

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tel.: 416 585-7000
Fax: 416 585-6470

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tél. : 416 585-7000
Télééc. : 416 585-6470



17-74128

OCT 04 2017

Mr. Terry Kennedy, President
Mr. Terry Rees, Executive Director
Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
trees@foca.on.ca

Dear Messrs. Kennedy and Rees:

Premier Kathleen Wynne has forwarded to me your email regarding recent flooding and provincial disaster assistance.

The province recognizes the important economic and cultural role that the cottage industry plays in Ontario. The Ontario government has been working in collaboration with municipalities affected by flooding to assess the magnitude and extent of the damage.

As a result, I have activated the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians program in specific areas of eastern Ontario. Further information about the activation areas may be found at www.ontario.ca/disasterassistance.

I understand this year's flooding has caused hardship for both permanent and seasonal residents in parts of Ontario, as well as Quebec. I am aware of the new Quebec refundable tax credit of up to \$18,000 specifically for secondary residences impacted by the recent spring flooding, which is an add-on to their usual assistance program. Ontario has no plans at this time to introduce a similar refundable tax credit.

Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians is designed to help people affected by natural disasters get back on their feet. The program does not cover all costs incurred by people affected by disasters. It is oriented to helping people return their primary residence to a safe and habitable condition. The program covers only essential costs related to repairing or replacing damaged essential property, such as clean-up and replacement of furnaces and other necessities, and emergency expenses such as evacuation costs. It is not a replacement for insurance.

.../2

For homeowners, the essential property for which assistance can be provided is limited to a primary residence and its basic contents. Like repairs to seasonal properties, repairs to primary residences beyond those essential to making the home habitable, such as refinishing basement recreation, laundry or storage areas, are not eligible under the program.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the attention of the government. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Mauro".

Bill Mauro
Minister

c: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier