

Next Lake Networking Group meeting date – Fri. April 13, 2018 at 9:30 a.m., Burgess Hall, 4174 Narrows Lock Road (location to be confirmed) Claire Martel and Judy Kennedy volunteered to bring muffins

Lake Networking Group Meeting Notes

Friday, Nov 3rd, 2017, 9:30 – 12:30 pm
Burgess Hall, 4174 Narrows Lock Rd, Tay Valley Township

PARTICIPANTS

Lake Organizations:

Claire Martel, Andre Paquet (White Lake); Larry Arpaia (Greater Bobs & Crow); Eric Boysen (Bennet & Fagan); Judy & Terry Kennedy, Doc Mairina, Kevin LaPorte (Kennebec); Barbara Sabourin (Robertson Lake); Bob & Philippa Fugler (Loughborough Lake); Frank Johnson (Little Silver & Rainbow Lakes); Dieter Rohde, Bruce Jackson, Sue Shaw (Dog Lake); Joan Delaney (Chaffey's Area Lake Associations); Sue MacGregor, Judy McIntyre (Kashwakamack Lake); Larry Bowen (Christie Lake); Judy Hall, Pat Jones (Dalhousie Lake); Jim and Mary Lynne Holton (Canonto Lake); Anita Payne (Black Lake); Murray Hunt, Christine & Reid Kilburn (Otty Lake); Karen Hunt (Lake Networking Group); David Taylor (Friends of the Tay Watershed)

Agencies and Organizations:

Elizabeth Holmes, Tammy Watson, Joffre Cote (MNRF); Meaghan McDonald (RVCA); Alyson Symon, (MVCA); Holly Evans (CRCA)

Regrets: Lynne Jeffries (Lower Beverley Lake); Sarah MacLeod- Neilson (RVCA); Donna Walsh (Christie Lake); Barbara King, Melissa Dakers (Watersheds Canada)

Welcome and housekeeping:

Karen welcomed everyone to the meeting. She noted the number of new people in attendance, indicating that what we've tried to do with the Lake Networking Group (LNG) is working. This all started because a few people wanted to formalize the impromptu discussions often taking place out in the community about what was being done around our lakes. There is strength in all of us together. We learn from each other, and connect with our partners – the Conservation Authorities (CA), MNRF, MOECC, Health Unit, Municipalities etc. Karen advised those in attendance that there are 2 lists at the front of the room which she asks each lake organization to validate -

- Emergency contact list for Health Unit. Karen will update based on input and send to Health Unit.
- TVT also has their list, and would like it updated for their lake associations' contacts.

Hillary Knack from Parks Canada was invited but could not make it today. She would like to keep in touch and make it to a future meeting.

Karen thanked David Taylor for providing space on the Friends of the Tay Watershed (FOTW)

website for the LNG information. LNG History and previous meeting notes are available at <http://taywatershed.ca/networking.php>

Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations (FOCA) Update

Terry Kennedy (Kennebec Lake and FOCA Board of Directors) passed on a message from FOCA Executive Director Terry Rees. Next year is municipal election time. FOCA will prepare a list of questions and procedures. The FOCA Fall Seminar is tomorrow, Nov. 4. Provide any questions to Terry Kennedy today and he will take to tomorrow's meeting. FOCA information can be found at <https://foca.on.ca/>

Introductions

Karen began the introductions by stating that she has worked with the LNG since 2004. All attendees then introduced themselves.

Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) - Alyson Symon

MVCA Highlights of 2017

Lake Monitoring:

- This year focused on the Fall River and the Mazinaw Subwatersheds, and other main stem lakes.
- We coordinated our stream studies for fish and benthics in these areas as well.
- The data will be summarized in a 2017 Integrated Monitoring Report that will be issued this winter.
- Next year will focus on the Upper Mississippi and the Indian River subwatersheds.

Shoreline Naturalization:

- We organized a number of very successful tree give away days which we hope to try again with different lakes next year.

Invasive Species:

- Our partnership with the OFAH Invasive Species program continues as we monitored for Zebra Mussels and Spiny Water flea.
- With Malcolm and Ardoch Lakes Group we co-hosted an aquatic invasive species talk in Plevna.
- On Mississippi Lake - we helped coordinate an Aquatic Invasive Species Survey – people went out in boats with ID kits to identify, map and bring back samples of invasives
- One goal is to identify occurrences early enough to organize removal/control
- Please continue to promote the reporting of invasive species to OFAH <http://www.invadingspecies.com/> and/or EDDmapsOntario <https://www.eddmaps.org/>

Algae:

- One confirmed blue green bloom on Dunrobin Lake (Ottawa) in September.
- Only two other possibilities were reported to Kelly this year.
- Please continue to promote the reporting and tracking of blooms through the MOECC [Spills Action Centre](#) 416-325-3000 or 1-800-268-6060, as well as the Water Rangers program <https://waterrangers.ca/en/>

Wetland Regulations

- In September the MVCA BoD approved a change in policy to regulate all wetlands in the Mississippi Valley watershed, not just Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs).
- Came into effect October 1st, 2017
- Includes all wetlands greater than 0.5 ha that are hydraulically connected to a waterbody
- Roughly 200 sq km of additional wetland (Outside Ottawa and not on crown land) that MVCA will regulate (previously regulated about 186 sq km of PSW outside of Ottawa)
- Permit required for work in and within 30 metres of these wetlands (120 m for PSW)
- Do not regulate wetlands on crown land

Coming in 2018

Queens University Collaborative Research

- Collaborative between Queens University and MVCA, with help from MLA
- Just got underway – one year post doctorate research concentration and movement of nutrients (and other elements) throughout the lake under varying conditions.
- Relate those to conditions that are favorable to specific types of algae growth
- Once model calibrated can run different scenarios altering the upstream changes in land use, flow, temperature, and inputs of various nutrients to predict how that will influence nutrient levels and algae growth in the lake.
- Stay tuned for results

Watershed Report Card

- The Watershed Report Card is a province wide initiative coordinated by Conservation Ontario
- The 36 CAs use standardized guidelines to report on the health of their respective watersheds at a subwatershed scale.
- Based on a grading system of three categories of watershed health:
 - Surface water quality (phosphorus, E.coli, benthics),
 - Forest Conditions (% forest cover, interior forest and riparian); and
 - Groundwater quality
- Issued every 5 years to monitor changes over time
- This one will report on data from 2013 to 2017
- To be released province wide on March 22nd - Earth Day

Watershed Advisory Committee

- In 2018 MVCA will be setting up a new Watershed Advisory Committee
- To provide a mechanism for the public to contribute to development of a watershed plan, follow its implementation and be aware of any related issues or proposed changes
- Provide a communications link with the public
- Very much an advisory role - advise on issues and concerns within their community and advice of how we can reach out and engage those communities

- Membership will be broadly representative of the many and various interests and uses of the river throughout the watershed. – First Nations, Interest Groups (lake associations, field naturalists, stewardship councils) and Industry (tourism, forestry, agriculture, development)
- Report to the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors. Final decisions on advice received from the Watershed Advisory Committee shall rest with the Board of Directors.
- Will be advertising for applications early in the year

For more information about any of the above please contact: Alyson Symon asymon@mvc.on.ca or Kelly Stiles kstiles@mvc.on.ca 613 253-0006

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) - Meaghan McDonald

CORPORATE

- For any Lake Association that would like to receive updates from RVCA (ATR newsletter, media releases, etc.), please provide us with updated contact information following board member elections. CONTACT: Diane.Downey@rvca.ca

PLANNING & REGULATIONS

- Proposed changes to the Conservation Authority Act are currently under review. Changes could affect how RVCA regulates wetlands.
- In 2018 RVCA will be implementing our shoreline alteration regulations on all lakes including lakes on the Rideau Canal System.

OFFICIAL PLAN INPUT

- MOECC, RVCA and Township staff met this fall to discuss interim Control By-law for Tay Valley (specific to Adam and Farren Lakes) and potential wording for an Official Plan amendment that considers increased lot sizes for new lots on these lakes. MOECC and the Township are following up with a rerun on the lake capacity model and the municipality is reviewing the potential for severance on waterfront of the lake concerned. CONTACT: Martha.Bradburn@rvca.ca
- RVCA and surrounding CA's are providing comment on Elizabethtown-Kitley Official Plan. CONTACT: Michael.Yee@rvca.ca

WATERSHED SCIENCE & MONITORING

- Data compilation for the updated Tay Subwatershed Report to be published in 2018 will begin in the next month for release 2018. CONTACT: martin.czarski@rvca.ca
- Currently finishing up our fall sampling season. Results will become available in the next month or so. Thank you to all those who volunteered with Watershed Watch in 2017. CONTACT: sarah.macleod-neilson@rvca.ca

- Looking for volunteers from the Lake Community to monitor precipitation for CoCoRahs Canada. CONTACT: Andrea.Larsen@rvca.ca
- 2017 has been a wet year!

Location	2017 Precipitation (Jan 1 – Oct 31) (mm)	Annual Average (mm)
Ottawa Airport	1,225	942.3
Drummond Centre	1,173.8	959.9

- RVCA has been approached to help find funding for a project that would further research into remote sensing with applications to sense algal blooms and plant mass. CONTACT: Michael.Yee@rvca.ca

STEWARDSHIP

2017 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRAM	2017 ACHIEVEMENTS
Private Land Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 216,950 new trees planted on 75 properties
Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$255,000 in grants approved, with project values estimated at \$610,000. • Grant categories include cattle restriction fencing, erosion control projects, septic repair, well decommissioning, etc. • Partnership with Bobs & Crow Lake Foundation
Shoreline Naturalization Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10,000+ native trees and shrubs planted on 44 properties • Partnership with B&CLF

NEW PROJECTS

- RCWP now has grants available for Forest Management Plans
- RVCA's Shoreline Stewardship, Rural Clean Water Program and the MRSSO has partnered with the Bobs & Crow Lake Foundation to promote stewardship projects and provide top-ups for existing program grants. The Foundation and Lake Association has provided assistance with communications outreach to lake members. The effort has resulted in a significant increase in site visits and projects. CONTACT: Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca , Derek.matheson@rvca.ca
- RVCA's stewardship programs follow up with the recommendations made in each new Subwatershed Report by providing additional outreach and project dollars in the year following the release of the report within that subwatershed. In 2018-2019, Tay

Subwatershed will be the target area for additional stewardship support. CONTACT: Meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca

- Reducing Runoff Project wrapping up. Coming soon- Rain Garden Demo
- 2018- Potential wildflower sale opportunities. Past species included wild bergamot, purple coneflower, butterfly milkweed, swamp milkweed, joe pye weed etc., \$3/plug. Interested partner groups should contact meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca

SEPTIC INSPECTION PROGRAM

- 330+ inspections completed in 2017 in Rideau Lakes, Tay Valley Township and North Frontenac. Reports to the township will be prepared by year end. CONTACT: Eric.Kohlsmith@rvca.ca

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) - Holly Evans

- CRCA continued to collect data on 5 area lakes (Collins, Upper Rock, Lower Rock, Colonel By, Singleton).
- Currently investigating enhanced citizen science kits for lake association members to borrow (depends on funding)
- CRCA will apply to host an invasive species intern via OFAH in 2018
- Will release a region-wide Watershed Report Card along with all CAs
- 2017 was exceptionally wet
- Received fewer calls regarding algae blooms as compared to last year
- CRCA has an active forestry program and a native plant nursery; will investigate how these services could better serve our lakes
- CRCA has regulated non-Provincially Significant Wetlands since 2006
- It has been very busy for Section 28 permits (up to 414 – new high); a good portion are for shoreline / dock repairs as a result of high water levels
- There appears to be growing interest in a Gananoque River Watershed Plan
- Investigate how to increase local lake study via Queen's research and courses

Holly Evans: hevans@crca.ca

Questions/comments for Holly.

Dog Lake (South Frontenac) stated that they need help. Farming runoff, cottagers – don't know how many issues they may have around the lake. Holly suggested, because of the shallowness, and the feed from the canal, many nutrients are being deposited in Dog Lake.

Septic System group discussion

- Source water protection branch of CRCA are considering well and septic workshops next year. MOECC will bring parts of septic systems so people can see. How at risk are your systems? (Holly Evans)

LNG members comments

- Councillor Ross Sutherland is trying to get septic inspection going in South Frontenac. If municipality decides to have a septic reinspection program in an area, all septic systems in that area must be inspected. If anything is found to be defective, then there's the power to make the changes happen.
- Not much interest in South Frontenac, they want to wait for the province. There is mis- and disinformation out there. Septic reinspections have been successful, e.g. in TVT, first voluntary, then mandatory, because the lake associations got together and spoke up.
- Terry K. said he's been working with a Central Frontenac committee – first raised in 2009. In the last week and a half Central Frontenac Council voted down program recommended (primary issue is people's health). The committee recommended using pumpers and they would report to township re system in place, e.g. 45 gallon drum, pipe running into ground. Currently none of that information is available.
- Issues related to septic systems and inspections might be a topic in itself for LNG in the near future. It should be a huge election issue.
- Karen – it would be timely to have an education session on septic systems in the next few months, especially because it is an election year.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Tammy Watson (MNRF Lands & Waters Technical Specialist)

Tammy provided details on changes to the Public Lands Act. They related to docks and other structures like boat houses over the water.

Tammy's presentation is attached. She has added a resources page with the links she mentioned during her presentation. **Note: Tammy has confirmed that lake associations can post her presentation on their webpages. If there are any questions about the presentation, please email Tammy.Watson1@ontario.ca or call her at 613-258-8235.**

A couple of questions were asked:

- the removal of invasive or natural species... How do we go about doing that? Tammy will get back to the Group.
- shoreline erosion work definitely requires Conservation Authority approval.
- Some lakes cross MNRF boundaries, i.e. part the Kemptville office, part the Kingston or Bancroft offices. Difficult when you cross jurisdictions.

Tammy is willing to come out and do education sessions on this presentation, or put up displays at annual meetings.

Elizabeth Holmes MNRF Partnership Specialist, Kemptville District (Elizabeth.Holmes@ontario.ca) and Joffre Cote MNRF, District Fisheries Biologist (joff.cote@ontario.ca) were also available at the meeting to answer questions and connect with lake representatives

Lake Links 2017– Since we were running short of time, Karen provided a quick summary. Lake Links has been taking place since 2002. Lake associations and partners get to chat. This year's focus was about the areas beyond our lakes' shorelines. Upland areas are just as important as

the area beside the lake. The Lake Links presentations will be on the Watersheds Canada website. <https://watersheds.ca/lake-links-2017/>
Next year Lake Links will be held on Oct 20th at the Perth Civitan Club. They are looking for input for topics for future Lake Links. Karen is the Lake Networking Group's representative to the Lake Links Planning Committee. Holly Evans (CRCA) brought copies to today's meeting of tips that Leeds and the Thousand Islands Township Councillor Gerry Last brought to Lake Links 2017 re how to make contact with municipalities etc.

Lake Networking Group 2017 Initiatives

- 1. Lake Networking Group and OPP meetings** - Karen mentioned that meetings with OPP continue to take place annually. Larry Bowen chaired the meeting this fall in Karen's absence. The next meeting will be on Sep 21, 2018 probably at Tay Valley Township's offices again. Representatives from lakes outside of Lanark County are welcome to attend since issues discussed, be it water, ATV's, roads, etc. may also apply to others. The Detachment Commander is there, with a representative from the SAVE unit. These meetings are our opportunity to show interest and gain information. In response from a question from the floor, Karen said that we could discuss with Inspector Needham the possibility of changing the OPP/Lake Associations annual meeting time to spring instead of fall at the 2018 meeting. Minutes of the OPP/Lake Associations meetings are posted on the FOTW website for LNG. <http://taywatershed.ca/networking.php>
- 2. Another initiative – An Understanding Lake Water Quality Workshop** was held on August 3, 2017. Partnered with MVCA, RVCA, CRCA, FOCA and the Lake Partner Program. 67 people participated at the Lanark County Council Chambers. Presentations on LNG webpage <http://taywatershed.ca/networking.php> under the Understanding Lake Water Quality Data Workshop tab
- 3. Another initiative – June 16th field trip to Baxter Conservation** with Eric Kohlsmith to look at different septic systems.

A Septic System Handout which was a response to the questions asked during the field trip is now available (copies at the meeting and will also be distributed electronically and posted on the webpage.) Any questions please contact Eric Kohlsmith, Upper Watershed Regulations Inspector at eric.kohlsmith@rvca.ca or ekohlsmith@mvc.on.ca .

Future LNG initiatives - what will we do going forward?

Possibilities ...

- i) Septic system workshop (a "septic social" for the LNG – see earlier note)
- ii) Interest in invasive species – could we pull together some speakers, e.g. from FOCA, ON Association for Anglers and Hunters and others for a workshop?

Note from meeting participant - A discussion about septic systems, invasive species, etc. would be a logical follow-up to the work we did last year re understanding our lakes' water quality

data ... A continuing look at how we can improve our water quality.

Lake Networking Group – always has been an informal gathering of lake association representatives and our community partners. Over the years the Group has grown a lot and now has a larger geographic spread.

It would be great to have a lake association representative from Mississippi, Cataraqui areas helping with the LNG planning as well? If interested in being part of such a small group, please talk to Karen.

BREAK – Karen felt that we need to get together for social time. There is so much discussion to be had.

Zebra Mussels – Karen conducted an informal survey of zebra mussel findings on our lakes.
- Decreases - Chaffey's Lock Area Lakes(Clear Lake), Dog Lake (significant decrease), Fourteen Island Mink Lake (from a conversation with Gord Rodgers) significant decrease, Otty Lake (Murray – veligers first identified in 2002. Slight decrease over last few years. This year ten Otty Lake observers reported no or very few zebra mussels. At Otty the nutrient levels are about the same/ slight increase in nitrogen), Black Lake, the number of zebra mussels are reduced.

-Kennebec Lake has never had zebra mussels. Theory – low calcium levels, low pH.

Increases - Bobs and Crow had slight increase (never had them until 2 years ago – has low calcium level. Now the thought is that zebra mussels are adapting), White Lake - slight increase.

Tay River still has some.

Question – Are Zebra mussels now becoming part of the food chain, e.g. it has been reported that muskrats might be eating them.)

Note: Zebra Mussels should be part of the discussion when we discuss invasive species.

Updates from Lake Associations –

Chaffey's Lock and Area Lake Associations (CALA) – Joan Delaney

- includes at least 6 lakes on Rideau system.
- Clear Lake has an underwater beach. Zebra mussels so bad you'd slice your feet in the past. None there this year – living or dead. No shells left.
- Held education sessions for residents during the summer with excellent speakers
- Doing well.

Loughborough Lake –Bob Fugler

- Lake Association struggling financially. Took on FOCA membership and insurance. Trying to get more members.

Bennett & Fagan – Eric Boysen

- Entire shoreline defoliated by tent caterpillars. Impacting the lake because of all the debris. Parasites are building already so one more year probably.
- I would also like to point out to the others that we conducted a membership survey using Survey Monkey this past summer. We had a good response, and are beginning to review the results to figure out how we can continue to serve existing members, and hopefully attract new ones as well.
- There are a number of useful websites where cottagers and rural landowners can look up information about their property, or to understand what may be happening on their neighbour's. Most of the web links below provide both a topographic map view, or the most recent aerial / satellite imagery. These images are clearer and more up-to-date than Google Earth. You can save images in various formats for future use, in reports, etc. Many municipalities and conservation authorities also have mapping tools

1. OMAFRA Agricultural Atlas

Useful for:

- looking at the Assessment Parcel fabric
- Determining where the assessed Farmland is
- Looking at Conservation Authority watershed Boundaries
- Looking at existing Source Protection information
- Understanding where the current Agricultural Drains are

<http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/AIA/Index.html?viewer=AIA.AIA&locale=en-US>

2. MNRF Natural Heritage Atlas

Useful for:

- Understanding where the Provincially Significant wetlands are
- Understanding where non-classified (or regionally / locally important) wetlands are
- Finding your local Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest

http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/mamnh/Index.html?site=MNR_NHLUPS_NaturalHeritage&viewer=NaturalHeritage&locale=en-US

3. MNRF Crown Land Use Policy Atlas

Useful for:

- Knowing where the boundaries between Crown land and private lands are
- Figuring out which MNRF district serves your location

<http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/CLUPA/Index.html?site=CLUPA&viewer=CLUPA&locale=en-US>

4. MNM Claim Maps

Useful for:

- Looking up and understanding the bedrock and surficial geology of your property
- Looking up current surface and mineral rights

<http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/CLAIMaps/Index.html?site=CLAIMaps&viewer=CLAIMaps&locale=en-US>

5. MNRF Sustainable Forest Licences

Useful for:

- Understanding what forest operations are planned on Crown lands in your area
- These include both long-term plans, and Annual Work Schedules for harvesting, renewal and tending operations

<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/home.do>

Dog Lake Association – Susan Shaw

- This past year, the Dog Lake Association (DLA) executive committee decided to do a survey of members to better understand the benefits and challenges of living on Dog Lake. The survey was distributed in March 2017, and we were pleased to get a 71% response rate (69 out of 97 members). The results showed that lake residents appreciate the many benefits of lakeside living, but were concerned about shoreline degradation, the quality and color of the lake water, and the increase in weeds.
- These concerns were indeed valid and reinforced by the CRCA fact sheet for Dog Lake (2017), which indicated that Dog Lake is highly eutrophic. Moreover, the discoloration of the lake water and the increase in weeds were particularly evident this year. In addition, the public beach on Dog Lake was closed for 6 days in August, and again for a few days in September, due to potentially dangerous algae.
- As a result of our survey, the CRCA document, and evident discoloration of the lake water this past summer, the DLA executive committee set up a new subcommittee to address these important concerns. This committee is now looking at ways to address these problems, for example, through information dissemination and advocacy.
- In August our group heard about a large condominium development proposed alongside a particularly shallow part of the lake. We were concerned about this plan, not only because of the shallow water and weeds, but also because of the size of the development area, with 6 waterfront lots and 12 non-waterfront lots. Of particular concern, was the proposed access to the waterfront for back lots and the plan to include two “rights of way”. Accordingly, we wrote a letter to the Frontenac County Planning Advisory Committee, expressing our concerns. The planning committee had some similar concerns and the proposal is apparently now under revision.
- Based on the events of this past year, we face some challenges with regard to moving forward. First, we need to encourage our members to be aware of practices that negatively affect water quality. Second, we need to get this message to other residents on the lake, for example through efforts to expand our membership tally. Third, with regard to development plans, we need better communication with local authorities

responsible for assessing proposed new development plans and requests for variance on existing properties. Any suggestions or helpful hints to address these issues would be welcome.

- NB. We have heard very few comments this year, through the survey or otherwise, about zebra mussels. It seems that there were fewer mussels this year compared to previous years.

Robertson Lake – Barbara Sabourin

- Robertson Lake is a relatively small lake in Lanark Highlands, and is part of the Clyde River subwatershed. There are about 65 cottages on the lake, and about 100 families in the association's area. Robertson Lake is spring fed from underground spring, and has one outflow, a small creek on our property, which in essence controls the water level. The beach has been tested for contamination and has been safe for swimming throughout the summer.
- Invasive species include banded mystery snails and Eurasian Water Milfoil. Zebra mussels have not been spotted recently.
- Issues this past year have included water levels, and the Eurasian Water Milfoil growth. I would be very interested to hear from others about efforts to control this invasive species in a lake, not just individual property owners.
- I would be interested in hearing about how other associations have funded new play structures, as the cost is incredibly high.

Greater Bob's and Crow Lakes – Larry Arpaia

- New dam will probably be built at Bolingbroke in July 2018. Parks Canada is open to talking with lake association
- Have challenges with their 3 townships. Developers have learned how to use the system and put pressure on the townships. OMB changes coming. Will be a Board, not an individual.
- Pleased to work with FOTW, Christie Lake about waterlevels – hopefully give them information about dealing with all the flooding over the last few years.
- Felt the Central Frontenac committee was developing something progressive and helpful re septic inspections, but it didn't happen.
- Nature flotillas – 850 km of shoreline. Come and learn about shoreline reestablishment, plants, animals.
- Are having EDUSOCIALS – very positive. Re septics, had a driver and Eric Kohlsmith meet with residents. Shoreline naturalization, etc – small group edusocials. Rather than having large groups together, have smaller groups.

White Lake – Claire Martel

- White Lake, located in Lanark Highlands south of Arnprior, is in 4 townships and 2 counties, that in itself brings a number of challenges.
- We do not have a Conservation Authority but are looking into this as one is needed.
- We have had zebra mussels for the past 2 years, a workshop was held this summer and discussion is taking place to possibly have signs posted at the different boat launches to inform boaters that they need to clean their boats*.
- We have an organization called White Lake Preservation Project (WLPP) which is not incorporated, the group is involved in raising awareness regarding the health of the lake, lake capacity, etc. We have initiated discussion to possibly merge the two organizations, such a decision would require an amendment to our Constitution.
- We have a number of social activities in place. Details can be found below. A community centre was built a few years ago, it is the results of work initiated by the WLPOA, fundraisers were organized and a grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation was received. A third organization exists to look after the centre, since the mandate is very specific to the maintenance of the building, WLPOA collaborates with the organization but do not intend to merge.
- WLPOA calendar of events

<http://www.wlol.ca/home/white-lake-property-owner-s-association/events>

*Note: the Ontario Federation of Hunters and Anglers has signage for invading species

Black Lake – Anita Payne

- No public access.
- Have had zebra mussels, since 2009. Seem to have died down. Clear water because of mussels. More plant growth.
- Tent caterpillars really did a number. Last year, lots of moths. This year, not so many
- Have 200 properties on lake, only 45 members.
- Put buoys out on lake, so need insurance.
- Water levels were very high.

Kashwakamak Lake – Sue MacGregor and Judy McIntyre

This is the first Lake Networking Group meeting that representatives from the Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA) have been able to attend. Here is a brief summary of our lake association:

- The KLA has approximately 375 regular (voting) members, as well as roughly a dozen associate members
- The KLA board of directors consists of 11 director.
- In 2011 a lake sustainability planning committee was established and in 2016 our lake plan was approved by our membership

- The lake sustainability planning committee has transitioned into a lake sustainability committee (with 9 committee members) - overseeing various implementation sub-committees; included as advisors on our committee are Alyson Symon (MVC) and Deputy Mayor Fred Perry (Township of North Frontenac)
- We have an annual general meeting in July year, followed by a free BBQ
- We have a fall dinner at Fernleigh Lodge each fall, with fundraising going to a local charity
- Our annual dues are \$15 per year - which includes 2 newsletters annually (emailed). For \$20 a year members can have newsletter mailed to them.
- We have a very successful Facebook page with close to 1200 members; a website which includes member-only access privileges, a twitter account and an Instagram account
- Recent accomplishments:
 - placement of hazard markers in 2016
 - placement of no wake buoys in 2017
 - every member of our association received their copies of the final KLA Lake Sustainability Plan
 - developed and distributed a loon awareness flyer for members
 - developed and distributed a boating etiquette flyer focusing on wakes and shoreline erosion.
 - provided all members with septic system information
 - sale of 911 signs for waterfront - to assist in identifying properties if there is an emergency
- the various lake sustainability implementation committees are outlining their current year and future objectives and are considering many exciting new initiatives including the Love your Lake program, a wildlife tracking system on our website and welcome packages for new owners on the lake.

Kennebec Lake – Kevin LaPorte

- steady membership of approximately 110 families, approximately 50% of Lake properties
- member dues \$20/yr rising to \$25/yr in 2018
- no significant water issues currently
- have been pushing for a mandatory Septic re-assessment program for Central Frontenac township for past several years, defeated at Council 2 weeks ago, but being brought forward again by Council for further discussion in a couple weeks.....
- Kennebec has been selected for the Love Your Lake Program for the summer of 2018
- Main social events are:
 - 1) Winter Activity day on February long weekend which was very well attended this past year- skating, ice fishing, wiener roast, chili, hot chocolate, bonfire etc
 - 2) July 1/July 4-Floatilla and BBQ....decorated boats and approx 100 people attend

- Kennebec Lake, like many others, is also seeing a turn-over of older residents moving out and younger families moving in - will present challenges

Big Clear Lake – Art Duham

- Distributes fall and spring newsletter to educate. AGM small attendance. Septic reinspection voted down. Had a very cost effective solution, so no reason for township to vote it down.

Little Silver and Rainbow Lakes - Frank Johnson

The topics I mentioned from our lakes were:

- Mandatory septic inspections - Tay Valley Township

We passed a resolution at the AGM last year to register our lakes with the TVT mandatory programme.

- Roadside spraying - Lanark County

Our solution to this was to join forces with local residents on County Road 36 and "adopt-a-road" for the entire stretch from Highway 7 to the CP tracks. It is hard work, but there is no spraying.

- OMB appeals

I have personal experience of a couple of these, one refused and the other accepted "in part" and look forward to the overhaul of the system that should be implemented very soon. It is egregious.

- Preparation of the Lake Stewardship Plan

We are working on this, one of the last lakes in the area to do so. Hope to have it ready for the AGM next year.

- Beavers, benefits of flow, water levels and shoreline erosion

These are all topics of interest in our lakes with lots of strong opinions either way and I would be happy to share more details with anyone. The benefits of flow might be illustrated by the simple thought experiment of taking two full glasses of water, adding colouring to both, then standing one under a dripping tap. Compare the two glasses the following morning and decide whether flow was a Good Thing to reduce contamination.

- We have ten years of continuous DO monitoring. The initial paper on this can be found at the following link. It was based on 5 years of data and we now have ten years.

www.littlesilverandrainowlakes.com/sidebar/lake-steward-notes/ |

Canonto Lake – Mary Lynne and Jim Holton

- It was a busy summer with the Canonto Lake AGM and pancake breakfast held in June, the late summer Potluck Social and working with the North Frontenac Township on the Official Plan. Now that the OP has been approved by Frontenac County and North Frontenac Township the Lake Association Executive will be monitoring and participating in the bylaw process.
- A letter and survey from the president have just been sent out in October to members

of the Canonto Lake Association (copy attached). In the letter the President summarizes the accomplishments of the Lake Association since the formation in 2007.

The purpose of the new survey is to gather input from new owners and to update the priorities of the other property owners as well as reflecting on our shared experience on the lake and what we value about lake property ownership.

Otty Lake Association – Reid Kilburn

At our last meeting I listed a number of activities that the OLA would be undertaking this summer. I would like to quickly highlight those activities and then chat about our State of the Lake report for 2017.

- **Shoreline Planting**
All 150 Maple Trees celebrating Canada 150 were sold and we are hoping that many will survive. Fencing and coir mats were provided to help increase the odds.
- **Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Projects**
The challenges of our annual spring monitoring of bass spawning habitat was exacerbated this year by higher than normal water and wave action. Nevertheless occupancy rates were still in the 35% to 40% range which is still considered very good. With these results we chose not to pursue any further habitat builds at this time. Spring monitoring will take place in 2018.
- **Monitoring of the occupancy rate of our 20 wood duck boxes, 25 bat boxes and 15 swallow boxes continued over the summer and based on owner reporting we determined that occupancy rate is about 10 %.**
- **Our Gray Ratsnakes census reported over 40 sightings of Gray Ratsnakes around Otty Lake. We have shared our findings with Tobi Kiesewalter, Naturalist at Murphy's Point Provincial Park.**
- **2018 Otty Lake Calendar**
With the help of our residents and cottagers and their fine picture taking skills the OLA produced a 2018 calendar that in part commemorated the 40th Anniversary of the OLA as we know it today.
- **State of the lake report 2017**
This October, for the fourth consecutive year, members of the OLA board and OLA members have collaborated to produce a short "State of the Lake Report". The report summarizes the condition of our lake and the environmental activities that have been completed on Otty this summer. The report includes sections on physical and chemical monitoring, loon sightings, the Otty fishery, zebra mussels and algae conditions, site investigations, and wildlife habitat and shoreline planting activities. Please visit the OLA website at: www.ottylakeassociation.ca for further information.

Christie Lake Association Inc. update – Larry Bowen

- **Christie Lake Zebra Mussel status**

According to invasive species information provided by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), Christie Lake has been testing positive for zebra mussels since 2009. In that time their population has increased exponentially. We have noticed a decline in their numbers since 2013 due to the likelihood that the population has reached a maximum. There is a cyclic quality to the zebra mussel's population in lakes; however it is not only based on time. The primary influence of zebra mussel population is water chemistry; mainly calcium, chlorophyll, and total phosphorous which are consumed by the zebra mussels. As these elements are filtered and ingested by the mussels they are effectively removed from the water column until the concentrations in the lake can no longer support further colonization. This likely describes the process we have observed over the past few years in which the population threshold has been reached and the mussel population is beginning to decline.

Note that testing conducted by OFAH in 2015 did not identify Spiny Waterflea in Christie Lake.

- **Update on Tay Valley Township 'LANDFILL MASTER PLAN – TRANSPORTATION AND CURBSIDE PICKUP'**

On June 24, 2017, the Glen Tay School auditorium was packed to overflowing for a public meeting on the township waste management plan. It was estimated that between 270 and 350 turned out to listen to, and deliver, presentations. The surveys and impact of the public meeting resulted in rescinding the plan at a Committee of the Whole council meeting on 8 August. The CLA delivered a formal brief at the public meeting presented by Gordon Hill.

For more detail and see <http://christielakeassociation.com/cla-waste-management-background-survey/>

- **Bobs Lake/Bolingbroke Dam reconstruction status**

No change to CLA update Spring 2017 with dam to commence rebuild construction July 2018.

- **CLA Water level Committee**

The CLA established a committee, known as "the CLA Water Level Committee" as a result of the devastating impact that the Spring 2017 flood had on our community. Their primary purpose is:

- Monitoring of the lake levels;
- Being involved in the Management of lake levels with the new dam;
- Use of the CLA email network to circulate information;
- Alert Parks Canada to potential problems;

- Identify the problem that the current optimum water control level is too high which doesn't allow flexibility in managing water levels following an unusual rain event; and
- Make Parks Canada aware of financial losses and perhaps gain their agreement in principle to be responsible for those losses

Friends of the Tay Watershed – David Taylor

- Water level fluctuations on the Tay have been a concern. More data is needed and an informal volunteer network is being established. This will include reporting from lakes, .e.g Christie, Bobs Lake. RVCA will provide gauges.

Next Lake Networking Group meeting date – Fri April 13th at 9:30 a.m., Burgess Hall, 4174 Narrows Lock Road (location to be confirmed)

Volunteers were requested to bring muffins for spring meeting – [Claire Martel and Judy Kennedy](#) volunteered to do so