



Spring Newsletter

June 2012

Mission Statement

The Papineau Lake Cottagers' Association (PLCA) is a not-for-profit organization. The PLCA is dedicated to promoting responsible environmental stewardship, encouraging an active social atmosphere, monitoring and communicating changes which affect our lake community and providing and maintaining infrastructure to protect the physical and environmental integrity of Papineau Lake.

President's Message



Greetings everyone,

We had an early spring at Papineau Lake and we are looking forward to another beautiful summer. It is nice to see more people around the lake and have the docks and boats reappearing. Our roads have had a new coating of stone and calcium and are in better shape than they have been in years.

There have recently been several bear sightings around the lake. Please be sure to take your garbage to the dump when you leave. If it is left by the road the bags or containers are often destroyed before it can be collected on Wednesday.

For the last 11 months we have worked diligently to oppose the proposed Dewatering Trench Facility. Papineau Lake remains #1 on the list of preferred sites. At the last council meeting on June 6, 2012 Bob Ord and I once again presented our concerns to Council. We have issued a formal complaint about the placement of the landfill leachate monitoring wells on the wrong side (upstream) of the Papineau Lake Waste Disposal Site and expect new ones to be drilled in the near future. We continue to request information about how the consultants assigned arbitrary values to the ranking factors that resulted in Papineau WDS being chosen as the best site. We registered our disapproval about being misinformed by council on issues of cost and timelines. In July 2011 Mayor Emond stated that the cost of the Dewatering Trench Facility would be about \$40,000+consulting fees. However, we have

recently been told that \$500,000+ is a more likely figure. We were also told that dumping septage on licensed fields was about to stop but we have discovered that there is no definite date for this. We have asked council to revisit the option of using the Town of Bancroft facility now that it is up and running.

We proposed that Council make a motion to put this entire process on hold until a new assessment of realistic and long term options are considered. As well, the process should wait until Council enters into discussions with our neighboring community of Bancroft about capacity, timing and long-term, cost effective solutions to our Septage Issue that will be beneficial for the whole Hastings Highlands Community. Mayor Vivian Bloom asked for time to review our concerns and requests and will report back to us at the next council meeting on June 20, 2012. We are hopeful that this issue will not go to litigation but if it does we will be asking for additional contributions from our membership.

The council changed this spring when Mayor Emond decided to resign. The deputy mayor, Vivian Bloom became mayor, and councillor Greg Roberts became deputy mayor and a new councillor, Nancy Matheson, who lives in Herschel Township, was appointed.

The two councillors that represent our ward at the municipal council, Bert Cannon and Frank Hickey have supported us very well in our efforts to have Papineau Lake waste disposal site removed from the list of sites for the septage trenches. We owe them a strong vote of thanks for their support.

Last year, we made a financial contribution of \$500 to both Bancroft and Barry's Bay hospitals from the raffle proceeds. As many of the generous raffle prizes come from the businesses in town, this year we will again make contributions to both hospitals from part of the raffle money. It not only gives us some positive press coverage, but also encourages the businesses to continue to contribute to our raffle.

We are currently collecting 2012 membership fees of \$25.00. Please make cheques payable to Papineau Lake Cottagers Association and they can be sent to Papineau Lake Cottagers Association c/o Harold Harris, 1584 Papineau Lake Road, Maple Leaf, Ontario K0L 2R0. You can also pay at the Annual General Meeting on June 30, 2012. Please let us know if your e-mail address has changed.

Thank you to all our members who have attended the Council Meetings over the past months and to our Executive for their many hours of work. Your support has been greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to a long, hot summer and hopefully the disappearance of our septage issue.

Kind regards,
Harold Harris

Area Representatives

In past years, to improve communications, collect annual dues, and to encourage people to join the association, we divided the lake up into areas and assigned a representative for each area. The job is quite social and most representatives have enjoyed meeting neighbouring cottagers whom they may not have the opportunity to do so under normal circumstances. There are over 300 cottages on the lake and so ideally we need 15 to 20 representatives. Last year, we had 8 area representatives, and we hope that they will stay on for this year. If any of you would like to volunteer for this job, please contact Ian Salgo at 613-338-2145 or Harold Harris at 613-338-2714.

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting (AGM) will again be held at the Bangor Community Center on the Centerview road on the east side of Papineau Lake on Saturday June 30th. There is a “meet and greet” at 8:30am and the meeting starts at 9:00am. The meeting usually lasts only 2 hours, and we encourage you to attend and table any of your concerns. We will have representation from our Municipal Government there to answer questions and we welcome any nominations for executive positions for the election of new executive.

Website Papineaulake.com by Ian Salgo



We continue to use the web site for keeping lake residents informed about issues and events at Papineau Lake. The home page will continue to have advertisements from local businesses and the revenue generated will go to our legal fund.

Over the summer last year we had almost 3000 hits on the web site and these numbers can be used when trying to generate revenue through advertising so remember to look at the website often.

Again we thank Scott McFadden of “onlineagentgs.com” for letting us use their server to store all the data on the website and for assistance in the initial set up of the site.



We try to add links to any news articles that appear in the “Bancroft This Week” pertaining to Hastings Highlands. (The Bancroft Times does not have an online publication) This is stored

under the Municipal Government tab.

We were going to add a "Paypal" application to the website similar to what the Baptiste Lake Association has to make it easier for residents to pay their association dues but after receiving some negative feedback about other "Paypal" sites being hi-jacked by hackers and funds siphoned off, we decided to leave things as they were.

If you have any suggestions for changes or additions to our website, please contact iansalgo@papineaulake.com

The Annual Regatta

By Karis Whillans

We are hoping to make some small changes that will make the regatta more enjoyable for everyone. The date is set for Saturday August 4th, and like the past, we are expecting beautiful weather.

The first big change to this year's regatta is no more boiled hot dogs. Christine Wood from the Maple Leaf Country Store has so kindly agreed to bring her chip truck; she has also agreed to split the profit with the association. I ask that we all support her effort, and the menu she will be serving is as follows:



- Hamburgers \$4.50,
- Cheese burgers \$5.00,
- Crispy Chicken Burger \$5.00,
- Fresh cut Fries Small \$3.00, Med \$4.00, Large \$5.00,
- Small poutine \$5.00, Large \$7.00.
- Hot Dog \$2.50, Jumbo Dog \$4.00,
- Pogo \$3.00
- Chicken Fingers and Fries- Small \$6.00 Large \$8.00,
- Sodas and water \$1.00

As usual, we are looking for volunteers to help run the events. It would be nice to have some new faces to work on the regatta events, such as the swimming races, volleyball, tug of war, judges for the sandcastle competition, and help with the raffle table, both selling tickets and working the table itself. I know there are many high school students around the lake and we offer up to eight volunteer service hours to those students that assist with the regatta.

We are looking for a few new additions. Over the past few years I have noticed there are few events for the little ones, the under 5 age group; I am asking for suggestions for events that we can gear to that age group. Any other events that anyone would like to see added please free to drop me an email, kwhillans@me.com, or stop by the house at the lake, 2670 Papineau lake; we should be there by June 25th for the summer.

Another event that always seems so popular is face painting. It is time for some new blood at that table. We are willing to set up a face painting lesson at our cottage if anyone is interested in learning this art.

We will be adding trophies for Volleyball and Tug-of-war that will be passed from winner's cottage to winner's cottage annually.

Any suggestions or comments please send them my way: kwhillans@me.com

Regatta Raffle

By Anne Salgo

Once again we shall hold a raffle at the regatta on Saturday August 4th and we request your assistance in several ways.

- First, any and all donations of items for prizes will be gratefully received at our cottage at 1246 Papineau Lake Road after July 1 until Friday August 3. You can call ahead at 613-338-2145 or just drop them off with a note detailing your name, so we can officially thank you!
- Second, any volunteers who can offer a 1-¼ hour of their time at the regatta to help sell tickets or assist with the winning prizes would be welcomed. If I can have 3-4 volunteers for the 10-11:15 am and 11:15 am –12:30 noon times, then you only need to commit to part of the regatta time. We shall close sale of tickets at 12:30 and start drawing the winning tickets; we will need about 4 people for one hour to complete this phase. Students needing volunteer hours are most welcome to help out.
- Third, bring your money and buy tickets! 1 ticket for \$2, 3 tickets for \$5, 10 for \$10, 20 tickets for \$20.



Please contact Anne Salgo at 613-338-2145 if you are able to help out in any way.

Wine and Cheese Party



The wine and cheese party was a success last year and we will again hold it at the Bangor Community Hall on Centerview Road on Saturday August 25th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Admission will be \$5.00 per person. It will also be a good time to update the lake residents on the latest status of the septage trenches.

Status of the Environmental Assessment for the Septage Trenches

by Laniel Bateman

Regrettably, it appears that we are nearing the end of the Environmental Assessment process for the septage trenches, without successfully having Council remove Papineau as their preferred site or reconsidering septage trenches as a solution.

The consultants will be proceeding with hydrogeological testing at the top two preferred sites (Papineau and Lake St. Peter) and have conducted site visits of the Papineau area.



Should the municipality continue to proceed with Papineau as the preferred site, under the Environmental Assessment process we would have a 30 day appeal period to communicate with the Ministry of the Environment to formally express our concerns and request the Ministry to intervene and compel the municipality reconsider their intended course of action. Should we reach this stage we will alert you and provide contact details to write to the Ministry and other bodies, as part of a concerted public advocacy campaign; however, this will be a final resort.

The driving factor behind the municipality's action is anticipation of provincial regulations banning the spread of septage on agricultural fields. This has not yet happened. There isn't any indication of when the province will take this step given the current fiscal environment, limited enforcement capability, and associated costs that would be downloaded onto rural municipalities. With more time, and with substantial new development planned in Birds Creek, a more progressive and permanent solution makes much more sense, including building a proper treatment plant in Birds Creek or reaching an agreement for access to the Bancroft facility.

With a new Mayor and a new Councillor we have new opportunities. Please take the time to write now to let your views be known to our elected officials, particularly before the June 20th meeting where the Mayor will respond to the concerns we have raised. A personal letter, phone call or visit to the municipal offices is significantly more meaningful than an email or form letter so please consider those options first.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. ~ Margaret Mead.

Photo of south Papineau Lake showing the existing Waste Disposal Site's proximity to lake.



Lake Plan

By Kevin McClintock

The Papineau Lake Management Plan was initiated in 2010 and will involve approximately 4-5 years of development. We are working toward the preparation of a set of recommendations and actions based on the results of community input and research, with the goal of maintaining and enhancing the environmental health of Papineau Lake and the lands that drain into it, and maintaining and enhancing the social elements that contribute to the quality of life on Papineau Lake.

I wish to thank those of you who have completed and submitted the Lake Plan Survey last summer. The Lake Plan committee intends to make use of the newly formed Area Representatives, during the month of July, to canvass the lake giving everyone in the community the opportunity to complete a survey and provide valuable input. The results of the resident survey will then be compiled and communicated during the winter newsletter.



Forest Fire Danger

It has been an extremely dry spring and last winter's snowfall was lower than usual. As a result, the woods are dangerously dry. On the May long weekend, there was a forest fire a couple of miles north and east of Maple Leaf. The ministry had 4 water bombers landing and taking off from Papineau Lake for most of the Monday. Please be careful of fires and follow the fire ban rules.



Please support your association both in person and financially

- Attend meetings,
- Talk to your neighbours and get them to join,
- Participate in events,
- Become an area representative