



## MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE

To / Destinataire	Mayor and Members of Council	File/N° de fichier:
From / Expéditeur	Maria McRae, River Ward City Councillor Environment Committee Chair	
Subject / Objet	Invitation to the City's Water Roundtable	Date: May 14, 2014

Vice-Chair Moffatt and I are pleased to invite you to the City's first Water Roundtable being held at City Hall on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This event offers an excellent opportunity to engage with our residents on a variety of issues affecting water in Ottawa. The Roundtable will increase awareness and shared understanding of the health of Ottawa's rivers, lakes, and streams; and further conversations with residents about what we as a community can do to ensure these precious resources are protected and preserved.

Insights gained from the Water Roundtable will inform the long term goals, objectives and guiding principles for Phase 2 of the Water Environment Strategy, as well as the Eastern Subwatersheds Stormwater Retrofit Study, two key projects in the ongoing implementation of the Ottawa River Action Plan.

To ensure that this important discussion includes residents from all parts of our city, we welcome you to extend an invitation to up to ten residents from your Ward to participate in the roundtable. We hope to include a diversity of residents to learn more and share ideas about issues affecting the water environment, including recreational users of our waterways. Youth and older adults are encouraged to attend. Please find attached sample invitation text for your consideration.

Attendance for this event can be confirmed through my office by emailing [RiverWard@ottawa.ca](mailto:RiverWard@ottawa.ca). The deadline for registration is **Friday May 23, 2014**.

### Call for Student Posters

To engage Ottawa's youth in this important discussion, the City has launched a call for posters to increase awareness about drinking water and the significance of water in our community.

All Ottawa schools with students in grades three, four and five are invited to submit one poster on the theme "Water is Life," to illustrate the importance of water as the lifeblood of our city and a resource that we rely on daily. All submissions will be displayed at City Hall and on [ottawa.ca](http://ottawa.ca) as part of the Roundtable.

Every participating school will also be entered in a draw to send two student delegates and one teacher to a lunch at City Hall to be held on Monday, June 23, 2014. The Ward councillor for each winning school will be invited to join Mayor Watson, and myself at the lunch. The draw will take place in early June and six schools will be selected.

I hope to see all of you at the Water Roundtable on June 14. Vice Chair Moffatt and I look forward to this opportunity to engage with you and our residents on these significant issues.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Maria McRae  
Environment Committee Chair  
River Ward City Councillor

cc: Executive Committee  
Chief, Corporate Communications  
Program Manager, Media Relations and Public Information  
General Manager, Environmental Services Department  
Manager, Drinking Water Services  
Manager, Policy Development and Urban Design

**Attachment:** Draft invitation to residents