

November 23, 2023

Hon. Kim Masland Department of Public Works 2nd Floor, Johnston Building 1672 Granville Street P.O. Box 186 Halifax, NS B3J 2N2

Dear Minister Masland,

Given the events of this past year, particularly wildfires and flooding, the Municipality of East Hants is concerned with lack of access to areas that could be impacted by similar occurrences. There are many private land owners and woodlot owners in Nova Scotia who maintain access roads to a degree that would allow them to be passable by emergency vehicles in times of emergency.

We are requesting that the province provide similar maintenance to K class roads, where practical - specifically with regards to brush cutting and water crossings. By proactively doing this, the province could aid in potentially saving lives and protecting homes.

We understand that some of these roads are already lacking water crossings and are not in a condition to even allow for brush cutting, but for those that are currently in more adequate condition an opportunity exists for the province to assist in making all areas safer and more accessible in times of emergencies. An investment in brush cutting, ensuring water crossings are safe and even grading if practical would be a good thing to do to help ensure the safety of residents of our province.

Your attention to this issue would be greatly appreciated, and if desired, the Municipality would be happy to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Roulston

Warden Eleanor Roulston Cc: John McDonald, MLA Hants East