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CONSERVATION

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SEP 12 2022

September 8, 2022

MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED

REF.

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.

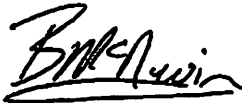
As you are aware, the responsibilities for tree cleanup depends on where those trees have landed. Property owners are responsible for their own lands. This includes private landowners, Municipalities (at road crossings and public areas), and dam owners. I have recently received a letter from a group 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