

Renew for 2018 Now! — It's time to renew your KLCA Membership for 2018 in order to receive your copy of *Reflections* mailed directly to your home. Please go to, www.KLCA.org and click on "Renew" or complete the last page of this newsflash and mail it via Canada Post by March 30, 2018.

Presidents Message— Happy New Year!

I want to welcome you to our first Newsflash for 2018 and remind everyone that your cottage association continues to work year-round looking out for your Kawagama and Bear Lake interests and concerns.

Our ongoing lake activities include; setting and maintaining a navigation system, monitoring and liaising with MNRF about lake levels, sampling lake water to measure nutrient concentrations (total phosphorus, TP, and calcium, Ca) [Lake Partner Program](#), working with MNRF to maintain health fish populations, and monitoring lake development and variance requests.

On the social side of things, our annual AGM will be at the Dorset Rec Center on Saturday, July 7th from 10 am until noon. We'll keep the business portion of the meeting to half hour so that we may focus on our guest speaker's topic; "How climate change is affecting our lake".

Our annual Regatta will be held on Saturday August 4th, at Moorelands camp, starting at 11 am. Fireworks will follow at dusk in Marina bay. More on these events in future Newsflashes.

Thank you for continuing to support your Lake Association by renewing your membership each year. You may also wish to consider joining the Board or one of our committees (see "About Us" on the website).

Best wishes and I hope to see you around the lake,

Jim Kaufman, President

Last Call for Submissions to Reflections 2018 — Do you have any cottage related photos, stories, poems, recipes, or activities that others might enjoy? Please send anything that you'd like to see included in Reflections 2018 to Julie at reflections@klca.org by February 28th. Then watch your mailbox in May!

Ice Fishing with Kids — Ice fishing is one of the fun pastimes of winter cottaging that I enjoy and am trying to share with my eight-year-old daughter. Despite the cold temperatures, it can be a great activity to do with friends or kids. As any parent knows, starting a new activity with kids can be challenging as they can become impatient, bored, frustrated.

Here are some tips on how to make ice fishing fun with kids:

- Start with short trips out onto the ice. It may take you an hour to set up, and an hour to take down the activity and you may only get an hour of 'fishing' time with the kids. It may be best to start ice fishing somewhere close to the cottage so it is easy to retreat to the safety of the indoors when needed.
- Keep it fun. If they are not having fun, neither will you and it will not leave them with a good memory or desire to come back again. For little kids, remember to bring shovels so they can dig in the snow while waiting for the fish to bite. Teach them about the fish. Encourage them to explore around the fishing site. Sometimes we build a fire on the ice to roast hot dogs or marshmallows, which is great fun for kids.
- Prepare ahead of time. Get gear ready and pre-tie lines at home.
- Keep warm and dry. Don't go out if the temperatures are too extreme as the added wind on the lake will make it seem even colder. Dress properly to start and bring a change of socks/clothes. Inevitably someone will step into a hole and get their feet wet so be prepared.
- Drill holes 10 to 15 feet apart (one line per hole). This way everyone is close by but their lines will not get tangled.
- BRING FOOD! It will keep them warm and entertained.

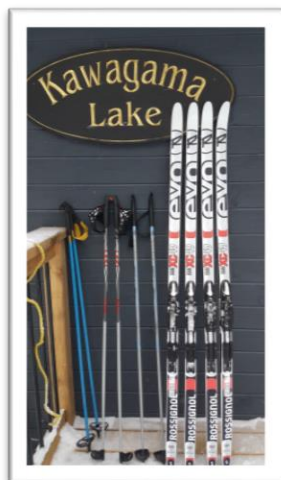


In addition to these tips, remember to follow these ice fishing rules:

- Have a valid fishing licence (e.g., sport or conservation).
- Follow the rules when using fishing lines.
- Only one line may be used when angling through the ice.
- Lake Trout – can't keep any between 40-55 cm (15.7-21.7 in.).
- You can't bring any device that uses a mechanical spring to set the fishing hook (other than a fishing rod under tension).

Happy Fishing!

Adam Pifko, Fishing Director



All About Ice —

Ice can be Uneven

- Remember, ice doesn't freeze at a uniform thickness.
- Near-shore ice is often much thicker and safer than ice farther out, especially at the start of the winter season.
- Check thickness regularly with a spud bar or auger as you move farther out.
- Ice that formed over flowing water, springs, pressure cracks, old ice holes or around the mouths of rivers and streams can be weaker than surrounding ice.

Ice has Different Colours

- Clear blue ice is the strongest.
- White or opaque ice is much weaker.
- Stay away from ice that looks honeycombed, common during thaws or in the spring.

Driving on Ice

- Be careful when driving snowmobiles or vehicles over frozen lakes or rivers.
- Snowmobiles need at least 20 centimetres (8 inches) of clear blue ice.
- Light vehicles need 30 centimetres (12 inches) or more.
- Double the thickness if the ice is white or opaque.
- Heavy snow on a frozen lake or river slows down the freezing process.

Before you venture out

- Check ice conditions with local ice hut operators or other anglers.
- Let others know where you're planning to fish and when you plan to return.
- Wear appropriate clothing and equipment for safety and comfort.

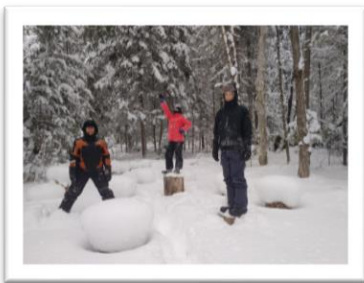
Thank You!— The KLCA would like to say a big Thank You to Pat Boyd who volunteered on the KLCA Board of Directors for the past 13 years. During this time, Pat has enjoyed contributing to the KLCA's success and seeing it grow and develop to a strong community that has garnered not only support from our members, but political support as well. Pat will always have fond memories of her involvement – from launching FOCA's new program Docktalk, in 2005, to taking on Director of the Environment for two years, to being a member of the Lake Committee, to co-editing *Reflections* for four years, to chairing the Logo Committee, to managing the website for almost ten years which included a massive overhaul, to being Board Secretary since 2012, plus, plus. We thank you Pat and we wish you all the best in your other volunteer commitments!

Welcome! — The KLCA would like to extend a warm welcome to Doug Clare who was elected to the Board in the role of Secretary. Doug has been a cottager all his life, starting at Lake Simcoe as a child eventually coming to Kawagama in 1979 through meeting his wife. He quite enjoys renovations, in particular working on the cottage while enjoying cottage life.



Biodiversity and Climate Change — FOCA, as members of the Ontario Biodiversity Council, has worked with their colleagues on the challenge of effectively communicating biodiversity and climate change. This new report, *Communicating Biodiversity and Climate Change*, by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, should provide some useful ideas! Click here to read the 54-page report. [Biodiversity and Climate Change](#).

Sharing Cottage Dreams — For over 14 years, Cottage Dreams has been helping cancer survivors and their families to share treasured time together. Over 10,000 families have been placed in cottage stays, generously donated by their owners. On this link, please find the “Cottage Dreams November Newsletter”, which includes a call for volunteer support of this wonderful organization. [Cottage Dreams](#).



Member Benefits — Do you know that if you are a KLCA member, you are automatically a FOCA member too? There are discounts, special offers and more! Review the information, here: <https://foca.on.ca/benefits/>.

Why do Lake Associations Matter? — What can they do for you? Find out in this beautiful short film (5 minutes). Click to view. [Lake Associations Video](#)

Broad-Scale Bulletin — In 2008 the Ministry of Natural Resources implemented the Ecological Framework for Fisheries Management. The primary objectives of this framework are to improve the sustainability of fisheries, to involve the public in fisheries management, and provide better service with simpler fishing regulations.

To support these goals the ministry created a broad-scale monitoring program. This monitoring program evaluates Ontario fisheries on a broad scale, by collecting samples from a representative number of lakes in a standardized way. The samples collected include information about fish species, water characteristics, and invasive species. These samples are gathered over a 5-year period. As part of the second cycle of broad-scale monitoring between 2013 and 2017, Kawagama Lake was selected as part of the sample group for zone 15. The following is the summary bulletin for Kawagama.

Broad-scale Fisheries Monitoring Program Bulletin

KAWAGAMA LAKE - FMZ 15 - 2013-2017

Kawagama Lake facts

Location: SHERBORNE
 Surface area: 3150 ha
 Maximum depth: 77.0 m
 Average depth: n/a
 Water clarity: 4.9 m

Monitoring activities

- Fish netting
- Fish contaminants
- Zooplankton
- Water chemistry
- Bathymetry
- Water temperature/dissolved oxygen
- Aquatic invasive species

Netting summary

Netting period: Aug 19 to Sep 3 2015
 Number of nets set: 46
 Number of fish species caught: 11

About Broad-scale Fisheries Monitoring

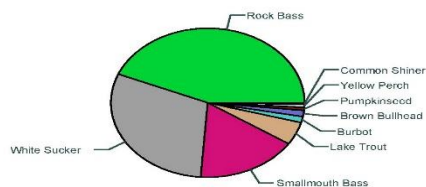
The Broad-scale Fisheries Monitoring program collects information from representative lakes in fisheries management zones across the province to help biologists manage our fisheries effectively. This bulletin provides a snapshot of recent monitoring activities and netting results. The sampling approach allows us to measure and evaluate the health of Ontario's lakes and their fish communities, and track changes through time over broad areas of Ontario. To learn more about the sampling program visit [Methods for monitoring fish populations](#).

Fish netting results

Fish populations were surveyed using large and small mesh nets to provide information on fish species present and their characteristics, such as growth, age, and abundance. The catch data (depicted in the chart below) show that 9 species were surveyed in large mesh nets. Additional fish species observed in small mesh nets were Bluntnose Minnow and Rainbow Smelt.

Fish species	Total catch %	Maximum length (cm)	Minimum length (cm)	Average length (cm)
Rock Bass	44	22.3	10.4	15.8
White Sucker	30	58.0	18.0	45.4
Smallmouth Bass	17	47.0	16.5	27.1
Lake Trout	5	54.5	19.5	35.6
Burbot	1	41.0	33.5	37.1
Brown Bullhead	1	23.0	16.0	21.0
Pumpkinseed	< 1	16.5	15.5	16.0
Yellow Perch	< 1	16.5	16.0	16.3
Common Shiner	< 1	14.5	14.5	14.5

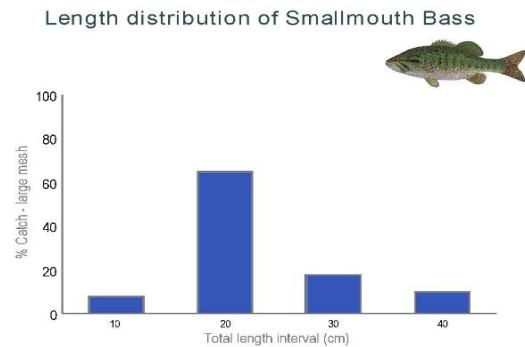
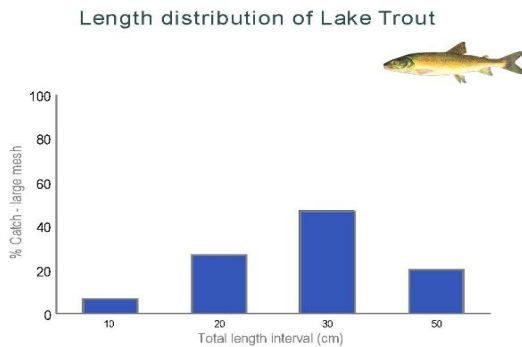
Proportion of fish caught in large mesh nets



ontario.ca/fishing



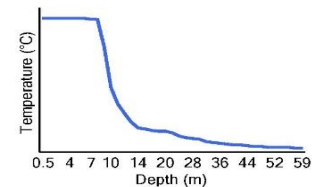
Further analysis conducted by the ministry during this study suggested that a large population of the Lake Trout found in Kawagama are considered to be “small-bodied” based on the species potential growth. The study suggests that this is due to the feed availability in the lake. The majority of the fish in the lake are found to have a fork length of 350-500 mm. This converts to roughly a total length of 400-550 mm, which aligns perfectly with the slot-length limit set out by the ministry for Kawagama lake. Now that the ministry is aware of this information there is an opportunity to adjust fishing regulations to make them more suitable for the fish population in our lake.



Catch results are presented in 10-cm length intervals, labelled with the lower limit (e.g., the "20 cm" interval represents fish between 20 cm and 29 cm). The size of Lake Trout ranged from 19 to 54 cm and the size of Smallmouth Bass ranged from 16 to 47 cm in large mesh nets.

Water chemistry and temperature

Water samples were collected in May 2014 and sent to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for analysis. Water temperature, oxygen levels, and water transparency were measured in August 2015. The graph shows the temperature of Kawagama Lake with increasing depth. The temperature at the surface was 20.7 degrees Celsius and declined to 4.5 degrees Celsius at the bottom of the lake.



As further information becomes available I will be keeping the KLCA membership informed.

Adam Pifko, Fishing Director

Benefits 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 wellbeing 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, the association 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 and Summer Newsflashes: Emailed out five times per year, these provide information on current KLCA initiatives and events.

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.



Just a reminder that you are receiving this email because you have given permission on the annual KLCA renewal form. If you no longer wish to receive our emails, please send a message to: membership@klca.org with the subject line "unsubscribe."

KAWAGAMA LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION
2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM
Box 98 Dorset, Ont. P0A 1E0
membership@klca.org
www.klca.org

BE SURE TO RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF REFLECTIONS EARLY & STAY INFORMED ...
RENEW FOR MULTIPLE YEARS ----- ALSO, YOU CAN RENEW ONLINE IF YOU PREFER
___ 1 YR. [\$45.] ___ 2 YRS. [\$90.] ___ 3 YRS. [\$135.] ___ 5 YRS. [\$225.]

NAME: _____
Last First

SPOUSE/PARTNER: _____
Last First

ADDRESS: _____
Street City/Town

Prov./State _____ Postal Code/Zip Code: _____

Cottage Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Res: _____

Cottage Address: _____
911# & Street Township

Email Addresses:
1. _____
2. _____

DONATIONS:
I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO SUPPORT FIREWORKS: \$ _____ KLCA PROGRAMS: \$ _____
Please make cheques payable to the KLCA

Anti Spam Requirements – [Please check appropriate boxes below and sign if you have chosen “yes”]
Freedom of Information Legislation requires your permission to publish personal information. **We must have your signature to publish your contact information in Reflections.**
Canada’s anti-spam legislation [CASL] requires your consent for the KLCA to send you unsolicited updates electronically. [Updates are not sent in hard copy form]. You may opt out at any time by contacting us at www.klca.org

I consent to my name, address, and phone #'s being published in Reflections. YES _____ NO _____
Would you like to receive the 2018 Newsletter, membership renewal, correspondence and alerts from KLCA by email? YES ___ NO ___ [Saying no means you will not receive “Newsflashes”]

Please sign to authorize both of the above _____

VOLUNTEERING: [Please indicate what areas of interest & time availability you might have.]

NAME: _____ AREA OF INTEREST: _____