

WRITTEN REPORT #1**PRESIDENT****LORNE MONAHAN**

Dear LCPOA Members,

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as your president for the past four years. It is now time for me to step down as of our July 29th AGM. I truly hope that we will have people step up and fill the vacant positions of President, Vice-President, and Newsletter Editor. If not, the future of our organization will be in serious jeopardy. We really need YOUR HELP to resolve this matter. If you haven't done so already, please read my article on this topic in our recent spring newsletter.

I again wish to thank all of our many volunteers who make this such a top notch organization. Where else can one receive so many benefits...for an annual membership costing only \$20.00?

Lastly, please make sure to attend our special AGM presentation focussing on the water quality of Lake Clear. Water quality, and our increasing seagull population have been the two major topics concerning our property owners for several years. Perhaps unknown to you, the LCPOA and the LCC have been seriously working together on these two issues and are now prepared to outline the results of their research and actions to date. So please, make sure that you receive the latest information directly from our guest presenter, Brian Cox, who worked alongside retired scientist Greg Romanow on this file.

WRITTEN REPORT #2**OUTREACH****NELDA MARKHAM**

The LCPOA Outreach Committee has voted to spend the \$750.00 funds for the July 1st, 150th Canada Day Fireworks at the Opeongo Resort.

WRITTEN REPORT #3**ENVIRONMENT****MIKE O'BRIEN**

In the last year the major priority for the Environment Committee has been focused on water quality. During the discussions at the last AGM many questions arose related to water quality. At the fall 2016 meeting of the LCPOA board a plan was approved to enter into joint project with the Lake Clear Conservancy to assess and monitor the water quality of the lake. It was anticipated that the project would run for 3 years. It was initially approved for the first year, but has now been approved for the three year duration. E-coli, phosphorus, and Ph levels are the primary focus. The LCC will be providing the AGM with a full report. So I will not go into details in this report. However, I will say that as we gather the information it will be fed back to the membership and our Board so that appropriate action can be taken based on the findings.

Last year's report referred to an exciting project taking place in the Ottawa River watershed called Citizen Science. It is a joint project through Water Rangers and Ottawa River Keepers. It makes use of a software application that allows individuals to record things about the lake's water that are of interest or make comparisons with others with similar information, or if we're wondering about invasive water plants it shows pictures and provides a GPS of their location. Courtesy of John Almstedt the link to Citizen Science has now been placed on our website. Those interested in making use of the application are encouraged to read about it and sign up. No cost is involved.

Some concern has been expressed by members about the possibility of contracting the swimmer's itch after a storm. If you go to the Ecology section of our website you will find information under the heading, Water Quality, about how swimming after a storm in waters prone to E-coli can heighten the risk of contracting swimmer's itch. You will also see that signage has been posted at the Buelow Beach that warns swimmers of the potential of swimmer's itch after a storm that might blow E-coli into a beach area.

Also of interest on our website is some information from the Bonnechere River Water Project about how the new Renfrew County Official Plan encourages local associations such as ours to get involved in stewardship planning with respect to their lake's environment. Again you can go to the Ecology section of our website to read more about it.

At the time of the writing of this report we are liaising with the Ministry of Natural Resources to have a boat washing sign placed at the public boat launch at the Opeongo Mountain Resort. The resort is most supportive of this effort to prevent the introduction of invasive species to the lake by those who are launching their boats on Lake Clear.

WRITTEN REPORT #4**PUBLIC RELATIONS****GEORGE von JAGOW**

Public Relations Committee (Website, Facebook, Updates) – Newsletter Summer 2017
George von Jagow, Philip Lancaster, Colleen Beanish

www.lakeclear.org, is your one stop shop for everything Lake Clear! The site continues to be quite popular with at least 2500 visitors per month, even over the winter. The most popular pages continue to be the home page, fish, maps, camping, plants, LCPOA, islands, beach and boat launches, blog, birds, and photo gallery.

We encourage you to continue sharing the web address with family and friends, as well as considering contributions to the Blog on the Home Page, stories for Treasured Memories II, old photos for under the History tab, or recent photos for the Photo Gallery. We want to keep the website current and relevant. If you can provide content in any area or have suggestions or corrections, please send to lakeclearwebsite@gmail.com.

Launched last year, the Lake Clear Property Owners Association Facebook group [For Everything Lake Clear](#) now has 107 members with quite a few in the younger generation. Pictures of the lake, local news items, and information regarding upcoming events are being posted. Please consider "liking" and start discovering and sharing, too.

Throughout the year, Philip Lancaster continues to send out regular updates via email to the membership. This seems to work well and thanks come back virtually every time one is sent out.

WRITTEN REPORT #5**LCC LIAISON****LIZ SHULTIS**

A reason to support the LCC: Protection is forever

All property owners cherish the beauty of the islands on Lake Clear. The LCC owns a number of these islands, pays their respective property taxes where applicable, follows the guiding principles of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance, and accordingly will permanently protect them in their natural, pristine state. That means too that there will never be any camping on these islands. By way of land purchase or use of conservation easements, the LCC, as a registered charity and land trust, can ensure that other properties it might acquire by these means are similarly protected forever!

Annual Fundraiser:

Cottagers should mark their calendars for the LCC's fundraising dinner, scheduled for August 12, 2017, at the lakeside heritage property of Micki and Paul French, just off Lake Clear Road. The evening will include a gourmet dinner, professional piano and vocal music with a Beatles theme, cash bar, and fabulous auction items including Senators tickets, a three-day get-away at the 5-diamond Westin Hotel at Mont-Tremblant, and one of our most popular auction items, a dinner catered at your cottage by the LCC for you and your friends or family. We introduced a silent auction as well last year, which was so popular that it is being expanded this year. Be sure to save the date - August 12th, at 5:30 p.m. to enjoy the ambience of lakeside dining, while renewing or making new friendships with fellow cottagers. Last year's event sold out, so reserve your tickets early by talking to any board member or sending an email to lakeclearconservancyboard@gmail.com. Ticket price is still just \$30 per person.

Reasons for fundraising:

As a land trust, the only sources of revenue for the LCC come from memberships, donations and fundraising. Accordingly, it can take a number of years to accumulate enough funds to carry out its mission, which is to conserve strategically important parcels of land on or around Lake Clear. Our organization is volunteer run and has virtually no administrative overhead. ALL funds raised are devoted to preserving the water quality and natural beauty of Lake Clear.

News from the LCC:

Our organization is making a concerted effort this year to personally touch base with as many cottage owners as possible, and distribute flyers explaining key information about the LCC's work.

The LCC will continue to work co-operatively with the LCPOA and other interested parties on environmental issues impacting Lake Clear. At the LCPOA's AGM, Brian Cox will describe the work that he and Greg Romanow, along with other volunteers around the lake, are doing to address the impact of the seagull population on the water quality of Lake Clear.

Camping on Crown islands:

Details of the Crown Island camping program and description of the seven sites, which the LCC administers for the MNR on behalf of the Bonnechere Valley Township, are located on our website, noted at the bottom of this page. These campsites are monitored twice-weekly by a responsible summer student, hired by the LCC, and remediated whenever necessary. The LCC does not actively promote camping on these islands, rather it endeavours to ensure that the camping sanctioned by MNR is conducted in an environmentally respectful manner, following

our wilderness camping guidelines. Camping statistics indicate that the number of campers has not increased since the LCC became involved.

WRITTEN REPORT #6**WIELAND SHORE ROAD****KATHLEEN BURNIE**

The mandate to work with BVT Council to address the parking concerns was achieved. New and additional No Parking signs were erected along Wieland Shore Rd and By-Law enforcement has been increased.

As of the fall of 2016 the committee decided to monitor the events along Wieland Shore Road and encourage all property owners to communicate with the by-law officer, Mr. Steve Fiegan, when necessary.

There have been no formal delegations to BVT council since the fall.

The fall, winter, and spring parking was reasonable. BVT publicized in the Eganville Leader that parking enforcement would be continuing.

The committee will continue to monitor parking issues this summer and fall and deal with individual incidents if they arise.

WRITTEN REPORT #7**LAND USE****JOHN TAKER**

This committee was formed to address concerns that the LCPOA has observed regarding apparent exceptions to the existing Township bylaws governing development on Lake Clear, with an emphasis on those affecting water quality. Current members are John Taker (Chair), Philip Lancaster, Derek Sweet, Sally Gillis and Lorne Monahan.

Summary of main action and accomplishment for the period August 2016 to July, 2017:

The uncontrolled use of Recreational Vehicles (RVs) on Lake Clear

By way of background, in the Fall of 2015, presentations were made to both BVT council members and representatives of Renfrew County. The occasion was a town hall meeting to address the latest revision of the Renfrew County Official Plan (OP). At that meeting, Lorne Monahan presented the two concerns that the LCPOA Land Use Committee (LUC) had identified; namely, the increased and uncontrolled use of recreational vehicles (RVs) on the lake and the need for protection of the 30 metre buffer zone from the high water mark.

We were informed that if we were to make a formal request/proposal, it should be stated in concrete and measurable terms. Further, it was suggested that we should first attempt to have Renfrew County incorporate our proposed changes into the new and revised OP.

We submitted to Renfrew County in November 2015 and received an email response in the spring of 2016, stating that they do not dictate policy to lower-tier municipalities and, as such, BVT has all of the power and tools to enact changes at their level. They recommended that, to get these changes considered, we work with BVT Council to adopt or amend a by-law. They also indicated that their official plan, when published, would include a list of all questions and answers.

In its October 2016 meeting, the LUC decided that the emphasis, at this time, should be solely on the RV issue and not the 30 metre buffer zone; **albeit in some circumstances the two issues are very related**. A detailed presentation was completed, reviewed by committee members and edited into a final form for presentation to the April 2017 LCPOA board meeting.

Approval was given at that meeting to proceed with a delegation to BVT Council. The original target date to approach Council was intended to correspond with the release of the County OP in early 2017; however, the final Renfrew County Official Plan has been delayed and, therefore, it was decided to proceed with the presentation to Council.

In preparing the final presentation material, we also obtained insight into other municipalities that have implemented by-laws dealing with RV use on lakefront properties. This information was included in the presentation to Council to provide a more complete argument. The presentation took place at the Council meeting on 11 May, 2017. John Taker presented the material and was supported by Lorne Monahan. Also present were representatives from the Eganville Leader and a property owner, as an objector.

Since that meeting, the Leader published an article covering the LCPOA's concern and, a few weeks later, a Letter to the Editor, from a Lake Clear property owner, objecting to the "sneaky" approach that the LCPOA used. While the Leader's coverage was adequate, it could not be expected to include all of the details and arguments that were included in the presentation material. For clarity and completeness, the LUC presentation material as well as the letter of objection are included with this status report.

I believe Council now understands the seriousness of our concern and has agreed to further consultation on the matter, which will likely include a public consultation. September 19, 2017 is the established date that Council will begin dealing with this issue.

It must be emphasized here that the LCPOA has no issue with the use of RVs on Lake Clear waterfront properties. The issue is the absence of any by-law governing their use and the potential for RVs equipped with bathroom and kitchen facilities to contribute to the overall phosphate level of the lake, which is already deemed to be "at capacity".

Note associated files:

1. LUC presentation to BVT Council (See Attachment C in covering letter.)
2. Letter to Editor (See Attachment D in covering letter.)

WRITTEN REPORT #8

TREASURER

DEREK SWEET

In brief our position at year end 2016 remains reasonably healthy and approximates that of recent years. Our balance at December 31 was \$11882 comprising a current account of \$6687 plus GICs of \$5194. The current account includes the poker run funded scholarship envelope of \$4600. We incurred a deficit of \$1062 [our last deficit was in 2013 at \$1518] due mainly to the issuance of 2 scholarships @ \$1000 each, increased promotion, water quality baseline testing, and slightly decreased membership revenues. Our continuing major annual obligation is liability insurance at \$1536.

Please see my full summary report as Attachment E in the covering letter.

WRITTEN REPORT #9**BRWP****KATHY LINDSAY**

Lake Clear is part of the Bonnechere and Ottawa River watersheds. The BRWP is a community-based environmental not-for-profit that has engaged with others to promote awareness and inspire stewardship actions for the Bonnechere River and its watershed for the past 20 years. The BRWP has been monitoring freshwater quality and stream condition intermittently since 1999 and for the past two summers with Renfrew County & District Public Health at public beaches including Buelow Beach on Lake Clear. Over the past 5 summers, the BRWP has partnered to get about a thousand paddlers on our local waterways through the Celebrate Our Rivers series. This summer, there is a record 16 paddles from May to August. The BRWP continues to advocate, in collaboration with others, for a watershed perspective including in the proposed amendment of the Renfrew County Official Plan, and for action on water-related issues including co-hosting a town hall to report to Environment and Climate Change Canada's Let's Talk Climate Action, participation in the Need to Know speaker series in Renfrew with the Council of Canadians, and supporting a drift card study this June by Environmental Defence to quantify potential risks from a tar sands oil spill from the Energy East pipeline proposed by TransCanada. The BRWP also continues to co-organize the annual Renfrew County Stewardship Forum; the 5th forum in November focused on the Renfrew County Trails Strategy. With the severe flooding this spring, the BRWP is now actively working with others on a process to review and improve the Bonnechere River Water Management Plan under the auspices of the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry. We look forward to the continued support from the Lake Clear POA. Please check out our website www.bonnechereriver.ca and like us at www.facebook.com/bonnechereriver/

WRITTEN REPORT #10**SCHOLARSHIP MOTION****LIZ MURPHY**

Given the fact that Jacquie Lecuyer was the initiator of the LCPOA Scholarship Fund:

Motion:

The LCPOA Scholarship is to be renamed the "Jacquie Lecuyer Scholarship for Environmental Studies".

Moved by Liz Murphy

Seconded by Heather Doyle

WRITTEN REPORT #11 2017-18 EMERGENCY GOVERNANCE**LORNE MONAHAN**

(To be presented if positions for President, Vice-President, or Newsletter Editor are not filled.)

As noted in our recent LCPOA Newsletter, if the following positions are not filled, the LCPOA needs a stripped-down, bare-bones survival plan for 2017-18. Your Board has recommended the following:

A. Board Meetings:

1. (Tentative) Saturday, October 14, 2017 @ 1:00 p.m.
 - require a meeting host
 - require an acting chair
 - no written reports beforehand
 - to use standard agenda format

* Bottom line: no host, no chair,...no meeting!
2. (Tentative) Saturday April 28, 2018 @ 1:00 p.m.
 - require a meeting host
 - require an acting chair
 - no written reports beforehand
 - to use standard agenda format

* Bottom line: no host, no chair,...no meeting!
3. Editor for Spring Newsletter
 - * Bottom line: no acting editor,...no 2018 newsletter.
4. 2018 AGM: Saturday, July 28, 2018 @ 8:30 a.m.
 - require a meeting host
 - require an acting chair
 - no written reports beforehand
 - to use standard agenda format
 - no guest presenter

* Bottomline: Board will ensure meeting is held, with discussion on possibly dissolving LCPOA.

Motion:

For any or all of the above described four situations, the Board's recommendations are to be followed.

Moved by L Monahan

Seconded by XXX