



Town of Iroquois Falls

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Media Release

Friday, May 26TH, 2023

Today I am addressing all residents of Iroquois Falls that have homes, cottages and other property at Nellie Lake who have been affected by the abnormally high-water levels that have persisted since early this month.

Many long-time residents of Nellie Lake have stated that they have no personal recollection of the lake water being this high. While it is true that most properties being threatened are at the northern part of Nellie Lake which lies outside the municipality, the waterbody that is Nellie Lake knows no such boundaries.

While we all hoped and prayed that water levels would have dropped to more manageable levels by now, after nearly 3 weeks, they have not. In fact, the level has continued to rise.

The Town of Iroquois Falls is now faced with potentially significant danger due in part, but not limited to the following concerns:

- The containment of sewage due to flooded septic systems on Nellie Lake
- The threat to potable water due to contamination
- Concerns for the safety and well-being of volunteers assisting with the flooding.
- Concerns with the ability of the municipality to deliver services to Nellie Lake residents should the flooding persist.
- Threats to tourism businesses that thrive on the natural beauty of the Nellie Lake area.

Various Ministries and government agencies have been contacted and advised of the issues at hand, but more must be done. As we are evaluating various options, we ask that residents and boaters refrain from using their motorized watercraft on Nellie Lake until further notice.

With all these factors and concerns in mind and after ample consultation with municipal staff, members of Council and affected residents, effective today May 25th, 2023, and under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter E.9, I am declaring a state of emergency in and around the Nellie Lake area, within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Iroquois Falls.

Tory Delaurier, Mayor of Iroquois Falls

For further information please contact:
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