

**Otty Lake Association**  
**Spring Information Package 2020 – Co-Presidents Message**



Greetings,

We hope this message finds everyone well and safe. It has been a challenging time for all and we want to start by thanking all of the front-line workers and first responders who have and still support our community during the pandemic. We also want to thank everyone for respecting the need to maintain safe physical distancing to help manage the spread of COVID-19. We will get through this.

Albert Einstein once said “In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.”

We also want to recognize Gail Read, our Area Counsellor Co-ordinator and our many Area Counsellors. When first faced with the directives designed to manage the spread of COVID-19, the OLA did the responsible thing and cancelled the spring counsellors meeting and the door-to-door visitation including the delivery of spring information packages. This activity has been a long-standing practice here on Otty so Gail and her team seized the day and re-invented our spring communication initiative. By now you have opened your first virtual spring information package affectionately called e-SIP. Also, the area counsellors did meet via video conferencing hosted by Rideau Valley Conservation Authority’s Sarah MacLeod-Neilson who lead a discussion on aquatic vegetation, the link to which is included in this e-SIP. Congratulations to the Area Counsellor team.

Our only public boat launch on Otty is now open! We are sure many were relieved when the announcement from Tay Valley Township was released and are looking forward to launching your boat. If you do launch your boat please heed the advice of Tay Valley Township and our Health Unit and continue to practice physical distancing and only allow members from the same household on your boat.

With the public boat launch open, we are one step closer to initiating our water quality measurement program for 2020. Derek Smith, our Lake Steward, has been taking water level and water flow (Jebbs Creek) measurements but, at this time, we are unable to start our OLA chemical limnology program due to a combination of factors.

Our spring Board meeting will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> via the Zoom video conferencing application. Planning for our annual general meeting will be on the agenda and depending on the status of re-opening public gatherings, we may need to postpone or consider hosting our AGM via Zoom.

While the current opportunities to update, welcome and celebrate another year on Otty are different this year, the one reliable constant in all this is our lake. Be safe and practice physical distancing while enjoying the lake and please continue to be good stewards of our precious Otty.

Krista Hearty McLean and Reid Kilburn

P.S. From Krista, the Chair of the Nominating Committee: As noted in the quote above “In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.” If you are feeling ready for a new opportunity and would like to have more involvement in the stewardship of our precious Otty Lake please let us know. **We will be accepting nominations for a new President or two Co-presidents this year! Please submit your name/s and resume/s to the nominating committee.** If you think of someone you know who might be interested please discuss it with them and feel free to nominate them and have them provide their resume. Please send Nominations to [kristahearty@gmail.com](mailto:kristahearty@gmail.com)