



**Emergency Management
Office of the Minister**

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March 13, 2025

VIA EMAIL

To: Mayors, CAOs and Wardens

RE: Update on Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) Claims

I am writing to provide an update regarding the processing of Municipal Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) claims. As you know, Nova Scotia has been through an unprecedented series of emergency events in recent years, both in their number and scale. Unfortunately, this trend can be observed across Canada. We received a large volume of claims for these events, and prioritized processing those from individuals. Now that we are nearing completion of those requests, we can shift our focus to municipal claims. We understand these claims are currently in various stages of completion and submission to the province.

To help advance this important work, the Department of Emergency Management will contract an external accounting agency to assist municipalities to complete both the compilation of claims, our review of them and their submission to the federal government. Working with you, we plan to compile and review DFA claims your municipality has during the upcoming 2025-26 fiscal year including those arising from the February 2024 snow event which impacted large areas of Cape Breton Island and northern Nova Scotia.

We believe that by working together, and supported by external resources, we can complete the tasks required to submit the municipal DFA claims to the federal government for payment. We recognize that awaiting final settlement of these claims can become a financial pressure for your municipalities. As we have done in several cases, we can meet to review the claims and determine, with ministerial approval, if a portion of the funding can be advanced pending final settlement.

We will remain in contact on this matter as part of our regular emergency management discussions and please contact us in the interim to discuss questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kim Masland".

Hon. Kim Masland
Minister of Emergency Management