

CURRENT CONNECTION

Summer 2014 Vol. 25, No. 2



The purpose of the Lake of Bays Association is to promote, maintain and enhance a clean and healthy natural environment, a well-served community and a safe and peaceful Lake of Bays.

Lake of Bays Association Annual Meeting

Saturday July 12, Baysville Community Centre

Coffee & Exhibits at 9 a.m.
Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.
Everyone Welcome!

Guest Speaker:
Adam Caswell
Hutcheson, Reynolds & Caswell Ltd.
Insurance Brokers

Topic:
Expect the Unexpected
Don't let severe weather take you by storm
Be prepared—and protected



Photo by Ed Poremba

Caswell Insurance Brokers, a firm that was established in Huntsville in 1910 and currently has offices in Huntsville and Bracebridge. Adam has been an insurance broker for 20 years and a partner in the firm since 1997. A resident of Huntsville since 1979, Adam is familiar with Muskoka and Lake of Bays. He particularly recalls the summer he spent operating a water skiing school and running the water ski program at former Birch Haven Resort (now The Landscapes) on the Muskoka River near Baysville. Adam has shared his vast experience and knowledge of home and cottage insurance with various lake associations around Muskoka and most recently spoke at the Cottage Life Show in Toronto in April.

Please join us at the AGM. Come for an update on Lake of Bays Association activities and other news and topics of interest to both seasonal and permanent residents.



Photo by Andy Zeltkalns www.zelcamphotography.com

Severe weather is on the rise across Canada. Weather events that used to happen once every 40 years can now be expected to occur every six. Adam Caswell of Hutcheson, Reynolds and Caswell Insurance Brokers in Muskoka will talk about how climate change is impacting the insurance industry and what can be done to protect your home or cottage from damage by heavy rainfall, variable lake levels, high winds, and extreme temperatures. Theft, fire, bubblers, ice damage and other risk management concerns specific to waterfront vacation property will also be addressed.

Adam Caswell is the owner of Hutcheson, Reynolds and

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	2
Safe Boating Courses.....	3
OPP Billing Reform	4
Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting.....	4
You Asked Us.....	5
Visual Arts and Photo Contests	6

President's Message

by Ian White, President, Lake of Bays



At the 2014 Annual General Meeting, I will step down as president. Two years seems such a short period of time, yet, in the tradition that is Lake of Bays, now is the time.

Ian Beverley will succeed me. For most of his life, Ian enjoyed the Muskoka experience at a family cottage on Lake Rosseau. In 2009, he and his wife Laura, along with their daughter Megan and son Jamie, purchased a cottage on Lake of Bays. Ian became a director of the Association in 2012. He had been active on the board of the Muskoka Lakes Association. Ian is a keen paddler and values the peacefulness and majestic beauty of Lake of Bays in all seasons. He is a lawyer by training and works for Waterfront Toronto, a tri-government agency which is revitalizing the Toronto waterfront.

As president, I have been fortunate to meet and work with a number of individuals. Among them are the mayor, councillors and staff of the Township of Lake of Bays, individuals at the Ministry of Natural Resources, neighbouring lake associations and our affiliated organizations, the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation and the Andrew Daniels Fish Stewardship Foundation.

During my tenure, I have developed a greater appreciation for the importance of community. While we enjoy warm, sunny summer days, it is easy to forget that it takes a lot of skilled people and infrastructure to make our community safe, quiet, clean and enjoyable. Whether we use them often or infrequently, our fire and police services, hospitals and EMS, libraries, parks, and road maintenance are essential. We also rely on local services and supplies provided by private individuals and companies. They include plumbers, electricians, landscapers, home and dock builders, retailers, marinas, resorts and restaurants. All of them are important to us. They are part of our community.

I like to refer back to the results from our membership survey to ensure that LOBA is focused on our members' key areas of interest. Ensuring a clean, healthy and natural environment was

important in 1926 when LOBA was founded and it is still a main focus. Keeping a safe and peaceful lake life has been a dream from the beginning, and remains a goal we all value. Our Environment Committee, our Planning and Development Committee and our Safety Committee all work to identify issues affecting our community and managing change. While not always big, issues such as the dark sky lighting bylaw, cell towers, ATVs, hydro rates and tax rates for OPP services continue to be important to us.

We continue to help our members deal with the realities of the future. Climate change affects all of us. We will advise on property protection, coping with lake levels, drought and storm damage. Our LOBA Newsflash alerts, e-mailed to you, are intended to make you aware of issues as they arise.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as president, and look forward to continued involvement in LOBA. I will remain on the LOBA Executive Committee and Board as the Past President and Chair of Nominations. I have also been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations.

It has been a pleasure working with such a talented and dedicated team. We are very fortunate to have so many knowledgeable and passionate volunteers. My sincere thanks go to each and every person with whom I have worked. I would also like to express my appreciation for the valuable support of Bev Govan, Administrative Assistant and Wendy Gibson, Executive Coordinator. Both have been a great help to me.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer.

Ian White

Silent Boat Rally

Lower Oxtongue River Eco-Tour

Sat. August 2 (9:00 a.m. to noon)
Lunch following on Dwight Beach

Discover the serenity of the Lower Oxtongue River with only the sound of your paddle to disturb the wildlife that awaits you around each bend in the river. This event is an opportunity to explore one of the most beautiful natural sites accessible from Lake of Bays. The Silent Boat Rally is for canoes, kayaks and electric boats. The tour will depart from Dwight Beach at 9:00 a.m., travel up the river and return to the beach for lunch. The seven-kilometer route can be enjoyed at a moderate pace and still leave time to finish the rally by noon. The cost is \$15 per person, which includes lunch. Bring your own boat, equipped with the required safety equipment. Registration is required and there will be a limit on the number of boats. Last year was a sell-out, so please don't leave it to the last minute. Register online at www.loba.ca.

SAFE BOATING COURSES

Boating License Included!

Obtain your Pleasure Craft Operator Card and safe boating essentials in a full-day course that includes an opportunity to get out on the water and improve your boat-handling skills.

BOATsmart, in cooperation with LOBA, is offering three safe boating courses this summer at Pride of Lake of Bays Marine (1031 Lake of Bays Marine Road, off Hwy 117).

YOUTH ON BOARD—Tues. July 8 (12 to 15 years)

WOMEN ON BOARD—Tues. July 15

FAMILY ON BOARD—Tues. July 22

The program runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and includes a morning in-class session, an opportunity to write the boating test and on-water practice in a boat provided by Pride of Lake of Bays Marine (with the instructor on board). Each course is tailored to the group (youth, women, families) to provide the knowledge you need to obtain your boating licence and to enjoy boating with confidence. All courses are taught by Transport Canada accredited BOATsmart instructors.

THE COST: \$125 per person, includes a copy of the BOATsmart Study Guide (handed out at the course). Participants must bring their own lunch and refreshments.

TO REGISTER: E-mail info@BoatSmartExam.com or call 1-877-792-3926 and speak to a Customer Care Representative. You can pay by credit card when you register or by cheque (payment must be received at least a week before the course date to secure your spot). Space is limited to only 20 participants, so register early to avoid disappointment.

WHO NEEDS A BOATING LICENCE? If you operate any motorized recreational watercraft in Canada you are required to obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, commonly known as a boat licence. The Operator Card is required regardless of age, size of boat or engine horsepower. It's the law.



Love Your Lake

Bringing Shoreline Stewardship Opportunities to You

If you love your lake stay tuned for the Love Your Lake program.

Love Your Lake is a shoreline assessment and stewardship program developed by the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds and it is delivered by trained individuals from the Muskoka Watershed Council. Technical support for their work is provided by Friends of the Muskoka Watershed and the District of Muskoka. The program identifies actions individuals can take to improve the health of the lake. Starting in June, approximately 800 properties will be surveyed on Lake of Bays this year. The surveys are visual and are conducted from the water.

If your property is surveyed, you will receive your own personal assessment report; complete with pictures of your property highlighting shoreline features that contribute to a healthy lake. **This report will only be seen by you.** The program is non-regulatory and results will not be shared with the municipality.

Your report will be full of ideas on how you can maintain or improve the health of the lake through some simple actions. The Lake of Bays Association will be providing volunteer support for this project. We hope to provide information and schedule events for landowners wishing to act on their shoreline reports and undertake shoreline improvement projects.

For more information:

If you have questions about the project please contact Judi Brouse, from the Muskoka Watershed Council at 705-646-0111 or jbrouse@muskokawatershed.org. For more information check out www.loveyourlake.ca.

Volunteer Boat Drivers Needed for Love Your Lake Program

The Lake of Bays Association is organizing a team of volunteers with boats to ferry the Muskoka Watershed Council project staff while they conduct the shoreline surveys for the Love Your Lake program. The volunteers are mainly required during the week (Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and your boat gas costs will be covered. Ideally we would like people to volunteer a minimum of three days but any offer of your help is appreciated. Volunteers must supply their own boat, equipped with the required safety equipment, and have a valid boating license. Boat drivers must be 16 years of age or older (validation of community service hours for students will be provided if requested). If interested, please contact Caroline Konarzewski at caromike@gmail.com, or call Caroline at (705) 788-0395

OPP Billing Reform

Muskoka faces huge increase in policing costs

The OPP is implementing a new method for charging municipalities for policing services, starting in 2015. Depending upon which of the proposed billing models is adopted, the District of Muskoka is facing anywhere from a 40 to 80 percent increase in the cost of policing services, with no change in level of service.

The proposed new billing model presented in October 2013 would have charged each municipality a **fee per household**, proposing that 73 percent of the fee would be a fixed cost (a base cost for all households), and 27 percent would vary depending on calls for service in each area. If implemented in Muskoka, this billing model would result in cost increases of approximately 70 percent. In response to objections from municipalities facing increases under the proposed model, the OPP revised the split between fixed and variable costs in their billing model to reflect 62 percent for fixed costs and 38 percent for variable costs. Based on this revised model, the cost per household in Muskoka would be lower, but still represents a double-digit increase with no service improvements. The OPP has not validated how the split between fixed and variable costs is determined and the actual cost of calls for service per municipality will not be provided until some time this summer.

In February 2014, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) established the OPP Billing Steering Committee with a mandate to review and analyze the proposed OPP billing model as well as other potential billing approaches and to look at the root causes of Ontario's soaring policing costs. Their report was released on April 10 and its recommendations were provided to the provincial government. One of the alternatives to the OPP billing model that the AMO Steering Committee considered was an allocation of base cost by a blend of number of households and weighted assessment. This proposal did not reach consensus because it negatively impacts high residential assessment municipalities, like Muskoka. Should this model be adopted, Muskoka's policing costs would increase by even more than 70 percent.

There will be winners and losers under any new billing formula, but what is clear is that if the billing model reform proceeds using the proposed models identified by the OPP or the AMO OPP Steering Committee, the District will be significantly, and negatively, affected.

On April 16, the Lake of Bays Association wrote a letter to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services asking for greater transparency in identifying what is included in determining base costs and to validate how the split between base and variable costs is determined. We asked for accurate data to determine the cost of calls for service (variable costs) for municipalities. And we asked for the new billing model to consider the difference between rural versus urban municipalities and seasonal versus permanent populations when determining policing costs. Further we supported the AMO Steering Committee recommendation that those facing increases should have the new billing model phased in over a four-year time frame and accompanied with mitigation funding.

The District of Muskoka has been actively engaged in the OPP billing reform process. In a staff report dated April 22, 2014, District Commissioner of Finance, Julie Stevens and District Chief Executive Officer, Michael Duben, provide an update on the issue. Council voted for the issue to be investigated and action determined by the Corporate and Emergency Services Committee (a committee made up of the mayors of all six municipalities). Go to www.loba.ca (see OPP Billing Reform) to read the staff report, a copy of LOBA's letter to the minister and access links to background information.

Policing represents a significant portion of public service costs that are paid for through property taxes. LOBA values the policing services we receive in Muskoka, and acknowledges that the old billing model is outdated and needs amendment. Our intent is to ensure the OPP billing reform is transparent, fair and sustainable for the taxpayers in Muskoka. Further updates on this issue will be provided on the LOBA website.

Heritage Foundation Annual Meeting on August 16 to highlight the settlement of Scott's Boathouse Road

The Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation continues to document the cultural and built heritage of the community. This summer, we will feature Scott's Boathouse Road. Early in the 20th century three gentlemen, Elgin Vesta Lander, Reuben William Millichamp and Captain William Eric Phillips were looking for a "northern" retreat that could accommodate their common interest in card playing and provide a summer vacation place for their families. They happened upon the south shore of Lake of Bays. Together they acquired a package of land, which spans both sides of the current Old Highway 117. The first "cottage" built to fulfill the dream of the men was a pre-fab from a department store, probably Eaton's. Then a cabin/tent was constructed by Captain Phillips on the other (south) side of Old Highway 117, and a third building was constructed in about 1923 by Mr. Millichamp. It is the most easterly cottage on the site and was a duplicate of the original pre-fab built by E.V. Lander. It was constructed by a Mr. Langmaid—master carpenter from Baysville. Most of the original knot-free wood remains in both cottages. A boathouse with sleeping and card playing space upstairs was also built in 1923.

After the meeting there will be a tour of heritage cottages on the road.

Please join us for the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation Annual General Meeting:

**Norway Point Church, off Glenmount Road
Saturday August 16th at 11:00 a.m.
Coffee at 10:30 a.m.
Lunch afterward.**

You asked...

Am I required to own my shore road allowance?

In the late 1800s, when Lake of Bays and many Ontario Lakes were originally surveyed, Crown surveyors reserved a 66-foot-wide road allowance around the shoreline. Part of the reason for this was that there was no road access to waterfront property at that time and people accessed their property on foot paths leading from the docks where the steamships delivered their passengers and supplies. Although most of these shore road allowances were never opened as public municipal roads, they remain public property. As road access and lots of subdivision were developed the shore road allowance no longer served a purpose and property owners started to purchase their waterfront from the Township, relieving the Township of liability and providing property owners with control over their shoreline. However, many waterfront property owners still have not purchased their shore road allowance. In many circumstances, dwellings or parts of dwellings, boathouses, docks, garages, sheds and landscaping have been constructed on the shore road allowance. In some situations, these structures may have existed for years, even decades, and the property owner is not even aware that their structures are encroaching on municipal land.

It is the general policy of the Township of Lake of Bays not to allow encroachment on any shore road allowances/road allowances or other Township property. If you do not own your waterfront and have a built structure it, or plan to build a dock, boathouse or shoreline structure, then you will be required to either purchase your shore road allowance or apply for a License of Occupation.

Closing your shore road allowance requires a \$650 application fee and the applicant is responsible for all legal and survey costs. The land acquisition cost is \$1 per square foot (plus HST), based on land above the normal high water mark.

Alternatively, the Township will consider applications for a License of Occupation for up to 10 years. There is a \$350 applica-

tion fee, plus an annual renewal cost of \$500. The applicant is responsible for legal fees incurred in the preparation of the Licence of Occupation agreement. The property owner must also have third-party liability insurance for \$2 million and the policy should name the Township as an additional insured. When the license expires at the end of 10 years, all structures encroaching on the shore road allowance must be removed and the land returned to its natural state, or the shore road allowance must be purchased from the Township.

For property owners on Lake of Bays who are in the jurisdiction of the Town of Huntsville, it is important to know that Huntsville is currently reviewing its policy on closing shore road allowances and a proposed policy will be discussed at a public meeting in June. The proposed policy stipulates that closing your shore road allowance will be a condition of severance, minor variance and for site plans for construction on the shore road allowance. Huntsville has a flat fee of \$10 per square metre for the purchase of shore road allowances and they only sell the portion of the shore road allowance that is above the high water mark. Huntsville does not issue Licenses of Occupation.

Purchasing your shore road allowance is the preferred course of action in most situations. It guarantees you access and development rights on your waterfront. If you plan to sell your property, owning your shore road allowance increases the value and the marketability of the lot. If you plan to keep your property in the family it protects your shoreline for the next generation against unpredictable changes in shoreline policy. For information on closing your shore road allowance contact the Township of Lake of Bays (705) 635-2272, or the Town of Huntsville (705) 789-1751 if your property is in Huntsville.

You asked...

What is the preferred type of warning lighting for open water created by a bubbler?

Most property owners using bubblers have a prominent “DANGER—OPEN WATER” sign. Perhaps a third of them also use

some type of warning light, presumably if they feel their location is particularly vulnerable.

The Dark Sky Lighting Bylaw passed last fall in Lake of Bays Township governs all outdoor lighting. One of its principles is preventing light spillage beyond property lines. Your lighting should not affect your neighbours. The bylaw also prohibits strobe lights (defined as “a device that produces regular flashes of light”). With this in mind, LOBA contacted Mike Wilmon, the Bylaw Enforcement Officer at the Township office in Dwight. He suggested a unique method of complying with the bylaw while warning others of dangerous open water conditions. **By positioning a low wattage shielded light or floodlight to illuminate a warning sign**, a property owner can draw attention to the danger without spilling annoying light across the lake. Note: a shielded light, as specified in the Dark Sky Bylaw, means that the light does not shine above the horizontal.

LOBA will continue to work with the township, lighting suppliers and contractors in the next few months on this issue and will communicate any developments. Questions about the Dark Sky Bylaw should be directed to Mike Wilmon at 705-635-2272 Ext 243, or e-mail mwilmon@lakeofbays.on.ca.

SHOP LOCALLY

Do your part by supporting the merchants and service providers in Lake of Bays and Muskoka.

The production of our yearbook is 100 percent supported by our advertisers and we encourage you to consult your 2014 Lake of Bays Association Yearbook before making your next purchase. All our advertisers are listed on our website. Just click on LINKS to access our advertiser listing twelve month a year.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words...

You are invited to enter the visual arts and photo contests



Painting of Marsh Falls on the Oxtongue River by Allan Simpson

New for 2014...

VISUAL ARTS CONTEST

Theme: Inspired by Lake of Bays

Media: pastels, acrylics, oils, water colours or mixed media

To Enter: The Visual Arts Contest is open to all Lake of Bays Association members and their families. Artwork must be completed in the last five years (2010 or later) and submitted by the artist. One piece of art per person to be submitted in digital format to info@abengraphics.com before **December 31, 2014**. The photo of the artwork must be high resolution (300 dpi or better). Subject line of e-mail: Lake of Bays Visual Arts Contest. Please include name and contact information of the artist, media used, size of finished art, title and a few words about how Lake of Bays inspired the artwork.

FIRST EVER LOBA PHOTO CONTEST EXHIBIT

BAYSVILLE LIBRARY

July 3–31st

Sponsored by Aben Graphics



Be sure to visit the Baysville Library in July where the winning photos and selected honourable mentions from the 2013 Lake of Bays Photo Contest will be on display. Thank you to Aben Graphics in Huntsville for mounting the photos for the exhibit and to the Friends of the Baysville Library for providing the gallery space. For library hours of operation visit www.lakeofbayslibrary.ca or call (705) 767-2361.

Back by Popular Demand...

2014 PHOTO CONTEST

We all love to take pictures and share our favourite views and magic moments at Lake of Bays. That's why the LOBA Photo Contest continues to be popular year after year. The contest photos are used to illustrate the yearbook, newsletter and website. Since 2009 visitors to the LOBA website have been able to view all photo contest entries. There is simply no better way to describe Lake of Bays than through the lenses of our members. So grab your camera and start shooting. Then, show us your stuff!

The Photo Contest is open to all Lake of Bays Association members and their families for submission in the following categories:

Life at the Lake—people, pets and dwellings

Nature—wild plants and animals

Landscape—land, water and sky

Photos must be previously unpublished and submitted in digital format to Aben Graphics: info@abengraphics.com before **December 31, 2014**. The photo must be high resolution (300 dpi or better). Subject line of e-mail: Lake of Bays Photo Contest. Contestants agree to the use of their photos in the Lake of Bays Association yearbook, newsletter and website.

The Photo Contest is separate from the Visual Arts Contest, and you may enter both.

EXPLORING THE NATURAL WORLD AROUND LAKE OF BAYS Nature Walk—August 24th

On Sunday August 24, the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation is hosting a nature tour with naturalist Bob Bowles. This summer, they will explore a privately owned preserve adjacent to South Portage Road known as Westernmain Woods. At 179 hectares, this large forested site is situated on till and bedrock outcrops close to the shore of Lake of Bays just south of Dreamhaven Lake. The landscape rises from the road by 60 to 70 metres onto a gently undulating upland dominated by mature rich mixed woods composed of Eastern Hemlock, Sugar Maple, Beech, and Yellow Birch with minor components of Black Cherry, Basswood, Large-tooth Aspen and White Pine. We will see a very mature upland forest in good condition and of a significant size, as well as wetlands that are vital to the health of local lakes. If interested, please e-mail info@lakeofbaysheritage.ca or call (416) 969-2727.

The Andrew Daniels Lake of Bays Fisheries Projects for 2014



“Andrew was our friend and avid Lake of Bays catch and release fisherman” said Bob Ransom and R. Bruce Montgomery Jr. and “in his honour and for future generations we have started the Andrew Daniels Fish Stewardship program.” The registered charitable organization is now celebrating 10 years of positive fish habitat work in Muskoka. Thanks to the efforts of many local volunteers and donors, under the direction of Andrew’s brother Chris and his father George, concerned Lake of Bays residents continue to work on numerous fisheries-related projects. All of their works have been endorsed and approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and/or the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

Despite the stresses placed upon it by the presence of undesirable invasive species such as rock bass, smelt, and northern pike, the Lake of Bays trout fishery seems to be healthy. Ours is also the only one of the large Muskoka lakes that still contains the rare and beautiful brook (speckled) trout, something about which we can all be proud. One of our goals is to more clearly understand its current status. To gauge the health of any sport fishery is very difficult, especially one as diverse as Lake of Bays, but with the help of a dedicated group of concerned volunteers, we have taken the first steps in that long and complicated process.



Native brook trout captured in a small tributary stream on Lake of Bays

Sport fishermen are familiar with their own fishery’s condition, so we called upon and welcomed their expertise and local knowledge about the lake’s brook trout. Since MNR has neither the resources nor the personnel to conduct a structured biological creel survey, though it is one of the most valuable scientific fisheries management techniques available, we decided to launch our own.

Ice Fishing Survey conducted last winter...

In early February, we distributed survey forms and maps to Lake of Bays area residents who had volunteered to interview ice anglers about what they had caught until March 31, when ice huts have to be removed. Additionally, Greg Betteridge and Judy Vancieaf of What’s Up Muskoka, flew an aerial survey of Lake of Bays, Peninsula, Fairy, and Mary lakes on March 16. There were 67 licensed fishing huts on the lake this winter, and ice fishing is always a popular draw for Muskoka tourists as well.

Spawning habitat inventory and mapping project this fall...

Lake of Bays residents care deeply about the quality of their waters, and this season we plan to inventory and map the rocky shoals where native lake trout spawn each October. Additionally, we will revisit the shoals at spawning time to witness this annual natural spectacle. Please contact us to see how you might assist with this important and fun project. Greg Betteridge, a retired fisheries specialist who worked with trout in Algonquin Park for 34 years and now operates Dragonfly Guiding out of Dwight, will be the lead on the project. He can be contacted at 705 635-2399 or dragonflyguiding@gmail.com. George and Chris Daniels may be reached at 705 635-3224 or geofeof@vianet.ca.

Fish Stock Foundation Fund Raiser this summer...

The Fourth Annual Fish Stock Foundation Fund Raiser will take place on July 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Port Cunnington Lodge and Resort. Beef/fish on a bun, salads, dessert, and cash bar. Tickets are \$35, available at Dwight Garden Centre, the ADFSF at adfsp@live.com or call (705) 635-3224.

2014 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Vote-By-Mail in Lake of Bays/Huntsville

Lake of Bays and Huntsville have opted to use Vote-By-Mail as the only voting method in the upcoming municipal election. Eligible voters will receive their ballots at the address on their property tax bill sometime after the September 12 deadline for candidates to declare their intention to run. There will be no polling stations. Ballots must be returned by mail, or they can be deposited in a drop box at the municipal office on Elections Day, October, 27, 2014.

If you are at least 18 years of age, a Canadian citizen, and a resident of, or own property in Ontario, you can participate in your local municipal elections. **You are entitled to vote in each municipality where you own property.**

The Lake of Bays Association encourages all property owners in Lake of Bays (or Huntsville for those properties on the lake in Huntsville) to exercise their right to vote. Our municipal government determines how our property taxes are spent and the policies that shape our community. Some seasonal residents don’t vote because they aren’t familiar with the issues and candidates. To assist our members in making informed decisions, the Lake of Bays Association will be interviewing candidates and providing a summary of these interviews in the fall issue of the Current Connection, to be released prior to the election.

What can you do now? Ensure you are on the voter list and that your information is correct by going on MPAC’s “Voter Look Up” website: www.voterlookup.ca. Note: for some cottage addresses, you may need to reference the Roll number from your last Property Assessment Notice or municipal tax bill.

For information about the elections and voting procedures in Lake of Bays, visit the Township website at www.lakeofbays.on.ca (705-635-2272), or the Town of Huntsville at www.town.huntsville.on.ca (705-789-1751).

Baysville Antique & Classic Boat & Car Show

Sunday, August 17

Noon to 4 p.m.

With the success of the revival of the show last summer, the Lake of Bays Antique & Classic Car & Boat show will be back in 2014. The venue will be the docks on the west side of the river in Baysville. Entertainment will again be provided by the Northern Lights Steel Orchestra in the band shell and Darryl Hollingsworth will be entertaining in the park on the north side of Hwy 117.

The SS Bigwin and the Miss Canada IV have been invited to exhibit (participation still to be confirmed at time of writing). Entrance is free but donations at the gate will be appreciated. Anyone interested in exhibiting should contact Wayne Donaldson at uwdonald@gmail.com or call (705) 767-1081. For car exhibits, contact Sam Havens at gosam@azteam.com.



2013 People's Choice Award went to this 1929 Model A Woody Station Wagon owned by Bill Ballentine, Port Sydney



On the docks in Baysville at the 2013 Antique & Classic Boat & Car Show

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAKE OF BAYS

5-Year Official Plan Review
Public Meeting—Open House

Thursday, June 19, 7 p.m.

Council Chambers, 1012 Dwight Beach Road.

The Township of Lake of Bays is undertaking the mandatory five-year review of its Official Plan required by the Planning Act. As part of the review, Council is seeking input from the public on proposed revisions. New policies will address growth management and the distribution of development in rural areas and urban settlement areas, the designation of lands for residential, commercial, industrial and waterfront development, as well as the stewardship of natural resources (mineral aggregates, wetlands, wildlife and fish habitat, forestry etc.). Recommended changes to the Plan will include extending the development permit system to include the entire municipality.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Public Meeting on Thursday June 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the Council office in Dwight. The public is encouraged to provide input on changes they feel may be important to the future of the Township. Submissions may also be forwarded by e-mail, fax and social media (access to the Township Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at www.lakeofbays.on.ca). For more information contact the Township Planner Stefan Szczerbak at sszczerbak@lakeofbays.on.ca, or Planning Consultant David Welwood at dwelwood@tunnockconsulting.ca. An additional public meeting will be held early in the summer to present the proposed amendments to the Plan and to provide a further opportunity for public input.



CURRENT CONNECTION is published periodically by The Lake of Bays Association for the information of its members. Suggestions, inquiries, manuscripts, photos etc. can be sent to:

Lake of Bays Association
P.O. Box 8
Baysville, Ontario, P0B 1A0

PHONE: (705) 767-3395

FAX: (705) 767-1044

E-MAIL: info@loba.ca

WEBSITE: www.loba.ca

EDITOR: SALLY COUTTS

PHONE: (613) 236-0621 or (705) 635-2567

E-MAIL: sallycoutts@sympatico.ca

Produced on behalf of the Lake of Bays Association by Fine Impressions, Toronto, Ontario.

