

Ministry of Natural
Resources

Office of the Minister

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354-2024-1233

October 23, 2024

John Paul Newman
Deputy Clerk
Municipality of Clarington
c/o LHogle@clarington.net

Dear John Paul Newman:

Thank you for sharing the Council of the Municipality of Clarington's resolution regarding illegal fishing and its interest in enforcement assistance from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

In 2021, our government hired an additional 25 new MNR Conservation Officers who were distributed throughout the province. These officers have enhanced our ministry's ability to monitor compliance and protect Ontario's natural resources. With this addition, we currently employ over 200 highly trained Conservation Officers throughout 48 locations across the province.

Our Conservation Officers have committed many days and hours into patrolling Lake Ontario tributaries during this season's salmon migration. To date, our officers have made 1504 contacts with anglers, issued 133 warnings and laid 232 charges.

MNR Conservation Officers continue to patrol the rivers and shorelines along Lake Ontario and its tributaries to ensure compliance with fisheries seasons, limits and angling methods. They also respond to public reports received through MNR's TIPS phone line.

The ministry always recommends that if anyone suspects illegal activity involving our natural resources, to contact the MNR TIPS line toll free at 1-877-847-7667. They can also call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, if they wish to remain anonymous.

I hope you find this information helpful, and I thank you for your continued support in protecting Ontario's natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Graydon Smith".

The Honourable Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources

c: Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans
H. Anderson, Executive Administrator, Mayor and Council, Municipality of Clarington