

Next OPP/lake associations meeting Wed. April 24th, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at the Burgess Hall

Next Lake Networking Group meeting Thursday, October 10, 2013 at the new MVC office, Hwy 7 at Carleton Place – more details later

Meeting Notes March 14, 2013 Lake Networking Group Meeting

Present

Terry Kimmel (Pike Lake), Donna Doelman (Bennett/Fagan), Bruce Barton (Bennett and Fagan Lake), Bob Garrett (Canonto Lake), Irving Dardick (Eagle Lake), Terry and Judy Kennedy (Kennebec Lake), Nona Mariotti (Battersea Loughborough), Robert Cosh (Otty Lake), Karen and Murray Hunt (Otty Lake), Gordon Hill (Christie Lake), Anita Payne (Black Lake), Judy Hall (Dalhousie Lake), Art Dunham (Big Clear Lake), Larry Arpaia (Greater Bobs and Crow), Alyson Symon (MVC), Kelly Stiles, (MVC), Mike Yee (RVCA)

Regrets

Andrea Klymko (RVCA), Mike Yee (RVCA), Barbara King (CSW), Gord Rodgers (14 Island), Taro Alps (Greater Bobs and Crow), Eileen and Ed Barbeau (Little Silver and Rainbow), Kay Rogers (Pike Lake), Eugenia Flett (Farren Lake), Martha Bradburn (RVCA), Mary Lynne and Jim Holton (Canonto Lake)

1. Alyson Symon and Kelly Stiles participated in the meeting on behalf of Mississippi Valley Conservation (MVC) - Alyson's report follows ...

2012 Drought and Climate Change in Mississippi Watershed:

"The Mississippi River in a Changing Climate", article by Paul Lehman (MVC General Manager) in 2012 Mississippi Belle (attached)

Sept 2012 - MVC Climate Change Workshop

- **"Natural Systems Management – Identifying and Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Natural Systems in the Mississippi River Watershed"**
- Guest Speaker was Gary Nielson, Climate Change Project Coordinator, Ministry of Natural Resources
- part of an ongoing watershed-based climate change adaptation series.

Jan 2013 - MVC Drought Workshop

Drought 2012 Impacts and Lessons Learned in the Mississippi Valley Workshop

- workshop held in Mississippi Mills on January 12, 2013
- collaboration between Community Stewardship Council Lanark County (CSCLC) and Mississippi Valley Conservation (MVC)
- Mississippi River was declared to be in a Level I drought on July 17
- main-stem of the river did not return to normal levels until January 10, 2013
- workshop presented facts about the drought (reference article attached)
- explored it's impacts on watershed, residents and users.
- attempted put this drought into the context of expected future droughts and climate change

Vulnerability Assessment based Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Mississippi

- Approached by Gary Neilson, MNR to undertake adaptation plan
- Expanded to encompass the Mississippi Rideau Source Protection Area
- Identify themes and sectors that will be assessed (hydrology, aquatic habitat, wildlife, insects, wetlands, invasive species, species at risk, agriculture, tourism, infrastructure)
- Engage experts for each of the different themes
- Assess vulnerability to projected changes in climate (impacts,
- Develop adaptation options
- Strong stakeholder and community consultation component

Mississippi Watershed Conditions

- Mississippi River watershed returned to “normal conditions” at the end of December.
- Water levels are at or very close to historic levels for this time of year across the watershed
- Snowpack conditions are at or slightly above the normal for March 1
- No significant flooding is anticipated at this time, however, current snow pack conditions indicate some spring flooding is likely.
- Long range forecasts indicate that it will likely be early April before the spring flood occurs
- expect it to be higher than we have seen in the last few years but not a significant event
- spring floods are almost always based on rainfall events so that will ultimately determine the magnitude and timing of the event.
- MVC monitors conditions across the watershed on a daily basis and adjusts our predictions based on that data and forecasted meteorological data.

- **MVC is always looking for volunteers on the lakes to monitor water levels and rainfall and ice on/ice off**

Walleye Habitat Improvement Project

- Mississippi Valley Conservation (MVC) and the Lanark and District Fish and Game Conservation Club (LDFGCC) coordinating walleye habitat projects locally this summer with the support of the Community Stewardship Council of Lanark County.
- In July 2013, will enhance the walleye spawning bed in the Clyde River upstream of the Highway 511 Bridge and Kerr Lake in Clydesville near Lanark Village
- the improvements include placement of clean rock rubble on the bed of the river.
- Volunteers are welcome to assist with the rehabilitation project. Contact Andy Moore, MVC Regulations Officer, amoore@mvc.on.ca or 613 269-2421 ext. 257
- The LDFGCC is also working on improving spawning beds on Patterson Lake in Lanark Highlands with the support and materials donated from its lake association and Cavanagh Construction.

Shoreline Naturalization Program

- free to property owners needing enhanced buffer
- potted stock,
- we do the planting plan, order stock, plant stock
- property owners must sign agreement
- targeting properties where we've identified need through permit or planning application review

Lake Monitoring

Watershed Watch (2012)

- This year will sample 12 lakes for phosphorus, chlorophyll a, sechhi disc, dissolved oxygen and temperature
- Kashwakamak Lake, Kishkebus Lake, Mackavoy Lake, Marble Lake, Mazinaw Lake, McCausland Lake, Mississagagon Lake, Mississippi Lake and Shabomeka Lake

Invasive Species Monitoring

- Hire a summer student under Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) sponsored invasive species monitoring program

- Sampled for Zebra mussels, Spiny Water Flea, on all Watershed Watch Lakes plus any other lakes that request it

Lake Planning

- Canonto Lake completed last fall
- Mississippi Lake and Kashwakamak Lake, ongoing
- Big Gull Lake – initiating process

New Office

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

2. (a) Rideau Valley Conservation Authority - Michael Yee - Mike reported on RVCA's Aquatic Vegetation Research Project. RVCA staff have been in contact with academics from Trent University, University of Ottawa, St Lawrence River Institute, Ministry of the Environment, Museum of Nature and Parks Canada to discuss working with them in researching algae and macrophytes. There is interest from Trent and U of O to conduct research, however, contingent on finding sufficient funding. To help set the table for further research we are looking to fund an intern in 2013 to gather key information. The intern's activities will include surveying lake associations, lake dwellers and users to find out what they think are key research questions about aquatic vegetation; locate and organize current research and information that will help to understand what is occurring in our inland recreational lakes and help further any academic research that is currently being conducted. We are ultimately looking to work collaboratively with partners to apply to major funding agencies for research funding in 2014.

Mike's slides are attached.

Mike discussed a survey that RVCA will be using to help gather information and perceptions about aquatic vegetation (and other issues) in eastern Ontario lakes. With this knowledge the RVCA will be able to take steps towards addressing these collective concerns through research partnerships. All of this is contingent on securing funding. RVCA is looking for feedback about the content of the survey and to have any comments back by Friday March 22, 2013.

The final survey will be uploaded into Survey Monkey to allow lake dwellers and lake users to answer the survey questions this spring and summer.

Follow-up

As agreed at the meeting, Karen forwarded a draft copy of the survey to those on the Lake Networking Group email distribution list so that lake reps could provide Mike with feedback about the content of the survey and to have any comments back by Friday March 22, 2013

2 (b) RVCA Shoreline Naturalization Program (SNP) Update – report from Andrea Klymko

- Tay River Subwatershed was the target area for RVCA's stewardship programs this year.
- Environment Canada EcoAction Community Funding Program and other fundraising allowed us to cover the costs of all potted and bareroot plants through the Shoreline Naturalization Program.
- Targeted outreach in the Tay Subwatershed was carried out including:
 - Open House to coincide with the launch of RVCA's Tay Subwatershed Report card, early spring 2012
 - 100 letters/invitations were delivered shoreline properties
 - 200 SNP postcards were hand delivered in key areas around Bobs and Crow Lake, Otty Lake and other areas
 - Attendance and promotion at several Lake Association AGMs and other community events/meetings (Tay Watershed Discovery Day)
 - Several press releases sent out including articles in RVCA's Around the Rideau publication
 - Lake 88 interview with SNP manager
 - Project proposals developed for several public spaces
- Results:
 - Increase in project uptake in the target watershed
 - 3 projects completed summer/fall 2013
 - 150 + potted shrubs and wildflowers planted

3 completed: 1 on Crow, 1 on Otty, 1 on Bobs

9 pending: 4 on Bobs, 1 bulk order on Otty, 3 on the Tay (in Town of Perth), 1 on unnamed Trib

- 9 projects (pending) planned for 2013 planting season

- 2285 trees and shrubs to be planted this spring (combination of potted and bareroot)
 - Showcase planting project: Perth Water Treatment Plant
 - 1 bioengineering project pending for fall 2013
- Stewardship target area for 2013/2014 is the Lower Rideau Subwatershed, but we will still accept projects in other areas of the watershed. Total cost coverage for 2014 is to be determined.
- Funding still available for fish habitat enhancement projects.

2 (c) News from Planning and Regulations in the Rideau Valley Upper Watershed – Martha Bradburn- Environmental Planner, RVCA

- 1) New flood plain mapping (updated from the original 1981 mapping) along the Tay River from the mouth of the Tay at Lower Rideau Lake to Glen Tay, west of Perth. I have attached the news flash from Ferdous/Diane for your use.

To note: Jebbs (connected to Otty Lake) and Grants Creek near Perth are included in this new mapping. Full regulation and permits/approvals are necessary for any works/grade alterations and construction in the flood prone areas identified.

- 2) We also have flood elevations identified on Otty, Otter, Bobs Lakes as well as Big Rideau, Upper Rideau Lake, Lower Rideau Lake. Regulatory considerations for these lakes are applicable only in areas where Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW's) and their adjacent lands are delineated.
- 3) Fish habitat and Public Lands Act changes- Was hoping to have some indications but we have not received any further indications from the feds re the Fisheries Act changes or province for potential Public Lands Act changes. Status Quo.
- 4) A reminder for all waterfront owners in the RV watershed- Permits are required for alterations to water courses, lake shores and in wetlands.

3. Beavers and Us Workshop – (Note from Gord Rodgers who was unable to attend the Lake Networking Group Meeting - The Frontenac Stewardship Council, along with Hastings, Lennox and Addington, and Lanark Councils, are hosting a workshop to look at beavers and their interaction to the ecology of our part of eastern Ontario. Gray Merriam has put together a program for the day – April 22, in Perth, at the Civitan Hall.)

- a reminder about this workshop and it's excellent and diverse presenters was offered and the posters circulated around the table (previously circulated electronically)

4. FOCA AGM update re the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act - notes provided by Judith Robertson (the Otty Lake rep who attended the FOCA meeting)

1. Not-for-Profit Corporations Act

- a. This will come into effect in July 2013, however there will be a 3 year transition period (it is still not clear whether the association's existing by-laws or the Act will dominate during the transition period – awaiting the regulations)
- b. All Associations will be required to review their by-laws to ensure conformity with the Act's provisions
- c. FOCA is working with a law firm (BLG) to produce a generic 'toolkit'. This will be available to members at a nominal cost (e.g. \$250) and should cover 80% of the legal work required – only customization will be needed by each association.
- d. The best practise is to create a subcommittee to draft by-law changes and plan the transition once the toolkit is available.
- e. Key points:
 - i. Change from Letters Patent to Articles (easier to amend, eliminates concept of ultra vires)
 - ii. Several required enhancements to member rights e.g. default is that all members have an equal vote; class voting is required in certain circumstances; members right to call a special meeting can have a maximum requirement of 5% of members; no business (e.g. board nominations or other business) can be conducted at a meeting unless it has been properly included in the notice to members
 - iii. Board changes : size is no longer fixed – can be a range; maximum term is 4 years (but not term limits); removal is by simple majority (not 2/3) at a meeting
 - iv. Legal issues; standard of care becomes a “prudent person acting reasonably” (this shields those with special expertise from extra liability); due diligence defense is allowed; all board members are deemed to have consented to all decisions unless they object in writing within a fixed period following the distribution of the minutes (whether you attended the meeting or not)
 - v. There is now only one required officer – the Chair
 - vi. Financials must have a “review” by a qualified audit firm unless revenues are greater than \$500k, at which point an audit is required.

- f. If an association receives more than \$10k from the government, a government agency or outside donors in a year, it becomes a Public Benefit Corp. And additional requirements are imposed to improve accountability – we did not go into these details, this trigger was just highlighted.

5. Algonquin Land Claims – comments provided by Larry Arpaia, Greater Bobs and Crow Lake

The Government of Canada (**Canada**), the Provincial Government of Ontario (**Ontario**) and Algonquins of Ontario (**AOO**) released to the general public in December 2012 a document on the negotiated land claim discussions between these parties referred to as *The Preliminary Draft Agreement-in-Principle (AIP)*

Meetings to “learn more about and provide comments to the Algonquin Land Claim Negotiations” were scheduled across Eastern Ontario during the first three weeks of March 2013. See the following for specific dates and times (www.algonquinlandclaim.ca).

The Algonquins first petitioned the British Crown concerning land back in 1772 and discussions concerning ‘land claim’ were had in the early 1800’s. The Government of Canada initiated “land claim” discussions in the early 1900’s with little satisfaction nor fairness. Canada and Ontario have been meeting with the AOO for the past 20 years in these current “negotiations”. The parties have defined negotiations as the first step towards reaching a modern day treaty that would be protected under the Constitution Act (1982). The AIP would provide a foundation for a “first agreement” that would clarify and define the rights of the AOO as they relate to land, water and natural resources and the obligations of Canada, Ontario and the AOO.

The land claim package determined (www.ontario.ca/algonquinlandclaim) by Canada, Ontario and the AOO includes 200 parcels of land ranging in size from a few acres to over 30,000 acres. These lands total 117,500 acres of Crown Lands, Provincial Park Lands and Public Lands from the St Lawrence River to the Ottawa River to the north in Eastern Ontario.

The proposed land selections were chosen by the negotiating parties for one of four purposes:

- Historical/Spiritual designation of land
- Future Institutional Residential Industrial Development
- Economic Development, Resources, Industrial Development
- Community Recreation, and Environmental Protection

The past process that the current Negotiators have put forward has not been an open and transparent process. It has been conducted in closed meetings and through invitation only. The negotiators tell us that the AIP is a step leading towards an agreement not a binding contract. The following issues are currently being vetted by the Negotiators in “Public Meetings” and will be addressed in the next steps as part of the AIP.

- Conservation issues will take priority
- The rights of hunt clubs and fishing camps on negotiated lands will be addressed
- Access across right-of-ways over transferred lands and navigable waters will be protected
- Harvest Management Plans and Fish Management Plans have been agreed to for Provincial Parks (to be jointly operated by the AOO & Ontario)

From a meeting I attended with AIP Key Negotiators on March 7, 2013 in Perth Ontario I have made the following observations concerning the future process.

- Community Meetings to introduce the AIP to the public will be continuing until March 17, 2013. This two week community consultation is being considered by the Negotiators as the “completion of their current review process”
- From the Review Process the Negotiators will adopt changes to the content and the Negotiators will then develop a “Final Draft”
- The ‘Final Draft AIP’ will be submitted to AOO voters for ratification
- Upon ratification the Final Draft AIP will be submitted to the Governments of Ontario and Canada for approval
- Upon Approval Negotiations begin for a “Final Agreement”
- The “Final Agreement” or “Treaty” would then be approved by the AOO voters
- The Legislature of Ontario will be asked to approve “Treaty”
- After Ontario has approved the Government of Canada will approve “Treaty”
- The “Treaty” will be ratified.

The negotiators have stated that if all goes well that such an agreement “may be ready for implementation in 3-4 years”. It is my opinion that this prognostication is

overly optimistic. Legal challenges, disagreements and contentious issues could be and in all likelihood will be unfolding over the next decade plus.

The lands that have been identified around Bobs & Crow Lakes include the Crown Land south of Badour Farms between Bobs Lake and Crow Lakes and the Crown Land portion of Badour Island. These lands have been identified by Chief Doreen Davis as lands of “historical and spiritual” nature to the Algonquins. Yet in speaking to Ontario Negotiators it was noted that such lands may be used as “trading pieces” by the First Nations. It is not the current intention of the Algonquin First Nations, according to Chief Davis, to “trade” spiritual Lands yet this is an example of mis or perhaps discommunication.

The Algonquins have become the forgotten people of the land. Negotiators claim that the land claim assets are to benefit everyone in the First Nations Community and not individuals. The Negotiators appear to be very comfortable in having answers yet somehow have difficulty in asking questions.

That said I share with you the web sites of the Key Negotiators so that you may understand the perspective that all the Negotiating parties have taken.

Algonquins of Ontario:
www.tanakiwin.com
e-mail: algonquins@nrco.net
Telephone: 613 735 3759

Government of Ontario:
www.ontario.ca/algonquinlandclaim.ca
e-mail: alcinfo@ontario.ca
Telephone: 613 732 8081

Government of Canada:
www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca
e-mail: Revdication-Algonquins-OntarioClaim@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca
Telephone: 1 800 567 9604

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As well, Nona Mariotti mentioned that for Loughborough Lake the concern is around harvesting rights.

6. Fact Sheet on Friendly Boating – Terry Kimmel Pike Lake

The Pike Lake guideline is still a work in progress. It started with some discussion at the Pike Lake Association AGM about shoreline issues with wake board boats on our lake. Pike Lake is a narrow lake and the wake hits the

shoreline quite hard and causes issues with docks as well. Our response was to form a committee and develop a response to the concern raised at the AGM. The idea is that we present it to the AGM in August and put it in our newsletter in the spring. Kay Rogers was selected to lead the committee. The committee will present their report to the Board at our May meeting. The report has morphed somewhat into safe and environmental boating practices and can/will be used only as an educational/information tool..

As well Terry and Judy Kennedy, Kennebec Lake, shared copies of Kennebec Lake's Guidelines for Responsible Living By Water (see copy attached). Pleased note that Terry indicated that the 'etiquette' brochure is being reviewed and updated before re-printing for this "cottaging" season. Some updating needed, eg Bass season.

7. Bennett and Fagan Lake Update on Cottage Watch Program –Donna Doelman

Karen congratulated Donna and her Bennett and Fagan Lake Association colleagues on being the recipients of an Honourable Mention Award at the FOCA AGM - their work on the Cottage Watch Program was cited as well as the efforts to organize and purchase submersible water pumps for fire fighting use

Donna explained the steps that the committee went through to get permission to include the OPP logo on the signs and she showed a mock-up of the signs. Some of the signs are already installed on cottage roads and the others will follow. Next step is to get residents to buy-in and support "watching out for one another. Cottage Watch decals will be distributed to property owners.

8. Love Your Lake Program – update report provided by Lynn Preston, Centre for Sustainable Watersheds; Provincial Co-ordinator, Love Your Lake Shoreline Stewardship Program

For the most part, the Love Your Lake Program is underway. Partnering with the Canadian Wildlife Federation, CSW is co-ordinating the provincial program which includes organizations representing the Muskoka area, the Kawarthas, the Sudbury area and Eastern Ontario, including the Renfrew County area.

This summer all our partners will be assessing at least 2 lakes in each of the regions. We hope to generate about 2000 assessments and corresponding property reports.

Locally the plan is to do all or part of Loughborough Lake in the Cataraqui area as well as Otty and Elbow lakes in the Rideau system.

We are hoping to find funding to further expand the Love Your Lake program across the province as well as across the country. We are working closely with

the Canadian Wildlife Federation and the Government of Canada to do this. Stay Tuned. For more information, check out CSW's website at www.watersheds.ca and in April, we'll have our own Love Your Lake website.

9. Ontario lake associations' role in lake stewardship-

www.surveymonkey.com/s/surveylakes - a voluntary survey being conducted by Kelly Bancroft- graduate student research study, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Survey deadline, March 18, 2013 . Some of our meeting participants had had contact with Kelly Bancroft and spoke in support of her commitment and caring for Ontario lakes

10. Reminder OPP/lake associations Spring Meeting – Wed. April 24th at the Burgess Hall at 9:30 a.m. – Lake Networking Group's turn to host. – Karen asked for volunteers to provide refreshments

12. Lake Association Updates

Eagle Lake – Irv Dardick

ELPOA's three main projects for the coming year are

1. Battle with the invasive plant, European Frogbit
2. Unique assessment of water quality by continuous monitoring in conjunction with Department of Civil Engineering at Queen's University
3. MNR (Kingston) considering the possibility of this summer carrying out a netting assessment for the lake trout population with the potential for resuming stocking on a short-term basis
 - a) Rehabilitation of spawning shoals in 2006
 - b) Crucial to learn if juvenile trout survive with low oxygen levels in the deep cold water during the fall most seasons
 - c) Specialized netting protocol

Canonto Lake – Bob Garrett

- We completed our four year project of preparing a Lake Stewardship Plan, in which we received advice and cartographic help from MVC, and the County of Frontenac awarded us a grant from their Smaller Scale Community Sustainability Initiative to cover the cost of printing. We gratefully acknowledge the support of both these organizations. The greatest challenge was in the last year in reaching consensus on social aspects of the plan, in comparison the preparation of the biophysical description of the environment and historical sections were relatively easy. The final steps involved one-on-one meetings or phone discussions with the property owners, who had received a near final draft of the LSP, by the lake stewardship plan committee members. That led to the final draft which was adopted at a September

2012 meeting that reflected the concerns of all property owners, not just Association members. Currently the Association counts 50 of the 63 waterfront property owners as members, along with MVC, an 'honorary member', and several back-lot owners.

- Concerning climate change impacts, our 2011 levels were lower than in the 2012 drought year, even though we lost 4 inches of water in late June 2012, due to persons unknown removing a stop log from the dam. This demonstrates the local variability that can occur around the regional trend.
- We will be putting the matter of the Association membership of FOCA before our members at our 2013 AGM. We believe it is important to support FOCA as the voice of cottage owners in Ontario.
- A concern of Lake Associations in North Frontenac is the outcome of a development proposal for Ardoch Lake, and how the phosphorus based lake capacity model is applied. This may well set a precedent for future developments in North Frontenac. Ardoch Lake is a small mesotrophic lake containing 10-11 µg/L phosphorus, typical of many on Precambrian Shield rocks.

Kennebec Lake -Terry Kennedy

Activities the KLA has been involved in over the winter include:

- Working to pull together vision statements and accumulated data toward the completion of a Lake Stewardship Plan. We are now delighted that this has been accomplished and we have now completed our Plan after several years of effort. It has been a long process but hopefully this will provide a guide toward better protection of the lake and its watershed.
- Organizing a Winter Activity Day in conjunction with Family Day weekend and as part of the Central Frontenac Heritage events. 73 people came out to the middle of the lake where a skating rink had been cleared and food and drink provided. This was the second year for the event and the number of participants doubled in number.
- Cooperating with Dr. Scott Lamoureux from Queens University in an assessment of the dissolved oxygen levels in the lake. Measures were taken at various depths with particular concern for the deepest levels. The levels were quite encouraging and it is hoped that continued assessments will provide helpful data in tracking lake health into the future.

- Seeking to encourage the Township of Central Frontenac to adopt standards for the maintenance of properties for both environmental and economic reasons. This has proven somewhat discouraging as a venture, but the campaign will continue.
- Continuing to work with the Township and developer McIntosh Perry as plans move forward for a development of 24 properties along the shoreline of the lake. The Association had been asked by a citizen to join him in his appeal to the OMB, but we had declined, feeling that there were insufficient grounds for an appeal. The appeal has now been dropped and the development is expected to move ahead.
- A new or more accurately, resumed activity for the Association for this year, will be another attempt to convince Central Frontenac to adopt a program of Septic System Re-Inspections. This group dragged their feet on this when we last went at it, but it is long overdue and we hope to be successful this time around.

Greater Bobs and Crow – Larry Arpaia

- GBCLA Shoreline Survey completed in August 2012
- Our 5 year creek rehabilitation plan with MNR and RVCA was completed in Fall 2012
- GBCLA Bioblitz to take place August 16 & 17 at the Crown Lands south of Badour farms. About 15 "flora, fauna and Night sky experts" will be joining us For more info check out GBCLA We Site or join us on Facebook
- GBCLA is currently in the process of making all our files electronically accessible
- The Turtle Nesting Bed Program with the Toronto Zoo continues with the second project scheduled for this coming summer
- GBCL Foundation has scheduled its Annual Frontenac Frolic for early August (see GBCLA Web site for details)

Dalhousie Lake – Judy Hall

We have 2 main initiatives for the coming year.

- One is to extend our community outreach to include working with other organizations in our area to organize a Canada Day celebration.
- The 2nd initiative is to provide 2 information meetings to update our new cottage owners on best practices when living next to a body of water.
- As well we have asked Dr. Robert Mc Leman to speak on Climate Change
- We will also continue with our water quality testing and keeping our members up to date on water levels, happenings in our community and new programs, workshops etc.

Otty Lake – Robert Cosh

- A shoreline survey will be conducted at Otty this year through a partnership of the Lake Association with the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds' Love Your Lake Program. The results of this shoreline stewardship program will be given to individual property owners in confidential reports.
- Again this year the Lake Association will be working with RVCA's Shoreline Naturalization Program to make shoreline plants available to encourage the planting of vegetated buffers along the lake shoreline. The Lake Association will also be mounting a multiple faceted campaign to reduce phosphorous inputs to the lake.
- The Lake Association is working with the Toronto Zoo Adopt-A-Pond Program to organize a workshop to assist in the identification/evaluation of wetlands of the Otty watershed.
- The Septic Reinspection Program at Otty which is being conducted by the Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office through both Tay Valley and Drummond North Elmsley Townships is moving closer to the point when all older shoreline septic systems will have been inspected.
- Two Carleton University students are conducting research on the effectiveness of lake association activities on the stewardship actions of cottagers and fulltime residents.
- The annual Captain Otty's Day will take place in early August. This social event combines fun and learning activities.
- The Otty Lake Association is "looking at the big picture" recognizing that people have the right - and also the responsibility - to live, work and play at the lake.

Christie Lake – Gordon Hill

The primary goal of the current directors Christie Lake Association Inc. (“CLA”) is to build a sense of community and shared values among lake residents. The directors believe that developing a sense of community and shared values will provide a valuable assist in accomplishing stewardship goals. CLA’s mantra is: “communicate, educate, vegetate, but do not regulate”

Tools for Building a sense of community and shared values include:

Membership drives – face to face contact is essential

Communication and education – spring and fall newsletters, website, email correspondence for specific issues, information meetings (including AGM), one-on-one discussions during membership drives

Social Activities - spring and fall wine and cheese parties, Canada Day flotilla and fireworks, corn roast/baseball/volleyball, golf tournament (fundraiser for Christie Lake Kids Camp); end of season dinner-dance, chili cook-off.

Recreational activities – photo club, sailboat races

Stewardship Activities

Lake Stewardship Guide has been completed. Implementation plans under consideration for 2013 include:

shoreline survey

shoreline planting and naturalization; using locations planted in previous years as demonstration sites

“fishsticks” (fish habitat program)

educational programs (Fish 101 Workshop, shoreline planting and naturalization);

monitoring water quality and water levels

loon monitoring - Canadian Lakes Loons Survey sponsored by Birds Study Canada.

working with MNR to post signs on Crown islands re camping and camp fires

Other Activities

Marker buoys

Safe-Boating Guide with map of Christie Lake

Battersea-Loughborough Lake – Nona Mariotti

- We are celebrating our 50 years of existence this year. We exist because of a devoted group of guides and local people pressuring Municipal, Provincial and Federal Governments to abandon the idea of putting in a culvert to separate the two basins of our lake. The movement resulted in a new bridge allowing full access to both ends of our lake.

- We will be producing a historical book re the association and our lake.
- We also will be working with the Sustainable Watershed to do a shoreline survey of all properties on our lake this summer.
- The 2nd Poker Run/Flotilla will be July 27th to raise funds for Southern Frontenac Community Services.

Black Lake – Anita Payne

- The Black Lake Association plans to get insurance and put in shoal buoys
- They are updating on their website and aim to have it interactive

Pike Lake – Terry Kimmel

- Over the winter the Pike Lake Association initiated a Walleye Spawning Project in partnership with MNR (50 tons of rock were deposited on the ice). This project encouraged a great deal of community spirit with many volunteers coming out to work together. Two additional Walleye Spawning Projects are planned for the lake
- A beaver culling promoted at the AGM has been cancelled
- As described under Agenda item # 6, the lake association is developing a document to describe environmental safe boating practices to be encouraged on the lake
- Pike Lake will participate in Bird Studies Canada Canadian Lakes Loon Survey for the first time in 2012
- Will work on a second Turtle Nesting Bed with the Toronto Zoo this summer

Big Clear Lake –Art Dunham

- The lake association continues discussions with the municipality about the construction of a very large building quite close to the lake

Bennett and Fagan Lake – Donna Doelman and Bruce Barton

- The lake association has an active water quality program and has long-term continuous measurements for several parameters including Dissolved Oxygen, Temperature Profiles

- Cottage Watch phase 2 will continue
- The lake association has a strong program to check on the lake's ice huts and ensure they are completely removed from the lake in a timely fashion each spring