



774-2026-157

May 14, 2026

His Worship Rick Champagne
Mayor
Township of East Ferris
rick.champagne@eastferris.ca

Dear Mayor Champagne:

I am pleased to write to you regarding the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) Fund.

As outlined in the 2026 Ontario Budget, our government has now extended the NORDS Fund so it will continue to invest \$15 million annually in municipalities across Northern Ontario to help with infrastructure to enable resource development as well as offset some of the impacts that development sectors including forestry, mining, aggregates and agriculture, can have on local municipal and community infrastructure.

All 144 municipalities in Northern Ontario will continue to be eligible to receive funding under the NORDS Fund to support investments in municipal infrastructure projects. This funding will continue to complement existing funding streams available to municipalities for infrastructure projects.

We have heard from municipalities across the North, and we will continue to ensure that the NORDS Fund remains flexible, allowing municipalities to stack with other programs, carry over unused allocations year-over-year and pursue partnerships with other northern municipalities to support regional projects. As well, our government understands the importance of stable and predictable funding to municipalities, so we will maintain the same allocation for each municipality in Northern Ontario.

I also heard the requests to ensure that the program can be used to fund infrastructure related to agricultural development and I am pleased to confirm that is eligible.

I am pleased to confirm that the Township of East Ferris's annual allocation is \$128,407.96. This annual allocation can fund projects that began on or after April 1, 2026.

Dominique Marleau, a Northern Development Advisor from my ministry's Regional Economic Development Branch, will contact you soon to provide support, or to answer any questions you may have. Ms. Marleau can also be contacted by phone at (705) 471-1071, or by email at dominique.marleau@ontario.ca.

Our government remains committed to working with and supporting municipalities across Northern Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'G. Pirie', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

The Honourable George Pirie
Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth