## Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

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Bureau du ministre



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234-2021-3966

October 15, 2021

Warden Allan Armstrong United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry <u>aarmstrong@northdundas.com</u>

Dear Warden Armstrong:

I would like to thank you, Deputy Mayor Lyle Warden (South Glengarry), Chief Administrative Officer Tim Simpson, County Planning Director Peter Young and General Manager of Planning Joanne Haley (South Glengarry) for taking the time to meet with Parliamentary Assistant (PA) Jim McDonell at the 2021 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference. As Ontario responds to COVID-19, our government will continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our municipal partners to ensure you have the resources and tools you need to support your community, and emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever.

I was pleased to hear that PA McDonell had the opportunity to hear your concerns about the length of time to Ontario Land Tribunal appeals heard, and the recent progress made in settlement discussions on the County Official Plan.

As discussed during your delegation, our government is committed to working with you and all six lower-tier municipalities to find a mutually agreeable solution so certain lands may be returned to a rural designation to help support your long term economic development efforts. More specifically, I understand progress has been made involving specific lands around the Cornwall Airport. I will also share your comments with my Cabinet colleagues about the need for Ontario Land Tribunal cases to be heard faster.

If you or your staff would like to discuss matters pertaining to your official plan further, ministry staff would be pleased to assist. Please feel free to contact Michael Elms, Manager of Community Planning and Development in the Eastern Municipal Services Office at 613-453-9242 or <u>Michael.Elms@ontario.ca</u>. You can also contact my Director of Policy, Kirstin Jensen, at <u>Kirstin.Jensen@ontario.ca</u>.

We will continue to work closely with our municipal leaders to keep Ontarians safe. I cannot thank you enough for your diligence and leadership throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and your commitment to supporting families and businesses during these challenging times.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to meet with PA McDonell at the AMO Conference.

Sincerely,

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Steve Clark Minister

c. Jim McDonell, MPP Stormont – Dundas – South Glengarry Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Jim.McDonell@ontario.ca

Lyle Warden, Deputy Mayor/Acting Mayor, Township of South Glengarry lylewarden@southglengarry.com

Tim Simpson, CAO, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry tsimpson@sdgcounties.ca