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Media Release

**Friday, September 16, 2011
For Immediate Release**

The Municipality of Brighton holds an Emergency Response Exercise

Brighton, ON - The Municipality of Brighton held an emergency preparedness exercise yesterday which included winter condition flooding of Butler Creek, Salt Creek, Harbour Street and Walt Street in Smithfield. This led to basement flooding and road closures. The Emergency Control Group was convened to respond to the event.

Simultaneously, the group received an emergency call from ENSS, received reports of serious vehicle accidents on highway 401 and dealt with a malfunctioning pumping station which, when combined, stretched available resources.

Mayor Mark Walas declared an Emergency in order to open emergency shelters for residents, allow volunteer help and to facilitate staff to work longer hours, as required under legislation.

The municipality communicated regularly with residents throughout the emergency using new technology known as the Community Emergency Management Public Inquiry System and the municipal web site. The response was coordinated with the Lower Trent Conservation Authority, the O.P.P., the County of Northumberland and the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge Health Unit.

Mayor Walas stated, "I am very pleased with the outcome of this exercise. The emergency response went very smoothly and all parties remarked upon its relevance toward preparing for an actual emergency."

- 30 -

For additional information contact: Mayor Mark Walas, 613-475-0670