

KLCA

“Preserve the Heritage”

Reflections 2015

It's that time again! Send us your favourite photos, stories, recipes, poems etc. by **Monday, March 9**.

If you are stuck for ideas, consider sending us a story of your trip to (or from) the cottage. Tell us the story of your worst drive up ever, or your best! Is there

a special place you always stop? Do you take an unusual route? Have you ever ridden your bike up, or do you fly up in a plane? Did you ever have guests who were spectacularly lost? Short or long, funny or hair-raising, we want your stories! As always, art or writing by KLCA kids is most welcome, as are ideas for the outdoors or rainy-day crafts.

Send all *Reflections* material to

Sara Goodchild at

reflections@klca.org or 211 Glenlake Ave. Toronto, ON.

M6P 1E9.



President's Message

John McHardy (KLCA President)

Greetings and on behalf of the Kawagama Lake Cottagers' Association Board of Directors, I hope this Newsletter finds your 2015 off to a terrific start! Mother Nature and the weather people are serving up a winter that is certainly different from last year – we got mega dumps of snow in November with accumulations of close to two feet at the Lake only to have it disappear in time for almost a green Christmas. What is consistent though is how hard the KLCA Executive has been working on your behalf.

Upcoming Events

Dorset Snowball

Feb 20 & 21

Join the fun at the 25th annual Winter Carnival.

www.dorsetsnowball.com

Poker Rally

Feb 14

A snowmobile fun run, which starts out at the Lions Club in Dorset.

www.tallpines.org

KLCA AGM

July 4

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



President's Message (continued)

This Newsletter is an opportunity to update you on a few of these initiatives:

OPP Funding Model - Late February 2014, the KLCA became aware of the potential impact (large property tax increases) that would result from changes to the way in which the OPP bills for the services they provide to rural communities such as Algonquin Highlands and Dysart et al Townships. Initial estimates indicated approximately \$ 5.2 million would be added to the County OPP Bill of \$ 3.3 million for the same policing services. It is important to note this was an increase initiated by the Ontario government and totally beyond the control of the County and Townships. It simply would not be possible for them to absorb this and it would have to be passed along to property owners in the form of significant tax increases.

The KLCA Executive decided that, although political in nature, this was an issue we simply needed to get involved in and lobby on your behalf. Working with the CHA, Townships and the County levels of government we promoted a letter writing campaign in which we asked you to voice your concerns to your MPPs, supported the May Day of Action organized by the four Townships and County and developed alternative billing models which showed how flawed the proposed model was.

I was asked to join a team from the County and make a presentation voicing our concerns to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services (responsible for the OPP). I am very pleased to report that during the meeting the Minister said he clearly got the message there was a problem – your letters and emails helped make a difference !

The Bottom Line is that, through everyone's

efforts, the proposed changes to the OPP Funding Model were modified and the increase to the County OPP Bill will be slightly over \$ 3 million instead of over \$ 5 million. This will result in painful tax increases, the size of which has yet to be determined by the Townships, but they will be 40 % less than if nothing had been done.

Communication (Cell) Towers – Bell Mobility has proposed erecting an 80 metre (262 feet) tall cell tower near the junction of Bear Lake and Livingstone Lake Roads. Given that the tower would be three kilometers from the nearest shoreline of either Bear or Kawagama and should not be visible to any cottager on these lakes, the KLCA Executive initially felt that we did not have any involvement. It will, however, be very visible to many of the cottagers on nearby Fletcher Lake.

I attended the public meeting conducted by Bell's agent CanACRE Ltd. during which an alternative site was identified to CanACRE which would reduce the impact to Fletcher Lake cottagers, have no visual impact to Bear and Kawagama Lake cottagers, and provide the same benefits to enhancing cell coverage.

In response to CanACRE's reluctance to accept this site, the KLCA made a formal submission advocating for the alternate site. Bell has yet to return to Algonquin Highlands Township Council seeking its endorsement for either location and we continue to monitor the process.

Rogers Mobility is looking to erect three cell towers around Kawagama: 1) 100 metres away from the existing Bell monopine, 2) Maple Ridge, and 3) near the East River. Rogers has respected the Township Communication Tower policy (a policy we advocated for) and is looking to erect monopine towers (disguised as large pine trees). We have been discussing these with Rogers and have learned that the existing Bell monopine will not support co-location of another carrier's antennas (i.e., Rogers') given its height (30 metres) and the manner in which Bell has deployed its equipment.

Rogers appears to be in agreement with the KLCA request its monopines be limited to 35 metres in

President's message (continued)

height with branches extending down in to the surrounding tree tops and that antennas be deployed in a more co-location friendly manner. Rogers will be returning to Algonquin Highlands Township Council for endorsement next month and we are monitoring the process.

Septic Re-Inspections – as covered in Ron Schwark's (Director of the Environment) report, responsibility for septic inspections was transferred from the Haliburton, Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit to the Township level of government (Algonquin Highlands and Dysart et al) effective July 2014. I am very pleased to report that at the January 15, 2015 Council meeting attended by Ron and myself, Algonquin Highlands Township Council passed a resolution committing to the development of a mandatory septic re-inspection program. This is something that the KLCA in conjunction with the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (www.cohpoa.org) has been lobbying for on our members' behalf.

There is much work to be done to develop and implement such a program but this is a huge milestone and is so important in helping to maintain the pristine water quality we currently enjoy. While the program is being developed, attention will be placed on septic systems identified in a previous study (conducted between 2001 and 2005) as substandard and yet to have deficiencies resolved.

Reflections and Monthly Newsflashes – Sara Goodchild, Reflections Director, produced another outstanding edition of Reflections this year. It was almost 200 pages in size and is a very professional looking yearbook of cottage life on Kawagama and Bear Lakes. If you are a member then you already know its quality and convenience (mailed to your house by the May "24" weekend).

Alisa Van Der Toorn, Director of Communications, produced and distributed a series of electronic monthly Newsflashes last summer during prime cottage time covering a wide variety of topics of interest. Distribution of these is limited to paid up members.

Dorset Community Support – The KLCA Board of Directors on behalf of the membership this past year provided financial contributions to:

- Moorelands Camp enabling two children to attend camp for one session as a thank you for hosting the Regatta
- Dorset Volunteer Firefighters to assist equipping a boat used to respond to emergency calls on Bear and Kawagama Lakes
- Dorset Community Partnership – contribution towards the setup of the Dorset Nurse Practitioner Station – which was approved by the provincial Government
- Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations ("CHA") who have advanced major water quality and shoreline preservation initiatives (www.cohpoa.org)

There are numerous other ongoing activities the KLCA Executive pursues on the behalf of the membership. The most noticeable is the annual Regatta organized by Peter Evans and Andrea Daly; however, there are several other behind-the-scenes activities including regular sampling of water quality (Todd Millar), maintaining a close working relationship with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to deal with lake levels (Eric Millar), studies on fish health, development of educational programs on invasive species, etc. (Robert Bill). Tom Mulhall as Navigation Director looks after all the navigation markers.

Shoreline Improvement Project

The KLCA Executive is also gearing up to undertake what is perhaps our most ambitious project to date called "Shoreline Improvement". Studies have shown that if less than 75% of your shoreline is in a natural state, the water quality will seriously degrade over time. If the loss of this natural beauty is not sufficient to raise concerns and spur people to action then the resulting drop in

President's message (continued)

property values surely will be.

This project (also called the *'Love Your Lake Program'*) was designed to engage individual cottagers or residents and lake associations, by providing information on how to protect their shorelines and improve the water quality in their lakes. It shows how even small steps such as a 10 foot ribbon of natural vegetation along the shoreline can make a big difference. It will mitigate runoff and pollution issues while providing a natural habitat for small creatures that prefer to live near the lake.

The CHA (www.cohpoa.org) was successful in obtaining a \$ 118,000 one-time grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and \$ 80,000 from The Haliburton County Development Corporation



Environmental Report

Ron Schwark (Director of Environment)

As of July 1, 2014, the Township of Algonquin Highlands is administering Part 8 of the Ontario building code of "On-Site Sewage Systems".

Water quality degradation from nutrient sources such as septic system seepages, detergents and runoff from lawns, gardens and agriculture, have caused several municipalities, i.e., Tiny Township, Town of Midland, Huron Kinloss and others, to implement a "Mandatory Inspection Program" to protect our health and the water quality in the lake systems. Algonquin Highlands passed a resolution January 15, 2015 committing to the development of a mandatory septic re-inspection program.

("HCDC") to assist lake associations with this project.

It starts with generating a no cost assessment of the current state of a property owner's shoreline by specially trained Trent University Environmental Studies students and follows through with practical information and resources for any recommended improvements.

Space is too limited in this Newsletter to provide all of the details about this exciting project. More details will follow. In the meantime more information can be found at:

- www.klca.org
- www.cohpoa.org
- www.loveyourlake.ca
- [CHA Video - Ribbon of Life](#)
- [CHA Video - Shoreline Stewardship Guide](#)

This has been a thumbnail of some of the things we have been working on and I would appreciate any feedback at: info@klca.org or P.O. Box 98, Dorset ON P0A 1E0



We can protect our lake by implementing the following:

1. Maintain a properly operating septic system
2. Use low-phosphorous detergents and soaps
3. Keep shampoos and soaps **out** of the lake
4. Maintain a natural shoreline to increase nutrient uptake by plants and reduce erosion and nutrients leeching into the lake

Be a Lake Steward and be familiar with our Lake's healthy conditions, and be able to recognize troublesome symptoms. Together we will succeed!

Development and Municipal Liaison

Stefan Szczerbak – Director

The results are in! Our new municipal Councils are up and running with some new and returning faces. The following are your new members for the 2014-2018 term:

Algonquin Highlands:

Reeve: Carol Moffatt 705-489-3554

cmoffatt@algonquinhighlands.ca

Deputy Reeve: Liz Danielsen 613-339-1475

ldanielsen@algonquinhighlands.ca

Councillor Ward 1: Brian Lynch 705-766-1148

blynch@algonquinhighlands.ca

Councillor Ward 2: Lisa Barry 705-754-0758

lbarry@algonquinhighlands.ca

Councillor Ward 3: Marlene Kyle 705-635-9816

mkyle@algonquinhighlands.ca

Dysart et al:

Reeve: Murray Fearrey mfearrey@dysartetal.ca

Deputy Reeve: Andrea Roberts

aroberts@dysartetal.ca

Councillor Ward 1: Nancy Wood-Roberts

nwood-roberts@dysartetal.ca

Councillor Ward 2: Derek Knowles

dknowles@dysartetal.ca

Councillor Ward 3: Tammy Donaldson

tdonaldson@dysartetal.ca

Councillor Ward 4: Susan Norcross

snorcross@dysartetal.ca

Councillor Ward 5: Walt McKechnie

wmckechnie@dysartetal.ca

Keep your eyes on the **Algonquin Highlands** website. They will be conducting a general housekeeping amendment to their Zoning By-law. The purpose of this type of amendment is

to change or modify specific areas in the By-law that are problematic or confusing and require clarification. In addition, their 2015 budget will be reviewed over the next several weeks.

Please also pay attention to Dysart's and Haliburton County's respective websites as they will be initiating a general 5-year Official Plan review. The purpose of legislative review is to ask the public if there are any areas in the plan that should be reviewed and to update the plan based on the new legislation, such as the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement.

www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page10679.aspx

Additional information related to our respective municipalities and information related specifically to the community of Dorset can be found on the following websites:

The County of Haliburton

www.haliburtoncounty.ca

Township of Algonquin Highlands

www.algonquinhighlands.ca

Municipality of Dysart et al

www.dysartetal.ca

Dorset

www.dorsetcanada.com

Finally, if you become aware of a proposed development application that concerns you or you feel that it may offend Official Plan policy or offend the values of the KLCA, please contact the Director of Development and Municipal Liaison via info@klca.org

Website Renewal

Pat Boyd – Website Director & Secretary to the Board

The KLCA website, www.klca.org, contains useful information for Kawagama Lake Cottagers' Association members. Refer to it often to learn about KLCA initiatives and find key dates about upcoming events such as the Dorset Snowball, the AGM and the Regatta. Links to the webcams showing conditions at the two marinas and links to many other useful sites are always available. You can also renew your membership by going to this website!

We've worked hard this past year redesigning the website and you'll see the results of our efforts shortly. You will easily be able to find information such as: summer newsflashes, FOCA Primers, frequently asked questions, photos, and lots more! As always, we'd love to include some of your photos as well— it's easy! Just send to info@klca.org

Thank You!

Thank you to the KLCA members who submitted photos for this newsletter. (M. Baum, B. Norfolk, C. Ogryzek, J. VanDerToorn) It is wonderful to see so many special winter memories being made!

Thank you to the KLCA Logo team, which has been working on several options for a refreshed logo that will result in a clean, modern look yet incorporate our historical logo. Watch for it soon!



Membership *Marion Michinsky - Director*

Our membership last year stood at 473, which is down from previous years. Please encourage all generations of family members to become members in their own right. The more voices we have, the stronger the KLCA is.

The membership fee this year remains at \$45.00 and can be **renewed online!**

Did you know this also includes membership in FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association) Special pricing and discount offers are available for Insurance, Cottage Life Magazine Subscriptions, CAA memberships and more. Check with www.foca.on.ca for details.

Please send in your renewal by APRIL 1st to ensure your information will be included in *Reflections*. We anticipate mailing *Reflections* before May 24th weekend so that you can enjoy it for the whole summer season!

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.

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.

KAWAGAMA LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION

2015 Membership Application Form

P.O. Box 98 Dorset, Ont. P0A 1E0

membership@klca.orgwww.klca.org*Thank you for becoming a member of Kawagama Lake Cottagers' Association!***Things to note:**

- The membership fee is \$45.00.
- The membership period is January to December.
- *Reflections* will be mailed to your home. The first mail-out will arrive around the Victoria Day long weekend.
- Where multiple generations of a family enjoy your cottage, we would encourage each generation to join independently. A downloadable membership application is available at www.klca.org or you can join online.
- **Our publication deadline is April 1st.** If we receive your payment after this date we can't guarantee the inclusion of your contact information in *Reflections*.

Contact Information & Anti-Spam Requirements:

- Freedom of Information Legislation requires your permission to publish personal information. We must have your signature on file to publish your name, address, and phone numbers in *Reflections*.
- **Canada's anti spam legislation (CASL) requires your consent for the KLCA to send you unsolicited periodic updates electronically.** (Updates are not sent in hard copy form) **You may opt out anytime by contacting us @www.klca.org**

I consent to my name, address and phone numbers being published in *Reflections*. (This information is used only for KLCA communication and not shared or sold for any other purpose.) YES _____ NO _____

I want to receive email correspondence and alerts from the KLCA YES _____ NO _____

Would you like to receive the 2016 newsletter and membership renewal via email? YES _____ NO _____

Signature to authorize the above _____

NAME: _____
LAST FIRST

SPOUSE: _____
LAST FIRST

ADDRESS: _____
CITY/TOWN

PROV/STATE: _____ Postal Code/Zip Code: _____

COTTAGE PHONE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

9-1-1 ADDRESS & TOWNSHIP (Dysart or Algonquin Highlands):

Email Addresses (Include one for each person on the membership, up to two):

1. _____

2. _____

Volunteering, and Donations:

I wish to volunteer with KLCA. Please have someone call me to discuss my preferences and time availability.

NAME: _____ AREA OF INTEREST: _____

I would like to make a donation to support KLCA programs. Please make cheques payable to the KLCA \$ _____