

Mayor's May 2-4 Storm Update #2 May 27, 2022.

Hi North Kawartha, Mayor Carolyn here with a status update on our recovery after the May 2-4 Storm. It's been almost a week since it happened and we know that many people are still without power. I have been having regular meetings with our municipal emergency control group as we work to coordinate recovery and restoration efforts. We have hydro crews from all over Canada and the United States who are here working to get everyone re-connected. Right now there is a big push to get as many people as possible powered back up this weekend and Hydro One estimates they will have more than 95% of customers power restored this evening Friday May 27th. However, due to the severity of the damage, those located in remote, rural and water access locations may be without power for several more days. If you are one of these folks, I know that this is something that you don't want to hear, but I need to be honest and realistic.

This is much more than just trying to restore power, it's about rebuilding our infrastructure from the ground up. This storm has set records everywhere and it will be weeks and months before we will know the full impact. So far, nearly 2000 hydro poles have been destroyed, in addition to hundreds of damaged cross arms and transformers. North Kawartha is coordinating with Hydro One to set up staging areas throughout the township for the delivery of new poles and hydro equipment so their helicopters and teams can mobilize quickly and efficiently. We have also partnered with Justin Soul at Visual Endeavour, a local company based in the Kawarthas that specialize in video production, aerial photography and media services. Using their drones, Visual Endeavour will gather aerial

imagery to help us assess and see the extent of the damage and the path the storm took. This is important documentation that we will be able to share with the province and our other partner agencies as we repair and rebuild.

There is a lot of good advice being communicated right now and I want to remind everyone of a few key points:

- Please treat all downed hydro lines as 'live' and stay at least 30m away.
- To report a power outage or to get a status update, please call Hydro One at 1-800-434-1235. You can also use the Hydro One App by texting your address to WATTS (92887)
- Continue to call 911 for emergencies but please do not call 911 to report a power outage or receive a status update
- Please avoid unnecessary travel, specifically in impacted areas, as some roads may be closed or have limited access
- If your hydro line has been separated from the service at your house, please turn 'off' the 'main' breaker on your panel
- And if you leave your residence, it is advised that you turn your hydro off using the 'main' breaker. This will help to reduce fire hazards if power is restored in your absence

Please continue to check out the township website www.northkawartha.ca for the latest updates and news releases about our recovery efforts. It has a lot of great tips, resources and contact information for all residents.

I know this hasn't been easy folks and for those of you still without power... please know that we are doing our best to get you back up and running as quickly as possible. Until my next update, take care and stay safe everyone. Thank you.