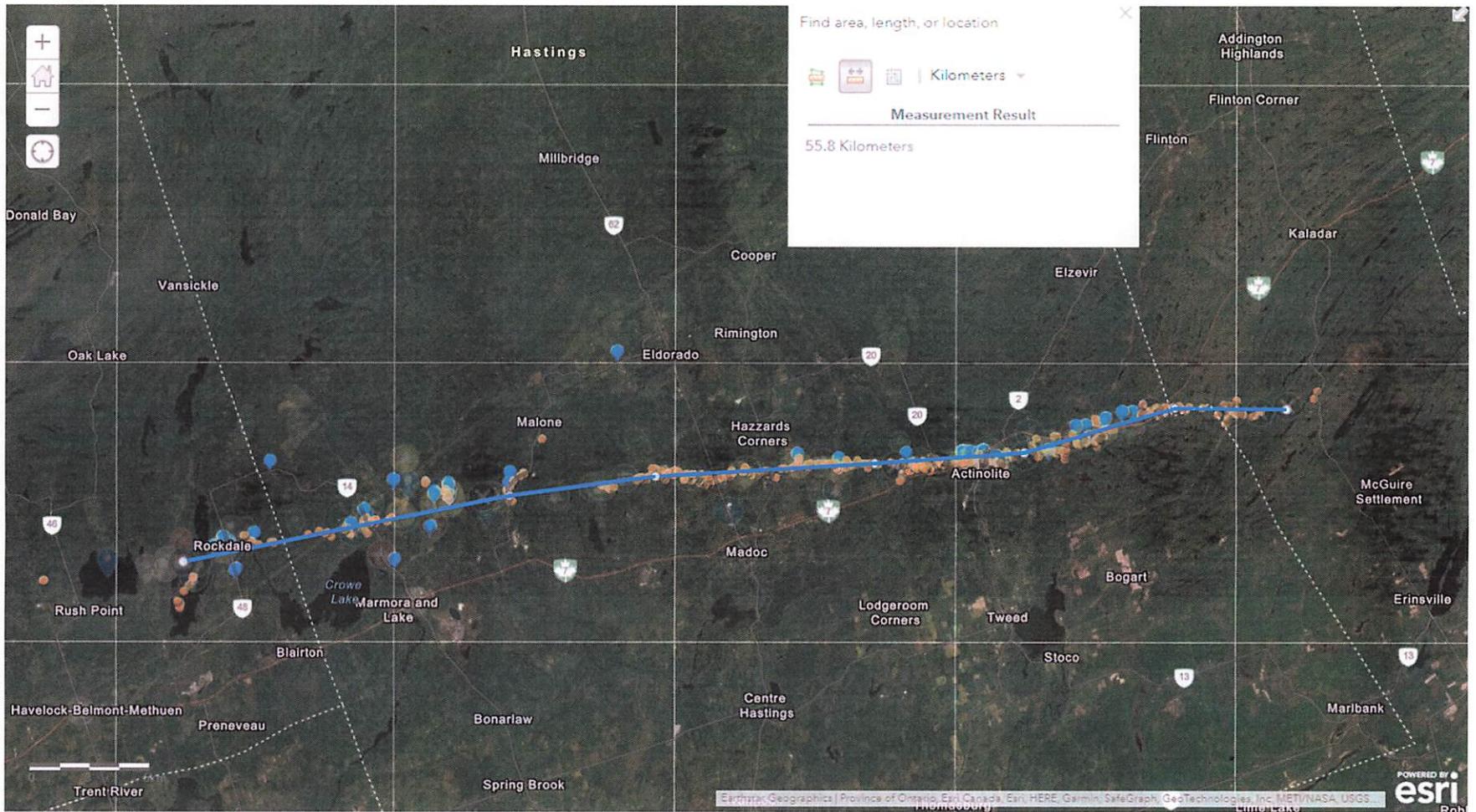
## **Municipality of Tweed Tornado Response Timeline**

### **Friday, December 2, 2022**

- Mailed invitation letters to 273 property owners in the tornado path as well as Quinte Conservation Authority, MPP Ric Bresee, Hastings County, and MPAC

### **Tuesday, December 6, 2022**

- MPP Ric Bresee posted social media post about the DRAO and tornado impacted victims (see Att.#10)



AH #1

Att.#2

The Corporation of the  
**MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED**

255 Metcalf St., Postal Bag 729  
Tweed, ON K0K 3J0  
Tel.: (613) 478-2535  
Fax: (613) 478-6457



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Website: [www.tweed.ca](http://www.tweed.ca)  
[facebook.com/tweedontario](https://www.facebook.com/tweedontario)

August 29, 2022

Hon. Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley St W  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1W3

Re: Tornado Damage & Cleanup

Dear Minister Smith,

We are reaching out to you today in relation to the devastation experienced from the EF2 tornado from July 24, 2022. The tornado was calculated by the Northern Tornadoes Project team to be 55.8 km in length with the maximum path width of 1,420 metres. Of this path, approximately 15 km was across the Municipality of Tweed along the Highway 7 corridor.

The tornado has flattened several acres of forested areas. Many of these trees are laying as a "blanket" across the countryside substantially increasing the fire load of these forests. If the forests are left in this state, an uncontrollable wildfire is a strong possibility.

In addition, several of the trees that were along waterways have been blown into the streams, mainly the Skootamatta River within the Municipality of Tweed. The brush debris and trees are starting to create natural dams. The water flows along the Skootamatta River regularly swell beyond the riverbanks during the spring freshet. Due to this cyclical and common occurrence, zoning and building restrictions were established to ensure adequate setback distances from these affected areas so that homes are not affected. However, with the natural dams that are being created by the additional brush in the rivers, the swell and extent of the spring freshet will extend further than it typically would, putting many roadways, homes, residents and livestock at risk.

Management of the forests and waterways cleanup from the tornado is more than the private residents and the local municipality can address on our own. Our resources, skills, and equipment access are limited. The Municipality of Tweed is reaching out to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and yourself as the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry for aide. Management of the extreme fire load concerns with the flattened forests and the spring freshet flooding expectations is in need of Ministry aide.

The Municipality of Tweed is requesting the Ministry to provide aide in the management of the downed forests from the path of the tornado before wildfires further devastate the countryside and potential flooding risks human life.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jo-Anne Albert

Att.#3

The Corporation of the  
**MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED**

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[facebook.com/tweedontario](https://www.facebook.com/tweedontario)

August 29, 2022

Brad McNevin  
CAO, Quinte Conservation Authority  
2061 Old Hwy 2  
Belleville, ON  
K8N 4Z2

Dear Brad McNevin,

We are reaching out to you today in relation to the devastation experienced from the EF2 tornado from July 24, 2022. The tornado was calculated by the Northern Tornadoes Project team to be 55.8 km in length with the maximum path width of 1,420 metres. Of this path, approximately 15 km was across the Municipality of Tweed along the Highway 7 corridor.

The Municipality of Tweed has issued the attached letter to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry to seek aide in management of the downed forests and waterways to reduce the risks of wildfires and extreme flooding. We are seeking Quinte Conservation's support in this request of the Ministry.

In addition, several of the trees that were along waterways have been blown into the streams, mainly the Skootamatta River. The brush debris and trees are starting to create natural dams. The water flows, as you are well aware, along the Skootamatta River regularly swell beyond the riverbanks during the spring freshet. However, with the natural dams that have been created by the tornado, the swell and extent of the spring freshet will extend further than it typically would, putting many roadways, homes, residents and livestock at risk.

As mentioned at your presentation to Council on August 23, 2022 and per the Conservation Authority Act, flooding management programs and services are part of the mandatory services, as set out under Section 21.2. The Municipality of Tweed is requesting to be informed as to what Quinte Conservation Authority is planning to do to help address the flooding concerns due to the additional debris in the waterways, specifically along the Skootamatta River.

Actions need to be taken now to reduce the spring freshet concerns while access to the waterways is safer and at low levels.

Your support in the effort to allay flooding concerns is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jo-Anne Albert

AH #4



# Quinte CONSERVATION

clean world. safe homes. healthy life.

613-968-3434 Belleville

613-354-3312 Napanee

RR2, 2061 Old Hwy 2,  
Belleville, ON. K8N 4Z2

RECEIVED

SEP 12 2022

September 8, 2022

MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED

REC.....

Municipality of Tweed  
255 Metcalf Street,  
P.O. Bag 729  
Tweed, Ontario  
K0K 3J0

RE: Tornado Damage and Clean-up

Dear Mayor Albert,

Thank you for your letter dated August 29, 2022. Quinte Conservation fully supports your action to seek aid from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to assist in managing the downed forests. As you have outlined, the areas of impact have spanned a great distance within the Municipality of Tweed, which has caused the significant blow down of forests and will certainly increase the risk of flooding and forest fires.

Quinte Conservation has several properties that were directly impacted by this EF2 Tornado. Specifically, Price Conservation Area and the Potters Settlement were impacted the worst. Due to the significant damage, we have contracted a company to assist our already limited staff with cleanup of the areas. This unexpected expense will have an impact on our current budget and future revenue projections for our harvested forests.

As you are aware, the responsibilities for tree cleanup depends on where those trees have landed. Property owners are responsible for their own lands. This includes private landowners, Municipalities (at road crossings and public areas), and dam owners. I have recently received a letter from a group of concerned citizens from the Skootamatta River area and they were hoping to access funds through the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Fund. Unfortunately, this provincially funded program is only available for Capital Projects and Studies on existing Water Control Structures. Therefore, based on our information, would not cover tree cleanup and removal. It is our hope that Minister Smith will be able to secure provincial funding to assist with this enormous effort.

As part of our mandated role for flood forecasting and monitoring, our staff can assist the Municipality of Tweed in identifying areas of high risk.

**Our immediate focus will be ensuring that debris does not build up on any of Quinte Conservation owned/operated water control structures and our flood forecasting staff will diligently monitor, similar to our ice monitoring that occurs during the spring freshet, for any concerns as to mitigate the potential for fallen timber to create barriers or debris jams in the river.**

**Quinte Conservation recognizes the importance and seriousness of the tree debris in the rivers because of this tornado. We want to do everything in our ability to help identify high risk areas and work with the Municipality to resolve and/or reduce this risk.**

Regards,



**Brad McNevin  
Chief Administrative Officer, Quinte Conservation**

c.c. **James Flieler, Chair, Quinte Conservation Executive Board  
Janice Maynard, Vice-chair, Quinte Conservation Executive Board**

**Encl. Original correspondence from the Municipality of Tweed**

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SEP 06 2022

Quinte Conservation

August 29, 2022

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CAO, Quinte Conservation Authority  
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Actions need to be taken now to reduce the spring freshet concerns while access to the waterways is safer and at low levels.

Your support in the effort to allay flooding concerns is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo-Anne Albert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Jo-Anne Albert

Encl. Hon. Graydon Smith - MNRF

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August 29, 2022

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Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley St W  
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M7A 1W3

Re: Tornado Damage & Cleanup

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo-Anne Albert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Mayor Jo-Anne Albert

cc. Quinte Conservation - Brad McNevin, CAO

AH.#5

cao-treasurer@tweed.ca

---

**From:** Jo-Anne Albert <reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca>  
**Sent:** September 28, 2022 1:09 PM  
**To:** Gloria Raybone  
**Subject:** Fwd: Your message to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

FYI

Jo-Anne Albert  
Mayor  
Municipality of Tweed  
Phone: 613-847-6932

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "MIN Feedback (MNR)" <minister.mnrf@ontario.ca>  
**Date:** September 27, 2022 at 2:53:12 PM EDT  
**To:** reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca  
**Subject:** Your message to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Ministry of Natural  
Resources and  
Forestry

Ministère des  
Richesses naturelles  
et des Forêts

Communications  
Services  
Branch

Gestion des services  
de communication

Room 5440, Whitney  
Block  
99 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tel: 416-314-2119  
Fax: 416-314-2102

Édifice Whitney, bureau  
5440  
99, rue Wellesley Ouest  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A  
1W3  
Tél.: 416-314-2119  
Télééc.: 416-314-2102



354-2022-648

September 27, 2022

Her Worship Jo-Anne Albert  
Mayor  
Municipality of Tweed  
[reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca](mailto:reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca)

Dear Mayor Albert:

Thank you for your letter to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, regarding damage from the July 24, 2022, windstorm in the Municipality of Tweed.

The Minister appreciates your letter, and he will be responding to you in more detail.

In the meantime, we wanted you to know that your letter was received.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Corporate Communications Officer – Correspondence  
Issues, Media and Correspondence Services Unit  
Communications Services Branch

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AH.#6

**Karen LaVallee**

---

**From:** Albert, Joanne <AlbertJ@hastingscounty.com>  
**Sent:** October 7, 2022 9:42 AM  
**To:** Clerk Karen Lavallee  
**Subject:** Fwd: Your letter to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Jo-Anne Albert  
Mayor  
Municipality of Tweed  
Phone: 613-847-6932

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "McCurdy, Sarah" <McCurdyS@hastingscounty.com>  
**Date:** October 6, 2022 at 12:41:15 PM EDT  
**To:** "Albert, Joanne" <AlbertJ@hastingscounty.com>  
**Cc:** Jo-Anne Albert - Tweed <reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Your letter to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Good afternoon Jo-Anne,

Please see the information below from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, for your information. This is in response to Warden Phillips' letter regarding assistance with the storm cleanup.

Thank you,  
Sarah

**Sarah McCurdy | Administrative Assistant to the Warden, C.A.O & Clerk**

Hastings County | 235 Pinnacle St., P.O. Bag 4400 Belleville, ON K8N 3A9  
(613) 966-1311 ext. 3230 | [mccurdys@hastingscounty.com](mailto:mccurdys@hastingscounty.com)

[www.hastingscounty.com](http://www.hastingscounty.com)

<image003.png>

<image004.png>

<image005.png>

<image001.png>

**From:** MIN Feedback (MNRF) <minister.mnrf@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** October 6, 2022 11:50 AM  
**To:** McCurdy, Sarah <McCurdyS@hastingscounty.com>  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

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Ministry of Natural  
Resources and Forestry

Ministère des Richesses  
naturelles et des Forêts

<image002.png>

Communications Services  
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communication

Room 5440, Whitney Block  
99 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tel: 416-314-2119  
Fax: 416-314-2102

Édifice Whitney, bureau 5440  
99, rue Wellesley Ouest  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1W3  
Tél.: 416-314-2119  
Télec.: 416-314-2102

354-2022-670

October 6, 2022

Rick Phillips  
Warden  
Hastings County  
c/o [McCurdyS@hastingscounty.com](mailto:McCurdyS@hastingscounty.com)

Dear Warden Phillips:

Thank you for writing to the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, requesting support with storm rehabilitation.

The Minister appreciates your letter, and he will be responding to you in more detail.

In the meantime, we wanted you to know that your letter was received.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Issues, Media and Correspondence Services Unit  
Communications Services Branch  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

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<image001.emz>

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**cao-treasurer@tweed.ca**

---

**From:** MIN Feedback (MNRF) <minister.mnrf@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** October 26, 2022 3:15 PM  
**To:** reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca  
**Cc:** Shalla, Suzy (MNRF); cao-treasurer@tweed.ca  
**Subject:** Letter from the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
**Attachments:** 354-2022-648.pdf

Please find attached a letter from the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.

**Confidentiality Notice:** This e-mail contains information intended only for the use of the individual whose e-mail address is identified above. If you have received this e-mail in error, please advise us by responding to it. Please also destroy all copies of this message. Thank you

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**Ministry of Natural  
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

99 Wellesley Street West  
Room 6690, Whitney Block  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tel: 416-314-2301

**Ministère des Richesses  
naturelles et des Forêts**

Bureau du ministre

99, rue Wellesley Ouest  
Bureau 6690, Édifice Whitney  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tél.: 416 314-2301



354-2022-648

October 26, 2022

Her Worship Jo-Anne Albert  
Mayor  
Municipality of Tweed  
[reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca](mailto:reeve@twp.tweed.on.ca)

Dear Mayor Albert:

Thank you for your letter expressing concerns about the damage from the July 24, 2022, windstorm in the Municipality of Tweed. I am pleased to respond.

I understand the storm that passed through areas along Highway 7 impacted both Crown and private lands.

The ministry does not typically remove fallen or damaged trees on Crown land, including when damage is a result of weather events. However, in limited circumstances the ministry would address fallen trees – for example on Crown-owned roads to ensure continued access to critical infrastructure (e.g., water control structures). In situations on Crown land where there is a public safety concern raised, the ministry will assess on a case-by-case basis and determine appropriate actions to ensure the safety concern is addressed. I have asked a member of our technical staff from the Bancroft District to reach out to you to further discuss your concerns regarding the risks associated with the downed trees.

If you are aware of any private woodlot owners who are interested in forest management, I encourage them to contact the Ontario Woodlot Association. The association maintains a Forest Services Directory that can be used to locate appropriate services by area and may be of assistance.

Individuals who are interested in salvaging downed trees on Crown land, within a Managed Forest Zone, are permitted to harvest up to 10 cubic metres (approximately three full cords) of downed wood for personal use annually per household, without authorization from the ministry. Collection of more than 10 cubic metres requires authorization from the ministry. The Bancroft district office is pleased to provide further information to interested individuals. Suzy Shalla, Peterborough and Bancroft District Manager is available at [suzy.shalla@ontario.ca](mailto:suzy.shalla@ontario.ca) or at 613-334-5054. She will be pleased to assist you.

I trust this information is helpful. Another consideration for the municipality may be the Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance program. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, through this program, can provide support to municipalities to help recover from extraordinary costs after a natural disaster. I encourage you to explore this program further at the following link: [Guidelines to apply for Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance | ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca/government/services/municipal-disaster-recovery-assistance).

Thank you again for writing and sharing your concerns.

Yours Sincerely,



The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Suzy Shalla

**Karen LaVallee**

---

**From:** Craig Charlton <craig.j.charlton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** October 30, 2022 10:31 AM  
**To:** Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (MMAH)  
**Cc:** Craig Charlton; graydon.smith@pc.ola.org; clerk@tweed.ca; Brad McNevin; ric.bresee@pc.ola.org; Kathy.Woeller@ontario.ca; Bonnie Fox  
**Subject:** Re: FW: REFERRAL TO MMAH: Skootamatta River flood hazard due to EF2 Tornado debris  
**Attachments:** SkootRiverFloodHazard.pdf

Thank you for explaining a disaster recovery program that has not been activated in the Tweed area. We are not asking for help with our properties. Rather, our concern continues to be about Skootamatta River.

Our request is for funding under Section 39 of the Conservation Authorities Act, so that Quinte Conservation and the Municipality of Tweed can respond to the effects of the tornado and help mitigate a flood hazard.

Please forward my request back to the Minister responsible.

Thank you,  
Craig Charlton

On Thu, Oct 27, 2022 at 3:38 PM Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (MMAH) <[disasterassistance@ontario.ca](mailto:disasterassistance@ontario.ca)> wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. Charlton:

Your letter to Minister Smith has been forwarded to the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) program at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) program may be activated in the event a community is impacted by a sudden, unexpected, natural disaster that causes costly and widespread damage to eligible private property that is not covered by insurance. Under the program (if activated), clean-up of trees on residential properties is eligible only to the extent necessary to make the property safe and provide access. The program does not assist residential property owners with damage to wooded areas located away from the primary residence and does not provide funding for mitigation measures (such as clearing of debris from the river as a preventative measure).

The Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians program has not been activated for the storm in Tweed in July.

Sincerely,

**Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians Program**

**Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

**From:** Smith, Graydon <[graydon.smith@pc.ola.org](mailto:graydon.smith@pc.ola.org)>  
**Sent:** September 7, 2022 10:12 AM  
**To:** Nietvelt, Kyle (MNRF) <[Kyle.Nietvelt@ontario.ca](mailto:Kyle.Nietvelt@ontario.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Skootamatta River flood hazard due to EF2 Tornado debris

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**From:** Craig Charlton <[craig.i.charlton@gmail.com](mailto:craig.i.charlton@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 7, 2022 10:06 AM  
**To:** Craig Charlton <[craig.i.charlton@gmail.com](mailto:craig.i.charlton@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Skootamatta River flood hazard due to EF2 Tornado debris

Please find attached your copy of a letter sent to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Kind regards,

Craig Charlton

AH.9

The Corporation of the  
**MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED**

255 Metcalf St., Postal Bag 729  
Tweed, ON K0K 3J0  
Tel.: (613) 478-2535  
Fax: (613) 478-6457



Email: [info@tweed.ca](mailto:info@tweed.ca)  
Website: [www.tweed.ca](http://www.tweed.ca)  
[facebook.com/tweedontario](https://www.facebook.com/tweedontario)

November 14, 2022

Hon. Steve Clark  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay St  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Steve Clark,

As you are aware, the Municipality of Tweed, along with several neighbouring municipalities, had experienced an EF2 Tornado on July 24, 2022. Our residents, property owners and local businesses were significantly impacted with damage to structures, property and our forests.

Ministry representatives had attended a site tour on August 2, 2022. We provided a detailed guided tour of various properties that were impacted over a 5-hour period. At the end of that tour, we were informed that the insurance adjuster for the Province would provide a report and it would be up to the Minister to make a decision as to whether our residents would be eligible for access to the Disaster Relief Assistance for Ontarians Program (DRAO).

Since then, we have not received any information back. The CAO/Treasurer has e-mailed and called, asking if the program was going to be opened. The only response that has been provided, is a repetition of the Program details such as it is up to the Minister and that it is only available to those without insurance and for their structures. Even after the CAO/Treasurer confirmed they were aware of the program's qualifications and process, still no direct answer has been provided.

Several residents have been regularly in contact with the Municipal Office asking if the DRAO program will be opened as they did not have insurance for their main farm buildings or insufficient insurance for principal dwellings. The only information we are able to tell them regularly is that the Province has not yet confirmed whether DRAO will be opened or not.

I am extremely disappointed in the lack of communication in relation to the response to whether the program will be opened. The staff and Municipality have not yet received a formal response. I feel that if this was a more highly populated area, such as a city or other metropolitan region, the response would not be as poor as we have experienced.

Our community has been negatively impacted and all interactions with the Province are being faced with what seems like a genuine lack of caring. The area is not safe. There are several hundreds of acres of forests that have been laid flat creating a fire hazard for the area. We know that the forests are not covered under the DRAO, however, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry's comments reminding hunters to be safe at this time of year appears highly inappropriate.

Not one forest in the affected areas is safe for anyone to be walking through. Many of these trees in the commonly hunted areas have several large limbs and branches broken off and are hung up, also known as 'widow-makers'. The tornado has created more of these. Making statements about encouraging safe hunting in the forests and not even referencing the significant impacts the recent weather events this year across the province creating these increased risks shows a lack of concern for the rural residents of Hastings County.

I ask that the Ministry provide a response as to whether or not DRAO will be opened. A formal response is requested due to the lack of communication. We also hope that for future weather events that create significant impacts on residents, regardless of whether they are part of an urban or rural area, will not have to wait more than 4 months to receive formal notice as to whether residents may be eligible for the DRAO program.

Sincerely,



Jo-Anne Albert  
Mayor

CC. Premier Doug Ford  
Hon. Graydon Smith  
MPP Ric Bresee

**Ric Bresee MPP**

December 6 at 2:03 PM · 🌐



I want to take a moment to reach out to everyone who was impacted by the terrible storms that swept through our region in the spring. My office has received many calls and emails regarding the damages and difficulties, and my staff have made sure that I was aware of the concerns.

In searching for ways to help my constituents, I have come to realize that the Disaster Relief programs that the Ontario government currently has in place clearly aren't adequate for the damages the people in our region have experienced.

The current programs focus on wide swathes of destroyed homes rather than a few individual ones. There is nothing in the current programs to assist with secondary homes, outbuildings, business losses, or properties eligible but inadequately covered by insurance. There is also nothing in the current programs for the care of acres of destroyed forests and blocked rivers, which both my staff and I are very aware will create the potential for massive future flooding and/or forest fires.

I am currently working with Minister Graydon Smith of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to find a different way to fund some of the tornado cleanup. We continue to receive drone footage of the devastation, which we have been passing forward to the MNRF and the Premier's Office to strengthen our arguments.

I want to acknowledge the tremendous work done by so many people in helping to restore services and clear roadways. So many people volunteered, and just came out to get things done. It was an awesome demonstration of how our communities support each other. This is our greatest strength and I am impressed with all of you that stepped up. It is an honour to represent you.

We should also recognize the road crews, the hydro crews, and so many others that worked many hours to get the roads cleared and the people safe. Our municipal partners and their staff have gone above and beyond in their efforts to serve our residents that have been affected. I am happy to report that our staff have helped several municipalities to apply for some compensation from the provincial government to cover these extenuating costs.

We will continue to advocate for those affected by this terrible storm and when we have further news or developments, we will communicate that to those affected.



8 reactions 11 shares

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Write a comment...

**G W Collins**  
At least he addressed it. Said all the right things but still seems to be a little out of touch but you know talking heads.

Like Reply 2d

**Peter Valiquette** replied · 1 Reply

**AnneMarie Robert**  
"Proof is in the pudding"!!

Like Reply