



OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION SUMMER 2017 INFORMATION PACKAGE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Otty Lake Association Board of Directors, I wish you and your family a safe and happy summer at Otty Lake.

Last year we celebrated the 200th Anniversary of European Settlement and the naming of Otty Lake. This year we celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary and next year we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Otty Lake Association as we know it today. As we enjoy Otty this summer, please reflect on the fact that there has been a human presence on this lake for over 200 years and that this presence has had negative impacts on the health of our lake. With the efforts of the Area Counsellors and the OLA Board, we are pleased to once again provide you with your 2017 Information Package which contains valuable information on how we can reduce these impacts.

Last spring most will recall an early appearance of algae that was particularly troublesome for many around the lake. While we do not have conclusive evidence as to why earlier and so abundant, it still pays to remember our long term objective to reduce algae by starving the lake of phosphorus. Make sure your septic system is maintained in good condition, and remember that whatever goes down the drain might end up in the lake, so dispose of chemicals properly. Similarly, whatever goes on your lawn might end up in the lake and so we continue to encourage the growth of shoreline plants which help protect the shoreline against erosion and absorb the nutrients which might otherwise end up in the lake.

To celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary and continue the OLA's successful Shoreline Planting efforts, the OLA in conjunction with the RVCA is offering 150 potted maple trees for planting on lake property this year. Celebrate Canada's anniversary by planting a maple tree or two on your property! Pick up day for those who have ordered trees is Saturday, June 10th.

In 2010 we produced the OLA Shoreline Handbook, and over the years have provided supplementary information as appropriate. This year we are providing an index of changes to the Handbook. If your lake residence does not have a Shoreline Handbook, your Area Counsellor can get one for you.

Also included is a summary of a new document which has been created by your OLA Board with assistance from the Townships. The purpose of the document is to provide residents with a summary of who to contact for guidance and approval for various types of construction projects, environmental reasons for some of the building codes and where to go for more information.

We encourage you to support the work of the Otty Lake Association as we work together with members of the Otty Lake community to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of Otty Lake and its watershed. Would you like to get more involved in the Association? If so please send an email describing your area of interest to ola@ottylakeassociation.ca.

I hope to see you at the Perth Legion for the Otty Lake Association Annual General Meeting. Information about our AGM format and our keynote speaker is included in this package.

Please note our meeting has been moved to Sunday, July 9th, starting with displays and coffee at 1:00 p.m. followed by the business meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Reid Kilburn

Your Area: _____ **Your Area Counsellor:** _____

Phone and/or Email: _____