



Fall Newsletter

October 2013

Mission Statement

The Papineau Lake Community 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.

Message from our new President

By Joe Oatman

Greetings fellow Papineau Lake residents:

At the annual meeting in July I was elected incoming President for a two year term beginning Oct 1, 2013. I have been a part time resident for 10 years. We are at our cottage various times from early March to January 1 each year. I have been an Area Representative for the past two years. Our cottage is about a kilometer north of Harold's. I have been awe struck by the beauty of this lake and I have come to realize, as I have visited with lake residents and have seen this lake from different vantage points that the beauty is there for each of us. It is something to be treasured and protected. As the threat of septage trenches arose, I volunteered to try to engage and grow the PLCA membership as an Area Rep, so we would be strengthened in our resistance to this situation.

Harold has done a very good job over the past two years of leading a group of our members in a process of growing relations with the Hastings Highland's staff and elected officials and leading our resistance to septage trenches at our landfill. He assures me he will remain active in the process of resisting septage trenches at Papineau. A good many of his executive are continuing so I will not be starting from scratch but rather will have a continuing base of experienced folks who will be active members. It has come to our attention that Baptiste Lake has monitored the Hastings Highlands municipal meetings for many years and we have only been active for two. It certainly must be a continuing priority of the PLCA to do as well. Harold offered me the opportunity to attend the August Interlake meeting of lake associations with him. The opportunity to identify issues of common concern was clear.

Our priorities for the next year are to:



- 1) Stop the septage trenches at our landfill
- 2) Encourage an active social environment (Regatta, Golf, Meet & Greet Party)
- 3) Increase our lake residents' participation in the PLCA
- 4) Actively monitor Hastings Highlands council meetings
- 5) Move forward with lake planning and stewardship
- 6) Be active in interlake meetings of lake associations.

Being an area rep is very important in the process of communicating with the lake residents. By visiting folks you help enhance the positive feelings of neighbourhood and friendship with a group of your fellow lake residents and put a face to the PLCA. Residents get to understand the activities of the PLCA and current priorities. We need more residents to step up and volunteer for this important assignment. I need someone to take the area I am vacating and we need more to increase our visibility around the lake. Area reps have an opportunity to give input to priorities of the PLCA.

We have Liability Insurance to protect the PLCA leaders and volunteers at our sponsored activities. In addition, there is specific liability coverage for Directors and Officers in their roles for the PLCA. We need residents to feel safe in volunteering. We need a strong and vibrant membership willing to stand up and protect the beautiful place we all share. Please feel confident in letting us know you are interested in participating with our association.

Past President's Message

by **Harold Harris**

As of October 1st I became Past President and I leave the Presidency in the capable hands of Joe Oatman. I wish him well and I know he will do an excellent job for our association.

I want to thank my Executive and especially Ian Salgo for all their time and hard work. Many hours were spent attending meetings, collecting memberships, revising lists, making presentations to HH Council, organizing the regatta and raffle etc.

None of these things could have happened without the support of our Executive and PLCA members.

My term has been busy dealing with the Septage issue but we remain hopeful that Council's decision to place the Dewatering Trenches somewhere else will be made before the end of this year.

Last fall I attended an Interlake meeting involving 9 lakes to the north of us Round, Golden etc. and I became very aware of the value of such a group. We now have a Hastings Highlands group that is interested in working on mutual concerns in our area.

At the first meeting in August 2013 we discussed the Algonquin Land Claim, Lake Stewardship and Land Usage, the Septage Dewatering Trenches, the level of service provided for our lakes, beaches and parks, and next year's municipal election. This informal interlake group hopes to



continue to meet and to become a vehicle to address the concerns of our various associations and bring them forward to HH Council when necessary. The group will be a larger voice and hopefully have more impact on decisions being made for our area. A group like this would have been valuable when the Septage issue first came to light, support from the surrounding area would have been beneficial.

Our new "Welcome to Papineau Lake" signs have been installed and we thank Karen Pennings for her design and for producing them. I hope you like them as much as I do. New membership signs are being made for next year. Each member will receive a new PLCA Member sign to be placed at or near the entrance to their residence. This new sign is similar in design to our large signs and will have room for placement of yearly stickers as membership dues are paid.



Once again our Raffle, during the Regatta, allowed us to make donations on behalf of PLCA to the Barry's Bay Hospital, Bancroft Hospital and the Bancroft Disaster Relief Fund. Thank you for your support.

Our very successful Meet and Greet was held on Sat. Aug. 17th at Lakeview. Thank you to all the executive members who contributed delicious appetizers and to all those who joined us for a fun relaxing afternoon.

The past two years (3 summers because of a mix-up of when I was to take over) have been an interesting, exciting but often a stressful experience. I have enjoyed meeting other lake residents and have appreciated the support shown throughout our Septage Issue. I have made many presentations to council regarding Septage and the level of service provided for our lakes.

We are still working on better washroom facilities at the public beach, improving our boat ramps and the possibility of street lights at each of the Papineau Lake Roads and Hwy 62.

I have attended HH Council meetings regularly and definitely see the value in being aware of local issues as they come forward. As far as council is concerned we have gone from being a "thorn in their side" to "our friends at Papineau". Certainly a favourable position for us. I will continue to attend HH Council meetings as a PLCA representative.

I hope our new HH Interlake group is successful in bringing associations together to deal with mutual concerns and I look forward to our next meeting in the spring.

Papineau Lake is a wonderful place to live, summer or winter, seasonally or permanently, but we must remain vigilant to keep it the beautiful pristine area that we all love.

Vice President's Message:

Environmental Assessment for the Septage Trenches

By Peter Shoemaker

Hastings Highlands hosted what was described as a public consultation on August 24th in Maynooth. As in prior consultation sessions this was again a one way communication with representatives from JP2G consultants once again displaying the results of their work. The format gave very little



opportunity for presenting concerns and recording those concerns. Despite an impromptu brief question and answer period at the end of the session public input was limited to completing a questionnaire on predetermined categories. As a result of this inadequate process the following letter was sent to all members of council on September 5th.

“As a decision on the proposed solution for septage disposal for Hasting Highlands approaches, as a long time guest of the area, as a rate payer and as a passionate advocate for Papineau Lake I would like to express concerns that have been present throughout the process and which I feel have not been adequately addressed. For full disclosure, I am a member of the Papineau Lake Community Association executive and these concerns are also those expressed by other community members.

Throughout the process the minimum setback for the septage trenches has been 500 metres. This offset has been treated as an absolute and not a relative measure. By this I mean that as it stands now, if the distance is at least 500 metres then the site is acceptable. I have always felt that if the positioning of the trenches needs to be at least 500 metres from dwellings then the distance should be treated as a relative distance such that if 500 metres is good then a 1,000 metres is much better. By now council must know that no one wants to be close to the trenches, the best solution is to ensure that they are located at as great a distance as possible from lakes, dwellings and wells.

At the recent public presentation on August 24th JP2G kept bringing up the depth to the water table from their studies. Ignoring the fact that different measurement means were used I feel it is impossible to ignore the fact that the studies for Papineau Lake and Lake St Peter were done during one of the driest periods in years while the ones for Little Papineau were done during the wettest period. Science is about controlling variables so meaningful comparisons can be made, to draw conclusions from these studies is very troubling. This is not inconsistent with the whole methodology that JP2G has practiced through the process. The suggested trench site location isn't even in the same locations where they conducted their test pits and hydrogeology tests. They are assuming that the conditions at the locations investigated hold true for the proposed trench sites. They are assuming that the water table at Site 3B is deeper than at Site 1 and they are assuming that the saturated overburden zone (the water bearing soil unit) is thicker at 3B than at Site 1 even though they have labeled Rock Outcrops at 3B.

Although the consultants have stated that the septage dewatering trenches will have no impact on the surrounding area, it is evident by now that the location of the sites has a profound psychological impact on those located near the site. With this in mind if we look at the impact of the location on nearby facilities, we have to assume that they will be impacted. The Papineau Lake south beach is one such facility. It is currently a favourite of local residents and has the potential to be incorporated into a larger recreational plan for the municipality, a plan which could be used to increase tourism and therefore employment in the area. It goes without saying that a beach located adjacent to a septage disposal site is far less desirable than one that isn't. When considering the location of the site, concerns on the impact of future use of the surrounding area has not been taken into account. We need to be sure that any decision made does not become a problem down the road.

I apologize for the scientific detail in the next section but it is necessary to lay out a potential technical issue with collocating the septage trenches with the Papineau Lake waste disposal site. It needs to be remembered that the liquids from the septage trenches will flow away from the trench site. JP2G claims in the text of the report that the attenuation zone extends to the south west towards Kitts Creek, but according to their figures the groundwater would first flow north west through the dump before turning south west towards Kitts Creek. This means that the attenuation zone for the septage trenches extends into the dump where the potential septage contaminants will mix with the landfill leachate plume. They are also assuming that natural attenuation will occur within the attenuation zone without providing any lines of evidence to quantify this. Biodegradation involves biologically mediated oxidation-reduction reactions. Biodegradation is essentially an electron transfer process. Electron donors (ex. organic contaminants) are what microbes eat and electron acceptors (naturally occurring O₂, NO₃, Mn⁴⁺, Fe³⁺, SO₄, CO₂) are what microbes breathe. In lay terms, the microbes prefer to breathe the electron acceptors in the order in which I have written them. Oxygen in the attenuation zone is typically used up first and the final step, carbon dioxide reduction, is what produces methane in landfills. The design guidance for the

dewatering trenches is assuming that aerobic respiration will be the dominant Terminal Electron Accepting Process at work because there is not normally a competing source of contaminants. The flow from the dewatering trenches towards the waste disposal site sets up a competing source of contaminants. The end result has not been addressed in any document to date.

As we get to the final decision, I'm sure that you will incorporate the concerns of the ratepayers in that decision. The perceived impact of the site location demands that a location as distant from any dwelling must be chosen, a location which will minimize the impact on the future development of the area. The location must also be studied in order to ensure that the decision is not made on assumptions but on facts with comparisons being made based on common factors. Finally all of the potential impacts of the site must be examined, again we cannot assume that the site will have no long term effect on its surroundings.

I know council will consider all of the factors when they do make their final decision. "

The letter was also read into the council meeting of October 2nd. Council's reaction was muted. At the September 18th council meeting a motion was put forward to do a new set of groundwater tests on the 3 sites, Lake St. Peter, Papineau Lake and Little Papineau Lake, due to the tainted test results, Papineau Lake and Lake St. Peter were tested during one of the driest periods whereas Little Papineau Lake was tested during one of the rainiest periods on record. It is interesting to note that the impetus for the groundwater tests came not from JP2G but from Hastings Highlands staff who recognized that the comparisons being made by JP2G on groundwater differences were tainted by the vastly different conditions. The groundwater testing is now underway and should give a more accurate comparison of the 3 sites. We will continue to monitor the deliberations of council and will work towards having Papineau Lake removed as a site.

Past Vice President's message

By Ian Salgo

It is a rainy day in October, and I am closing up the cottage again; draining the water system and getting it ready for the winter. It seems like I was just doing this yesterday, but it was a year ago and now I am one year older and realizing that this is the 44th time that I have done this job. I also realize that our time on this planet is so short; we have to make the best of what time we have. I like to think that for every day spent at the cottage, He gives us an extra day on our life.

As my term comes to an end, I reflect on the past three years and, on the whole, I am glad that I stepped up and gave time for the association. On leaving this term, we leave the new executive with digital copies of everything they need for the smooth running of the association. The finances have been input on Quicken by Steve, the cottage listing is on Excel, and there will be templates for running the regatta and organizing the raffle table and also a list of functions that have to be done by the future executive along with times required, and person responsible. **We however are still looking for the PLCA letters of incorporation; if anyone has a copy, please let Steve know.**

As you all know, we spent the majority of our efforts in fighting the municipality's ill-advised plan to develop a sewage disposal facility beside the south waste disposal site. Peter



Shoemaker, the chair of the septage committee, will keep you updated on this subject. Peter has volunteered to take over my position as Vice President and with his skills, we are expecting good things.

It is important that all the lake residents know what the association does for them. I am saddened when I talk to someone who owns a cottage here but refuses to join the association and pay the small membership fee. The association pays for annual maintenance of the fire pumps, the regatta and director insurance for the association. It organizes the regatta, raffle table, meetings, and social events. More importantly, we represent the residents' at all council meetings and without this representation, there would already be a septage disposal facility installed at the south end of the lake. We also keep residents informed on what is happening on the lake through newsletters like this and other e-mail communications.

On a completely irrelevant side issue, we have all seen a lot of deer around the lake this year and in July I found out just how much damage they can do when a young buck jumped directly in front of my van before I even had time to touch the brakes. Fortunately I was travelling relatively slowly and going up a hill, but it still did \$4500 damage and killed the deer. When I had my van towed into Bancroft Autobody, they told me that at least a third of their work comes from deer strikes. Moral of the story is, "If you think it will never happen to you, think again because it can".

I will remain on the association executive as a director next year and still lend a hand. To any of you who have wondered about joining the executive, I highly recommend it. It is a great way to meet people and make friends at the lake.

Treasurer's Report

By Steven Smith

The PLCA Accounts are in good shape. As an update, we have a general account for accepting membership dues, regatta raffle funds and advertising revenue. We also pay our bills from here. We have a GIC with excess funds from the association account. This has been renewed again for another 2 years. Lastly, the septage account still exists and we hope to close this account sooner rather than later.



We had a good year collecting memberships from cottage owners on Papineau Lake and the surrounding area. In an effort to make it easier to collect the membership dues of \$25.00 per year, we are researching making E Transfer of funds available. We have to change some of our bank account features but it looks like this feature will be available next year.

Need Your Help: In order to change the bank account with Scotia Bank, I need the original Articles of Incorporation for PLCA. If you have the documents or know who may have them, please let us know.

Steven Smith, Treasurer
Cottage 613-338-3452
Steven.Smith6@sympatico.ca

Secretary's Report

By Susan Bateman

This spring our Association put out a general call to the membership to declare any interest in joining the Papineau Lake Community Association executive. With the help of my husband, Bill, I put on my thinking cap to come up with something meaningful. After all, I am a full time resident - surely I could help!

Bill and I came up with a list:

- recording arrival and departure dates of hummingbirds to Papineau Lake
- recording in and out ice dates
- recording number of black flies per cubic meter during the months of May and June

This offer was somewhat "qualified" in that, if the threatened spring provincial Beer Store strike came about, my time would be limited - I'd be making bi-weekly trips to Quebec!!

In the end, however, the offer of assistance was interpreted by our Executive as sufficient qualification to take over our Association's Secretary position from our outgoing Secretary, David Jamieson (thanks to David for leaving the files in such excellent shape).

I have enjoyed my time as Secretary since then - meeting new people, recording the notes and minutes of the various meetings and social events, and overall, contributing to a great and organized community association.

Exciting times,
Susan Bateman



Website Papineaulake.com

Please check out the web site. We have all the consultants' reports under the Septage Disposal Issue tab and the links to the news reports from Bancroft This Week pertaining to Hastings Highlands. As Peter Shoemaker is much more computer literate than I am, expect a new and better look to the website this coming year.

2013 Golf Tournament

by Lindsey Huculiak



The weather co-operated and so did the greens for many at this year's annual Papineau Lake golf tournament. Wolf Ridge was a fun yet challenging course, and the sunny weather made it a pleasure to be out on the fairways. We had 9 foursomes participate in the event.

This year saw a new group win the leader's cup - Brothers Mark and Greg Trypuc along with John Purser and Dave Ellis took home the trophy with a score of minus 10.

Longest drive awards went to Penny Gordon and John Purser.

Closest to the pin winners were Anne Salgo and Dave Ellis

The backyard barbecue was a success, with the wonderful food provided by so many golfers and non-golfers, no belly was left empty! Thanks to Joanne and Raymond Trypuc for generously hosting, and we look forward to next year's event hosted by Graeme McDonald and the Romanowsky's.

Congratulations to all who won and thanks to everyone who participated and donated prizes.

Thanks,

Lindsey Huculiak

The Annual Regatta

By Andrea Carroll

Thank you all who came out and enjoyed the day with us at the annual Regatta. I took over organization this year from Karis Whillans, who organized a great Regatta last year. I was a bit nervous as I had no idea what was involved in organizing this event and was worried there wouldn't be enough volunteers to cover all the activities. It turned out to be a wonderful experience and there were so many fellow cottagers willing to give of their time and knowledge in making the day a success.

Despite the cooler temperatures, this year's turnout was amazing with many of you joining us to watch and participate in so many events.

We managed to finish up the tug of war competition just as the rain hit the beach! Thanks goes to all the participants and teams who



enjoyed the day and kept the games fun! Once again many of you took home beautiful medals hand made by Matison Whillans. The trophies this year were awarded to "O.K." in the junior tug of war division, "Sets on the Beach" in the open tug of war division and "Sunsetters" for Volleyball. Congratulations to all the winners and participants!

I'd like to mention the many volunteers that made my job so much easier. Special thanks go out to the following:

Brad and Lesley Mason, Gary and Sue LaRose, Ian Salgo and Joe Oatman who went down to the beach before the Regatta to make sure the beach and out houses were clean. It's a dirty job, thanks so much for doing it! Don and Karis Whillans for storing, delivering and helping in the set up of all the equipment needed for the many events. Karis is looking for someone else to take over the storage of the equipment. If you have a garage or shed with space available to house this equipment, please contact me: acarroll1521@gmail.com. Paul and Pauline Penedo, who volunteered to run the swimming competition once again. Joe and Jackie Hayward, who stepped up for the canoe races again this year. Lindsey Huculiak ran the horseshoe competition for the second consecutive year; it was a great success once again.

Dave and Jackie Stell for running the extremely popular tug of war competitions.

Christine and Troy DuMoulin set up and ran the games for the little ones. They were busy all morning as these events have turned out to be very popular and so much fun!

Special thanks to Rob Clements and Babs Fletcher who took on the incredibly popular volleyball tournament this year! This is a big event; thank you so much for your tireless effort from all of us who love to play and watch this event.

The student volunteers that helped at face painting, tug of war, sandcastle, horseshoes, and the awards table, you all helped to make the day a success. Those painted faces were amazing!

Thanks to Christine Wood for her food truck. There are a lot of people to feed in a short span of time, so thank you for your efforts! Next year we hope to return to preparing and serving the food ourselves so if you are willing to help in that capacity with supplies, equipment or serving, please contact me: acarroll1521@gmail.com.

Anne Salgo went above and beyond with our raffle table once again. I must say a special thank you to both Ian and Anne Salgo and Karis Whillans for their support as they played a big part in guiding me through this job of organizing.

Lisa Potter for her nerves of steel and record keeping skills at the awards table.

John and Jane McCarthy for their expertise at the event sign up table.

Steve Smith and Joe Oatman for looking after the Association's table.

Bob Romanowsky for the use of your generator.

Thanks to Jim McPherson, Doug Hopkins and Pauline Ramsbottom for their musical entertainment and Marj McPherson for selling Papineau Lake Logo clothing; the profits for which go to the association.

Last and by no means least our Master of Ceremonies, Jeff Webster. Thank you also to Steve Carroll for donating the use of your booming voice when the generator supplying the sound system failed.

I'd love to hear from you! I am open to ideas, suggestions, and comments for next year. Maybe there is an event from past years you'd like to see again, or have a fresh idea you think may work. Maybe you just have a suggestion on how to tweak an event to make it run more efficiently. Please contact me at acarroll1521@gmail.com.

Regatta Raffle

By Anne Salgo

The annual raffle table was enthusiastically enjoyed by a large number of people at the regatta this year. We had 23 merchant sponsors from Bancroft, Barry's Bay, Purdy, Maple Leaf and Maynooth in addition to donations from local cottagers and residents. We raised \$1500 and have made two \$500 donations to each of the local hospitals in Bancroft and Barry's Bay.

I wish to thank the following people for their invaluable assistance in making signs, set-up, selling tickets and awarding prizes: Eryn & Emma, Sue Schroeter, Suzanne Huschilt, Lorraine Hackl, Katherine Salgo, and Vicki Fielding. Great job everyone!

Many thanks also to the merchants who generously supported our fundraising efforts:

Bancroft Golf Course, Canadian Tire, Maple Leaf General Store, River's Edge Golf Course, Home Hardware Bancroft, Rona Bancroft, TimBr Mart, Shoppers Drug Mart, IDA Drug Store Bancroft, No Frills, Foodland, Bancroft Village Playhouse Theatre, The Old Tin Shed, Bird's Creek Feed, Makin' Waves, Madawaska Art Shop, Maple Leaf Country Store, Irondeil, Home Hardware Barry's Bay, Lorraine's Pharmacy, Barry's Bay Outfitters, V&S Stedmans and Alfeskie's Shoes & Clothing.

Thank you as well to the following resident donors:

Barry Daniels, Sandra Roemer, the Trypuc family, Karin Martin, Charlene Quinn, Andrew Salgo, Donna Stell, the Pamentor family, the Sutherland family, the DuMoulin family, the McMartin family, the Oughtred family, the McCarthy family, Sharon Mason, Lois Whillans, the LaRose family and Frank Hickey.



2013 - 2015 PLCA EXECUTIVE			
Executive Listing		Area Representatives	
President	Joe Oatman	Steve Sanger	Ken McClintock
Vice President	Peter Shoemaker	Neil Crowder	Mary Mueller
Past President	Harold Harris	Dale Brown	Bob Ord
Treasurer	Steven Smith	Lake Steward	Kevin McClintock
Secretary	Susan Bateman	Raffle Coordinator	Anne Salgo
Directors		Regatta Chairperson	Andrea Carroll
Ian Salgo	Jim McPherson		
Laniel Bateman	Bob Ord		
Marj McPherson	Janis Harris		