

Treasurer's Report 2019

Michael Latimer, Treasurer

I hope you are all safe in these odd times.

I was recruited and have now assumed the role of Treasurer, replacing Nick Evans who has completed his term. Nick, thank you for your years of service to the GLCA and leaving us in such great shape. Big shoes to fill but I am thrilled to be part of the GLCA Board.

For 2019 our membership revenue remained flat at just over \$12 000. Our membership numbers remain high in comparison to other lakes, we are just over 60% with 269 Primary Members.

What has been amazing to see is the growing number of individual donations, 2019 saw a 44% increase over 2018. Thank you to those who went over and above to make these personal donations and you will be recognized accordingly.

The GLCA is in good financial shape. There were no major project expenses in 2019 as we continue to reap the rewards of the 2018 investments into our Lake Stewardship programs and the success of the Shoreline Contest. As a result, our surplus in 2019 was higher than usual close to \$6,000. Mike Thorne continues to assess our Lake Stewardship requirements and will be approaching the Board with upcoming recommendations. Thank you Mike for keeping our waters and shorelines in such great shape.

We continue to have a strong relationship with some of Minden's important local causes. We sponsor the Canada Day River Raft Race, supporting Minden township. Traditionally, money raised from the Regatta Raffle goes to the Minden Hospital. Revenue from the food sales at the Regatta, goes to the Minden Food Bank. Given the Covid 19 outbreak, the need in the community is now, so the Board has authorized immediate donations of \$500 each to the hospital and food bank. We have created a new relationship with SIRCH, as well. On top of their deep reach in our community, their kitchen is now making close to 2000 warm meals a month (up from 400) for those in need.

We have also included a donation to U-Links, which is a Community Based Education Program. Throughout this program students are matched with community organizations in the Haliburton area to assist them with research, planning, or community service and development projects. These are the people your Lake Steward, Mike Thorne has been working with doing lake studies.

Membership revenues continue to cover the GLCA's required and important memberships/partnerships in:

- Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Association (C.H.A.) who led the Love Your Lake Program in 2016
- Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF) who have been lobbying and partnering with the Trent Severn Water Way for better information flow and management of our water levels.
- Federation of Cottagers Associations (FOCA)

GLCA continues to add annually to a contingency fund to be able to provide an initial response to any significant environmental or developmental threats to the lake. Challenging the proposed scrapyard in 2018 is an example of where we needed funds to hire an environmental legal expert to successfully present our perspective. By the end of 2019 we have been able to build this fund to \$28,000. At the current rate, we should be able to hit our goal of \$35,000 in the coming 3 to 5 years.

Our upcoming GLCA 100th Anniversary in 2022 will make for a great celebration. The Board is starting to allocate funds to ensure we do our best to make it memorable. We would like to ask our current membership to assist in a Membership Drive to ensure we have 100 percent GLCA membership participation for our 100th Anniversary as an Association. Please share your thoughts or ideas.

*Michael Latimer
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416 587 8499*

Gull Lake Cottagers' Association
Statement of Profit & Loss
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

REVENUE

Membership	\$12,019
Donations to GLCA	\$3,143
Merchandise	\$3,595
Regatta	\$1,369
Advertising	<u>\$150</u>
Total	\$ 20,276

EXPENSES

Cost of Merchandise Sold	\$3,319
Donations to the community	\$850
Insurance	\$2,118
Lake Plan	\$1,667
Meetings	\$2,322
Membership Fees	\$950
Newsletter, Website,	
Printing, Postage	\$744
Other Association Expenses	\$204
Event expenses	<u>\$2,401</u>
Total	\$14,575
2019 Revenue less Expenses	\$ 5,701



Gull Lake
COTTAGERS' ASSOC.

Gull Lake Merchandise

Gull Lake merchandise is typically available at the Regatta and the AGM. Subject to them taking place this year.

Membership Update

Judy Ingram, Membership Director

Our final numbers for 2019 were 269 Primary Members and 86 Associate Members! Our donations were up 44.5%. Our focus on Lake Health, water testing, Invasive Species Studies, are all at the forefront of our efforts and your donations reflect your desire for us to continue on this path.

I would like to thank those of you who have prepaid your 2020 membership, or have already renewed it. Your continued support is appreciated.

We have four NEW owners on Gull Lake, that I have been made aware of. The COVID 19 debacle has impeded my attempts to welcome them officially to the lake! I will reach out to them as soon as it is possible. They are the Resnicks on Bennett Lane, the Simmonds on Rackety Trail, the Stewarts on Forsters Road and

the Chan/Yu family on Golden Rod Lane. These new owners will receive a GLCA Gift Bag filled with useful information, booklets and pamphlets from the MNRF and the OPP, plus Gull Lake Swag. Please let the GLCA know if there is someone new on your road. We would like to welcome them to the lake too!

We have made renewing your membership as easy as possible. The simplest way is to send us an eTransfer with your cottage address in the comment box. You can still renew online at www.glca.ca using PayPal, if you don't have a PayPal account, you can bypass PayPal right at the end and go straight to Credit Card Payment. We still love to get the good old fashion snail mail, just print the attached Membership Form and send in your Membership Fees for 2020!

Communications Update

Judy Ingram, Communications Director

Not receiving the GLCA emails? Some of you have reported that you are not receiving our emails. Be sure to check the following folders, our emails may be "hiding" in one of these folders: Promotions | Junk | Trash | Spam

Run a search in your email for info@glca.ca. Move the message to your INBOX. WHITELIST or mark as a SAFE SENDER. You can also create a contact for Gull Lake Cottagers' Association, and the email address info@glca.ca

The Communications Director role, for the GLCA remains open. I sincerely hope that we will have a fresh new face decide to step up and help us keep you informed!

If you are interested in helping out, contact me for more information with respect to what the job involves.

Lost and Found/Classified Ads

Judy Ingram, Communications Director

Every spring, people arrive to discover things missing or items that don't belong to them, washed up on shore. Please take advantage of our Lost and Found Page. Send a picture to the info@glca.ca email address, include a brief description of the item, where it was found, where it can be located, and your contact information. We will endeavour to post right away and hopefully reunite the owner with the item.

Please review the website and let me know if items have been picked up, or

are still there. I would appreciate the help in keeping the postings current. You can reach the Lost and Found page quickly, by clicking here.

<https://www.glca.ca/lost-and-found>

You may have items you want to sell or give away, these can be posted on the Classified Page. A picture (or pictures) of the item is worth a thousand words. Just send your ad to info@glca.ca with the information you want posted and how the person should contact you. This is all free to GLCA Members.

Our thanks to those who donated

David & Patricia Adams
 Mark & May Allison
 Paul & Rose Allison
 Lorna & William Anderson
 Michele & Stuart Arbour
 Beth & Jim Ashley
 Patricia & Michael Aziz/Haines
 Richard & Anne Bailey
 Mike & Laura Ball
 Cathy & David Barnes
 Brian & Mary Barrett
 Bob & Marilyn Beamish
 Donald & Nadine Bell
 Paul & Christiane Bernard/von Kleist
 Kirk & Joanne (Stewart) Boggs
 Alan & Fiona Chapman/Law
 George & Mary Cihra
 Lee & Julie Colby
 Rodger & Nancy Cummins
 Allen Czerwinski
 Hotch & Sheila Earle
 Steve & Charlene Ecclestone
 Tom & Jo-anne Ecclestone
 Bradley & Lynn Egan
 David & Deborah Elliott
 Rolf & Tania Fabricius
 Donald Foster
 Nigel & Anne Fuller
 Barbara & Cam Gillies/Bennett
 Melissa & David Gracey/Harris
 Eric & Tami Harnish
 Michelle/Peter Harris/Colpitts
 Meg & Robert Hutchison/Musil
 Tom & Judy Ingram
 Marie Kennedy
 Kilcoo Camp
 Randy & Martha (Bink) Larsen
 Michael & Candy Latimer/Dinnick
 William & Patricia Lett
 Ian/Carol MacDonnell/Brewer
 Miners' Bay Lodge
 Susan & Tom Murray
 Kelly (Williams) & Dylan Pannell
 Donald & Dale Patten
 Ross Pinnock
 Brian & Jill Pinnock
 Charles & Evelyn Simon
 Gary & Helga Sonnenberg
 Jim & Gail Sward
 John & Joan Warren
 Diane & Ron White
 Brenda & Rick Wilson
 Russ & Dottie Wunker
 Al & Wendela Zikovitz/Roberts

Spring 2020 Lake Steward's Report

Mike Thorne, Lake Steward

Impact of COVID 19

We have reached a crossroads, we have emerged from what we assumed was normality, things have suddenly overturned. One of our main tasks now – especially those of us who are not sick, are not frontline workers, and are not dealing with other economic or housing difficulties – is to understand this moment, what it might require of

us, and what it might make possible. As we struggled to learn the science and statistics of this terrible scourge, our psyches were doing something equivalent. We were adjusting to the profound social and economic changes, studying the lessons disasters teach, equipping ourselves for an unanticipated world.

The first lesson a disaster teaches us is that everything is connected.

From “Love your Lake” to “Love your Septic System”

As the Lake Steward I look at how the toilet is connected to the septic tank and ultimately how the septic tank is connected to the lake. While not directly, it is connected indirectly. Every drop of water down the drain is a drop of water discharged into the ground and that potentially can find its way to the lake. Therefore, we should try to change our thinking a little bit to ensure that we are preparing to change our ways to ensure the health of lake is in great shape for those to enjoy in the future. So, learn to love your septic system. Show it the love it deserves.

While nobody (me included...ask my wife) likes to be told what to do I think this disaster has taught us that sometimes we need to change how we do things for the greater good.

That being said I would like to encourage you to follow these tips when you (we) are able to get back to our favorite spots on Gull Lake and use the cottage and show some love to your septic system. It deserves respect.

Tips Courtesy of CHA and Rob Davis - Septic System Guru

DO

1. Inspect all Plumbing Fixtures and Fix any leaking fixtures.
2. Use Non-antibacterial soaps for hand washing.
3. Limit showers to 5 minutes.
4. Add cellulose attacking bacteria

and enzymes once per month eg. EcoEthic Septic Treatment. Your septic has been dormant over the winter, adding a product like EcoEthic will bring it up to good working order.

5. Only a full load of Laundry Maximum once per day.
6. Locate the lids to your septic tank so you know where they are for pump outs.

NEVER

1. Flush Wipes of any kind, they DO NOT breakdown in the septic tank.
2. Use Bleach or chlorinated products, they kill the bacteria in your septic tank.
3. Bring laundry from home because the water is free.
4. Use your dishwasher and do laundry at the same time, it overloads your tank.

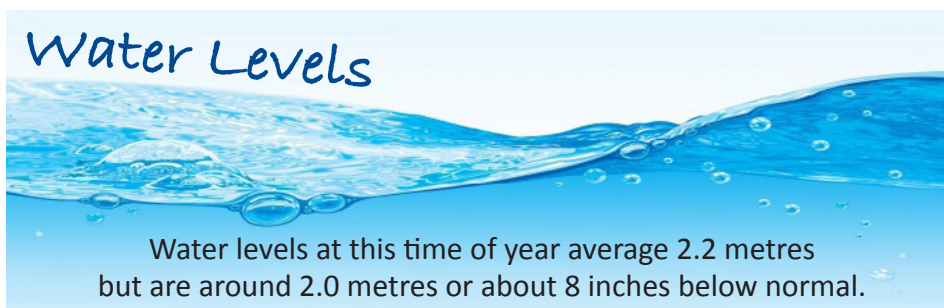
Septic System Re-Inspection

As reported before, a great source of pollutants such as phosphorus and nitrates that support algae blooms is from septic tanks that are not functioning properly. In order to ensure our septic tanks are not overloaded or in need of a pump out, the Township of Minden Hills, along with the other Haliburton county municipalities, have undertaken a septic system re-inspection program. They have opted for a Type 3 inspection which involves taking the lid off the tank doing a blanket/sludge depth condition assessment but does not include a pump out. As an association we prefer a Type 4 inspection which involves a pump out because that is the only way you can be sure there are no problems with the tank, like loose effluent connections, baffle deterioration or roots/cracks in the tank etc.

Last fall the Township had selected WSP as their service provider to undertake the inspection program (WSP were the only company to provide council with a proposal).

The next step will have some sort of public meeting to describe the program, explain how the process is going to work. After the initial public meetings, WSP will send out notices on which area they are starting in and they will schedule the site inspections with the property owners.

Once the inspections are performed WSP will send the Township the properties that have been done and the Township will bill accordingly.



Aquatic Bio-Monitoring Program

We were fortunate to be selected for a Benthic Aquatic Lake Health Assessment program through U-Links and Trent University. On Gull Lake, the type of sediment present on the lake bottom is known as the benthic zone which is located on the lake bottom and is classified as the ecological region at the lowest level of a body of water. It starts at the shoreline and continues down until it reaches the floor, encompassing the sediment surface and subsurface layers. Although this zone may appear barren, it plays a vital role in the health of aquatic ecosystems. Tiny, microscopic organisms which cycle nutrients live in this zone and act as a source of food for bottom feeding animals. Benthic biomonitoring is a well recognized, reliable method of indicating lake health and overall water quality. Benthic invertebrate groups differ in their tolerance to changes in water quality such as through disturbance or pollution. A wide variety and greater abundance



Brendan, Tessa and Nastasha Benthic Sampling at Sandy Bay

of organisms with a low tolerance to pollution indicates a healthy biological condition (EPA, 2016).

On October 11, 2019, I participated in a Benthic sampling program at 3 locations on our lake, Sandy Bay, Rackety Creek outlet and Miners' Bay with 2 Trent University students Tessa Radimer and Natasha Prytulka and Brendan Martin-U-Links Aquatic and Terrestrial Biomonitoring Project Coordinator.

Here is the conclusion of the report by the students.

"The purpose of this study was to identify benthic invertebrate organisms and record physical and chemical properties of Gull Lake to test for its species diversity, overall water quality, and health. The benthic bio-monitoring protocol was used during late fall to calculate the EPT index, species diversity and the Hilsenhoff index for three sites on Gull Lake. Industry standard indices indicated that benthic communities were impacted at all three sites to varying degrees, but with all three communities indicating impacted water quality. However, water chemistry data collected in 2019 indicates that the lake is very healthy and is not being influenced by organic nutrient pollution. More data is required to determine Gull Lake's health as there are many other important indicators for water quality and lake



Brendan, Tessa and Natasha inspecting Benthic organisms

health that were not consulted during the study. It was encouraged to do more research on the health condition of Gull Lake in order to collect annual data and observe the types and effects of certain contaminants that may be harming the lake's overall health."

While the initial results indicated a deterioration of water quality at these 3 sites, other lake sampling we have done over the last few years for Dissolved Oxygen, Total Phosphorus, Calcium, E. Coli and Secchi disc readings have indicated good water quality. As these are preliminary results, we will be comparing our data with the 5 other lakes in the program and will also be doing more benthic analysis this summer to further build up our background data to determine the overall water quality and health of Gull Lake.

The full report "Aquatic Health Assessment of Gull Lake" can be found on the GLCA website.

Shoreline Preservation Bylaw

The County of Haliburton has proposed to enact a Shoreline Preservation Bylaw to further protect the water quality of all the lakes in Haliburton County. On February 26, 2020 staff presented a draft bylaw to Council which was attended by the CHA and 23 Lake Associations. Your Lake Steward, Mike Thorne attended the meeting in basic support of the bylaw.

Slide Presentation by Paul MacInnes Chairman of the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Association (CHA) outlined that protecting our shoreline will protect our lakes which in turn will protect our economy our investment in lakefront property and our quality of life. Paul outlined the advantages of the Shoreline Protection Bylaw and how it protects water quality, wildlife habitat, erosion control and how healthy lakes stimulate local businesses, tourism, real estate and our quality of life. He pointed out if we do not protect our shorelines going forward it can result in excessive weed growth, overall contaminated water sources, loss of fish and wildlife habitat,

shoreline erosion and flooding.

Glenn Evans from The Haliburton County Home Builders Association (HCHBA) made a presentation while supporting the principle of the bylaw had concerns that parts of the bylaw were too restrictive in the control requirements within 30 metres of the high water mark and the approvals required to clear lots for new construction were too onerous on the builders. The biggest concern was dealing with the approval process for the removal of natural vegetation within the 30 metre limit.

As a result of the presentations Council agreed that they would meet separately with the HCHBA and proposed to go over each clause of the bylaw at their next meeting to get political agreement on the clauses before sending it out for public consultation over the summer.

The pandemic has slowed the process but County Council has promised a full public consultation on the draft bylaw this summer after Council agreement on the clauses.



COVID-19 and YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

Septic owners should be mindful that every septic system has a finite capacity.

If your system is stressed or overloaded beyond its capacity, you could end up with a messy, costly failure.

Self-isolation & shelter-in-place policies can stress septic systems – Are you spending more time at home and trying to keep the Coronavirus at bay? This can increase the load on your septic system. More food is being prepared at home. Many people are washing more dishes.

More laundry than usual - Many families are washing clothes, linens, towels, etc. more often, especially if someone in the home is self-isolating or quarantined. Some people are stripping down and washing their clothes after having been outside.

All this extra water usage and food waste going down drains increases the stress on septic systems.

Disinfecting wipes & other toxins - In an effort to prevent the virus from spreading, many families are using higher than normal amounts of wipes and cleaning products

We all have enough to worry about with the health and economic impacts of the Coronavirus. A septic system backup or leach field failure right now on top of everything else would be disastrous.

Septic Care Checklist

So what can you do to reduce the stress on your septic system and prevent overloading it?

- **Never use bleach & minimize antibacterial products** in a home with a septic system
- **Never flush wipes** of any kind – there is no such thing as a flushable wipe in a septic system.
- **Use regular, good old fashioned soap for hand washing.** There is no need to use soap containing harsh anti-bacterial agents which are toxic to the microbes in your septic system.
- **Never do more than one water consuming activity** at a time – e.g. do not do dishes and laundry at the same time as this can overload your system.
- Only do Laundry when you have a **full load** and only do **one load per day**
- **Take showers of 5 minutes or less** instead of having a bath, which uses more water.
- **Never use chemical products** in your toilet tank, like cleaning pucks that turn the water blue. Stop using them.
- **Add more needed bacteria and enzymes to your system** by adding 7 scoops of **Ecoethic Septic Treatment** once a month (*available at Organic Times in Minden <http://www.organictimesminden.com/>)*
- **Fix leaky plumbing fixtures** especially **toilet flappers** that can allow hundreds of gallons of extra water to leak into your septic system.
- If you have not had your **septic tank pumped** in 5 years, contact a septic service company (they are considered an essential service) and arrange to get it done as soon as possible.

The Basics – reduce water use and spread it out over the day and week

- **Do not let any antibacterial product down your drains &**
 - **Supplement the good bacteria and enzymes once a month**

Update from the Regatta Commodore

Tracey D'Alessio, Commodore

I hope this newsletter finds everyone healthy and looking forward to a time when we aren't so focused on the news and can start looking forward to upcoming events. The 98th GLCA Regatta is tentatively scheduled for Saturday August 1st at the University of Toronto Survey Camp. Due to COVID 19, we may have to cancel or postpone, only time will tell. Check the website for up to date information.

We need volunteers to help us run the event. High school students are encouraged to donate their time, and they will receive credit toward their mandatory volunteer hours requirement for their SSGD.

Please note that we are coming up to our 100th Anniversary of the Regatta and the GLCA! I am also looking to create a Committee to help celebrate this monumental event.

Please contact Tracey D'Alessio at dalessiotracey@gmail.com if you are able to help out for this year's event, and/or the 100th Anniversary.



Upcoming Events

Please note the dates below are tentative, subject to provincial regulations.



Regatta

Saturday August 1, 2020

University Bay

Childrens Races: 10:30 am



Rock Bass Derby

Saturday August 8, 2020

Miners Bay

Weight In: 12:30 pm



Golf Tournament

Saturday August 15, 2020

Moncks Landing

Start: 9:30 am

Annual General Meeting

Sunday September 5, 2020

Kilcoo Camp

Registration – 11:15 am

Lunch – noon

Meeting – 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

Rehabilitation of Gull River Bridges & Miners' Bay Culvert on Highway 35

The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) have taken steps to begin the rehabilitation of the Gull River bridges (at Moore Falls), Miners' Bay Culvert and Black Creek Culvert.

The project was scheduled to begin in 2019, but was delayed, and is now

underway at Moore Falls. Expect delays on Highway 35 at Moore Falls. The highway and bridge have already been reduced to one lane. There is a traffic light set up, regulating the flow of traffic through the construction area. Expect delays, exercise caution and slow down!



Heading north on HWY 35 towards Miners Bay.



Heading south on HWY 35 towards Norland.

2020 GLCA Photography Contest

The Gull Lake Photography Contest has FIVE categories:

- Action • Landscape • Nature • Life at the Cottage • Photos by Children (under the age of 16)

Enter by emailing pictures to info@glca.ca with Photo Contest in the Subject Line by September 18, 2020. Tell us who you are, where you are on the lake and your age (if you are entering the under 16 category).

No more than SIX pictures can be submitted by an individual.

One winner in each category will receive a \$25 Gift Certificate from a local Minden business.

By submitting your picture for the contest you are giving the Gull Lake Cottagers' Association permission to display it on the website www.glca.ca and at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

It Looked A Little Different In 1938

Russ Wunker, Local Historian, Long Time Resident – Miners' Bay Lodge

This snapshot shows a familiar scene – but in a very different context than today! It was taken from the center of the old Cameron Road, which bisected Miners' Bay, and continued through the Sugar Bush, and on to Minden.

The colonization road was constructed in 1867, and was the principal route north until the building of the King's Highway, (# 35), during the depression. The "new road" crosses the Round Lake creek on a new stone bridge, and passes by the Miners' Bay Church.

In the background, the Bay View Hotel – soon to be re-named, is evident. Note that, at this time there was no Tea Room, and that two venerable evergreens tower above the young tree which, eighty years later, has reached maturity.

The Church sits alone on a slight rise above the creek. A "glacial drop" remains in front – a remnant of the ice age



that retreated northwards almost ten thousand years ago.

The sign hanging in the tree in the foreground is difficult to make out – but it appears to say "ENJOY YOURSELF"!

That was the theme in 1938. Soon thereafter, the Wunker family inaugurated a similar advertising slogan: "Miners' Bay Lodge – For a Vacation You Will Want To Repeat".

The Bay c. 1925

Russ Wunker, Local Historian, Long Time Resident – Miners' Bay Lodge

It is impossible to date this unique real photo post card. It is one of three recently obtained that have no printed markings, but give some clues as to age. They are all marked "Gull Lake", or "Gull Lake, Minden Ontario", and were

purchased from a post card dealer in South Carolina!

They are all devoid of manufacturer information, AZO stamp markings, or captions. One shows a skiff that dates to the 1920's or 30's, and all are sepia prints, which were common for several decades.



The subject matter of this view is interesting from several stand points. It appears to have been taken from "Sunset Ledge", above the current "Miners' Bay Road" or old Highway # 35. This "Kings Highway" was not developed until the 1930's so the photographer likely walked out to the vantage point from the Bay View Hotel, or from the old Cameron Road.

Indicating an early date, is the fact that there appear to be no cottages anywhere on the shores of Miners' Bay in this scene, which includes the north east side of the Bay, the island and narrows, and the Humphrey/Gillespie north west side of the Bay.

All three cards are in mint, unused condition. How they got to South Carolina is a mystery. I am happy to welcome them home!



2020 GLCA Membership Renewal Form

Please Print

Cottage Address: _____

Primary Member:

Name (first & last): _____

Spouse (first & last): _____

Cottage Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

2nd Email (optional): _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province/State: _____

Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Associate Member:

Name (first & last): _____

Spouse (first & last): _____

Cottage Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

2nd Email (optional): _____

Home Address: _____

City, Province/State: _____

Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Primary membership (only one per cottage) \$40 _____

Hard copy of newsletter \$10 _____

Associate membership (each Associate member) \$10 _____

Hard copy of newsletter (each Associate Member) \$10 _____

Donation (any amount appreciated) \$ _____

Total dues for 1 year \$ _____

Optional - renew for 2 years (double one year) \$ _____

Please make out sheque to "GLCA Treasurer"

Mail to 10 Shortland Crescent, Etobicoke, Ontario M9R 2T3

Primary Membership:

There is one Primary Membership per cottage. Primary Membership includes spouse and children who are still pursuing their education.

Associate Membership:

Associate Memberships are for individuals and families who cottage on Gull Lake but are not the Primary Member. Associate Memberships include spouse and children.

Benefits:

Both Primary and Associate Memberships entitle you to attend all events, receive newsletters and communication, and benefit from having Association volunteers work on your behalf to enhance the enjoyment and health of the lake. Only the Primary Member for your cottage can vote on motions.

Website: GLCA.ca

Contact: info@GLCA.ca