

Media Release

A meeting was held on February 13, 2020 to update the Stakeholders of the Bonnechere River regarding the KHR amendment and current conditions of the Bonnechere River system.

KHR, RPG, BOWFIN, and MPP Yakabuski's office have been diligently working on gathering the information to fulfil the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) requirements. MNRF (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry) has accepted their portion. Over the months a lot of work on this amendment has been performed and accomplished, however, we continue to work with MECP and DFO as we move forward with this amendment.

To date the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has communicated that based on SWMC modelling data as of February 3, 2020 the snow depth in the Bonnechere River watershed appears to be in the 50 – 60 cm range and the snow-water equivalency is in the 75 – 100% of normal with a small area in Algonquin Park coming in slightly higher at 100 – 125% of normal. The Round Lake drawdown is on target and levels on Golden Lake are currently average.

The Honorable John Yakabuski, Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is aware of the conditions and remains in constant communication. The Minister has indicated that he is prepared to issue an emergency order.

We want to thank all of those involved through this long process. We will continue to work through the legislation, and we ask for your continued patience as we move onwards. We remain committed to getting this amendment approved.

Mayor Janice Visneskie Moore Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards