

KLCA

Kawagama Lake Cottagers' Association

"Preserve the Heritage"

Shoreline Study

Property owners who participated in the shoreline study last summer should be receiving a letter in March with instructions on how to obtain their personalized and private report from Watersheds Canada about the health of their shoreline.

Watch for it!



Happy New Year!

The KLCA Directors wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy start to the New Year! In this Newsletter, you will find up-to-date information about the Shoreline Study, shoreline grants, water levels, dam repairs, KLCA fireworks night, the Dorset Health Hub, membership renewal and more. Read on and we hope you enjoy this issue! Don't forget to renew your membership online this year at www.klca.org. It's easy!

Upcoming Events

Dorset Snowball Feb 19 & 20

Join the fun at the 26th annual Winter Carnival.

www.dorsetsnowball.com

Starry Summer Bash Aug 20

Get ready for the 2nd annual, Moorelands Fundraiser on our lake! Live music, food, silent auction and more!

KLCA AGM July 2

Featuring a keynote speaker and an opportunity to talk to fellow cottagers, KLCA Directors and municipal leaders.



Potential Grants for Interested Landowners

Julia Sutton & Ron Schwark — Director

As property owners will recall, the KLCA undertook a shoreline study to evaluate the health of the shorelines of Kawagama and Bear Lakes last summer. As a result of that project, a total of 1,086 properties spread over 109.5 km of shoreline were studied! This year, through the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA), the KLCA has requested grants to help property owners on Kawagama and Bear Lakes restore their shoreline if needed. If the CHA is successful in obtaining funding, the KLCA will have grants available, beginning in 2016. The KLCA has asked for five grants total, two for 2016, two for 2017 and one for 2018.

The grants will be approximately \$1,400 each to help restore the shoreline. There will be a certain percentage the landowner is expected to contribute.

KLCA will announce grants when available, and any property owner that needs help can apply. The KLCA will determine successful landowners through a lottery system with details in the upcoming issue of *Reflections*.

Stay tuned for more information!



Shoreline Restoration Success

Julia Sutton & Ron Schwark — Director

In the fall of 2015, approximately 516 square feet of shoreline area was planted on the Wiebe property, in Minden Bay on Kawagama Lake, with a grant provided by the Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Recreational Fisheries Program, along with a contribution from the landowners. The grant money helped to cover the site visit, design, materials/supplies and the planting labour. More details on this project will be provided in *Reflections*.

Why restore?

Did you know that 80% to 90% of all life on Kawagama and Bear Lakes depend on the shoreline? Shorelines are often referred to as "the ribbon of life", due to the number of species that depend on them for food and habitat. In addition to providing wildlife habitat, shorelines play a key role in maintaining good water quality and protecting your property investment. They do an amazing job of slowing runoff from roads, driveways and buildings, help filter sediment and contaminants (e.g., septic tank outflow) entering the lake and help keep water temperatures cooler in the summer. Scientific studies have proven that in order to maintain water quality, 75% of the shoreline must be kept in a natural state for a minimum of 100 feet. With increasing introductions of invasive species into Ontario and a changing climate, it is becoming even more necessary to ensure our lakes are in good shape so they can be more resilient to future changes. Even small restoration projects can make a big difference.

Want to learn more about what you can do? KLCA will be providing shoreline best management practices in the 2016 issue of *Reflections*!

Dorset Community Health Hub

Stefan Szczerbak

The Dorset Community Health Hub is NOW OPEN! The grand opening will be scheduled for the Spring 2016. Stay tuned. Please be advised that donations are still required to complete the renovations. Next time you are driving through Dorset, please stop in for a tour. You will be very impressed with the building, services offered and staff. The following is some information for your interest.

Hours of Operation

Monday: 9:00 – 3:00
 Tuesday: 1:00 – 7:00
 Wednesday: 9:00 – 3:00
 Thursday: 9:00 – 3:00
 Friday: 9:00 – 12:00

Health Care Providers

Candice Bray, NP — Twelve years of experience as a Nurse Practitioner with background in primary care, community care and teaching. Candice has worked in rural communities with all patient types, including geriatric, complex, and palliative. Her depth of experience will be an asset to our Dorset community.

Katie Olson, RPN/ Admin Assistant — She is a Registered Practical Nurse who has been working in the community health setting for four years, including northern nursing stations.

For further information please visit these websites:

www.algonquinfht.ca
www.muskokacommunity.ca

Primary Care	Episodic Care
Primary Care is available for: - those who live locally and are currently without a family doctor/nurse practitioner	Episodic Care is available for: - Seasonal Visitors - Those who live locally and have a family doctor/nurse practitioner* See below.
What is Offered ✓ Support during periodic or minor illnesses and injuries ✓ Periodic health exams (i.e., physicals, immunizations, cancer screening) ✓ Management of chronic diseases (i.e., diabetes, high blood pressure or cholesterol, COPD, asthma, heart disease) Coming in the near future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> community mental health addictions outreach access to other Allied Health Professionals through the Algonquin Family Health Team and other community resources family and children's services telemedicine 	What is Offered ✓ episodic health care*, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minor illnesses (fever, cough, sore throat, bladder infection, diarrhea) minor injuries (minor cuts, scrapes, insect bites, falls) <p><i>* If you have a local doctor/nurse practitioner, we encourage you to always seek care from them first. Since they know your medical history, you will receive the best care from them.</i></p> <p><i>We may be able to help when you are unable to be seen by their office in a timely manner and for a periodic illness or injury.</i></p>

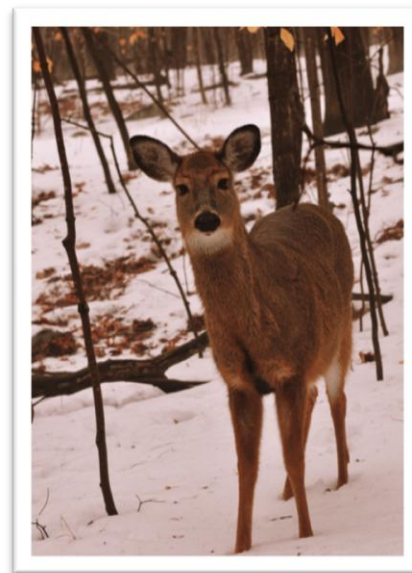
What to do in an Emergency

If you have any symptoms suggestive of a serious medical condition, or have major injuries, immediately call 9-1-1 and proceed to the nearest Emergency Department. Examples include:

- sudden or worsening chest pain
- acute severe shortness of breath
- signs suggestive of stroke (sudden difficulty speaking, weakness, visual changes, difficulty walking)
- major lacerations/bleeding, fractures, high speed injuries, falls from heights, etc.

Please call 705-766-0866 to book an appointment.

Note that the Health Hub is *not* a walk-in clinic but will be able to accommodate same-day or next-day appointments when needed for episodic illnesses and concerns. If you have any questions please call 705-766-0866.



Water Levels and Dam Update

Eric Millar — Director

What will water levels be like this spring?

Given the bizarre weather that we have been experiencing over the past weeks and months, what will happen this spring is anyone's guess. The past two winters were characterized by abnormal cold, resulting in high levels of water trapped in ice and snow throughout the Kawagama and Bear Lakes watershed. The result was an intentional delay in beginning to "fill" the lakes come late March and early April. What about this year? Clearly in early January, with record high temperatures and a green Christmas, the watershed was not retaining much water. In fact, the Hollow River in late December was running full out. The MNRF reports this January that "...the snow/water content in the snow pack is about 80% below what it was this time last year ..." Time will tell.

What's happening with the dam?

Late this past summer the MNRF announced that the repairs and reconfiguration of the dam, which originally were scheduled to take place in 2007, might be undertaken this winter. All of the preliminary work was in the process of being completed, and they were all set to go. One small detail was missing. MONEY. At the moment the project is still on hold and until funding is assured, and there is nothing new to report. Hopefully the project will move forward in the months to come, providing the work remains top priority.

Reflections 2016

Help us immortalize your memories in our yearbook! Please send us your favourite photos, stories, recipes, etc., by **Monday, March 7.**

We've received several great submissions for the "What's Your Sign" feature, but it's not too late to send in pics and stories about your own unique, beautiful, funny, or otherwise noteworthy cottage sign.

As always, art or writing by KLCA kids is very welcome, as are ideas for outdoor activities or rainy-day crafts.

Send all *Reflections* material to Sara Goodchild at reflections@klca.org, or care of KLCA at Box 98, Dorset, ON P0A 1E0. And please feel free to contact Sara any time by email or via the Facebook page if you have any questions about the yearbook.



KLCA Fireworks

Did you know the KLCA has assumed responsibility for this entertaining evening of fireworks on our beautiful lake? Join us on Sat., July 30th, for the annual, Kawagama Lake Fireworks Extravaganza! Thanks to the Old Mill Marina and Mountain Trout House Marina for all their help with this event and for many years of running this tradition. The KLCA fireworks are possible thanks to your generous, online donations at; www.klca.org. Donations can also be made at both marinas.



Website

On the Home Page of the KLCA website, you'll find links to Facebook and Twitter, more informative membership renewal options, and an announcement regarding the Annual Fireworks.

Remember — it's easy to renew your KLCA membership on-line and to donate to the annual fireworks as well! Please be sure to refer to all the useful information that can be found at www.klca.org and check back often as updates are posted regularly.



Renew Your Membership!

Please send in your renewal by APRIL 1 (no fooling!) to ensure your information will be included in *Reflections 2016*. We anticipate mailing *Reflections* before May 24th weekend so that you can enjoy it for the whole summer season!

Regatta Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer to help out at the KLCA Regatta on July 30, 2016, please let us know. We especially need BBQers!

Contact Us

To contact a member of the KLCA Executive, please send an email to info@klca.org or write to us at KLCA, Box 98, Dorset, ON. P0A 1E0. Please ensure we have your most current mailing and email addresses on file in order to receive updates.

Thanks!

Thanks go to Mike Baum, James VanDerToorn, Paul Gabura, Melissa Slade and Brenda Norfolk for the beautiful photos in this issue!

The Value of KLCA Membership

Kawagama Lake Cottagers' Association membership is open to any permanent or seasonal resident of Kawagama or Bear Lakes. A vibrant membership will provide a strong and clear voice for sustaining and preserving the lakes for current and future generations. **Your membership makes these programs possible:**

Lake Plan Management: Working with various environmental and government agencies, we influence policies regarding water quality, fisheries, lake levels and shoreline protection.

Political Advocacy: We represent our members at township and county government meetings, on various provincial ministry councils and other non-government groups such as FOCA, CHA and other Lake Associations, on matters of concern to our members and any issues that will affect the well being of our lakes.

Boating: We monitor, assess and make recommendations for recreational and safety issues on the lake and adjacent lands. Navigational maps are available at both marinas. In addition to sponsoring safe boating instruction, the association also ensures that we **install and maintain water navigational markers** for your safety.

Planned Development: The association tracks proposed development in the area, and actively participates in the planning process when the interests of Kawagama and Bear Lake cottagers and residents are concerned.

Environmental Awareness: KLCA supports members with a depth of educational materials regarding environmentally responsible

choices for cleaning products, natural plantings, shoreline restoration, landscaping, and septic system management.

Financial Support of Programs: KLCA makes significant contributions in support of local activities and programs such as, but not limited to, Dorset Firefighters, Dorset Community Partnership Group, FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers), CHA (Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners), local disaster relief, Kawagama/Bear Lake Fireworks event and other various community initiatives.

Reflections: Our Annual Yearbook that comes with every membership.

The Annual General Meeting: Held in July at the Dorset Recreation Centre, this event gives members the opportunity to meet with the executive team, friends and neighbours. It features a keynote speaker on a relevant and timely topic.

Winter Newsletter and Summer Newsflashes: An annual update of our current KLCA initiatives and events are found in the newsletter and the summer newsflashes are shorter, emailed updates.

Website: www.klca.org provides the most current information on our initiatives and events. It also links to important sites of interest to cottagers/residents. You can even link to a web cam and weather sites in the local area.

Annual Regatta: Fun activities for the whole family! Swim and canoe races, beach program for kids, trophies, food, prizes.... Check the website for time, date and details.

Fireworks: Professional fireworks display on the Saturday of the August long week-end. Enjoy from your boat!

