

Next Lake Networking Group meeting date – Friday, September 7, 2018 at 9:30 am, Burgess Hall, 4174 Narrows Lock Road (location to be confirmed)

**Lake Networking Group Meeting Minutes**  
Friday, Apr 13th, 2018, 9:30 – 12:30 pm  
Burgess Hall, Narrow's Lock Rd, Tay Valley Township

**PARTICIPANTS**

**Lake Organizations:** Claire Martel, Dave Overholt (White Lake); Larry Arpaia (Greater Bobs & Crow); Donna Craig, Eric Boysen (Bennet & Fagan); Terry Kennedy, (FOCA and Kennebec Lake); Kevin LaPorte (Kennebec); Barbara Sabourin (Robertson Lake); Bob & Philippa Fugler (Loughborough Lake); Frank Johnson (Little Silver & Rainbow Lakes); Bruce Jackson, Sue Shaw (Dog Lake); Joan Delaney, Laura Belton, Shane Renwick (Chaffey's Area Lake Associations); Sue MacGregor, Judy McIntyre (Kashwakamack Lake); Larry Bowen, Donna Walsh (Christie Lake); Judy Hall, Pat Jones (Dalhousie Lake); Art Dunham (Big Clear Lake and Vital Volunteers); Jim and Mary Lynne Holton (Canonto Lake); Anita Payne (Black Lake); Christine & Reid Kilburn, Murray Hunt (Otty Lake); Greg Ellis (Silver Lake); Barbara Fradkin (Sharbot Lake); Jayne MacDonald (Upper Rideau Lake Association); Rob Bell (Mississippi Lakes Association); George Willett (Farren Lake); Karen Hunt (Lake Networking Group); David Taylor (Friends of the Tay Watershed)

**Agencies and Organizations:** Joffre Cote (MNRF); Meaghan McDonald (RVCA); Kelly Stiles, Alyson Symon (MVCA); Holly Evans (CRCA); Teresa Clow (Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit)

**Regrets:** Elizabeth Holmes (MNRF); Lynne Jeffries (Lower Beverley Lake).

**Welcome and housekeeping:** Karen welcomed everyone to the meeting. As some of those present already knew, our friend and colleague Gordon Rodgers (President of Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Association and President of the Frontenac Stewardship Foundation) passed away last week. He will be much missed. We are all richer because we've known him for so many years. We will always remember his great smile, that twinkle in his eye. He could always find a way to get things done. Gord was also an integral part of the Lake Links Planning Committee. That team has been together for several years and they very much enjoy working together. When they meet this coming Mon, there'll be a big hole.

Karen thanked those who brought the muffins – they were excellent.

**Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority** - Kelly Stiles ([kstiles@mvc.on.ca](mailto:kstiles@mvc.on.ca)) provided the following update:

MVCA published the 2018 Watershed Report Card, as part of a Conservation Ontario Initiative.

<http://watershedcheckup.ca/>

Our subwatersheds are doing fairly well but a number of them are close to lower grade thresholds for variables such as interior and riparian forest cover. Understanding our landscape in this way will help guide future monitoring and stewardship efforts to areas in need.

Our baseline lake monitoring program, Watershed Watch, focused on the Mazinaw and the Fall River subwatersheds in 2017. The results can be found in the Integrated Monitoring Report found here: <http://mvc.on.ca/2017-integrated-monitoring-report-now-available/>

In 2018 MVCA will be focusing on lakes and streams in the Upper Mississippi and the Indian River subwatersheds.

MVCA continues its partnership with the OFAH by hosting an invasive species hit squad summer student, and sampling for zebra mussels, spiny water flea and rusty crayfish. For more information on this sampling or for invasive species education opportunities please contact Kelly Stiles or <http://www.invadingspecies.com/>

MVCA stewardship had a successful year in 2017 by partnering with lake associations to provide shoreline property owners native trees and shrubs. Last year MVCA worked with Mazinaw Lake, Sharbot Lake, Dalhousie Lake, Canonto Lake, and Malcom and Ardoch Lakes to distribute 673 trees to 116 properties. With this success under our belt we are working with Kashwakamak Lake and Big Gull Lake in 2018 to distribute 1326 trees to 97 properties. I hope to continue to develop this program and offer it on a rotational basis across our watershed.

If there are any questions related to shoreline development, planning applications, water levels or septic please contact our office.

[www.mvc.on.ca](http://www.mvc.on.ca) [kstiles@mvc.on.ca](mailto:kstiles@mvc.on.ca) t. 613 253 0006 ext. 234 f. 613 253 0122

**Rideau Valley Conservation Authority**– Meaghan McDonald ([meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca](mailto:meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca) ) provided the update, found in the attached document “RVCA Lake Networking Group Meeting Notes April 2018”. Items included are:

- annual report is on webpage.
- changes to Conservation Authorities Act, specifically those which impact lake authorities
- Administering shoreline alteration regulations on Upper, Big, Lower Rideau and Adams Lakes effective May 1<sup>st</sup>
- Wetland policy being updated.
- LeBoat in Smiths Falls
- Septic reinspection program continues
- Watershed science & monitoring –
  - will soon announce Sarah’s replacement (maternity leave).
  - Tay Watershed Report and Catchment Report – will be released soon, and will be on line later this summer.
  - Headwaters monitoring program.
- Stewardship & Restoration
  - Shoreline Naturalization Program
  - Private Land forestry
  - Rural Clean Water Program
  - Other - Grants available for Tay Subwatershed, e.g. for livestock restriction fencing, erosion control. Jebbs Creek embayment project, monitoring of fish habitat.

- Newly restored Baxter education pond, e.g. have rain garden

**Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority** - Holly Evans ( [hevans@crca.ca](mailto:hevans@crca.ca) ) provided her update.

- A Well and Septic Workshop will be held in Lansdowne on April 17, 2018: register through Event Bright [lansdownewellsandseptics.eventbrite.ca](https://lansdownewellsandseptics.eventbrite.ca) or call 613-546-4228 extension 220. More information is available [crca.ca/events](https://crca.ca/events). Participants will receive a free self-guided assessment workbook.
- Limited quantity of shrubs will be available through me for (3 plants for \$10) that will thrive along shorelines. If this new initiative goes well, then it will continue next year.
- Tree seedling orders for 500 or more are available and can be purchased through Rick Knapton at [rknapton@crca.ca](mailto:rknapton@crca.ca).
- There may be an opportunity to take advantage of funded tree planting next year – more details to come.
- The native plant sale at Lemoine Point Conservation Area will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018 (<https://crca.ca/event/native-plant-sale-lemoine-point/>). Potted trees, shrubs and wildflowers are available. Prices range from \$2 to 1\$12 each.
- A flood mitigation study is nearing completion for the area on Upper Beverley Lake immediately upstream of the dam in Delta. This study is to identify options to avoid nuisance flooding in Delta. Study partners include Rideau Lakes Township and the CRCA. Coldwater Consulting is completing the work and MNRF is providing technical input. For more information contact Russel Wiginton [rwiginton@crca.ca](mailto:rwiginton@crca.ca).
- CRCA regulation policies were updated and approved by the Board in November 2017. The way CRCA regulates floating docks and small (less than 10 sq. m.) structures has changed. See the approved policies on the CRCA's website at: <https://crca.ca/wp-content/uploads/PDFs/Planning>. The CRCA's 2018 Watershed Report Card was released on March 22: <https://crca.ca/watershed-management/watershed-report-card/>. This is a very high level assessment.
- The Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands has an updated septic reinspection program (May 2017) where the goal is to inspect all septic systems by priority or risk assessment basis. Here is a link to the amended by-law: <http://www.leeds1000islands.ca/en/growing/resources/Documents/17-030---Amendment-to-the-Septic-Re-inspection-Program.pdf>
- The CRCA will continue with the five lakes we've been sampling for the previous two years (Upper and Lower Rock, Collins, Colonel By and Singleton). We will also sample Red Horse until a new volunteer is found.
- Registrations for summer camp are now being accepted. More details about our Nature Explorers Summer Camp can be found here: <https://crca.ca/education/summer-camps/>.

- For those that are not yet aware, the CRCA holds educational events on a regular basis.

**Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit** - Teresa Clow presented information about Black Legged Ticks and Lyme Disease. Please see her attached presentation "Lyme Disease data.Lake ASSOC meeting.pptx". Some facts included:

- Lyme disease started in about 2006 along Seaway. Our local area is now classified as a risk area.
- Spread is assisted by climate change and warming temperatures
- 20% of tick cases carry the bacteria causing Lyme.
- Ticks need to be on you for 24 to 36 hours.
- Leaf litter provides habitat for ticks to overwinter. Not around pines or cedars, since no leaf litter.
- If dragging for ticks finds them in an area in spring and fall, then this is classified as risk area.
- There is only one lab, it's in Winnipeg for all of Canada, to test ticks.
- Ticks appear at 4 degrees but can also be seen at lower temperatures.
- Biggest thing – do tick checks. Shower when you come in – water will wash them off if not yet attached. Put clothes in hot dryer. Check for ticks on pets and remove. Use flea comb for your head.
- To remove tick – don't burn it. Don't squeeze anything out of it. Can use very fine tweezers. Pull out straight and firmly. Put disinfectant on bite area. If you miss tick bite, and see bull's eye rash, go to doctor. Can appear up to 30 days after the bite. Common symptoms are: fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint pain, swollen lymph nodes. Symptoms do go away. That doesn't mean you don't have it. Treatment is an antibiotic, but only want to use it when you need to.
- Keep grass mowed. Ticks prefer to live in humid, wooded areas. Remove brush and fallen leaves. A border of gravel or wood chips create a physical separation between lawns and wooded areas – help to reduce movement. Clean up around bird feeders, reduces the small critters.
- Their website <http://healthunit.org> has updated info on ticks.

#### **Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA) - Terry Kennedy**

- FOCA is an umbrella group representing lake associations. Works with and for its member associations. Has 511 lake associations that are members. About 50,000 people. Represents waterfront property owners in areas Lake Associations don't get in to, e.g. direct governmental organizations, MOECC, etc
- 2017: FOCA Year in Review – Copies were available at LNG
- FOCA Spring Seminar & AGM – important that this end of the province is represented. Spring seminar had the best ever attendance with 110 people there. Hot button items – Ticks and Lyme disease, septic systems and reinspection programs. Sessions included: Cottage Roads, Renting the Cottage, First Aid at the Lake

- Dorset Environmental Science Centre (MOECC)– FOCA partners with them re water sampling, New person appointed to work on Lake Partner Program for assessing water quality data
- Municipal election this fall – Cottage owners are entitled to vote in their cottage municipality. Get the message out there. Cottagers should be heard. Need to hear from the “come from aways” as well as the “Born here’s” . FOCA will be working with staff and students at Ryerson Univ. with goal of promoting local involvement and decision- making. Helping local associations in terms of communicating issues and encouraging members to vote meaningfully

Interesting projects in which FOCA is currently participating:

- Waterfront Property Owners in Rural Economic Development – Advancing interests of cottagers/ seasonal property owners in local municipal affairs by encouraging involvement and collaboration; promoting an awareness on part of municipal decision-makers of the need for understanding, inclusion and collaboration (Katherine Howes, University of Guelph Graduate Student.)
- Septic Maintenance Best Practices – FOCA (with partners OOWA , Ontario Onsite WasteWater Association), CELA (Canadian Environmental Law Assoc, ROMA ( Rural Ontario Municipal Assoc) working to find what municipalities are doing with regard to septic maintenance programs; what has worked and lessons learned; highlight promising practices and policy implications for municipal re-inspection programs for private wastewater systems in Ontario (Sarah Minnes, Ph.D. Candidate, Memorial University)
- Analysis of Water Quality Impacts on Waterfront Real Estate Values – Build on anecdotal information and a number of studies from various jurisdictions characterize impact of lake water quality on proximate property values; part of ongoing effort to fiscal aspects of protecting/sustaining water quality (to be conducted by a Graduate Student from Faculty of Environmental Studies, York Univ.)

Ongoing FOCA Programs of Note:

Invasive Species

Cottage Succession Series

Contact Info

Phone Office: 705 749-3622

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Website: [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca)

**Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry** - Joffre Cote – we are in Zone 18 (our area) for Fisheries Management. (Que border to Trenton). (Full presentation attached)

Information included in Joffre’s presentation:

MNRF used to do fisheries management on a lake by lake basis. Today – based on the Ecological Framework for Fisheries Management in ON (2004). There are 20 Fisheries Management Zones (FMZ) across ON. Goals were identified.

- Charleston Lake – most southerly lake which is cold and still has lake trout. Probably will eventually be gone. Coldwater species are impacted by septic run off, which warms the water, eventually eliminates these species.
- Fish stocking not always the answer.
- Certain group of lakes are sampled every 5 years. Then they add a few random ones not on regular list.
- Spend millions of dollars to get fish eggs, grow them, feed fish, haul them, drop them via helicopter. Lots of monitoring
- Need partner-led initiatives – e.g. fish habitat rehabilitation, volunteer angler diary programs, spawning observation surveys
- Walleye population is going down – climate change, warmer water, these species are being wiped out.
- Size restriction on walleye now. Want to protect the spawners (big fish), and want to let the small ones grow. Implemented in 2013 – should see improvement in numbers this year.
- Asian carp is not here yet, but it’s just a matter of time. Gobies are moving up. Research is needed – how will they impact smaller inland water bodies.

**EDDMapS** - David Overholt (White Lake) – David took an interest in EDDMapS last year, and shared what he has learned, specifically as it relates to invasive Phragmites. He gave us an excellent overview of the use of the Early Detection & Distribution Mapping system related to the Phragmites growing along Wildlife Rd. His enthusiasm was catching, thus successfully promoting the concept that we as citizens should all use EDDMapS, not just leave it up to the CA’s. It is quite simple - you have to create a password. Make our reporting meaningful. Individuals are allowed 5 photos per sighting. Enter your name and affiliation.

Below is a web address for Dave’s slide presentation

 [180413 LNG powerpoint presentation for K Hynt.pptx](#)

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**Septic Savvy 2018** (see attached poster) - Reid Kilburn (Otty Lake) - provided details on the workshop to take place on May 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9 to noon, at the Perth Civitan Hall. When we flush toilets we don’t give thought to the septic systems. A properly functioning sewage system is an integral part of a

healthy lake and safe drinking water supply. Ongoing septic system reinspection programs help to ensure a properly functioning septic system. At the workshop best practices will be shared.

Eric Kohlsmith has provided a rough outline of his presentation:

- Beginning
  - Cover general info regarding Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office (MRSSO) and programs administered
  - How the programs are implemented
  - Differences between mandatory programs locally/provincially and voluntary
- Middle
  - Provide response to common and not so common questions posed by Lake Networking Group.
  - Include treatment process for conventional and advance treatment systems – advantages and disadvantages
- End
  - Pictures illustrating common issues found and not so common.
- There will be a panel, consisting of Terry Kennedy (Kennebec Lake), Eric Kohlsmith (MRSSO), hopefully Mike Dwyer (CAO, Rideau Lakes), Gord Mitchell (KFLA Public Health). In planning this workshop there has been tremendous support from the 4 CA's, as well as from Eric Kohlsmith. Thanks to FOCA for their support - Terry Kennedy, President, will sit on the panel, Terry Rees, Executive Director will be coming from Peterborough to do the wrap up.

In response to the question – can we provide a list of installers, pumpers, etc?

Teresa Clow provided the following link for this information applicable to Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit area. <http://healthunit.org/health-information/sewage-land-control/licenced-professionals/>

Barb Sabourin provided this link for the Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association website at [www.oowa.org](http://www.oowa.org) which also has a list of names.

Karen thanked all the individuals from various lake associations who worked on making this event happen.

**Looking ahead** – Karen listed the activities coming up:

- Per above agenda item above, Septic Savvy 2018 Workshop Sat May 26, 2018, 9 to 12, Perth Civitan Club
- OPP/lake associations meeting – Sep 21, 2018 – more volunteers are required to organize this
- Lake Links 2018 – Sat Oct 20. Get municipal reps to attend. Just before election day.
- Municipal election – Mon Oct 22. In the past lake associations have compiled lists of questions for candidates to address at all candidates meeting. David Taylor - Friends of the Tay Watershed offered to help since they have experience.

**Next meeting date** – Fri Sep 7 at 9:30 a.m. Burgess Hall, Tay Valley Township

## **LAKE ASSOCIATION REPORTS:**

### **Otty Lake Association - Reid Kilburn**

- 2018 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Otty Lake Management Plan and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Otty Lake Association as it exists today.
  - We are completing an on-line survey of the top priorities our constituents view as important
  - Survey results will serve as a planning tool
  - We are developing an infographic to provide a single concise view of important issues and the health of our lake
  - Our Anniversary-themed AGM will take place Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Perth Legion, starting at 1 pm with displays.
- Be Bear Wise Workshop sponsored by OLA (poster previously distributed)
  - Guest Speaker Trevor Horvatin from MNRF Kemptville
  - Friday May 11<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 3 pm
  - St Paul's United Church, Perth ON
- Otty Lake/Jebb's Creek Embayment Project
  - Thanks to RVCA for all their efforts and securing final approval for this project
  - OLA is proud to be a partner/supporter and will be volunteering on this project
- Tay Watershed Report 2018
  - Provided input to the Otty/Jebb's Creek catchment report
  - Thanks to RVCA for their efforts and collaborative approach to completing this year's report
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat monitoring is scheduled for early June with the help of RVCA
- Monitoring of loons on Otty, as well as grey ratsnakes around the lake will take place again in 2018

### **Dog Lake Association update – Sue Shaw**

We seem to have had a busy year, but I expect that is true for everyone!

Here are some of our recent initiatives:

We set up a water quality sub-committee last fall. This is our first subcommittee and the group is doing a wonderful job. They have been in touch with the Blue Lakes Project, and will be part of the pilot study next year. Meanwhile, the committee is going to start some testing this coming year, in



order to see how it works, and what needs to be done. We had considerable water quality problems last year, including increased algae bloom. Our members are clearly concerned about this, and we hope to get a better understanding of the problems so that we can work towards improvement.

We have also a new social sub-committee – just recently set up. We are hoping that the subcommittee can organize our annual BBQ on the beach (and that this will help others who are organizing the AGM at the same time). The social committee is also looking into organizing a barn dance and a guided walk in the woods. We hope these activities will bring in more members, and bring current members together in a social setting.

I have started a monthly message to members to provide information about our activities as well as various workshops and other opportunities. We are hoping that our members like the short (always short) messages and feedback on our activities. But it is hard to know how often to send out emails that provide useful information, but which are not too intrusive.

To facilitate our various activities, and to enhance communication, and information flow, we are in the process of developing a new web site. The old one is really out of date now, and we feel we need to provide better 2-way communication.

Together with the Loughborough Lake Association, we are going to organize an “all candidates meeting” in September. We are hoping for a good turnout, and that it will facilitate a two-way flow of information.

Meanwhile, we are also seeking to develop contacts with South Frontenac township folk, including employees as well as elected officials. Most recently, discussion has revolved around new developments and regulation changes, such as grandfathering rights.

### **Silver Lake and Area Environmental Protection Association – Greg Ellis**

For Silver Lake, we are holding our AGM on Saturday June 2 at Silver Lake Wesleyan Camp from 10:30 until noon. Dave Overholt of White Lake has been invited to discuss the EDD mapping and a summary of the Lake Links workshop will be discussed.

We are working with Kelly Stiles of MVCA on a Chlorides sampling pilot project for 2018. She has also been invited to attend our AGM. With the long frontage of Highway 7 across the south side of our lake, we are concerned that high chloride levels from road salt could have an impact on our water quality. We found out that there is surprisingly little monitoring of chlorides in lakewater in Ontario. We will keep you updated!

Another water quality item - I have been selected to receive a Water Rangers Guardian sampling and analysis kit and we will be using it at our lake and possibly some nearby water bodies to augment present sampling programs by MVCA.

A concern from last year that we thought we might have been able to discuss with other lake associations is how to deal with individuals that are harassing wildlife. Apparently MNR officers should be called to investigate. We were wondering if other lake associations are having similar issues.

### **White Lake Property Owners Association (WLPOA) – Claire Martel**

1. Priorities for 2017/2018 are: Directors recruitment (2 vacancies); road maintenance plan from Township; follow up on fire fighters services; review role of WLPOA and WL Preservation Project; obtain info on how conservation authority works and how we can live without one; consider sending delegation to council meetings as required; review Constitution and ByLaws.
2. A new cost shared initiative was undertaken by the Community Centre Directors. A half a day CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid training course is offered to members, a total of 29 people registered. Two half day sessions will take place on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, members pay only a third of the cost, balance is paid by the Community Centre and WLPOA.
3. A hiking group has been formed, 19 members expressed an interest to explore the nearby trails. As soon as the weather warms up the group will hit the roads!
4. Earth Day is scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup>, following garbage and litter pick-up a BBQ will be served.
5. A spring fling is planned for May 12<sup>th</sup>, members will share good food and great stories.
6. Marker buoy program will continue.
7. Annual Golf Tournament in early/mid September.

### **Upper Rideau Lake Association (URLA) – Jayne MacDonald**

- May 5<sup>th</sup> URLA has a free plant handout for shoreline restoration- Orders went in in Nov.

Selection: Red Maple, White Cedar, Hemlock, Red Oak and White Pine. All trees are bare-root and small in size compared to those that you might purchase at a commercial nursery.

Shrubs include Buttonbush, Nannyberry and Pussy Willow that like wet feet, Red Osier Dogwood that can thrive in both wet and dry environments and Gray Dogwood that prefers dry feet.

- Lake Partner Program (MOECC) -Continue to test three sites- phosphorus and water clarity.
- URLA plans to host another all candidates meeting before the municipal election (Labour Day weekend)
- URLA has produced a poster/placemat with pictures and environmental messages with RVCA.
- URLA will invest in two new hazard markers (larger buoys to replace spar buoys) app. \$1000.
- URLA will continue to monitor the situation with the Westport Wastewater Treatment site, now a large subsurface disposal system. (LSSDS) (URLA had a position on the Technical Steering Committee for the Environmental Assessment).
- We have mandatory septic inspections on the Upper Rideau Lake (Township of Rideau Lakes).

### **Chaffey's Area Lakes Association (CALA) – Joan Delaney**

On Saturday May 19th we have a meet and greet at the Chaffey's Lock Hall. The event starts at 9 a.m. with a continental breakfast and a presentation by two long-time fishing guides. Chuck Acton and Bill Mather will regale us with fishing stories in the Chaffey's area and also talk about riparian water rights.

On Saturday July 7 we have our AGM with a pancake breakfast and a question and answer time with Rideau Lakes Mayor Ron Holman and maybe a mayoral challenger should one declare. Peter Hannah provided us with a list of questions that originated with FOCA and we have identified four of them to ask the mayor. Then the floor will be opened to the attendees. The list is very pertinent to lake residents.

### **Little Silver Lake Association: Frank Johnson**

Our Lake Stewardship Plan is in a final draft form and this may be reviewed on our website.

Beaver activity and lake level continues to be an issue. Resolution is often confounded by unilateral action by one or two residents.

Lyme disease seems close to epidemic on the lake - more than 50% of families known to the president have one or more cases.

Take up of the RVCA shoreline remediation program appears to be slow.

### **Kennebec Lake Association - Kevin Laporte**

- 1) Annual Winter Family Fun Day was held on the Saturday during the Family Day long weekend in February. Over 100 attendees throughout the day (best so far), with many new cottage owners and children attending for the weekend. Activities included ice fishing, skating, snowshoeing, snow slide, bonfire, approx. 2 km plowed walkway along a section of the lake leading to the site. Hotdogs, chili, marshmallows, cider and hot chocolate was served. The weather cooperated!
- 2) Septic Re-Inspection Bylaw for Central Frontenac- The first draft is expected to come to Council in the next month or so
- 3) Love Your Lake Program- Preparation work is ongoing and is set for this summer.
- 4) Annual Canada Day/July 4 Flotilla and BBQ is being organized again for this year. We can expect around 30-35 boats and watercraft of various types, and approximately 100 people to attend the BBQ. Always a good time

5) The KLA and other community groups are working with the Township and Frontenac County to develop hiking trails on a nice parcel of land that was turned over to the township close to the south shore of Kennebec Lake. Start-up funding has been obtained. Currently in the early stages, going through some provincial requirements etc.

### **Christie Lake Association Inc. update - Larry Bowen)**

**Water Rangers Guardians** – Camp Opemikon in conjunction with the CLA has applied for the Water Rangers Guardian Program. The Water Rangers are looking for water monitors/guardians in our region. They have citizen science water quality test kits and plants for 25 groups or individuals who live (or have property) on lakes, rivers and streams. The groups will participate in easy challenges meant to make it fun and educational to learn about water quality. If you want to qualify to become a Water Ranger Guardian see this web link <https://waterrangers.ca/en/guardians/>

**Loon Nest Construction** - CLA will be constructing loon nests on platforms this spring. All of the previously constructed nests need to be replaced as they no longer exist.

**Bobs Lake Dam Reconstruction** – The good news is that the Bobs Lake Dam Replacement is on target to proceed this summer. Associated facts below;

- Parks Canada will be undertaking a Walleye spawning survey between Bobs Lake and Christie Lake to be conducted by North-South Environmental Inc.
- A second spillway will be added to conform to current dam safety guidelines.
- New dam will be constructed approximately 40 M upstream from current Dam.
- Plans will accommodate Parks Canada's water management requirements and residents should not experience any significant change in water levels due to construction.
- It is understood that the dam will not be completed in 2018 as further construction will be required in 2019.

**Increasing Costs and Waning Revenue** – The CLA has been struggling over the years with increasing operating costs coupled with no increase in annual revenue. Approximately 80 percent of revenue is derived from membership dues which have been \$30 per residence for many years. Though financially healthy the bottom line is that our cash flow is not sustainable even though our membership has remained stable. We are currently assessing options to increase revenue while at the same time being able to afford operating costs and donations to our community.

**Fishsticks-Fish Bundles program** – Fishsticks, a fish habitat enhancement program, was initiated in the fall of 2013. To date we have constructed, deployed and monitored numerous bundles with the cooperation of RVCA, Camp Opemikon, the Lanark Stewardship Council and Watersheds Canada. Last summer an underwater video was taken to better understand the results of this program as it is a

slow process. The results were very promising. A 9 minute 'you tube' video can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILEVbexB9ug>. Be patient as it is akin to watching paint dry.

### **Kashwakamak Lake – Sue MacGregor and Judy McIntyre**

Update:

- The lake sustainability planning committee has transitioned into a lake sustainability committee - overseeing various implementation sub-committees; included as advisors on our committee are Alyson Symon (MVC) and Deputy Mayor Fred Perry (Township of North Frontenac)
- The implementation sub-committees are working on the following:
  - a flora/fauna/wildlife tracking survey - through Survey Monkey
  - a welcome package for new cottage/home owners on the lake
  - the water quality sub-committee has participated in the MVCA shoreline protection tree planting initiative - coordinating the pick-up of free trees and shrubs at 2 locations on the lake (May long weekend); the program is very popular and successful with over 400 trees and shrubs reserved by KLA members
  - exploring the Love Your Lakes Program - with the program attending a KLA director's meeting in August
  - "no wake" buoys were installed at 5 narrow areas on the lake where there is less than 100 ft. between shorelines as per the regulations, to address issues of shoreline erosion and danger to flora and fauna. Following an anonymous complaint to the Navigation Protection Program at Transport Canada, we are now adjusting our "information buoys" so they comply with regulations. This will be completed in the spring.
- Our annual general meeting is in July - followed by a free BBQ sponsored by a local Real Estate agent
- We have a fall dinner at Fernleigh Lodge each fall, with fundraising going to a local charity
- Our annual dues remain at \$15 per year - which includes 2 newsletters annually (emailed). For \$20 a year members can have newsletters mailed to them.
- We have a very successful Facebook page which continues to grow (now over 1200 members); a website which includes member-only access privileges, a twitter account and an Instagram account

### **Mississippi Lakes Association – Rob Bell**

#### **Spring 2018 Major Initiatives**

1. The MLA, in partnership with the MVCA and Queens University is undertaking an Ecological Modeling project. The resulting 3D model will facilitate simulation of future states of the lake with respect to blue green algae growth. Factors such as temperature and nutrient concentration will be

varied to see the impact. These 'forecasts' will allow a fact based approach to determining the importance of policy changes such as land use or septic re-inspection that will hopefully mitigate the impact and reduce the growth of blue green algae. See the press release here:

[https://mississippilakesassociation.org/images/Documents/Environ/Environmental-Initiatives/Queens\\_Lake\\_Modelling\\_Final.pdf](https://mississippilakesassociation.org/images/Documents/Environ/Environmental-Initiatives/Queens_Lake_Modelling_Final.pdf)

Also, see additional information about the project including the status reports see:

<https://mississippilakesassociation.org/index.php/environment/environmental-initiatives>

under Mississippi Lake Ecological Modelling Project. This page also contains key information on all of the other major MLA environment initiatives.

2. The MLA is creating a new committee: The Private Roads Committee. This committee will be responsible for investigating the challenges of the organization of road committees, dues collection, liability insurance, road maintenance etc. Workshops for private road committees will held with the intention of empowering each road committee to improve its own operations. It is also anticipated that the research undertaken will enable the MLA to make representations to local councils with the intention of increasing their support to road committees.

3. The MLA is looking forward to a presentation by Bob Hawn, a Marine Patrol Officer from the OPP, at our AGM May 24 on boating safety and traffic safety issues on highway 7