



Township of Minden Hills Post Flood Public Meeting

Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 6:30 pm
S. G. Nesbitt Memorial Community Centre

Overview of the 2017 Spring Freshet and Water Event

On April 5, 2017 the Burnt River Watershed received a flood warning, this included the Irondale River. Sand and empty sandbags were made available to members of the public at the Kinmount Road Shed and Furnace Falls Park.

As of April 25, 2017, the majority of the snow had melted and the Gull River levels were dropping from the spring freshet.

On May 2, 2017, the MNRF, in conjunction with Parks Canada, issued a flood warning for the entire Bancroft District, which included the Gull River System, due to rainfall ranging from 60 mm to 75 mm in the previous 24-48 hours and a possible 50 mm to 60 mm of additional rainfall for the following three days. The average rainfall for Haliburton County, during the month of May is 93 mm.

In the afternoon of May 2, 2017, sandbagging operations were set up and media releases were issued anticipating possible 2013 Flood levels.

On Saturday, May 6, 2017, at 1:30 pm, the Reeve of Minden Hills declared an emergency with the Province.

Water levels continued to rise over the next few days and finally peaking on May 11, 2017 at a level of 271.99, approximately 5 cm below 2013 levels.

On May 26, 2017, at 9:00 am, the Reeve of Minden Hills terminated the declaration of emergency with the Province as the water levels had dropped to a point considered to be normal spring flood levels and the majority of the roads had been reopened.

Township Emergency Control Group (TECG)

The TECG staffing model is as follows:

- Reeve
- Deputy Reeve
- Chief Administrative Officer/Treasurer
- Roads Superintendent
- Clerk
- Fire Chief/Community Emergency Management Coordinator
- Chief Building Official/Planning Supervisor
- Director of Community Services

- Environmental and Property Operations Manager
- Paramedic Services/County of Haliburton Community Emergency Management Coordinator
- OPP
- Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit
- Orillia Power Corporation
- Hydro One Networks Inc.
- Document Registration Officer
- Recovery Coordinator

Other agencies that form part of the Emergency Control Group on occasion are as follows:

- Laurie Scott, Member of Provincial Parliament
- Jamie Schmale, Member of Parliament
- Representative from Emergency Management Ontario (EMO)
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Trent-Severn Waterways/Parks Canada

- The Township Emergency Control Group (TECG) may function with only a limited number of persons depending upon the emergency. While the TECG may not require the presence of all the people listed as members of the TECG, all members of the TECG shall be notified when activation occurs.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS TEAM MEMBERS

EOC COMMAND OFFICER AND COOP: CAO

EOC DOCUMENTATION AND REGISTRATION: GENERAL CLERICAL ASSISTANT

EMERGENCY INFORMATION OFFICER: DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

SAFETY AND LIASON OFFICER: CHIEF BUILDING OFFICER

COMMUNITY SPOKESPERSON: REEVE

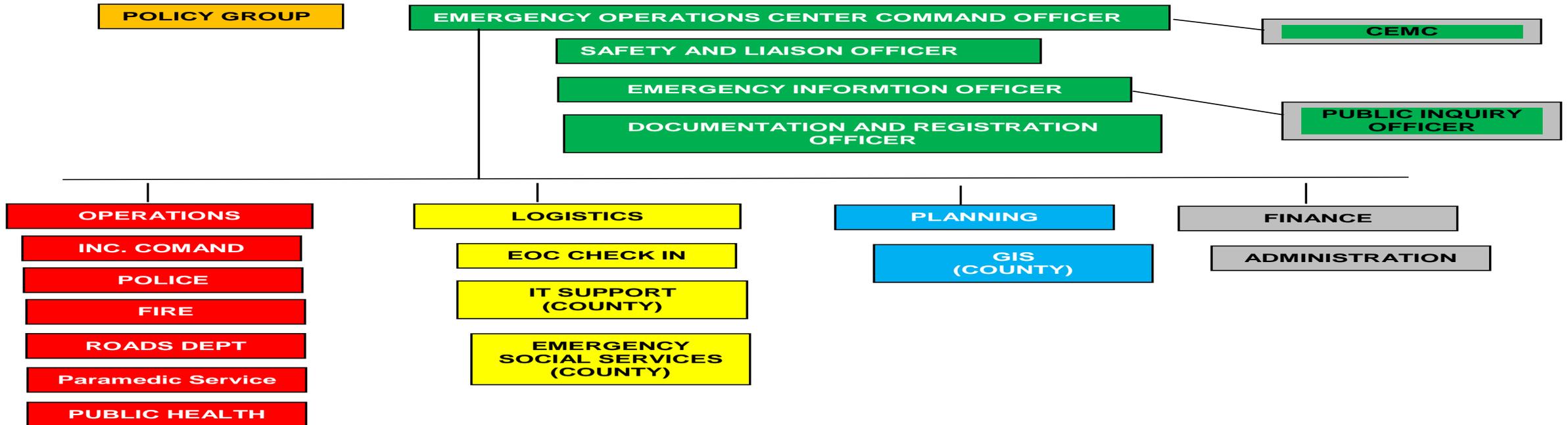
OPERATIONS AND LIASON: FIRE CHIEF OR CEMC

PLANNING AND SAFETY OFFICER: ENVIRONMENTAL AND PROPERTY OPERATIONS

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION: CLERK

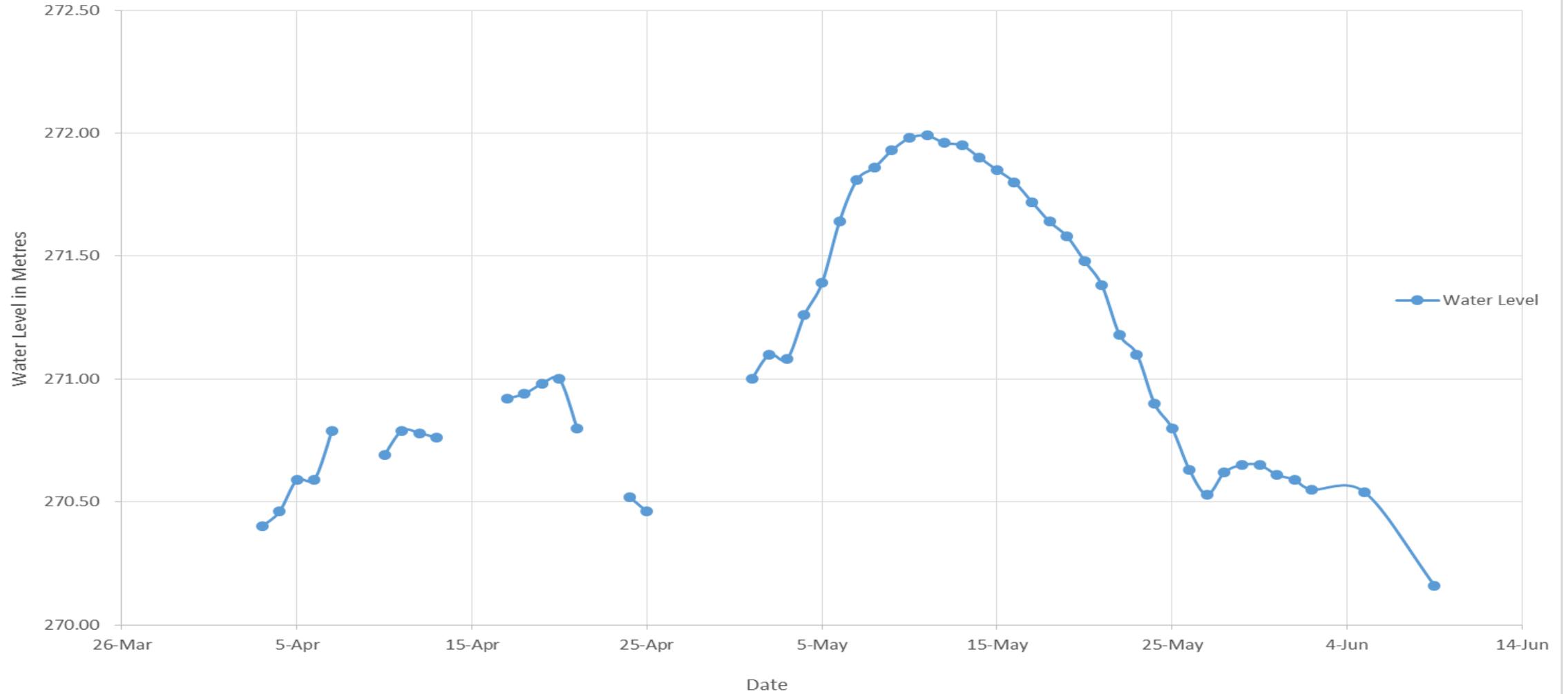
LOGISTICS: ROADS SUPERINTENDENT

Township of Minden Hills EOC/IMS Model

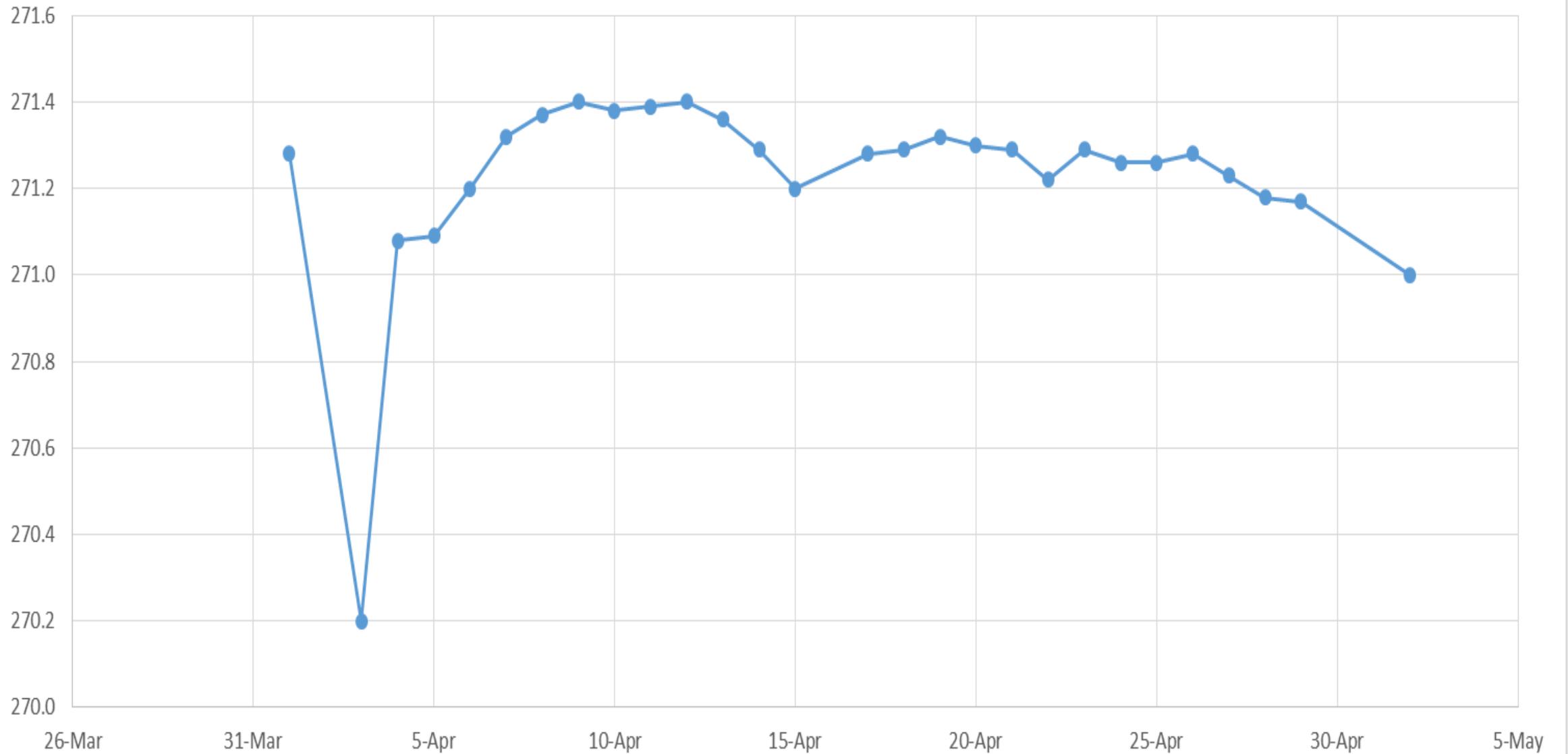


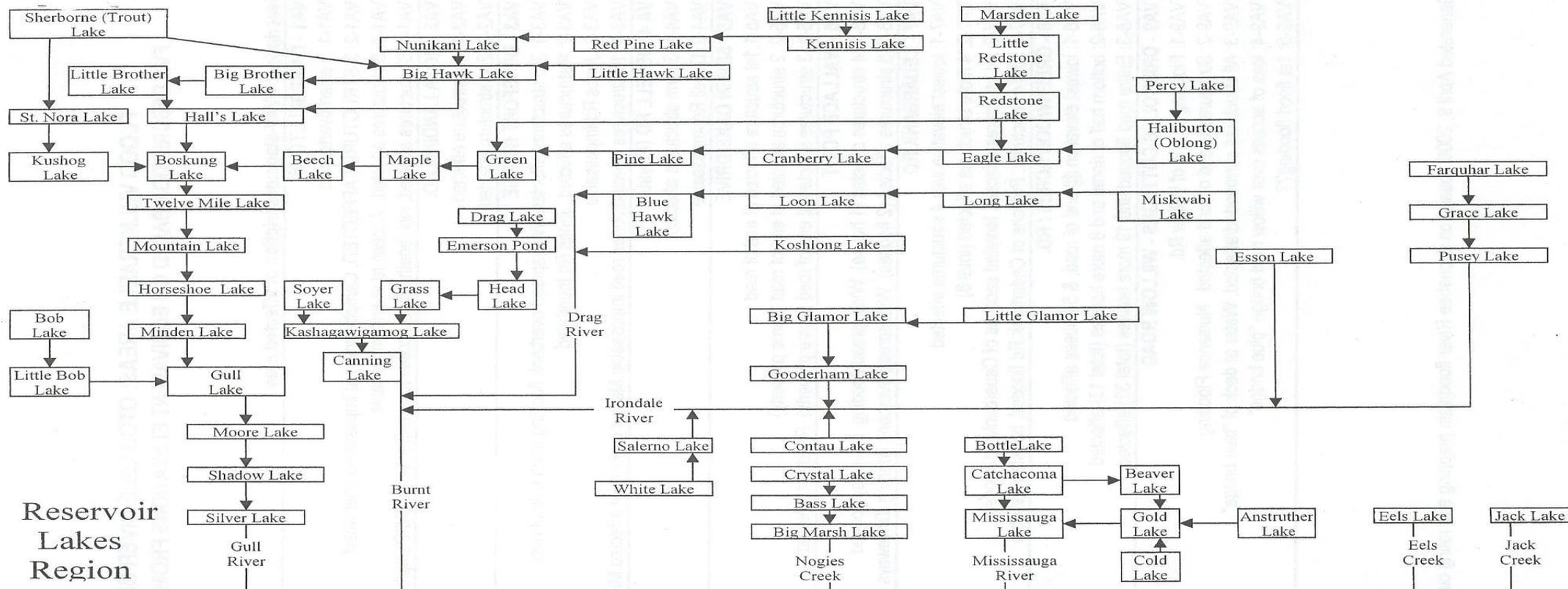


2017 Spring Freshet and Water Event

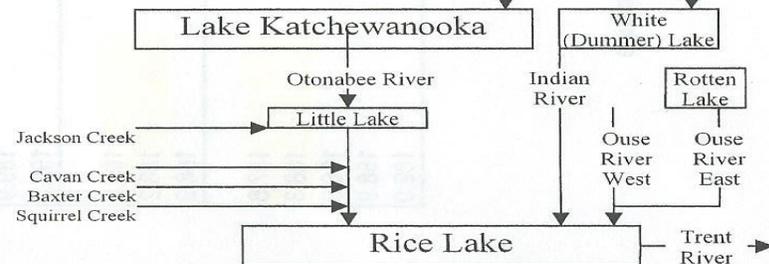


2016 Spring Freshet Water Level





FLOW CHART of the KAWARTHA LAKES
OTONABEE RIVER
and
RICE LAKE
WATERSHEDS



Comparisons from 2013 Flood to 2017 Flood

| 2013 Flood vs 2017 Flood | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | 2013 | 2017 |
| Door to Door Notices | 3 deliveries in town and 1 on Shuylers Island | 7 to residents along the Gull River, local businesses and Shuylers Island |
| Wellness Checks | None Completed | Completed over a 2 day period by the Red Cross and Health Unit with the assistance of the Fire Department |
| Telephone calls received | Approximately 100 | Approximately 200 |
| Telephone calls made | No Records | Approximately 450 including 73 calls made July 18th to remind residents of the Public Meeting |
| Sandbags | Approximately 33,000 filled and utilized | Approximately 47,000 filled and utilized |
| Media Releases | 43 being a combination of water conditions, flood warning, road conditions and closures and service updates | 80 in total 30 flood related, 27 available services and 23 road closures, including the bridge closure |
| Press Conferences | No Records | 5 and several one-on-one in person and over the phone interviews/updates with CTV Barrie, City TV, Global, Chex, CBC Radio, Rock 95 and 680 News |
| External Resources | Samaritan's Purse and Red Cross | Food Bank, Salvation Army, Red Cross, Mennonite Disaster Services, Information session for Disaster Relief for Ontarians Assistance, MP Federal Services and Insurance Bureau of Canada |

Improvements Made from 2013 Flood

After the 2013 Flood the following improvements were made:

- The Emergency Plan was redeveloped to the Incident Management System (IMS), which is a nationally recognized system in, in October 2016.
- A Continuity of Operations Plan and Public Education Supplements were developed in October 2016.
- The Emergency Management Program Committee was created in December 2015.
- A Emergency Information Officer was appointed as a liaison with the media and members of the public in December 2015.
- Basic Emergency Management training was received by the Emergency Management Program Committee, some Members of Council and the Fire Department in March 2016.
- Daily telephone conferences with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), Trent-Severn Waterway (Parks Canada), County of Haliburton, City of Kawartha Lakes and other agencies during spring freshets.

- A sandbagging machine was purchased in March 2017 and more empty sandbags are kept in stock.
- Application was made to the National Disaster Mitigation Program, for a drainage study in September 2016. Confirmation of the successful application was received in May 2017; this study is currently being prepared.
- Since 2015 the Township has included \$30,000 in the Roads Department Budget for flood related remediation. The accumulation of \$90,000 is being used to fund the drainage study.
- The Township's website was updated to include a "splash screen", which allows visitors to view emergency updates immediately in March 2017.
- Media releases and postings regularly encourage individuals to subscribe to website notifications.
- The Township's emergency and health services page on the website was updated with additional flood related links in 2016-2017.

- Staff records the water levels daily during the spring freshet and this information is shared with the Ministry of National Resources and Forestry and Trent Severn Waterway.
- Media releases are forwarded to members of the public through the Township website (www.mindenhills.ca) and are issued to emergency services, external agencies (e.g. Hydro One), lake associations, local media and external media groups.
- A volunteer waiver form was developed with the assistance of the Township's Insurance Company for use during emergency events.
- Council and Staff were encouraged to share media releases on their personal social media accounts in an effort to ensure additional public awareness.
- On June 2, 2017, a Township of Minden Hills Facebook and Twitter Account was created to promote public awareness via social media.
- There will be a delegation to the Minister at the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) Conference in August (August 13 – 16).

Additional information

- During by-pass at the Township of Minden Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant raw sewage has been treated with chlorine prior to being released into the river. At Pumping Station 1, when raw sewage is by-passed water sampling is required and mandated by Ministry regulations.
- Due to annual timing and Health and Safety requirements removal of the snowmobile bridge is currently under review.
- Improvements at the Peck Street boat launch will be addressed with the current drainage study.
- Parks Canada has a wealth of information regarding the Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site.
- The website, <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/info/gestion-eau-water-management>, gives information on water management, updates, FAQs, Water levels, 2013 Gull River Flood Report, 2011 Water Management Study, policies for water/shoreline related work and contact information.

Recommendations from Disaster Relief Committee - June 11, 2015

| Completed | Number | Recommendation | Outcome |
|----------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ | 1 | That essential information be posted on the Municipality's website under a specific Emergency Notices and the Emergency Measures Plan heading as soon as possible before, during and after the disaster. | Revisions to the website completed 2017 |
| ✓ | 2 | That the Municipality provide an accessible Disaster Information Centre throughout the state of emergency period and beyond. An assigned Disaster Co-ordinator be appointed immediately. | Website and door to door communications |
| ✓ | 3 | The appointment of a Communications Officer immediately. | Per Emergency Plan |
| ✓ | 4 | Elected Officials and key Staff Members must be updated on a daily or as-needed basis during the disaster. | Per Emergency Plan |
| ✓ | 5 | Approved and reliable locations for information need to be identified immediately. | Website and the ability to subscribe to notices |
| 2-Jun-17 | 6 | Public communication must have a social media component. | Provided by Members of Council and Township Social Media accounts were created June 2, 2017 |
| ✓ | 7 | As soon as possible, hold a public information Meeting to assist those affected by the disaster with their immediate needs. | Various information sessions and wellness checks |
| ✓ | 8 | That packages be available with all the information required for those affected by the disaster. | Door to door and "Available Services" notices |
| ✓ | 9 | As part of the immediate community services provided to people affected by the disaster during the state of emergency, important and appreciated services, were all located at the same place as the Disaster Information Centre (only one place to go). | External resources were made available (Food Bank, Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.) |
| ✓ | 10 | As part of the Emergency Measures Plan, that the Municipality encourage child and pet care organizations and food delivery services (restaurant, take-out providers, food banks, etc.) to extend their hours of operation. | External resources were made available (Food Bank, Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc.) |
| No longer applicable | 11 | Of major concern to many impacted by the flood was access to financial assistance, that the Municipality and/or Province consider having a process to provide immediately funds to those affected by a disaster within 48 hours. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |

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|----------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| ✓ | 12 | That the Municipality maintain job descriptions, and a list of individuals who would be qualified to serve as Communications Officer, Disaster Co-Ordinator, Administrative Assistant and Program Manager. | Per Emergency Plan |
| ✓ | 13 | The Municipality immediately appoint a Disaster Co-Ordinator from Township Staff, and hire an Administrative Assistant from potential candidates already listed in the Emergency Measures Plan roster as soon as the need is evident (see 12. above). | Per Emergency Plan |
| No longer applicable | 14 | As donations are received the Administrative Assistant's responsibilities would include the recording, coding and maintaining of the donation information as necessary for (1) all thank you notes and (2) all tax receipts. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| No longer applicable | 15 | It is important that the Program Manager be hired and on the job as quickly as possible. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| No longer applicable | 16 | That all contractual agreements between the Program Manager and the Administrative Assistant. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| No longer applicable | 17 | Getting started quickly is critical for the organization of donations and of claims, so it is important that offices for the Program Manager and Administrative Assistant be established and equipped immediately. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| No longer applicable | 18 | That membership of the DRC be kept to the smallest workable number. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| No longer applicable | 19 | That the DRC members sign a confidentiality agreement as soon as the DRC is formed. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| No longer applicable | 20 | It is important that DRC members are immediately covered by the Municipality's insurance. | Ministry of Municipal Affairs responsibility |
| ✓ | 21 | At the end of the process, a debriefing Town Hall meeting would be valuable for all those affected by the disaster, and future disaster planning. | 18-Jul-17 |
| In Progress | 22 | Structural flood remediation work in Minden Hills must include identifying and evaluating flood reduction improvements in the main areas where flooding was at its worst. | Current drainage study |
| ✓ | 23 | That residents have a home emergency plan, as a reminder, it would be helpful if updates made to the Emergency Measures Plan could be provided to residents, perhaps as part of their tax bulletins. | Per Emergency Plan |