

**WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT
(FLOOD OUTLOOK – HIGH WATER LEVELS IN LAKE ONTARIO)**

READ IMMEDIATELY- TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Please distribute a copy to all addressees or their alternates at your location immediately.

TO: City of Hamilton Flood Co-ordinators, Public Works, and Emergency Services
Police Services
MNR, District and Provincial Surface Water Monitoring Centre
Local news media
Adjacent Conservation Authorities
School Boards

FROM: Jonathan Bastien, Water Resources Engineering

DATE: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 **TIME:** 2:15 PM

**Watershed Conditions Statement
(Flood Outlook – High Water Levels in Lake Ontario)**

The Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) is advising that the current Flood Watch – High Water Levels in Lake Ontario, issued on June 6, 2017, has been downgraded to a Watershed Conditions Statement (Flood Outlook - High Water Levels in Lake Ontario).

Although the stronger winds experienced yesterday (June 6) have now diminished, HCA is advising that strong winds and associated wave action may re-occur in the future, resulting in increased risk of shoreline flooding and erosion. Strong winds occurring from the north or east would pose the primary concern for wave-related flooding potential.

HCA is advising that Lake Ontario water levels continue to be significantly above normal. Levels are expected to begin to gradually decline at some point over the next several weeks.

HCA wishes to remind residents to exercise caution near lakefront areas at this time, as high water levels and/or wave action may pose significant hazards.

A close watch on meteorological conditions, including wind, is recommended. HCA continues to monitor Lake Ontario water level and wind conditions closely and will issue additional messages or further updates as required.

The Lake Ontario mean daily water level is currently 75.85 m IGLD85, which is above the highest water levels recorded at any time since 1918. By comparison, the HCA shoreline flooding hazard level, used for planning and development review, is 78.5 m (which includes 2.5 m of wave uprush).

Elevated Lake Ontario water levels are the result on the significant amount of rain received in April and May within the Lake Ontario basin.

Additional information regarding current and forecasted Great Lakes water levels can be found at:

Forecasted, current, and recent Great Lakes Water Levels from US Army Corps of Engineers:
<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/Great-Lakes-Information/Great-Lakes-Water-Levels/Current-Conditions/>

For further information or questions regarding this message, please contact:

Water Resources Engineering:	Jonathan Bastien
Phone:	905-525-2181 ext 138
Fax:	905-648-4622
Email:	jbastien@conservationhamilton.ca