TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes (June 17, 2026)

1720 Lake Temagami Access Rd., Temagami, ON P0H 2H0
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Board Attendees: Nicole Brooker, Lynn Buckham, Bill Bateman, Carol Lowery, Scot Paltrow, Christopher Brooks, Brad Sablosky
Minutes: Lynn Buckham

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

- Moved by Brad Sablosky; Seconded by Bill Bateman
- Carried

2. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2026

- Moved by Bill Bateman; Seconded by Carol Lowery
- Carried

2. Executive Director Update – (written report provided previously)

Linda Bangay had filed her regular monthly report which was sent to all members with the agenda. President Nickie spoke to this report in Linda's absence. She referenced that the cost of the AGM lunch at Wabun has doubled. In addition, it was noted that Linda has communicated to the members since the last Board meeting with helpful information on such matters as: the new directory, emergency preparedness planning, TLA hours and services, AGM details etc.

3. President's Update

Nickie noted that most of the work she has been involved in over the last month will be shared elsewhere in the agenda. She did finalize the installment of the Eurasian Watermilfoil signs (two at Town docks, one at Strathcona landing, and two at the mine landing). Much of her time has been spent on matters related to the TLA building site.

4. Business Arising from Past Meetings:

- **Update re: Temporary, Portable TLA Building** (Bill and Nickie)

  Shed upgrade:

  The shed has been upgraded so that it will be useable by the summer student. Gerry Gooderham was contracted to undertake this work and has made it hospitable, improving the environment sufficiently to operate the radio. Bill has been working on the equipment set-up in the shed (related to communication and electronics), including solar power, radio, etc. He will build the system on his island then transport to the site. The solar panel equipment has been donated.

  Bill met with Ontera on the TLA site. The existing connection has been rerouted and extended to the shed. It will then be extended across the road to the building (through a trench). Then ONTERA will return to complete installation. The goal is to have system activated next week. Nickie donated a VHS radio antennae which Bill will install on shed roof. Bill noted that the shed is not in

a particularly great location for a solar set up as it is surrounded by trees – which means additional challenges to overcome.

New building:

The building permit for the new building was approved. The fees have been paid. This was a lot of work. Several concessions were made in the application to obtain approval. This is the primary building on the lot, so it was subject to additional requirements. A gravel foundational pad was one. A contractor will level and prepare the ground and place the necessary gravel pad. Then the building will be assembled and placed on concrete blocks on the gravel. Painting of the building will occur after that.

Bill noted that all communication and electronic equipment will support the use of the shed for the radio operations. If this changes, then all of the equipment will need to be moved. In addition, in 2027, an application for the LUP renewal will be required.

The privy is in place.

- **AGM Update** (Nickie)
  Regular business, Scot will work with Lynn on the AGM presentation to the members re EWM and other invasives. There are several other invasive present in and around the lake (e.g. banded mystery snail, invasive *Phragmites*, spiny waterflea). Messages include "keeping your eyes open". The package on EWM that was prepared by the Environmental and Natural Resources committee will be placed on the TLA FB page.

  When asked, Christopher outlined how lake users could report the sightings of EWM through an e-mail to Christopher (which he will upload to the site).

- **Temagami Shoreline Clean-Up Challenge 2026** (Group)
  Prizes are needed for the "Temagami Shoreline Clean-Up Challenge". Nickie will follow up with Loons 'N Blooms, and also ask Linda put a notice out to members requesting participation. Bill suggested that larger corporations also be considered for donations. Children participating will each be given a t-shirt. Nickie asked members to consider possible sources.

6. New Business:

- **Committee Updates** (Chairs)

  <u>Fire-Pump and First-Aid Training</u> (Brad)

  Nickie asked Brad whether he will be organizing all neighbourhoods for his proposed emergency response. Brad responded that he would organize the Hub neighbourhood, but will leave it to other neighbourhoods to organize what is best for themselves. Each grouping has their own issues, including those related to transportation and communication. He will help, but they need to organize. He says he plans to encourage this with an announcement at the AGM and a discussion at the first aid training day.

  <u>Environmental and Natural Resources</u> (Scot)

  The survey for the Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) will proceed. The survey will tell us how big a problem this is. We also wish to continue to encourage citizen scientists.

  The Municipality was unsuccessful in its grant application for mats to address the EWM at the town docks. The Municipality seems uninclined to take further action on its own.

Nickie asked Carol to advocate for a (free) boat washing demo by the company "Ozero Solutions". This had been raised by Diane Green in a recent letter to council, for which Councillor Gustavsen had voiced his support. Carol could approach Councillor Gustavsen on this.

Nickie will call John Shymko at the municipality to ask about their plans to address the EWM at the docks since the grant was refused. This should not be on the shoulders of the TLA. The area at the town docks is approximately 750 sq metres, which would require mats estimated to cost $27,000.

With respect to a possible collaboration with the TFN/TAA on addressing the EWM (and other invasives) on the lake, Scot indicated that he has not been able to reach Victoria at the TFN office. He will continue to try to reach her on this matter.

The Mayor indicated at the June 11th council meeting that he could raise this (possible mat collaboration) to the TFN/TAA at the upcoming MOU meeting. Carol shared that the MOU meeting is happening this week, that she is joining the Mayor (along with Councillor Koistinen), and is prepared to raise the subject of the EWM mats. Carol will then report back to the board.

The TLA needs to hear whether Finlayson Provincial Park has had any success from their use of mats on EWM last year. We should touch base with Supervisor Dave Ward on this later in the summer. He had indicated that he expected the need to use the mats every year.

It is apparent that the Province (MNR) has indicated a proposal for citizen groups to "look after" invasives. Work will come down to citizen groups in the local area. More information is needed on this. Nickie said she had made contact with other leaders in the area, without positive results.

At the AGM, Nickie suggested that a booklet on invasive species from the Invasive Species Centre be made available. Potentially, they may be able to even come to the AGM to staff a display or even speak to the subject. If not at the AGM, a display may be available for one of the Saturdays at the Market. Lynn will follow up with the Invasive Species Centre on this. Also for the AGM, Lynn was asked to bring a jar with a sample of the EWM from the town docks to display.

Municipal Updates (Carol)

Carol gave an update on the municipality's parking proposal and the upcoming elections. Nickie noted that the TLA needs to find suitable candidates to run for municipal office. Nominations close August 21, 2026.

- **Selection of Officers for 2026-2027** (Group)

  Nickie proposed that this item be pushed to the next board meeting (September 23, 2026) since the Executive Director was not available this evening for vote recording. She proposed the following motion.

  Motion:
  Be it resolved that the selection of officers for 2026-2027 be postponed to the September 23, 2026 Board meeting.
  Moved by Scot Paltrow; Seconded by Lynn Buckham
  Carried

- **Proposed new motion** (Scot)

  Scot read the motion he wished to present for the board's consideration.

A lengthy discussion took place centred around the following main points.

- Rationale for undertaking:
  - This will settle the questions that have been raised within the Board with respect to TLA's authority.
  - Invasive species of all kinds will increasingly threaten the lake with growing costs for remediation. An expanded ability by the TLA to receive donations may be critical to it's future abilities to fight them.
  - A position was expressed that the current set up has been working well, and prior to this there have been no issues with it.
  - The board recognizes that the process to respond to the new legislation was labour intensive and thorough at the time it was undertaken. The questions now are new ones that have arisen from the pressures to find new ways of addressing environmental threats.
- Reasons for going through the TLA as opposed to Scot procuring the opinion on his own:
  - It gives greatest credibility to whatever opinion is received.
  - More than one board member wishes for clarity on this matter.
  - If the opinion is on behalf of the board, there is less likely to be a suspicion of bias.
- Payment and implications for the TLA:
  - Scot will pay all associated legal costs in full (i.e., the estimate, and any overage). There will be no financial liability for the TLA. Scot is seeking counsel as an independent board member.
  - The TLA cannot afford to pay any legal costs. There was also concern about any precedent that could be set otherwise.
- The questions that should be asked of the lawyer:
  - Questions include whether the TLA has legal ability to receive donations/grants, fund actions to remove/control invasive species, and arrange to provide tax receipts to US citizens.
  - For example, donations to TERAS are not tax deductible for US citizens. Could the Temagami Community Foundation be a member of the TLA to allow US citizens to get a tax receipt?
  - Scot will ensure lawyer will include these questions.
- Any legal opinion received is not binding on the board. The board will discuss what is received and consider if it wishes to proceed with any further action.

It was determined that the motion would be put forward with amendments. Amendments to the draft motion were made in order to clarify that while Scot is acting as a TLA Board member, the board is not the lead on this investigation, will not enter into any contractual arrangement with a lawyer, and will not be financially liable.

Motion:
Be it resolved that the Temagami Lakes Association director Scot Paltrow retain legal counsel expert in non-profit law to advise the board with a written opinion on the Temagami Lakes Association's abilities and limitations under its articles of incorporation and relevant laws on the Association's abilities to receive donations and grants for dealing with invasive species in and around the lake, and whether the Association has a right to spend money to take actions such as steps to remove or control invasive species.
Be it further resolved that Scot Paltrow, as a board member will pay the full cost for this legal service.

Moved by Christopher Brooks; Seconded by Brad Sablosky
Carried

- **Open House for New Building** (Group)

  This item was postponed until next year given work needs to be done over the summer.

7. Next Zoom Meeting Date: September 23, 2026 (7:30 p.m. Eastern)

Meeting Adjournment

Moved by Christopher Brooks; Seconded by Brad Sablosky
Carried- at 9:20 pm