



CITY OF PEMBROKE MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JUNE 4, 2009
11:45 a.m.**

At approximately 3:00 am on June 3, 2009 a train operated by the Ottawa Valley Railway derailed 16 km east of the Town of Mattawa, which resulted in an estimated 17,000 litres of diesel fuel spilling into the Ottawa River.

As of 10:00 a.m. today, the spill has travelled downstream and is currently above the dam at Rolphton. Emergency response personnel are attempting to contain the spill.

The situation is being monitored by the Ministry of the Environment, Spills Action Centre and the Renfrew County and District Health Unit. These agencies are in continuous contact with City staff, who are conducting visual inspections as well as regular hydrocarbon testing of the water supply.

Flows from the spill area are expected to arrive in the Pembroke vicinity around 12:00 noon on June 5, 2009. Additional measures may be taken, including closure of the water plant intakes from the Ottawa River.

While the City does not anticipate any impact to our water source, in the unlikely event of a water intake closure, water will be supplied to residents from the Quarry Road reservoir and the Bell Street water tower. These systems would provide water for an approximate six hour period depending upon consumption demands. If this measure is taken, residents will be asked to reduce water consumption.

Residents can be assured, as always, the City of Pembroke is committed to providing safe drinking water. Further media releases will be provided as the situation warrants.

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For further information contact:

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