



TEMAGAMI TIMES

THE VOICE OF THE TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION (TLA)

FALL 2013

TLA Congratulates Temagami's New Mayor

At its regularly scheduled council meeting of August 29, 2013, Temagami Municipal Council voted to appoint Councilor Lorie Hunter as Mayor to replace former Mayor John Hodgson, who resigned due to conflicting business commitments. Lorie Hunter will fill the office for the remaining 14 months of this Council's term of office.

TLA President Chip Kittredge wrote to Mayor Hunter, on behalf of the Temagami Lakes Association board and members, to extend congratulations on her new leadership role in the Municipality of Temagami.

»See the letter on page 8.



Canoeing on a beautiful fall day in Temagami - awesome.

Photo by: Peter Healy

THE DEVIL'S MOUNTAIN FIRE August 16, 2013

By Rob McCubbin, Ojibway

Sam Scovil saw lightning strike the top of Devil's Mountain on August 12 as he and his family drove up the lake in a storm. Four days later, he and Keewaydin staff saw smoke from the same place and contacted TLA to report a fire.

Our flotilla of boats, made up of the Keewaydin big rig and the Kittredge and Scovil vessels, drifted along the shore of Devil's Mountain. We watched anxiously as a small plume of smoke became a fire that continued to spread along the ridge.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) had been alerted and, after we docked at Keewaydin, we rushed to the ball-field to greet the response team's helicopter. The trees bent from the force of the rotors and leaves flew into our faces as the chopper descended. When the MNR spokesperson emerged, he requested our boat and good-old fashioned

Temagami Islander knowledge to get as close to the site as possible, and inquired about the best way up the mountain.



them) as Team Awesome.

We dropped off the team at the Squirrel's Point campsite at the base of the mountain and we stared in awe as the MNR waterbomber dumped its first of many



Everyone pitched in, bringing supplies from the helicopter to the dock, and we loaded up the Emergency crew that referred to themselves (according to the ration pack they had with

payloads onto the ridge and the growing flames. The sky over Devil's

continued on page 5

TLA SUMMER STAFF REPORTS

This year our TLA summer staff have been very busy, both out on the lake and at the Headquarters building. Their activities have included water quality monitoring, campsite mapping and visits, exchanging old lead tackle, submitting information on loons to Bird Studies Canada, and manning the TLA radio, to name a few.

At the end of the season, the summer staff compiled some reports of interest to our readers. The following reports are included in this edition of the Temagami Times:

- (Water) Quality Time on Lake Temagami on page 6
- Lead Tackle Exchange and Surveying Loons on page 9
- 2013 Campsite Report on page 13
- Temagami Island Trails on page 16

THE TEMAGAMI TIMES

Fall 2013 Issue

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THE TLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

President’s letter

The Temagami Experience is a notion that I see mentioned from time to time. In general I think it refers to the good feelings and positive memories we have about Temagami, and it partially explains why so many of us choose to travel hundreds of miles or more to return each summer, and why others decide to make Temagami their home. Just as “beauty is in the eye of the beholder”, there are probably lots of ways to appreciate the Temagami Experience, and what it means to different people. For some, I am sure their Temagami Experience includes sunsets, clear, cool nights with endless stars, and the call of the loon. Others appreciate the remarkably clear water and the fun it provides for canoeing, boating, sailing, or water skiing.

My personal Temagami Experience includes a fish on the line, a good berry crop, meaningful time together with my family, and no phone or internet access. Some might think I’m a hermit or a curmudgeon, but my Temagami Experience includes being away from the distractions of a phone or computer, and a desire to “get away from it all” for a few weeks. But this past summer my personal Temagami Experience took on a new dimension: the fun, electric energy of several hundred people coming together for the TLA’s Corn Roast!

What an event it was! Over 50 people and organizations donated a diverse collection of items for the Silent Auction (to benefit TLA’s water quality initiative), and the bidding was both fun and fierce! Plenty of corn, hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages meant that everyone was well fed and enjoyed the day. Our friends at Wabun provided a great venue and support, and a variety of local artists and exhibitors were on hand to entertain and inform. Energetic volunteers greeted, cooked, served, and ran the auction. The fun, positive energy was powerful, and I met many new friends. Though I come to Temagami to get away from it all, at the Corn Roast I was in the thick of it, and loved every minute!

My personal thanks to all who contributed and volunteered to make it a huge success, and to those who came and made it the memorable day it was. My Temagami Experience took on new meaning this summer because of the exciting spirit of hundreds coming together with a common interest in the lake.

Chip Kittredge, President
Island 1158

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 Temag-

ami 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.



TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION

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September 17, 2013

Dear Donors and Volunteers,

Peter Calverley, Peter Healy and I want to thank you for your generous contribution to this years Champagne Corn Roast & B.B.Q. in support of water quality.

In the two years since we have initiated this event it has become the 'must attend' social event of our summer in Temagami.

It is because of the generous support of people like you that we have managed to raise money to help offset our water quality testing costs and at the same time create a wonderful event to be enjoyed by all people on the lake.

Thank you again for your outstanding support of the 2013 Champagne Corn Roast & B.B.Q.

Yours very truly,

David McFarlane



TLA Corn Roast 2013: Bigger and Better Than Ever!

Over two hundred people gathered at Wabun on the afternoon of July 27 to participate in the TLA's annual corn roast and silent auction. More than 50 people and businesses contributed valuable items for the auction, and good fun was had by all as they mingled, bid, and enjoyed the social atmosphere. Delicious corn, hotdogs, burgers, and beverages contributed to the spirit of the event. This important and fun fund raising event resulted in more than \$8,000 being raised for TLA's water quality monitoring program. Great thanks to all volunteers, contributors, and participants who combined to make it a memorable, fun, and successful event!



Silent Auction 2013

▲ Photos by Allan Eustis

◀ Photos by E. Gunnell



Highlights of the 82nd Temagami Lakes Association Annual General Meeting

These Highlights have been produced from the DRAFT Minutes of the AGM for the Times by the editor. The full version of the AGM minutes is available on the TLA's website at www.tla-temagami.org



The 82nd Temagami Lakes Association Annual General Meeting was held at Camp Wabun on July 26th, 2013.

GREETINGS

TLA President Chip Kittredge began the meeting by welcoming members and guests. He thanked Camp Wabun for allowing the meeting to be held at this site. Chip introduced guests Deputy Mayor Lorie Hunter and Temagami First Nation Chief Roxane Ayotte.

Lorie Hunter thanked the TLA for their letter of support on budget matters and discussed the financial challenges of budgeting and keeping taxes low. She also reported that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has approved the Official Plan 5-year amendment. Our Mine landing transfer station is not in compliance with Ministry of the Environment regulations as there are bear and open garbage issues. The Municipality has hired an attendant to bring the town into compliance with the MOE. Check with municipal staff or John Harding, landing attendant, if there are any questions. She spoke about the ad hoc committee and report on the possibility of enhanced fire protection on Lake Temagami. Public input is encouraged.

Roxane Ayotte, chief of the Temagami First Nation reported that two band members were nominated for Diamond Jubilee Awards: 93 year old Tom Seville, the last WW II veteran, as well as Vickie Blake, who is very involved in volunteering in

the community and is Finance Manager of TFN. Chief Ayotte also reported on a project with young First Nations people being out on their land, n'Dakimenan, taking care of it and participating in cleaning portages and campsites on several surrounding lakes. As well a number of TFN children have received scholarships to various camps on Lake Temagami, including Camp Wabun.

Introductory Remarks and Quorum Confirmation

TLA President Chip Kittredge again thanked members for taking time out of their holiday to attend the meeting. TLA member Kelly Roman's Master's thesis on lake associations in Ontario reported that the average lake association has 140 members and \$5,000 in the bank while the TLA has over 600 members, is 80 years old and has significantly more money in the bank. Chip concluded that the TLA is a lasting organization that has stood the test of time.

Chip reported on the many initiatives that the TLA is working on including: the exchange of lead weight sinkers for non-lead sinkers at the TLA building, to protect against loon mortality; the mercury testing project; maintaining campsite monitoring and privy projects and, of course, our very significant water testing program. The work of the organization is accomplished largely through volunteers, with their time or financial support. Chip thanked all the volunteers who make the organization a success.

Peter Healy thanked Blake and Judy Stormes for helping with meeting proxies and Diana Van Vlymen and Andrew Healy for facilitating member registration at the meeting.

A quorum was confirmed.

Approval of the Agenda and 2012 AGM Minutes

The agenda was approved with one addition of mercury testing, and the minutes of the 2012 AGM were approved as presented.

Introduction of Directors

President Chip Kittredge introduced the members of the board, as well as previous

presidents and former directors in attendance at the meeting.

Resolution 1: Approval of 2012 Financial Statements

Peter Healy, standing in for Treasurer David McFarlane, reviewed the 2012 financial statement, including the costs and revenues for the annual directory, the Temagami Times, and the water testing. Peter thanked members for their donations. At year end the TLA was \$6,000 under budget. The membership approved the financial statement.

Resolution 2: Approval of Actions Since 2012 AGM

The motion to approve the actions of the Directors and Officers since the commencement of the 2012 AGM was carried.

**Resolution 3:
Amendment to the TLA By-laws**
The motion to amend the By-Laws to allow the current president, Chip Kittredge,

to serve one additional year as Director, from Sept. 1, 2013 to Aug. 31, 2014 only, was carried, this being a once only occurrence. (Chip Kittredge reclused himself from the meeting while this matter was discussed and voted on.)

Committee Reports

Municipal Taxation:

Peter Healy reported that in Ontario every employee contributes a per cent of their paycheck towards OMERS pension unlike in the USA, hence municipalities in Canada do not have unfunded pension liabilities as do cities in the USA. All property owners received new assessment notices. Those who live in town for the most part received an increase in property assessments. For those with property on water, most assessments went down indicating a significant decrease in taxes. The TLA thanked the Municipality for responsible budgeting.

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Peter R. Ramsay



William R. (Bill) Ramsay



RAMSAY LAW OFFICE

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The Devil's Mountain Fire

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Island was abuzz with flying machines, including a reconnaissance Cessna, managing the operation by continually relaying information about the location and the current progress of the crew, the waterbomber, and the fire.

The waterbomber left after an hour, but the fire crew remained busy for two days, pumping water from the lake through as much as 2500 feet of hose to the top of the mountain and ensuring the fire was extinguished. With admiration for the men and women of Ontario's MNR, and a sense that all was in good hands, people at Ojibway and Keewaydin can share yet another tale of life on Lake Temagami.



Waterbomber photos by Susie Shane.

TLA Radio Service Once Again Comes Through in Fire Emergency

By Peter Healy

At approximately 4:45 PM on August 16, only 15 minutes before close, TLA staff person Diana Van Vlymen received a call from "Sal Sam" (a radio call sign) to report seeing smoke at the top of Devil's Mountain. She asked Sal Sam a series of questions pertaining to what they were looking at, such as exactly where the area on fire was, the smoke colour, and what seemed to be burning. Sal Sam also mentioned seeing a lightning strike a few days before, in the same location.

Diana followed the radio protocol perfectly: calling the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)'s fire line to report it and giving the operator the information available. She was told that a chopper was on the way.

Diana communicated to Sal Sam, and most of the lake that was listening in, that the chopper was headed in that direction. At this point, Camp Keewaydin called in to say that they could see the flames and that the fire was increasing in strength. Accordingly Diana reported to the MNR that we had a confirmed visual of the fire itself.

As the fire was too far inland and high up from the water, no public request was made to send fire pumps to the site. It was now best to await the professional fire fighters from MNR, who arrived promptly. The water bomber that was called in made at least six passes before departing. MNR then dropped in a crew to clean up and remain overnight to monitor the site.

A special thank you is in order to all TLA members who support the radio service with contributions each year. Your support makes it possible for us to hire staff and train them appropriately on how to handle these types of emergencies through the use of our far-reaching transmitter and receiver.

At approximately 4:45 PM on August 16, only 15 minutes before close, TLA staff person Diana Van Vlymen received a call from "Sal Sam" (a radio call sign) to report seeing smoke at the top of Devil's Mountain.

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(Water) Quality Time on Lake Temagami

By: Diana Van Vlymen, with contributions from Peter Healy and Adam Tretjack

What do you imagine when you think of a summer spent here on Lake Temagami? If you're anything like me, you may remember warm days spent participating in water sports, fishing at your favourite secret spot, a home-cooked meal prepared using water from the lake, and watching the stars on a calm night. Whether this is what you think of, or if your Temagami memories represent something different and equally significant to you, the lake is an integral part of the experience. The TLA recently began to implement a water quality monitoring program on Lake Temagami in order to establish a baseline of how the water's doing, so to speak, and to make efforts to preserve this lake in its current, healthy condition.

With this goal in mind, the TLA's summer staff for the year continued the water quality program that began in earnest in 2012. We tested the lake in 43 locations, taking measurements of depth, pH, and clarity/turbidity using a Secchi disc. We also recorded temperature and dissolved oxygen using a ProODO (professional optical dissolved oxygen) probe. From the data we gathered in two rounds of sampling – May and August – we were able to interpret a few things about the lake water quality.

First and most importantly, is the topic of phosphate or phosphorus. It is interesting to note that the two substances are slightly different, while the terms are often used interchangeably. Phosphorus is an element required by most life on earth, and phosphate is the ionic form in which it often exists, in living tissues and in the water column of the lake.

Therefore, when our water samples are tested for phosphorus content, phosphate is the ion being measured because phosphorus exists as phosphate in phytoplankton (algae) and in the water. Measuring phosphate ensures we measure the phosphorus content not only of the water, but also that which is collected and used in the living cells of the algae.

But why is phosphorus so important? Why are environmental scientists, biologists, limnologists (lake scientists), and others concerned with the element? Phos-

phorus is necessary for the growth of virtually all life on earth, including phytoplankton. Phosphorus has been scientifically proven to be one of the main determinants of algal growth. Even in the presence of abundant nitrogen, potassium, and other nutrients, inadequate phosphorus limits the growth of algae.

WATER QUALITY RESULTS SUMMARY

Secchi depth = 7.1 metres

- Very good compared to the province, and about the same as last year

pH = 7.4 (spring), 7.8 (summer)

- Within acceptable range; not dangerous to lake species

Temperature at lake bottom = 4.8°C

- Similar to last year, and consistent through the year

Dissolved oxygen range of 10.0 – 14.7 mg/L

- Well above minimum for healthy survival of coldwater fish

Phosphate = 4.1 µg/L (May 2013), 4.9 µg/L (Aug 2012)

- Perfect compared to the region; average is 13.3 µg/L!

phate is currently in Lake Temagami, monitor change in the levels of phosphate over the years, and take steps to restrict any influx of excess phosphate into the lake from our own activities at the cottage.

Lake Temagami's current level of phosphate is an average of 4.2 µg/L in the spring and an average of 4.9 µg/L in the summer. Both of these values were determined using data collected over the last two years. In relation to other Ontario lakes, this level is excellent. Using data collected by the Ministry of the Environment through the Lake Partners Program, the concentration of phosphate in other Ontario lakes can be determined, yielding a result of 13.3 µg/L on average.

Few other lakes in the province have the quality of water that Lake Temagami does. Other important data collected in May and August included the turbidity readings, pH, and dissolved oxygen/temperature, summarized in the dark box on this page.

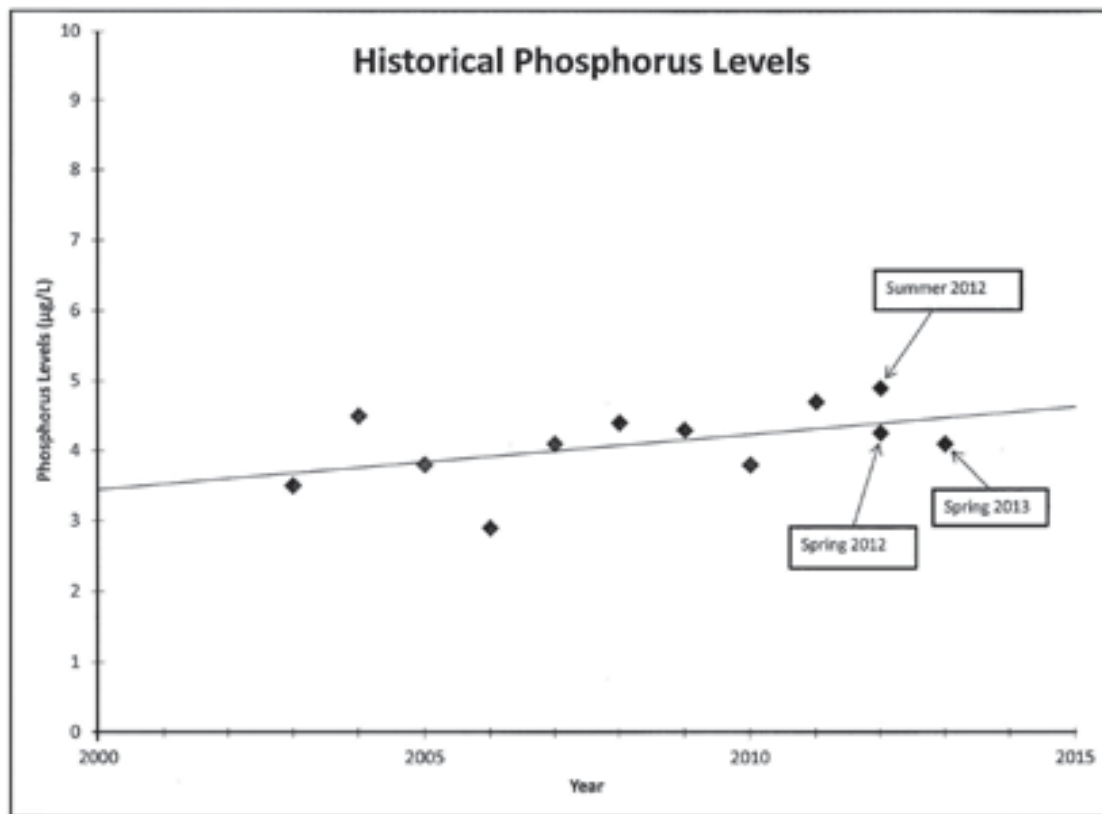
However, it is important to note the gradual increase shown in the historical graph provided. While this increase is slow, it is steady, and seems like it will continue for many years. For this reason, we should do whatever we can to limit our own impact on the lake's phosphate levels.

This means not using fertilizer at the island. (Trust me, many plant species are fine without any at all! And less garden maintenance means more time having fun at the cottage.) It also means using phosphate-free soaps, like those sold during the summer at the TLA headquarters building, and rinsing away from the lake, or using another option if you have one (like an indoor or outdoor shower). Using phosphate-free soaps for washing laundry and dishes is also a good idea, since all of the water used on islands eventually drains back to the lake.

Finally, it is important to have your septic system checked out and perhaps replaced, since this can be another major source of nutrients that find their way into the lake, if

Conversely, abundant phosphorus can lead to nearly unrestricted algal growth – often called an algal “bloom”. Therefore, it is important that we know how much phos-

not functioning properly. Each of these considerations can help to minimize our impact on Lake Temagami, helping to keep the water healthy for generations to come!



The phosphate levels on Lake Temagami are quite good, yet they are noticeably increasing. It is important to note that lower phosphate levels mean lower algal growth, colder water, and more oxygen for other species in the lake.

Temagami Cooks is Being Reprinted

One thousand (1,000) copies of the book were originally printed and they sold out in the first year! Due to the overwhelming number of requests received by the TLA to buy the book, your TLA Board of Directors approved a reprint earlier this year.

The Temagami Cooks reprint will be available late this fall, so it would be a great idea for a Christmas present, or to tuck in a Christmas basket (or even as a gift for yourself). We will be printing 250 copies. The price has yet to be established, but watch for further details on the TLA website, or by email from the TLA.

To tantalize your tastebuds, below is a sample recipe from the book. Happy cooking!



Temagami Fish Chowder

- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 2 tbsp butter
- 3 cups sliced mushrooms
- 2 large red peppers, diced
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 3 cans chicken broth, or stock
- 4 medium potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2 tbsp cornstarch
- 2 tbsp cold water
- 1 lb your favourite Temagami fish (or halibut or bluefish), cut into pieces
- ½ cup chopped parsley
- ½ cup white wine
- 1 cup light sour cream
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a Dutch oven or large saucepan, sauté the onions, mushrooms and peppers in butter. Add lemon juice, broth and potatoes. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat, cover and simmer until potatoes are tender.

Blend cornstarch and water and add to the pot. Add fish, parsley and wine. Cover and simmer only until the fish flakes easily. Add sour cream, then salt and pepper to taste. Serves 8.

Marie-Louise and Rob Wilson Is. 958

New Cell Phone Towers in Temagami

For those cottagers who come to Temagami to get away from technology, including cell phone service, you are still safe on most of Lake Temagami, and many other smaller lakes.

On the other hand, those who have been anxiously awaiting better cell phone service in town and along the highway corridor, will be happy to know that improvements have been made. The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC), NetCentral and Rogers have been working on an initiative for the past couple of years to bring cell phone service to unserved communities in northern Ontario.

The service was activated at the CBC tower site in the Town of Temagami and at the new tower 35 km south of town off Hwy 11 in September, as well as the site at Hwy 63 and Hwy 533. If you are with another cellular provider, you may see increased signal strength, with no or limited service; however emergency calls to 911 will work regardless of your service provider.



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September 2, 2013

Mayor and Council
The Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami
7 Lakeshore Drive, P.O. Box 220
Temagami, ON
P0H 2H0

RE: New Mayor

Dear Mayor Hunter,

On behalf of the TLA board and members, I'd like to extend my hearty congratulations on your new leadership role in the Municipality of Temagami! Thank you very much for agreeing to step up and fill the void created by former Mayor Hodgson's recent resignation. The position of Mayor is not one you originally sought, and it is very nice of you to take on these new, additional leadership responsibilities in the Municipality's time of need.

I would also like to thank you and Councilor Kendrick for attending the Temagami Lakes Association's 82nd Annual General Meeting on July 26th at Camp Wabun. It is good for members, many of whom are seasonal residents, to hear from the Municipality's leadership. Through the Municipality's page in the *Temagami Times*, they can read the latest updates, but a meaningful message is sent when Municipal leadership takes time to venture up the lake and address the audience. Thank you very much!

The TLA is dedicated to preservation of the Temagami Tenets, and the overall environmental quality of the lake and its environs. Through our various programs, we are actively involved with monitoring and improving environmental quality. Through our website, the *Temagami Times*, and other forms of communication to over 600 members, we are in a position to reach people with important messages on the environment, safety, and other matters pertaining to the lake. Please do not hesitate to contact me in the future if you would like to explore ways that the Municipality and TLA can collaborate on improving the Temagami Experience for all.

Again, congratulations, and thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Chip Kittredge
President
Temagami Lakes Association

Highlights of the 82nd Temagami Lakes Association Annual General Meeting

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Natural Resources:

Members are asked to please report sightings of loons, loon chicks and nests so the information can be sent to Bird Studies Canada.

Members are asked to pick up a testing kit at the TLA office to test mercury levels in fish they are catching. Mercury comes from bed-rock, especially in acid lakes, although the pollution contributing to acid rain has been reduced in the region over the last decade.

Planning and Tenets for Temagami:

Andrew Healy reported on the TLA's reviewing of planning applications and understanding of planning and related issues. He thanked Gerry Kluwak who is co-committee member and Peter Healy for assistance in understanding planning issues.

Andrew reviewed the tenets: Protection of shoreline reserve; No new road access; No new mainland development.

These principles, agreed to in early 90's prior to amalgamation, were integrated into the official plan for Temagami, so all new development has to take the tenets into account. The tenets Defense Fund is available in the event of a challenge to these tenets.

There have not been significant changes to the rules agreed to in the 1990's and the status quo is working. The TLA supports this status quo and has supported the Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw review in writing. Each application for a minor variance is reviewed by the TLA's planning committee. If there is a need for more consideration, a professional planner is used to assist with TLA input to the town. We do try to maintain as impartial a position as possible, as applicants are often our members or neighbours.

Water Quality:

Peter Healy reported that Diana Van Vlymen and Adam Tretjack, our summer students working for the TLA, have been working on the environmental water testing initiative. Diana gave a slide show overview of how the

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Lead Tackle Exchange and Surveying Loons

By: Diana Van Vlymen, with contributions from Peter Healy and Adam Tretjack

This summer, the Temagami Lakes Association began two new initiatives at the headquarters building. Each was aimed at ensuring Lake Temagami's loon population continues to reproduce successfully and that the number of loons remains relatively steady.

Both programs began with the hard work of the TLA's board of directors. We would like to thank Justin Metz and Pete Calverly for constructing and installing a pair of artificial loon nests on the lake, and Justin was also instrumental in ordering lead-free tackle for use in the exchange program.

Over the course of July and August, numerous interested anglers turned in lead sinkers and jigs for non-lead replacements. A wide variety of sinkers and jigs were available, and many anglers were satis-

fied with their new tackle - received free of charge by simply bringing lead tackle to the headquarters building during the summer season. TLA staff have even tested some of the non-lead tackle, and had great success at favourite fishing holes. The bass and pickerel were biting all night long!

This program is expected to continue next summer, so if you haven't visited the headquarters building to get the lead out, the summer of 2014 will be your opportunity to do so. The lead collected through the program will be recycled at a licensed facility and the money earned from this and received by donation from concerned TLA members will be used to purchase more non-lead sinkers and jigs for exchange.

The lead tackle exchange program is aimed primarily at preventing loon fatalities by ingestion of lead tackle (the second greatest cause of loon mortality, as mentioned by Justin Metz in a previous issue of The Temagami Times). This is incredibly important, but it is also necessary to have a grasp on the current number and success of loons present on the lake.

In order to do this, the TLA is participating in the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey run by Bird Studies Canada. We invite members to continue to describe three observations they make over the course of summers on the lake. These include sightings of loon pairs in May, sightings of loon chicks as they begin to hatch in June through July, and sightings of surviving near-adult loon chicks in August.

With reports gathered from cottagers this past summer, the TLA has begun to submit information to Bird Studies Canada as part of a nationwide initiative to preserve the loons for

generations to come. In eastern Canada and New England, loon populations are under stress and have begun to decrease in some localities. Thus, we intend to quantify Lake Temagami's loon popula-

tion, to have a baseline against which to measure a decrease or increase in the number of loons. To this end, member loon information has been a great help.

TLA staff were able to observe loons and chicks while out in the boat performing water testing, checking campsites, and installing privies, but there were times over the summer peak that these activities were waylaid by days off or inclement weather. Since staff cannot be everywhere at once, it is helpful to know where loons were spotted even on the days that we were on the lake. Therefore, it is very important that members' loon sightings continue to be reported in the coming years so that a comprehensive summary of the lake's loon population may be established.

Thank you to everyone who participated. We look forward to hearing those beautiful and haunting evening calls for years to come!



This baby loon and its parents were spotted on Lake Temagami in summer 2013.
Photo by: Adam Tretjack



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Highlights of the 82nd Temagami Lakes Association Annual General Meeting

continued from page 8

water testing is done. 43 locations throughout the lake have been tested this summer in May and will be retested in early August. Results will be posted on our website.

Turbidity, ph, total phosphate and dissolved oxygen are being tested at depths up to 75 metres. Trent University's Dorset laboratory analyzes the water samples for us.

Water quality results:

Temagami does not have a high level of phytoplankton and has exceptional clarity relative to most lakes. The ph is 7.4 compared to 7.8 last summer. Ph is higher in summer than in spring due to higher phytoplankton levels in summer. As water temperature decreases, dissolved oxygen increases. Total phosphate is a major indicator of water quality. Total phosphate levels are quite low indicating overall health of the water specifically 4.1 micrograms/litre compared to 4.3 in 2012.

Algae levels can throw off the balance, so it is important for human users to reduce phosphate inputs. Some ways this can be accomplished include: replace and upgrade old septic systems, use phosphate-free soaps and do NOT use fertilizer on plants – there are plenty of indigenous plants that grow well in the region. The swimming, canoeing and fishing that we all enjoy greatly depends on high quality water.

This very ambitious water health testing initiative began with the hiring of an environmental consultant to help set up this water health testing initiative. We believe our water quality initiative is a very impressive undertaking to protect our lake water quality.

2012 Lake Temagami Water Levels

Peter Healy, who sits on an advisory committee with representatives from First Nations, MNR, Ontario Hydro, Federal Government, lodge and cottage owners associations reported on water levels on the lake and how water is drawn out of the lake. A full report and data is available on our website.

Friends of Temagami

Bob Olajos VP of Friends of Temagami (FOT), an environmental backcountry advocacy group, attended along with Mike McHugh, Secretary of the organization.

Friends of Temagami focus on the backcountry in a wide region around Lake Temagami. They have been working with others on the world's largest old-growth red pine forests in the Wolf Lake area, trying to encourage the provincial government to protect this region. This is a very significant region for biodiversity in North America. The TLA is both a member and supporter of FOT.

Bob thanked the TLA for their support. FOT is now working with a 6-person crew to restore the trails on Temagami Island, with a permit from MNR. The Blue trail will be worked on this year and others in following years. Bob asked for volunteers who could contribute some time to assist. Hiking the trails should be ready after next Friday.

A new adventure-planning map has been released by Friends of Temagami and is available at the TLA building. Bob encourages all TLA members to have one of these maps on their wall.

Timiskaming Health Unit

Rene Duvall and Doug Metson reported that they take water quality very seriously. The Timiskaming Health Unit (THU) has partnered with the TLA on the drinking water sampling initiative. The health unit will test water samples, but they must be "treated" water rather than raw lake water. If members have questions, please call Rene at the New Liskeard office. Boiling lake water - a rolling boil for 1 minute - is a safe option for drinking lake water untreated.



The Timiskaming Health Unit staff were at Camp Wabun both Friday and Saturday to answer members questions and provide information. Photo by Elaine Gunnell.

Doug Metson reported that one of the biggest problems on Lake Temagami is steel septic tanks. These allow raw sewage to seep into the lake. Records of septic systems are

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in file back to 1962, and all properties on the lake are under the THU's jurisdiction. Doug offered to answer one-on-one questions of members today and at the corn roast tomorrow. A health inspector will also be available at Saturday's corn roast.

Temagami Police Services Board – OPP

Don Johnson, a member of the police services board, reported that Lorie Hunter is Chair of the Police Services Board. He introduced Dan Dawson, Temagami Detachment Commander. Don spoke about break-and-enter crimes on the lake. Some motion cameras have been installed and have successfully captured thefts and break-ins in progress. These crimes take up a lot of policing time and seem to be committed by the same offenders, who usually get sentences of 2 years less a day. When they are released from jail, break-ins begin again. One suggestion is to place gas and alcohol in a protected hiding place in the bush. Identify any large items by engraving your driver's license number on the item. This acts as a huge deterrent, as police can immediately check these numbers. The OPP has two engraving tools to lend and there are a couple at the TLA office.

Peter Healy checks more than 140 cottages each year. This year there were several break-ins that were obviously searches for gasoline near the shoreline of properties.

New Business and Motion to Adjourn

Peter Healy thanked Camp Wabun and its directors for their continued support of the TLA, and for hosting the meeting. The kitchen staff was thanked for providing lunch. Blake and Judy Stormes were thanked for looking after the proxies and Trish Healy for taking minutes of this meeting. Debbie and Sandy Nixon were thanked for providing their pontoon boat for organizing for today and tomorrow's event. Peter thanked Chip Kittredge for his excellent work as President.

President Chip Kittredge thanked Peter Healy for his work as Executive Secretary and his assistants Diana Van Vlymen and Adam Tretjack for their work at the TLA building and water testing program.

Chip once again thanked the membership for their presence at this meeting and their ongoing support for the organization and welcomed all to stay for the buffet lunch.



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Water Purification Without Electricity

Submitted by Renee Duval, Public Health Inspector with the Timiskaming Health Unit.

A unique challenge faced by cottagers on Lake Temagami is the lack of hydro service to properties. This makes every day life a little more challenging as compared to living in cities. For many, this is a charming feature of cottage life. No overhead lights, no television, no computers, no...water treatment equipment. Oh wait, that's not charming!

After meeting a few cottagers this past summer at the TLA AGM, the most common question asked was "what would you recommend we do to treat the lake water if we don't have electricity?" This is an excellent question that has many answers. There are many products on the market that one can use to treat lake water.

Before we discuss treatment options, let's first talk about what we are removing. Water taken from lakes, rivers, streams and ponds may look clean and have no undesirable odour or taste. Unfortunately, however, pathogens found in water not only are harmful, but also are invisible to the naked eye and may be odourless and tasteless. These bacteria, viruses and protozoa can cause mild nausea and fever or can develop into more serious illnesses. Water from lakes, rivers, streams and ponds should always be disinfected before being used for drinking or cooking as it may be contaminated with human or animal waste.

For occasional, emergency or short-term disinfection, a very simple method that does not require a special device (or electricity) is to bring water to a rolling boil for one minute. This will destroy disease-causing organisms and disinfect the water.

Chlorinators, iodators and ultraviolet light (UV) devices are most practical when it is necessary to disinfect water that serves a whole dwelling. The use of these devices may depend on a generator. Water can be treated and then pumped to holding tanks, which then feed the cottage (by gravity) when the generator is not in use. Chlorine and iodine kill most disease-causing organisms and require short to moderate contact times.

Chlorine or iodine treatment alone, however, may not provide adequate protec-

tion against protozoa such as *Giardia lamblia* (aka Beaver Fever) and *Cryptosporidium parvum*. If protozoa are present or suspected, it is recommended that the water be first passed through a filter to remove these parasites and then chemically treated with chlorine or iodine to kill bacteria and viruses.

Iodine disinfection of drinking water, however, should be reserved for emergency and occasional use (e.g., at a weekend cottage or in recreational vehicles). Iodine should not be used for long-term continuous disinfection, because it is physiologically active, and ingestion in excessive amounts may be harmful.

Ceramic or glass fibre filters handle smaller amounts of water and are useful when water from just one tap is to be treated for drinking and cooking or to provide drinking water while camping, boating or hiking. Such filters can remove bacteria and protozoa from mildly contaminated waters. However, they are not suitable for removing viruses or for treating highly contaminated water. Therefore, when treating surface waters it is recommended that these filters be used in conjunction with disinfection. Portable glass fibre or ceramic filters with iodine-releasing resins are available to disinfect water for campers.

When camping, canoeing or hiking, you should assume that all waters contain disease-causing organisms. To protect your health and the health of your children and grandchildren, you should disinfect the drinking water before use. Ultimately, the best approach to ensure complete disinfection of water intended for human use and consumption is a multi-barrier one, consisting of collecting water from the cleanest source possible, followed by filtration and disinfection.

For more detail on the treatment of drinking water, please visit (online) Health Canada. Environmental and Workplace Health: Water treatment devices for disinfection of drinking water. <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/water-eau/disinfect-desinfection-eng.php>

Art Camp 2013: Fun, Friends and LOTS MORE

By Patsy Turner, Camp Director

This year's Art Camp July 8 – 12, at the Bear Island Recreation Centre anticipated a maximum capacity of 50 children, ages 6 - 12, but actually ended up with more because of the high demand and the number of volunteers available. The campers started off their day in large group sessions, followed by small group project work, snacks, play time/ lunch, more group work, snack and then a final large group session. Helping with the camp's activities from 10 AM to 3 PM were 10 volunteers and five youth volunteers.

Here are some notes and highlights of the 2013 session:

Help preparing for Art Camp:

Bettina Schuller, Laura Irvine, Holly Charyna and Cathy Dwyer were very helpful and supportive in preparing for the art camp. Whenever I needed some information or ideas on how to prepare something they were able to help me.

Temagami First Nation:

The TFN was a very good partner in the project, providing the Rec. Centre, sound equipment, a program worker and two helpers to prepare the snacks and drinks throughout each day for the kids. They also picked up and dropped off the participants and volunteers from town, by boat. They used a pontoon boat and a steel boat each trip.

They also helped provide any photocopying and accommodated any last minute needs throughout the day.

Project Volunteers: Brooke Mathias, Caitlin Morrison, Peter Greyson, Lesha Laronde, Elaine Gunnell, Shelley Tims, Claudette Paul, Laura Irvine, June Keevil and Bonnie Turner.

Youth Volunteers: Aleria McKay, Julia Yarrow, Jenna Blake, Sierra Cole and Matthew Peshabo.

Special Guests: Daisy Fannin, Wayne Potts, Virginia McKenzie and drummers Jamie Saville, Roger Assiniwe and Tyler Paul.

Overall: The art camp was successful. Each day the participants were engaged in crafts, playing, learning, singing, and having fun. Some of their comments included: *I like the snacks ...I liked making new friends ...I like dancing ... I liked the medicine walk ...I liked playing Manhunt.*

The final presentation was well done. The participants did great and the feedback from everyone was positive. It was nice to see long-time director and camp co-founder Bettina Schuller there as well. She said it was great and she enjoyed the presentation.

On a personal note, "it was a busy and exhausting week with a lot of preparation leading up to the event. I wouldn't have been able to do it without my family's help, my husband John who helped set up and take down all the supplies and carried all the heavy stuff and my sister-in-law Melissa Turner who came from Six Nations to stay with my 9-month old, while I was at the camp."




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2013 Campsite Report

By: Diana Van Vlymen, with contributions from Peter Healy and Adam Tretjack

Another initiative that the TLA summer staff were busy with this summer was the campsite inspection program that was begun in summer 2012. Between summer 2012 and summer 2013, TLA staff managed to get to all of the lake's known campsites – 177 locations!

The campsite map used was compiled from a combination of maps available to us – two different historical maps, the shoal map, MNR map #2, and Friends of Temagami map. Based on the master map created, TLA staff visited the many campsites and recorded the GPS location, estimated campsite size, and determined the presence of campsite signage and privies. Existing privies were evaluated based on condition, with necessity of replacement recorded, and garbage on the campsites was removed.

Based on the work completed, a new campsite map was compiled with campsites colour-coded by size, privies indicated, and a numbering system including all of the existing 151 campsites. The system devised means that campsites numbered similarly will often be visited on the same day in future years, when the campsite cleanup program continues. In case you're wondering about the

difference in campsite numbers, some locations depicted have grown in since publishing of the map where the locations were found.

Overall, the campsites were in good condition, and staff were pleased to find some really nice sites that may need to be revisited with friends and a tent! Of the 151 campsites, 63 were small (fewer than 3 two-person tents would fit comfortably), 45 were medium (3-5 tents would fit), 37 were large (more than 5 tents would fit), and 5 were virtually unlimited in number of tents that could fit. 71 campsites were marked with an orange, diamond-shaped campsite sign and 70 campsites currently have privies. Of the 70 privies existing, 4 are slated to be repaired in the near future, and 12 are to be replaced. Looks like there will be more box privies that may be seen being built at the TLA building in the future!

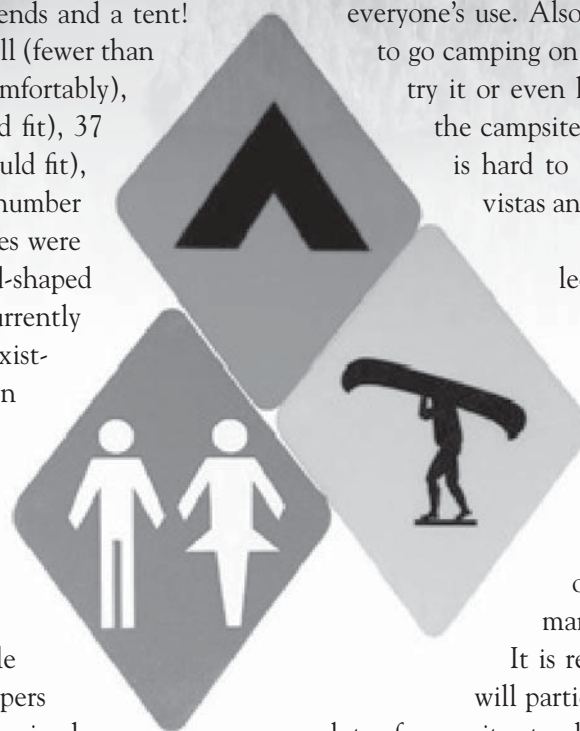
Several campsites visited received new campsite signs in visible locations to make it easy for campers to find these sites, and some also received privy signage to help with those late-night treks. Six box privies were constructed this summer, and four box privies were installed in different arms of the

lake where existing privies were in desperate need of replacement.

Now that all of the campsite locations are recorded, TLA staff will be visiting campsites on a regular basis in years to come to ensure they stay in top condition for everyone's use. Also, if you haven't had a chance to go camping on the lake, we encourage you to try it or even have a picnic lunch at one of the campsites – these sites are stunning! It is hard to describe some of the amazing vistas and rock formations we saw.

We encourage you to collect trash if you see some while camping, or to adopt a campsite. Whether you choose a personal favourite spot or a campsite that happens to be easy for you to reach, all you have to do is visit your chosen campsite and fill out a short form giving a summary of its condition afterwards.

It is really simple, and we hope you will participate in this program. (There are lots of campsites to choose from!) Together, we can preserve Lake Temagami's numerous campsites and continue to enjoy them for years to come.



Yes there are robbers in your garden. They are there every year, early in the spring and they stay right until freeze up, and you rarely see them. They are sneaky, methodical and innocent looking.....they are the worst kind of robber.

They love perennial gardens, or any garden for that matter, especially the ones that you aren't planting each year. They thank you every time you carry that heavy bag of soil and dutifully spread it on the garden. What kind of robber am I talking about? I'm talking about ROOTS, especially cedar roots.

How many times have you watered your perennial garden only to have the plants wilting in a couple hours? And that prized hosta or daylily all of a sudden looks a little smaller this year, what is going on?



GARDEN ROBBER!

By Cathy Dwyer, Temagami Property Management Services

Tree roots love flower gardens; where else can they grow in wonderful soft topsoil that isn't acidic and full of rocks? In the past I have lined flower beds with

landscape fabric thinking that I would beat those nasty cedar roots, only to find in three years a mass of little, burnt umber roots taking over the soil. Then

in another three years I can hardly put the shovel in the earth.

The best defense is annual working of the soil, adding new topsoil, compost and manure. Keeping the garden well watered also helps to keep the soil soft and workable. In many cases, planting perennials on septic tile fields works well; lots of moisture, nutrients and usually decent soil. The roots of perennials are not deep and will not impact your tile field like tree roots will.

Every year we tend to many gardens on Lake Temagami and keeping the robbers away is a tough job, but when the perennials are in full bloom and the garden is flourishing, we feel we have beaten them for one more year.