

August 23, 2026

Insp. Jim Mills
Detachment Commander
Ontario Provincial Police
Rainy River District Detachment
901 Sunset Drive
Fort Frances, ON P9A 2T2

Via Email (jim.d.mills@opp.ca)

Dear Insp. Mills:

Re: Further Information in Support of Investigation into the Township of Emo

As you know, we represent Borderland Pride.

We write further to our letter, dated August 9, 2026, in which we requested a police investigation into at least \$34,151 in donations raised online for the stated benefit of the Township of Emo and its taxpayers. The municipal integrity commissioner confirmed that some of those funds were deposited into Mayor Harold McQuaker's personal bank account. The Township has no record of receiving the balance, notwithstanding that the funds were solicited from members of the public in its name and for its benefit.

You confirmed receipt of our letter on August 11, 2026. The Ontario Provincial Police subsequently confirmed to the media that it is looking into the concerns we raised. We therefore write to provide additional information and evidence that may assist your investigation.

First, enclosed are copies of text messages between Mayor McQuaker and Michael Keller, one of the administrators of the crowdfunding campaigns. In those messages, Mr. Keller confirmed the shipment of a package to Mayor McQuaker. The package is believed to have contained the cheque for \$5,300.65 that Mayor McQuaker was photographed holding at the municipal office in December 2024.

These records were produced by the Township in response to a freedom of information request. Their presence in the Township's records—and their production in response to a request concerning the crowdfunding proceeds—is further evidence that the communications and funds were understood to relate to the Township and Mayor McQuaker's public office, rather than to a private transaction between Messrs. Keller and McQuaker.

Second, enclosed are text messages exchanged between our office and Mr. Keller on August 23, 2026. In those messages, Mr. Keller states that he sent approximately \$5,300 to Mayor McQuaker and \$5,000 to the Emo Public Library. The latter assertion warrants verification, as the municipality has advised that it has no record of receiving these funds.

More significantly, Mr. Keller's crowdfunding campaign raised at least \$20,945. In his messages to our office, Mr. Keller appears to acknowledge retaining some or all of the remaining proceeds for himself, contrary to the stated purpose of his fundraising campaign. When pressed for the location of the funds, Mr. Keller stopped responding. Regardless, his admission raises an obvious question as to what became of funds solicited from donors on the representation that they were being raised for the benefit of the Township and its taxpayers. The implication is that he may have defrauded donors in the name of the municipality.

Based on corporate records we have obtained, Mr. Keller is believed to reside at 765-B Riverside Drive, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3A 8R1. His telephone number is 506-259-7638, and his last known email address is town.emoon.fight@gmail.com. We trust that the investigating officers will liaise with the appropriate police service in New Brunswick as necessary.

Finally, we enclose our letter to Emo's council, dated August 12, 2026, requesting that council formally adopt a resolution supporting the police investigation and the recovery of any funds that were raised for the municipality but not remitted to it.

Section 12.0 of the Township's procedural by-law requires that correspondence be referred to council at its next regular meeting. When council considers our request, any member with a pecuniary interest in the disposition of the missing funds will be required to disclose that interest and refrain from participating, pursuant to the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*. We therefore suggest that the minutes, recording, declarations of interest, and other records arising from council's consideration of our correspondence may identify additional evidence, witnesses, or lines of inquiry relevant to your investigation.

Taken together, the information presently available appears to establish that substantial sums were solicited from members of the public for the stated benefit of the Township; that at least one payment was delivered directly to the Mayor and deposited into his personal account; that the Township has no record of receiving substantial additional proceeds; and that one campaign administrator now appears to acknowledge personally retaining a portion of the money raised, which was not its stated purpose. We respectfully ask that these matters be investigated fully, including the ultimate disposition of all funds raised through the campaigns.

Please feel free to contact us if you require any further information, records, or assistance.

Sincerely,

JUDSON HOWIE LLP



Douglas W. Judson

Encl. Letter from the Corporation of the Township of Emo, dated March 2, 2026;
Letter to Mayor and Council of the Township of Emo, dated August 12, 2026;
Text Messages from Michael Keller, dated August 23, 2026

C. Mayor and Council, Township of Emo, *Via Email* (cao@emo.ca);
The Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs, *Via Email* (minister.mah@ontario.ca);
The Hon. Greg Rickford, MPP for Kenora—Rainy River, *Via Email* (greg.rickfordco@pc.ola.org)

10:29

85

< (506) 259-7638 (text) >



10:19 AM

What happened to the money you raised for the Township of Emo?

10:25 AM

\$5300 to Harold. \$5000 to the library. There is a book about to be published, as soon as I get some more pressing affairs in order, including being involved with Judson at the OHRT. So... expenses.

I have been faced with unemployment, disability, and near homelessness twice in the past year. It has delayed the book a little.

10:26 AM

You raised over \$20,000 though. Did you just keep half of it?

10:27 AM

Who are you?



Text from (807) 797-2023



Add opt-out message

10:30

85

< (506) 259-7638 (text) >



I have been faced with unemployment, disability, and near homelessness twice in the past year. It has delayed the book a little.

10:26 AM

You raised over \$20,000 though. Did you just keep half of it?

10:27 AM

Who are you?

10:27 AM

A donor in the community.

10:27 AM

Oh, okay

10:29 AM

So where are the funds aside from the \$10,300?



Text from (807) 797-2023



Add opt-out message



The Corporation of the Township of Emo

P.O. Box 520, Emo, Ontario, P0W 1E0

Website: www.emo.ca
E-mail: township@emo.ca

Phone: 807-482-2378
Fax: 807-482-2741

March 2, 2026

Douglas W. Judson
Judson Howie LLP
600 Reid Avenue
Fort Frances, ON
P9A 2P3

RE: MFIPPA Information Access Request 2026-01

Dear Mr. Judson,

I am writing regarding your access request under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (hereafter, 'the Act') received by our office on January 13, 2026.

A search has been conducted for the following request:

Copies of all communications and correspondence between Mayor Harold McQuaker and Michael Keller, including all emails, text messages, instant messages, letters, memoranda, social media messages, and reports, including any such material transmitted to or from Mayor McQuaker's personal accounts and devices.

The fee for processing your request is **\$7.50**. The breakdown of your fee is as follows:

- \$0.00 for search time based on 0 hours of time @ \$7.50 per quarter hour.
- \$7.50 for records preparation based on 0.25 hours of time @ \$7.50 per quarter hour.
- \$0.00 for photocopying based on 0 pages at 20 cents per page.

The redacted records will be made available to you immediately, and the fee of \$7.50 will be waived by the Township of Emo.

You may request the information and Privacy Commissioner to review this decision and fee within thirty days from the date of this letter. The Commissioner's address is Suite 1400, 2 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 1A8. The appeal fee is \$25.00 for general records.

Should you have any questions, please contact Crystal Gray, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer (807) 482-2378. Please use the above listed access request number in any further correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Crystal Gray', written in a cursive style.

Crystal Gray
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Emo
E: cao@emo.ca
P (807) 482-2378

Encl: Index of Records

Index of Records

Document Number	Document Description	Number of Pages	Decision to Release	Comments
1	Text message – Dated December 20, 2024 – August 14, 2025	3	Redacted personal information	Cell phone number, mailing address

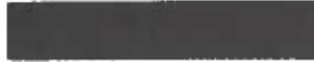
10:58



New Message

Cancel

To:



Couldn't get it to you in time
Christmas. 🙄 They say Dec 29th.

Thanks and merry Xmas Harold



Dec 24, 2024 at 9:34 PM

Merry Christmas.
Let me know when your present
arrives.

Dec 25, 2024 at 7:56 AM

Merry Christmas and I will

Dec 31, 2024 at 12:57 PM

Happy New Year.
Purolator says you should have
your parcel now.

Thu, Aug 14 at 9:45 AM

Hi Harold. Hope your having a
good summer. Wanted to let you



Text Message - SMS

10:58



New Message

Cancel

To:



Text Message • SMS
Dec 20, 2024 at 1:19 PM

Purolator

The details of your Purolator E-Ship® Now shipment to Harold Mcquaker are below

Ship from:

Michael Keller



Ship to:

Harold
Mcquaker
6136 Highway
1171

Eino, ON
POW1E0

Track your package by:

Tracking Number: 520001578126

Reference:

You can track your package by visiting
Purolator's [tracking page](#).



Text Message • SMS

10:58



New Message

Cancel

To: [REDACTED]

Happy New Year.
Purolator says you should have
your parcel now.

Thu, Aug 14 at 9:45 AM

Hi Harold. Hope your having a
good summer. Wanted to let you
know you are still in our prayers
with the hearing coming up.
News from this end is the cover is
almost done, its needs formatting
before publishing.
A side project that developed
because of putting together the
book has now come to fruition.
My Android App to create
scanable QR Codes is now Live on
Google Playstore.
If you know anyone with an
Android device, pass along my
link. It's a free download.
[https://play.google.com/store/
apps/details?
id=com.songbird.qrmagic](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.songbird.qrmagic)

I will and thanks



Text Message • SMS



August 12, 2026

Mayor and Council
Township of Emo
P.O. Box 520
Emo, ON P0W 1E0

Via Email (cao@emo.ca)

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Will You Support a Police Investigation into Your Missing Donations?

We represent Borderland Pride.

In our August 9 letter, we notified the Township of Emo that we had asked the Rainy River District Detachment Commander of the Ontario Provincial Police to investigate the **nearly \$35,000** raised through GiveSendGo and GoFundMe in the name of, and for the benefit of, the Township and its taxpayers.

On August 11, council received a report from the integrity commissioner confirming that approximately **\$5,300 of those funds were paid to Mayor Harold McQuaker and deposited into his personal bank account**. That report also establishes that McQuaker has known of concerns about his receipt of those funds since early 2025. He has not returned them to the Township.

More troubling still, **approximately \$30,000 remains unaccounted for**. The Township's freedom of information disclosures confirm that it has received none of that money. ***So where did it go?***

The information available suggests that either additional crowdfunding proceeds were received by persons associated with the Township, or money solicited from donors was never used for its stated purpose—essentially, that **your donors were scammed**. Either possibility warrants a police investigation.

These circumstances raise serious *Criminal Code* offences, including theft, fraud, breach of trust, breach of trust by a public officer, theft by a person required to account, and municipal corruption.

We therefore ask council to adopt a resolution **formally advising the OPP that the Township supports a police investigation into the receipt, disposition, and whereabouts of all crowdfunding proceeds raised in its name or for its benefit**.

This should be an easy decision. **Nearly \$35,000 was raised in your name. The Township received none of it. More than \$5,300 went to the Mayor. Approximately \$30,000 remains unexplained.** If council will not support an investigation, taxpayers and donors are entitled to ask **what council knows about where the money went—and why it does not want the police to find out**.

We remind you that any member of council with a pecuniary interest in these funds must comply with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, including its disclosure and recusal requirements.

Your donors and taxpayers deserve answers. Council should be demanding them too.

Sincerely,

JUDSON HOWIE LLP



Douglas W. Judson