



**THE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF
HEAD, CLARA & MARIA**

**15 Township Hall Road
STONECLIFFE, ONTARIO, K0J 2K0**

Phone: (613) 586-2526 | Fax: (613) 586-2596 |

E-mail: d.grills@headclaramaria.ca

Ann Giardini, Mayor
Town of Laurentian Hills
34465 Highway 17, RR#1
Deep River, Ontario
K0J 1P0

September 6, 2023

Re: Auto-Extrication Partnership

Dear Mayor Giardini,

As you may be aware, a motor vehicle accident occurred in Bissett Creek, within the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria, on Friday, September 1st, 2023, which required auto-extrication services. The accident occurred in an area of the municipality that is covered by an auto-extrication agreement between the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria and the Town of Mattawa. The Town of Mattawa's Fire Department responded to the accident and was able to extricate the lone passenger, who was transported by the Renfrew County Paramedics to the hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

Fortunately, the accident occurred in an area of the municipality where auto-extrication services have been secured and are available. Unfortunately, there is still a large part of the municipality that is not secured by auto-extrication agreement. Though an accident is not the sole reason to pursue a partnership for service, it certainly highlights the need.

The Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria is seeking an opportunity to work with the Town of Laurentian Hills to secure an auto-extrication agreement that will provide coverage to the remaining unserved portion of the municipality which includes the eastern portion of the municipality from Colton Creek Road along Highway 17 to the Bissett Creek train overpass.

We are aware of, and understand, the concerns that have been identified in previous Community Partner meetings and discussions about securing an agreement amongst neighbouring municipalities. However, this Council believes there is an opportunity for the Townships of Head, Clara and Maria and Town of Laurentian Hills to work together, along with other neighbouring municipalities, to address those concerns and come to a mutually beneficial agreement.

Securing an auto-extrication agreement is paramount to the health and safety of those who are travelling along Highway 17. It is not only the residents of Head, Clara and Maria that travel the approximate 30-kilometer section of Highway 17 that does not have access to auto-extrication services; thousands of people drive through the municipality on a daily basis. According to the Ministry of Transportation's Provincial Highway Traffic Volume Report, the annual average daily traffic count in 2016 was 2,950 vehicles. This could be anyone's family member, friend or neighbour who requires auto-extrication services along this stretch of Highway 17.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request and we look forward to further dialogue on creating a mutually beneficial agreement for auto-extrication services in Head, Clara and Maria.

Sincerely,



Debbi Grills,
Mayor, United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria

cc. Brenda Blimke, Deputy Mayor - Town of Laurentian Hills
Bruce Boucher, Councillor - Town of Laurentian Hills
Gary McNulty, Councillor - Town of Laurentian Hills
John Hoyle, Councillor - Town of Laurentian Hills
Sherry Batten, CAO/Clerk – Town of Laurentian Hills
Kevin Waito, Fire Chief – Town of Laurentian Hills