

Gull Lake Gazette

Gull Lake Cottagers' Association

Spring 2022

100 years!! President's Message

2022 is our 100th Anniversary! The Board has been working feverishly all winter getting ready for this year's events. Looking ahead, things will have to be done differently, but we hope that you are able to take part in some, if not all of the things we have planned.

We are pleased to announce that all Primary Members will receive a commemorative gift this year. See inside for Lisa Bagshaw's article and read all about it. We will also have a limited quantity for sale.

I would like to give a shout out to Lee Fleming, our newsletter designer. She has created a unique 100th Anniversary logo that we are featuring on the commemorative gift, a unique merchandise item and our usual Gull Lake merchandise available this year.



Social events are grand and the Regatta is a lot of fun, bringing families together, but Lake Health is still our main objective. The number one contributor to lake problems are faulty septic systems. Gull Lake is fortunate to be one of the first lakes to take part in the Septic Re-inspection program.

I hope that you were able to be present for your inspection and ask questions to help you better understand your septic system workings. We have a Septic Systems tab, on the website, on our Lake Health page for additional information.

Our Lake Steward, Mike Thorne, has had his hands full this past year, working with U Links, fighting to protect the wetlands in front of Sumac Trail, and doing his regular water testing.

He's looking for help! We are eager to recruit individuals that want to help monitor our lake. The future is for our next generation. Get involved.

If we are to be forward thinking, then we also need to start thinking about Climate Change. What, as cottagers and residents of Gull Lake can we do to minimize our carbon footprint? We are launching a contest for the next generation to get their perspective and input. More details will be presented at the AGM and posted on the website afterwards.

I know I am looking forward to a long hot summer! We will see you on the lake!

*Judy Ingram
Interim GLCA President*

Board of Directors

Interim President	Judy Ingram	Special Events & Merchandise	Brian Pinnock	Membership Assistant	Jane Robinson
Secretary	Beth Allison	Regatta Commodore	Tracey D'Alessio	Website Maintenance	Judy Ingram
Treasurer	Michael Latimer	Newsletter Editor	Tracey D'Alessio	Communications	Judy Ingram
Membership	Judy Ingram	Newsletter Design	Lee Fleming	Director at Large	Lisa Bagshaw
Lake Steward	Mike Thorne				

GLCA Treasurer Report

Michael Latimer, Treasurer

We Are Back and can't wait to see you at the AGM on May 22.

We look forward to an exciting 2022 as we celebrate our 100th Anniversary as a cottage association.

We remain in a very positive financial position.

Emergency/Contingency Fund is at \$32,000 (goal of \$35,000) and has been allocated for any lake health related challenges)

Our association memberships and donations remain vital to our Lake Health and last year included:

1. Coalition of Haliburton Properties Owners – committed to protecting and enhancing the health of our lakes. <https://www.cohpoa.org/>
2. Coalition of Equitable Water Flow – shoreline property health on the 35 reservoir and 20 flow-through lakes within the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed. https://cewf.typepad.com/2017_CEWF_Fact_Sheet.pdf
3. Federation of Ontario Cottagers – represents 250,000 of residential waterfront properties and more than 50,000 hectares of privately owned land. <https://foca.on.ca/>
4. ULinks – partnering with Trent University and Fleming College, U-Links is a unique rural community-based research center, contributing to the social, cultural, environmental, and economic well-being of Haliburton County. <https://www.ulinks.ca/>
5. BeShore – a one time investment in EDUCATION regarding Shoreline and Lake Health.

Thanks to Mike Thorne for all his hard work to keep our Lake healthy!

We continue to Support the local community. We have provided support to our partners and several other local charities that you can review and donate to directly.

<https://www.glca.ca/local-charities>

1. Minden Food Bank – \$500

2. Minden Hospital (HHHF) – \$1,000
The additional \$500 in 2021 was in memory of Keith Kennedy
3. ULinks Students – \$500
Trent University and Fleming College Research Initiatives regarding Lake Health
4. BeShore - \$250
Education regarding Shoreline and Lake Health
5. SIRCH - \$500
Family support in 2021 to help with Covid related restrictions

Gull Lake and Moore Lake Portage Update

We continue to battle with MTO and Parks Canada with new concepts and options to ensure a safe passage between Gull and Moore Lake. New renderings have been submitted.

As we all know, in 2017 MTO / Parks Canada closed the portage between Gull Lake and Moore Lake. It has been brought to our attention recently of a potential illegal activity as MTO and Parks Canada did not do an initial assessment or consultation with the Lake associations. This is a potential violation of the Williams Treaty where it is illegal to block waterways on indigenous land. We are in discussion with our contacts on Curve Lake.

LOST DOCKS!!

It's a glorious day on Gull Lake when the ice is finally out and we can put the docks in and launch our boats. But what happens when you arrive and your dock is nowhere to be found?

When you took your dock out in the fall, pulling it up on shore, water levels were probably lower and facilitated that. The spring thaw can result in high water levels. The past few years have shown us just how much they can fluctuate. If you put your name or contact information on your dock, people can contact you and let you know they have it, and where you can find it.

Old docks that aren't being used should be dismantled and taken to the dump. Typically pressure treated wood has been used and it is not safe to burn it. Toxic chemicals will be emitted in the smoke, and ashes from treated wood can be hazardous to wildlife.

100th Anniversary in 2022:

GLCA has allocated an additional \$5,000 toward our exciting and well deserved 100th Anniversary Celebration following the AGM. There will be a beautiful gift for all primary members whose accounts are in good standing. Please go to the GLCA site to renew or become a member.

<https://www.glca.ca/new-page-2>

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at mlatimer@growthlink.ca or 416.587.8499.

Gull Lake Cottagers' Association
Statement of Profit & Loss
January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

REVENUE	
Membership	\$7,080
Donations to GLCA	\$2,990
Newsletter	\$80
GIC Interest	\$546
Merchandise Income	<u>\$2,500</u>
Total	\$ 13,196
EXPENSES	
Donations to the community	\$2,750
Newsletter & Website	\$896
POS Scanner	\$68
Lake Health	\$2,719
Merchandise Costs	\$2,444
Photo Contests	\$125
Association Fees	\$1,000
Insurance	\$2,117
Banking & Office Expenses	<u>\$29</u>
Total	\$ 11,986
2021 Revenue less Expenses	\$ 1,210



Membership

Judy Ingram, Membership Director

As we gear up for the 100th Anniversary of our association, everyone is excited to get back to normal, although it will be a new normal to be sure.

In the past, we have had issues with members not receiving emails. We sincerely hope that we have resolved the issues. Adding info@glca.ca to your contacts may help. Do a search on info@glca.ca in your email platform, if an email pops up mark it as valid and not Junk. Check your Junk Mail or Spam folders.

Your 2022 Primary membership qualifies you for a commemorative gift. Primary and Associate members are able to purchase Gull Lake branded merchandise at the AGM and at the Regatta.

In addition, members can post ads on our website and Facebook.

Although we have social functions available for members, our main focus is still Lake Health. We do different kinds of water testing, Invasive Species Studies (in conjunction with U Links) and are expanding our efforts into lake capacity and protecting our wetlands.

If you're not sure where your membership stands, send us an email to info@glca.ca we can let you know.

If you're planning on attending the AGM, this year we are asking members to do two things ahead of time:

- pay your membership before the meeting (please see form on page 13)
- RSVP to:

GLCA2022AGM@OUTLOOK.COM



Our thanks to those who donated

Mark & May Allison	Melissa Gracey & David Harris
Lorna & William Anderson	Eric & Tami Harnish
Beth & Jim Ashley	Tom & Judy Ingram
Richard & Anne Bailey	Chris Jones & Chris Williams
Mike & Laura Ball	Marie Kennedy
Brian & Mary Barrett	Keith Kennedy
Bob & Marilyn Beamish	Michael & Candy Latimer
Donald & Nadine Bell	William & Patricia Lett
Ede Birkett	Lynda Litwin
Gail Birkett	Ian MacDonnell & Carol Brewer
Chas & Kirsteen Birkett	Deborah MacLean
Kirk & Joanne (Stewart) Boggs	Miners' Bay Lodge
Neil Briggs	Paul & Carol Neal
Andrew & Elizabeth Briggs	Richard Newman
Richard & Micheline Brown	& Heather Reccord
Alan Chapman & Fiona Law	Kelly (Williams) & Dylan Pannell
George & Mary Cihra	Patty Paterson
Lee & Julie Colby	Donald & Dale Patten
Peggy Collier	Jeffery & Bonnie Penfound
Adam Colpitts & Laura Ecclestone	Brian & Jill Pinnock
Nancy & David Cowper	Ross Pinnock
Jay Donnelly & Lorna Schoenroth	Rob & Lori Resnick
Tom & Jo-anne Ecclestone	Dr. Joerg & Stephanie Schwarze
Shelley & Alan Edwards	Rita & Terry Seeley
Bradley & Lynn Egan	Fay & Donald Simmonds
David & Deborah Elliott	Charles & Evelyn Simon
Rolf & Tania Fabricius	John & Joan Warren
Mary & Bill Gallienne	Diane & Ron White
Graham & Margaret Garrie	Lee & Stephanie Williamson
Barbara & Cam Gillies	Russ & Dottie Wunker

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 30, 2022. 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).

Spring 2022 Lake Steward's Report

Benthic Sampling 2021 Update

U-Links/Trent University Benthic Biomonitoring Project Report

The following is an update to the Benthic monitoring program after receiving the final report from Trent student Siobhan Hachey in April. A copy of the Report can be found on the GLCA website under Lake Health.

The GLCA was successful in being one of the Haliburton Lakes to participate in this biomonitoring research through U-Links and Trent University and we are in our third year of sampling and reporting. We are conducting a benthic macroinvertebrate survey of the lake in order to aid in understanding the status of our lake health and provide an important baseline for future comparisons.

The purpose of the research is to answer;

- What benthic invertebrate communities exist in Gull Lake?
- Do the benthic invertebrate communities represent a healthy or impacted aquatic environment?
- What kind of water quality do the benthic invertebrate communities in Gull Lake indicate?

I participated in this year's Benthic sampling program with Trent University biology student Siobhan Hachey along with U-Links staff Josh Solti Environmental Research Associate and U-Links Research Technician Amanda Porter on September 30, 2021.

We all donned masks and proceeded to sample in the same 3 spots we sampled last year, close to U of T, outlet by Rackety Creek and in the southwest of Miners Bay and added one more sampling location, the north east corner of Miners Bay (my shoreline).

Identification of any negative trends will help maintain future health of the lake and potentially help to avoid future issues.

What Was Measured

For the analyses of the data a few different biotic indices were used.

The chosen indices include, percent composition, %EOT, Simpson's Diversity and modified Hilsenhoff Biotic Index (mHBI). Percent composition allows us to easily identify the percentage of each macroinvertebrate group present within a water body. The percentage of each group can give us an understanding of lake health as each group interacts with water quality differently. The larger presence of one group over another may give indication to the potential condition of lake health. The groupings used within this study were %EOT, diptera, worms, malacostraca, mollusca, and others.

%EOT is the percent composition of the species Ephemeroptera, Odonata (Zygoptera, Anisoptera) and Trichoptera. These are more commonly known as mayflies, damselflies, dragonflies, and caddisflies, respectively. These benthic macroinvertebrates are known to be intolerant of pollution. The %EOT index divides the number of individuals in the EOT group by the total number of individuals found within a sample, indicating the composition of tolerant or intolerant to pollution organisms within the waterbody. In the previous studies, %EPT was used but it has been found that this index is more suitable for stream environments and may not be as representative of lake environments.

The %EOT index targets species known to be found within lakes.

Findings

The results of this project are beneficial to the 5-year baseline study being conducted at Gull Lake. The mHBI values from this year's study indicate better lake health than in previous years and %EOT composition values indicate that Gull Lake is within the typical range for lakes located within Haliburton County. The Simpson's Diversity Index does indicate some concern for a significant decrease in diversity and this should be continued to be monitored to see if it is a potential trend or if this is a onetime occurrence or error in the data. All water parameters seem to be normal, but the slight decrease in dissolved oxygen concentrations should be noted and monitored.

Understanding the health of lakes is important in regards to proper management and use of the water body. Monitoring and detecting sources of pollution is essential in protecting aquatic health and the overall well-being of the ecosystem. Continuous monitoring can prevent major effects of pollution from occurring. Ensuring a healthy lake will help to guarantee the use and enjoyment of Gull Lake for years to come.



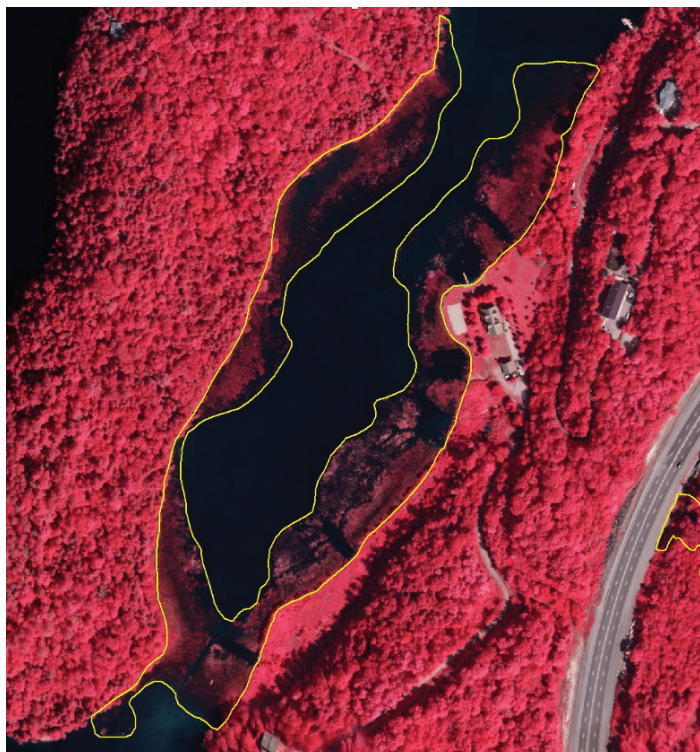
U-Links/Trent University Wetland Study (Long Island-Sumac Trail)

Mike Thorne, Lake Steward

Gull Lake has very few areas on the lake that can be considered a wetland. Wetlands are important to species from many familiar classes of animals, as well as to less commonly known creatures. Every drop of water contains microscopic zooplankton, which are a vital component of the food chain. The water's surface and the wetland bottom are covered with insect eggs, larvae, and nymphs. Wetlands are diverse and delicate ecosystems that are both ecologically and economically valuable.

One such area on the lake is located between Long Island and the mainland around Sumac Trail south of Kilcoo Camp. Your association is concerned that this area remains as natural as possible and has made an objection to a rezoning application early in 2021 to rezone the underwater shoreline area of four vacant properties along Sumac Trail from Hazard Lands to Shoreline Residential. If this occurs then there is a greater likelihood that some of the shoreline wetland area will be destroyed as development takes place.

A further staff report was sent to Council on February 10, 2022 and Council received the report that outlined the history of the zoning on the four shoreline properties on Sumac Trail and directed staff to bring back a further report and draft a zoning by-law amendment to the Townships Comprehensive Zoning By-law. After considerable discussion at this meeting there seemed to be a consensus by many members of Council that the wetland should be protected.



*Outline in yellow depicts the wetland area.
Photo by P. Heaven Glenside Ecological.*

In order to provide Minden Planning staff and Council with further information about the wetland we contacted U-Links in the Spring of 2021 and developed a project with Trent University to undertake a study of the Wetland in question.

On October 2, 2021 Trent University students Meagan Morey and Anna Duglosz along with U-Links Environmental Research Associate Josh Solti and myself donned hip waders and waded into the wetland to search for any species at risk as well as catalogue the characteristics of the wetland. In addition, as part of the project the students were to review other wetland data in the area and project what may be typically found in a wetland such as this one.



Anna Duglosz studying wetland vegetation.

The students were looking to answer the following questions;

- What species of flora and fauna have been recorded or observed in the wetland or in nearby wetlands through the years?
- What are the ecological services and cultural uses of the wetland?
- Do species at risk use the wetland?

A complete copy of their report can be found on the GLCA website under Lake Health.

Highlights of the results of their field investigate are as follows;

A variety of flora species and distinct plant communities were observed throughout the 6.4-hectare wetland. Robust and narrow-leaved emergent vegetation communities dominated by bulrushes, and containing sedges, marsh horsetail, and common cattail account for much of the wetland area. Communities of submerged vegetation occur in the central region of the marsh and primarily consist of Chara species, although a few small patches of tape grass are present. Communities along the shoreline of Long Island are considerably more complex and contain the most diverse species assemblages in the wetland. Though these areas are dominated by robust emergent bulrushes, all major types of aquatic vegetation (floating, submerged, low shrub, narrow and broad-leaved emergent) are represented by multiple species.

Continued on next page

U-Links/Trent University Wetland Study (Long Island-Sumac Trail)

Continued

Gull Lake and the wetland is a shared resource that supports recreational activities for the lake community and provides important habitat for fish, wildlife, and waterfowl. Some valued attributes of the lake by property owners are its diverse and natural shorelines, fish and wildlife, and serenity (GLCA, 2015). The shorelines of Gull Lake are largely undeveloped and characterized by extensive vegetation, bays and inlets, islands, and wetlands that add to the appreciated beauty of the area (GLCA, 2015). The 2014 survey indicated that swimming and recreational boating are also valued social components of the lake (GLCA, 2015). Community members partake in recreational activities such as canoeing, kayaking, powerboating and activities related to boating include open water fishing, water skiing, wakeboarding, sailing, and windsurfing (GLCA, 2015). Therefore, the lake and wetland itself is a shared resource that supports recreational activities for the Gull Lake community

and provides habitat for fish and waterfowl. If the wetland is degraded it will affect the biodiversity it supports and the ecological services and cultural uses, therefore, making the preservation of the Gull Lake wetland important.

The area surrounding Gull Lake is rich in biodiversity and includes many wetland dependent species of birds, reptiles and amphibians. More than 20 at-risk and restricted species have been documented in the area.

Some potential at-risk species are:

Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii
Common Five-Lined Skink	Plestiodon fasciatus
Eastern Ribbonsnake	Thamnophis sauritus
Midland Painted Turtle	Chrysemys picta marginata
Snapping Turtle	Chelydra serpentina
Western Chorus Frog	Pseudacris maculata

Become a Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch Volunteer

Do you:

- Enjoy Haliburton County's breathtaking lakes?
- Have an interest in lake health?
- Want to give back through Community Science?

If so, you may be interested in volunteering with the the Woodlands and WaterWays EcoWatch! As a volunteer you will help to monitor the health of Haliburton County's lakes and forests.

About the Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch

WWEW is a community based environmental monitoring program coordinated by the U-Links Centre for Community Based research in conjunction with Trent University, Fleming College, and a number of volunteer and not-for-profit organizations in the Haliburton Region.

For more information on volunteering email: Sadie Fischer, Environmental Program Coordinator at environmental@ulinks.ca






BONUS! Become OBBN Certified

What is OBBN?

OBBN is the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network. A standardized system for assessing aquatic ecosystem health using benthos - aquatic bugs - as indicators of water quality.

2022 OBBN Training Workshop

Limited Spots Available

- Learn:
 - OBBN sampling protocols
 - how to identify aquatic insects
- AND become OBBN certified!

Meet the Instructor: Barb Elliot

Barb is a professor at Fleming College, a certified Aquatic Taxonomist, an avid runner, and an explorer. Since 2008, Barb has trained and certified over 500 individuals in the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring (OBBN) Protocol.



The dense stands and variety of aquatic vegetation present in wetlands can serve many purposes ranging from shoreline erosion protection and water quality improvement to providing ideal foraging, nesting, and breeding habitats for wildlife species such as fish, amphibian, and waterfowl including loons (McAtee, 1917). The vegetation material provides food for mammals as big as moose that visit or reside near wetlands. When the aquatic plant material dies and starts to decay it provides a food source for insects and other aquatic invertebrates such as the ubiquitous zooplankton Daphnia which are an aquatic keystone species (McAtee, 1917). Similarly, these insects and zooplankton also provide a food source for the local and migrating wildlife that use the wetlands as well as food for fish.

Conclusion

If the wetland is degraded it will affect the biodiversity it supports and the ecological services and cultural uses, therefore, making the preservation of the Gull Lake wetland important. The Gull Lake community envisions the lake to be a place where wildlife, fish and plant habitat are safeguarded in a sustainable manner and where good water quality is preserved. Gull Lake has been classed as 'moderately sensitive' to new development. Due to climate change and land development continuously spreading north, the Gull Lake wetland and the biodiversity it supports will be impacted, therefore, preserving the lakes natural beauty and the wetland should be of priority.

SHORELINE By-Law Update

Mike Thorne, Lake Steward

Haliburton County Council met on April 27, 2022 to consider further changes to the Shoreline By-Law. The details can be found on the County website as part of the Agenda for the April 27th meeting.

Background

This Shoreline Preservation By-law applies to lands 20 metres from the highwater mark of all lakes, rivers, streams and ponds within the County, as well as natural heritage features and areas, like significant wetlands, that play a role in water quality.

This Shoreline Preservation By-Law recognizes the rights of shoreline property owners to use and enjoy their property, including minor landscaping, creation of access and views to the water and normal forest and/or tree management. A property owner that is pruning a diseased tree, creating a new perennial bed, replacing an existing pathway, installing a fire pit, undertaking minor repairs to an existing retaining wall, or similar activities, will not have to apply for a permit under this By-law.

Instead, this Shoreline Preservation By-Law is intended to apply to situations where a property owner (or someone acting on behalf of the property owner) intends to significantly alter the grade or topography of a property in a manner that increases the flow of surface water to neighbouring lands or bodies of water. It is also intended to apply to situations when significant removal of trees and/or vegetation is proposed.

Climate change is affecting lakes and rivers in many ways, including through rising water temperatures, increased sedimentation and pollution, changes to hydrology, and more frequent and intense flooding and droughts. Healthy, robust natural shorelines play an important role in protecting aquatic systems from the impacts of climate change, via temperature moderation, wave attenuation, sediment and pollutant capture, erosion reduction and the mitigation of storm surge and debris movement. The County's shorelines will continue to play a critical role in reducing the vulnerability of their lakeside and riverine communities to rising waters and water quality degradation if protected.

Recent Changes to By-Law

1. Clarification on native vegetation and tree removal up to 25% for Residential Uses and 30% for commercial use (Section 4.2);
2. Clarification on allowable emergency works on municipally owned land (Section 4.5);
3. Expiry period for permit increased to 18 months (Section 5.8);
4. Extension period for permits increased to one year (Section 5.9);
5. Applicant's appeal options clarified (Section 5.19);
6. Council's powers the same as the Director (Section 6.4);
7. Director's powers with respect to the scanning of on-site documents clarified (Section 7.3);
8. Clarification on penalties (Section 9.2);
9. By-Law Transition Period added (Section 13.1);

10. Body of Water redefined to exclude ponds;
11. Diameter Breast Height (DBH) added;
12. Prohibited area redefined to now include wetlands as identified in Official Plans;
13. Shoreline area redefined to include lands within in 20 metres of a body of water;
14. Repeal Section clarified (Section 17.1)
15. Shoreline Permit Application Requirements clarified (Pg. 18)

Education and Extension Work

Like the existing Shoreline Tree Protection By-Law, the Planning Department will spearhead an ongoing program of education and extension work to ensure the general public, applicants, agents, contractors and interested parties are aware of the shoreline preservation practices in the County. This programming includes but is not limited to the following:

- Written materials on shoreline preservation such as pamphlets, guidelines, manuals, etc.
- Presentations to lake associations, community groups, home builders, contractors, etc.;
- Posts on social media, websites, webinars, YouTube Channel, etc.
- Training on Shoreline Preservation Best Practices using Case Studies.

At the meeting of County Council on April 27, 2022 they considered the Director of Planning Report on the Draft Shoreline By-Law which stated;

Recommendation: That Haliburton County Council receive the April 27, 2022 report titled Shoreline Preservation By-Law Refinements Addendum; That Haliburton County Council direct staff to engage a solicitor to review the draft Shoreline Preservation By-Law as amended and present the final version at a future meeting; and, That Haliburton County Council direct staff to begin the process of creating the Shoreline Preservation Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Team including the hiring of staff and purchasing of incidentals.

Considerable discussion took place on who to hire now, what the qualifications should be and what additional information needed to be acquired before proceeding with the passage of the By-Law.

From my take of the meeting Council deferred the passing of the By-law but directed staff to have a solicitor review the draft Shoreline By-Law as amended for future presentation to council, recruit a staff person with credentials that could assist in refining the proposed By-law, assist the Director of Planning in obtaining information on Haliburton Lakes Lake Health, current lakes developed shoreline indicating what is natural and regenerative vs. degraded and outline the changes required to align the County Shoreline By-Law with the Lower Tier Municipal By-Laws and report back to Council at a future date.

I got the impression that this Council feels there is still work to be done and that it will leave the passing of the Shoreline By-Law to the next Council which will be elected in November 2022, but they all wanted the Shoreline By-Law to be passed in the future.

Can You Imagine

Can You Imagine how life at the lake would change if toxic algae blooms became frequent and led to a lake that:

- Could not be swum in
- Could not be fished
- Its lake water was poisonous to drink for pets and humans
- You could never tell whether toxins were present.



How do we stop that from happening? Is there something you can do? Which level of government has the most impact on the health of your lake? (I grouped questions)

Traditionally, it was the Federal and Provincial governments. As those governments have abandoned their long-established roles, it is increasingly municipal government that has the most influence over lake health.

But do we turn out and vote in municipal elections?

Will you care enough to get out and vote in the local elections this October? Don't vote - don't complain!

What could happen if:

- Most of us voted
- We voted for people who have proven that they care about the health of our lakes and are willing to do something about it
- Even better, more lake lovers volunteer to run for a position on municipal council

Can you imagine local councils filled with people who care about protecting the lakes we love?

Remember: in Municipal elections, you are entitled to vote in each municipality where you or your spouse owns property. Are you registered to vote in the 2022 Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections on October 24th? To ensure you are on the list, and all your information is accurate, visit:

voterlookup.ca

Will you only Imagine or Will You Act

Article provided by



Could we have more of this



and less of this?



The Greenest, The Meanest and The Wiliest

I am Blue Green Algae. I am the meanest and most of all wiliest algae in your lake

Test your knowledge by ticking off all you already know.

I can do things no other algae can do such as:

- When the conditions are right, I can bloom – magnificent and sometimes massive blooms!
- The toxins I produce in a bloom can detach from the bloom and can travel through the water
- My blooms and my toxins can be in one place at breakfast and be a kilometer away by supper
- My toxins are invisible to the naked eye
- I am almost the only algae that can move up and down in the water to different depths
- When the oxygen level in your lake gets too low and phosphorus is released from the sediment at the bottom of the lake, I can move down to feed on that Phosphorous
- I use that Phosphorous to create my blooms
- My blooms can keep people and pets away from the lakes
- I can make people sick and even kill pets
- I poison fish and get right into their muscles
- If you boil the water with my toxins in it, I go airborne
- No domestic water treatment will eliminate my toxins



How did you score?

- 1-6 Points – Congratulations you made the effort!
(Hint: Now that you know all answers take the test again and then tell your friends the new score)
- 7-9 points – You have been paying attention!
- 10-12 points – Wow you are a Science Rock Star!


Article provided by



- P** – PFD – Personal Floatation Device - wear it!
- R** – Responsible – property owners/renters establish safety rules
- E** – Emergency – alert bystanders, call 911 & remain at scene
- V** – Visible – be visible to others on & in the water
- E** – Environment – be aware of weather & water conditions
- N** – Navigation – tell someone your route & timeline
- T** – Training – learn skills, safety & rescue procedures
- A** – Awareness – be pro active & assess potential risks
- B** – Boat safety – follow Transport Canada Safe Boating Guidelines
- L** – Location – know your location & emergency address
- E** – Exposure – prevent hypothermia & heat stroke

COLD FACTS: The Life Saving Society Drowning Report (2020):

In a five year period (2013-2017), 756 people lost their lives in unintentional water-related incidents in Ontario. The majority of drowning victims continue to be males (77%). Natural bodies of water (64%) account for the largest proportion of drownings. In 87% of the boating fatalities, the victim was not wearing a PFD. www.lifesavingsociety.com/drowning-research/drowning-reports.aspx (218 people drowned in Ontario in 2019. 244 people drowned in Ontario in 2020 Source: Office of the Chief Coroner, Ontario Provincial Police)



Sponsors: Viper Marketing Group Inc. & Rotary Clubs of Haliburton and Napanee



For info: m.scythes@alumni.utoronto.ca
Printed by: Parker Pad & Printing

Message from The Regatta Commodore

Tracey D'Alessio

I am excited that we are actually going to have a regatta this Summer, and it's not just a regular one, we're celebrating 100 years as a cottage association!

As usual I'm asking for volunteers to help out on Saturday July 30th. I have a special group of family and friends that are my core supporters, but we always need more hands on the actual day. High School Students who volunteer can use this opportunity to count as part of their volunteer hours. Please contact me at dalessiotracey@gmail.com if you or someone you know can help us out... we can't do it without you!

If you won a trophy at the 2019 regatta, please remember to bring it with you on Saturday July 30th or make arrangements to get it back to us before the day.

This will be my last regatta as Commodore. The GLCA Board is looking for volunteers to step up and fill a number of positions. The role of Regatta Commodore is only a 3-year commitment.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the AGM/100th Celebration and the regatta! 



Are Fireworks the Best Way to Celebrate?

Fireworks are a tradition that have become synonymous with such events as New Year's Day, National birthdays, special long weekends like the Victoria Day Weekend or the Labour Day Weekend, football halftime shows, concerts and festivals. Their loud bangs and colourful displays are exciting and draw huge crowds.

We all know that fireworks are dangerous. But that's okay; accidents can be prevented by making sure we are careful to follow sensible safety rules. How many of us, though, are aware of the insidious danger to our health and environment? Are there any sensible safety rules about that?

The problem begins with all the chemicals that produce those spectacular displays of colour. Perchlorate salts (Lithium, sodium, copper and barium salts) as well as calcium and strontium are used to create the colours we see when they are heated to the correct temperature.¹

When fireworks are exploded the perchlorate salts fall to the ground and are washed into lakes and rivers where they dissolve easily. They can remain in

the water and in the soil for a very long time where they are absorbed by plants that wildlife eat and eventually end up in our food, too. Perchlorate salts can cause hypothyroidism which, in turn, affects many of our internal organs.²

Unfortunately, it doesn't end there. The perchlorate salts in those fireworks do not burn up and many end up as poisonous aerosols in the air. When inhaled they can cause many health problems including vomiting, diarrhea, kidney disease, asthma attacks, cardiovascular issues and various cancers. A burst of ozone from fireworks can create a gas that seriously irritates the lungs.³

Can one fireworks display be a serious problem? Well, yes. Within an hour of a fireworks show there is a significant increase of heavy metals in the air. Included in this mix are also fine particulates, nitric acid and sulphur dioxide.⁴

The bangs and whistles of a fireworks show are also a serious problem. They can cause hearing loss⁵ and can contribute to fatal injuries to wildlife, birds⁶ and pets.⁷

With so much bad news about fireworks perhaps we should be rethinking the use of them. It does seem that we have lost the focus of that special day/event and our thoughts and attention have turned to the nighttime spectacle.

There are other ways to celebrate that are more meaningful and relevant to the occasion. Covid-19 aside, one can host or attend a party with a Canadian theme, hike a Canadian trail or visit a Canadian historical site for Canada Day; run a food drive for the less fortunate in your neighbourhood or help out at a food bank for Thanksgiving; attend a parade for the New Year; wear an appropriate costume to a festival; or perhaps hold a chilly swim fest for the Victoria Day weekend. What you can do is limited only by your imagination and could quickly become a new, meaningful tradition for you and your family.

*Article by
Caroline Konarzewski
– Lake steward, Lake of Bays*

Article provided by



- <https://www.compoundchem.com/2013/12/30/the-chemistry-of-fireworks/>
- <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/TSP/ToxFAQs/ToxFAQsDetails.aspx?faqid=893&toxid=181>
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/35082634>
- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1352231006009745?via%3Dihub>
- <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1260/09574560360698156>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2015/12/31/birds-flee-en-mass-from-new-years-eve-fireworks/?sh=5b9e9a607850>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2019/07/03/use-science-to-help-your-dog-survive-fireworks-and-thunderstorms/?sh=6143e4b996d1>

Celebrating 100 years with some special merchandise!

Lisa Bagshaw

Charcuterie Boards – cheers to the last 100 years!

Wow! these beautiful boards are a great way to commemorate our 100th anniversary. A reflection of the past (the wood), present (the celebration) and future (for use many years to come).

Each paid primary member will receive a complimentary board at the AGM! (we will make arrangements for members not in attendance to receive their boards). There will be additional boards available for sale at the end of the AGM. Price per board is \$50.

Gull Lake Commemorative Puzzle

Who doesn't love a great puzzle? This fantastic 504 pc puzzle depicts life on the lake over the last 100 years. A combination of photo contest entries and personal cottager memories. Locally produced at The Occurrence in Haliburton with creative collaboration by our very own Tammy Rea. Look for this Gull Lake exclusive at the AGM May 22nd. Priced at \$30 each.

Clothing with the new logo, will also be available at the AGM!
Cash, debit or credit accepted.



Announcing the Climate Change Essay Contest

The Gull Lake Cottagers' Association is happy to announce an exciting new 2022 initiative as part of our 100th anniversary. An essay contest for our young people with cash prizes.

As we emerge from the COVID pandemic, we see increasing focus on the danger of climate change: rising temperatures, floods, fires and drought are reported regularly around the world and here in our backyard. Climate change will continue to affect the beauty of our world, so we need to work together. Collectively cottagers are considered stewards of the natural world and indeed

enjoyment of our cottage depends on this stewardship. It's time to start a conversation about cottaging and climate change and how we can collectively reduce our carbon footprint.

The essay is titled **"How can my family and I help to combat climate change as cottagers?"** Talk with your friends and family, surf the net, think about what we can do better and let us hear your ideas and suggestions. This could be the start of something big.

Eligibility: Any Gull Lake cottager aged 16 or younger to be judged in 2 age groups:

- Senior 13 – 16
- Junior 12 & under

Essay Length: Senior: 500 – 2000 words and Junior Contest: 300-2000 words
(1 page single spaced is 500 words and double spaced is 250)

Prizes:

Senior 1st prize \$175 – 2nd \$150, – 3rd \$100
Junior 1st prize \$175 – 2nd \$150, – 3rd \$100

Due date: Submission on or before midnight **August 15th, 2022.**

Questions? or to submit your essay please email glclimatechange@yahoo.com

Submissions will be made anonymous and sent to a judging panel made up of our elected representatives and our Association representatives. The announcement of the winners will be made by the GLCA on September 5th, 2022.



A Brief History of The Gull Lake Cottagers' Association

Russell J. Wunker, 2022

The Gull Lake Cottagers' Association is celebrating its centennial in 2022. While the current group was only created fifty years ago, the roots of the organization go back to 1920.

The Cameron Road reached Miners' Bay in 1867, and made it one of the first areas on Gull Lake to develop as a tourist destination. Now part of Minden Hills, the area around Gull Lake is Lutterworth Township, named for the market village which was home to John Wycliffe, often known as the "Morningstar" of the Protestant Reformation in England. In 1884, the MINDEN ECHO spoke positively about the character of the residents "that till its stubborn soil", and by 1900, summer visitors had started to arrive.

During the 1919 Spanish Flu Epidemic, some "tourists" stayed into the late fall. The next year, following a rash of burglaries of summer cottages, the Miners' Bay Property Owners Association was formed. A local resident was hired as "Warden" to keep an eye on vacation properties, and report regularly to the absent owners. Members came from Miners' Bay, several of the islands, and the lower half of Gull Lake.

In either 1921 or 1922, a similar organization was established at the north end of Gull Lake. It was to become known as the Kawartha Gull Lake Cottager's Association, presumably to differentiate it from a similar organization on Gull Lake in Muskoka.

The Miners' Bay group held regular social, and sports gatherings, as well as an Annual Picnic, often on the Alex Horn property, or at the Miners' Bay Church. Fairs were held on the church grounds to raise funds for the Red Cross in both WW I and WW II.

The extensive archive of materials indicates that this organization also petitioned the government on lake water levels, highway signage, repairs to the government dock at Moore Falls, improved highway conditions, and re-stocking of local lakes. As time went on, the group promoted rural mail



Rackety Falls, White, Percy, Horn families and Alan Bennett

delivery, and were instrumental in bringing electricity to the Gull Lake area.

There appear to be less records available about the northern group, but an early feature, that has continued to the present, was an Annual Regatta, held at the University of Toronto Camp near the head of the lake. The group also held Annual Meetings, usually with a dinner and social event, in Toronto.

The work of the two groups continued for five decades, with shared interests and events from time to time. In 1970 and 1971, informal discussions were held to consider joining into one Lake Association. Over the next year, further meetings were held, both jointly, and by each organization.

A Constitution was developed for the new GULL LAKE ASSOCIATION, and sub-committees formed to deal with various areas of interest. The first Executive included Morley Sparling, John Latimer, Russ Wunker, Ted Kennedy, Elanor Kay, and Don Rea.

Stated objectives a half century ago were: 1. Prevent Pollution, 2. Improved Fishing, 3. Clean Water, 4. Promoting an atmosphere of friendliness and respect for the rights of others, and, 5. To maintain one of the finest resort areas of Canada.

There is a lofty and worthy heritage for over one hundred years. In this centennial year, may we all renew our efforts to reflect the objectives outlined fifty years ago!



Cottager's Picnic at Horn Point





GLCA Membership Form

Year: _____

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

E-transfer to:

info@gulllakecottagers.com

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: _____

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 (emailed newsletter) \$40 _____
or

Primary membership (includes hardcopy newsletter) \$50 _____

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 cheque to "Gull Lake Cottagers' Association"
Mail to 10 Shortland Crescent, Etobicoke, Ontario M9R 2T3



FLEMING

Haliburton School
of Art + Design

Plan Your Creative Escape

This year's summer program features approximately 230 courses, including more than 50 new classes to explore: Abstraction & Alchemy, Painting with Egg Tempera, Bonsai Designs, Paper Collage, Weaving Heirloom Blanket, Axe Making, Spinner Rings, Glass Flamework - Sculpture, Digital Art with Phones & Tablets, Stash Rugs, and many quilting options.

Art: Anda Kubis, Director, Haliburton School of Art + Design
Bay, 7:45pm - Oil on canvas

For more information, and to register:

hsad.ca or **705.457.1680**
866.353.6464 ext. 4