Good morning everyone,

It’s a real pleasure to be here this morning with Minister Yakabuski for this wonderful announcement.

In the Township of Madawaska Valley’s roads system, Paugh Lake Road is an important artery for attracting tourism and promoting the economic vitality of our rural area. Last year the Township of Madawaska Valley spent nearly $69,000 on emergency repairs to Paugh Lake Road. Reducing road hazards and increasing public safety are important factors in Council’s decision to budget $300,000 this year and begin the Paugh Lake Road rehabilitation with a 2 km stretch that’s in really rough shape near the far end. Recognizing the importance to our community of rehabilitating the remaining 11.7 paved kilometers of this road, Council also placed $295,000 into reserves this year to save towards continuing this critical infrastructure project next year.

The remaining Paugh Lake Road Rehabilitation is a $3 million dollar project. For a municipality with more than $90 million dollars’ worth of assets to maintain, funding this road rehabilitation project on our own could have taken 8 to 10 years. If our grant application to the Rural and Northern funding stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program receives final approval from the Federal government, the municipality will be able to complete the rehabilitation of Paugh Lake Road in 2 years.

Minister Yakabuski’s announcement that the Ontario government has nominated our project for federal review means the province has recognized this is a vital infrastructure project and they are willing to commit their share of the funding needed to get it done.

On behalf of Council and municipal staff, I’d like to thank Premier Ford, the Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure and the Provincial government for investing in the Paugh Lake Road rehabilitation project for the people of the Township of Madawaska Valley. I’d also like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Minister Yakabuski for his continued advocacy and strong support of our community.

Thank you John!

Mayor Kim Love
Township of Madawaska Valley