



**Fall 2021 Lake Networking Group Report**  
**(Includes Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting Notes and the Reports/Updates from lake associations and community partners)**

**Lake Networking Group Meeting Notes- September 24, 2021 9:30 a.m – Noon**

**By Zoom**

**Attendance:** Reid & Christine Kilburn (Otty Lake Association (OLA)), Martin Reid (Kashwakamak Lake Association), Karen & Murray Hunt (Lake Networking Group), Rob Bell (MLA), Graham Whitelaw (MLA), Eric Boysen (Bennett and Fagan Lake), Laura Belton (CALA), Taro Alps (FoTW, Lake Links), Terry & Judy Kennedy (Kennebec Lake), Kelly Stiles (MVCA), Frank Johnson (LSARL), Art Dunham Big Clear Lake, Dave Overholt (White Lake), Melissa Dakers (Watersheds Canada), Holly Evans (Catarauqui Conservation), Eva Leon (CALA), Ken Waller (Sharbot Lake), Sarah MacLeod-Neilsen (RVCA), Doug Cummings (Eagle Lake), Mary Lynne Holton (Canonto Lake), Gay Henniger (CALA), Bruce Jackson (Dog & Cranberry Lakes), Elizabeth Holmes (NDMNRF), Jim Tasker (Pike Lake), Jennifer Brooks (Black Lake), Kat Kavanagh (Water Rangers), Dan Haupt (Zimmer Air), Larry Arpaia (Greater Bob's and Crow Lake), Doreen Donald (MLA), Stella Cowley (CALA), Kirsten Brouse (OLA), Linda Cuthbertson (OLA), Jennifer Brooks (Black Lake), Stella Cowley (CALA), Jeff Neal (Otter Lake Property Owners' Association)

**1. Regrets – Kris McDonald (Farren Lake)**

- Sue MacGregor and Judy McIntyre (Kashwakamak Lake)
- Meaghan McDonald – RVCA
- Donna Walsh (Christie Lake)

**2. Welcome –** Karen thanked all for attending, both the old friends and new. Thanks to Rob for organizing the Zoom meeting, Christine for taking Minutes, to the Advisory Board for all their support. Everyone on the Zoom call introduced themselves.

**3. Conservation Authorities Updates**

- **RVCA** - Sarah MacLeod-Neilson – Sarah covered the items in Meaghan McDonald’s presentation – see attached.
- Questions –1. re Septic inspection – ( Sharbot Lake Association -Ken Waller) Central Frontenac delayed their Septic Inspection Program again in 2021 due to COVID. Does that jeopardize future inspections? Sarah will check with Eric Kohlsmith.  
2. Doug Cummings (Eagle Lake) – What follow up is there on septic inspection rulings – township/health unit/RVCA? Sarah will check with Eric as well.
- **MVCA** - Kelly Stiles – Kelly discussed the items in her presentation, attached
- Discussion re Eurasian Milfoil – MVCA is educating, helping identify. Will bump up education program. Eurasian Milfoil chokes a habitat. Risk of spread by boats is huge. Education is good but we’re now beyond that point. CA’s are limited in what they can do. Townships aren’t supportive. Lake Associations are in educate and inform role, so putting a lot of pressure on them which they can’t handle. NDMNRF isn’t doing anything. Malcolm Ardoch Lakes Association (MALA) worked with a university to control the species. MALA website gives the methods they used. \*These methods no longer permitted by NDMNRF. It was commented that this is a good report but may not be feasible for most of us.  
*Karen suggested that Water Milfoil is an issue we should meet on separately in the near future.*
- **Cataraqui Conservation** - Holly Evans, Watershed Planning Coordinator: Email: hevans@crca.ca or Phone: 613-546-4228 x233 – discussed the following topics:  
Watershed Science:  
-Lake vulnerability and classification project to provide some level of reporting for almost all of Cataraqui Conservations’ 170 lakes  
- Level 2 Low Water Condition  
Development Review:  
- Rideau Lakes Township Official Plan update is near completion and there will be an open house on the latest draft September 21, 2021. Cataraqui Conservation along with RVCA and Parks Canada, as part of the Rideau Waterway Development Review Team (RWDRT) have provided joint comments and recommendations.

- The Rideau Corridor Landscape Strategy Steering Committee – composed of municipal representatives along the Rideau Canal, CAs and Parks Canada, is set to meet in the near future (date not confirmed) to discuss shoreline protection best management practices and implementation tools.

Education:

- Hosting some in person courses and forest therapy walks - Continuing to offer online courses for all ages  
- Conservation Lands: - Lots of updated signage at conservation areas  
- Hike challenge from September 1 to October 31 - Ghost Train Bike Ride on the Cataract Trail

Forestry:

- Friends of Mac Johnson are hosting fall tree sales, they start Sat Sept 25 and run until Oct 2. Info is on our website under the event tab. - If interested in afforestation activities through us would, please contact Rick Knapton directly ([rknpton@crca.ca](mailto:rknpton@crca.ca)). There are currently a few opportunities.

Like the other Conservation Authorities, they are very busy with requests since people are spending more time at home. Cataract Conservation still working mostly from home.

**4. Eric Boysen – Gypsy Moth (LDD) Update**

- Eric took those in attendance through his educational slide presentation (attached)
- Elizabeth Holmes – her report includes information regarding egg mass survey
  - Paulette Hebert – passes on her thanks to those who have provided photos etc for her forecasting

Response to questions:

- BTK does not affect well water
- Zimmer – are you prepared for expanded demand for air spraying? Response: Dan Haupt, pilot with Zimmer – we learned a lot from last year, program was a huge success based on email etc feedback. Zimmer is Canada’s largest sprayer with largest fleet. Will turn off tap much sooner than last year, re accepting requests for spraying. Contiguous acreage makes it more worthwhile – uninterrupted spray block is what’s needed. But if your block is far from any others, is it worth their while to fly to that area?

- EOMF (Eastern Ontario Model Forest) had a very well attended Gypsy /LDD Moth/LDD webinar in the spring. Will do another one in December. Gypsy moth causes mortality in white pine and white spruce. Deciduous trees usually recover.

**6.Update - Watersheds Canada – Melissa Dakers** [dakers@watersheds.ca](mailto:dakers@watersheds.ca)

- Office still closed to the public, so please contact our staff via email or leave a message at the office and we will return it as soon as we can. It is checked daily

**Natural Edge – Chloe Lajoie,** [lajoie@watershed.ca](mailto:lajoie@watershed.ca) or [naturaledge@watersheds.ca](mailto:naturaledge@watersheds.ca)

- Busy year for NE trying to catch up after covid
- Planted over 8,000 native plants in Quinte Conservation & some kits
- Final year for (year 3) NE in the Quinte Watershed, will be planting another 8,000
- Starting year 1 of a 3 year grant in the Cornwall area
- Still offering native planting kits – Contact Chloe Lajoie for more information

**Love Your Lake –** [info@loveyourlake.ca](mailto:info@loveyourlake.ca)

- Program Manager – Heather Murphy left WC in July to pursue other endeavors,
- Melissa Dakers is coordinating regional delivery for LYL
- 2021 – completed over 1000 property assessments on West Lake, East Lake, Wellers Bay in the Quinte Watershed thanks to funding from DFO and Cranberry Lake
- 2022 – Lake Dore, Dog Lake, Stocco Lake and Lake Clear will be assessed.
- Lake Clear will be doing a comparison as they were one of the first assessed in 2012, 10 year comparison study

**Planning For Our Shorelands – Darlene Coyle,** [shorelandproject@watersheds.ca](mailto:shorelandproject@watersheds.ca)

- Compiled shoreland/buffer science and is now analyzing municipal policy protecting/regulating shoreline development.
- We are also in the midst of starting up our Planners forums to engage planners in discussions common shoreline development issues and successful policy mechanisms to address them.

**Fish Habitat Restoration – Melissa Dakers,** [dakers@watersheds.ca](mailto:dakers@watersheds.ca)

- Received funding from Bass Pro Shops and Cabela’s Outdoor Fund to restore our first Lake Trout Spawning bed – washed the bed on September 16 with community volunteers and staff and will be adding more rock in the winter

- Also received funding for a brush bundle – woody debris fish habitat project on Olmstead and Jeffrey’s lakes
- Launched in the spring - Fish Habitat Restoration Toolkit is available on our website for volunteer groups to learn more

Question from meeting participant re Love Your Lake : how can new Canoe Lake property owners see their reports? Melissa will get back with response, since owners probably need their code.

## 7. NDMNRF Update – Elizabeth Holmes –.

### New Name

- Following a recent cabinet shuffle, we are now the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF).

### New Bait Management Strategy

- A new Bait Strategy (‘Ontario’s Sustainable Bait Management Strategy’) comes into effect on January 1, 2022.
- It addresses key elements related to the use and movement of bait and the type of bait allowed.
- Ontario has established four Bait Management Zones (BMZs) including the Southern, Central, Northeastern, and Northwestern BMZs (**see the appended BMZ map**).
- Baitfish and leeches (live or dead) cannot be moved into or out of a BMZ.
- Anglers that are using bait within the BMZ of their primary residence may either purchase or personally-harvest their bait and do not need to retain a receipt.
- Anglers that are using bait outside of the BMZ of their primary residence will be required to purchase their bait and retain the receipt.
- The receipt must list the quantity of bait purchased and the date and location (business name, address) of where and when it was purchased.
- Receipts are valid for two weeks and must remain legible and be provided to a conservation officer if requested.
- For more information: [bait@ontario.ca](mailto:bait@ontario.ca)

### LDD (*Lymantria dispar dispar*) Update

The following are highlights from a personal communication with Paulette Hebert, Forest Health Technician for Algonquin Park, Pembroke and Kemptville Districts:

- Most of the defoliation mapped was in the western half of Kemptville District with smaller pockets through the central parts of the District and areas east of Ottawa.
- The precise area of defoliation is not yet available.
- In addition to aerial mapping, ground surveys were conducted to assess egg mass emergence, defoliation, parasitism, predation, NPV (Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus) and *Entomophaga maimaiga* (a fungus).
- General surveys were also carried out throughout the season to document LDD occurrences and impacts.
- Provincial mapping of LDD will soon be available here: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/lymantria-dispar-dispar-ldd-moth>
- This fall, NDMNRF will be completing egg mass surveys to forecast next season's defoliation.
- For landowners who may want to carry out egg mass surveys this fall, **please see the attached egg mass survey protocol.**
- Landowners are encouraged to report LDD occurrences to the Invasive Species Centre or i-naturalist.
- For more information: [info.mnrfscience@ontario.ca](mailto:info.mnrfscience@ontario.ca)

#### **8. Update - Septic Pumping for Water Access Only properties – Doug Cummings (Eagle Lake) + Ken Waller (Sharbot Lake)**

- Doug expressed the concerns of island property owners to get septic pump out. Pulled together working group from Sharbot and Eagle Lakes, talked about challenges and who to talk to. Found 2 organizations expressing interest. Misty Cove Marine is one company expressing interest.
- Island Marine Construction – have shown working group the barge they'd buy. Want to get an estimate of market size. How many water access only properties are there? Bennett Lake, Pike Lake, Silver Lake responded to Karen's request re properties. Doug asked for a quick poll of how many water access properties there are on each of our lakes and thus added to his data.
- Have to get people to realize it's necessary for the health of the lake to pump out. It cost \$2,500 for a property owner to have a company come from further afield. Many issues with owners, e.g. big brother is watching attitude

#### **9. Update - Reduce Boat Wake program - Gay Henniger (CALA)**

- Presentation attached

- Sold 40 signs which have been placed along the canal system
- CALA (Chaffey's and Area Lake Association) consists of 7 lakes along the Rideau Canal
- 2014 – very low CALA membership. 6 people jumped in to increase membership and they haven't looked back since. Awareness the Association exists has attracted membership
- 2019 AGM – concern expressed re disrespect for wildlife, shorelines, property owners. Need to address this
- SQA and MLA groups worked with Transport Canada to develop a WAKE sign which property owners can put on their properties. These signs are being shared on other lakes now.
- The lake association subsidized 50% of the cost of the signs

#### **10. OPP/ Lake Associations Fall 2021 Meeting – Greg Ellis**

- No update available at this time

#### **11. 20th Annual Lake Links – October 23, 2021 by Zoom – Taro Alps**

- 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lake Links. By Zoom again this year.
- Theme is **Take the Challenge, connecting what we say with what we actually do to protect our lakes and rivers.**
- See attached poster and agenda for additional details.

#### **12. Lake Associations' Updates- September 2021**

##### **Sharbot Lake Property Owners' Association Update – Ken Waller**

###### Water Testing

The last of the 2021 monthly testing of 5 locations on our lake has been completed. The data was collected and inputted to the Water Rangers web site and to the Lake Partner Program.

Overall, the health of the lake remains excellent. The testing data again showed year-over-year consistent, and favourable results. One particular observation was that, using the secchi disk measurements, we typically measured 0.5-1.0 meter less depth than in previous years. This could be associated with fewer zebra mussels and the overall clarity

slowly returning to that of previous years. The visible-depth level appears to be levelling off at approx. 5.5m (down from 2017 levels of 8m).

MVCA completed extensive water testing of Sharbot Lake this summer. Such testing is normally done on a 5-year cycle. MVCA is targeted to release an updated report for Sharbot Lake sometime in early 2022. Hopefully it will be positive news.

### MVCA Tree Day

On Sat, 22 May, MVCA with assistance from SLPOA distributed 466 plants to more than 33 properties. Participants were able to order up to 15 trees & shrubs in return for a \$25 donation to MVCA's stewardship program. The success of the program may result in a repeat in 2022.

### Mandatory Septic Re-inspection Program

Central Frontenac Township suspended the program for the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year due to COVID. The west basin was due to be inspected. Hopefully, the program will be re-instituted next year. The west basin of Sharbot Lake is on the short list of lakes to be inspected next.

### Septic Pumping of Water-Access-Only Properties

In 2020, working with Eagle Lake POA, we obtained the services of a barge-based pumping service. Unfortunately, half of Sharbot Lake, the east basin, was inaccessible due to a bridge with insufficient clearance for the barge. In 2021, the contractor returned with a smaller barge. While that too was too tall to fit under the bridge, thanks to a co-operative landowner, the contractor was able gain access. The contractor, based out of Georgian Bay, charged \$2,500 per site. A volunteer group of WAO owners and volunteers is researching the possibility of getting more local contractors from the Thousand Islands or the Rideau Lakes area interested in providing the service but want to know if there are enough interested customers to make it worth their while. Doug Cummings, president of Eagle Lakes POA sent out a request for info via the Lake Networking Group looking for info from other associations on how many WAO properties they have that may require septic pumping. Unfortunately, responses have been few.

### Gypsy Moth Infestation

Aerial spraying for the gypsy moth was carried out over numerous Sharbot Lake properties in late May and June. Those who were sprayed reported a major reduction in numbers of caterpillars and amount of defoliation. Some unsprayed properties also noted reduced numbers which could be due to the fungus and virus that are fatal to the



gypsy moth caterpillar and ramp up following surging populations of the caterpillar. Rob Patten, an SLPOA member-at-large, has agreed to be the focal point for info regarding aerial spraying for 2022. He is also planning a Zoom info session for the fall. He has extended the offer to anyone in Central Frontenac. He can be contacted at [robert.patten@rogers.com](mailto:robert.patten@rogers.com) .

### Eurasian Water Milfoil

Sadly, the Eurasian Water-Milfoil (EWM) plant spread quickly and in dense clusters over much of Sharbot Lake. The SLPOA will continue to communicate with the MVCA and other experts in seeking a potential resolution to ridding our lake of this unwanted plant. SLPOA organized the removal of a small portion of a large surface mass of EWM more as a wake-up call to area residents than a solution. Using a pontoon barge, and volunteers with rakes and pitchforks, over a ton of material was removed for disposal at an area dump. Sadly, that only cleared about a 20m circle. In the past two weeks, much of the mass of the material on the surface has sunk.

This invasive specie has arrived at many area lakes. An organized approach among lake associations is needed to clearly identify the extent of this threat, just what can be done to mitigate it and how best to educate our members.

### SLPOA Membership

In 2020/21 our membership renewal dropped by 40 members to 150. Due to Covid, we did not use door-to-door canvassing for the second year. Thankfully, there was a good response to our on-line membership application which allows payment via PayPal. In 2021/22 (our membership year runs from 1 July to the following 30 June) we have already reached 155 as some of our area representatives have felt comfortable enough to canvass their neighbours.

### AGM

Our 2021 annual general meeting was held via Zoom in late July. We had 37 households participate. I had warned the membership that I would not stand for re-election as president (after 22 years on the SLPOA executive, it was time to wind down) nor would my wife who has been the secretary-treasurer for 14 years. We approached the meeting unknowing if anyone would step forward. I am happy to say that the membership did step up and we have a full executive, including two vice-presidents.

Unfortunately, after a month and a half, the president resigned. It is unknown at this time which of the VPs (if either) will assume the duties of President. For the present, I am

probably the best contact for anyone wanting to connect with SLPOA at [ken.waller@slpoa.ca](mailto:ken.waller@slpoa.ca)

### **Kashwakamak Lake Association – Sue MacGregor**

The KLA held its AGM virtually in July and elected a new board of directors. We're delighted to include two new members which better rounds out representation in all areas of our lake. We were also able to include KLA members from the US at the AGM using this format. We are still waiting for the Love Your Lake overall Lake Shoreline Assessment Report from the July 2020 Assessment. Once we receive it we will review the report and its recommendations and take stock of other lake sustainability implementation efforts that we can consider for the future depending on volunteer support and cost.

### **Pike Lake Community Association – Jim Tasker**

#### Election

Conducted our bi-annual election via Zoom. We had no nominee for President but were fortunate to have a volunteer step forward in role of Interim President at our subsequent board meeting

#### Membership

Our membership continued to grow this year. We have placed signage on various lake roads for the past two years to raise awareness of the association

#### Canadian Lakes Loon Survey

This year we created an online form to report loon sightings so members can report on a monthly basis. Our Lake Steward will compile the data and submit it at the end of the summer season

#### Hazard Buoys

Beginning in 2018 we acquired hazard buoys to mark boating hazards on the lake. Volunteers now place approximately 25 buoys at various locations in the lake. We have experimented with leaving some buoys in over the winter, no damage occurred. We are investigating safety and liability concerns about snowmobiling regarding this practice.

#### Camping on Crown Lands

We have had some issues about campers leaving trash and waste, cutting live trees and having too many campers on our one island that is designated for camping. Contacted MRNF to ask about enforcement: MRNF indicated that it is an infraction if folks are camping where it is posted no camping or cutting wood or leaving garbage or structures. They recommended that the cottager immediately phone the MNRF TIPS line at 1-877-TIPSMNR or 1-877-847-7667. MNRF also clarified that, if an island is not

posted "no camping", it is legal to camp on crown land under the Public Lands Act, therefore there has to be a violation of this Act for our Enforcement officers to enforce the Act.

#### Communications to members

Encourage members to participate in Canadian Lakes Loon Survey

Provided info about FOCA resources and benefits

Provided info about how to notify MRNF via tip line of problems from campers

Provided info about lake stewardship including use of soaps in lake water and discharging grey water into lake

Reminder of the buy/sell page on our association website

#### LDD Moth Control

Provided information to members regarding aerial spraying to control caterpillars.

Many members contracted Zimmer Air Services to spray their properties, which was done on two occasions

Dr. Chong, a chemist from Waterloo, produced bands permeated with pheromones to lure the male moths so that they are trapped before they can fertilize the females who are ready to lay eggs. The board arranged for a shipment of 500 bands at no charge, which we distributed among members, asking for a \$5 donation to World Wildlife Fund for each set of four lures. Informal reports indicated that the lures were very successful. Unfortunately Dr. Chong will not be able to do this next year due to new regulations

### **Eagle Lake Property Owners Association – Doug Cummings**

Biggest challenge has been the identification of Eurasian Watermilfoil in our lake. While not widely spread yet, we do have several areas with dense stands. Working now to develop a plan to address (communications, action plan, etc). Would like to partner with other local lakes (Sharbot, Bob's, Crow, etc) to leverage other ideas and investments.

Lake level well managed throughout the year – good working relationship with the OMRF (ie, setting dam height).

- a. While not an official ELPOA initiative, had approx. 75 owners (out of ~240 in total) participate in Gypsy Moth spraying program by Zimmer Air.
- b. Facebook group continues to have lots of good activity – people helping each other out with issues, ideas circulated, etc.
- c. Good feedback from our Spring Newsletter, Fall Newsletter under development.
- d. Focus on driving membership has been effective (emails to old members, facebook group posts, etc). Now at 115 (up from ~75 in the previous year).

- e. 3 new Board Members recruited, now at 11.

2021/22 Areas of focus:

- a. New Board Member redeveloping our website
- b. Existing Board Member to finish setting up of ELPOA Archive at the RKY Camp (with Camp Director engagement). Phase II will see us digitize info and make available through the website.
- c. Further grow membership to 130 properties (would be over 50% of owners).
- d. Identify 4 new board members for 2022 AGM to replace retiring members.

**Canonto Lake - Mary Lynne Holton**

Not much activity this summer for the lake association. We were able to have our AGM, outdoors, on August 28th. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions, we did not have our summer social.

We continue to monitor the water quality of the lake. Regularly taking water samples and Secchi depth readings, as part of the Lake Partnership Program.

Hopefully we can be more active in 2022.

**Black Lake Property Owners' Association – Jennifer Brooks**

1. BLPOA made a big push this year to create a comprehensive database of property owners. We know we have 230 distinct properties on the lake, with slightly fewer owners, as some own several properties.
2. Our treasurer spearheaded a drive to increase our membership, which for years had hovered around 20% of members - hardly representative. We are (as of August, 2021) standing at 79% of members. This has been accomplished through door- to -door canvassing, notices on our BLPOA Facebook page and many emails to owners. The annual membership fee is \$25, 95% of which is paid by e-transfer. Payment of this fee allows property owners to advertise products on our BLPOA Facebook site to sell, barter or buy.

**Question for other lake associations:**

What percentage of property owners are members of your association?  
Do you have trouble maintaining this or do you have to chase people down?

3. In 2020 we gave up on recruiting volunteers to put the lake buoys in. We hired someone to put them in and take them out. This gave us much better shoal coverage on a lake with many shoals. This helps demonstrate to members what their membership fee of \$25 covers. Every communication regarding buoys tells boaters that the onus is on them to be safe, as buoys can drift or disappear. Not all near-shore shallows are marked.
4. With membership at 4 times what it was several years ago, our subscribers to our email system have also increased greatly. While our Facebook group is active, official BLPOA communications go through our Mailchimp email system where people must subscribe. FB has many non-owners on it.
5. We do an annual newsletter (sometimes 2) each year with a focus on gypsy moths this year and a new addition - a directory of some local lake services (such as boats and docks, but not contractors, electricians or plumbers).
6. We conducted several member surveys in 2020 and 2021 using the Forms feature in Microsoft 365 for the questionnaires.
  - The Internet
  - The Tay Valley Draft Master Recreation Plan
  - Water safety, an issue of greater concern last year
  - Water quality
  - Gypsy moths
7. We had virtual AGMs in 2020 and 2021. We emailed information and an agenda and set up a vote on items needing approval using “Forms”. We amended our ancient constitution to correctly describe us as an association not a corporation. An association has the advantage of being simpler to administer, fewer rules and regulations, no tax returns and can still get insurance to cover director liability.
8. We hope to expand on the RVCA water sampling by having volunteers do the sampling and RVCA providing the test materials and doing the analysis.

## Questions for other lake associations:

1. What challenges did you overcome in moving from voluntary to mandatory septic inspection?
2. What percentage of fee-paying members would be defined as a majority in the case of a vote to legally move from voluntary to mandatory septic inspection?

Jennifer Brooks Black Lake [jbroo@sympatico.ca](mailto:jbroo@sympatico.ca) 613-408-5335

## Otty Lake Update – Kirsten Brouse

- The Board is considering two new initiatives - shoal marking and a reconciliation working group. We will determine whether to go ahead with these initiatives at our October Board meeting.
- OLA received funding from FOCA to fight invasive phragmites, and used the funding to purchase equipment for volunteers to use in removal work of small stands. Plans are being made to remove a large stand on an Otty Lake resident's property in October.
- We are continuing regular programming around water sampling, shoreline planting
- New OLA map was distributed to members (and at 5\$ to non-members, and for extra copies) - it shows the 30m no wake zone around the lake, as well as identifying shoals, and island and bay names. The group of volunteers (area councillors) who stay in touch with members around the lake found the map to be a very positive incentive for membership renewal.

## Big Clear Lake – Art Dunham

We utilized surveys and online ordering to provide our members with Gypsy Moth pheromone traps and burlap - these were purchased in bulk so not only were we able to procure them early but also at a discounted price. Gypsy moth caterpillars were bad again this summer but not quite as bad as the previous years - there wasn't as much damage to maple trees but oaks, basswood and birches were hit hard. We were able to get out on the lake shortly after ice out and observe walleye spawning - the numbers appear to be healthy. We also did reprints of a lake Bathemetry map and a clothing order for members to purchase. We held our AGM via Zoom and one of the issues that was discussed was poor road conditions - we did a subsequent survey and provided results to the township so they are aware and hopefully will take action.

Art 613-344-2055

## **Little Silver and Rainbow Lakes Property Owners Association – Frank Johnson**

LSRL.ca

1. Maberly Pines development of 48 lots in a subdivision within the watershed, and whether the Lake Capacity Model should be applied
2. Liability on Township roads, and the TVT Working Group to study the issue for Private Unassumed Roads (PURWG)
3. Proposal from TVT to upgrade and assume Maberly Pines, before PURWG has made its recommendations, using a Special Development Charge.
4. Revision of the Lake Stewardship Plan (LSP) - starting with an updated survey - Any other experiences on surveys/ updating the LSP?
5. Newsletter sharing of benefit - mention of DO anomaly elsewhere this year
6. Continuous monitoring of DO Levels in LSL and disturbance of spring turnover in 2021. Climate change?
7. Inclusion of Algonquian Community TayRiver.ca in our AGM was considered to be very beneficial and helpful

## **Bennett and Fagan Lakes – Eric Boysen**

Gypsy moths were a challenge (see Eric's presentation slides attached)

Aquatic Invasive Species of concern at Bennett and Fagan Lake include - Eurasian Milfoil, European Frogbit. Through FOCA's isample project – looking for spiny waterflea, zebra mussels

With a Zoom AGM – had more people attend than they've ever had in-person

Cottaging is becoming expensive – Crown islands on the lakes – people are camping on them for free, one is almost like a squatter. Garbage, human waste issues, and getting the benefit of the lake without putting anything back.

## **White Lake Property Owners' Association - Conrad Grégoire and David Overholt**

1. Twice each month 9 sites on White Lake were sampled for total phosphorus, calcium and chloride (once per month), Secchi depth and temperature. At these same locations collected and analyzed plankton samples.

2. Since January of 2021 produced and distributed 9 Environment Bulletins. Some of these bulletins have been downloaded over 4000 times from our website at [www.wlpp.ca](http://www.wlpp.ca).

Titles for these Bulletins include:

- a. 2020 Loon Survey
- b. 2020 Cormorant Survey
- c. Water and Ice
- d. Control of Gypsy Moth Infestation
- e. 2020 Water Levels in White Lake
- f. Pollen Storm
- g. White Lake Fisheries
- h. White Lake: Myths and Maps
- i. White Lake: What's in a Name?

3. As part of our annual program, we published both a full length (131 pages) and Summary (6 pages) Water Quality Reports as well as a full length (148 pages) and Summary (3 pages) Aquatic Plant Survey of White Lake reports.

4. Two webinars were presented: 1) White Lake – ours to preserve and 2) Invasive Phragmites. An annotated version of the first webinar as well as the full Zoom recording are posted on our website as well as a CBC interview on invasive phragmites.

### **Otter Lake Landowners' Association -Jeff Neal**

- OLLA Website:
  - The biggest project in the past year has been the updating of our website. Under the leadership of OLLA Director Dianne Taylor, the website now sports a much more modern look and was the showcase for our new logo designed by artist Charlotte Poon.
- Frogbit:
  - This initiative continues to be led by Director Judy Hodgson. Nothing was really done this year other than a one-time paddle around the bay at the boat launch and into the mouth of Barker's Creek. A small amount of



frogbit around the docks (one public; one private) but not alarming. Barker's creek is still quite full of frogbit but there is less at the mouth. Will continue to monitor Frogbit in the lake and if deemed necessary volunteer work crews may be called upon to help with removal. Frogbit here to stay but keeping it at very small level will help the health of the lake.

○ Invasive Phragmites:

- FOCA and Green Shovels set up this project with funding and Director Deb McVean spearheaded this project for Otter Lake. While this invasive plant was not found in Otter Lake it is seen in locations nearby. Also, it is important to continue to educate everyone on the ongoing issue of invasive species and the negative outcomes they create.

○ Lake Trout:

- Director Karl Fiander has been attempting to get MNRF to help determine where Lake Trout can or do spawn in Otter Lake and what can be done to improve existing areas or create new areas. MNRF have been reluctant to visit the lake because of Covid protocols. Karl also reached out to Dr. Steven Cooke, a professor at Carleton University, who advised back at the start of the summer he had a grad student who could possibly come to survey our lake. Happy to report the grad student has been in touch with Karl and the lake survey will be done during the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The deep water oxygen levels recently reported by RVCA appear to be adequate for lake trout survival and we will report to the membership after the Carleton U visit to determine next steps. Increased water temperatures from climate change could also be a big factor. Depending on how this visit goes, it could impact things by:
  - encouraging lake trout stocking to rebuild the population
  - it could mean that lake trout are essentially gone with no chance of a come-back, or,
  - we will focus on other fish species

○ Shoreline Protection:

- This is a very important issue when it comes to the protection and health of any lake, but one which that has had very little uptake by residents. Climate change has a potential impact on our shorelines. We have promoted RVCA's planting project and Watershed Canada's information tools but without much success. Going forward we will continue to promote shoreline protection, including possibly a "Watch Your Wake" campaign.

○ Recreation:

- We all know how much the Covid-19 Pandemic has affected all that is social, so hopefully if 2022 looks like the beginning of the end of this pandemic. OLLA will look into organizing some type of event to increase our sense of community and have a little fun.



### **Chaffey's Area Lake Associations (CALA) – Eva Leon**

One of our first tasks was having a CALA logo designed which later allowed us to create a website ([remembercala.ca](http://remembercala.ca)), facebook page and facebook group. Our communication efforts also extend to monthly Elerts and biannual newsletters.

We ordered a few promotional signs that have been placed in strategic areas along roads and then moved around, hoping to attract new members. The signs appear to be so attractive that one even got stolen.

40 NO WAKE signs (with our logo) have been produced and sold to interested parties. We hope they will make an impact on boaters to slow down and will be taking a survey to see if they have made an impact.

We were able to hold a virtual Meet and Greet in May and learn about the pre-season angling impacts on Lake Opinicon black bass population thanks to Dr. David Philipp. In the spring we also fought gypsy moths and assisted Blazing Star Environmental and Canadian Wildlife Service in the monitoring of the Western Chorus Frogs.

In August, in collaboration with FOCA we had estate lawyer Peter Lillico present "Cottage Succession A to Z".

We take an active part in the Rideau Lakes Lake Association Committee that was created by the mayor of Rideau Lakes a couple of years ago and meets 4 times a year.

We've done a bit of housekeeping as well - we updated our information in the provincial records and we've reviewed our by-laws to see what needs to be amended.

Our 2021 AGM was well attended and had a marvelous speaker - Dr. John P. Smol of Queens University whose research deals with the impacts of climate change. His topic was "Lakes on a warming planet: algal blooms and the longer summer".

### **Christie Lake Association – Krystyna Williamson**

This year, while hunkering down for our extended pandemic precautions, our community was still able to accomplish some great initiatives together. We had over 100 property owners sign up for aerial spraying in a group effort to combat damage by the Gypsy Moth infestation. It made a noticeable improvement in our foliage, particularly with respect to our maple trees. We also built and installed 3 community "library" boxes, where people can leave, exchange or just walk away with a good summer read. We organized the building of a new outhouse facility on the crown land island that is a popular camping spot on our lake, to replace the old, unusable one. This was a joint effort with Christie Lake Kids Camp, a non-profit outfit that has been part of our community for almost 100 years. And finally, we gathered together on the water to watch a splendid fireworks display, co-hosted by residents and the Lake Association, on the August long weekend. We continue to keep our members updated on news and issues, such as water data records from Bob's Lake Dam, that we are lobbying the government to share with downstream residents. By New Year's we hope to issue a full size calendar, featuring photos of Christie Lake from our membership. Here's to a lovely summer past and hoping for more family times next year for everyone. Stay healthy!

### **Lower Beverley Lake Association - Tom Heinze**

The Lower Beverley Lake Association has made "modest" progress toward a few of our goals since my last report was submitted, this past spring. We have experienced many of the same frustrations and cancellations as our neighbors in the time of Covid-19...yet, with the dedication of our board members and those Canadian members who were able to be at the lake for the 2021 "cottage season"; we were able to realize some of our more important initiatives and begin some of our new projects.

Our most valued programs were able to move forward despite the pandemic issues and we are happy to report that our newest collaboration was an awarding of the "Lower Beverley Lake Association Conservation Award" to a graduating senior at the Rideau District High School in Elgin. Our first annual recipient was Brady Scott of Plum Hollow who was chosen by the faculty and staff at the school as an outstanding student and community volunteer in projects that directly benefit the environment and water quality in the area of our two Beverley Lakes. Brady is pursuing a degree in science with a specialization in water studies and environmental management at Carleton University in Ottawa. We are committed to maintaining this type of award to graduating seniors and envision young conservationists associated with our geographic area who can spearhead programs to confront and control invasive species and climatic issues which the warming earth will yield in the years to come.

Due to the August 9<sup>th</sup> "opening" of the international border, two of my American colleagues were able to join me at our Lyndhurst home and we were happy to perform a concert of the chamber music of Johann Sebastian Bach, sponsored by the LBLA and offered at Kendrick's Park on the shores of Lower Beverley Lake. This concert is notable in that it was the final activity scheduled by our association during the 2021 summer season, and the only activity that did not suffer a postponement or cancellation as a result of the ongoing pandemic. The program was performed in a picnic pavilion and audience members were encouraged to bring their own chairs to allow flexible and distanced attendance. This chamber music event is a yearly favorite of the LBL area and, though conditions diminished the audience, approximately fifty five dedicated listeners joined us on August 28<sup>th</sup> when we were able to collect a free will offering of \$850.00 which (as is our annual procedure) was donated to the music program at the local high school in Elgin, for use by the music department to undertake special projects that might not be possible relying on budgeted funds.

All of our LBLA board meetings were held utilizing the ZOOM format and our AGM on August 25<sup>th</sup> was attended by a small, but interested, group of general members... once again as a ZOOM session. During that meeting, we were treated to an informational presentation by members of the Community Enhancement Committee from the town of Delta. If you have driven on route 42 through that town; you are undoubtedly aware that the connecting dam between our two Beverley Lakes is a part of a working mill which has been staffed by local volunteers as a historical display and educational center. The CEC has begun a campaign to enhance the waterfront in the Delta Creek which joins the mill race from Upper Beverley to the channel connecting with our lower lake. This project is rebuilding the mooring area beside the mill and expanding the docking and water access to the town, as well as creating a community area with handicap access to the main street above and an amphitheater for social and artistic gatherings along the water front. The members of the Lower Beverley Lake Association were very impressed with the committee's presentation and approved a donation of \$2,000.00 to the local effort which will serve to join the lakeside community of summer residents with the year round community who call Delta their full time home.

Due to the absence of our members from the United States for most of the summer, we fell short of one of our more important initiatives, in that we were not able to make progress in encouraging our friends and neighbors from the upper lake to join us in a combined "Beverley Lakes Association" that serves and includes members from both bodies of water which are actually one in the same. We have also been unable to expand our water testing or to utilize our new equipment which was shipped to a member from

New York who has not been able to resume his seasonal occupancy this year. We are intending to redouble our efforts on that program when he can return to Lower Beverley for 2022.

Currently we have 120 member families and 9 corporate sponsors. Those figures are a bit low in comparison to our normal pre-pandemic memberships and the 13 business partners to which we are accustomed. Generally, we are looking very forward to a fresh start on these programs and will remain committed to our new initiatives as (we hope) the virus “appears in our rearview mirrors” for 2022!

## **Kennebec Lake Association Report – Terry Kennedy**

### Organizational Challenges Following Covid-19

#### Membership and Re-Vitalization

The Kennebec Lake Association continues to focus on ways to revitalize as we move through the COVID-19 recovery period. We need to ensure membership numbers, and build back from the strengths of before the pandemic and return to face-to-face events.

There has been high owner turnover and personal contacts were undertaken to establish new contacts and also to re-establish connections with existing owners.

It is evident that the large number of new buyers has resulted in changes to the demographics, with a younger ownership base and an apparent number of people new to cottaging. This will present some challenges in terms of differing expectations of cottage life, but also hopefully lead to an infusion of new ideas and increased vitality.

#### Website

We had reported previously on the loss of our webmaster that had necessitated going with a new provider. Arrangements with a new provider (Vital Volunteers) were made and efforts continue to successfully transition. There have been some difficulties encountered with communications, but the provider has certainly been very supportive and patient with helping in resolve problems and assist individuals in making required adjustments.

#### Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held virtually and while the logistics went well (with assistance from Vital Volunteers), the numbers were disappointing and this will require some analysis in order

to understand why this was the case. Is there a general 'Zoom fatigue' or is there something more specific involving commitment to the lake or the association?

#### Executive – 2021 Structure and Assignments

An additional difficulty was encountered in the late spring with the sudden departure of the association Chair, who moved from the area. While the immediate impact was limited, the deeper concern lies with succession planning for leadership over the longer term.

#### Gypsy Moth – Looking Ahead

Many on and around Kennebec Lake had become involved with the spraying program provided this spring by Zimmer Air Services. While there are indications that the spraying helped, the concern many have expressed is that it may have been done too late for maximum effect. We are certainly looking forward to further helpful information from Eric Boysen regarding expectations for 2022.

#### Lake and Watershed Monitoring Plan

From spring through this fall, the association has been undertaking a large-scale assessment of various aspects of the water quality of the lake and parts of the surrounding watershed. At the last LNG meeting we reported on the scope of the project including, sampling and analysis through the Lake Partner Program to monitor Phosphorus, Calcium, Chloride levels in the lake and in four smaller up-gradient lakes. Analysis through the assistance of Water Rangers and Quinte Conservation is enabling the collection of further data on Dissolved Oxygen, Temperature, pH, Conductivity and Metal Concentrations in the lake, at the inflows from all streams/rivulets and in the four up-gradient lakes.

The data collected, along with the results of boating activity surveys is intended to help provide a better understanding the lake and its protection as well as contribute to discussions of its capacity to support future development and recreation.

Interim information collected has provided some interesting information suggesting that the lake in many ways should be considered as two distinct entities. The two basins appear to differ in various factors and may require varied approaches in protecting water quality and determining the capacity to support development.

#### Short Term Rentals

As reported at the last LNG meeting, the association is looking at working with the township and other parties regarding growing concerns around the question of short-

term property rentals. The intent would be to better understand the issues and to seek solutions that could help minimize perceived negative impacts on residents, neighbours and the environment.

Septic System Re-Inspection Program

The KLA intends to work to ensure the Central Frontenac Program is re-activated. This vital program has been suspended in both 2020 and 2021 during the pandemic and needs to be both robustly re-started and hopefully significantly expanded.

Review of Lake Plan

The current Lake Plan was completed in 2012 and it is timely to review it. It should be updated to ensure that it remains relevant and appropriate to serve as the chief source of guidelines pointing the way for stewardship activities.

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**Karen** - Thanks to everyone for attending.

**Next meeting** – Late April or early May – we wait to see if it will be virtual or in-person.