



## Ontario's Disaster Recovery Assistance Programs

September 22, 2016



September 23, 2016

Ministry of Municipal Affairs

*This presentation is intended to provide an overview of the **Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians** and **Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance** programs.*

*For guidelines and further details on these programs, including eligibility and application requirements, visit [www.ontario.ca/disasterassistance](http://www.ontario.ca/disasterassistance) or contact your Municipal Services Office*

# Disaster Recovery Assistance in Ontario

On March 1, 2016, the province introduced two new disaster financial assistance programs to support recovery after natural disasters:



## **Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians:**

to help disaster victims repair or replace essential property and cover other eligible emergency costs.

It provides financial recovery assistance for essential items to affected homeowners, tenants, small owner-operated businesses and farms, and not-for-profit organizations.

# Disaster Recovery Assistance in Ontario

## Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance:

to reimburse municipalities for eligible extraordinary emergency response and repair costs.



# Program Features:

## Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians



- Applies to sudden, unexpected, costly, widespread, natural disasters.
- Helps cover emergency expenses and repair or replacement of essential property after a natural disaster.
- The program is not intended to replace insurance
- Delivered by Ministry of Municipal Affairs

# Programs: Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians



- Minister's decision to activate program. Municipalities do not request assistance
- Provincial delivery model. Claims made directly to the province, administered by adjustment firm.
- Payments are made by the province based on program guidelines.
- Clear documentation about program caps and deductibles is available online.

# How it works:

## Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians

- **Natural disaster occurs**  
*MMA monitors the province for disasters, with info from local partners.*
- **Disaster assessed onsite by MMA**  
*Assessment informs recommendation on whether to activate the program.*
- **Activation Decision**  
*Made by minister, informed by results of assessment.*
- **Claims accepted for 120 calendar days**  
*Claimants apply directly to the province after the program is activated.*
- **Ministry issues decision on claim**  
*Applications are assessed by a professional adjustment firm. May include site visits and/or reconsiderations after payment decision.*

# Current Activations in Northern Ontario

## Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians

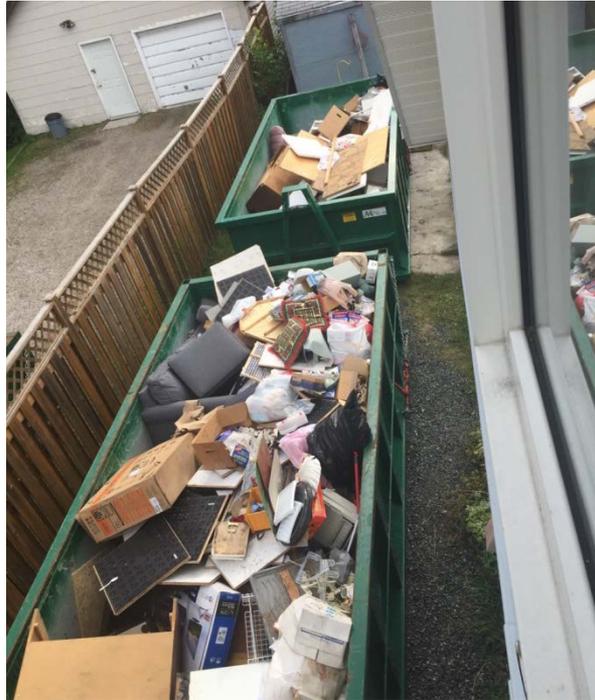
### City of Thunder Bay and surrounding municipalities

- On June 25, 2016, heavy rain caused flooding in Thunder Bay and surrounding municipalities.
- Over 200 properties in the City of Thunder Bay were affected by flooding, along with a number of properties in surrounding rural municipalities.
- Minister Mauro activated the program on July 4, 2016. The application deadline is November 1, 2016.



# Current Activations in Northern Ontario

## Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians



### City of Dryden

- On August 12, 2016, the City of Dryden experienced heavy, localized rain which overwhelmed local infrastructure and caused flooding.
- Between 150 to 225 properties in the City of Dryden were affected by flooding, with most properties experiencing damage related to sewer-backup.
- Minister Mauro activated the program on September 7, 2016. The application deadline is January 5, 2017.



# Tips for Municipalities

## Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians



- Tracking system for phone calls – type of problem and contact information
- Municipal staff availability to accompany assessment team



# Program Features:

## Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance



- Applies to sudden, unexpected, natural disasters where the municipality incurs eligible costs equal to at least 3% of its Own Purpose Taxation.
- Assists municipalities with extraordinary emergency response and repair costs, but does not provide full cost recovery and is not intended to replace insurance.

# Program Features:

## Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance

- Provides reimbursement to eligible municipalities based on a cost-sharing formula:
  - Up to 3% Own Purpose Taxation: reimbursement at 75%
  - Above 3% Own Purpose Taxation: reimbursement at 95%
- Funds repairs to pre-disaster condition only (not improvements). Costs incurred to improve property and infrastructure beyond pre-disaster condition are ineligible.



# Program eligibility criteria: Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance



To be eligible, a municipality must:

- Have experienced a sudden and unexpected natural disaster with certain costly impacts.
- Incur eligible incremental costs that can be demonstrably linked to the event, and meet or exceed 3% of the municipality's Own Purpose Taxation levy.
- Submit the following within 120 calendar days of the event:
  - A resolution of council requesting assistance
  - Initial claim with costs incurred and future estimated costs
  - Detailed supporting documentation

# How it works:

## Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance

- Natural disaster occurs
  - MMA monitors the province for disasters, with info from local partners*
- Disaster assessed onsite by MMA
  - MMA staff will provide information and outreach to the municipality.*
- Ongoing recovery
  - Municipality tracks incremental disaster-related costs, with MMA to advise.*
- Municipality requests assistance
  - Deadline is 120 calendar days from onset of the disaster.*
- Activation decision
  - *MMA reviews information from municipality and may enter into grant agreement if the municipality is eligible for assistance.*

# Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance

## Current Activations in Northern Ontario



- There are currently no activations under the Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance Program in Northern Ontario
- Given recent flood events, we may anticipate some requests within the 120 day window of those events.

# Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance

## Tips for Municipalities



Immediately separate incremental operating and capital costs related to the disaster from the ordinary municipal expenditures

Comprehensive collection of documentation



Familiarize yourself with the program in advance

# Finding more information

- Find program guidelines, Q&As, and more at [www.ontario.ca/disasterassistance](http://www.ontario.ca/disasterassistance)
- Print copies of program guidelines are available from your Municipal Services Office