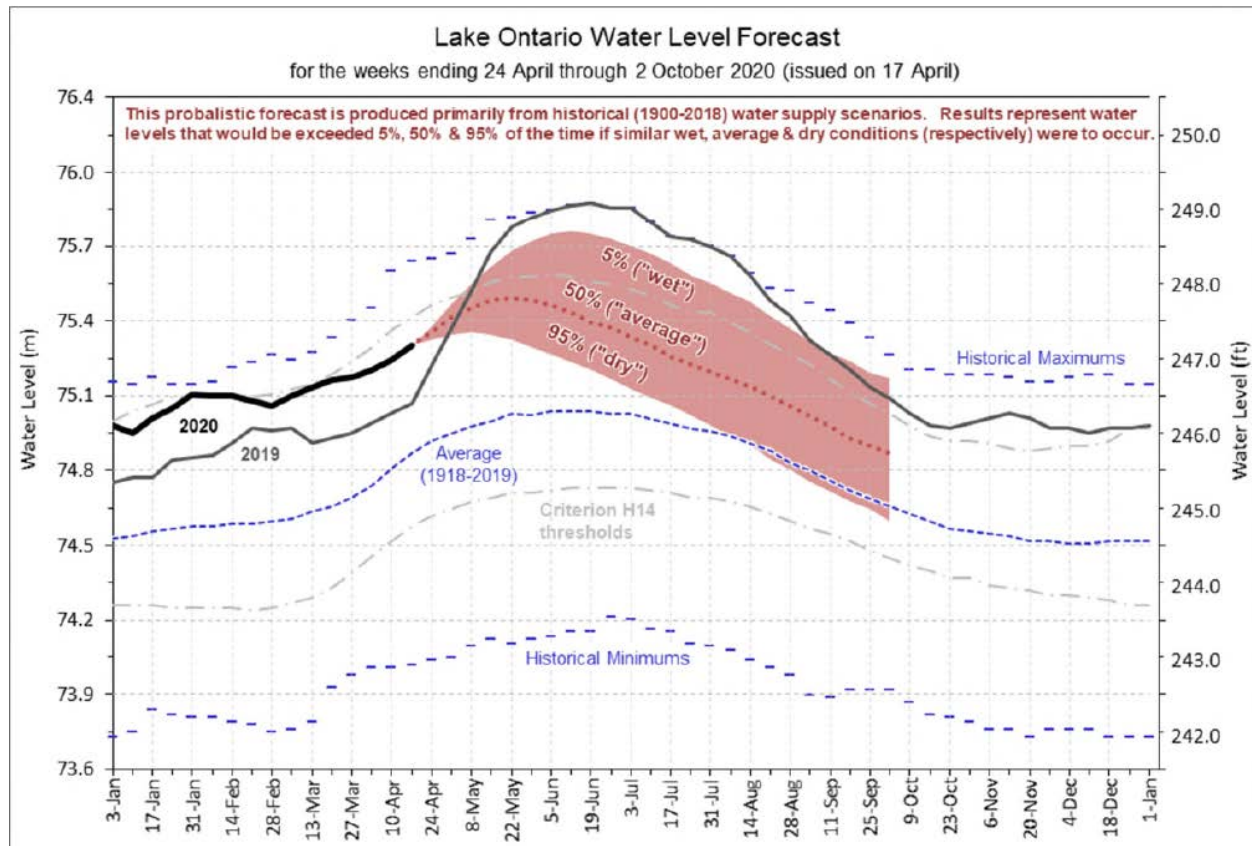


## Attachment 1 – Water Level Forecast for Lake Ontario, from International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Board

### Water Level Forecast Summary for Lake Ontario as of April 17 – TO BE SUPERSEDED

Water levels are expected to remain elevated well above average on Lake Ontario throughout the spring and summer of 2020. The International Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Board (ILOSRLB) had [previously recommended that communities prepare for a peak level of at least 75.5m](#), however the [most recent press release forecasts notes a diminishing likelihood of seeing 2017/2019 levels](#), and this is reflected in the most recent forecast graphic, shown below.



*Inflows from Lake Erie remain at record-highs, and this will continue to contribute significant volumes of water to Lake Ontario, sustain its well-above average water levels, and prevent any rapid lowering. However, generally mild temperatures and moderate precipitation since early spring, reduced snowpack and declining flows in the Ottawa River, and forecasts of mostly dry conditions for the next two weeks, are all positive indicators that suggest Lake Ontario will likely peak below the levels observed in 2017 and 2019.*

*Lake Ontario's (lake-wide average) level was 75.34 m (246.98 ft) on Wednesday (April 15). This level is also:*

- o 34 cm \*below\* the record-high for this time of year set in 1973.*
- o 2 cm \*below\* than water level on the same date in 2017.*
- o 25 cm \*above\* the level on the same date in 2019.*

*Compared to 2017, while levels are similar, conditions have been milder and drier, Ottawa River flows are lower as a result, and this is allowing outflows to be much higher. Compared to 2019, while levels are*

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*higher, it was only in mid-April last year that an exceptional Ottawa River snowpack started melting rapidly with mild and wet weather, eventually leading to unprecedented flows in both peak and duration.*

*Lake Ontario outflows were 8,450 m<sup>3</sup>/s (298,400 cfs) on Thursday April 16. The International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board continues to maximize outflows from Lake Ontario, making frequent adjustments to maintain Lake St. Louis at the minor flood level of 22.33 m (73.3 ft). This remains above the current F-limit, which is meant to balance high water conditions upstream on Lake Ontario with those downstream in the lower St. Lawrence River. Note that because high levels downstream have been the limiting factor, the Plan 2014 safe navigation limit (L-Limit) has not been applicable since Seaway opened April 1st*

The most recent forecast graphic is available here: <https://ijc.org/en/loslrw/watershed/forecasts>