

**Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des Richesses
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Tél.: 416 314-2301



354-2023-209

April 3, 2023

His Worship Don DeGenova
Mayor
Municipality of Tweed
mayor@tweed.ca

Dear Mayor DeGenova:

Thank you for meeting with Ric Bresee, Parliamentary Assistant (PA), at this year's Rural Ontario Municipal Association meeting.

We appreciate learning about the issues that are important to your community.

In the meeting, you requested that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) take action, fund and support the clearing of affected rivers to make the spring freshet safer for all residents and vehicular traffic.

You also asked that the ministry provide support for addressing and reducing forest fire risks to protect the regions and residents.

Lastly, you enquired about the MNRF extending the current agreement for aerial water coverage for forest fires, completing controlled burns to make fire breaks, and requested for ministry aide to clear out the downed forests.

On January 20, 2023, a ministry Fire Advisor and local Fire Management Headquarters staff met with the Municipal Fire Chief and discussed amending the Municipality of Tweed's current agreement. I am happy to hear that the municipality and the ministry are looking to enter into a new agreement that would expand the previous agreement area to include the identified areas of concern.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the Municipality of Tweed for the one-time funding that was made available to support the efforts of impacted municipalities with debris cleanup and forest regeneration. I am pleased that your municipality was successful in securing \$1,203,801.74 in debris cleanup funds that can support your cleanup efforts.

Thank you again for meeting with PA Bresee. I look forward to working with you on issues of mutual concern.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Graydon Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

The Honourable Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Ric Bresee, Parliamentary Assistant
Jamie DeMarsh, Deputy Mayor
Gloria Raybone, CAO/Treasurer
Suzy Shalla, District Manager, Peterborough-Bancroft District, MNRF