

LAKE NETWORKING GROUP MEETING THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

Participating:

Terry Kimmel (Pike Lake), Gord Rodgers (14 Island), Connie Stackhouse (Bennett/Fagan), Donna Doelman (Bennett/Fagan), Terry and Judy Kennedy (Kennebec Lake), Taro Alps (Greater Bobs and Crow), Nona Mariotti (Battersea Loughborough), Karen and Murray Hunt (Otty Lake), Eileen and Ed Barbeau (Little Silver and Rainbow), Meaghan McDonald (RVCA), Gordon Hill (Christie Lake), Kay Rogers (Pike Lake), Eugenia Flett (Farren Lake), Jackie and Brian Stapledon (Farren Lake), Ron Fitzgerald (Farren Lake), Jim Lampman (Bennett/Fagan), Martha Bradburn (RVCA), Mary Lynne and Jim Holton (Canonto Lake)

Regrets:

Alyson Symon (MVC), Andrea Klymko (RVCA), Mike Yee (RVCA), Barbara King (CSW), Larry Arpaia (Greater Bobs and Crow)

1. Mississippi Valley Conservation

Input via email from Alyson Symon, Watershed Planner, Mississippi Valley Conservation

Water Levels

- Water levels are still extremely low across the entire system due to lack of rainfall over the entire summer
- Level 2 Low Water Advisory was first declared on July 3rd, following a Level 1 advisory being declared on June 1st.
- As of August 21 the Level 2 Low Water Level Advisory was still in effect for the MVC watershed area
- Under a Level II Low Water Condition, watershed residents, businesses and industries are asked to reduce their water use by 20%, including those who hold a Permit to Take Water issued by the Ministry of the Environment. Non-essential water uses should be suspended until natural water supplies have recovered.
- Following the recent rains MVC is still in Level 2 Low Water Advisory Status
- It will take several more rainstorms of the magnitude of the last one to bring conditions out of Level 2 levels.

Lake Monitoring

Watershed Watch (2012)

- Sample 12 lakes for phosphorus, chlorophyll a, sechhi disc, dissolved oxygen and temperature
- Ardoch, Clayton, Clyde, Flower Round, Horne, Joe's, Mississippi, Paddy's, Robertson, Taylor, Upper Park and Widow Lake
- Results will be compiled throughout winter
- Last year's reports are posted on the MVC website

Invasive Species Monitoring

- Hired a summer student under Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) sponsored invasive species monitoring program
- Sampled for Zebra mussels, Spiny Water Flea, on all Watershed Watch Lakes plus 9 other lakes that requested it
- Rusty Crayfish on all Watershed Watch Lakes plus 13 other lakes and 6 sites on the Mississippi River

Lake Planning

Canonto Lake

- The Canonto Lake Stewardship Plan was approved by the Membership of the Canonto Property Owners Association on September 1st
- It is an excellent plan that will provide a very helpful example for other lakes who are undertaking lake Plans

Kashwakamak Lake

- Kashwakamak Lake Plan project is ongoing. Last years and early 2012, the focus was on community consultation with the distribution of a community survey and a business survey
- The focus is now on the collection of information and preparation of the background report

Mississippi Lake

- Mississippi Lake Plan project is ongoing.
- This summer they distributed a community survey focus is now on the collection of information and preparation of the background report
- MVC received funding from Valley Heartland to hire a Lake Plan Research Intern for 6 months (July to December) to assist in collecting background information for Mississippi Lake and other lake plan project

Climate Change Workshop (September 26th)

- MVC is hosting a Climate Change workshop titled “**Natural Systems Management – Identifying and Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Natural Systems in the Mississippi River Watershed**”
- Guest Speaker will be Gary Nielson, Climate Change Project Coordinator, Ministry of Natural Resources
- This is part of an ongoing watershed-based climate change adaptation series.
- Workshop will be held on September 26, 2012 from 1 p.m. to 4p.m. at the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area

New Office

- On September 5th a Groundbreaking Ceremony was held at the site of the new Mississippi Valley Conservation Office Building
- The new office site is located on Highway 7 in Carleton Place
It is scheduled to be completed by June 2013 (move-in July 2012)

2. Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Meaghan McDonald, Stewardship Assistant, RVCA

1) ECOACTION FUNDING

RVCA has received a \$90,000 grant from Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program. This grant will go towards completing targeted stewardship projects in the Rideau Watershed. Our first target area is the Tay Subwatershed for 2012-2013.

What does this mean for Lake Groups and residents?

Over the next year, RVCA will be providing shoreline naturalization projects at **absolutely no cost to the landowner/community group**. Free projects components may include:

- Site visit with a qualified RVCA staff member to discuss potential enhancement opportunities
- A specialized planting plan and species list approved by the landowner
- Purchase of all plant materials including bare root, 1 gallon and 2 gallon trees and shrubs, wildflowers (potential) by RVCA
- All project management and installation (planting) by RVCA staff

Basically, RVCA will take care of all aspects of the naturalization projects from planning to execution including covering all of the costs for approved projects. All we need is willing landowners. We can also assist community groups with planning, assistance, and/or financial support for their stewardship projects. Community groups are encouraged to contact us to discuss potential partnering opportunities.

Other potential projects that we may be able to assist with include shoreline garbage cleanups, invasive species management, livestock restriction and alternate watering, bioengineering projects, erosion control projects and fish habitat enhancement projects. Some additional fundraising may be required for these non-planting related projects.

How can the Lake Networking Group help?

We need help getting the word out to lake residents (via fall newsletters, websites, sign postings, word of mouth, etc.). We are open to suggestions.

Note: Meaghan also provided an advertisement/poster that Rideau Valley Lake Associations could use to promote the free projects in newsletters, emails, websites, etc. It is attached in both PDF and as a Jpeg.

2) SHELL FUELLING CHANGE

RVCA is currently in the running for a \$50,000 grant from the Shell Fuelling Change Fund. RVCA's *Healthy Streams, Natural Shorelines* project will help support our stewardship efforts. The public decides which projects receive funding by logging in online and voting for individual projects. We have **until October 31st** to make it into the top four in our category.

Please consider logging on at <http://fuellingchange.com> and voting for us. You get 10 votes just for logging on. Special bonus votes are granted to each user throughout the competition and every time you make a purchase at Shell, you get 10 more votes to use.

Every vote helps, so please help spread the word!

For more information contact Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca, 1-800-267-3504 ext. 1192

3. Martha Bradburn, RVCA Planner, Upper Watershed

- To date this year they have received 86 applications and expect 25 to 30 more this year
- Also there will be 15-30 who do work without permits
- Flood designations have been created for Otty, Otter and some other lakes
- Climate change could affect low areas
- MVC has designated Mississippi Lake and River for flood designations
- Martha talked about who to call regarding permits. Permits are needed for shoreline work.
- Suggested that in seeking information start with the Township. The Landowner Resource Centre is also a resource at 1 800 267-3504 ext. 1132

4. Review of the August 18'th Septic Savvy Workshop: - a big thanks to Kay Rogers, Alyson Symon and Taro Alps for their work on organizing this event

- i. Taro Alps reported that 77 people attended the event and they collected \$50.50 in donations
- ii. They are hoping to get PDF files on the workshops that were presented
- iii. There was some talk of having another workshop and perhaps could draw on the Stewardship Councils for help

5. Not-for-Profit Corporations Act:

(the following is Gordon Hill's e-mail of May 16, 2012).

Gordon Hill highlighted the following from his review of the material available about the new legislation:

- 1 *Lake associations incorporated in Ontario and those that are contemplating incorporation in Ontario should be aware of Ontario's Not-for Profit Corporations Act, 2010 ("the Act") which received Third Reading on October 19, 2010 and Royal Assent on October 25*
- 2 *The Act, which is now part of the law of Ontario, is not yet in force or effect. It will come into force on a date to be named by the Lieutenant Governor. That date is not expected before the fall of 2012.*
- 3 *Existing not-for-profit corporations (generally non-share capital corporations) will have 3 years to bring their corporate charter and by-laws up to date and in accordance with the provisions of the Act.*
- 4 *A partial copy of the Act may be downloaded from*

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_10n15_e.htm
Parts XVI to XVIII of the Act (sections 211 to 250) have been omitted from that copy.
However, the omissions are not material for our purposes since they deal only with

- (a) identifying other provincial statutes which are amended by the Act;
- (b) providing that the Act shall come into effect on a date to be named by the Lieutenant Governor; and
- (c) the name of the Act.

- 5 The Government of Canada passed the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (“the federal Act”) in 2009. The federal Act applies to not-for-profit corporations incorporated under federal law, as opposed to provincial law. Not-for profit corporations which carry on business in more than one province will often choose to incorporate under the federal statute. Since the activities of most lake associations tend to be “very local”, it is usual for lake associations to be incorporated under provincial law.
- 6 Information about both the Act and the federal Act may be obtained by Googling “Not-for-profit corporations”. When looking at the various options, make sure you differentiate between the Ontario and federal statutes.
- 7 The attached Business Law Quarterly prepared in November 2010 by McCarthy Tetrault, a national law firm, highlights both the Act and the federal Act.
- 8 Additional noteworthy articles about the Act may be found at:
<http://news.ontario.ca/mcs/en/2010/05/ontarios-not-for-profit-corporations-act.html>
http://www.sse.gov.on.ca/mcs/en/Pages/Not_For_Profit.aspx
<http://www.corporationcentre.ca/docen/pinc/home.asp?t=nonprofit&gclid=CLya5sOVhbACFWwDQAodljS0lw>

Gordon reported that very little information has come out since May 16. This act will not likely be in effect until January 2013 or afterwards. This new act will replace the existing act and will have a three year transition period. The purpose of the legislation is to get rid of hardships i.e. audits. References to available information are contained in the May 16 e-mail. Karen commented on the complexity of the legal language in the materials. Gordon suggested that FOCA should be contacted to prepare a summary of the legislation. Karen will contact FOCA to request this. Gordon said that associations are not required to incorporate.

6. LAKE LINKS 2012- OCTOBER 20’TH CLIMATE CHANGE-BUILDING RESILIENCY IN OUR LAKES

- Gord Rogers said this is the 11th annual Lake Links workshop
- there are a group of excellent speakers who will be addressing: effects of a changing climate and strategies to compensate; awareness of the issues
- there will be a question/answer time with the speakers
- as well there will be displays
- a question was raised about climate change and limits to development

7. REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP TO UPDATE TAY VALLEY TOWNSHIP'S LAKE ASSOCIATION CONTACT LIST

-a list was circulated and reps from Tay Valley lake associations present at the meeting updated it.

8. PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MOTORS - KAY RODGERS

- Kay expressed a concern about the amount of pollution caused by old 2-stroke outboard motors
- she was looking for an incentive program to replace the old 2-stroke engines
- FOCA had been contacted and they indicated that previous efforts to establish such a program had not been successful
- Question "Do we think it is worthwhile to work with FOCA on a replacement program?"
- Gord Rodgers asked if FOCA could produce a fact sheet on this and various comments for and against were put forward
- do we pursue FOCA for a fact sheet?
- Kay felt it was part of environmentally responsible boating
- Gordon Hill suggested making it a national program

An open discussion was held

- Kay is to contact Terry Rees at FOCA saying we need a fact sheet on friendly boating and if FOCA does come up with a program, the Lake Networking Group could promote it

9. WAKEBOARD BOATS- Kay Rogers brought the issue of wakeboard boats up looking to see if any other lakes had similar issues with these boats. It was an issue that was raised at their lake meeting. They are huge boats and can raise up waves up to 3m in height. It takes quite a distance for these waves to dissipate. They cause erosion of shorelines and are a danger to loon nests. As well they: are a threat to swimmers; churn up sediments; transfer aquatic life in bladders. Some lake associations have set out rules/guidelines that they should not be used where they are closer than 300m to the shoreline. A discussion ensued and Kay is looking for committee members to look into this question further. Martha said the real issue is boating behaviours. She suggested that perhaps a brochure on boating etiquette would be a great idea. Gord Rodgers talked about awareness and preparing a brochure. Perhaps it was something FOCA could do. Davis Lake has a boating guide.

Kay said she was interested in approaching an issue from an environmental impact view.

Karen said in going forward we should approach this from an educational point of view and for the next meeting those with information can share with others. Martha Bradburn mentioned that Parks Canada had put out a brochure called "Watch Your Wake".

Gordon Hill wondered what do wakeboard associations have? Could we use them to promote responsible use?

Kay has information from various sources.

We will return to the topic at the next meeting.

10. OPP/LAKE ASSOCIATIONS FALL MEETING – on Wednesday October 24'th, lake associations in Lanark and Frontenac Counties in areas served by the Lanark Detachment of

the OPP will meet with the OPP in round table discussions. **NOTE: Meeting will take place in the Tay Valley Township Council Chambers on Harper Road beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Oct. 24th**

11. The Rideau Valley Field Naturalists donated a screen and coffee pot to the Otty Lake Association- these are available for use by other lakes in the Lake Networking Group.

12. THE ISSUE OF PRIVATE ROAD SIGNS IN TAY VALLEY and the lack of proper notification were raised by Gordon Hill. Gordon felt that the lake associations were not given sufficient time to react to the issue raised at a meeting of Tay Valley Council just after Labour Day and that there are flaws in the policy of residents of a private road being responsible for signs and costs. The real issue is the lack of communication by the township. Gordon will send Karen his letter regarding this and it can be circulated. The issue is only road name signs.

Karen said more information is needed and the issue is communication re: policies affecting lakes.

A comment was made that perhaps we need to be proactive in looking at township web sites.

13.LAKE ASSOCIATION UPDATES:

Farren Lake: We are pleased to announce and share with you the completion of our *Farren Lake Stewardship Action Plan*. This document is available on our website, <http://farrenlake.ca>. You will note that the Lake Plan has moved significantly into the implementation phase and introduces a mechanism - a report card to be issued every five year - to assess progress and indicate the need for changes to the Action Plan, reflecting the dynamic process of lake stewardship. During the lake management planning process, our work in partnership with MOE & RVCA revealed that Farren Lake was at capacity for new development. On November 22, 2012, TVT enacted the Interim Control By-law effecting a one-year freeze on new development on Farren and Adams Lake, also assessed to be at capacity. A Lake Capacity Working Group has been set up as a condition of this one-year freeze. Our current priority is to work effectively with this inter-agency working group to ensure that the recommended lake management strategies are sensitive to and appropriate for the unique characteristics of Farren lake and its community. The working group will be making recommendations to Council this fall.

On a lighter note, the re-occurrence of the Family Fun Day for the second year after an absence of 20 plus years was highly successful. The draw for this two-hour event was mainly children 3-6 years of age. A screaming, fun time was had by the delighted children accompanied by their parents. We are looking forward to repeating this event again next year.

Pike Lake Community Association Board includes a new President and 3 new board members. Lake stewardship signs approved by MNR & Transport Canada. These include: New sign at the public boat launch; Tent symbol on the big island where camping is permitted; no camping signs for islands MNR advises are too small for healthy camping; Slow signs in selected areas. New

logo – whimsical pike designed by Pike Lake resident & artist, Ali Kurtis. Tee-shirts with the pike logo & our slogan *Let's keep Pike Lake healthy for all.*

New reusable signs with the logo for the Annual General Meeting & for our annual *Let's Celebrate Pike Lake* community event. Our first annual community boatilla & BBQ, held on June 30th, was a big success. Applied for a grant under the MNR Community Fisheries & Wildlife Involvement Program to enhance walleye spawning beds on the lake; awaiting approval & funding.

Continue to promote the RVCA shoreline naturalization program. New initiatives: Intend to join the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey; Committee established to look at environmentally responsible boating, including wake board boats.

The **Kennebec Lake Association** is pleased to share that we have adopted a Lake Stewardship Plan at our AGM held this past August. There were several years of preparation involved in the preparation and we will now be turning toward its implementation. There have been recent requests for us to become involved in disputes between neighbours and as result we have been considering the role we should play or not play in such matters. In addition we have determined to acquire Directors and Officers Liability Insurance in order to be ensure there is protection for the members of the Executive. Ongoing work with Central Frontenac will include pursuing the questions of a Septic System Re-Inspection Program and the potential for a Property Standards Bylaw. Like many other groups, the boating behaviour of some people remains a concern and we will be updating our lake user 'etiquette' brochure for further distribution. We are getting more expressions of concern regarding the increased lighting of fireworks well beyond the traditional Victoria Day and Canada periods and wonder if that is the experience of other groups.

The **Otty Lake Association** discussed the success that they have in the use of “special signs” in increasing awareness of lake association activities. These outdoor, free-standing, signs have a large transparent plastic pocket that is used to hold a notice of an upcoming **OLA** event. Fourteen of these signs are placed at strategic points on access roads leading to the lake. Each of the three notices used this year were designed with the use of different font and background colours to catch peoples’ attention to the change of notice. The **OLA** conducted a BioBlitz in July at the *Whispering Pines Scout Camp*, adjacent to Otty Lake. A BioBlitz is a survey of all species of plants and animals that can be identified within a defined geographical area and period of time, in this case 24 hours. In addition to the contribution of experts, participation of members of the lake community was encouraged by the numerous hikes, observation opportunities, some seminars and a children’s’ program. There were over 100 participants at the event. Community Partners included Scouts Canada, RVCA, CSW, Community Stewardship Council of Lanark County, Canadian Wildlife Federation and the Lanark County Camera Club. About 550 different species of plants and animals were observed.

Bennett and Fagan Lakes Association – Donna Doelman , Chair of the Bennett and Fagan Network of Road Reps indicated that their current project is establishing a “**Cottage Watch**” program. Donna explained that the Cottage Watch Program was originally designed through a partnership with FOCA and the OPP. . Donna provided copies of a FOCA brochure and Manual (see www.bennettandfaganlakes.com/) on the Cottage Watch program as well as a copy of the

proposed Cottage Watch sign that Bennett and Fagan Lake Association is hoping to post on roads around the lake.

The Lake Association has requested permission from the OPP to include the OPP logo on their Cottage Watch signs.

Follow-up- Sept. 14/12 Donna reported that she had received a positive response from Sgt. David. Thomas, Provincial Coordinator - Community Issues Unit, Crime Prevention Section, Field Support Bureau, Ontario Provincial Police - General Headquarters

Canonto Lake - finished their Lake Stewardship Plan and plan to present it to the North Frontenac Township Council in the near future. As well the Association had its annual BBQ and successfully organized a community meeting where 160+ residents supported the building of a new fire hall in Ompah.

Christie Lake- at their AGM they included a safety talk from the OPP and a tick talk from the Health Unit. They are trying to develop a sense of community. Events of interest include a boat parade, a corn roast, an Elvis dinner dance and a rain dance. They also mentioned the new John McKenty book *Arden Blackburn's Mail Route – The Early Days at Christie Lake*"

Eagle Lake held their AGM where Gord Rodgers spoke about the potential demise of the Frontenac Stewardship Council. Irv Dardick is the new president.

They had 12 baby loons this year.

The contentious issue is the use of bubbler systems on the lake during the winter and what the implications will be. It was suggested that this was an insurance liability question.

Signs – DANGER THIN ICE

14 Island Lake – A number of the South Frontenac lake association are scheduled to meet with the township. South Frontenac is hesitant to get involved with septic reinspection. Gord Rogers expressed concern over cuts coming to the MNR and Stewardship Councils. This will put more responsibilities on the CAs and the Municipalities

NOTE: Sept. 27, 2012 -the Ministry of the Environment announced the ending of the Ontario Stewardship Program with the dedicated Stewardship Coordinators .

Battersea Loughborough – Over the summer they completed a pilot Shoreline Survey Program. Next year is the lake associations 50th Anniversary as an association. They are looking for more people to take ownership and be involved in the lake association.

The lake association participated in the 1st municipal (South Frontenac) and lake associations Meeting.

Little Silver and Rainbow – Eileen Barbeau was pleased to say that she is now the Past President, after 6 years as President. Pat Mills is the new president but unfortunately she was unable to attend the meeting. The lake association had a pancake breakfast again prior to their AGM. It was very successful in providing an opportunity for socializing.

Greater Bobs and Crow – Taro Alps is now the Past President and Larry Arpaia is the President. This summer the GBCLA completed their Shoreline Survey with the support of CSW and RVCA.. The reports and binders are still to come.

Additional item: There was not the opportunity during the meeting to pass on a repeat offer from Art Dunham from Big Clear Lake near Arden.

Art has developed a computer program which he has called the *Living Lake Plan* that can be used as part of a lake plan, or as an approach to handle pieces of data that lake associations need to manage. Art is prepared to meet with representatives of any lake groups to discuss the merits of his program, or to deliver a workshop on its various applications and uses and can be reached via e-mail at artdunham@bell.net or by telephone at 613 379-0081.

Next Meeting – Thursday, Jan. 17, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at the Burgess Hall