



Fall 2007 Newsletter

President's Report

KLCOA's 06-07 Board of Directors

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Usually this time of year I write a short article perhaps summarizing the summer and ending with the perennial warning don't park on Snow routes and be careful on the ice. However, events of this past summer and in particular the AGM put me in a position where I need to address some issues with you (the membership).

Firstly, the membership passed a resolution in the Spring of 2004 to develop a Lake Plan (LP) and to give it's development specific funding. The Lake Plan Steering Committee (LPSC) has worked over the last 3 years on your behalf and done a pretty decent job of explaining what they are trying to do and how they are doing it. Specifically let me remind everyone, that Dysart Council, not KLCOA and not the LPSC, have required that the entire community be engaged in the development of the lake plan if it may impact non-members. Please understand that the LPSC is trying to get council's approval for the Lake Plan so that it can be implemented without hindrance. Some elements of the LP may result in municipal bylaws being enacted and so Council wants to ensure that the whole community is consulted. I'm also confident that Council will follow it's usual review and revision process(es) when developing and enacting potential bylaws.

Secondly, the KLCOA executive has bought to the membership for ratification any significant agreement entered into by the Association with third parties over the past few years, such as the KLCOA - Haliburton Highlands Land Trust agreement that formed the Norah's Island Management Committee (NIMC). Regular general meeting attendees will recall that there was a concern in the wording of that agreement and so the resolution was amended to refer the wording for review. (and under Robert's Rules a simple majority is in fact anything more than 50%, so 3 out of the 6 members of NIMC can not pass a resolution). Please rest assured that I intend to bring any such significant decisions to the membership for a vote. Further, KLCOA's only expenses for this project were \$1500 for fund raising, Mr. Carruthers gave the land and individual cottagers donated to the fund which will be covering future costs. So by being involved at the right time, KLCOA was able to help make the largest island on the lake a permanent land trust where we neither owned the island, or had to become a land trust ourselves.

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Thirdly, the voting that proceeded the AGM on the lake plan, as mentioned above, was a demonstration of broad community support. I feel that the 73% approval was a success for the lake plan, the efforts of all who contributed to it and the community as a whole; so I disagree with Laura's article and Martha's editorial in the Echo and I say we aren't divided just opinionated about our "jewel of the highlands" ;-). I can recall no one I have spoken with who said that the Lake Plan is not a lot of great research or that it's completely faulted. We all have opinions about the specific recommendations in it and that's appropriate and in the long run will only make it better. However, as president of this association I must make it clear that only resolutions passed during properly constituted general meetings are binding on the executive. I will be looking forward to see what the new Lake Plan Implementation Committee (LPIC) proposes as action items and ensure that significant ones are brought to the membership for discussion.

Fourthly, on the point of the delay of the General Meeting; going forward General Meetings will not be delayed from the legally notified time and place. Roughly a little over half of the cottages on the lake are members, we always welcome new members and their participation at General Meetings. The AGM was only delayed due to a late notice given to the Executive by the LPSC; going forward all committees will work with the Executive to ensure that General Meetings are efficient and effective.

Unfortunately, our AGM meeting minutes did not completely capture some elements of the discussion that occurred. Please read the minutes and reply with any corrections or help with the incomplete sections. If the incomplete sections can not be completed they will be removed as 'discussions' are generally not considered important in meeting minutes, they just add some context.

So in summary, the membership asked for a Lake Plan and got a good one, How do you want to the association to go forward ?

In other news:

By time you read this the Cottage Life winter issue will be on sale with an article about Norah's Island and how the group of dedicated environmentally minded cottagers' and the Elderberries worked to raise funds for Norah's Island. But the job is far from over, and for the love of future generations, we have to hope that others will take our lead. Being a cottager is more than adhering to some politically correct label - it's recognizing that our place on the lake is simply a tiny component in the overall ecosystem and respecting what that means. Hopefully, Norah's Island is only the beginning.

I would like to announce that KLCOA has been awarded the Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations' (FOCA) Jerry Strickland award (<http://www.foca.on.ca/content/view/51/5/>) for 2007. To quote "The winning organization must have realized a significant accomplishment(s) to benefit Ontario cottagers or demonstrated innovation in its work with its members and community". I accepted this award for KLCOA at the FOCA AGM on Nov 24th.

We had a great summer and I wish to thank everyone for making the Fire Works, Regatta, Sailing, Swimming and other events happen. I hope I can count on you for next year!

I would like to thank the executive and all committees for their hard work this past year and wish everyone a great holiday season wherever you are. And remember a) no parking on snow routes...you could be fined \$200 plus may have your vehicle towed away and b) be careful on the ice, especially if you haven't spent a lot of time on it before.

*Regards,
Duncan M^cCallum
President, KLCOA
647-204-8945*

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Volunteers wanted for KLCOA 50th Anniversary Events

That's right! The 50th anniversary of the regatta and KLCOA are coming up. Gloria Carnochan has graciously offered to coordinate events! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Gloria directly at gcharnochan@bellnet.ca or (705)754-1932

NORAH'S ISLAND UPDATE by Jeff Pinkney

Neither rain, nor cold nor dark skies could dampen the celebration of Norah's Island last summer on Saturday July 14. There were close to 100 people on Norah's island to commemorate the union between The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust and KLCOA. It was a day of immense appreciation; especially to **Bruce Carruthers and his family**, and all the donors that have made it possible to keep Norah's Island in its natural state. We were able to raise our glasses and toast to all that made it possible.

Thanks to all who braved the weather to come out for this celebration. Thank you to all who helped make this important day unique and successful. The success of the day would not have been achieved without the many friends and family listed:

- **Doug Mahood** and all the staff at the **Kennisis Lake Marina** for being home base and for use of their pontoon boat.
- **Elaine and Chris Farrell** for taking the historic photographs.
- The **Lambert family** for use of their pontoon boat and especially to Stephen for driving.
- **David Axford** for donating use of his boat and our other pontoon driver **Dave Rodgers**.
- Our lovely entertainers "**That's Entertainment**" consisting of Lesley Lepine, Nancy Hamacher, Sally Norman and Linda Cook.
- **Peggy Pinkney** for creating the ribbon.
- And thanks to the many young volunteers that helped with the day: **Samantha, Stephanie, Ali and Brooklyn**
- **Thanks also to Gloria Carnochan and Cindy Muenzel** for donating from each real-estate sale this summer.

To date we have approximately 120 families that have donated. HHLT will be reminding /collecting next instalments from those who are giving \$100 per year for 5 years. In the future, a plaque listing all who have donated will be erected on the island.

It is not too late make a donation and have your name added to the plaque.

Mail or E-mail the following information:

- Name:
- Mailing Address:
- Telephone Number:
- E-mail Address:
- Wording of name to be used for recognition and thank-you purposes (e.g. Smith Family, or John Doe and Mary Smith)
- Indicate your permission to use your name for thank you and recognition purposes.
- Amount pledged:
 - ◊ \$500 lump sum
 - ◊ \$500 payable in \$100 installments per yr. for 5 years
 - ◊ Other amount

All cheques are payable to: **Haliburton Highlands Land Trust**
All donors receive charitable tax receipts.

Your KLCOA – Norah's Island Project Team

Shirlee Weeks,
chris.weeks@sympatico.ca (705) 754-1878

Andi Rodgers,
drodgers1@cogeco.ca (705)754 9964

Jeff Pinkney, KLCOA Lands Committee Chair
jeff.pinkney@cogeco.ca (705) 745-2124

Norah's Island Celebrations



Beginning of a legacy - Wet but enthusiastic crowd after the ceremony. Norah's Island July 14,



Making history - Ian Daniel, HHLT Chair, and KLCOA President Duncan McCallum sign the Historic Management Agreement while Bruce Carruthers (centre) acts as witness.

Photos courtesy of Elaine Farrell

Kennisis Lake Plan Update By Jim Prince

It has been a busy and productive year for the Lake Plan. If you recall, the Lake Plan project was first proposed in the spring of 2004 and accepted at the fall 2004 AGM. We have come a long way over the last three years with the final Lake Plan Document being approved at the Fall 2007 KLCOA AGM and now published and available in both hard copy and on the KLCOA website.

Here is an update on the recent Lake Plan activities and a look forward to proposed Lake Plan Implementation opportunities:

Finalization of Lake Plan Document

In May, draft versions of the Lake Plan (full and summary) were made available online and 1200 copies of the summary versions were distributed to residences and businesses in the lake community. Following an extensive consultation process which included feedback provided in workshops, mail and e-mail, the Lake Plan document was revised, issued as draft August and accepted at the September AGM (see meeting minutes attached). The final September Version of the Lake Plan has been updated and is available on the KLCOA website. A number of hard copies are available for those who may not have internet access. Please contact Chris Riddle.

Copies will be presented to the Municipality of Dysart, commercial stakeholders in the watershed and other organizations that supported the Lake Plan development (U-Links, Trent University).

Lake Plan Steering Committee Re-Structuring for Implementation

This originating Steering Committee for the Lake Plan has now been officially dissolved and a September meeting was held to propose a new structure to move into implementation. The model proposed is to have a small Implementation Steering Committee with working groups established to tackle the 31 focus areas in the lake plan.

The follow is the current structure for implementation:

Lake Plan Implementation Committee:

Jim Prince – **Chair, Municipal Co-ordination**
 Jeff Gardiner – **Treasurer, Communications**
 Chris Riddle – **Editorial, Publications**
 Cameron Douglas – **Lake Steward**
 Cathie Heppell – **Secretary**

Implementation Workgroup Leads:

Paul Potter-**Night Skies**
 Nancy Anderson – **Boating Issues**
 Chris Riddle – **TSW/CEWF Representation**
 (Lake Levels, Navigational Hazards)
 Cathie Heppell – **History**

Volunteers still needed for:

Education, Fundraising, Volunteer Co-ordination and several specific Lake Plan focus areas

Over the fall and winter, the Implementation Committee and the working groups will meet to develop plans for those areas of the Lake Plan that were identified as priorities. A plan for completion and distribution of the Lake Plan maps will also be developed and presented at the KLCOA spring meeting.

If you have a particular area of interest in the Lake Plan or you would like to support the implementation in general, please contact Jim Prince (jimprince@sympatico.ca) or Cathie Heppell (bccgheppell@yahoo.ca).

A huge thanks to all of you who supported the Lake Plan work during its development and in particular to those who took time to provide valuable feedback and suggestions.

Kennisis Lake - Vote to Adopt the Lake Plan - Minutes

A vote to approve the Lake Plan was conducted on Sept 1, 2007 and was approved by 73%. We thank everyone who worked on the plan and in particular the community for their strong endorsement.

In order to facilitate the vote and prior to the KLCOA AGM meeting, a motion was made by Duncan McCallum to postpone the start of the KLCOA AGM so that non members could vote on the Lake Plan. This was approved by the KLCOA members and the motion carried. The meeting for the Lakeplan then took place outside of the KLCOA AGM.

The following information was made available at the meeting:

The three motions to be voted upon (noted below).

A synopsis of Changes to the May 2007 Draft Lake Plan, which included a copy of all of the Recommendations for the Lake Plan.

A voting Card – one yellow card that allowed people to vote at the KLCOA AGM and also on the Lakeplan (for KLCOA members) or one blue card that allowed people to vote on the Lakeplan only (for non KLCOA members).

Jim Prince chaired the Lakeplan meeting. During the presentation Jim noted the following based on comments/questions from the floor:

The Lakeplan affects the entire watershed community therefore any qualified voters within the Watershed may vote on the Lakeplan not just LKCOA members.

Kennisis Marina provided input during the June lake plan workshop and this input had been used to modify the May draft version of the Lakeplan regarding Invasive species and a boat washing station.

Janis Parker (our local councilor) and a Kennisis Lake cottage owner, was in attendance

The following motions were put forth:

Motion 1: Put forth by Jim Prince and seconded by Terry O'Connor:

“Be it resolved that we hereby formally adopt the Kennisis Watershed & Lakes Management Plan - August 2007 version and that the community will work to refine the recommendations based on experience gained through the implementation of the Plan. It is understood that the KLCOA will facilitate periodic reviews of the Plan and will support public meetings to address changes or additions required to the Plan in response to future issues affecting the watershed.”

The motion was carried by 73% of those voting: 95 votes in favour; 35 against.

Motion 2: Put forth by Jim Prince and seconded by John Kerr:

“Be it resolved that we hereby request the Municipality of Dysart et al Council to officially endorse the Kennisis Watershed & Lakes Management Plan - August 2007 version.” The motion was approved by a majority show of hands.

Motion 3: Put forth by Jim Prince and seconded by Mary Winters:

“Be it resolved that a Steering Committee be convened to oversee implementation of the Kennisis Watershed & Lakes Management Plan.” The motion was approved by a majority show of hands.

Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting

Welcome

President Duncan McCallum called the meeting to order at 10:25am, Saturday, September 1st, and welcomed everyone to the 2007 Annual General Members' Meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Mr. McCallum noted that the minutes of the Spring General Meeting held on May 19th, 2007 were posted on the KLCOA website and mailed to the membership.

Motion: THAT the minutes of the Spring General Meeting held on May 19th, 2006 be approved as presented.
 Proposed: Brian Drury
 Seconded: Dick Hammond
 Debate: Scott Durie requested an amendment to reflect that Doug Mahood be contacted. ? asked who will take over policing. Duncan responded that no-one will be able to take this over due to limited resources. ? asked who is now responsible to lot numbering
 Carried: unanimously.

President's Remarks

Duncan McCallum reported on key events over the last year.

Treasurer's Report

Tony Lepine presented the cash flow summary report. Of the \$19,500 cash on hand August 30, 2007, \$17,677 has been reserved for outstanding commitments.

Membership Report

Cathy Heppell presented the 2007 membership report, showing 582 members and the breakdown between new, renewed and expired members as well as membership by shore. There was a question regarding availability of on-line or credit card payments to expedite payment of fees. Cathy replied that on-line subscriptions are now available, and that electronic payment options are being pursued. There was a question as to whether steps are being taken to encourage increased membership. Cathy replied that the biggest obstacle is obtaining mailing addresses for everyone on the lake. Options are to build in incentives or educate people as to the benefits of being members.

High Speed Internet

Liz Boxall reported on the status of high-speed internet availability, saying that Bell Sympatico is now available in certain areas. Expansion of the service is underway but is dependent on a cost benefit analysis by Bell. Duncan asked how residents can notify Bell of their interest, and was told that they can call 310-SERVE or register their interest on-line.

Constitution Presentation

Duncan McCallum reported on the recommendations resulting from the research into updating the Constitution, including changing outdated wording, providing for honorary memberships, proxy voting, and minority rights, changing the current requirement for changes from 21 yeas to 2/3 of the votes cast, the abolishment of the Nominating Committee, and other clarifications. There was a question regarding the procedure for finding replacements for retiring Committee members, and the wording was changed so that retiring members be asked to find a minimum of two new nominees as opposed to finding a replacement.

McCallum referred members to the information posted on the website and asked them to review it in preparation for discussion and voting in the spring.

FOCA/WAFT/CAPTR

Jason Wigmore reported that in April the provincial PC party is proposing a 5% cap on property taxes in their election platform, whereas the Liberal party platform proposes a phase-in. Mr. Wigmore encouraged members to push their Liberal candidates for a cap as well, or to support the PC's in the next election.

AGM Minutes - Continued.....

Committee Reports

Fireworks:

Steve Ashfield reported on this year's firework festival.

Roads:

Gary Benson reported on the results of the road surveys and the report submitted to Dysart by the Road Committee.

Rock Bass Tournament:

Keith Rodd reported on the results of this year's fishing derby saying it resulted in a record catch.

Swimming:

Stephanie Clark reported on the results of the swimming program and steps taken to protect swimmers, replace old equipment, and provide for sufficient instructors/life guards.

KLCOA Lands:

Shirlee Weeks reported on the status of the legal and formal hand over of Norah's Island to HHLT. ? asked whether all money donated to HHLT is used only for Norah's Island and Ms. Weeks confirmed that this is the case.

Regatta:

Steve Ashfield reported on this year's regatta, thanking Doug Mahood for his donation of the marina for the festivities. Special events are being planned for next year, which represents the 50th anniversary of this event.

Sailing:

Jim Prince reported on the results of the sailing regatta, saying that a self-funded sailing program for children is being investigated for next year.

Lake Levels:

Chris Riddle reported on the water levels, saying that the levels have been dropping two to three weeks ahead of normal this summer, with levels setting a new low. The Trent-Severn Water Management Committee has indicated that abnormally low snow falls this winter have been to blame. A panel on the future of the Trent-Severn waterway (TSW) has been holding hearings, which the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF) attended; with Chris as KLCOA's representative to CEWF, TSW et al. Legal advice to date indicates that the right to waterway is for everyone, not just the Trent System. The Trent Severn Waterway Panel has a website (TSWPanel.ca) that members are encouraged to visit. The question of who should mark deep water hazards was raised. A member asked what the minimum water level is, and was told that the water could drop another three feet based on the sill plate. A question was asked whether there are any plans to dredge the bridge. ? Replied that the issue has come up before but is not strictly within the mandate of the KLCOA. A member said that other lakes have guaranteed water levels.

Lake Steward:

Cameron Douglas reported that the Committee has been dealing with the issue of invasive species, saying that we need to be more pro-active in this area, and that a Steering Committee to consider the issue of longer-term water quality may be appropriate. The question was asked whether zebra mussels have been introduced into any of the local lakes and was told that none have been reported yet. Members were warned not to bring in bait from the Lake Erie watershed as the VHS virus has infected that lake system. Members were encouraged to obtain bait locally and observe the need to avail themselves of the boat wash. Gloria Carnohan asked that this advice be included with the newsletter as many cottagers have left for the season. Mr. Douglas invited anyone with questions regarding the legality of any activities to come to him, and mentioned that covered boat slips are actually illegal.

Haliburton Forest

Peter Schleifenbaum said he wholeheartedly endorses the Lake Plan, and warned all members against invasive species. He pointed out the threats that can be presented by bringing in firewood from other areas, plants from non-local nurseries, etc. and strongly encouraged people to work with local products.

AGM Minutes - Continued...

Mr. Schleifenbaum also talked about the environmental damage done by dirt bike and ATV operators and noted that the HFWL may well now have to take draconian reactions to those operators.

Mr. Schleifenbaum also invited members to attend the early morning performances in the Haliburton Forest. A member raised the issue of limited parking and was told that the possibility of providing bus transportation for next year is being considered .

Kennisis Lake Marina

Mr. McCallum said that Jeanenne and Mike Zahn or Doug Mahoud had been invited to the meeting and to participate in the annual newsletter, but has to date not provided an insert. He thanked them for their on-going support of KLCOA events held on their properties.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Committee Reports were unanimously approved.

Motion: THAT the Committee Reports be unanimously approved.

Proposed: ??

Seconded: ??

Carried: unanimously.

Elections

Steve Ashfield reported on the nominations for Secretary and Vice-President. Mr. McCallum nominated May Cunerty and John Cunerty respectively. Steve Ashfield asked for nominations for other positions. Mr. Ashfield nominated Bill Wiggins as a 3rd Vice-President; the nomination was accepted by Mr Wiggins.

Motion: THAT the membership adopt of the slate of officers as presented with the addition of Bill Wiggins as Vice-President.

Proposed: Kelly Westlake

Seconded: Graham Beach

Carried: unanimously.

Mr. Richardson asked about the status of the trout introduced to the lake two or three years ago. Keith Rodd replied that a status report will be available in the spring. Members were invited to volunteer to assist with applying for available grants to help restock the lakes.

New Business

Sheila Westlake asked what can be done to stop people dumping their garbage at the dump outside of regular operating hours. Mr. McCallum said it is difficult to obtain irrefutable proof that it is people and not bears doing the dumping. ? said that ideas being considered include extending hours on peak days, calling the municipality's garbage contractors for help with clean-up, cameras, bins on wheels.

Mr. McCallum raised the issue of water safety and noise pollution created by speed boats. The three issues presented are noise, speed, and wake. Several members recited anecdotes about excessive speeding and noise created by these boaters drag-racing. No-one has been able to obtain any deceive assistance from federal or local law enforcement. There was discussion about which pieces of legislation may apply in this situation. Mr. Cunerty suggested that speed boat owners meet with other boaters to discuss a possible code of conduct to address these issues. Mr. Kevin Kyte said that he owns a performance boat and does try to limit his usage to off hours and that he and his friends with similar boats are receptive to such a suggestion. Another member raised the issue of the waves caused by wake boats used by people pulling skiers and tubes.

Mr. McCallum requested the interested parties come together to ensure the Boating Code of Conduct contemplated in the Lake Plan is complaint with a) the Shipping Act b) the Fisheries Act and other applicable legislation. Mr. Rodd mentioned that tin boat race was part of our regatta around 1990.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 12:21 pm.

Water Levels

by Chris Riddle

Chair, KLCOA Water Levels and Trent-Severn Waterway Liaison

For several reasons the spring and summer of 2007 was a time to talk about water levels on the Kennisis lakes and on all of the 'reservoir' lakes in the Haliburton sector of the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW).

Released in draft form in May, the Kennisis Lake Plan (available on the KLCOA website) contained a whole section on water levels along with historical data going back to the early 1900s.

This proved timely because 2007 saw unusually low water levels on Kennisis Lake. In general, the water level on any given date was typical of the level some 2-3 weeks later in a normal year. Thus at the end of July the lake was down 32" which is typical for mid-August. The cause cited by Dave Ness, our contact at the TSW, was low snow-fall last winter and below-average spring rain. Although the lake came to within 8" of the top of the dam in early June, it was quickly drained away to feed the main navigation channel on the TSW.

Over the summer the federally-appointed Panel on the Future of the TSW released a series of background reports and held a number of public hearings. The reports and submissions to the Panel are available at www.tswpanel.ca/ Of particular relevance is "*A Study of the Past, Present and Future of Water Management on the Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site of Canada*".

The KLCOA made a presentation to the Panel when it visited Haliburton in July and argued strongly for management of the TSW to be undertaken in the context of the entire watershed. We also suggested that it is time for a 'new deal' for Haliburton communities, given the significant changes that have occurred in the highlands since the mandate of the TSW was first established.

The KLCOA also participates in the Coalition for Equitable Water-flow (go to <http://www.environmenthaliburton.ca/> and follow the links for CEWF), an organization representing the interest of all the reservoir lakes. The CEWF also presented to the TSW Panel, when it came to Minden in August. Legal advice to the CEWF has stressed the strength of a case based on the right to navigation, and to a lesser degree on riparian rights. Both the KLCOA and CEWF submissions are available on the Panel's website.

The Panel is due to report its findings to the federal government in December