



April 17, 2024

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

Dear Minister Masland,

I am composing this correspondence on behalf of the Council to convey our apprehension regarding the residents residing beyond the Duck Lake Bridge in Belleville. It has come to our attention that the bridge has been subject to closure twice within a single month due to escalating water levels. While your department has affirmed the structural integrity of the bridge, its closure during periods of high water remains inevitable.

Our attention has been drawn to the proposed John Murray Road as an alternative route. Presently, this route is only navigable by trucks or large SUVs, compelling many residents to park on the safe side of the bridge and trek to their vehicles. Of paramount concern for the Council is the accessibility of emergency vehicles in scenarios like medical emergencies or fires. The utilization of John Murray Road would elongate the journey of emergency vehicles by approximately 20 minutes due to the road's challenging conditions. This delay poses a significant risk to residents should urgent assistance be required.

The Municipality of Argyle earnestly urges your department to assess the state of the John Murray Road and contemplate its repair to ensure the safe passage of all vehicles, particularly in times of emergency.

We extend our gratitude for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Danny Muise
Warden

cc: Honourable Colton LeBlanc, MLA