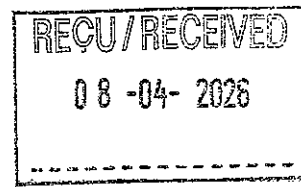




**Public Works
Office of the Minister**



PO Box 186, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2N2

MAR 3 0 2026

Yvon LeBlanc, Warden
Municipality of Clare
1185 Highway 1
Little Brook, NS B0W 1Z0

Dear Warden LeBlanc:

Thank you for your letter dated February 27, 2026, regarding roadside brush cutting practices within the Municipality of Clare. As Minister of the Department of Public Works, I am pleased to respond.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) carries out brush cutting to maintain safe sightlines, protect roadside infrastructure, and support effective drainage. This work is completed using established standards that define the width and extent of clearing required along provincial roadways. While these practices are necessary for safety and maintenance purposes, I understand the concerns raised by Council and residents regarding the appearance of some areas following brush cutting.

DPW staff are aware that vegetation management can have a noticeable impact on the surrounding landscape, particularly in rural communities such as Clare. Crews are expected to apply these standards in a manner that reflects local conditions where possible, and we will continue to monitor operations in the area to ensure work is being carried out appropriately. Feedback such as yours is shared with field staff to support consistency and awareness as work progresses.

Thank you once again for bringing this matter forward. Should you wish to discuss this further, Pamela Mehlman-Shand, Area Manager for Shelburne, Yarmouth and the District of Clare, would be available to speak with you regarding vegetation management practices in your area. Pamela can be reached by email at pamela.mehlman-shand@novascotia.ca or by telephone at (902) 742-0568.

Yours sincerely,

Fred Tilley
Minister of Public Works

c: Mitchell Conrad, District Director, Western
Pamela Mehlman-Shand, Area Manager, Shelburne/Yarmouth
Ryan Robicheau, MLA Clare