

Mayor Holman, Council members, special guests:

I regret my duties at Queen's Park have kept me from attending today's special ceremony in person.

However, as MPP for Leeds-Grenville and on behalf of the Province of Ontario, I'm proud to congratulate the Township of Rideau Lakes today as you officially become 'The Daffodil Capital of Ontario.'

Congratulations, as well, on this afternoon's unveiling of the township's new flag, which has appropriately been updated to reflect the Daffodil Capital theme.

The natural beauty of Leeds-Grenville is one of the many reasons those of us fortunate enough to live here think it's the best place in Ontario to call home. And there's no question some of the most spectacular scenery in our region can be found right here in Rideau Lakes.

I want to commend everyone involved in this remarkable Daffodil Project, which has seen an incredible 15,000 bulbs planted throughout the municipality.

This amazing effort began five years ago on a hillside near Portland and has spread a splash of these beautiful yellow flowers to communities in every corner of Rideau Lakes.

You should be proud to know that each Spring, your legacy will brighten the lives of township residents and visitors alike for many years to come.

Your success shows everyone what can be accomplished when you combine a great idea with a committed and hard-working group of volunteers like those involved with the township's Beautification Committees.

It is also another example of the tremendous spirit of community co-operation and involvement I feel whenever I'm in Rideau Lakes.

Again, to everyone involved, please accept my heartfelt congratulations and enjoy your special day. I look forward to visiting Ontario's Daffodil Capital many times this summer.

Sincerely,
Steve Clark, MPP
Leeds-Grenville