

October 30, 2017

Dear Canonto Lake Property Owners,

What Your Lake Association Has Accomplished:

Since the formation of the Canonto Lake Property Owners' Association (CLPOA), property owners have seen many benefits from our collective efforts:

1. Members of the Association have shared their diverse skills, expertise and experience; we have drawn on these resources to address issues that affect our shared lake experience;
2. The Association has developed a good working relationship with North Frontenac Township Council; CLPOA has influence and a voice at the Township & County. Members provided input into the Township's new Official Plan;
3. CLPOA members have been informed in a timely manner of issues affecting our lake and neighbouring lakes so that they can become involved in issues of concern;
4. The Association has provided guidelines to encourage property owners to be good stewards of the lake and surrounding land, according to generally agreed, but voluntary, guidelines as set out in the Lake Stewardship Plan;
5. Through the Association's membership in the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA), CLPOA members are entitled to FOCA membership benefits: group insurance, E-Alerts, and representation on many provincial agencies and boards which advocate on behalf of its members;
6. The Association has distributed relevant information for cottagers, e.g., fire bans, water levels, and notice of social events;
7. Through the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority and Watersheds Canada members have benefitted from shore re-vegetation projects and a fisheries enhancement project in 2018;
8. The Association has fostered community development on the lake. Cottagers who participate in social events and other activities have come to know their neighbours;
9. The Lake Steward and other volunteers have monitored lake quality, conducting citizen science, so that issues or opportunities could be identified and actions taken before the lake quality is negatively affected; and,
10. Association members have participated in workshops and meetings of regional lake associations, networking groups, conservation authorities and NGOs, finding opportunities for the enhancement of our lake environment.

What's Next for the Association?

Over the last five years, the Lake Stewardship Plan (LSP) has been the Executive's guide to actions on behalf of the Canonto Lake Property Owners' Association (CLPOA). Most of the fifty three (53) recommendations in the LSP have been completed. Now it is time to review and update the LSP to reflect new priorities. To determine these priorities, we need your feedback. The Executive will undertake a membership survey on which new recommendations will be based. But before we get to the survey, I would like to share some information about CLPOA.

What the Association Is Not:

- An Authority that has control over what people do on their property or on the lake. The Association promotes good stewardship and gives input to the Township in the development of its Official Plan and By-laws.
- Against further development of lakefront properties. Further development is inevitable, but we want to ensure that the lake is not negatively affected by that development.

Canonto Lake, unlike many lakes in the Township, has very little Crown Land. Long stretches of undeveloped shoreline are privately held so that development could have a significant impact on our shared enjoyment of the lake. We wish to work with the Township to balance the rights and interests of existing cottage owners with the rights and interests of developers. We want to ensure that the lake quality and the social and recreational attributes of the lake are not negatively impacted by further development.

What the Association Does:

The Lake Stewardship Plan states, “The CLPOA hopes that, through participation and consensus building, the Lake Stewardship Plan will:

- Foster mutually supportive relationship among property owners;
- Effectively present the concerns and recommendations of property owners to the Township Council which administers the Township Official Plan(OP) and Zoning By-laws; and,
- Provide an effective forum in which to discuss any future development...”

This year, members of the Executive worked diligently with the North Frontenac Council and Planning Department, providing substantial support and input to Council, as it drafted a new Official Plan. The new OP identifies lake associations as a key resource in the planning process. This is a major achievement for CLPOA and other lake associations in the Township.

Section 4.10.7 of the OP states that:

“Limits to development on lakes may be based on social, physical, biological and other measures of capacity. The Township will work with Frontenac County, the Frontenac Stewardship Foundation, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Conservation Authorities, **lake associations**, and other agencies to develop a long term plan for comprehensive lake planning.

The Township will encourage and support lake associations to conduct lake stewardship planning. Township Council shall have regard to any such lake plans as part of the information to be considered on planning decisions respecting development or redevelopment on a lake.”

With this important mandate, we need to develop a database of both the physical qualities of the lake and social/recreational use and pressures on the lake. We need your input. The information you provide through the following survey will be essential as we move forward in establishing data to use in our stewardship role. In addition, we want direction from you as the Association’s Executive Committee sets new goals. Please contact your Executive at any time if you have a question or concern that falls within CLPOA’s stewardship mandate.

Please complete and return the following survey by November 14, 2017. We greatly value your input.

Best regards,

Jim Fawcett
CLPOA President, 2017

**Canonto Lake Property Owners' Association
Membership Survey**

Five years ago, the Association surveyed existing property owners. It is now time to gather input from new owners and to update the priorities of the other property owners. Your survey responses will help us to reflect what we value about lake property ownership and our shared experience on the lake. We rely on your feedback and thank you in advance for your participation.

All results will be anonymous. If you reply by email, the survey will be separated from your personal identification.

CLPOA's STEWARDSHIP ROLE:

As the Association advises the Township about stewardship of our lake, an inventory of our activities and usage will provide important information about social/recreational factors in the lake carrying-capacity. Please indicate the activities you enjoy and the frequency with which you enjoy them.

Activity	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely or Never
Relaxing on the dock or near the water			
Swimming			
Canoeing, kayaking, paddle-boarding, sailing			
Power boating-cruising, water skiing, tubing			
Using PWCs, like sea-do's			
Fishing			
Star gazing			
Hiking, walking, cycling			
Snowshoeing, skiing, skating			

ATVing and Ski- do'ing			
Other			

Please show your use of your property:

- Seasonal dwelling – used from late spring to early fall
- Extended seasonal dwelling – used in the summer and occasionally through-out the year
- Permanent dwelling – a primary residence used all year long
- Vacant property

Water Quality

1. Do you draw water from:

- The lake?
- A well?

2. For drinking water do you:

- Have a purification system?
- Import bottled water?
- Import city water?
- Drink from tap with filter?
- Drink with-out filter?

3. Have you had your water tested by the Ministry? If yes,

- In the last year?
- Every 3-5 years?
- Never?

4. Going forward would you be willing to share test results for general distribution to our members.

- Yes?
- No?

MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND CONCERNS:

1. What opportunities do you see the Association pursuing to sustain or enhance the lake's physical quality? Are you concerned about wildlife habitat, fish stocks, invasive species or other qualities?

2. What opportunities do you see the Association pursuing to sustain or enhance the social and recreational attributes of the lake?

3. Would you be interested in more social or educational activities, related to the lake and surrounding area? Would you be interested in talks about geology, measurement of water quality, wildlife, history or other topics? Please provide examples of the desired activities.

4. Are you willing to participate and help in organizing the activities you have listed for questions 1, 2 and 3?

5. Do you see threats to the ongoing physical quality of the lake?

6. Do you have concerns or see threats to the current social and recreational attributes of the lake? Are you concerned about trespassing, noise, or lack of safety on the lake?

7. Currently, less than 20% of the Lake shoreline is developed for cottage or residential use (5 permanent residences, 4 extended seasonal residences, 52 seasonal residences, and 7 vacant lots). For the members of your household, what level of shoreline development do you think could be accommodated before the quality of 'cottage experience' is significantly diminished?

- A. 20 % Shoreline Development. _____
- B. 20-30% Shoreline Development. _____
- C. 30-40% Shoreline Development. _____
- D. 50-75% Shoreline Development. _____
- E. 75-100% Shoreline Development. _____