



Fall 2008 Newsletter

President's Report

KLCOA's 08-09 Board of Directors

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Dear Member:

Well it's the end of another year, a year that's been a mixed bag for weather. Speaking for myself, the Thanksgiving weekend was warmer than my vacation in early August.

I would like to highlight several accomplishments that have occurred this year:

The **Lake Plan** is now in implementation stage and is the guiding framework for many of the association's activities on the environment, land management and development. There does remain some work to be done around several sub-projects such as the "boating code of conduct" and the "historical guide." For more information please see page 8 and contact that committee if you wish to get involved.

The **Norah's Island** Management Committee (NIMC) is now fully funded and has taken over management of the island.

This summer a number of **shoreline assessments** were carried out for various property owners who asked to participate. The assessments were facilitated by the Lakeland Alliance and hosted by the Lake Plan committee. They have been well received and we're trying to arrange more sessions for next summer.

Bill Wiggins has spent a lot of time drafting and consulting on the **new by-laws**. Please visit our website or see the copy at the marina and have your comments ready for our Spring meeting or contact Bill or myself directly.

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President's Report continued.....

The **50th anniversary Regatta and Fireworks** where well attended and organized. Just so no one is confused, the fireworks where delayed this year because of the weather; they will be held at the regular date next year, weather permitting. Also, it seams that the new location works better for everyone: the various regatta events are closer to each other. This way the marina can keep operating, as it is a busy summer weekend. Unfortunately, the proposed 50th anniversary dinner could not be held as planned, however, Gloria Carnochan does hope, however, that others will come forward with offers of help and ideas.

Please refer to the **Annual General Meeting Minutes** and all the articles in this newsletter for additional information. I will be attending the Annual General Meeting for the Federation of Ontario Cottage Owners Associations (FOCA <http://www.foca.on.ca/>) in late November and will report a synopsis of that meeting (and other events) in the next newsletter. Please feel free to contact me or any of the article authors if you have questions.

Lastly, the news is out that Shall-May Holdings have decided to give **Island "C"** to the association to hold as a conservation area, like Bullfrog Bay. While the transfer has not yet been completed, the association does thank Shall-May Holdings and all involved in arranging this gift to the association. I'll just add that the association has retained the right to transfer this property to a land trust at a later date.

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. We will have a number of positions open on the Board so please consider volunteering your time. Please contact me directly for further information.

I would like to wish everyone a great holiday season wherever you are. And remember a) no parking on snow routes 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*

50th Anniversary History Book Call for Items!

I have started the History Book for the 50th Anniversary of the Cottage Association and Regatta and have six and a half months to get the book put together and printed. Time is moving by quickly!

I am looking for more material, so please email or mail personal stories of when you purchased your property, and what the lake was like in the 50's,60's and 70's. Maybe you came after the seventies and have a story to share with us also. I arrived at Kennisis Lake in 1973 so have no information prior to that, and besides, it isn't about my memories, it's about yours! I am especially looking for the following:

- What was the Association able to influence, change, or do to make this a better place to be?
- Information about the Snowmobile Club.
- Photos of swimming lessons , or other activities.

I will need this info by the end of December please!

Gloria Carnochan
705-754-1932 or gloria.carnochan@bellnet.ca

Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners' Association (KLCOA) held at the Seminar Room of the Haliburton Forest in the Haliburton Highlands on Saturday August 30, 2008 at 9:30am

1. Welcome

President Duncan McCallum called the meeting to order at 9:35 am and welcomed everyone to the 2008 Annual General Members' Meeting. Mr. McCallum reported that a quorum was met since more than thirty members were present, and asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion: *THAT the Agenda for the 2008 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.*
 Proposed: Tim Tibbs
 Seconded: Leslie Lepine
 Carried: Unanimous

Mr. McCallum asked that anyone wishing to pose a question or make a motion stand up, state their name, and then pose the questions or make the motion. Mr. McCallum also reminded everyone that the media was present and that the meeting was being recorded.

2. Approval of the 2008 Spring General Meeting Minutes

Mr. McCallum asked for a motion to approve the 2008 Spring General Meeting Minutes. It was pointed out that Norah's Island had been spelled incorrectly in the minutes. Ms. Anis undertook to make this correction.

Motion: THAT the 2008 Spring General Meeting minutes be approved as amended.
 Proposed: Dr. Chris Riddle
 Seconded: Mr. Keith Rodd
 Carried: Unanimous

3. President's Remarks (9:38 a.m.)

Mr. McCallum reported that he and Cameron Douglas would still like to step down from their respective roles as President and Lake Steward of the Association at the end of this year, as first announced at the Spring meeting, and emphasized that the Association needs volunteers to step forward to take on these roles.

Mr. McCallum said that the new constitution being put forward may well affect who takes over and how the association is run going forward.

4. Community Security (9:40 a.m.)

Mr. McCallum, on behalf of John Cunerty, reported that there had been no break-ins reported over the summer, but that an area of concern is the theft of small outboard motors and gas cans. The OPP has asked the Association to reiterate to its members that a spotter is always required when water skiing, tubing, and wake boarding. As well, it should be pointed out that anyone pulling a tube or other water toy behind a seadoo must be aware that the total number of people in the toy and on the seadoo cannot exceed the total rated capacity for the vehicle. This effectively means that a two-person seadoo cannot pull anyone behind it because the driver and spotter already represent the maximum of two persons allowed on the vehicle. Finally, the OPP are asking everyone to practice safety when letting off fireworks, as there seem to be more and more of these being set off on private docks.

AGM Minutes continued.....

5. Treasurer's Report (9:41 a.m.)

Treasurer Tony Lepine reported that KLCOA received \$15,465 in membership fees from 502 members this year, plus another \$2,645 in swimming fees, \$140 from Battleship Golf, and \$177 in interest income, for total revenues of \$18,427. Mr. Lepine reported that total expenses to date are \$19,335, leaving a net deficit of \$908. The Association has cash of \$10,999 in the bank.

6. Constitution Update (9:45 a.m.)

Bill Wiggins reported that a draft document, the purpose of which is to bring the association's by-laws in line with the Ontario Corporations Act, has been reviewed by the Executive Committee and asked that the document be put to a vote at today's meeting either in whole or section by section. Mr. Wiggins said that the proposed constitution, once approved, can be amended at any time by another vote as long as the proposed amendments are posted at least 35 days in advance of such a vote.

Dr. Riddle asked whether the proposed document had been posted 35 days in advance of this meeting. Mr. Wiggins said it had been posted on the bulletin board but not the website. It was agreed that the document will be posted on the website and put to a vote at the 2009 Spring meeting.

7. FOCA (9:52 a.m.)

Mr. McCallum, on behalf of Jason Wigmore, asked for a motion that the Association members endorse KLCOA's continuing membership in FOCA, WRAFT, CAPTR, and the Coalition for Equitable Waterflow ("CEWF"). Mr. Lepine asked that this be made a standing motion to authorize him to pay the membership fees to these organizations from the operating budget.

Motion: *THAT the KLCOA continue its membership if FOCA, WRAFT, CAPTR, and CEWF*

Proposed: Mr. Jeff Pinkney

Seconded: Mr. Tim Tibbs

Carried: Unanimous

8. Membership Report (9:55 a.m.)

Membership Director Cathie Heppell presented a graph showing annual new, renewed, non-renewed, and permanent membership by year for 2006, 2007 and 2008. This year's membership is 523, down from 582 in 2007, but up from 511 in 2006. Ms. Heppell was asked how many cottage properties exist, and said that there are 950 properties on the two lakes, all of whom were made aware of the Association's existence and its work on the Lake Plan when the Lake Plan material was distributed to each property last year. The members discussed why the participation rate in the Association is not higher. It was concluded that in order for the Association to maintain a higher profile to increase the visible/tangible benefits that can be achieved from membership will require more volunteers.

9. 50th Anniversary (10:01 a.m.)

Gloria Carnochan gave an update on the status of the historical book she is organizing to celebrate the Association's 50th anniversary and asked that anyone with pictures of the cabins that used to exist behind the marina and any other historical stories or pictures contact her at (705) 754-1932

Ms. Carnochan also asked for volunteers to help with the writing and scanning, and said that she hopes to have to book ready for the spring meeting.

10. Committee Reports

Roads (10:05 a.m.)

Gary Benson reported that the Roads Committee toured all the roads on August 25th and wrote a report highlighting safety concerns which it hopes will be addressed from funds expected to be allocated by the municipality. Mr. Benson asked that anyone with specific concerns contact him after the meeting.

Mr. Benson thanked Messrs. Whitaker and Musinka for their help.

AGM Minutes continued.....

Fishing/Rock Bass Tournament (10:07 a.m.): Mr. Benson reported that he met with Bill Flowers of the Ministry of Natural Resources who said that our trout population is breeding at an acceptable rate. Mr. Benson said that Mr. Flowers has asked anglers to volunteer to keep diaries of their catch to assist in continuing monitoring of the health of the lake trout.

Mr. Keith Rodd thanked Mr. Fred Musinka for his help in running the fishing derby this year and reported that 15 teams caught 144 lbs of rock bass this year, down from 300 lbs last year. It is hoped this decrease is due to a declining rock bass population as a result of these annual efforts.

Island Clean-up (10:14 a.m.): Mr. Jeff Pinkney, on behalf of Karen Fiorini, reported that the clean-up did take place and all islands are in great shape.

Fireworks/Regatta (10:15 a.m.): Steve Ashfield reported that the Fireworks took place on August 2 due to poor weather in July. Mr. Ashfield also reported that federal regulations concerning commercial fireworks are changing which will increase the costs of future shows and most likely adversely affect their quality.

Regatta (10:17 a.m.): Mr. Ashfield thanked Cindy Burley, who has acted as Co-Chair of the Regatta Committee and is resigning this year, and all the other volunteers.

Swimming (10:18 a.m.): Mc. McCallum, on behalf of Stephanie Clark, reported that 55 children from 28 different families participated in the swimming program this year. Mr. McCallum reminded everyone who is interested in teaching or volunteering next year to contact Stephanie at sekclark@hotmail.com.

KLCOA Lands (10:19 a.m.): Mr. Pinkney reported that the fund to support Norah's Island has almost reached its goal, passing \$50,000 this summer. The proceeds from the auction scheduled for the end of the meeting will be contributed to the Fund. Mr. Pinkney said that the plaque commemorating everyone's efforts is still a work in progress, with a draft to be posted next summer. He urged everyone to visit the Island.

Proposed Island "C" Development (10:22 a.m.): Mr. Jim Prince said that Shall-May Holdings' ESR application has not been submitted and urged everyone to monitor the County office in case it is submitted later in the fall or winter when many cottagers are away for the season.

Lake Levels/CEWF (10:26 a.m.): Dr. Riddle reported that lake levels have been above average this summer due to high levels of rain. Dr. Riddle also reported that, for the first time, the Trent Severn Waterway has agreed to provide weekly reports concerning lake levels at all the lakes as well as targets for two weeks which will be made available on the LakePlan website www.kennisis.ca as well as on the CEWF website www.cewf.ca website. Dr. Riddle said that he has met with the federal MP and provincial MPP co-chairs of the Trent-Severn Caucus and while MP Barry Devolin was a strong supporter of the recommendations contained in the report of the Panel on the Future of the Trent Severn Waterway, there was disappointment with their level of engagement and comprehension of the issues at the provincial level. There is broad support for a key recommendation from the Panel, namely the creation of an independent water management agency to consider the health of the watershed as a whole and not just the water-flow in the TS canal. Dr. Riddle encouraged Association members to write letters to their MP's in support of this – information is available at www.cewf.ca.

AGM Minutes continued.....

Lake Steward Report (10:35): Cameron Douglas said that he will attempt to have a speaker to give a presentation about invasive species at the 2009 Spring Meeting.

Sailing (10:36 a.m.): Jim Prince reported that 13 craft participated in this year's Sailing Regatta.

Lake Plan Report (10:37 a.m.): Mr. Jim Prince reminded everyone that the focus of the Lake Plan has been and continues to be on education to increase awareness about the need for stewardship to safeguard the environmental and social quality of our lakes. Mr. Prince said that to date progress has been made on two issues:

- Thirty of fifty shore line assessments have been completed
- A guide for cottage owners and renters, including a sample rental contract, has been drafted. Mr. Prince asked for volunteers to help review this draft prior to its presentation at the 2009 Spring Meeting.

Mr. Prince also reported that the committee has expressed an interest in participating in the U Links program, which would allow the Association to partner with university professors and students to help with community issues. The committee has expressed an interest in partnering on a fishery and shoreline inventory model.

A member asked whether it is possible to obtain non-volunteer shoreline assessments of some of the properties where cottage owners have taken obviously inappropriate steps in terms of clearing their properties. Mr. Prince replied that the project is more about stewardship and education than enforcement and that we can only hope to make all cottage owners aware of these issues by disseminating material as widely as possible. It was agreed that the information packages would be given to the county permit office as well as real estate agents.

11. Haliburton Forest (10:58 a.m.)

Peter Schleifenbaum reported that Patria has morphed into the Forest Festival, and invited everyone to come out to hear the concert scheduled that night at Bone Lake.

A member asked who is responsible for maintaining the portages throughout the Forest, and Mr. Schleifenbaum said that the government has done a very poor job in this area, but that the Forest cannot take responsibility for it due to liability issues.

Duncan thanked Peter for his valued input and for the ongoing using of the seminar room free of charge.

12. Kennisis Lake Marina (11:04 a.m.)

Mr. McCallum said Mr. Mahood had been given space on the agenda to address members about the Marina, but that no representative from the Marina is in attendance to speak.

Duncan thanked Doug and Marg for their ongoing support and for the use of the Marina property for the events such as the Regatta and Fireworks. The new arrangement for the Regatta did seem to be better for the regatta committee, the marina and attendees; and the regatta committee will continue to work with the marina to ensure that next years' is also a success.

13. Elections (11:05 a.m.)

Mr. McCallum explained that all board and executive positions are up for re-election, and again asked for volunteers for the positions of President and Lake Steward. Mr. Steve Ashfield, past President, gave an impassioned plea for Association members to step forward and assume an active role in the governing body to maintain a flow of new ideas and help keep the Association vibrant.

Mr. McCallum explained that, since the Association is still operating under the old By-Laws as opposed to the new Constitution, only the Executive Committee slate is to be voted on at today's meeting. Under the new Constitution, in future the members will vote for a Board of Directors, which will appoint members to the Executive Committee.

Mr. McCallum explained that any position in the proposed slate can be contested by nominating another member to run. No position on the proposed slate was contested.

Motion: *THAT the following proposed slate of members for the Executive Committee be elected to serve in the positions indicated until their successors are appointed or until the next Annual General Meeting:*

Duncan McCallum	President
Steve Ashfield	Past President
May Cunerty	Secretary
Tony Lepine	Treasurer
Jason Wigmore	Vice-President
John Cunerty	Vice-President
Bill Wiggins	Vice-President

Proposed: Bill Wiggins
 Seconded: Gary Benson
 Carried: Unanimous

14. New Business (11:12 a.m.)

A member asked whether there are any environmentally friendly cleaning products on the market. This question was referred to Peter Schleifenbaum and Rob Davis.

A member reported that there is a good article on appealing property tax assessments in this fall's issue of Cottage Life.

A member said that he and his family have been extremely annoyed by the noise and excessive speed of what appears to be a proliferating number of speed boats on Little Kennisis, and asked whether recourse can be taken if illegal modifications have been made to these boats or if they violate noise by-laws. A number of other cottagers agreed that this continues to be a serious issue. Mr. Prince suggested that the best way to deal with this issue is to form a committee to examine it and report back at the 2009 Spring Meeting. All members who have an interest in joining this committee or contributing information were asked to contact John Cunerty at j.cunerty@smpmetal.com.

Mr. McCallum advised everyone that the Spring Meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, May 17th.
 Mr. McCallum thanked everyone for attending, and wished them a safe and fun winter.

15. Adjournment (11:30 a.m.)

There being no further business the Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Kennisis Lake Plan Update By Jim Prince

The Lake Plan Implementation Team focused on a few key activities through 2008 including the Shoreline Advisor Program, www.kennisis.ca website launch, Kennisis Fishery Workshop, Cottage Landlord and Renter Guides and map production and distribution. The following is an update for the activities that we have made some progress on this year and a call for help for proposed Lake Plan Implementation opportunities for 2009 and beyond:

Lake Plan Priorities

The Lake Plan has many proposed recommendations but all of them are focused on the priorities that were established in the community meetings and the survey responses:

Water Quality	Development	Power Boating
Natural Shorelines	Public-Use Lands	Tranquility
Water Levels	Traditional Rights-of-Way	Wildlife
A Sense of History	Sustainable Forest Management	Night Skies

Kennisis Maps and Lake Plan Documents

Kennisis Maps – Two high quality maps – one showing lakes, roads and special features and one illustrating boating hazards were printed in the spring and made available at no cost to all members. The maps were available at the Haliburton Forest for pick up and additional maps were for sale at the marina store and at Haliburton Outdoors. Over half of the members have picked up their maps (~280) and \$900 was raised selling the maps to offset the printing costs. If you have not already received your maps they will be available for pick up at the Spring KLCOA meeting. The maps are also available for download on the www.kennisis.ca website.

The final version of the Lake Plan is also available at www.kennisis.ca. A number of hard copies are still available for those who may not have internet access. Please contact Chris Riddle or Jim Prince. Copies were also provided to the Municipality of Dysart, the commercial stakeholders in the watershed and other organizations that supported the Lake Plan development (U-Links, Trent University, Fleming College).

Many thanks to Shirley and the front desk folks at the Forest for distributing the maps!

Website Launch - www.kennisis.ca

The Lake Plan website was officially launched in the spring. All information about the Kennisis Lake Plan and valuable links to other lake planning information, downloads and external resource links can be found at www.kennisis.ca. Please visit the website and if you have suggestions or ideas about the Lake Plan website content, please contact Jeff Gardner.

Many thanks go to Jeff Gardner for spearheading this fantastic work.

Shoreline Advisor Program - Kennisis Lakes

The KLCOA was fortunate to be one of three lake associations that were awarded with the Shoreline Advisor Program for 2008. The program, sponsored by the Lakeland Alliance and the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council provided for up to 50 shoreline assessments in our lake community. The program is intended to provide assistance to property owners by providing them with a qualified advisor who could help with shoreline issues such as erosion problems, septic issues, identification of natural or invasive plants, etc. The program is voluntary, non-regulatory and there was no cost or obligation to the participants.

This summer, approximately 36 shoreline visits were completed and additional visits have been scheduled for the fall and next spring including the municipal properties. The advisors worked with the property owners to answer questions and provide helpful suggestions on how to reduce the footprint on the lake. The advisors covered these main topics:

- Natural Shorelines
- Septic Systems
- Pollution Prevention
- Invasive and Natural Species
- Enhancing Habitat

The Advisors provided each participant with a report card on their property, resource documents about the above topics for future reference, local information about products and services in order to help follow-up on any of the recommendations provided by the advisor. We are considering repeating the program for summer 2009. Stay tuned.

Many thanks to Mike Gibbs (Lakeland Alliance), Nicole Tuyten (Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council), Rob Davis – Shoreline Advisor (EcoEthic), Terry O'Connor, Cathie Heppell and Jim Prince – Kennisis Lake Coordinators

Kennisis Fishery Workshop – July 2008

A very well attended Kennisis Fishery workshop was organized by Gary Benson in July at the Haliburton Forest. A presentation by Dave Flowers of the MNR provided data on the fish species in the lakes as well as an overview of the fishery history, the current stocking program and the fishery management strategy for the Kennisis lakes. A number of participants volunteered to provide feedback to the MNR on their catches by filling in a log book and sending it in to the MNR at the end of the season.

We are compiling Kennisis Fishery information to post on the kennisis.ca website and have identified a U-Links project to support this work. Anyone wishing to get more involved in supporting the management of the fishery on our lakes should contact Gary Benson or Jim Prince.

Cottage Landlord and Renters Guides

One area that was identified as being a concern during the Lake Plan consultation was whether cottage renters were aware of the impact that they could have on our lake environment and whether they were aware of some basic cottage “etiquette.” The opportunity was to provide support to cottage owners who rent their properties by providing them with educational materials and templates for “cottage rules” and rental agreements. A draft version of a “Cottage Landlord and Renters Guide for Cottage Owners” is available for review and comments. The target is to have the final version available early in 2009 on the www.kennisis.ca website. Anyone wishing to review or provide comments on the draft guide can contact Jeff Gardner.

Kennisis Lake Plan Update- Continued

Lake Plan Implementation Committee:

Jim Prince – Chair, Municipal Co-ordination

Jeff Gardner – Website, Landlord & Renter Guides

Chris Riddle – Editorial, Publications, TSW/CEWF Representation (Lake Levels, Navigational Hazards)

Cameron Douglas – Lake Stewardship Issues, Water Quality and Shoreline Health

Cathie Heppell – Secretary

Nancy Anderson – Volunteers

Gary Benson - Kennisis Fishery

Next Steps & Call for Help!

Implementation Committee Meeting – (Date TBA- watch the website) - All welcome!

Summer 2009 planning

Website Comments and Content

Municipal Plan and By-Law Review and Submissions from the KLCOA

Focus areas for implementation for 2009 – review priorities

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

A huge thanks to all of you who supported the Lake Plan work during its development and continued to progress the implementation activities through 2008.

It's All About the Watershed!

By Chris Riddle, Chair - Water Levels, TSW and CEWF Liaison

As of early October, the water level on Kennisis was some 5 feet below the 'top of the dam' high water mark. This is very close to the average for this time of year but almost a foot higher than in 2007.

Thanks to an agreement negotiated with the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) by the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF), weekly updates of actual water levels, along with projections of TSW target levels for two weeks ahead, have been posted on the stunning new lake plan website (www.Kennisis.ca) since late August. The water level projection information has been especially appreciated by those with docks that can get stranded in the mud when the water level drops suddenly!

Similar data for all the dam-controlled lakes in the Haliburton region has also been posted on the new CEWF website (www.cewf.ca) – check it out!

The Report of the Panel on the Future of the TSW received a lot of local coverage at the Lakeland Conference, held in Haliburton on September 27th, and in the all-candidates meetings during the federal election campaign. Your support is needed to keep the Panel's recommendations alive so that Canada's new, new government will act – please take the time to visit www.cewf.ca to sign the petition in support of the Panel's recommendations and to learn what else is new in the watershed.