

August 12 2022

Hon. Steve Clark

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Ontario

**Re Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) North Kawartha  
and Havelock Belmont Methuen Townships- ( Jack Lake )  
Peterborough County**

Sir

This is further to my letter to you June 26 2022.

I am writing to you in my personal capacity and not formally representing any organization but have been communicating electronically with about 500 Jack Lake property owners and others regarding recovery aspects of the May 21 storm.

Many of us on Jack lake which was seriously impacted by the storm have been patiently waiting for an announcement from your office that disaster recovery assistance will be activated for this area and that eligible property owners will be able to submit applications for financial help following what was definitely a natural disaster. The following link provides an overview of the scale of the damages on Jack Lake. Structural damages are generally insured but not downed trees..

removal and disposal is where assistance is needed by many.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/BNJdymP34pW2Qow86>

I would like to share with you a few comments about the scale of the destruction in the Jack Lake area where I reside:

- Hydro One workers during their field work to restore power which was out for about 8 days stated that this area around Jack Lake was worst that seen for the major ice storm in 1998.
- independent utility contractors from southern USA contacted by Hydro One stated that they follow tornados in Southern USA and have never seen the scale of damage experience around Jack Lake
- a cottager who also lives in Uxbridge claims advised me the Jack Lake area was far more damaged than the concentrated area covered through media for Uxbridge

It is my understanding, that you as Minister, can activate DRAO in communities where a sudden and unexpected disaster causes

costly and widespread damage to eligible private properties that is not covered by insurance.

Jack Lake clearly qualifies as a natural disaster based on the stated criteria

- was sudden and unexpected disaster
- caused costly and widespread damage
- most of the damages is not covered by insurance

The storm path across Ontario, according to media coverage, seriously impacted Uxbridge Peterborough Area and Ottawa

**Uxbridge** was activated for DRAO on or about June 17 providing for property owners to apply for certain financial relief

**Ottawa** to date has not been activated but have received extensive financial and resource assistance from your government according to media reports as follows:

At May 25 Press Conference Mayor Watson thanked Province for speedy action in supporting the city following the derecho storm by sending 40 firefighters from Ministry of Northern development,

Mines and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to help for a period of several weeks to help with the clean up ..and was given assurances by Premier Ford that the full cost of the storm cleanup would be covered by the Province

**North Kawartha and Havelock Belmont Methuen Townships**

within Peterborough County have not received any assistance for the Province to date and the area has not been activated for the DRAO assistance. Jack Lake experience an unprecedented natural disaster and no assistance was provided by the local municipalities which received significant media attention, and we are still waiting for your office to announce the activation of DRAO.

Over the past weeks and months as we have been awaiting an announcement from your office, we first heard that nothing will happen till the new Cabinet is appointed.. then we heard that nothing would happen till the Government House activities resume. I did not feel these explanation had any validity as Uxbridge was activated for the DRAO Program June 17

My asks

**When will your office be making an announcement that the Jack Lake area will be or will not be eligible for the DRAO assistance?**

I request a timely response so I can communicate your decision to my contact list on Jack Lake and others.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ambrose Moran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

**Ambrose Moran**

239 Fire Route 52

North Kawartha K0L1A0

cc list A-2 and B3

MPP David Smith