



TEMAGAMI TIMES

THE VOICE OF THE TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA)

WINTER 2012

Lack of Bridge Hampers TAFIP's Efforts

For years the Temagami Area Fish Involvement Program (TAFIP) volunteers had a wooden bridge to cross as they traveled to the two rearing ponds off Roosevelt Road. The bridge enabled them to cross a creek whose water flows from Rib and Granite Lakes to Petrault Lake.

In 2010, however, after the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) personnel inspected the bridge and found it to be unsafe, the MNR removed the bridge. At that time, they did not see the need to replace it. When TAFIP informed the MNR that this was their only means of access to the ponds, the Ministry personnel suggested that the creek could be crossed without a bridge. If needed, a few rocks could be added to the creek to make crossing it easier.

TAFIP President, Claude Landry says that this would be feasible during the mid summer when the water is very low in the

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NEEDED:

Outstanding men and women to submit nominations for TLA Board of Directors. See page 6.

The TLA is now on Twitter. Follow the latest events and activities in Temagami! For details see page 9.



Andre Lamothe (5th from left) with some of his team, who now have year-round employment in Temagami.

Naden Boats Now Being Produced in Temagami

By E. Gunnell

It's a brand name well known to Canadian boaters. Naden boats, which have been produced in Canada for over 35 years, are popular from coast to coast. Commencing in February 2012, these durable aluminum fishing boats will be produced right here in Temagami.

About one year ago, Temagami Marine, who at the time was a dealer for Naden Boats, was advised that Naden would be ceasing production due to the loss of many of its employees to the mines in Red Lake.

Upon realizing that this could be a perfect fit for his vision for the company, Temagami Marine owner André Lamothe approached the owner of Naden to see if the business was for sale. The owners had confidence that Temagami Marine would preserve the Naden legacy and represent it well going forward, so they were willing to sell.

For the previous two years, Mr. La-

mothe had been seeking a solution that would minimize the seasonality of the marina business. He had purchased

plant would help to accomplish this goal.

The first is the process for curing the paint. The typical "automotive style"



Naden boats are assembled and water tested in the shop at Temagami Marine.

Temagami Marine in February 2007

and he was concerned as an employer that it was hard to attract and keep top-notch people without being able to offer year-round employment.

Yet it had to be the right solution, one that would fit with his ideal of being leading edge in environmental values. André explained that two main features of the



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THE TEMAGAMI TIMES

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**The opinions expressed by the authors or advertisers in this edition are not necessarily those of the Temagami Times or the Temagami Lakes Association. As contributing authors write articles for the Times on a voluntary basis the TLA cannot take responsibility for errors or omissions which may accidentally appear in Times articles.*

THE TLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Andrew Healy
1st Vice President: Ted Tichinoff
2nd Vice President: Gerry Kluwak
Treasurer: David McFarlane
Directors: Pete Calverley
Will Goodman
Chip Kittredge
Boyd Matchett
Justin Metz

*The term of office for a Director is 3 years.
Elections are held every year in the summer.*

President's letter

Lake Temagami residents have a great deal to be excited about in 2012. If thoughts of sunning yourself on the dock aren't enough to get you anticipating summer, perhaps hearing about the TLA's new Environmental Monitoring Students will be!

The TLA is currently planning a significant change in our seasonal staffing and operations. Instead of hiring one or two young people to cover only the radio operation and office administration for July and August, we will be hiring two university/college students beginning in May to undertake and manage all of the TLA's activities and services for the summer.

The main driver for this change is the need to have a dedicated team of qualified staff to implement the water quality monitoring program early in the spring prior to the shift in thermocline. Not only will this team be planning the program and collecting the samples, they will also be distributing them to labs, analyzing results and developing a database for tracking and reporting on the findings. This large task will need to be done a minimum of two times throughout the season.

When the students aren't out collecting samples, they will be spearheading the TLA's campsite clean-up and privy project, helping with TLA events, operating the radio and office services and planning future stewardship projects. It will be quite something to see the new TLA boat and crew out on the water working hard to keep Temagami beautiful. Please be sure to wave, and stop into the headquarters building to chat and welcome our new team!

Though we have some excellent interest thus far, the job competition is still open. Please refer to the detailed job description and list of qualifications enclosed in this edition of the Times. The deadline is approaching soon so share with those who might be interested!

I hope you all enjoy the remainder of winter and hopefully many of you are able to experience the lake in its frozen state. I do plan on spending some time on the lake in March when the sun warms up!

See you on the lake!

Andrew Healy, President

The TEMAGAMI TIMES welcomes signed letters or emails on any subject.

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. The opinions expressed are the letter writers' own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Temagami Lakes Association. As contributing authors write articles for the Times on a voluntary basis the TLA cannot take responsibility for errors or omissions which may accidentally appear in Times articles.

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.

LETTERS

Re: "Comments on Taxation" Article

Dear Editor

The most recent edition of the Temagami Times had an article entitled "Comments on Taxation" that hit on some relevant points that will prompt your readers to take away a better understanding of the big picture when it comes to taxes. This week is Local Government Week in Ontario and by coincidence I was asked to speak to a class of Grade 6-7 students yesterday and was surprised to field so many questions on taxes!

While enjoying reading the current Temagami Times Edition last evening I was challenged to understand a statement made by the writer of the article and that attributed the following to me: "stated quite categorically that no municipal taxpayer should be billed in 2011 for more dollars than in 2010." The statement jumped off the page for me because I immediately knew, without even going back to check on my original letter, that I did not nor never would make such a statement.

As an Editor you likely noticed, as I did, that there was no use of quotations (air hooks) - so the statement, so strongly categorized as an absolute fact, cannot be challenged as being incorrect. I will consider that the writer did not mean to misquote me but rather read into my statements his own interpretation and then gave it a lot of weight...

At the Council table we use the term to "bill out" as the amount of total taxes that are levied at any particular time. Individual taxpayers receive bills. No Mayor could ever state, categorically or otherwise, that no taxpayer will be billed one year more than the year before, because each property is unique and from year to year may have adjustments one way or the other.

Our Council is proud to accomplish and actually surpass our goal of not billing out one dollar more than was billed out in 2010. We actually billed out around 150k less this year than last year.

The article seemed to deliver on some points that brought some clarity to taxation in Temagami, but strayed from the facts when incorrectly parroting statements or promises.

Yours truly,
John Hodgson
Mayor
Municipality of Temagami

Reply to Mayor Hodgson's Letter

Dear Editor

Having been the author in the recent fall edition of the Temagami Times of the article "Comments on Taxation", which was a reprint of my address to members at the TLA Annual Meeting last July, I hasten to reply to Mayor John Hodgson's 20 October 2011 letter to the Editor.

As Mr. Hodgson has surmised, I did in effect put quite a different, yet innocent, interpretation on his statement to quote his letter, "I will consider that the writer did not misquote me but rather read into my statement his own

interpretation" than what obviously was intended, and I apologise for this misreading.

Over the months I had frequently reflected on this particular statement in Mr. Hodgson's original letter of 20 December 2010, "that our Council will have let down the taxpayers if we bill out one dollar more in 2011 than we billed out in taxes in 2010" believing that it referred, in a broad sense, to billings to individual tax payers, and not that the Municipal Administration's accepted meaning of the term "bill out" would be the amount of total municipal taxes levied. Understandably, this latter

interpretation puts a much broader, less specific and certainly less bold meaning, to the statement than mine and that in the end the Mayor's predicted results were met.

I trust that this misunderstanding in terminology will not detract from the remaining comments and observations of my report and again I apologize sincerely for any surprise or embarrassment this misinterpretation may have caused Mr. Hodgson.

Yours sincerely,
J. Boyd Matchett
TLA Director

Letter to TLA re: Campsites

January 11, 2012

Dear Peter

The TLA Board has done great things and I thank them.

One project which has not been tackled bothers me mightily since I was once a tripping canoeist and explored the whole lake and beyond with all the gear and energy of the enthusiast.

There is a GREAT NEED to designate key campsites for NON-MOTORIZED boats and keep some from hogging these key sites for up to 3 weeks at a time. As well how can we stop houseboats from making over-night stops at these prime camping locations?

Please try to put something in place by the summer. Motorboats don't need prime spots; houseboats can tie up anywhere. Canoeists are tired after a long and possible windy and wet day. They deserve a reward not a session of bushwhacking a campsite.

Sincerely
Claire Muller



TLA Reply to Letter re: Campsites

Dear Claire

Yes this issue is a concern to many, me included. It is very discouraging to see a canoe section late in the afternoon being forced to paddle by a site occupied by a houseboat. There is however no easy solution other than simple courtesy.

Firstly the mainland of Lake Temagami is Crown land and as such is open to be used by any resident of Ontario. This is a right that the Ministry of Natural Resources protects as part of their mandate. The MNR therefore will not designate campsite usage. As a result motorized boats, whether fishermen or houseboat operators, have the legal right to use any site they chose.

For a while it looked as if the resolution of the unresolved land claim issues would ironically allow us to deal with the use of campsites on Lake Temagami. The Waterway Park proposal, proposed by the TLA and agreed upon by both sides, would have allowed the identification of legal campsites along with their monitoring, maintenance and permitting of users. Unfortunately legal issues forced the removal of the Waterway Park concept from the negotiating table.

In the past there was an agreement with houseboat operators at the time that certain sites were not to be used and a map was actually created. The proliferation of both private and rental houseboat operators ended this understanding. As mentioned above anyone has the right

to use the shoreline and with some 200 campsites on Lake Temagami, I would like to believe that there are ample camping opportunities for all users. Having said that some users carry their own house with them and hopefully will not use sites with appropriate tent sites and privies on them.

The TLA does what it can. Our members pay for, build and install privies on campsites in an attempt to protect the water of Lake Temagami and to provide a clean pleasant campsite experience. The TLA has begun an adopt-a-campsite program whereby local cottagers monitor and maintain campsites nearby their islands and report on this to our central data collection centre. This summer we are hiring full time staff to do a number of things including water quality testing and campsite maintenance.

Cottagers are reminded that should they experience inappropriate behavior or find excessive damage or garbage left behind at a campsite they should contact either the OPP if it is a behavior issue or the MNR otherwise. Phone numbers for both are on the first page in the Membership Directory. During office hours our staff can make those calls for you from our Headquarters' building. It helps greatly if the vessels or vessel operators can be identified by name, description or boat number.

Yours truly,
Peter Healy

Property Patrol Report for January 2012

By Peter Healy

Freeze up this winter was pretty good with snowmobile access to the landing from Bear Island around Christmas, but for the rest of us access to our islands was problematic until the last week of January. What happened to the forecast calling for a long cold winter in an El Nino year?

From early January we have had too much snow and not nearly enough -20 degree nights to make good ice. The snow covers the ice we have, still only 7-8 inches in places, insulating it and as a result new ice does not form.

The result is what we have – lots of slush to bog down the unsuspecting traveler and open holes in the ice, maybe 12 inches in diameter. They are created when water funnels off the ice as a result of the Corvallis effect of the rotating earth to the water below.

All around these holes of course is slush waiting to trap you. It can be quite

disconcerting to be travelling at 30 mph only to see a hole in the ice directly in front of you. What to do? Hit the throttle hard.

So what happened to the normal Canadian winter? Arctic oscillation is what happened. As the Globe and Mail reports, "This complex weather pattern has held the polar jet stream at bay around the North Pole, preventing colder blasts of air from penetrating farther south.

When the oscillation is weak, or negative, the ribbon buckles, allowing colder Arctic air to penetrate farther south. Last year, the oscillation was more negative than positive, which helps explain Canada's relatively colder, stormier winter."

So here we are about three weeks behind the normal winter, whether the job is getting out the fish huts, hauling wood from the woodlot or checking cottages for TLA members.

Temperatures this last week of January

are in the -5C range in the morning so even making ice cubes can be a problem. As mentioned lake travel is still not perfect – experience is definitely an asset in conditions such as these. For example, as I travel from property to property I can move quickly, however on arrival I cannot park near a dock as windblown snow has created deep slush that will bog a snowmobile down necessitating a long walk home for help. Did I mention all that snow? The walk from shore to cottage is through the deepest snow I have seen in years – it is very tiring.

My inspection of over 130 properties however found no evidence break ins or serious property damage from fallen trees or other acts of nature. There is a lot heavy snow on roofs such that some older buildings, built before building codes designed for this climate, may need roofs cleared of snow this winter. Contact your property caretaker if you are not sure.



*Lots of snow - slush is coming up.
Photo by: Peter Healy.*

Fishing is very good at this time for those who go after whitefish and walleye. Lake Trout season opens Feb. 15 and the ever popular Ling Fling is on March 17, St. Patrick's day and the last Saturday of March Break here in Ontario.

If you have not heard from me already about a problem all is well on your property.

I will next visit your property towards the end of March.

Have a great winter.
Chief and only patrolman

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Temagami and Climate Change

By Chip Kittredge, Island 1158

There's weather, and then there's climate. Relatively speaking, weather is the easy stuff. Listen to the radio, go online, or check the paper, and you can find out the 5-day forecast. Climate is different, though. It's not the day-to-day or weekly changes, it is the bigger picture and longer-term trends, and it is what influences the weather.

Changes in climate are tough to see or notice, since weather is what we see and experience every day. Scientists have studied the freezing and ice breakup of 42 Canadian lakes, six of which are in the far north. Some of the lakes included in the national study include Nipissing, Temiskaming, Muskoka and Simcoe. They followed records from 1950 to 2004, and determined that freeze-up occurred 0.12 days / year later, and break-up occurred 0.18 days/year earlier.

Translate that to ten-year increments and it means that on average freeze-up could occur a day or two later in ten years, and break -up perhaps 2 or 3 days earlier. Trends from the last 20 years for lakes in the far north tell a different story. Freeze up occurred an average of 0.99 days/year later, and break-up occurred an average of 0.76 days/year later. The climate models estimate bigger changes farther north.

Freeze up and break up are important, since they control access to the lake in the winter. The frozen lake allows anglers to fish through the ice, and provides tourism opportunities for lodges and outfitters. The frozen lake provides opportunities for contractors to access islands, and Peter Healy to provide TLA property patrol service! To those cottagers who have never experienced Temagami in the winter, you really haven't yet enjoyed the full Temagami experience!

There is more to the potential climate change effects than lake ice conditions, though. Warmer weather and less ice in the future will result in changing the temperature profile of Lake Temagami. Everyone who swims in the lake in the summer knows that the top inch or two is much warmer! The deeper you go, the colder it gets.

Lake trout anglers know that they will find their fish down deep in the summer, perhaps 50-70 feet, where water temperatures are roughly 50 degrees Fahrenheit, and oxygen content is high. But will these effects of climate change affect the temperature profile of the lake, as well, and in turn habitat for lake trout?

Scientists estimate that by 2100, lake trout habitat in Ontario will decrease by

30 percent province-wide, with declines of as much as 60 percent in the south, and some possible increases in the far northwest. Other typical Temagami species like bass are much more tolerant of warmer water, and are not likely to be as affected.

Of course, not everyone believes that climate change is occurring, so they won't put much stock in these predictions, or even this article! Surveys in 2010 estimate that 58% of Canadians think climate change is real and caused primarily by carbon emissions from vehicles and industry. Interestingly, 41% of Americans share these views. Some Canadians (17%) apparently believe climate change is happening, but it is of natural causes (20% of Americans fall into this category).

It is estimated that the balance of Canadians (roughly 25%) either have no opinion on climate change, or believe that it is merely theoretical and without any proof. It is estimated that 39% of Americans hold these views. Regardless of your own personal opinion on climate change, time will tell, won't it?

Scientists will continue to monitor the climate and indicators of change, such as freeze up and break up. The TLA's new water quality monitoring program gathers water temperature data and oxygen content, and will be in a position over the years to contribute information to the ongoing discussion.

For more information, see these sources consulted for this article:

1. Analysis of climate change impacts on lake ice phenology in Canada using the historical satellite data record. *Remote Sensing of Environment*. *Remote Sensing of Environment* 106 (2007) 492–507

Rasim Latifovic, Darren Pouliot

Natural Resources Canada, Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, 588 Booth Street Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0Y7

<http://www.cfr.washington.edu/classes/esc.401/LakeIcePhenology07.pdf>

2. Regional Projections of Climate Change Effects on Ontario Lake Trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) Populations

C. Ken Minns, Brian J. Shuter, and Jenni L. McDermid

<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/stdprodconsume/groups/lr/@mnr/@climatechange/documents/document/276930.pdf>

3. Climate-change denialism

<http://www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs/suzuki-elders/2010/05/climate-change-denialism/>

New Mental Health Program in Temagami

By the Temagami Medical Centre
And Family Health Team

Through funding, made available by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the Temagami Family Health Team has recently added a Mental Health Worker (MHW) to its inter-disciplinary team of health care providers. The MHW provides service at the Temagami Medical Centre from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday one week, then Tuesday and Thursday the following week. Appointments later in the day are available upon request.

Services are available to people of all

ages, including children, teens, adults and seniors. Rostered patients can be referred by the physician, any member of the team or they can refer themselves.

Referrals will be accepted for:

- mental health issues
- suicide prevention
- eating disorders
- compassion fatigue
- critical incident stress management
- post-partum depression
- addictions of self or family member
- smoking cessation counseling
- domestic violence
- sexual abuse
- family or work related problems

- grief
- parenting
- family counseling
- forms completion
- native perspectives
- support through the process of applying for ODSP or OW

Working collaboratively with other members of the family health team to provide care in a respectful and timely manner, the mental health worker will offer support, education and links with other community agencies and services when appropriate. Planning is underway to establish counselor-led groups for problems

such as depression, anxiety, self-esteem difficulties, stress management, parenting issues and chronic pain.

Referrals will not be accepted for patients who are in crisis who would be more appropriately dealt with through a crisis team.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call the Temagami Family Health Team at (705) 569-3244.

The Temagami Medical Centre and Family Health Team is committed to keeping you as healthy as possible!

Water Quality Monitoring: We Are Not Alone

By Chip Kittredge, Island 1158

The TLA initiated its comprehensive monitoring program of lake water quality in 2011. With the help of Story Environmental consulting, a program was put in place to monitor certain variables that will help indicate the health of the lake over time. But we are not alone. Other people throughout Ontario, Canada, and the world monitor lake water quality, as well.

GLEON is the Global Lake Ecological Observation Network. GLEON is an international grassroots network of limnologists, ecologists, information technology experts, and engineers. They have a common goal of building a scalable, persistent network of lake ecology observatories in order to improve understanding and management of lake ecosystems.

GLEON includes more than 60 lakes and more than 260 individual members from 34 countries on six continents (as of April 2011). The closest GLEON site to Temagami is the Dorset Environmental Science Centre. The Dorset group monitors lake water quality in eight lakes in their area. They have a raft in the middle of Harp Lake (named The Harp Environmental Lake Monitoring Ark, or THELMA) that is set up to deliver continuous real-time data every ten minutes on meteorological information like wind speed and direction and air temperature, as well as water temperature one meter below the surface.

Dorset participates in the province's Lake Partner program, which involves over 800 volunteers who send water samples in to be tested for phosphorus

in Dorset's lab. The program began in 1996 in partnership with the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) and the Lake of the Woods District Property Owners' Association (LOWD-POA). Since 2002, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment has coordinated this lake-monitoring program from the Dorset Environmental Science Centre (DESC).

Each year, 800 volunteers monitor total phosphorus and water clarity in over 600 inland lakes. Total phosphorus analyses are performed in the DESC Water Chemistry Laboratory. The resulting data are used by members of the public, partner agencies, government and academic researchers and private consultants to assess and report on water quality in lakes across Ontario.

This total phosphorus and water clarity data is published each January on the provincial Lake Partner Program webpage. By measuring total phosphorus and water clarity, it is possible to detect long-term changes in the water quality of individual lakes that may be due to impacts of shoreline development, climate change and other stresses.

Assembling lake water quality data from around the world helps provide the big picture view of how these aquatic systems might be affected by climate change. Imagine being able to view data from Finland, Turkey, Ontario, and Chile! At that kind of global scale, patterns and trends can emerge that might not otherwise be obvious. Only by taking the large world-view, as well as the specific view of Temagami, can we better understand what is really happening.

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NEEDED: Outstanding Men and Women to Submit Nominations for TLA Board of Directors

The Temagami Lakes Association 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 tends to chair a committee involving something that interests them or that they personally feel very important to the lake community. The members of your Board of Directors are listed on page 2 of this paper.

Board members, according to the by-laws of the association, may sit for only two terms of three years. 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 or would like to discuss the idea further please contact the Executive Secretary, Peter Healy, at tla@onlink.net or 705-237-8927.

2012 TLA Student Jobs

EMPLOYER: Temagami Lakes Association (TLA)

Position: Students (2) - Environmental Monitoring, Maintenance & Administration

Location: Lake Temagami, Ontario

Job Term: Approximately 16 weeks

Anticipated

Start date: May 7th, 2012

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.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Currently enrolled (or recently graduated) in a related field of study from a recognized university or college.
- Experience working outdoors and performing environmental fieldwork.
- 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 operate marine radio clearly, provide excellent customer service to members, and write technical reports.
- Posses a Pleasure Craft Operator's Card and have experience operating boats & 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 by March 15 to: Peter Healy, Executive Secretary
Email: tla@onlink.net

References will be requested of those candidates selected for interviews.

Water Quality Monitoring: We Are Not Alone

continued from page 6

GLEON explains, “Lakes are the canaries in the landscape.” Lake Ecosystems are sensitive indicators of catchment modification and climatic conditions. Because lakes integrate across landscape, hydrology

and climate, ecosystem change in aquatic systems is often observed more quickly than adjacent terrestrial ecosystems. Therefore changes to catchment or climate may be expressed in lake ecosystems before they are evident in other ecosystems.

Early warning of significant ecosystem change and knowledge of the likely consequences enables communities to respond and adapt to the change. However, to detect changes in lake ecosystems it is necessary to moni-

tor sensitive indicators at appropriate timescales.” (from: <http://www.gleonrcn.org/media/Significance.pdf>)

For more information and to review the sources consulted for this article, see:

http://www.gleon.org/media/GleonPamphlet2011-New_Size.pdf

<http://desc.ca/programs/LPP>

<http://desc.ca/>

http://www.gleon.org/index.php?pr=Home_Page

TEMAGAMI PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

By Shelley Rowland

This is turning out to be one of those winters when sitting in front of a fire with a good book is the best way to spend your time. (Those in southern climates are probably enjoying their books on their decks or on the beach – we wish we were with you!)

Below is a list of some of the new books we have in the library, or you could download one from OverDrive on our website www.temagami.library.on.ca. Overdrive is a provincial collection of downloadable audiobooks and ebooks, including about 1400 fiction and non-fiction titles.

You will need your library card number to access OverDrive as well as our databases. Your card number needs to have the library identifier. Older cards do not have this number. You can contact the library for your number at 705 569-2945 or email us at library@temagami.ca.

While checking out our website you may want to look at the number of databases that are available. These are

listed alphabetically as well as by subject.

For instance, under the subject heading Business & Economics you will find the subheadings: Business eBooks; General Business File ASAP; Insurance & Liability Collection; OverDrive; Small Business e-Collection; and Business Economics & Theory Collection.

Each tab will provide an overview of what is offered. Some headings are available in multiple languages. You will find access to a wide variety of ebooks, reports, trade publications, newspapers, journals, company directories, interviews and some video recordings.

New Books

Non-Fiction: Death or Victory: The Battle of Quebec and the Birth of an Empire/Snow, Now Discover Your Strengths/Buckingham & Clifton, Social Media Business Equation/Orsburn, 100 Hikers 100 Hikes: From Tobermory to Kilimanjaro/Camani

Adult Fiction: Gideon's Corpse/Preston & Child, Believing the Lie/George,

Breakdown/Paretsky, Heat Rises/Castle, Vigilante/Cannell, Rules of Civility/Towes, The Rope/Barr, D. C. Dead/Woods

Large Print: 77 Shadow Street/Koontz, Need You Know/Grippando

Young Adult: Cinder/Meyer, Sellout/Wilkins, Angel Burn/Weatherly, Fallen In Love/Kate

Junior Fiction: One Snowy Night/Ronchi, Deep Snow/Munch, Garfield at Large

Junior Non-Fiction: Blizzard of Glass: The Halifax Explosion of 1917/Walker, iPad for Kids/Proffitt, The Elements: The Building Blocks of the Universe/Green

This past year libraries in Ontario received unexpected funding from the government. Temagami Public Library used that funding to purchase additional books and DVDs; a shelving unit for DVDs; and two Kobo eReaders.

We feel that these purchases have helped meet the needs of the community. We are grateful to the provincial government for providing this funding

and for recognizing the important role libraries play in their communities.

For those in northern climates – keep warm and for those in the southern climates – keep cool!

We hope to see you again soon at Temagami Public Library.



Librarian Shelley Rowland with a Kobo eReader, one of the library's new acquisitions. Photo: E. Gunnell



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Lack of Bridge Hampers TAFIP's Efforts

continued from page 1

creek; however, the TAFIP volunteers need to cross the creek in the early spring when the water levels make this nearly impossible. Attempts to cross the creek in spring have resulted in the need for vehicles to be towed out of the creek.

TAFIP are proposing that the Ministry of Natural Resources allow them to replace the bridge. Their proposal is to build a new steel bridge with wooden decking at the same place where the former bridge was located. The bridge would have the engineering approval required by the MNR. The steel for this is available at a reduced price, so the cost to supply and install this bridge would be approximately \$10,000, which would be paid by TAFIP. They are hoping for support for this endeavor from local contractors and the Municipality. Any "in kind" or financial

donations to this project will be welcomed.

President Claude Landry met with Mayor John Hodgson in late January to discuss this proposal and enlist his help. Mayor Hodgson offered to present their proposal to the MNR.

TAFIP volunteers work very hard to enhance the walleye fishing opportunities in Temagami through their tireless efforts of rearing and stocking fish. There is a lot of work in the process from harvesting eggs through to the end result of releasing fingerlings into area lakes.

We hope that the Ministry of Natural Resources will accept TAFIP's proposal to build a new bridge over the creek, so that TAFIP's work can be done much easier. After all they are doing a lot to give Mother Nature a hand.

THE TAFIP ANNUAL LING FLING

will be held this year on March 17th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The location is on Lake Temagami on the bay south of Wabikon. This event is to raise money for the Temagami and Area Fish Involvement Program (Fish Hatchery). Shuttle service is available from the Mine Landing. There will be food, fun and prizes. For more information, please contact Claude or Olive Landry at 705-569-4361.



TLA Executive Secretary Peter Healy presents a cheque to Lance White, Temagami Area Fish Improvement Program representative, on behalf of TLA members.

TAFIP ANNUAL REPORT 2011

The Temagami Area Fish Involvement Program experienced a difficult season in the operation of the fish hatchery. The weather negatively affected the entire process, starting with the egg collection to the lack of success with the rearing ponds.

The egg collection only resulted in 400,000 from Net Creek and with the cooperation of a First Nation member we were able to receive 700,000 eggs from Lake Temagami.

The rate of hatch of the eggs was fairly good at 65%; from this 50,000 fry were returned to Lake Temagami and 30,000 to Net Creek.

A total of 630,000 fry were stocked in our four rearing ponds to rear them to fingerlings. Unfortunately, the problem

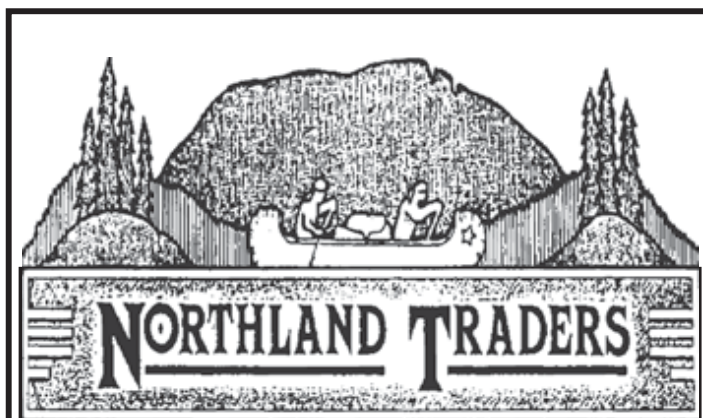
of the hot dry weather resulted in an extremely poor rate of return.

Research is being done with the MNR and others to determine what action can be taken to rectify this problem in the future.

TAFIP obtained funding to hire two students for the summer. This provided them a job with good working experience and training.

TAFIP Board of Directors would like to thank all volunteers who assisted this year, especially those that contributed financially for the operation of the program.

President
Claude Landry



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A Short History of Early Mines in Temagami

By Dustin Roy

Mining is a big part of Temagami's history; a history that is not widely known today. It is interesting to know that mining was active here well over a hundred years ago.

Gold was first discovered at the Manitoba and Eastern Mine around 1900 at the southern end of the mine site. Some surface pitting and trenching was performed and limited underground work was carried out from the 17 m (56 ft) Little Dan shaft. About 270 tons of ore was shipped in 1909, before the prospect was abandoned the following year.

In 1933, a two-compartment shaft was sunk to 160 m (520 ft) and levels were established at 30 m (100 ft), 60 m (200 ft), 90 m (300 ft), 120 m (400 ft) and 150 m (500 ft) below surface. Work ceased on the property in 1937 and it remained essentially dormant until late 1985 when Stroud Resources and Lacana Mining Corporation, in a joint venture, carried out work including prospecting, geophysics and 19,350 m (63,483 ft) of drilling between 1985 and 1996.

In 1899, Canadian prospector Dan O'Connor created test pits on the Big Dan Mine property in east-central Strathely Township. A mining and milling plant was installed by the Temagami Milling and Mining Company in 1906 from which ore was refined. Ore was being shipped out of an inclined shaft and a 15 m (49 ft) vertical shaft with 8.5 m (28 ft) of crosscutting. The shipped ore averaged 0.358 oz

(10.1 g) of gold per ton. Analysis of drill core data ranged from trace to 0.6 oz (17 g) of gold per ton and from trace to 4 oz (110 g) of silver per ton.

A small tonnage mill operation in 1907 was concentrating gold and silver ore from an open cut development via adit 70 m (230 ft) south of the north shaft. A 18 m (59 ft) long and 0.31 m (1.0 ft) wide arsenic vein was also mined during this period. The plant was destroyed by a forest fire the same year and mining operations were not renewed. Since the closure of Big Dan, the adit and mine shafts have been flooded.

The Northland Pyrite Mine was worked by the Northland Mining Company from February 1906 to March 1911. Workings consisted of a 91 m (299 ft) mine shaft and several open cuts north of the shaft. More than 38,000 tons of pyrite was shipped to Cobalt where it was used for making sulfuric acid to be used for the milling of silver ore. The closure of Northland in March 1911 was due to the mine transporting pyrrhotite instead of pyrite for three days. The mined pyrrhotite was said to be in a parallel lens to the mined pyrite and its quality was not noticed.

Minor molybdenum production occurred at Barton Mine in the early 1900s. A 15 m (49 ft) mineshaft was created around 1909 in greenschist of the Temagami greenstone belt. About 181 tons of rock was removed and 550.8 kg (1,214 lb) of ore was mined. However, the mined ore was not shipped to Ottawa for recovery of

TLA and TWITTER

by Will Goodman, TLA Director

The TLA has entered the digital age. With new Twitter and RSS feeds you can stay on top of the latest news on the lake 24/7, 365 days a year. In addition, as part of the TLA's effort to make its website more interactive there will be regular blog posts on the site.

For those who are unfamiliar with Twitter, it is an excellent real-time communication tool. It allows the user to post 140 character news flashes that may be read instantaneously by anyone following that specific "Tweeter."

In the case of the TLA you will want to search Temagami Lakes and then click "follow." Going forward you will automatically receive updates on what going on in Temagami. iPhone users can even add the Twitter app to

their phones. If you don't have an account already, sign up for one at twitter.com. The service is free and is an excellent way for anyone interested in the events on Lake Temagami to keep current.

The blog posts will appear on the TLA website and will be written by TLA members. These posts will be terrific discussion starters and allow readers to develop an online dialogue with one another. Readers of the blog and post their comments right below the postings and anyone following the blog will see the back and forth exchange of ideas.

If you are interested in learning more about these communication efforts or would like to post a blog, please email willg1961@gmail.com.

42.6 kg (94 lb) of molybdenite until after World War I began. Subsequently, a fire destroyed the mine site and boiler house; operations were not renewed.

Exploration work was done at Kanichee Mine prior to 1920 with the construction of trenches and two mineshafts. Between 1933 and 1936, Cuniptau Mines Limited sank a 75 m (246 ft) shaft and installed a pilot smelter. Production amounted to 44,975.6 kg (99,154 lb) of

copper, 29,641.6 kg (65,349 lb) of nickel and relatively small amounts of gold, silver, platinum and palladium.

The mine was later investigated by Ontario Nickel Corporation Limited from 1937 to 1948, then by Trebor Mines Limited from 1948 to 1949. Kanichee Mining Incorporated worked the mine site from an open pit to excavate both disseminated and vein ore to a depth of nearly 35 m (115 ft) from 1973 to 1976.



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Temagami Lions Take on a New Challenge

By Elaine Gunnell

When the Temagami Lions Club sets out to raise money for an important community project, the chances are that they will accomplish their goal – and in less time than planned. This is largely thanks to the generosity of both the seasonal and full-time residents of Temagami.

After raising the \$18,000 for the “Jaws of Life” campaign in only two years instead of the six years as promised (see article on page 19 of the Fall 2011 edition of the Temagami Times), the club has taken on a bigger challenge.

“We are aiming to raise \$50,000 to be split between the North Bay Regional Health Center “Seeing More Clearly” Fund and the Temiskaming Hospital equipment and operating fund” stated Lion Arthur Arnold. “We have had a problem coming up with a catchy name for this effort that would say, as succinctly as possible, just what the fundraiser is supporting. So far we have been calling it the North Bay/Temiskaming Hospitals Fund-raiser to keep it short and for lack of a better idea.”

But the lack of a catchy name for the fundraiser has not hampered their success to-date. They have already presented each of the hospitals with a cheque for \$5,000 from donations and fulfilled pledges. The Temagami Lions Club's commitment to the Hospital Foundations is to raise the \$50,000 over ten years. So far it looks like they will be well ahead of schedule once again.

That is good news for everyone in the Temagami area. Both seasonal and year-round residents use both of these hospitals. Having the right equipment is very important at these locations since Temagami is so distant from the larger centers. The “Seeing More Clearly” campaign is

to offset 60% of the cost to purchase a new state-of-the-art \$10,000,000 MRI unit that has actually been in full operation for several months now.

The Lions' fund raising efforts will include appeals to the year-round and seasonal residents and visitors through articles published in local newspapers,



The Lions Club's thermometer style sign, courtesy of Phippen Signs, shows the progress towards the \$50,000 goal.

Photo: E. Gunnell

personal contacts and appeals made at Lions Club activities throughout the year.

“The seasonal residents have never disappointed us in any endeavor in this community in the past and we truly

continued on page 19

Naden Boats *continued from page 1*



*Employees were trained in January ready for production to start in early February.
Photo: Phil Gunnell*

painting process is toxic, requiring a lot of safety gear and is not a good environment to work in. Additionally, it uses a lot of heat and requires the movement of a large volume of air to cure the paint.

After much research, including attending several seminars, André decided to use an innovative leading edge process. The paint is applied in a non-toxic powder form and then cured using infrared technology.

This method is 50% to 70% more energy efficient than traditional methods and in the winter the process energy will be used to heat the plant. Furthermore, the by-products of this method are harmless, as it produces only water and carbon dioxide.

The other environmentally conscious feature is the installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system. The payback in financial terms will be fairly lengthy, an estimated 8 to 10 years, but the benefits will be well worth it.

The geothermal system will allow the doors of the plant to be kept shut to control the temperature and humidity levels and to keep outside dust from getting into the process during production. The added benefits are that it will contribute to a more comfortable working environ-

ment for the employees and help keep the noise inside the building so there will be less impact on the neighbours. "I put myself in their shoes" said André as he explained his decision to go this route.

The production of Naden boats will provide year-round employment for 6 to 7 new employees. André was pleased to find that there were people right in Temagami with the exact skill sets that are needed, so he was able to hire the new people locally. In addition, six of the present employees will now be employed year-round instead of seasonally.

"This is the perfect synergy of operations," said André, since the bulk of the production will be in the winter, which is naturally the off-season for the Marina. The synergy was in the location as well.

"We already had the infrastructure here," André explained. The production will take place in an existing shop building. The dry-stack buildings for storage are already there, as are the IT systems and the management. This means there will be no doubling-up on overhead costs.

Despite this sharing of location and overhead, a separate company was created for the production end of the business. The company name is Temagami Boat Manufacturing Inc. (TBMI)

The first Naden boats made here were produced in early February. This is a little later than originally anticipated, but still early enough to meet the demand from Naden dealers. By the third week of January, TBMI had already received orders for over 200 boats for this year.

"We knew that the brand was strong," André explained, "but it's even stronger than we believed." He confirmed that the full line of 6 models (one 12' model, three 14' models and two 16' models) will continue to be produced in Temagami. He anticipates that approximately 95% of the boats produced will be exported to other dealers within Canada.

As if adding a boat assembly and painting facility to the business was not enough work, André is also making other significant changes to enhance the services offered at Temagami Marine. These include the addition of a Visitor's Lounge complete with wireless internet access and more; improvements to the parts, accessories and service areas; changes and improvements to the showroom; and

reducing the wait time for new tops and tarps as well as repairs to tops, tents, awnings, etc. by bringing the "Top Shop" in house as well. See page 28 for more details on these changes.

André expressed his gratitude for the support of many people who have helped make this happen. Support came from the Team at Temagami Marine; the agencies that support job creation and preservation who helped orchestrate the financial support; the Municipal Council and Staff; and also the community of Temagami in general.


This support was important because the growth of the business is not only good for Temagami Marine, but for the town of Temagami as well. When one business grows and expands, there are usually economic spin-offs to the community. As André Lamothe puts it, "Rising tides raise all boats."

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2012 Is Summer Art Camp's 10th Year!



The Summer Art Camp has surely become a tradition. This summer the camp is being sponsored for the 10th year by the Temagami Community Foundation and hosted by the Temagami First Nation.

This is exciting news for all kids in Temagami, because the camp is FREE OF CHARGE. Whether you live in Temagami town, Marten River, Bear Island or spend your summers on Lake Temagami, we have a wonderful camp for you again this summer.

Art camp 2012 will take place at the Recreation Center on Bear Island during the week of July 2-6 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Boat service to Bear Island from the Mine Road and bus service from Marten River and the Temagami Train Station to the Mine Landing will be provided.

The goal of this camp is to provide a

fun-filled learning experience for all our children as they learn about art and our cultural heritages and differences. This will be a community-building event for all involved. Camp activities include: Arts and crafts, games, cultural education, stories and songs.

Bettina Schuller, artist and teacher from Island 421, will again conduct the art camp with the help of many counselors and volunteers. This camp is a rewarding experience for the volunteers too. See the comments from those who have volunteered in previous summers on page 13.

All kids in the community from age 6 (senior kindergarten completed) to 12 are invited to participate. Bring yourself, a bagged lunch, and a snack. We are looking forward to seeing old friends and making new friends at Art Camp 2012.

Registration Guidelines:

Once again, there will be registration guidelines in place. The need for these was created by the growing waiting list for art camp in the past years. To ensure that all children have a chance to attend art camp at least one year, the Temagami Community Foundation has created the following registration guidelines for the Temagami Art Camp. Please review these guidelines before registering your child this year:

Guidelines for art camp registration 2012 Children between the ages of 6-12 (completed senior kindergarten) years old are invited to attend art camp.

Children who have not attended art camp will have priority to attend over kids who have attended art camp in years before.

Municipality: The kids who live in Temagami year round have priority over kids who visit their relatives in the municipality. If spaces are still available visiting kids will be able to register for the municipality part of the camp.

Summer residents: The kids whose families own property on Lake Temagami or any of the lakes in the municipality have priority over kids who visit their friends on the lakes. If spaces are still available visiting kids will be able to register for the summer resident part of the camp.

Bear Island: The kids who live on Bear Island have priority over the kids who visit their relatives on Bear Island during the summer. If spaces are still available visiting kids will be able to register for the Bear Island part of the camp.

Kids can only be registered by their

2012 Art Camp...continued

parents or grand-parents.

The kids who are on the waiting list and not able to attend, will have first priority the following year.

The registration process will be open for two weeks and names will be taken. After two weeks the list of campers will be created according to

the guidelines and families will be notified. With these new guidelines, we will be able to give as many kids as possible a chance to participate in art camp.

To register, please call Vicky Blake at (705) 569-2749 or email her at vickyb008@ontera.net between May 14-25, 2012. Space is limited and

registration is required.

If you are 14 or older and would like to volunteer in any way (an hour, afternoon, day or week), please call Bettina at 727-481-3369 (until June 15th) or email her at: schullerbettina@aol.com .

Art Camp Volunteer Comments

"What a rewarding experience it was teaching at Temagami Art Camp! What could be better than to be surrounded by the beauty of the forest, water, rock and sky and also of course by the enthusiasm, creative energy and joy of the children of Temagami.

I felt privileged to be a part of the teaching staff at Temagami as the drawing and painting teacher. To share the experience of Temagami Art Camp with such a creative group of people was wonderful.

The benefits in the future of the whole community of Temagami which will come from Temagami Art Camp will be immense. This camp brings the children of Temagami who come from varying backgrounds, together in creativity, fun and mutual respect. This can only result in a harmonious future for them, their families and the environment they love so much."

Frank Smith

Art Camp on Bear Island 2011 was a great experience for all three of us - our grandson (John Patrick), his grandfather (Beepa) & his grandmother (Meema).

Who would have thought that

Beepa would be painting watercolors at 70 and Meema would be teaching line dancing at 69. We had a great time and we are looking forward to helping out again Summer 2012. Thank you for letting us participate.

John & Rose Heenan

I was thrilled to be a part of the TCF Art Camp this year. My 3 children all participated, (one as a volunteer). I believe the camp did a wonderful job encouraging fellowship and community among cottagers, Islanders and residents of the town and all on Bear Island!

We are so fortunate to have such a diverse group of people sharing Temagami; one can only imagine the things we can learn from one another...

Thank you Bettina and TCF!

Alex Avard Island 711

I/we very much enjoyed the experience again this year. The way that the camp was set up worked well for the watercolor sessions. The 9 kids that we had were all excited to be involved except for one

who did not want to be at the camp at all. We did try and keep her involved.

This year I took a different approach in that we all painted the same subject. This worked well although as is usually the case the kids worked at different paces. Regardless they all ended up with a finished painting and I thought that they were all quite good (I may be biased).

It was particularly satisfying to me because when the kids first saw what the subject was they all groaned and said it was too difficult. However, they all took on the challenge and in the end succeeded. Hopefully they realized that they could do anything that they put effort into. A great lesson in life!

Steve Drake

I have volunteered on the Board of the TCF since its inception and, along with my fellow board members, have watched with great pride the growth and success of the art camp over the past seven years. But I could not have imagined the breadth of this endeavor until I volunteered this summer as an instruc-

tor. I was both moved and inspired by the young participants, so full of vitality, so honest, imaginative and open to change. I learned so much.

On the last day of art camp when I sat in the audience and watched these young people perform a little original show that they had worked hard on all week, I was humbled by their courage and the dignity behind their work. Very impressive indeed. So, yes, I am proud that the TCF has supported the art camp from the beginning, but participating as a volunteer allowed me to feel the real pride at the heart of the many creative works that poured out of that one all-too-short week.

I was very fortunate to have had one of my former "Roots and Wings Company" members, Laura Irving Aumont, working with me. In short, she was fabulous. It was a privilege to work alongside the other instructors and to see how art camp fostered relationships not only between instructors and participants, but also between all of us and the community at large.

Thank you so much Bettina for including me in this summer's program. It was indeed an honour!

June Keevil



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.

MAYOR JOHN HODGSON
MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI
P.O. Box 220,
Temagami ON P0H 2H0
Phone: (705) 569-3421
Fax: (705) 569-2834
visit@temagami.ca

MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Public Information Session on March 8, 2012 at 7:00 PM at Temagami Community Center.

Your municipality is seeking input on all matters relating to solid waste management:

- transfer stations
- curbside collection
- composting
- emerging technologies
- user fees
- hours of operation
- recycling
- e-waste
- waste disposal site operations
- diversion initiatives

Copies of the draft plan may be viewed at the municipal office or public library or on line at www.temagami.ca. Join us for a presentation of the draft plan and discussion on March 8, 2012 at the Community Center (Arena).

Have your say! Comments should be submitted in writing before March 15, 2012. You do not need to attend the public information session to comment.

All comments will be considered. The Steering Committee will make changes to the Plan before it is received by Council.

Comments may be addressed to:

Patrick Cormier, CAO
Municipality of Temagami
P.O. Box 220, 7 Lakeshore Drive
Temagami, ON, P0H 2H0
Phone: 1-705-569-3421 ext 204
Fax: 1-705-569-2834
e-mail: cao@temagami.ca

LOCAL MAYORS SHARE CONCERNS OVER WINTER HIGHWAY CONDITIONS

Local politicians agree that the winter road maintenance on Highway 11 has deteriorated in recent years. Mayor John Hodgson rallied the support of the Heads of Council in our local area recently after yet another Highway 11 closure in mid-January, due to a horrific accident. The Temiskaming Mayor's Action Group are determined to see some action from the Ministry of Transportation that will result in safer roads.

Our local representative in the Provincial Parliament, MPP John Vanthof spoke of this matter as one of his primary concerns, when

he addressed Temagami's Council at the February 2nd regular council meeting. He informed Council about a new website he has created so that members of the public can post information about road conditions on an ongoing basis. We expect that this data will show that many accidents, although not all, are as a result of road conditions.

At the same council meeting, Council also received correspondence from the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Their volunteers are now planning to open the Legion during long road closures in order to alleviate the hardship created by the long hours waiting in cars.

In addition, Mayor Hodgson has met with representatives of the Ontario Provincial Police in regard to their role in highway closures. We hope to see these combined efforts of many people result in safer local highways in the wintertime.

OFFICIAL PLAN/ZONING BY-LAW UPDATE

The provincially mandated review of Temagami's Official Plan (OP), which commenced in 2009 and involved considerable public consultation, was completed in the fall of 2011. Council passed a by-law on October 13, 2011 to adopt the revisions that resulted from the review process.

The draft revised plan was then sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, who have the authority for final approval of the Plan. The Ministry is currently reviewing the plan, along with minutes of public meetings and written comments submitted by the public. The target date for a decision by the Minister is June 3, 2012. Once a decision is made on the revisions to the Plan, the Ministry will send out Notices of Decision to those persons who have requested it.

The Municipality is now focusing on revising the comprehensive Zoning By-law, which implements the OP. Public meetings will be held in the summer of 2012 to receive public input on the revised draft. Watch for more information in the Summer Issue.

COUNCIL'S VISION FOR TEMAGAMI

As a result of a Visioning Session, held in November 2011, Council has adopted a new vision statement for Temagami. This is a statement that articulates where Council sees the Municipality in 10 or 20 years from now, so that Council can create a strategic plan to implement that vision. The vision statement is: **"Temagami is a healthy community which balances quality of life and livelihood and the quality of our natural environment"**.

It is all about balancing the need to preserve the aspects of Temagami that we love with the need to move forward with growth that will provide a stronger economic base. Twenty-four tasks were identified under the combined areas of focus: Growth/expansion; Business development/jobs; Unique character/brand; Wilderness/natural setting; Quality of life/healthy community; and Good government/partnerships.

Council is holding a special meeting on February 23rd to prioritize these tasks. Council also plans to hold a special meeting to obtain public feedback in the spring or early summer.

INTERIM TAX BILLS

The interim tax bills went out in late January and the installments are due on February 23 and April 26. Interim bills that are levied before the 2012 budget is passed are for 50% of last year's tax amount for your property, according to provincial legislation. Any adjustments for this taxation year, resulting from a different tax rate or a phased-in assessment, will be on the final billing mailed out in July.

The Municipality offers the options of automatic withdrawal from a Canadian bank account on due dates and of a monthly payment plan to make it more convenient for our ratepayers. These options help avoid the penalties and interest of 1.25% per month (15% per annum) that are charged on late payments. Please contact the Municipal Office if you would like to take advantage of either of these options.

Please note that 2012 is the last year of this