



TEMAGAMI TIMES

THE VOICE OF THE TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA)

WINTER 2015



Charlie's Chop House Photo by Peter Healy

ENVIRONMENTAL WATER TESTING — 2014 —

By Diana Van Vlymen
(with contributions from Peter Healy and Julie Vaillancourt)

This summer, the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA) continued with the environmental water-testing program. The summer staff completed the spring round in May and June, while the summer round was completed in a single week in August. Some very long days were required both on the water and in the office to achieve this feat! Thanks to this hard work, good field results were collected, and compiled with previous rounds of data.

The first finding we should discuss is the “Secchi depth”. This measurement is a determination of the point at which the Secchi disk becomes invisible due to turbidity – which depends on both floating nutrients and phytoplankton presence. Secchi disk readings for this summer were very good, and were comparable to past years. The spring average reading was 6.8 metres, while summer Secchi depths averaged 7.4 metres. By comparison, the 2012 spring and summer results were 6.5 and 7.9 metres, respectively. Differences in weather over the past three years affected these (and other) results, as freshwater biology displays strong seasonality.

Spring was late to arrive on the lake this year; thus, the Secchi depth was deeper than previous years due

to reduced time for the phytoplankton (algae) community to develop before spring sampling had to occur. Stratification (layering) of the water column ensues as we move into summer and limits the movement of nutrients out of the bottom layers of the lake. These layers make up the region below the “thermocline” (the transition zone between the mixed layer at

the surface and the deep water layer) – which acts as a natural barrier due to its sharp change in temperature, and creates large differences in density. Accordingly, the summer usually has low nutrient availability in the upper layers. 2014 was, however, a noticeably colder year than 2012, so reduced surface temperatures allowed a greater number of phytoplankton to survive into the later summer, resulting in a reduced summer Secchi depth.

Other important pieces of the puzzle include the water temperature and dissolved-oxygen profiles which are created from the sampling results. The spring temperature trend was colder than either of the two preceding years; however, the overall trend and difference in temperature at the thermocline was about the same. This summer was just slightly below the 2013 trend in the upper layers of the lake, yet so close that temperatures were nearly the same at

depths beyond 10 metres. Despite the weather, this region of the thermocline and below showed nearly identical re-

sults to previous years.

Dissolved oxygen is a different story. May 2013 and May 2014 displayed very similar trends to one another, but the May 2012 trend is depressed compared to both. The range of data in that sampling round was between 0.6 and 1.3 mg/L less than in the last two spring seasons throughout the water column. This was more pronounced in the surface layers and thermocline, and less so in the deeper water below. The summer trends were similar from the surface to a depth of 12 metres; then the 2014 curve showed a pronounced increase that neither of the previous two years had displayed. We are sure that the equipment was working properly (and it had been calibrated as described by the manufacturer); but, it is difficult to find an explanation for this increase. It may be due to a prolonged period of stratification or a possible return to mixing due to a very cold spell in mid-summer.

In contrast, both the 2012 and 2013 trends were very similar to one another – surface readings were about 10 mg/L, a spike in dissolved oxygen was experienced in the thermocline due to phytoplankton activity, and the deeper waters recorded higher dissolved-oxygen levels than the surface (but less than the thermocline). Phytoplankton act like tiny plants and perform photosynthesis – usually in late spring to early summer. Although phytoplankton numbers are low in summer, the dissolved oxygen formed by photosynthesis is unable to leave the thermocline due to density differences; so even a small population has a dramatic impact. These dissolved oxygen results are promising, as the water is consistently more oxygenated than required by any level of the freshwater food web.

The final factor in this water-testing analysis (with ample data available) is phosphorus levels. For these

Overall, Lake Temagami is in excellent shape. We are well on our way to establishing a very strong baseline of information, and the TLA's environmental water monitoring has already lasted longer than most.

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THE TEMAGAMI TIMES

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The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, and relevance.

Letters containing libelous remarks, personal attacks, or inaccurate information will not be published - nor will open letters or copies of letters sent to public officials or governments.

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President's Letter

Here we are in 2015. Temagami, like many other small towns in Ontario, is striving to reinvent itself in the face of challenging economic conditions. My hat goes off to Mayor Hunter and her government as they address a myriad of issues with limited funds, all while balancing the concerns of a broad cross-section of people.

In that mix is the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA). As the current President, I can tell you that the TLA has become much more than an organization that represents a group of cottagers. The Board of Directors consistently attracts very talented, hardworking, and concerned individuals. Although our mandate is to serve the members who elect us, there is not a decision made without taking every Temagami interest group into consideration. Our decisions cannot be made solely to meet short-term objectives, but must be made to try and reflect the vision of generations to come and protect the future of this special community.

We all know that Temagami can get into your soul, and that is why some of our summer visitor and resident base come from so far away. We have lots to lose when the essence that is Temagami is discovered – as I believe everyone will appreciate our pristine environment, clean water, and the tranquility of this stunning place. Newcomers might desire changes which reflect their interpretation of “tranquility” and “stunning place”, and that may not coincide with our current vision.

The TLA has been a fixture in the community for so long I fear that it is, at times, taken for granted. There is also a fear that the TLA and its Board could become complacent, rest on its laurels, and appear to be arrogant. That would diminish its relevance and possibly lead to its demise. The Board is, however, intent on becoming even more relevant in the community, and it continues to make changes that will encourage all generations to become more engaged.

Here is some of the standard fare that occupies the Board's time. While always working in the context of protecting the “Tenets for Temagami”, the Board has set up a number of committees that regularly monitor mainstream internal and external issues, such as: 1. “Archives”; 2. “By Laws”; 3. “Communications”; 4. “Elections”; 5. “Fish and Wildlife”; 6. “Membership and Events”; 7. “Planning”; 8. “Protection of Persons and Property”; 9. “Taxes”; 10. “Municipal Issues”; 11. “Water Quality and Waste Disposal”; and, 12. “Seasonal Services and Operations” (staffing).

Some specifics included within these categories are: forestry issues, MNR and Crown lands, creating partnerships with other entities to maintain trails, community docking, campsites and privies, TFN and TAA initiatives, as well as watershed issues.

I hope that you are getting an idea of how much behind-the-scenes work there is to be done on an ongoing basis.

Assembling and publishing the *Temagami Times* is always a high priority and is a very expensive and time-consuming job. The process includes soliciting relevant and topical articles and research that should be of interest to all people using the lake, soliciting advertising to offset some of the expense, and soliciting stories and pictures. Of course, after that, the paper must be professionally laid out and then distributed. The TLA is very proud to pay for, and create, this important conduit where everybody can have a voice and express their opinions. The *Times* is made available for free to the membership, visitors to the area, and the Temagami community as a whole. The TLA also maintains an electronic copy, which is available on its website.

For a community such as Temagami, fish, wildlife, water quality and all other environmental issues are of paramount importance. That is the reason why the TLA invested in expensive, specialized equipment to measure and monitor water quality. We are most fortunate to have a leading specialist in our midst, Dr. Murray Richardson, who is donating his time and guiding us through a process which includes specific training to implement the testing program, analyze the samples, interpret the results, and take action with any issues that may arise. We hope that this is just the beginning and that we will be able to set up other programs to monitor and sustain our environment at the highest levels.

As you can imagine, expanding and maintaining these initiatives is a very expensive proposition; so the Board has created an independent, charitable organization that will be able to issue tax receipts. The incorporated entity is called “TERAS” – an acronym for TEMAGAMI ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND STEWARDSHIP. You can read more about it on page 12 of the Fall 2014 issue of the *Times*.

As I indicated earlier, the TLA wants to grow and become more relevant and, in that regard, the Directors have created a new website. It is, and will continue to be, a work in progress for some time. We want it to be interactive – for example, if you click on a spot on our map, it will give you the water-quality testing results for that area. If you click on a marked campsite, it will detail the amenities (e.g., quantity of tent sites, privies, etc.).

We also hope to catalogue the numerous useful articles and research results in the *Times* so that they will be available with a simple search of the website.

In an effort to engage the younger generations, we intend to take advantage of various social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. There is already a blog set up to share news, stories, and pictures. It will take time to reach a “mature” stage in this regard, so please be patient.

The Board is well aware of some criticisms and takes them seriously. We know that traits such as complacency, arrogance, or a sense of entitlement can undermine the effectiveness of an organization. We encourage everyone to bring any comments directly to the TLA so that they can be addressed head on in an open and transparent manner. Criticisms levelled in forums where the TLA has no opportunity to respond tend to stifle dialogue and prevent us from reaching everyone's goal for a beautiful, healthy Lake Temagami.

There is also a segment of very talented, smart, and successful people who have left the TLA because of one incident or a personal disagreement. I invite and urge all of these people to rejoin the TLA, as they cannot influence or contribute to the full community from the sidelines. I make this statement with a strong feeling that the greatest challenges for the community to come together and flourish lie ahead.

Remember, this Board welcomes all ideas and comments – be they positive or negative. Please feel free to contact me or any of the Board members directly. Contact information is on the website under the tab labelled “TLA Business”.

All the best in the New Year and happy 2015.

Gerry Kluwak,
Island 758

SKYLINE RESERVE

The mainland surrounding Lake Temagami and Cross Lake is to be zoned as a landscape ecology zone to preserve the beauty, restore the integrity and preserve the wilderness aspect of the Temagami Forest. This ecology zone would consist of 2 reserves which would be protected from natural disturbance e.g. fire and insect infestation, but would have separate management goals and prescriptions.

The two reserves would be the following:
1. Skyline: The Lake Temagami and Cross Lake reserves must protect any part of Lake Temagami or Cross Lake with no visual evidence to the naked eye that any activities such as timber cutting or mining have taken place. The minimum dimension would be 200 metres. It would be preserved in its natural state and its permissible uses would be very limited.

TENETS FOR TEMAGAMI



2. Ecological Buffer Reserve: This would surround the skyline reserve to protect the natural forest and wildlife habitat ecosystems of the Temagami region. It would have a broader range of controlled activities but no new public roads would pass through it except in the village of Temagami.

ROAD ACCESS

The current ban on construction of new public road access points to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake is supported by our

three groups. We define the existing public road access points to consist of the village waterfront, Finlayson Park, Strathcona Landing and the Lake Temagami Access Road landings. We agree that, where possible, parking areas must be screened from the main body of the Lake. Shiningwood Bay, Cross Lake, Austin Bay, Blue Bay and any other illegal access points are to be closed using scarification methods. Existing gates are to be maintained and new ones are to be installed to

prevent new public access roads to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake.

New ski-doo trails accessing Lake Temagami/Cross Lake are to be no wider than ten feet and for winter ski-doo use only. Proposals for these access points to Lake Temagami and Cross Lake are to be reviewed and sites inspected by the new governing body prior to construction.

MAINLAND DEVELOPMENT

There should be no mainland development on Lake Temagami and Cross Lake with the exception of those potential lots immediately adjacent to the Township of Temagami that are able to be serviced by the Township's central sewage treatment facility. All other future development will occur on islands, the number and location to be determined by the revised official plan which will be sensitive to current ecological standards.

Environmental Water Testing 2014 continued from page 1

readings, we collected water samples and sent them to the Trent University field lab in Dorset, Ontario after each round of testing. This year's results averaged 2.6 µg/L (micrograms per litre) at the Secchi depth, and 3.5 µg/L at 75% of the total depth. This is actually a bit lower than the total phosphorus recorded in either 2012 or 2013, and it may be attributed to unusual weather patterns.

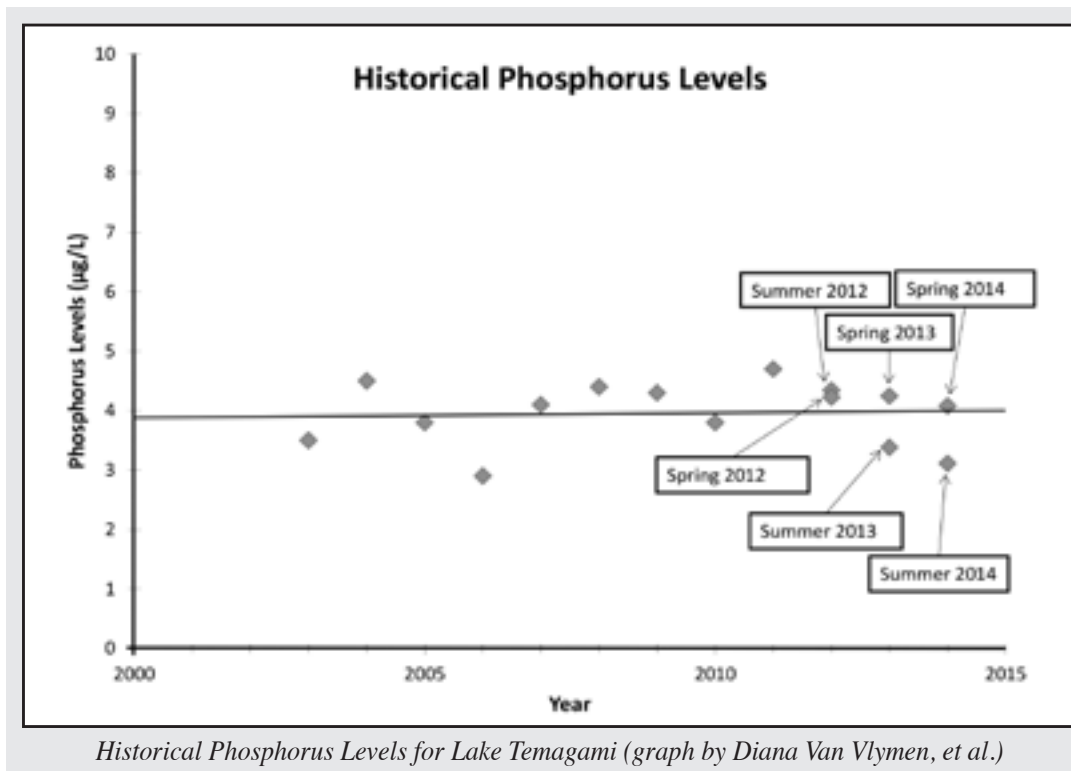
It is more important, however, to note that phosphorus is unlikely to be the same from year to year, and that differences in seasons from one year to the next play a much greater role in affecting readings than isolated weather events. This is the purpose of long-term testing – to build a baseline of data that accounts for yearly changes, and to which we could compare future water quality, in order to determine whether or not any significant changes occur over time. For now, it is fair to say that we have not seen any.

The newest “historical phosphorus levels” graph we have produced shows a line that indicates no pronounced changes over the last 10 years. This is an excellent result; other lakes have not been so lucky. For this reason, it is important that everyone in the lake community continue to make an effort to: use only phosphate-free soap products; avoid phosphate-containing fertilizers; ensure that greywater leaching pits are in compliance with MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE regulations; and, update septic tanks to avoid leaching effluents with high phosphate content into the water. This latter factor can be the most significant input of phosphorus into the lake, and it is for this reason that the TLA encourages updating septic tanks installed before about 1982. At this time, steel tanks were used, and most of these tanks have

rustured through in the thirty years that have passed. The current standard for septic tanks requires the use of high-quality plastic that does not rust or degrade, and ensures that no excess phosphorus enters a healthy lake ecosystem that is so precious and increasingly rare.

Finally, we would like to examine a new initiative in the TLA's testing routine. For the first time this past August, samples were collected from the water surface and top level of the thermocline to test for “chlorophyll *a*”. These samples were then filtered back at the TLA headquarters building using a vacuum pump, and sent to CARLETON

UNIVERSITY with Dr. Murray Richardson to determine the concentration of chlorophyll *a* which was present. This information is very valuable, as chlorophyll *a* is a more direct measure of the phytoplankton present in the lake ecosystem than phosphorus content, dissolved oxygen, or turbidity (all of which are considered indirect measures). Specifically, chlorophyll *a* concentration tells us how much phytoplankton IS present in Lake Temagami, whereas phosphorus measurements tell us how much phytoplankton SHOULD BE present (based on standards developed over many years due to phosphorus requirements in relation to phytoplankton community size). While the results are not yet available to be published, you can look forward to learning more about chlorophyll



Historical Phosphorus Levels for Lake Temagami (graph by Diana Van Vlymen, et al.)

and reading about our results in a future issue of the *Times*.

Overall, Lake Temagami is in excellent shape. We are well on our way to establishing a very strong baseline of information, and the TLA's environmental water monitoring has already lasted longer than most. We are taking the next step by incorporating chlorophyll *a* measurements into our program – the monitoring of which is completed by only a limited number of lake associations. We look forward to what the future holds for our environmental monitoring program.

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Broad-Scale Fisheries Monitoring Program Involves Lake Temagami

By Dave (Chip) Kittredge

The MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY (MNR) is responsible for monitoring the abundance and health of fish populations in the lakes and rivers across Ontario. From May to September 2014, MNR researchers collected information on fish species, water quality, and invasive species in Lake Temagami and approximately 140 other lakes in the province.

The broad-scale monitoring program was designed to examine the current and changing state of fisheries across Ontario. This time frame involved year two of a second, five-year cycle to collect information for fisheries management. This data will be used by biologists to evaluate the health of fish populations and make management decisions for “Fisheries Management Zones” 8, 10, and 11.

In 2012, MNR science staff completed the first five-year cycle of the broad-scale monitoring program. Nearly 630 lakes were sampled across the province. This assessment, and past individual lake assessments from the “2009 FMZ 11 Broad-Scale” work, can be found online via the “Fish ON-Line” tool. MNR broad-scale monitoring was last conducted on Lake Temagami in 2009. Some lakes that were sampled in the first cycle will be resampled, and new lakes will be added to the program.

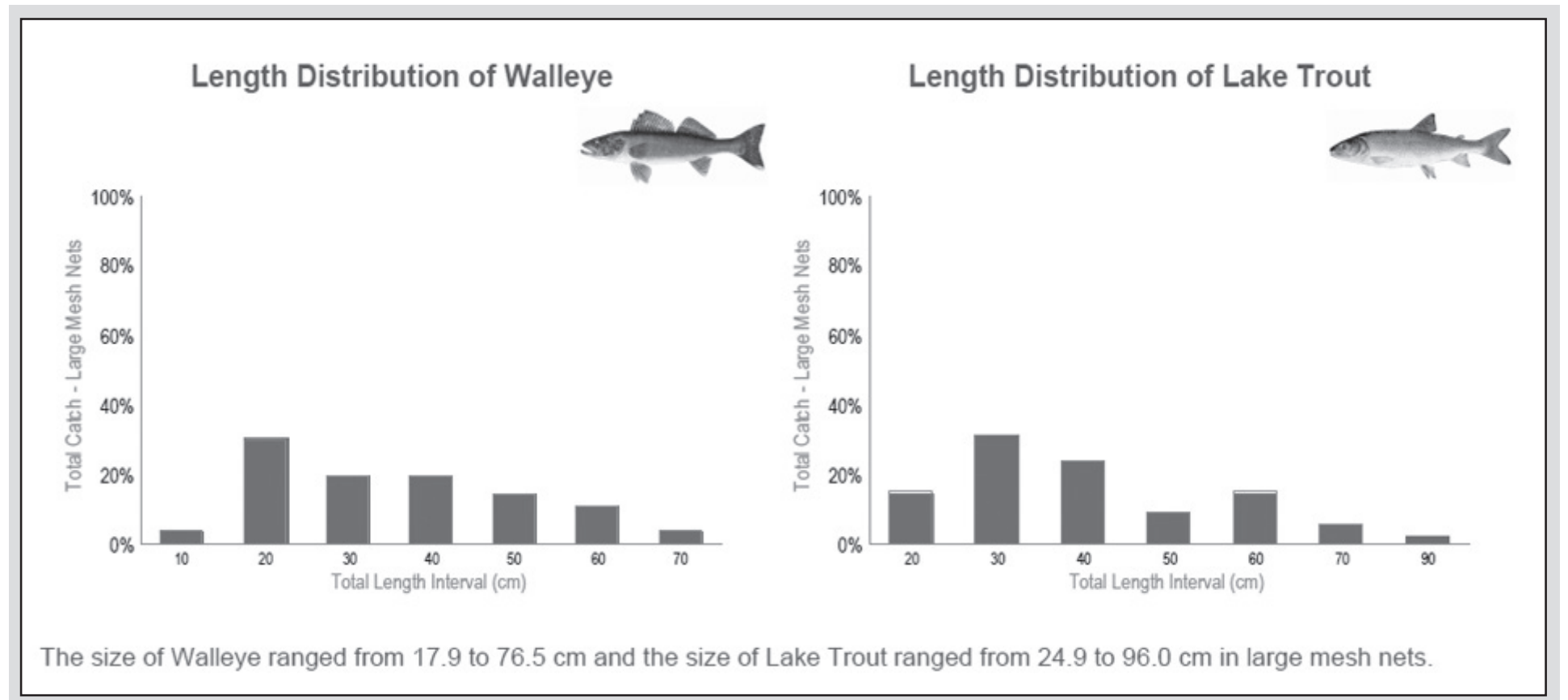
The MNR sampling technique involves the use of large- and small-mesh nets. These are held in place by orange buoys which are clearly marked with the GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO logo. Nets are checked and moved daily to new locations.

Data collected by MNR researchers provides their biologists with valuable information about abundance, age structure, mortality, and maturity of different types of fish in a given lake. This data is then used to evaluate the health of fish populations in the lake and make management decisions.


The number of fish caught and sampled represents a very small percentage of the total population in a lake. As resource managers responsible for the ongoing sustainability of these fish populations, MNR scientists and staff are sensitive to the number of fish collected; but strongly believe this approach is necessary to acquire the information needed to responsibly manage this resource.

For more information on Ontario’s aquatic resources, angling opportunities, and fisheries monitoring techniques, check out www.ontario.ca/travel-and-recreation/fishing. In addition, further details about “Fisheries Management Zone 11” are included on the TLA website (<http://tla-temagami.org/environment/fish-and-wildlife/fisheries-management-zone-11/>) and in the MNR’s “Broad-Scale Fisheries Monitoring Bulletin” (<https://tlacares.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/lakebulletinsreport-en-lake-temagami-zone11-cycle1-2008-17-5700-52061.pdf>)

Source: MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY




Graph results are from the 2009 broad-scale fisheries monitoring effort in Lake Temagami. (graphs from the MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY)



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A Message from the TIMISKAMING HEALTH UNIT

SAFE DRINKING WATER:

During the summers of 2013 and 2014, the TIMISKAMING HEALTH UNIT (THU) worked with the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA) to offer drinking-water sampling services to Lake Temagami property owners. The program will be provided again in the summer of 2015, and will once more be free of charge. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the results of your samples, you can call the THU and speak with an inspector. Water sample submission days will be provided at a later date.

Remember that lake water may look, smell, and taste clean, but any surface water is subject to contamination. Your treatment system requires ongoing maintenance – so, refer to the manufacturer's instructions, and maintain your system, to ensure safe drinking water. The effect of improper operation and maintenance of septic systems can extend beyond your property and affect the health of other individuals and the natural environment.

DO YOU HAVE A "HIGH RISK" SEPTIC SYSTEM?

Was your septic system installed prior to 1982? Before 1982 the installation of steel septic tanks was the standard practice. These tanks are now prohibited under the "Ontario Building Code Act", as steel tanks will rust and leak over time.

Do you have a record of your septic system? It is likely that no permit was ever issued; therefore, there is no way of knowing whether or not the system was installed properly and can be considered safe. If this is the case, you need to replace it.

SANITARY SURVEYS:

How do you know that your septic system is safe? To determine this, sanitary surveys are available through the THU. An inspection is conducted to ensure your system is functioning properly and to determine whether or not it is in accordance with the building code.

Septic systems can contaminate drinking water supplies and other surface waters if they are not being maintained properly, are malfunctioning, or were installed incorrectly. Under the "Ontario Building Code Act", a sewage system is considered unsafe if it is not maintained or operated in accordance with the Act and the building code.

A permit price schedule can be found on the THU website under "Sewage System Permits – Schedule of Fees (R-3a-LC)" at: www.timiskamingu.com/content.aspx?content_id=730. A sanitary survey costs \$96.00 – the price of which counts towards a reduction in the "Use Permit" fees for a new septic system. Travel will have to be arranged with our land control officer.

UNSAFE SEPTIC SYSTEMS:

Your septic system may be unsafe if the following conditions occur around the house or cottage:

- The grass over the system may become unusually green or spongy to walk on.
- Toilets, showers, and sinks may take longer to drain.
- Occasional sewage odours may become noticeable – often after a rainfall.
- You may see grey or black liquids surfacing in your yard or backing up through plumbing fixtures into the house.

Unsafe septic systems can impact property values. Leaks from septic systems can also cause weeds and algae to grow in lakes and ponds. We have seen an increase in the incidence of "blue-green algae" (BGA) blooms, which can pose a concern if the toxin produced by BGA is ingested. Home treatment systems may not remove these toxins and can become easily overwhelmed or clogged if your water comes from a surface-water intake in the area



near a bloom. Reducing the amount of phosphorus and nitrogen entering the water can reduce the occurrence of algal blooms.

OUR ENVIRONMENT:

Lake Temagami is a beautiful community and home to many residents and cottagers who enjoy the lake not only for recreational activities, but as their source of drinking water, as well. According to a recent THU survey, 75% of respondents' drinking water comes from the lake, and about 50% of respondents have a "class 4" septic system. Of those respondents, 55% have not had their septic system inspected because it "seemed to be" working fine. It is, however, the property owner's responsibility to ensure a septic system is functioning, and being maintained properly on a regular basis.

Septic systems that are in good working order help reduce the risk of drinking water contamination – both to your water supply and that of your neighbours. Septic systems should be checked every three to four years and pumped when required. By adhering to these guidelines, and working together, you can keep your community beautiful and safe.

For further information, contact the TIMISKAMING HEALTH UNIT in New Liskeard by phone at 705-647-4305 or 1-866-747-4305. Details on the following topics can be found at these websites:

Blue-Green Algae: www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/blue-green-algae

Building Code Act: www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_92b23_e.htm

Building Code Regulations: www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/reg/english/elaws_regs_120332_e.htm.

Property Patrol Report for January 2015

By Peter Healy

Freeze-up went well this winter, with snowmobile access between the landing and Bear Island possible around Christmas time. The rest of us were able to access other islands early in the New Year.

Property patrols began on January 17, and I experienced difficult travel through slush in Shiningwood Bay and around the South Arm. Mechanical issues with my snowmobile, however, delayed the rest of the visits until repairs could be made.

Patrols resumed the third weekend in January – in extremely cold weather with wind chill temperatures in the -30° C range. Once again, though, mechanical problems (in this case, a blown piston) delayed the process. Thanks to the support of Jason at JB's SMALL ENGINES in Temagami, I was able to proceed on a "loaner" machine while he repaired mine.

Finally, with the help of travel partners Nelson Bilyk and John Healy, I was able to journey around the entire lake and have a look at TLA member properties. Blowing snow, cold temperatures, and slush continued to make the days



challenging; but, when the sun did show itself on our final day, we agreed that we were quite lucky to be able to travel the lake in such a winter-wonderland type of view-scape.

Our inspection of over 124 properties found no evidence of break-ins this month – which is very good news after last year's occurrences.

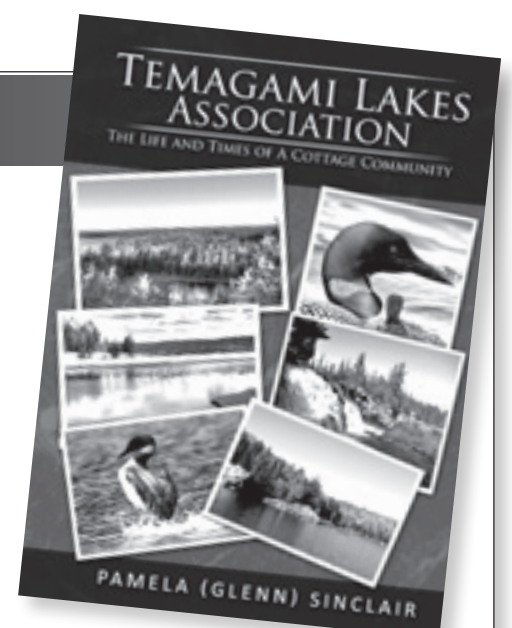
Lake trout season opened on February 15 and continues to March 16 (when the seasons for both lake trout and walleye come to an end). The ever popular "Ling Fling" was also held this year on Sunday February 15. As there were good ice-travelling conditions when this report was written, we looked forward to another successful event in support of the TEMAGAMI FISH HATCHERY.

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The diverse program will focus on how to “Engage People”, “Reduce Threats”, “Enhance Resilience”, and “Improve Knowledge” via concurrent sessions, keynote speakers, networking events, a poster session and exhibit hall, and field-trip activities on Friday May 22, 2015 – the “International Day for Biological Diversity”.

For more information, please visit the event website at:
www.ontariobiodiversitysummit.ca

Many Thanks...

By Jane Macdonald, Island 661

I would like to let everyone know how three young men came to my rescue in July when I fell and broke my leg. Allister and Andrew Avard, and their friend Logan, were helping me with odd jobs at our cabin. They were almost finished when I fell. They summoned help and went right to work treating my injury. They got their parents and Hilton Young to the island. Everyone pitched in to make phone calls, and locate bandages and ice, etc.

The young men were headed on a shopping trip to New Liskeard, so I asked for a ride to the hospital. Hilton took us to the landing, and the helpers drove me to the hospital and came back after shopping to check on me before returning to the lake. They did a great job on my “fix-it” list, and I would be happy to have them back again.

I am now fully recovered and looking forward to next summer at the cabin. Thank you.

(Editor note: Allister, Andrew, and Hilton are all TLA members.)



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Cottage Succession – Part 1

The current cottage-owning generation is approaching or past retirement age. Discretionary income that is available for cottage expenses is decreasing, while cottage ownership costs (e.g., taxes, utilities, compliance with environmental regulations, septic system upgrades, maintenance, repairs) are increasing. Financial planning and the prioritization of resources is critical to enable this generation of owners to afford to retain the cottage for the next generation.

Today's successor generation is, in most instances, less able to afford to buy a new cottage (or afford sole ownership of any cottage property). For many, the only viable cottage-owning opportunity for themselves and their children is to preserve the existing cottage in the family through the sharing of usage and costs with siblings and/or other family members. In situations where family cottages are shared by multiple-sibling families, inevitable differences and disputes may occur, which places the continued survival of the family cottage at risk following the succession.

Most cottagers wish to pass along their cottage properties to the next generation; however, many are not aware of the obstacles that must be overcome to ensure a realistic chance of keeping the cottage in the family. These impediments include the following:

- Because of changes to the "Income Tax Act", many cottages will have to be sold by executors upon the death of the owners simply to pay decades of accumulated capital-gains tax liability.
- A child's separation or divorce may result in the cottage being sold to satisfy the financial demands of the divorcing in-law.
- A health crisis that causes mental incapacity, such as a stroke or Alzheimer's disease, may result in the government forcing a sale of the cottage.
- Differences between the children's incomes and expectations may cause so much family conflict that the cottage is sold by the children themselves within a few years of inheriting.

In order for these and other obstacles to be avoided, careful attention must be paid to the provisions in your Will for how and where your assets will be bestowed. Further information on how to protect an heir's interests can be found at: www.lbghlaw.com/wills.

The three principal challenges in planning for family cottage succession are:

1. Paying the "Capital Gains Tax":

This tax must be paid when the cottage is sold or transferred – either during the parents' lifetimes or after their deaths. Although the federal government recently reduced the impact of this tax, it can still cost tens of thousands of dollars, and many families are forced to sell the cottage as a result.

Prior to 1992, every individual could take ad-

vantage of a "Capital Gains Tax" exemption of \$100,000. This meant that if a husband and wife bought a cottage for \$50,000 it could pass, upon their deaths, to their children without being taxed – even if it had increased in value to \$250,000.

After changes to the "Income Tax Act" in 1992 and 1995, the "Capital Gains Tax" exemptions were first cut back, and then terminated. Currently, passing that same cottage to the children could trigger over \$75,000 in "Capital Gains Taxes", which must be paid by the estate. In many cases, this huge cost may leave the children little choice but to sell the cottage to raise sufficient funds to pay the tax.

Many people elected to use special provisions in the 1995 budget to minimize this potential problem. If you were one of these fortunate and farsighted people, then you should seriously consider transferring the cottage to the children now. This will permit the cottage to reach the next generation with the fewest "Capital Gains Tax" consequences. It also means that payment of future "Capital Gains Tax" liability can be deferred for a generation

(i.e., for the lifetime of your children).

If you do not wish to transfer the cottage to the children now, then you must give serious consideration to funding the "Capital Gains Tax" liability through other assets or, perhaps, insurance.

What is certain is that "Capital Gains Tax" liability is one of the most serious obstacles to passing the cottage on to your children. This financial problem will only get worse as time goes by. One of the first steps parents should take in planning family, cottage continuity is to obtain advice and make decisions to deal with this potentially-disastrous problem.

2. Keeping the Cottage Going:

This challenge involves working out how the beneficiaries (e.g., siblings) will agree to use and operate the cottage. Among the questions to be answered are: Can any beneficiary use the cottage any time, or will there be periods of exclusive use? Who will open and close the cottage? Who makes sure the bills are paid? Who decides if improvements or additions are to be made? When a beneficiary dies, does her/his share of the cottage pass to her/his spouse and/or children, or does ownership continue with the surviving beneficiaries only? Without good answers to these questions, many cottages become a source of family strife, not pleasure.

3. Managing Expenses:

The third challenge involves the financial status of the beneficiaries – who usually have different financial resources and abilities. Expenses are inevitable – whether it's replacing the septic system, paying the municipal taxes, or repairing the cottage roof. If some of the beneficiaries can't afford to contribute their fair share, then conflict and stress are also inevitable.

Stay tuned for more information in "Cottage Succession – Part 2", which will appear in the Summer 2015 issue of the *Temagami Times*. Several planning steps to address the challenges listed above will be explored in detail.

Most cottagers wish to pass along their cottage properties to the next generation; however, many are not aware of the obstacles that must be overcome to ensure a realistic chance of keeping the cottage in the family.



Source: Peter Lillico of Lillico Bazuk Galloway Halka (Barristers and Solicitors)

Note: Peter Lillico's law practice is located in Peterborough, Ontario and is concentrated in the areas of "Estate Planning", "Business and Corporate Law", and "Real Estate". More information on "cottage succession" can be found on his law firm's website at: www.lbghlaw.com.

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2015 TLA SUMMER STUDENT JOBS

EMPLOYER: Temagami Lakes Association (TLA)
Position: Students (2) - Environmental Monitoring, Maintenance, and Administration
Location: Lake Temagami, Ontario
Job Term: Approximately 15 weeks
Anticipated Start date: May 11th, 2015
Wage: \$13 - \$15/hr depending on education and experience.
Schedule: 35hrs/week, some weekends required.

JOB DESCRIPTION/DUTIES:

- Implement the TLA's Water Quality Monitoring program, including collection of field data and lake water samples, distribution and liaison with laboratories, and reporting on results.
- Assist with the management and operations of the TLA Headquarters Building, which provides services and products to members. Operate TLA marine radio and communications services as well as other administrative duties.
- Coordinate the TLA's Campsite Clean-up Program, including performing campsite and hiking trail maintenance, installation of privy toilets, and the development of a map and recreational user info.
- Assist with other environmental stewardship initiatives and membership events as required.
- Undertake administrative tasks, TLA property maintenance, and projects as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Currently enrolled (or recently graduated) in a related field of study from a recognized university or college.
- Experience working outdoors and performing environmental field work.
- Experience collecting and analyzing water quality samples an asset.
- Knowledge and interest in water chemistry, biology, outdoor recreation, and environmental issues.
- Excellent communications skills including the ability to clearly operate marine radios, provide excellent customer service to members, and write technical reports.
- Possess a "Pleasure Craft Operator's Card" and have experience operating boats and outboard motors.
- Knowledge and experience boating on Lake Temagami an asset.
- Experience with hand and power tools an asset.
- Valid First Aid and CPR certification an asset.

Please submit resume and covering letter to Peter Healy, Executive Secretary, at: tla@onlink.net.

N.B., This notice was previously sent to all TLA members via e-mail. Late submissions will, however, be accepted as the hiring process has not yet been completed.

References will be requested of those candidates selected for interviews.



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Invasive Species Act for Ontario

Ontario is taking action to protect communities from invasive species through prevention, early detection, rapid-response, and eradication strategies. Accordingly, the province has re-introduced the proposed "Invasive Species Act, 2014" which, if passed, will protect the natural environment from invasive species and the significant social, environmental, and economic costs they pose for Ontarians.

If passed, the Act would:

- give Ontario the tools to ban activities such as possessing and transporting certain invasive species;
- allow the government to intervene earlier and enable rapid-response actions – including working with partners to stop an invasive species from spreading (e.g., by preventing the movement of contaminated firewood);
- help promote compliance through inspection and enforcement measures.

Facts about the "Act":

- If passed, the "Invasive Species Act" would position Ontario as the first, and only, jurisdiction in Canada to enact stand-alone, invasive species legislation.
- Globally, invasive species costs to the environment, agriculture, and communities (including control costs) are estimated to be \$1.4 trillion – the equivalent of five per-cent of the global economy and seven times the cost of natural disasters.
- Do your part by reporting invasive species sightings. Call the "Invading Species Hotline" at 1-800-563-7711 or send an e-mail to info@invadingspecies.com.

- Download the free "EDDMapS" app to identify and report invasive species from your smart phone. Learn more by reading up on the FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATIONS (FOCA) "Aquatic Invasive Plant Monitoring Program" at: <http://foca.on.ca/foca-aquatic-invasive-species-monitoring-program>

Why are invasive species a problem?

Biodiversity is under serious threat as a result of human activities. The most significant dangers worldwide are: population growth and resource consumption; climate change and global warming; habitat conversion and urbanization; over-exploitation of natural resources; and, environmental degradation. Invasive, alien species are also a significant threat to the biodiversity of Ontario's marine and terrestrial environments.

To address some of these issues, the "Convention on Biological Diversity" (CBD) – an international agreement – was adopted at the "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, in 1992. It has three main objectives:

1. to conserve biological diversity (biodiversity);
2. to use biological diversity in a sustainable way; and,
3. to share the benefits of biological diversity fairly and equitably.

The CBD was negotiated under the guidance of the UNITED NATIONS and was signed by more than 150 government leaders at the "Earth Summit" (officially named the "United Nations Conference on Environment and Development"). The "Convention" is now one of the most widely-ratified international treaties on environmental issues, with 194 member countries.

In Ontario, the conservation of our biodiversity is



Invasive Silver Carp (photo by Ted Lawrence, GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION)

guided by the "Ontario Biodiversity Strategy", 2011. The FOCA provided input to the initial strategy (which was launched in 2005).

Sources: INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY, and FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATIONS



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Thin ice is responsible for many fatalities each year. A person who has fallen through the ice into cold water will quickly develop hypothermia (a decrease in body temperature) – which can be fatal, as it reduces one's ability to swim or stay afloat. S/he may also die of cardiac arrest if not rescued and re-warmed promptly.

Factors affecting ice thickness (and, therefore, its safety) include location, the time of year, and other environmental factors, such as:

- water depth
- size of the water body
- proximity to currents, tides, and other moving water
- the presence of chemicals (including salt)
- fluctuations in water levels
- the presence of logs, rocks, and docks (which absorb and radiate heat from the sun)
- changing air temperature
- shock waves from vehicles traveling on the ice surface

Ice Colour:

The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear, blue ice is the strongest type, while white, opaque ice (snow ice) is a weaker variety. Opaque ice is formed by wet snow that has frozen onto the ice. Grey ice is also unsafe, and typically indicates the presence of water.

Ice Thickness:

Ice thickness should be a minimum of:

- 10 cm (4 inches) for ice fishing, walking, or cross-country skiing
- 12 cm (5 inches) for one snowmobile or ATV
- 20 to 30 cm (8 to 12 inches) for one car or one small pick-up truck
- 30 to 38 cm (12 to 15 inches) for one medium truck

Ice Safety

Strategies for Staying Safe on the Ice:

1. Check conditions with local authorities before heading out onto the ice.
2. Stay away from unknown ice.
3. Avoid travelling on ice at night.
4. Wear a thermal-protection buoyant suit – to increase your chances of survival if you fall through the ice. If you do not have one, wear a lifejacket/PFD over an ordinary snowmobile suit or layered winter clothing.
5. Avoid slushy ice, thawed ice that has recently refrozen, layered or rotten ice caused by sudden temperature changes, and ice near sources of moving water (e.g., rivers or currents).
6. Don't go onto the ice alone; a buddy may be able to rescue you or go for help if you get into difficulty.
7. Before leaving shore, inform someone of your destination and expected time of return.
8. Carry a small, personal, safety kit which contains a lighter, waterproof matches, magnesium fire starter, pocketknife, compass, and whistle. Ideally, you should also carry ice picks, an ice staff, a rope, and a cellular phone.

When You Are Alone On Ice:

If you get into trouble on frozen water, and there is no one nearby to assist you:

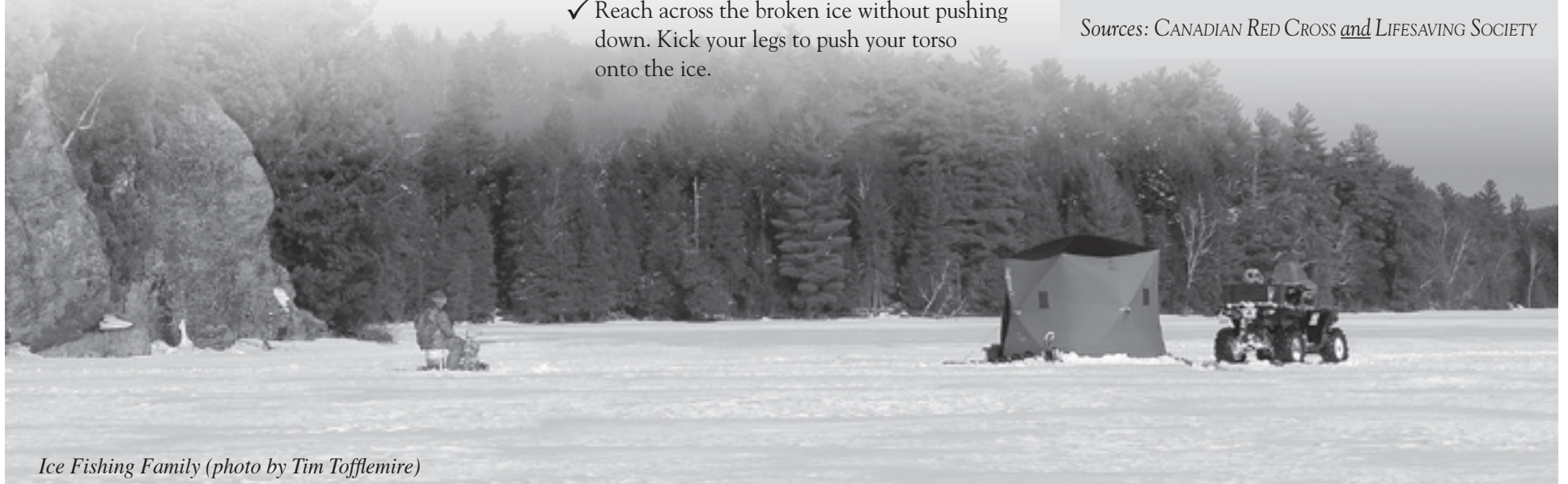
- ✓ Call for help.
- ✓ Resist the immediate urge to climb back out at the location where you fell into the water. The ice is weak in this area.
- ✓ Use the air trapped in your clothing to help you float on your stomach
- ✓ Reach across the broken ice without pushing down. Kick your legs to push your torso onto the ice.

- ✓ When you are back on the ice surface, crawl on your stomach, or roll away from the open area. Keep your arms and legs spread out as far as possible to evenly distribute your body weight. Do not stand up! Look for shore, and make sure you are heading in the right direction.

When You Are With Others On Ice:

- ✓ Rescuing another person while you are also on the ice surface can be dangerous. The safest way to perform a rescue is from shore.
- ✓ Call for help. Determine whether or not you can quickly get assistance from trained professionals (e.g., police, firefighters, ambulance personnel) or bystanders.
- ✓ Attempt to reach the person by using a long pole or branch. To increase your own safety, lie down on shore, and extend the pole/branch to the person.
- ✓ If you must go onto the ice surface, wear a PFD, and carry a long pole or branch to test the strength of the ice in front of you. Bring something to reach or throw to the person (e.g., pole, rope, line, branch).
- ✓ When nearing the break in the ice surface, lie down to distribute your weight, and slowly crawl toward the hole.
- ✓ While keeping your centre of gravity low, extend or throw your emergency rescue device (e.g., pole, rope, line, branch) to the person who is in the water.
- ✓ Ask the person to kick while you pull her/him out of the hole.
- ✓ Move the person to a safe position on shore (or wherever you're sure that the ice is suitably thick). Signal for help, and begin to treat the person for hypothermia.

Sources: CANADIAN RED CROSS *and* LIFESAVING SOCIETY



Ice Fishing Family (photo by Tim Tofflemire)

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Temagami's New Municipal Council Takes Office

By Elaine Gunnell, Municipal Clerk

Temagami's new Municipal Council was ceremonially sworn in at the inaugural Council meeting on December 11, 2014. Of the seven-member Council, four members were re-elected, and the other three are new to Council this term. Returning members include Mayor Lorie Hunter and Councillors Debby Burrows, John Kenrick, and Dan O'Mara. The three new Council members are John Harding, Brian Koski, and Carol Lowery.

In her inaugural speech, Mayor Hunter thanked all those who voted in the October 2014 election. "You participated in a very important democratic process," she told those present.

Due to the Municipality's continued use of "Vote by Mail", the opportunity to be full participants in the electoral process was not limited to those who are able to be physically present in Temagami during the winter months.

Roughly two-thirds of Temagami's eligible electors are seasonal residents, who are able to mail in their ballots. What's more, about 45% of them did – which is even higher than the average provincial voter turnout of 39%! In addition, over 70% of those electors whose

principal residence is in Temagami voted, thereby bringing our overall voter turnout to about 55%.

As usual, Temagami had a wide selection of candidates from which to choose, with a total of thirteen candidates running – a figure which shows the level of community involvement here. Although the MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING cautions that they do not independently verify the figures provided to them by each of the municipalities, these statistics do give us a reasonable picture of Temagami's comparative interest in electing those who will represent their interests for the next four years.

In her speech, Mayor Hunter also thanked members of the previous Council who were not returning to office

– Paul Middleton, Sam Barnes, and Ike Laba – and stated that their work and efforts on behalf of the Municipality over the last term of Council were very much appreciated. She also quoted an old African saying, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go farther, go together", and likened it to Temagami. "It's not about us

Roughly two-thirds of Temagami's eligible electors are seasonal residents, who are able to mail in their ballots. What's more, about 45% of them did – which is even higher than the average provincial voter turnout of 39%!

as individuals and what we want," she said, "but, about what the community needs."

In the near future, Council will be doing strategic planning and focussing on determining a vision for Temagami that will help to overcome our challenges and build on our strengths, to realize a stronger future for this community. Please refer to the "Municipal Update" in the centre pages of each edition of the *Temagami Times* for further information on municipal issues.

Your 2014-2018 Council Members:

Mayor Lorie Hunter (mayor@temagami.ca; lorieh472@gmail.com)

has 13 years of experience on Council, including three years as Deputy Mayor and one year as Mayor (having been appointed to fill the vacancy in September of 2013). As a permanent resident on Lake Temagami, she has lived in Temagami for twenty-four years and is a local (family) business owner and also a bookkeeper.

Councillor John Kenrick (jkenrick@sympatico.ca)

is returning for his second term on Council and has again been appointed by Council as Deputy Mayor. A born northerner, John spent his career as a natural resource planner, manager, and senior financial executive. Now retired, he spends much of his time at his cottage in Marten River.

Councillor Debby Burrows (debbyburrowsinfo@yahoo.ca)

is returning for her second term on Council. Debby is a small business owner, entrepreneur, and lifelong Temagami resident who is also a "natural health practitioner" and "registered nutritional coach". She lives in town, but is also a cottager in the Cassels and adjoining lakes area.

Councillor John Harding (harding.john210@gmail.com)

is new to Council, but has previously worked on municipal committees. He has been a permanent resident on Lake Temagami for over 40 years and has served as President of the LAKE TEMAGAMI PERMANENT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION. John is also a local tourism operator and a contractor who provides waste-management services to the Municipality.

Councillor Brian Koski (bhkoski@ontera.net)

is new to Council, but certainly not new to municipal government. He worked as a manager in this field for thirty years, including five years as the CAO/Clerk in Temagami. He has lived in Temagami for nine years. Since retirement, he has served on several municipal committees and continues to be an active service-club volunteer.

Councillor Carol Lowery (carol.lowery234@gmail.com)

is also new to Council, but has served on local municipal boards, including the TEMAGAMI NON-PROFIT HOUSING BOARD and PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD. She also has a long history of serving on other community boards and committees in Temagami. Carol has been a Lake Temagami cottager since her childhood, but came to live year-round in Temagami more than thirty years ago and started her teaching career at TEMAGAMI PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Councillor Dan O'Mara (danomar@ontera.net)

served for one year on Council before the election, after being selected to fill a Council vacancy. Prior to his appointment, he sat on municipal committees and the NORTH BAY REGIONAL HEALTH CENTRE Board. Dan is a life-long northerner and former health-care executive. He has lived full-time on Lake Temagami since his retirement, but has been a cottager here for more than twenty years.

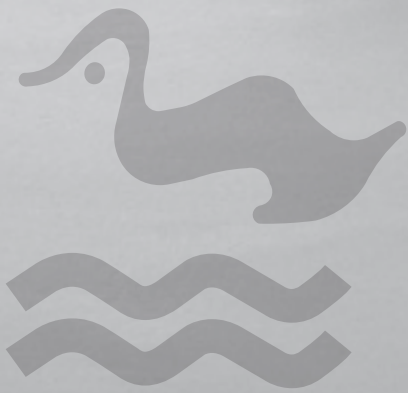
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MUNICIPAL UPDATE

MUNICIPAL UPDATE is produced by the Mayor and Council of the Municipality of Temagami. Council, in conjunction with the Temagami Lakes Association, has arranged for all its ratepayers to receive these copies of the Temagami Times. The Municipality's participation in the Temagami Times through this page does not imply its agreement or disagreement with any other content in the paper.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am very honoured to be your Mayor and I congratulate those who were elected to work with me to represent the people of Temagami this term. I thank the members of the previous Council that will not be joining us this term, for their work on behalf of the Municipality; they helped to bring us to where we are now. I am grateful to our staff, who are the backbone of this community, for their efforts to keep things running smoothly.

I acknowledge the many volunteers, who are the heart and soul of this community, whether they sit on committees, help run special events, or work with our service clubs. Without them, Temagami would be a very different community. I thank our community partners, service clubs, and our First Nation neighbours for their work and support last term. We look forward to continuing to work together with them over the next four years.

This is an exciting time for Temagami. We have the potential for revitalizing our downtown, for improvements to the train station, for projects to improve the infrastructure at our landings, and for expanding affordable housing and programs for seniors. Along with all this potential, we have challenges to overcome, including financial constraints, but we will work through them to come up with the best solution we can for our citizens through a public and transparent process.

NEW COUNCIL

Following the fall election, your new Council took office on December 1, 2014. Four Members of the previous Council were re-elected: Mayor Lorie Hunter and Councillors Debby Burrows, John Kenrick and Dan O'Mara. Three new Councillors were elected: John Harding, Brian Koski and Carol Lowery.

One of the procedural matters at the inaugural meeting was making municipal appointments. Councillor John Kenrick was re-appointed as Deputy Mayor and Members of Council were appointed to various committees and local boards.

The following appointments to municipal Standing Advisory Committees/portfolios were made: Debby Burrows - Protection to Persons & Property (which includes the Cemetery Board); John Harding - Economic Development, John Kenrick - General Government & Finance; Brian Koski - Public Works & Water, and also to Planning (which includes the Committee of Adjustment); and Carol Lowery - Social Services (which includes appointments to the DNSSAB, Au Chateau Home for the Aged Board, and the Temagami Family Health Team and Non-Profit Housing Boards).

In addition Mayor Hunter and Councillor Lowery were appointed to the Temagami Public Library Board; Mayor Hunter to the Temagami Non-Profit Housing Board, Mayor Hunter and Councillor Koski to the Temiskaming Municipal Association; Councillor

Dan O'Mara to the Temagami Police Services Board; and Mayor Hunter and Councillor Kenrick to the MOU Committee (a joint committee with the Temagami First Nation and Teme-Augama-Anishnabai).

As well as serving on boards and committees, it is part of the role of your Municipal Council to represent the public, to consider the well-being and interests of the whole municipality, and to develop and evaluate the policies and programs of the municipality. If you would like to contact a Member or Members of Council, their contact information is posted on our website at www.temagami.ca, or contact the Municipal Office.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

With the start of a new term of council, thoughts naturally turn to setting goals and strategic planning for the future. Before the new Council embarks on a Visioning Exercise, they have directed some reviews of our current governance and operations to see if these are still working to the best advantage of the Municipality, or if changes would be beneficial.

Committee Structure

Council has made the commitment to strike an Ad Hoc Committee to Review Committee Structure. Temagami started using the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) structure in 2004. These committees research and provide advice to Council on matters related to Public Works & Water; General Government & Finance; Planning; Economic Development; Protection to Persons & Property; and Parks & Recreation.

One member of Council is appointed to each SAC along with members of the public and staff. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for this review committee is being drafted and then Ad Hoc members will be appointed by Council. The mandate of this committee is to make recommendations for changes, if any, to our committee structure in a report submitted to Council by May 31, 2015.

Staffing review

Workload trends in municipalities change over time due to changes in the programs and requirements imposed by the Provincial Government, as well as due to evolving municipal priorities. Consequently it is wise from time to time to conduct a review to ensure that both the staffing levels and our structure are appropriate to the demands on our staff.

Long-term planning and resourcing strategies should help our organization to effectively meet these demands now and into the future. The Chief Administrative Officer for the Municipality, along with assistance from the auditor, has been directed by Council to submit a TOR for a strategic staffing plan to Council by the end of February. The intent is for this project to be completed within two months after the TOR is approved by Council.

Municipal Performance Measurements

The Municipal Performance Measurement Program (MPMP) is a measurement and

reporting system for Ontario municipalities. It was introduced on a voluntary basis in the year 2000 by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). The MPMP evaluates standardized criteria, such as the maintenance cost per lane kilometre of roads.

The intent was to help municipalities to make informed decisions and make this data available to the public (to strengthen the accountability to taxpayers). These calculations can help a municipality to measure improvements in the efficiency of municipal services. They also make it easier to compare data with other municipalities and encourage the sharing of best practices.

Historically, Temagami has not used this voluntary program, so Council has requested that our auditor provide an information session to Council outlining the basics the MPMP, and that MMAH also make a presentation to Council regarding using the MPMP financial indicators and benchmarking. To begin this program, each municipal program has been asked to complete an annual report on their 2014 activities and list their major workload outputs by April.

FEDNOR FUNDS TEMAGAMI PROJECTS

On January 14, Federal MP Jay Aspin was in Temagami to announce new FedNor funding for this community. FedNor has approved municipal applications for one-third funding of two projects.

One is for up to \$72,000 for renovations at the Temagami Train Station to enable it to be used as a year-round facility. The other is for up to \$320,200 for waterfront renovations and upgrades at various municipal access points. This will include improved docking facilities for several lakes.

We are hopeful of obtaining corresponding Provincial funding to enable these projects to go forward as planned.



MP Jay Aspin (with Mayor Lorie Hunter, right) announces FedNor funding for Temagami Projects.

NEW RECYCLING ARRANGEMENTS

Collection and processing of recyclable materials in Temagami's urban area was formerly managed through CTWMB – a municipal service board that was dissolved as of December 31, 2014. The Municipality advertised for tender with two options – replace the existing depot method or curb-side recycling.

The curb-side option was less expensive and so curb-side recycling for urban residents began in January. The depots in Marten River and at the Mine Landing remain unchanged, as they were serviced by a different provider.

Closing the blue bins in town, however, has created a gap in service for those rural residents who do not already use the recycling depots in Marten River or at the Mine Landing. The Municipality is addressing this issue and is hopeful of determining a suitable solution in the near future. Please check our website or contact the municipal office for more details.

PROGRAM / HOUSING FOR SENIORS

Temagami's demographic includes a higher than average percentage of seniors. The Municipality continues to advocate with the health and social service agencies and boards to strengthen seniors' supports and services in our community.

We recently received positive news regarding the Northeast Local Health Integration Network's (LHIN's) approval for a High Risk Seniors Program in Temagami. Details have yet to be finalized, but we are grateful for this additional support for our seniors.

Housing for seniors is also a concern, as affordable housing options, particularly with supportive programming, are often needed to help seniors to remain in their own community as they age. A 2011 statistical report calculated Temagami's median age as 53.3, which indicates that the number of seniors here will likely continue and even grow in the near future.

Recognizing a present and future need for more suitable housing options for our seniors, Council is putting together an Ad Hoc Committee to review the possibilities for affordable housing for seniors with assisted living programs here. Council will review the draft TOR for this committee on January 29 and appoint members with a mandate to submit a report to Council by the end of April 2015. We are hopeful that this will position us to promote the development of more seniors housing in Temagami.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Are you prepared for a natural disaster such as an ice storm or forest fire? What would happen if a major emergency occurred and you had to evacuate your home?

Like all Ontario municipalities, Temagami has a Municipal Emergency Management Plan. Every year, training is provided for staff and council and we conduct an exercise of the plan. But as much as we try to prepare to assist all of our residents in the case of large scale emergency, our best line of defense is for individuals and families to

also prepare for emergencies on a personal level.

We encourage all of our residents to take the basic steps to be prepared and,

if you are not sure how, we have resources to help. For more information on how to prepare your family, please visit our website at www.temagami.ca/emergency-preparedness or pick up an information brochure at the municipal office. Together we can improve the resilience of our community if a disaster were to strike.

Working for Temagami's future... Together!



Fire Safety Tips to Help you Enjoy a Safe and Happy Summer

Are you already starting to think about opening the cottage? To help make sure you have an enjoyable experience at the cottage, please remember to also think about fire safety while there.

Start by installing **fresh batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms** and replacing older units - keep in mind that CO detectors are now mandatory under Ontario law.

Also be sure to **check your chimney** before using it, making sure there is no nest or other blockage in it that could start a chimney fire.

It is very important to take **extreme care with open burning** during the spring time. Between April 1st and October 31st a burning permit is required for most open burning (except campfires). **Failure to conduct open air burning in accordance with municipal By-law 11-976 may result in a fine plus fire extinguishing cost.**

The following are some important excerpts from By-Law 11-976, which is the bylaw that regulates the setting of open air fires, including the **times during which open air fires may be set**, and the precautions that must be taken. You can view the complete by-law on our website at www.temagami.ca/pagesmith/87 or at the Municipal Office.

Prohibition

No person shall start a fire or permit the setting of a fire or allow a fire to burn during a Restricted Fire Zone order (RFZ); unless the activity is authorized under Outdoor Fires, O. Reg. 207/96 and a special circumstance permit, has been issued by the fire chief.

No person shall burn industrial waste, domestic waste, petroleum products, rubber, painted lumber, mixed demolition debris or anything else that will cause excessive smoke or fumes in addition to any other material identified in the regulations contained in the Environmental Protection Act.

No person shall undertake to set or maintain any open air fire, other than a campfire, between April 1st and October 31st except in accordance with the conditions of the permit.

General Requirements for Open Air Fires (7.1)

Where the material to be burned in an open air fire is 2m or less in length, width and height, or is in a burn barrel, no person shall set or maintain an open air fire:

- a) between April 1st and October 31st, unless a burning permit has been issued under section 4;
- b) within 15m from any building, structure, hedge, fence, vehicular roadway of any kind or nature, overhead wiring, or any property line;
- c) unless an area of 2m, around and over top of the fire, is free from any flammable materials;
- d) unless the space around and above the fire is at least 5m from vegetation;
- e) Unless a competent person, sixteen (16) years of age or older, maintains constant watch and control over the open air fire at all times from the time of the setting of the fire until the fire is totally extinguished;
- f) Unless sufficient equipment capable of extinguishing the fire, such as rakes, shovels, or water, are on site and immediately available for use;
- g) Unless the burn is conducted in such a manner as to prevent the escape of the fire from beyond the area of the pile being burnt;
- h) That uses prohibited materials, which include grass, leaves, garbage, pressure or creosote treated wood, or any combustibles that produces toxic fumes other than those produced by the burning of untreated lumber, wood, tree limbs or branches;
 - i) under adverse weather conditions; or
 - j) Unless adjacent properties are protected and that by-products of the fire do not have a *Negative Impact* on persons, pets or the environment.

7(2) During the forest fire season (April 1st to October 31st), no person shall set an open air fire, other than a campfire, earlier than two hours before sunset or fail to completely extinguish set fires not later than two hours after sunrise the following day, or earlier.



Despite subsection 7(2) no permit holder shall conduct open air burning, other than a campfire, between the hours of two hours after sunrise to two hours before sunset during the forest fire season, unless:

- A forest fire danger rating of 3 or less (Low); and
- Obtaining fire chief permission on the day of each proposed open air fire.

Additional requirements for Burn Barrels / incinerators

Despite clauses (a) (b) (c) and (e) of subsection 7(1) no person shall set or maintain an open air fire in a burn barrel / incinerator unless:

- a) A valid burning permit, for the use of a burn barrel, is on site;
- b) The barrel is in good condition, and equipped with a heavy duty screen with mesh size no greater than 5mm over the top to prevent debris, sparks and embers from flying out the barrel. Vent holes must be punched in the side for ventilation, and drainage holes in the bottom;
- c) The barrel and an area of 2m around the barrel is on bare rock or other non-combustible material; and free of combustible materials;
- d) The barrel is at least 5m from vegetation, building, structure, hedge, fence, vehicular roadway of any kind or nature, overhead wiring or any property line;
- e) The only materials being burned are untreated wood scraps, tree limbs, branches, leaves and non-compostable material limited to paper products and sisal twine;
- f) A person who starts a fire in an incinerator shall ensure that a responsible person monitors the fire until it is extinguished; and
- g) In compliance with the requirements of subsection 7 (1) clauses (d) and (f) to (j) inclusive.



Despite subsection 7(2) daytime burning in a burn barrel / incinerator is permitted where the conditions in subsection 8(1) are met.

Penalty

Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence.

Every person who is convicted of an offence under this bylaw is liable to a fine as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.33.

Every person who sets a fire in contravention of this by-law or who fails to extinguish a fire once ordered to do so by an Officer shall, in addition to any penalty provided for herein, be liable to the municipality for all expenses incurred as approved by Council, for the purpose of investigating, controlling and extinguishing any fire set or left to burn, and such expenses may be recovered by court action or in a like manner as municipal taxes.

KNOW YOUR 9-1-1 NUMBER!

It was quite alarming to discover, while assisting people with the voter-lookup feature prior to the election, to find out how many people, particularly lake residents, do not know their 9-1-1 number. This is the number on the blue and white sign located on your property.

Minutes can really count in a medical emergency, so it helps if you can tell the dispatcher your number when making a 9-1-1 call. Lake residents generally know their island number but, especially if there is more

than one cottage on an island, your 9-1-1 number lets emergency service personnel know which cottage they are looking for. Furthermore the assigned number tells the distance from a reference point, so responders use this information to find your home, cottage, or business quickly and easily.

It is the responsibility of the property owner to make sure that the sign is in place and is clearly visible from the street or from the water. If you do not have a sign, or if it has been broken or lost, please contact the Municipal Office.

WANTED

Person(s)
responsible for
cottage/camp
break-ins
on Lake Temagami.

CALL:

CRIME STOPPERS

A cash reward of up to \$2000 will be paid
for information that helps solve these crimes.

IN STRICT CONFIDENCE

1-800-222-TIPS

TLA Partners with “CRIME STOPPERS”

The TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION has entered into a partnership with the local “Crime Stoppers” branch in New Liskeard to advance property protection on Lake Temagami. The TLA’s involvement includes an enhanced reward which is made available to people who provide information on offences that lead to convictions.

New billboard signage on the Lake Temagami Access Road, and signs at each of the landings and marinas on the lake, will also keep the “Crime Stoppers” message and reward visible to lake residents and visitors.

All lake residents are encouraged to use the “Crime Stoppers” Tip Line at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) to report suspicious activity around their own (or neighbours’) properties. The number is also found on the first page of the “TLA Membership Directory”, along with other emergency numbers.

Cottage and Winter Safety Information from the O.P.P.

By Constable Renee Taylor, O.P.P. Community Services Officer

One of the biggest areas of concern in the MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI is the ongoing number of cottage break-ins and thefts that occurred last year. The Temiskaming and Temagami Detachments of the ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE (O.P.P.), along with the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION, are working together on a “Cottage Watch Program”. This program is an initiative that promotes cottage-community safety and security.

Cottage break-and-enters, damage, and theft are serious concerns impacting police, cottagers, cottagers’ associations, and insurance companies. The O.P.P. encourages crime prevention at the cottage with the support of local cottagers’ associations and “Cottage Watch” initiatives across Ontario.

Local residents can assist police in ongoing investigations. All suspicious matters need to be reported and include as much information as a possible (e.g., physical descriptions of the persons involved; clothing descriptions; vehicle descriptions; licence plate numbers; island numbers; and, any other pertinent details). In addition, in each instance it is helpful

to note the area where a suspect was last seen and the direction in which s/he was heading.

Thieves prefer to target easy-to-carry items so that it doesn’t hinder their movements. One simple way to help discourage theft of these items is to etch them with an identifying number such as your vehicle licence-plate number. This personal “Operation Identification” number allows police to easily locate inscribed items at pawn shops, and criminals typically consider these “damaged goods” as it is more difficult to get rid of them. In addition, it is always a good idea to record the serial numbers of all electronic devices, tools, generators, etc. and to keep this list in a secure area, as these numbers can assist in investigations.

Nevertheless, remember to ensure your safety at all times. Also, contact

police immediately upon discovering a break-in, damage, or theft, and do not tamper with the crime scene as valuable evidence can be lost.

Winter Weather Safety:

Now that the cold weather has arrived, it is a good idea to keep up with the weather forecast and pay special attention to the wind-chill warning. Wind chill is not the actual temperature, but rather it indicates how wind and cold feel on exposed skin. As the wind increases, heat is carried away from the body and lowers the body temperature. To help prevent cold-related difficulties, it is wise to follow these safety tips:

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY:

- ✓ Always think ahead and develop a cold-weather safety plan.
- ✓ Stay dry, dress warmly, and wear many layers – including a wind-resistant outer layer.
- ✓ Cover exposed skin as much as possible.
- ✓ By keeping active you will generate body heat.
- ✓ Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

Tragically, every year, many Canadians die in ice-related incidents. It is, therefore, critical to evaluate ice quality before travelling on it. Avoid slushy ice, areas with fluctuating water levels, or ice that is on (or near) moving water. If ice has thawed, re-frozen, or is layered or rotten due to sudden temperature changes, it is not safe. Ice may also weaken due to age, and when it is covered in snow – which acts as an insulating blanket that prevents sufficient hardening (and can actually melt the ice surface).

In addition, be familiar with the lakes and bays that you frequent, and watch for pressure ridges caused by wind or water currents. When assessing ice thickness, it is also best to select clear, hard ice and take measurements in several places.

continued on page 17

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Cottage and Winter Safety Information from the O.P.P.

continued from page 16

Snow-Machine Safety:

Snowmobiling is a very popular activity in our province, and knowledge of how to operate your snowmobile safely is very important. Always take into account the following when you venture out:

SNOW-MACHINE SAFETY:

- ✓ Check the weather beforehand.
- ✓ Obey speed limits, and road and trail signs.
- ✓ Any time you travel on ice, you put yourself and your passengers at risk. Since many fatalities involve snowmobiles breaking through the ice or driving into open water, it is safer to check the ice conditions in advance if you must cross a frozen body of water. Also, wear a buoyant snowmobile suit, and carry ice picks that can be easily reached.
- ✓ Always tell someone where you are going (including your exact route) and your expected time of return.

- ✓ Never travel alone.
- ✓ Always be prepared for the unexpected.
- ✓ Use caution at railway and road crossings.
- ✓ Always remain on the right-hand side of the trail.
- ✓ At night, drive at a reduced speed, and don't "outrun" your headlights.
- ✓ A rigid tow-bar must be used when towing a sled or similar device behind a snowmobile.
- ✓ Drive within your ability.

Ontario's snowmobile trail system is maintained by many snowmobile clubs. Our trails are patrolled by the ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE and Conservation Officers. During this winter season, the Temiskaming O.P.P. Detachment has dedicated motorized, snow

vehicle patrol hours (in conjunction with the MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY) on area trails and waterways. Police will be enforcing the "Motorized Snow Vehicles Act", "Liquor Licence Act", "Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act", "Criminal Code of Canada", and other legislation.

Winter School Bus Safety:

"There are many rural bus routes that require the bus to stop on the highway. Drivers must remain alert for the morning and afternoon school-bus stops and watch for the students who are let off at the roadside. Being inattentive can change lives forever."

Ontario law requires motorists travelling in both directions to stop when approaching a stopped school bus with its upper lights flashing. When meeting a school bus in on-coming traffic, motorists must stop far enough away to allow students to cross the road well ahead of the bus bumper. Motorists must remain stopped until the school bus begins to move and the upper red lights have stopped flashing. This law applies on highways, city streets, and country roads – regardless of the posted speed limit – at any time of day, and every day of the week.

Drivers are reminded to be extra cautious when driving in and around school zones. On cold winter mornings, children are bundled up for warmth, and their hoods and hats reduce peripheral vision. Slippery surfaces and snow banks add to the danger, and a fall could put them in your vehicle's path.

By working together, we can protect our children and continue to keep our roadways safe and injury free.

For more information, please contact Constable Renee Taylor, Community Services Officer, by phone at 705-647-8400. You can also visit the O.P.P. website (www.opp.ca), or access regional Twitter feeds at: @O.P.P._NER or @PPO_NORDEST.




Experimental Lakes Area Granted Charitable Status

The INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IISD) announced in December 2014 that the "Experimental Lakes Area" (ELA) had been granted charitable status by the CANADA REVENUE AGENCY. This means that donors will now get a tax receipt when they make financial contributions to the ecosystem research which is conducted at the IISD-ELA. The IISD has indicated that this will also aid in finding new sources of funding to supplement the support that is already received from the Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

The ELA, which was founded in 1968, is a unique natural laboratory that is comprised of 58 small lakes (and their watersheds) that have been preserved for scientific study. It is located east of Kenora (in northwestern Ontario) and is one of the only sites in the world where whole-ecosystem experimentation can occur. Scientists can manipulate the conditions in these lakes to determine how the entire ecosystem – from the atmosphere to fish populations – responds. Discoveries made through the use of such real-world experiments are often much more accurate than those conducted at a smaller scale in laboratories.


The whole-ecosystem research approach of the IISD-ELA has influenced decision-making within governments and the private sector. It has also resulted in more cost-effective environmental policies, regulations, and management.


Sources: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT and FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATIONS



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Chief Arnold Paul
Temagami First Nation

Kwe Kwe and Greetings to All.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the readers of the Temagami Times. I would like to give you a brief description of our community and some of the work we are doing.

2014 was a very busy year for our community. I was elected Chief in July, along with returning 2nd Chief Joe Katt and Councillors Alice Becker, Woody Becker, Leanna Farr, Donna Mattias, Jesse Paul, and Marty Pridham.

The community continues to move forward in our goals in areas of self-sufficiency, good governance, health and wellness, cultural enhancement, environmental stewardship, and more. All these goals will be enhanced by the building of our sustainably designed multi-use facility and business centre in 2015. The facility will provide space for administration, government, recreation, the arts, and commerce. It will also house a display of cultural artefacts which will demonstrate our proud ancient history on n'Daki Menan-Our Land.

This ambitious project has been in development for several years, and I acknowledge the hard work done by the project team, including the previous Council under Chief Ayotte.

Summer of 2014 was year 2 of the n'Daki Menan Stewardship Program. Summer student employees went out on the land and cleaned up campsites left in poor condition by careless users. They also developed their canoeing skills, adventured in the back country, and visited areas of sacred significance to our people. We look forward to year 3 of the program this year. It is very costly, but we consider it an invaluable investment in our Youth.

We are currently partnering with Carleton University professor Murny Richardson in a study of the health of the waters of n'Daki Menan. At the end of the study, we will have a strong baseline data set reflecting the levels of environmental contaminants such as mercury and other pollutants throughout our territory. This data will be of use not only for current knowledge but for protection of the land for future generations.

We are working hard on economic development, looking into ventures and partnerships that will grow our economy while adhering to our principles of protection of Mother Earth. We are working with the Municipality of Temagami in economic development and other areas, and are enjoying a respectful and mutually beneficial relationship.

TLA and Timiskaming Health Unit Partnership

By Peter Healy

In an effort to work together to improve the human-waste issue on campsites, the TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION and TIMISKAMING HEALTH UNIT (THU) will continue to build privies. TLA staff will then install them on campsites that warrant such amenities.

When privies are properly designed and situated on campsites (and used by responsible canoeists and power-boat campers), this contributes to limiting the amount of human waste that would otherwise wash untreated, for the most part, into the lake.

All lake property owners appreciate the financial support of the THU as we continue to build more privies this summer as part of our ongoing water-quality initiatives.

Privy – Courtesy of the TLA and TIMISKAMING HEALTH UNIT (photo by Peter Healy)



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NEEDED: Outstanding Men and Women for TLA Board of Directors

The TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA) is administered by an Executive Secretary who reports to a Board of Directors (comprising nine members of the Association). This Board of Directors meets monthly by telephone, for the most part. Each Board member typically chairs a committee involving something that interests her/him or that s/he personally feels is very important to the lake community. The members of your Board of Directors are listed on page two (2) of this newspaper.

Board members, according to the by-laws of the Association, may sit for only two terms (of three years per term). Each year there are three seats on the Board that come up for nomination and election. All "Class A", "F", or "Life" members are eligible to stand for election.

Please consider taking an active role in your lake association. Nominations are now open for three seats on the Board this year. An official nomination form will be sent to all voting members in April; however, if you are interested now, would like a nomination form, or wish to discuss the idea further, please contact the Executive Secretary, Peter Healy, at tla@onlink.net or 705-237-8927.



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Health, well-being, and healing are areas of focus in our community. We are grateful to our workers at the Doreen Potts Health Centre and Family Healing and Wellness Centre for their hard work and innovation, and to our off-island wellness partners in Temagami and beyond.

The Lands and Resources department is always busy dealing with a variety of issues. We are particularly excited about the n'Daki Menan Mapping project, which is using modern technology to record our traditional use and occupancy of n'Daki Menan.

Our People value life in all its stages. We cherish the knowledge and wisdom of our Elders. The Elders are always active in the community, holding social and recreational events. In November they partnered with students at our school, Laura McKenzie Learning Centre, in a fun and successful fundraiser. Children are the future, and we are always mindful of their interests when we plan long-term. We have a very dedicated and skilled staff at both Tillie Missabie Learning Centre (the daycare) and LMLC. The students at LMLC, in addition to learning the 3 R's, are given lessons in our Language daily. Everyone enjoyed hearing them sing an indigenous version of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" at the school Christmas concert!

Bear Island and n'Daki Menan are the heart of our People, but the Terne Augama Anishnabai take on the world successfully wherever they are. Sandra Laronde and Christine Friday have thriving careers in the arts; Tracy McKenzie is a Doctor in BC; Shaiyena Cote, Alex Paul Jr., and Maegan McKeo are shining hockey stars. These are just a few of our People's accomplishments. We equally value and cherish everyone's good work, from those who keep the floors clean for the toddlers at Tillie Missabie Family Centre to those who keep our traditional skills alive working on the Land.

Miigwetch for the opportunity to speak to your readers.

We wish everyone a peaceful and joyful 2015.

Arnold Paul

Ogima, Temagami First Nation

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Temagami's "Community Improvement Plan" Ad Hoc Committee

On September 5, 2013, the "Economic Development Advisory Committee" (EDAC) for the MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI discussed the creation of a "Community Improvement Plan" (CIP), which was then introduced to Council on September 19, 2013. The EDAC concluded that utilizing a "Community Improvement Plan" would be a good method for helping Temagami to attract and retain businesses since: there is already an existing CIP from 1988/1989; the "Official Plan" contains provisions relating to community development; and, there is funding available through several sources for implementing this type of initiative.

The EDAC recommended forming an "Ad Hoc Committee" ("Committee"), which the Council then accepted. Once it is developed, the purpose of this "Committee" will be to investigate and create a viable "Community Improvement Plan" for consideration by the Council.

The EDAC put forward the following parameters for the selection of CIP "Ad Hoc Committee" members:

- The "Committee" should consist of eight (8) individuals.
- Members will include at least one (1) representative from each of Temagami North, Temagami South, and Marten River.
- Members of the "Committee" should, ideally, have expertise in one of the following: municipal issues, or planning, engineering, marketing, architectural, industrial, commercial, or residential spheres.
- There should be a limit of one (1) individual from the "Planning Advisory Committee" and a limit of one (1) individual from the EDAC.
- The "Municipal Planner" or "Economic Development Officer" should also be included in the committee as a non-voting member for the purpose of information, guidance, and minute-taking.
- The "Committee" will be dissolved once Council has received the finalized CIP by resolution.

The context and scope of the CIP "Ad Hoc Committee" is varied and, according to its "Terms of Reference", will include the following responsibilities:

- Identify community needs based on the "Planning Act" definition of "community improvement" and "community-improvement project area" (in conjunction with the MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING – MMAH – "Municipal Services Office").
- Build community support through stakeholder input and feedback by: identifying matters for consideration; determining input and feedback methods (e.g., workshops, open houses, community meetings, steering committees, task forces); and, identifying stakeholders to engage in the process (e.g., ratepayers, community and business groups, municipal staff, political representatives, consultants, business representatives, financial institutions).
- Report to Council for authorization and direction to prepare a CIP. Basic information will include: identified problems; reasons why the problems need resolving (i.e., public benefits); a description of the CIP study process; the proposed boundary of the community-improvement project area and the criteria used for selection; whether the work is to be done by municipal staff or by consultants; the proposed administration of the study, including the departments responsible for preparing the CIP; and, project timelines, resources needed, and financial/budget implications.
- Analyze and gather data on the physical, economic, social, and environmental characteristics of the study area to: identify key opportunities and challenges; consider how these opportunities and challenges can be addressed; and, assess the appropriate timing for creating a CIP.
- Conduct a background analysis of planning, land use, and other policies and strategies applicable to the study area.
- Review the "Official Plan" to determine whether or not it contains necessary or appropriate provisions, such as: reference to the legislative authority for CIP and programs; guiding principles for goals to be achieved; specific goals (e.g., updated infrastructure, streetscape and open-space improvements, contaminated properties clean-up and redevelopment, and increased affordable housing stock); policies and criteria for the identification and designation of community-improvement project areas (and for determining individual property eligibility within a project area); actions that could be taken to implement the community-improvement policies in the "Official Plan"; and, policies that could allow financial participation in grant and/or loan programs between upper- and lower-tier municipalities.
- Report back to Council with recommendations for designating a community-improvement project area based on any findings. If supported, staff will prepare a bylaw (which Council must then pass) to designate the project area, prior to adopting the CIP.
- Draft municipal actions, programs, and implementation policies that address identified problems and goals. Using the information gathered from previous steps, develop: the rationale for needs; the goals of the CIP; and, a description of project-area characteristics, planning policies applicable to the project area, and community-improvement strategies and actions.
- Develop detailed implementation policies for each incentive-based program.
- Tailor eligibility criteria for each program (e.g., who may apply for an incentive; the number of applications permitted per year and per property; business-plan requirements; eligible rehabilitation costs; the maximum amount of financial assistance to be made available; a requirement that property taxes are in good standing; municipal recourse where the terms of the incentive are not met;

requirements for conformity with relevant legislation, policies, regulations, and any outstanding work orders; and, grant or loan agreement requirements).

- Develop marketing policies to promote the uptake of programs.
- Develop criteria to measure and monitor the effectiveness of land or financial-assistance programs.
- Develop an "Action Plan" for the allocation of resources and the development of administrative practices and procedures necessary to implement programs (including a task breakdown).
- Finalize the draft CIP, and circulate it to the appropriate MMAH "Municipal Services Office" and any other interested persons or organizations. Once comments are received from the circulation process, revise the draft plan where appropriate.
- After public meetings have been held, finalize the CIP and forward it to Council for adoption by bylaw (after making any necessary revisions based on public input).
- Specify funding requirements for each program (e.g., amount, duration, purpose) for consideration by Council.
- Finalize the CIP. Once a decision is made and notice is given (in accordance with the requirements under the "Planning Act", and if there are no appeals within 20 days), the decision is final. The "Ad Hoc Committee" will then be dissolved.
- Once the CIP is finalized and implemented, each program will be periodically monitored based on established performance criteria to determine: whether or not established program targets are being met, desired outcomes for the community are being achieved, and program participants are completing their commitments; and, the full benefits and costs of each program.

The "Committee" will provide Council with written reports. These reports should include the alternatives considered and reasons for their recommendations. This shall be received by resolution at a regular Council meeting, but may or may not be adopted by Council. The completed "Community Improvement Plan" will be submitted to Council for final approval according to the parameters and guidelines set forth in the "Planning Act".

Until recently there were not enough interested community members to consider starting this process. On January 29, 2015, however, four "Ad Hoc Committee" members were appointed. In addition, Council would like to amend the current "Terms of Reference" at one of their future meetings so that a member of Council may be added to this "Committee".

As there are currently "Committee" vacancies, any TLA members who are interested in becoming involved in this initiative can contact Michelle Anderson, Economic Development Officer, for further information at: 705-569-3421, extension 207 or edo@temagami.ca.

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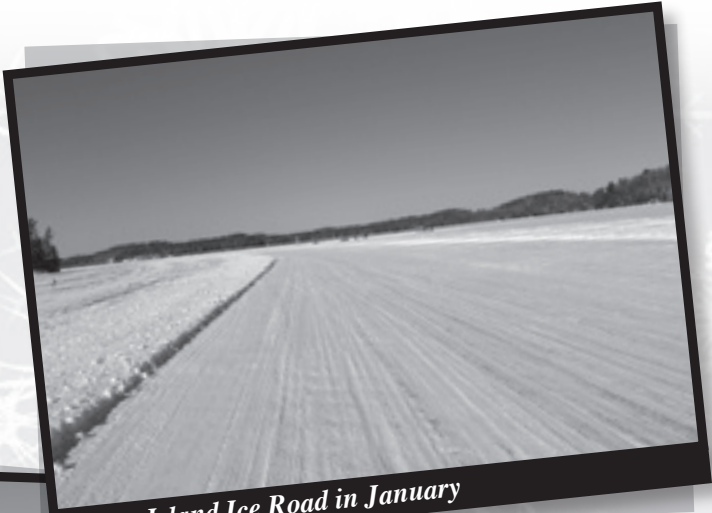
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Temagami in Winter



» Bear Island Ice Road in January



» Fun in the Sun



» Thirty Below



» Hauling Wood From the Landing



» It Will Soon Be Maple Syrup Time



» Stairway to Heaven

All photos were taken by Peter Healy.

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Everyone has a special place on Earth that they mentally escape to, dream of, and fantasize about on long, dreary days. The memories or fantasies of these places free us temporarily from the everyday shackles that constrain our constant need for adventure. They give us hope, inspire us to reach our goals, and many times, change our lives.

This place has always been, for me, the “Spirit Forest” of Temagami; and at its heart, Chee-skong-abikong. This lake is home to a geological and spiritual wonder, “Spirit Rock” – a giant, 50-foot granite spire erupting from a boulder-ridden shoreline. I have travelled and seen many beautiful places in this vast wilderness throughout my life, but it was the spiritual allure and ancient forests surrounding Chee-skong-abikong that tempted my soul for many years. This summer, I finally made it there.

Trip Journal (July 9, 2014):

Day 4 of a 7-Day Trip with Seven Young Trippers

“We stopped for a much-needed, hearty lunch at the beginning of the 740-m portage into Chee-skong-abikong after a long and beautiful paddle through the

Guide Life BLOG

By Justin Metz, TLA Director

CHEE-SKON-ABIKONG “Lake at the Place of the Large Rock” ~ A Reawakening ~

Wakimika wilderness. My heart was racing, as I was less than a kilometre away from reaching a dream. I wanted to eat while portaging, but I knew it was important for all of us to savour this moment.

We began our ascent through the ancient pines – admiring their beauty and ability to make us feel truly small in our existence. The anticipation made it the longest 740-m portage that I have ever done. But I was glad. Too many good things are rushed in my life.

The moment I saw the lake appear through the forest, everything fell silent. My heavy breathing, the forest sounds, and the clatter of gear ... everything was like a dream. Was I really here?

I put down my gear as quietly as I could while my eyes fixated on the towering cliffs across the way. Slowly I crouched down to my knees, closed my eyes, took a deep breath of forest air, and then opened my eyes again. This was not a dream ... this was heaven on Earth.

I sat in amazement on the shoreline as the trippers emerged from the forest behind me – each of them silently stunned with awe. We slipped quietly into our canoes and made way for the only campsite on Chee-skong-abikong. It was open.”

Over the next two days we explored the area by water and trail, and quickly realized why Chee-skong-abikong was so spiritually-significant for the Teme-Augama Anishnabai. We honoured their traditional beliefs, and gave our thanks and hopes for a safe passage, through the traditional manner of offering tobacco. Each tripper paddled solo across the lake to do so; each took the time to reflect and give back. I was immensely proud and inspired by the level of respect and gratitude these young adventurers displayed that day.

I soulfully gained inspiration and filled a great void in my life by venturing to Chee-skong-abikong; but, most importantly, I wholeheartedly renounced a bitter stereotype that all youth are disconnected and unappreciative.

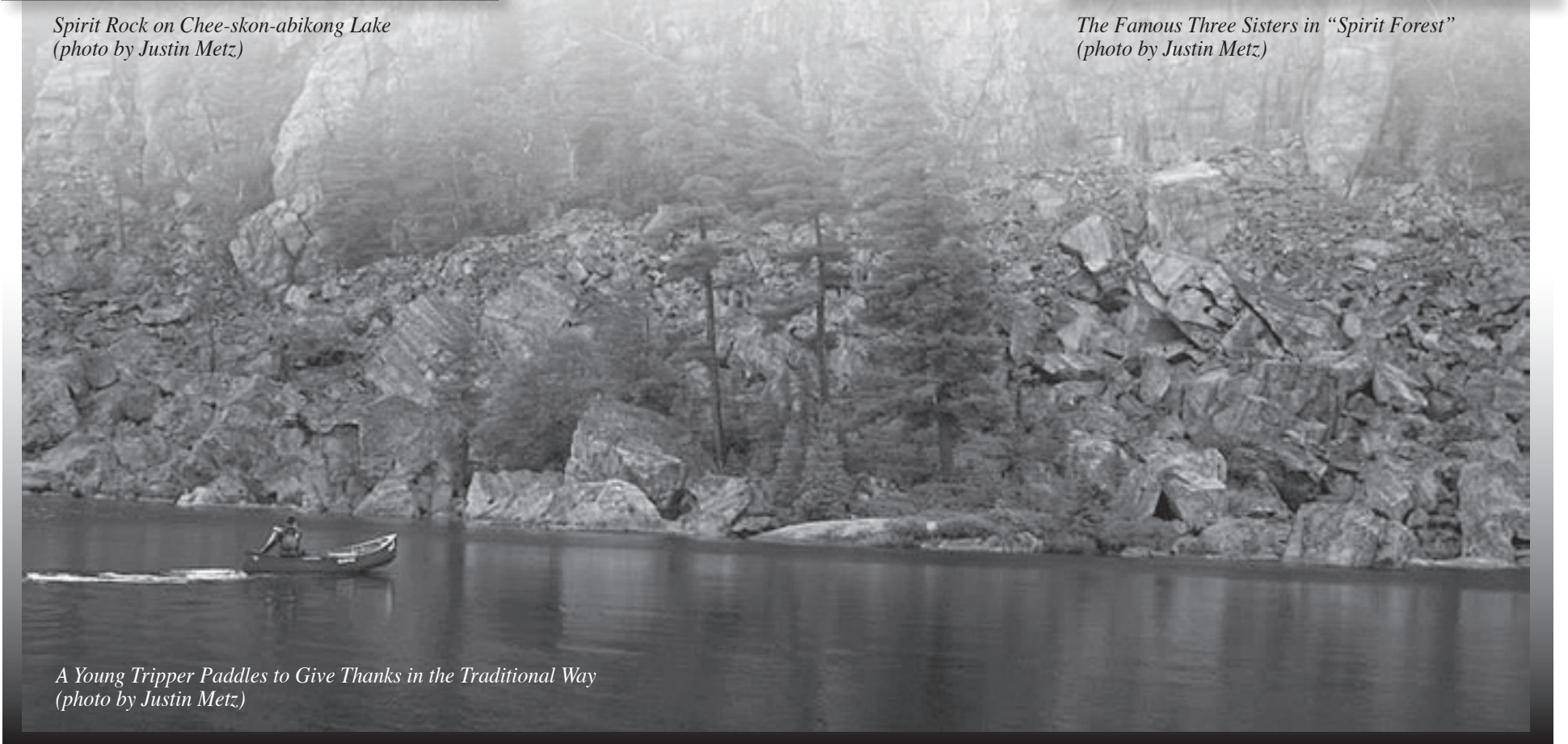
J.K. Rowling once wrote, “It does not do to dwell on dreams and forget to live.” Those places in our dreams are there for a reason – they are a calling and a gift. For them to go unanswered is a terrible waste.



*Spirit Rock on Chee-skong-abikong Lake
(photo by Justin Metz)*



*The Famous Three Sisters in “Spirit Forest”
(photo by Justin Metz)*



*A Young Tripper Paddles to Give Thanks in the Traditional Way
(photo by Justin Metz)*



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Temagami Lions Club



Winter 2015 Activity Update

By Ike Laba

TEMAGAMI COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

The "Temagami Country Christmas" was initiated by Peter and Colleen (from PEACOCK WOODCRAFTS) to bring people to the Temagami area, and attracted people from Latchford, Cobalt, Temiskaming Shores, Quebec, North Bay, and Sturgeon Falls. One activity for children and adults consisted of walking in a natural winter setting along a well-lit trail through the Temagami forest. Other activities included having a picture taken with Santa in a fishing hut, a sleigh ride, and a campfire with refreshments.

The only entry fee for this event was a donation of non-perishable food or money to the TEMAGAMI FOOD BANK OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION "Christmas Basket Campaign". Local businesses were very supportive and more have signed on for next year. You can also help, by contacting a TEMAGAMI LIONS CLUB member or Ike Laba (705-569-3252).

TEMAGAMI SENIORS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

The "Temagami Seniors Annual Christmas Dinner" was held at the Temagami Arena in December. A total of 155 meals were served – including some home deliveries. The "Temagami Christmas Tree" event was held on December 14, 2014 (also at the Arena). Many children met Santa and each received a Christmas gift. A special "thank you" is extended to the anonymous person who donated 32 knitted mitts for the children who attended the visit with Santa.

TEMAGAMI FOOD BANK

The TEMAGAMI FOOD BANK received some significant food and cash donations from the NORTH BAY REAL ESTATE BOARD, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY staff, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEW LISKEARD, the Marten River food drop-box at the TRAPPER TRADING POST location, the drop-box in Temagami at OUR DAILY BREAD grocery store, and from many individual donors. Recently, the TEMAGAMI FOOD BANK also helped the TEMAGAMI FIRST NATION establish a food bank at the DOREEN POTTS HEALTH CENTRE. Cash donations for the TEMAGAMI FOOD BANK may be sent to the TEMAGAMI LIONS CLUB at: P.O. Box 39, Temagami, Ontario, P0H 2H0.

CLOTHESLINE/DIABETES PROGRAM

TEMAGAMI LIONS CLUB members appreciate the community's support of the "Diabetes Clothesline Project". Donating unwanted clothing items to this diabetes project helps to raise funds for various community initiatives. A clothing drop-box is located at the side of the Catholic Church.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

The TEMAGAMI LIONS CLUB is always looking for new members. As a group, we are working together to make the community a better place in which to live and work. If you are interested in more information about the club, or thinking of joining, please contact President Bob Sykes at 705-569-4412.

If you are reading this edition of the Temagami Times and both enjoy it and find it a valuable community resource, please consider supporting its continued publication through a membership in the Temagami Lakes Association.



TLA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Group Box 129, Temagami ON P0H 2H0 • 705 237 8927 Fax: 877 281 4687 • tla@onlink.net.

Name _____ Spouse _____
Home Address _____
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Class **A** membership (necessary for F and D memberships) _____ \$ 115.00
Class **F** membership (for family members of A member) _____ 55.00
Class **D** memberships (children <18yrs of class A or F) _____ 15.00
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Class **B** membership (sustaining - non property owner) _____ 60.00

TOTAL \$ _____

SUPPLEMENTARY OPTIONS AND SERVICES

Contribution to the "Tenets for Temagami" Defense Fund

A separate fund for legal costs protecting the tenets _____ \$ _____

Contribution to the Water Quality Monitoring Fund (min. \$25 per property requested)

A separate fund dedicated entirely to ongoing water quality monitoring and research on Lake Temagami \$ _____

Property Patrol Service (choose either A, B or C for each Island with buildings)

Service A (spring and fall) — \$50 _____ \$ _____

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Service C (combination A and B) — \$95 _____ \$ _____

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Navigation Maps — Maps are two sided and water resistant.

For the boat — \$20 CD Rom — \$20 _____ \$ _____



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TLA History Book: Life and Times of a Cottage Community — \$30 _____ \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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If you would like to receive an application for membership or information related to that contact Peter at tla@onlink.net or call 705-237-8927



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Plastic Micro-Beads in Consumer Products

The presence of plastic micro-beads, which have accumulated in the Great Lakes (and in water bodies around the world) over the past two decades, is a growing concern. Concentrations in these lakes are higher than in ocean samples, and Lake Ontario, in particular, now has an average of more than one million beads per square kilometre.

These beads are tiny pieces of plastic, which are derived from some personal-care products that exfoliate our skin and toothpastes that polish our teeth. One jar of facial scrub, for example, can contain as many as 300,000 micro-beads. Because they're so small, these micro-beads can't be screened out by sewage-treatment plants when we wash them down the drain.

When they are released into the water, these small particles act like mini sponges and soak up pollutants such as motor oil, phthalates, flame retardants, and/or PCBs. In the Great Lakes, this means that these toxins become more widely dispersed as they attach themselves to the circulating micro-beads.

These toxin-laden beads have been shown to have deleterious effects on fish and other water-loving creatures in the Great Lakes and water bodies worldwide. Because they are the size of fish eggs or plankton, birds, fish, and other creatures mistake them for food and ingest them. Micro-beads have, in fact, been found in the digestive tracts of fish and other marine animals. The risk from these plastics is not limited to animals. Consuming contaminated food (e.g., fish, squid, or mussels) can send micro-beads up the food chain into human digestive systems.

In June of 2014, a committee of advisors to the GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION passed a resolution calling on Canadian and American governments at all levels to prohibit the sale of cosmetic and personal-care products containing micro-beads by 2015. So far, the governments of Ontario and Canada have not met this challenge.

Nevertheless, some action is under way. The state of Illinois, on Lake Michigan, is the first jurisdiction in the Great Lakes Basin to ban micro-beads from consumer products. A few companies are also responding to public concern and have pledged to phase them out in their respective products. The Illinois bill, however, stops short of banning biodegradable plastics – which may also contribute to the presence of these tiny particles and result in ongoing problems for fish and other wildlife species.

The discovery of micro-beads in the Great Lakes raises awareness of the issue of plastic contamination in all of the world's large bodies of water. It also reflects the failure of governments to anticipate the harm that chemicals can inflict on ecosystems, and demonstrates the loopholes in legislation and international agreements governing toxic chemicals and their by-products. Although the Canadian "Environmental Protection Act" has some limited provisions for testing new chemicals, there is no official way to assess the impacts of those already in use when their different applications and novel uses pose problems.

Governments don't demand that companies evaluate the impact of the degradation products of the chemical compounds that make up micro-beads (or their metabolites) on fish and waterways. When applied in new ways, tiny particles such as micro-beads, can pose unanticipated hazards related to their size and distribution – not just their physical and chemical properties. At present, these subtle effects are "under the radar" of programs in Canada that function to evaluate the toxicity of existing chemicals. Consequently, they are also likely to be overlooked by the Canadian and American governments in their bi-national effort to identify chemicals of concern in the Great Lakes.

The burden is on the general public to protect water sources. Our only option is to exercise consumer power by refusing to purchase and use products that contain polyethylene or polypropylene (plastic) abrasives. Instead, we can choose salt or other



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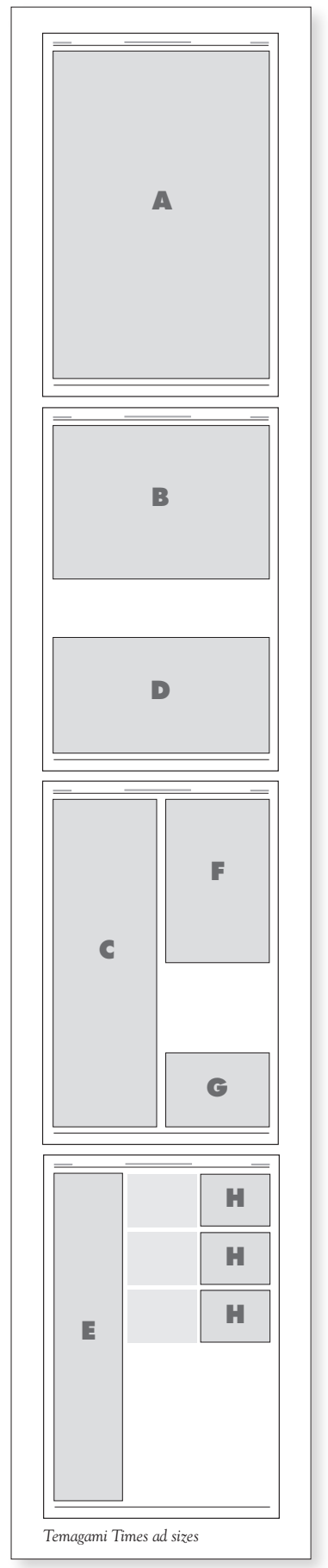
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less-harmful substances that perform the same function. Ingredient lists on personal-care products, are, unfortunately, required reading nowadays if we want to minimize the accumulation of plastic micro-particles in the Great Lakes.

Sources: Anne Wordsworth, Research Associate, CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION (December 2014) and FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATIONS



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Stinking Island. Photo: Trish Healy



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Welcome to Spring!

On September 11, 2014 Temagami Marine's world changed. We lost our captain and friend, Andre.

Since then we have been, as you probably were, wondering what was next? In January, 2015, Jim and Kim decided to begin the process of proposing to buy Temagami Marine.

The estate of Andre was a somewhat complex one with a few businesses and personal things to take care of and it is just starting to move forward now. Until the executor has finished with his file, things will move slowly. Jim and I wanted to move things a little quicker in order to be prepared for summer 2015 so we started a new company called Inlet Bay Marine Sales and proposed to the executor that until Temagami Marine had new owners, we could work in conjunction with one another. He agreed and together we are proud to present some lines for 2015.

Temagami Marine will once again have a full showroom of products. Should Jim and I be successful in our proposal to purchase Temagami Marine, we will amalgamate the two companies and operate as Temagami Marine if possible.

We look forward to seeing and serving you all again this summer season and will keep you informed as we move forward.



Temagami Marine's Top Shop

Jim, our Top Guy is ready to design, fabricate and install your custom coverings. Whether it be Boats, UTV's, Upholstery, Awnings, Gazebo, Lawn Furniture and more... he will work with you every step of the way. We even take that carpet off your pontoon and replace it with vinyl...



Email Jim at info@temagamimarine.com or call 705-569-3221 for a personalized quote.

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