

Suzie Fournier

From: Suzie Fournier
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 9:26 AM
To: Suzie Fournier
Subject: FW: Our work this past two weeks to improve winter road maintenance in Northern Ontario

From: "Bourgouin-QP, Guy" <GBourgouin-QP@ndp.on.ca>
Date: December 2, 2019 at 12:32:49 PM EST
To: "Bourgouin, Guy" <GBourgouin@ndp.on.ca>
Subject: Our work this past two weeks to improve winter road maintenance in Northern Ontario

Toronto, November 28, 2019

Dear Municipal Leader,

I am taking the time to write to you today to thank you, the members of your council, and your residents for the support we received for my Private Member's *Bill 125, Making Northern Ontario Highways Safer, 2019*. As you certainly know, on November 7, the members of the Conservative government defeated my initiative to ensure that our families would arrive home safe and that our economy would not be negatively impacted because of delays associated with road closures.

My bill would have amended the current legislation (the Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act) by including a new section to set out a classification system for Ontario highways, which would have in turn classified all 400 series highways, the Queen Elizabeth Way and highways 11 and 17 as Class 1 highways. Class 1 highways are cleared more quickly, and more often. But during the debate, Conservative MPPs said that would cost "taxpayers a great deal of money without substantial benefits."

While the members from the government's side claim that Ontario has "some of the highest standards in North America for road safety and highway maintenance", my colleagues and I continue to have serious concerns about this matter – and we will continue to stand up for our Northern communities.

Here is a summary of the work we have done in the past ten days (click on the links below to access the article/audio/video):

- On November 19, I published an opinion editorial with the [Sudbury Star](#);
- On November 19, MPP Jamie West (Sudbury) asked a [question](#) to the Minister of Transportation;
- On November 21, MPP John Vanthof (Timiskaming-Cochrane) asked a [question](#) to the Minister of Transportation;
- On November 26, MPP John Vanthof (Timiskaming-Cochrane) asked a [question](#) to the Minister of Transportation;
- On November 28, I spoke to CBC-Sudbury's [Morning North](#); and
- On November 28, I asked a [question](#) to the Minister of Transportation.

Once again, thank you very much for your support and your attention.

Cordially,



Guy Bourgouin
MPP for Mushkegowuk-James Bay

Guy Bourgouin

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