

April 24, 2024

Attention: Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board Re: Ottawa River Water Levels

As the Member of Parliament for Kanata-Carleton, I have seen the devastating impacts of flooding in our community, and understand the realities many have faced, seeing their homes and communities damaged.

Since 2017, residents along the Ottawa river have experienced 3 floods and with current water levels, residents fear a 4<sup>th</sup> this year. As my constituents are noticing, without significant winter runoff, the current water levels are unexpectedly high. This is unacceptable, and there are actions that dam operators, including ORRPB can take to reduce flood risk.

The community is asking for the following actions to be considered:

- Lowering dam head ponds to their physical minimum before the freshet begins.
- Lowering reservoir levels to their physical minimum before the freshet begins, while adhering to municipal infrastructure requirements and considering environmental constraints.
- Creating water management plans that dramatically lower dam head ponds to protect Riparians and Municipalities.
- Strictly adhering to water management plans.

I have engaged the Minister of Emergency Preparedness and request an immediate joint briefing with MPP Karen McCrimmon on this matter.

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