



Fall/Winter 2006 Newsletter

KLCOA's 06-07 Board of Directors

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President's Message

Dear Member:

Well it's the end of another year, a year that's been warm and enjoyable. I do hope that none of you suffered too terribly from the storms we experienced this summer. I've heard that one family lost their cottage in a fire started by their generator when it was left running overnight. I do not have any confirmation on this so I don't know if it's true but I ask you all to exercise caution and prudence with your emergency equipment. Rarely used equipment that runs on fuel of any kind should be regularly checked to reduce risk when you do use it.

Again, I'm sorry for not being at the AGM this year, but I had to attend a family function in Montréal. However, the reports I've heard have been favourable.

Please take a moment to read the many good articles in the newsletter and please remember to be careful this winter.

I've just attended the Annual General Meeting for the Federation of Ontario Cottage Owners Associations (FOCA <http://www.foca.on.ca/>) and Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation (WRAFT). I'm going to provide you with a synopsis of these meetings, but if you have a questions please contact me.

Ontario's Lake Partner Programme (http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/water/lake_partner/index.htm)

Our results for Total Phosphorus are at the same and below last year's level at the 2 sites (respectively). We seem to have very sporadic sampling for secchi disk over the past several years, so we need to look at this. The data for this year should be posted by year's end.

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Let me introduce myself!

I'm the new editor of the newsletter. I've been cottaging on Little KENNISIS Lake for 16 years with my extended family. Should you have any items for the newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me at dssa@sympatico.ca

This newsletter will be arriving in your mailbox in the midst of the holiday season. On behalf of the KLCOA Board of Directors, I would like to wish you and your family good health and happiness for 2007.

Sheelagh Lawrance
Newsletter Editor

Invading species:

For those of you concerned about invading species there is a website <http://www.invadingspecies.com/> and hot line 1-800-563-7711 to help you follow best practices so as not to introduce new species to our area.

WRAFT (<http://www.wraft.com/home.html>):

The membership has asked that KLCOA join WRAFT and become involved. WRAFT is now in its 3rd year and growing. They have decided that 1) representing waterfront property owners will always fall on deaf ears; and 2) as the Auditor General of Ontario pointed out, the whole system is flawed. WRAFT already represents about 50,000 households. To that end, they've have joined the Coalition after Property Tax Reform <http://www.captr.org/> so that together they now represent over 800,000 property owners across Ontario. The main proposition of CAPTR is that assessments should be capped at 5% per annum to reduce volatility, except when major renovations are done or when a property is sold. Peter Tomlinson of the University of Toronto gave a very detailed and knowledgeable speech about assessment methods in the United States, across Canada and even in some European countries. To summarize, every jurisdiction that has gone to a capped assessment approach has stayed with it. The idea that Current Market Assessments (CMAs) are efficient is flawed in that it is effectively a reverse wealth tax; that is the property tax is a larger percentage of the total tax paid by low income households than for higher income households (this may not apply to all house & cottage owners) and so having such a volatile tax make-up, a large portion of the households' total tax bill is in fact punitive to low income households.

Note: It was pointed out that the moratorium on CMVs does not apply to new construction and renovations.

Limerick Waterways Ratepayers Association <http://lwra.limericklake.com/>:

Every year FOCA gives out an award, named after its first Executive Director, to the association that continually works to improve the community and the Environment. This year the Jerry Strickland Award went to the LWRA for their continued battle against a developer who wished to re-open an agreement with the local municipality on a set-back of a planned sub-division. The LWRA and the municipality went to the Ontario Municipal Board after the developer appealed to them. It's not clear how it came to pass, but apparently the basis of the hearing was technical issues; that is not whether the wet-lands area was necessary or a correct designation, but whether it could be filled in regardless.

Ice Watch <http://www.naturewatch.ca/english/icewatch/>:

Canada's climate is changing in response to increased emissions of greenhouse gases, among other factors. But we don't know enough about how the climate will change in different regions of Canada, or how ecosystems will react to the change. Accurately recording and analyzing "ice on" and "ice off" events (also known as ice phenology) offers one practical way to learn how climate change is affecting our environment. If anyone would like to participate, please visit the webpage.

Summer Storms <http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/>:

Geoff Coulson from Environment Canada gave an excellent presentation on lessons learned from the summer storms. Many of us are wondering whether summer storms getting more severe but he could not answer that as they're still analyzing the data. He emphasized that while only a few storms a year are labeled severe, they can all be fatally dangerous. He recommends that we all take each storm seriously and protect ourselves. As part of his presentation he talked about the 10 confirmed tornados across central Ontario from the Summer Storms and an eleventh was added a few weeks ago for Kennisis as an un-confirmed candidate. If you believe you saw a tornado or know of evidence of please call Geoff Coulson at 416-739-4466 or [email:geoff.coulson@ec.gc.ca](mailto:geoff.coulson@ec.gc.ca).

Environment Canada is also advising that all remote homes and cottages should have a weather radio that can run on batteries. I talked later with Geoff about a weather radio coverage hole that exists over the Algonquin, Haliburton and Hastings area and what we can do to fill it. I'll update you in the next newsletter on the Tornado and the Weather radio network.

If anyone would like more information than I've quickly presented here I have pamphlets and some summary information from the sessions. I'll also see what information pamphlets we can give out in the spring.

Duncan M^cCallum
President, KLCOA
416-225-8945
705-754-3920

NORAH'S ISLAND UPDATE

A message of thanks from your KLCOA President:

On behalf of all KLCOA Members I would first extend the biggest heartfelt thank-you of all to Bruce Carruthers, the owner/donor of Norah's Island. ***Bruce: Thank you for this legacy gift, a gift that will be measured in generations, by all cottagers, residents, and visitors to Kennisis Lake.*** Secondly, thank-you to all who have pledged your dollars to help make this partnership work. Thank you all for making this project happen! On behalf of KLCOA I also express thanks to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. *We are proud that your first land acquisition will be on Kennisis Lake. May our unique partnership last forever and act as a model for many other lake associations.* Also, to the incredible ***Elderberries***, thank-you for creating a unique fundraiser, to help with the efforts. And last, but in no way least to Shirlee Weeks and Jeff Pinkney who continue to lead this campaign and the development of this partnership for the KLCOA, thank-you for bringing this project home.

Duncan McCallum - President, KLCOA

The Lands Committee activity regarding Bullfrog Bay, Blueberry Islands, and the Soap Pond have been suspended until the Lake Plan Steering Committee delivers its results, and KLCOA advises continued action. As such, the Norah's Island Campaign has dominated your Lands Committee Agenda this past summer and fall.

Thank-you to the amazing 82 pledgees that have come forward so-far to support this effort!! Please consider joining the list to help make KLCOA's part of the partnership possible. With your pledge, Norah's Island (our lake's biggest island – 22 acres) will become a wilderness area where you are welcome.

At the KLCOA Spring meeting this past May, Bruce Carruthers, owner of Norah's Island addressed his fellow KLCOA members and indicated his intentions to donate the island to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust so that it will be kept as an undisturbed wilderness area in perpetuity. After a rousing standing ovation from the overflowing crowd in attendance, the following motion was unanimously passed by the KLCOA membership:

Motion: THAT the KLCOA membership endorse continued discussions between KLCOA Lands Committee and the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) to finalize the details of a partnership between these two organizations and the property owner/donor, with a view to approving the final agreement either at the Fall 2006 AGM or the Spring 2007 members' meeting; THAT the association support the renaming of the island to Norah's Island; THAT the island (Con 4 pt lot 13 to 14pt island) be added to the KLCOA Lands Committee portfolio as custodians thereof; and THAT the Committee be allowed to spearhead a fundraising effort to raise \$50,000 for Lake Kennisis Projects.

Since then representatives from KLCOA and HHLT have put together a Draft Management Agreement (see it at: www.klcoa.org - your comments are welcome) setting the stage for a long, friendly and mutually beneficial partnership. Over the winter KLCOA will submit the Draft Agreement to our lawyer and to our insurance agent for review. HHLT will do same with their advisors. KLCOA Membership will be asked to approve final draft at Spring meeting 2007 at which point formal ratification of this agreement can occur between KLCOA and HHLT.

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Norah's Island Update continued.....

Letters of thank-you have been sent to all pledges asking that you make your payment directly payable to the: **Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT)**. HHLT will send each donor a charitable tax receipt.

Results have been nothing short of amazing - So far 82 individuals and families have come forward. Our goal is 100 + donors. We have raised \$39,000 toward our goal of \$50,000. We ask that you please join this growing list – and add your family's name to the list of pledgees.

Some notes from Bruce Carruthers:

"...for the KLCOA members here is a quick picture of where we are. Brent [Dr. Brent Wootton of HHLT] completed the application and Norah's Island will be a "Managed Forest" for 2007. His application to Environment Canada has achieved qualification of the island as "Ecologically Sensitive Land". HHLT has engaged an appraiser as required by Environment Canada to determine the fair market value of the island. The Geographic Names Board will do their initial review of the Norah's Island naming application in October.

As I said before, I was overwhelmed at the KLCOA meeting in May and continue to be by the success of the fundraising efforts on behalf of HHLT. I appreciate not only the financial support, but all the work involved in designing a management plan for the island with HHLT.

My only message is a huge thank you to all the pledgees."

Your comments and questions are welcome. - Pledges can be sent or called in to either Shirlee or Jeff.

How to Make a Pledge

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 (min. \$20 for a tax receipt to be issued

Your comments and questions are welcome. - Pledges can be sent or called in to either Shirlee or Jeff.

Shirlee Weeks, KLCOA Vice President - e-mail: chris.weeks@sympatico.ca
(705) 754-1878

Jeff Pinkney, KLCOA Lands Committee Chair -e-mail: ppinkney1@cogeco.ca
(705) 745-2124

KLCOA Lake Plan Status

Lake Plan Update

Consultation Process

The Lake Plan Steering Committee is aiming to have a **Draft Lake Plan** ready for presentation to the KLCOA Membership at its' 07 spring meeting. The feedback we get from the members will help shape the final version that we will ask you to confirm at the 07 AGM. We have made every effort, since we started this Planning process to consult as widely as possible with you, the Municipality, Provincial Ministries and businesses.

WE WANT THIS PLAN TO BE A TRUE REFLECTION OF THE WISHES OF THE MAJORITY OF STAKEHOLDERS WITH DUE CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO THE NEEDS AND WANTS OF SPECIFIC INTEREST GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS.

This is a challenge we are very mindful of. So, this past summer we held 12 "Public Workshops" for cottagers. We presented a number of options to address the issues raised by you though the **Survey** of cottagers. Those who attended were asked for their reactions to the options and were asked for their ideas of other options that should be considered for inclusion in the Lake Plan. The minutes of these workshops are available on line through the KLCOA website following the links to the Lake Plan, or Cathie Heppell @ bccgheppell@yahoo.ca 905 775 2332.

The major topic areas included:

- Land Management.....Chair, Cameron Douglas @ Cameron@wuomi.ca 705 745 3711
- Municipal Services.....Chair, Cameron Douglas
- Natural Environment.....Chair, Jim Prince @ jimprince@sympatico.ca 416 532 5307
- Education.....Chair, Jeff Gardner @ jeffgardner@sympatico.ca 905 372 0883
- Quality of Life.....Chair, Paul Potter @ flajeune@ca.ibm.com 905 472 1303

Water Levels

Water levels are an important issue for many. Consequently, we are actively participating in the recently formed Coalition for Equitable Water Flow, a group made up of representatives from the lakes on the Trent-Severn system. The Coalition is working for improvements in the management of the Trent Severn Waterway system. We will report on its progress in May.

Maps

The Lake Plan process will be developing a set of maps that include significant features and local names (yes the road names will be included). If you would like to advise us of anything you would like to see on the maps please email us at kennisislakeplan@sympatico.ca. One area we need help with is the **island names** – any island **owner** wishing to have their island name included on the map please advise us on.

Communications

Because Communication with you is so important, we asked, and received, from Council, a grant to allow us to use as many vehicles as possible to reach you with information and for consultation. Because we want to use these limited resources wisely, a student from Trent University is, as part of her course work, going to help us identify what we need to do to **gain wide-spread agreement, and active support, from all property owners, business owners and levels of Government, for the Plan.**

The Trent student, who is working with us, is Katherine Garrah. We are very pleased to have Katie on board as she comes to us with experience and enthusiasm. You may get a call from Katie over the winter asking for your opinions on how to most effectively get everyone working together to make the Plan a reality.

We hope you all have a wonderful winter. We look forward to hearing from you and presenting our Draft Plan to you in May.

Ron Butcher,
Chair, KLCOA Lake Plan Steering Committee,
ronbutcher@rogers.com
416 699 1075

Lake Plan Steering Committee Members:

Ron Butcher – Chair

Ann Vanstone

Cameron Douglas

Cathie Heppell

Chris Riddle

Grif Speers

Jan Townley

Jeff Gardner

Jim Prince

John Cooke

Nancy Anderson

Paul Potter

Peter Schleifenbaum

Minutes of the KLCOA AGM

**Minutes of the 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 September 2, 2006 at 9:30am**

1. President's Remarks

President Duncan McCallum was absent from the meeting, attending a family function in Montréal. Steve Ashfield, Immediate Past President, stepped in to chair the meeting at Mr. McCallum's request. A quorum being present, Mr. Ashfield called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Mr. Ashfield welcomed the members and outlined the agenda for the meeting. The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Mr. Ashfield noted that the minutes of the member's meeting held on Saturday May 20, 2006 were posted on the KLCOA website.

Motion: THAT the minutes of the Spring Meeting held on Saturday May 20, 2006 be approved as presented.
Proposed: Murray Wigmore
Seconded: Bob Kruger
Carried: Unanimous

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tony Lepine reported that the books have just been audited and stated that there is currently a balance of about \$9920 in the bank. Mr. Lepine commented that he is still waiting for an invoice with regard to the 2006 swimming.

4. Membership Report

Membership Director Cathie Heppell reported that there are currently 488 members, including 15 new members, seven of whom are from the West Shore. Ms. Heppell noted that we need to get in touch with new cottage owners.

ACTION: Cathie Heppell will ensure that all local realtors have a supply of KLCOA newsletters and membership application forms.

Motion: THAT the next newsletter be sent to every cottage owner for environment and cottage information.
Proposed: Lesley Lepine
Seconded: June Pinkney-Hunter
Carried: Unanimous

5. Lake Plan

Ron Butcher reported that there were 12 workshops held this summer between July 15 and August 12. The lake plan committees are looking for input and opinions to form the foundation of the Lake Plan. A draft plan is being developed and will be presented at the KLCOA Spring Meeting in May 2007. Mr. Butcher asked that we get more people involved to make the Lake Plan a representation of all members on the lake. Mr. Butcher also noted that they are learning from other lake plans. One suggestion was to put a map of the lake at the marina showing all roads around the lake.

6. KLCOA Lands

Jeff Pinkney was unavailable to attend the AGM and sent his report on KLCOA Lands in writing. In his report, Mr. Pinkney noted that until the membership of KLCOA has approved the Lake Plan in May 2007, responsibility for Blueberry Island, Soap pond (Lypsy Bay) and Bullfrog Bay will continue to rest with the KLCOA Lands Committee.

7. KLCOA Clean-up Day

The annual Island Clean-up Day was held on July 29, 2006 and had the best turnout ever. Mr. Ashfield thanked the Fiorini family, the Marina and Dwain at the dump, as well as all the volunteers, for their yearly assistance.

8. Report on Norah's Island

Shirlee Weeks reported that Jeff Pinkney and she met with two members of the Board of Directors for (HHLT) Haliburton Highlands Land Trust to draw up a draft agreement between HHLT and KLCOA on the management and uses of Norah's Island. Ms. Weeks reported that as of September 2, 2006, there were 57 Pledges for Norah's Island.

Ms. Weeks noted that Mr. Pinkney requested that KLCOA thank the following for their support of Norah's Island:

Bruce Carruthers;
 Cheryl Mahood & Kennisis Lake Store for hosting our display;
 Jeanne, Mike and Doug Mahood for allowing our display at the Regatta;
 Dwain at the dump for allowing the sign for Norah's Island;
 Shirlee Weeks and Jeff Pinkney for negotiating on behalf of KLCOA;
 Isabel Boardman for giving the Elderberry tour of the Island;
 Johan & Caren Van't Hof for their advisory assistance; and
 all those who have pledged.

9. Committee Briefs

SWIMMING

Stephanie Clarke updated the members on this year's swimming programme. It was a great year with 90 children taking part in three, two week programs. There were 2 instructors.

REGATTA/ SAILING/ FIREWORKS

Steve Ashfield reported that fireworks went off as planned. Mr. Ashfield said that the Federal Government is changing regulations and noted that he will report back to the membership in the Spring once he knows whether this will affect the way KLCOA does Canada Day fireworks.

Cindy Burley reported on the Regatta and noted that there was a great turnout despite the power outage. Mrs. Burley thanked Jeanne and Mike and Doug Mahood for the use of the Marina, as well as all the volunteers without whom there would be no Regatta. Mrs. Burley also advised the membership that the 50th Anniversary of Kennisis Lake Regatta will be held in 2008. The Regatta Committee is looking for ideas and thoughts on how to celebrate this milestone. Mrs. Burley requested that anyone who has pictures they want to share please contact her, Steve Ashfield or Shirlee Weeks.

Jim Prince reported that the Sailing Regatta took place August 06, 2006 with 6 vessels registered. Mr. Prince noted that he is always looking for more participants for next year. The 2007 Regatta will held on the Sunday of Regatta weekend, i.e. August 5th.

ROCK BASS TOURNAMENT

Keith Rodd reported a very successful turnout this year with 28 teams and 320 LBS of rock bass. The winners in the "12 and Under" category are Laura and Jessica Neeley, while the winners in the "Over 12" category were Mike and Zak Neeley.

ROADS

The Roads Committee, comprised of Gary C. Benson and Fred Musinka, was not present but their written report was submitted to and read by Mr. Ashfield as follows:

"I would like to thank our outgoing councilor Leon Jones for his support for our road needs on Kennisis Lake this year. Our priorities based on safety and long-range qualities are being met as finances are available. Because of the storm's damage and its financial burden some projects have been delayed, Both Fred and I usually tour all the roads with reps, but because of the storm our tour will be delayed until the Fall when hopefully all the storm consequences have been dealt with. Our tour recommendations will be given to the KLCOA President before forwarding to our new councilor. Compared to many other summer communities our summer/winter road maintenance is excellent."

COMMUNITY POLICING

Bob Kruger reported that the OPP had only one mischief call this summer and no reports of thefts or break-ins. The Marine Unit from the Orillia detachment was on the lake during the August long weekend and laid numerous charges.

FOCA

No report was presented.

FOREST UPDATE

Peter Schleiffenbaum welcomed everyone to the Seminar Room and noted that the parking for the theatre has improved. The turnout for the theatre is good and there were still tickets available at time of the AGM. Tickets are \$75 per adult. Peter also reported that two tornadoes caused damage in the Forest and that clean-up continues; Mr. Schleiffenbaum reported that the canopy system has already been rebuilt for the Walk in the Clouds tour.

10. Election of the 2006-2007 Executive & Steering Committee

Mr. Ashfield outlined the slate of candidates for the 2006-2007 KLCOA Executive Committee:

Duncan McCallum	President
Tony Lepine	Treasurer
Marie Bordeleau	Secretary
Shirlee Weeks	Vice-President
Jason Wigmore	Vice President
Steve Ashfield	Immediate Past President

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The slate of appointed members for the 2006-2007 KLCOA Steering Committee was presented as follows:

Steve Ashfield/Cindy Burley	Co-chairs, Regatta	Steve Ashfield	Chair, Fireworks
Gary Benson/Fred Musinka	Co-chairs, Roads	Ron Butcher	Chair, Lake Plan
Stephanie Clarke	Chair, Swimming	Cameron Douglas	Lake Steward
Cathie Heppell	Chair, Membership	Bob Kruger	Chair, Community Policing
Sheelagh Lawrance	Newsletter Editor	Karen Morrison-Fiorini	KLCOA Clean-up
Lawrence Petrow	Webmaster	Jeff Pinkney	Chair, KLCOA Lands
Keith Rodd	Chair, Rock Bass Derby		

Motion: THAT the slate of candidates for the Executive and its Committees be approved as presented.

Proposed: Linda Sparkin

Seconded: Ryan McCutcheon

Carried: Unanimous

11. New Business

Dump- Reports of garbage being left at dump gate again. Suggestions that all who rent should tell renter not to leave garbage at the dump gate, and for them to use the dump at dump hours.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business the Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 11:30am. The next meeting of the membership will be held at 9:30 am on Saturday May 19, 2007, with coffee being served at 9am.

Elderberries Raise funds for Norah's Island

On September 7th, 22 Elderberries arrived at 4957 Kennesis Lake Road, armed with an assortment of old house paint brushes and bags of creative enthusiasm. Their task was to paint an acrylic masterpiece and raise funds for Nora's Island.

After an agreeable supper and fortified with a glass or two of wine, these 24 non-artists set to work on a 40" x 36" canvas. Before long paint was flying in all directions as they roughed in a cobalt sky, scumbled in tall pines and balsams, scraped out elegant birch trees and bounced reflections into the water. The event was most likely the first ever mass Haliburton Paint-A-Thon - the result ended up being a vivid, ready-to-hang, Fall themed painting of the entrance way between Kennesis and Kelly Lakes.

Wilf McOstrich, an Elderberry member himself and the evening's co-host who is also a member of the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour, says, "they were the best students he has ever tried to control" And adds, "that the painting named "September Song" is a remarkable piece of work from people who have never painted anything together before". From first stroke to last, the painting was completed in less than sixty minutes. Then, creatively exhausted, the budding Rembrandts and Monets, went back to finish their wine and lay plans for an even bigger and better artwork for next year.

The painting will auctioned off at our Spring Meeting. In the meantime, to view the painting and the group of talented Elderberry artists, please visit the KLCOA website at www.KLCOA.org.

For further information please contact Wilf.McOstrich@sympatico.ca. Telephone: (416) 493-2400 or brendawatson@sympatico.ca Telephone: (705) 754-3475

Congratulations to Janis Parker!

Kennesis Lake Cottager and KLCOA Member Janis Parker is our newly elected municipal councillor for Dysart et al. Janis will be invited to speak to KLCOA members at the spring meeting.