



COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

Media Release

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CLEAN UP UNDERWAY IN PARTS OF NORTH WELLINGTON COUNTY

Wellington County - Environment Canada continues to investigate a tornado that touched down in the north part of Wellington County last night (Sunday, August 2). The tornado caused significant damage in the Town of Minto and Wellington North Township. The impact of the storm is still being assessed, but several homes and barns were damaged by high winds, as were several cruisers at the North Wellington O.P.P. Detachment. Despite the damage, at no time was the detachment without power.

"We're extremely grateful that there were no known injuries", says Wellington County Warden George Bridge. "I was in contact with all County services and first responders last evening, and I am pleased with the co-ordinated response. The County takes pride in it's emergency response, training on a regular basis for incidents such as this."

North Wellington Mayor Andy Lennox met with several of the affected residents this (Monday) morning. "Damage is significant", said Lennox. "Although its still early, it would be safe to say it will be in the millions of dollars. All of the farm animals and livestock affected by this storm are being taken care of in an appropriate manner."

The holiday weekend may have been a blessing in that many residents were away from their homes.

Mapleton Township Mayor Neil Driscoll indicated this is one of the reasons that assessment of the damage will take a little longer to complete. "People may come home and find there has been some damage to their property, says Driscoll. "We urge anyone affected to call their respective municipal offices as soon as possible."

Environment Canada is reviewing the damage to determine the level of the tornado. Meteorologist Geoff Coulson says he will be surveying the damaged property in addition to reviewing photos taken during the storm.

In the meantime, Hydro One are working to restore power to some isolated areas. Clean-up efforts are well underway. People of many faiths and churches have been on the scene all day helping residents and neighbours with the clean up. To help with the clean up, the County and O.P.P. are asking residents to stay away from the affected areas. As of Monday (August 3) afternoon, County Road 109 from Teviotdale north to Harriston remains closed.

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