AUG - 8 2023



Natural Resources and Renewables Office of the Minister

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August 1, 2023

Yvon LeBlanc Warden, Municipality of Clare 1185 Highway 1 Little Brook, Digby Country BOW 120

Dear Yvon LeBlanc:

I am responding to your letter of June 23, 2023, regarding your concerns over the stairs at Smuggler's Cove Provincial Park.

Due to safety concerns, it has been determined that the stairs to the beach will not be replaced at this time. Staff will be assessing the current viewing platform and steps further to determine what improvements may be made to the current infrastructure to provide value to the visitor experience.

The department will connect back with the municipality after the assessment and plan forward is determined. The goal is to ensure that visitors to Smuggler's Cove can continue to take advantage of the great views that the location provides.

Regards,

to the

Tory Rushton Minister

 c. Honourable Ronnie LeBlanc, MLA, Clare (<u>info@ronnieleblanc.ca</u>) Dustin Oikle, Regional Director, Western Region Tara Crandlemere, Director, Parks and Outreach Deanna Nauss, Area Manager