



ARE OUR ICONIC WHITE PINES IN TROUBLE ?

by Caroline Konarzewski

Tall, majestic white pines are to Muskoka what bread is to butter. However, you may have noticed that some white pine trees seem to be in trouble or have died. Small needle size, stunted growth, sparse foliage, shriveled bark on branches, sap exudate and excessive pine needle loss are all signs of “root-distress”. What’s going on?

White pines thrive in well-drained, slightly acidic soils like we have in Muskoka. However, they also prefer cool, moist soil and we tend to have very shallow soil which heats up and dries out quickly. Weather conditions over the past year have not been kind to our white pines. The hot and dry conditions of summer 2018, followed by a very cold winter with a number of thaw, rain, re-freeze cycles, were hard on our pines. The excessively wet spring of 2019 added even more stress, particularly for trees exposed to flooding close to shorelines. Climate change is predicted to bring us wetter winters and springs followed by hotter, dryer summers so this stress-cycle will likely continue.

White pines are also very susceptible to salt damage, so pines near a year-round maintained road or driveway where salt is being used, will be further stressed.

The good news is that white pine blister rust, an invasive fungus originally from Asia has not been seen in Muskoka. You can read more about this treatable fungus at ontario.ca/page/white-pine-blister-rust. 

lake of bays
ASSOCIATION

currentconnection

LAKE OF BAYS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER VOLUME 30, NUMBER 2

AUTUMN 2019

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

Winter fun around Lake of Bays

Now that we’ve said goodbye to summer 2019, it’s exciting to contemplate the many fun activities available around Lake of Bays in the winter months.

For outdoor enthusiasts, there are many options. Here are a few:

Arrowhead Provincial Park

With 180,000 visitors annually, Arrowhead Provincial Park, 5 km north of Huntsville, is popular year-round. From December to March the park offers cross-country skiing, tubing, skating, snowshoeing and skijouring (skiing while being pulled by your dog). Skating the famous 1.3-km skate trail among the snow-laden trees is a magical experience. There are 8+ km of snowshoeing trails and 33 km of groomed ski trails, including 16 km of skate ski trails. Hours vary by month and there is a charge

to use the facilities. Last winter a new Visitor Centre was opened where you can enjoy your lunch in the warm-up room by the fireplace. There is also a pro-shop for equipment rentals.

Arrowhead Nordic ski club runs its programs within the park. They offer ski lessons for all ages from 4 to 84—Jackrabbits for kids, Ski for Fitness and Masters programs for adults, a racing program for kids and private lessons. The club runs the Muskoka Loppet at the end of January and two races for elementary school kids in February and March. They also offer members only events such as full moon skis. For more information about the ski club visit arrowheadnordic.ca and for more information about the park visit ontarioparks.com/park/arrowhead.

continued next page



Frost Centre

Open January 1 to March break, the Frost Centre ski and snowshoe trails offer adventure and discovery for the whole family. Facilities include two on-trail, self-serve warm-up cabins (equipped with wood stoves and breathtaking winter views), rentals, historic Towerman's cabin, washroom, outdoor toilets and parking. The Trails Office, where passes can be purchased is located at 20130 Highway 35 North, 12 km south of Dorset. Visit algonquinhighlands.ca.

Bracebridge Resource MANAGEMENT CENTRE

Located on the east side of Highway 11, 3 km north of the Highway 117 exit, this little-known centre provides 16.5 km of groomed trails for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The area features attractive wooded areas, a variety of flora, fauna and bird life as well as scenic vistas along the Muskoka river. No rentals are available on-site and there is no fee to use the trails. Visit mtc.mosaicmediagroup.com.

Hidden Valley Highlands


For those who prefer downhill skiing or snowboarding, Hidden Valley Highlands, just east of Huntsville, has three quad chairs and a handle tow accessing a range of runs from Easiest to Expert. Visit skihiddenvalley.ca.

Limberlost Forest AND WILDLIFE RESERVE

In the winter, Limberlost Forest and Wildlife Reserve has 25 km of groomed trails for classic skiing that appeal to both novice and advanced skiers. The best part of the Limberlost Forest and Wildlife Reserve trails, is they offer them for your use, free of charge! Located at 1088 Buck Lake Landing, Huntsville. Visit limberlostforest.com.

Algonquin Park

Fat biking on the Old Railway Trail, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are all available in Algonquin Park. The Visitor Centre is open as a warming centre and picnic area, and the restaurant is open on weekends. Check out the bird feeders at the back of the centre. All visitors to the park

must purchase a park pass at the west or east gate. Visit algonquinpark.on.ca. 

*"And don't forget
about the many fun
events happening
in our towns over
the winter."*



Sunday November 24, 2019

■ Dorset Community Christmas Tree

Lighting and Dinner

Saturday November 30, 2019

■ Light up Dwight Night

Sunday December 8, 2019

■ Baysville Santa Claus parade

Thursday to Saturday, February 6 to 8, 2020

■ Dwight Winter Carnival

Friday and Saturday, February 14 & 15, 2020

■ Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival

Monday February 17

■ Baysville Family Day Winterfest

It's Time to Renew your LOBA Membership for 2020

Don't wait—Renew TODAY!

Your support allows us to continue our work to promote, sustain and enhance a clean and healthy natural environment, a well serviced community and a safe and peaceful Lake of Bays.

Go to loba.ca to renew/join and pay online or download a membership form to renew by mail.

Questions about your membership?

Please contact Beverley Govan
at 705-767-3395 or email Bev at

info@loba.ca



IN Memoriam

It is with sadness that we share the news that Jim Metcalfe, a long time LOBA volunteer, passed away on September 6, 2019. Jim served as an Area Steward from 2010 until this past June, during which time he also served on our Board of Directors for six years and as the Chair of Membership for two years. His experience in business and his love of Lake of Bays were a tremendous asset to the Association. Our condolences to his wife Valerie and their large extended family. He will be missed.



Get connected with LOBA

Environment, communications, membership, local planning and government—LOBA needs volunteers in these areas and more. No matter your "stage of life"; recently retired or just starting your career, empty-nester or student; we'd love to have you join our volunteer team. Opportunities are year-round and many can be accomplished remotely. Volunteers report feeling a deeper-than-ever connection to Lake of Bays!

We are fortunate to have so many people who generously give their time and expertise on behalf of LOBA and we thank all our hard-working volunteers. If you're interested in learning more about where you can help,

Please contact Ian White,
Chair of Volunteer Relations at
ian.white@rogers.com or 647-294-554



Water testing

GET INVOLVED! Sign up for the Lake Partner Program


The Lake of Bays Association has been testing lake-water quality since 1970. Today, Deb Cumming heads our water-quality team of volunteers who collect water samples from 20 different sites on the lake, three times each year. This is an invaluable program that will continue into the future. You can review our monitoring reports at loba.ca/programs/environment/read-more/.

Over the years we have had more people interested in being water-quality testers than we could accommodate, so now we are offering the opportunity for everyone to get involved through the Lake Partner Program (LPP). Starting in summer 2020, volunteers commit to collect water samples and measure water clarity starting in late May and then monthly until the end of October. You can pick a location close to your property and all the materials and instructions are provided free-of-charge through the LPP which is funded by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The water analysis and data interpretation are undertaken at our very-own Dorset Environmental Science Centre!

In addition to testing for phosphorus as the LOBA program does, the LPP also tests for calcium and chloride. This will increase our knowledge about what's happening in Lake of Bays with these important minerals.

What a great way to involve children and grandchildren in a fun, relevant, environmentally important activity that increases their connection to the lake.

It's easy to get involved. Let Caroline Konarzewski, LOBA Environment Chair know that you are interested by calling at 705-788-0395. Then contact the LPP at 800-470-8322 or lakepartner@ontario.ca.

Read more about the program at foca.on.ca/lake-partner-program-overview/ and desc.ca/programs/LPP 



PROPANE partner program

only available to
Association Members




The Lake of Bays Association has partnered with Grant Propane and Superior Propane to help our members secure an attractive propane supply for their Lake of Bays area homes and cottages. Both propane partners offer competitive pricing as well as a long history of safety, reliable delivery and remote tank volume monitoring which is particularly useful for seasonal residents who do not have someone checking their property regularly.

Grant Propane was our first partner starting in the winter of 2016/17. Members who have switched to Grant have received excellent service and fair, consistent pricing. Grant is a family-owned firm. Last year Superior Propane, through Northern Propane Consultants Inc. approached us to enhance and expand our Lake of Bays propane buying group program. Superior Propane is part of the Energy Distribution division of Superior Plus LP, a publicly traded company that is leading the North American propane industry. Having two propane partners introduces competition which results in better propane pricing.

We encourage LOBA members to join the buying group as the more members that join, the more attractive pricing that can be offered due to economies of scale and optimization of delivery schedules. Annual savings can range from hundreds to a few thousand dollars for high-consumption users.

If you are already a propane customer with another supplier, and want to switch to a LOBA partner, contact Board member, **Fraser Govan, at 705-767-3692** who will forward your information to our suppliers. The suppliers will then contact you to arrange a site visit to ensure access and compliance. If you choose to switch, the supplier will deliver their tank to your site, transfer any remaining propane from the old to new tank, hook up the lines and pressure test appliances and heating equipment inside your home. The old tank will be moved out of the way ready for pick-up by the old supplier. It's best to perform the switch in non-winter months. Do not have your existing vendor top-up or fill your tank, and do not pay any annual tank fees prior to switching.

The propane agreement is directly with you and the supplier. LOBA is not involved in the contract, however you have to be and remain a paying member of LOBA to retain the group pricing. 

Fairview Island Zoning

LPAT DECISION

Settlement involved changes to the Official Plan Amendment and the Zoning By-law

A settlement has been reached between the owners of Fairview Island (The Konrad Group) and a group of Lake of Bays residents who had appealed the Town of Huntsville's decision in February 2018 to change the zoning of the island from residential to CS3 Institutional Camp, which is a commercial zoning. The Local Planning Appeals Tribunal (LPAT) allowed the appeal, in part, and approved a revised zoning by-law. The dispute was resolved between all parties prior to the scheduled hearing in August 2019.

The commercial zoning had been allowed to satisfy the Konrad Group's proposal to develop the property as a corporate retreat. Among the concerns of local residents was the potential of the property to be used as a commercial resort. The settlement involved changes to the Official Plan Amendment and the zoning by-law to clarify the nature of the use and the amount of accommodation. The definition of use was changed to only allow guests and visitors of the corporation—the by-law that was recommended by the Town of Huntsville planner and approved by Huntsville Council had broadened the nature of use beyond that requested by the applicants to allow anyone to operate a private camp, with no restriction. The following clauses were amended to specifically reference the permission for guests, clients or employees of the private corporation. In addition, the definition was amended to specifically preclude it being open to the general public or being leased to any other user. The definition of the use as approved by LPAT now states:



For the purposes of this by-law, a private institutional tourist establishment is defined as the use of land, buildings or structures by a private corporation for the provision of recreational, training/education programs and sleeping accommodation on a temporary basis exclusively to its invited guests, clients or employees. The establishment may include centralized facilities associated with such accommodation or programs for the provision of administration or dining to its guests, clients or employees. Accessory buildings, structures or facilities incidental to the principal use, such as common washrooms and recreational facilities are permitted.


The private institutional tourist establishment shall not be available for accommodation or use by the general or traveling public. Also, neither the establishment nor any of its buildings, structures, facilities or property may be leased or rented at any time by the owner to any other corporation, person or organization, except that this restriction does not preclude the owner from charging any fees to its invited guests, clients or employees.

A clause was added to the by-law limiting the number of bedrooms in total on the island to 29.

In addition, the settlement filed with the LPAT had a private agreement dealing with operational aspects that could not be included in a zoning by-law. Of perhaps the most significance is the agreement to limit the hours of construction. The current Huntsville by-law allows construction six days a week from seven in the morning to nine o'clock at night. On Sunday construc-

tion is permitted from noon to six o'clock. The elements of operations in the agreement are as follows:

When the attached documents are in effect, Konrad agrees to comply with the following additional provisions:

- 1.** A portable fire pump will be required on the island;
- 2.** Between July 1st and Labour Day, construction on the island will be limited to weekdays between 8am and 6pm. The foregoing will not apply to emergency construction, construction where the required contractors are only available outside those times, or construction required to prevent damage to the property or the environment;
- 3.** Fireworks will not be set off more than 3 times per year;
- 4.** There will be no excessive motorized water sports activities that would exceed what would be typical of an area with normal residential uses. The definition of water sport activities includes boating, water-skiing and sea-doing;
- 5.** No commercial cellular tower will be constructed on the island; and
- 6.** Solar panels shall be constructed and placed in a way that mitigates and minimizes reflection/glare. 

Langmaid's Island Appeal

UPDATE

Case Management Conference to be held November 20, 2019


The Local Planning Appeals Tribunal (LPAT) Case Management Conference (CMC) for the appeal filed by Langmaid's Island Corporation will be held on Wednesday November 20, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Township of Lake of Bays council chambers, 1012 Dwight Beach Road. In November 2018 Langmaid's Island Corp. filed three appeals on the basis that no decision had been

reached by the respective approval authorities within the mandated 180-day limit.

The CMC is a one-day meeting to decide what the issues are, determine who the parties will be, and to set dates to hear the actual appeal. Those who have requested party or participant status, or their representative, will be in attendance. LOBA, jointly with the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation, has requested party status and will be represented at the CMC by the firm Elston Watt Barristers and Solicitors. Members of the public are welcome to attend and listen to the proceedings.

The CMC had originally been scheduled for July 23, 2019, however, due to recent changes to the Planning Act lawyers involved in the hearing requested an adjournment until the regulations that will affect this hearing have been adopted, which happened on September 5. Bill 108 (More Homes, More Choices Act), passed by the provincial government in June, has removed many of the reforms made by the previous government bringing the LPAT back in line with the former Ontario Municipal Board, although with some amendments that are intended to speed up the hearing process. Of concern to many citizens and municipalities is that Bill 108 leaves the final decision on appeals to the Tribunal, which many feel reduces the public's ability to have a say in planning and designing their community. The reforms that gave municipalities the final say in development decisions have now been removed.

The Langmaid's Island development proposal is for a 32-lot subdivision in the Township of Lake of Bays with two waterfront landings on the portion of Lake of Bays shoreline that falls within the boundaries of the Town of Huntsville. Langmaid's Island is recognized in the Lake of Bays Official Plan as a Natural Heritage Area with significant restrictions around considerations for development.

LOBA will report on the details and outcomes of the CMC in subsequent communications. Stay tuned. 

*Reprinted with permission of
the Muskoka Watershed Council*



Photo supplied by Daphne Curtis

WE NEED MORE THAN JUST AN UPDATE TO THE Muskoka River Water Management Plan

by Kevin Trimble ~ Chair Muskoka Watershed Council

The "Flood of 2019" is now a common term in Muskoka. In its aftermath, there has been an urgent need to focus political will and resources on helping people recover their own losses and on fixing public infrastructure. Almost as urgent, there has also been a call to gain a better understanding of the causes of floods and to prepare ourselves to live with the next one.

But how do we do this? Many people are calling for an update to the Muskoka River Water Management Plan (MRWMP) because this plan is out-of-date and deals primarily with the operation of dams in the Muskoka watershed.

But is that enough on its own? The MRWMP was not designed to manage floods. According to MWC's Patricia Arney, there are many other human and natural features across the entire watershed that should be considered.

Watershed hydrology, which is the study of how water moves across the landscape, both on land and in waterbodies, is needed to create a broader understanding of the origins and management of flows. Watershed hydrology is used to create a water budget, which is like a financial budget where

money comes from a variety of sources into our accounts and goes out as expenses.

In a water budget, water comes in through rain and snow, groundwater and flow from upstream. Some of that water soaks into the ground, some goes back to the atmosphere (about half of our annual precipitation is pumped back to the atmosphere by our forests), some is stored in wetlands, and lakes. The leftover water flows downstream.

Now imagine that our watershed is made up of many small pieces of land, like pieces of a puzzle. A water budget can be made for each piece to see how it contributes to the whole. Water coming out of all the pieces collects into small streams, then bigger rivers and lakes.

Each piece of the watershed has its own natural infrastructure to manage the flows that are released. Some pieces have deeper soils for groundwater recharge. Forests to pump water into the atmosphere. Ground vegetation also pumps water and maintains soils and channels. Wetlands store water. Some pieces have been modified or removed by human land uses like development and infrastructure and now produce more excess flow.

above: Damage on Lake of Bays from the high water of spring 2019.

continued page 8

Annual General Meeting

SATURDAY JULY 6, 2019

More than 140 members and guests attended the LOBA General meeting in Dwight. Following the business of the meeting, we heard great presentations from Geoff Ross, Vice Chair of the Muskoka Watershed Council who provided a "snapshot" of the health of our watershed, based on the Muskoka Watershed Report; Cathy Fairbairn, CEO and Librarian of the Lake of Bays Township libraries who reminded us of the many

events and activities the Dwight and Baysville branches bring to our communities and updated us on fundraising for the Dwight library expansion project; Caroline Konarzewski, Director and chair of the LOBA Environment committee who updated us on environmental activities the Association is currently undertaking; and Ian White, LOBA Director, who updated us on possible increases in Hydro rates for seasonal residents.

Next year's AGM is **Saturday July 4, 2020.** 

Supporting our own

We know that our members like to support businesses that support LOBA!

You can find a listing of our Yearbook and Current Connection advertisers at loba.ca/links/advertisers-2019/.

Check there first for local suppliers.

Advertising in the 2020 Yearbook is now open. New for 2020, we are introducing Marketplace—your source for local services which will showcase your company's products and services at a low cost and with a dedicated index.

Contact Bryan Dearsley at

bdearsley@live.ca. 

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Ann Peden
President

Ian Beverley
Past President

Pat Birnie
Safety Chair

Wendy Gibson
Communications Chair

Fraser Govan
Planning & External Affairs Chair

FOR 2019-20

Caroline Konarzewski
Environment Chair

Kathy Ogryzlo
Treasurer

Linda Robinson
Membership Chair

Ian White
Nominations & Volunteers Chair

Andy Barnett
Nominations/Environment

Bob Breipthaupt
Planning & External Affairs

Jane Dupéré
Design Editor, Communications

Don Macintosh
Planning & External Affairs

Marcia Watt
Membership

Gloria Woodside
Planning & External Affairs

**There are 3 vacancies*



**Save
the
Date**

**Lake of Bays
Association
Winter Meeting**

Saturday January 18, 2020

**Coffee 10 a.m.
Meeting 10:30 a.m.
Lunch to follow**

Bethune United Church Baysville

**This is an open meeting and
everyone is welcome.**

Look for details at loba.ca soon

Community Planning PERMIT SYSTEM


Township of Lake of Bays Council is introducing a Community Planning Permit System in order to better implement the policies of the Official Plan. This updated Community Planning Permit By-law replaces the former Development Permit By-law and former Zoning By-law, and it applies to the entire Township area.

This by-law differs from a zoning by-law because it permits discretionary uses, i.e. those uses which are permitted provided that certain conditions are met, in addition to permitted uses. It also allows variations from the standards, such as setback or lot

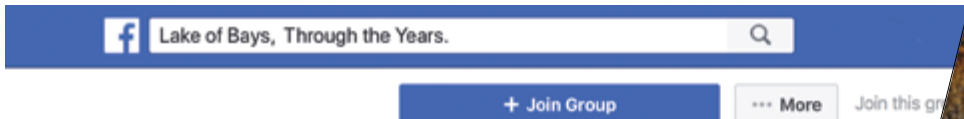
coverage requirements, provided that the identified criteria are addressed.

The Community Planning Permit By-law also regulates removal of vegetation and alteration of the landscape (grading, blasting, filling, etc.). The Community Planning Permit System allows Council to delegate approval authority, as it deems appropriate, to staff. Approvals that are delegated to staff are identified throughout this By-law. For these minor variations, notice to neighbours is not required and the process will be streamlined. Where the need for a Council approval is identified, notice to neighbours of a public meeting will be given.

You can download the draft By-law at lakeofbays.on.ca/en/invest-and-build/Community-Planning-Permit-System.aspx.

Open houses are scheduled for October 4 and 5, with the statutory Public meeting to be held October 29. 

Do you have vintage photographs from Lake of Bays? We have a website for you!



If you love Lake of Bays as much as Judy Vancleef and Jacqueline Godard, we have the perfect website for you—Lake of Bays, Through the Years [facebook.com/groups/253508228926917/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/253508228926917/). Judy and Jacque, who share a deep passion for the history of Lake of Bays, created this Facebook page for people who would like to get to know the lake's past or share their part of its history.

Judy has been collecting photos and heritage items as well as writing research papers on local history for the past 25 years. Jacque has been chief researcher for the Lake of Bays Heritage Advisory Committee for the past 11 years. They believe that the rich history of Lake of Bays should be both preserved and shared. By creating Lake of Bays, Through the Years, as the go-to place to share old photos, stories and memories, they hope to piece together missing parts of the history of Lake of Bays puzzle.

This Facebook page has grown rapidly to almost 1300 members in six months. Members love the site and have been sharing their stories and photos that go as far back as the late 1800s. And not only has this engaging site brought forth nostalgic memories; it has also reconnected long, out-of-touch friends.

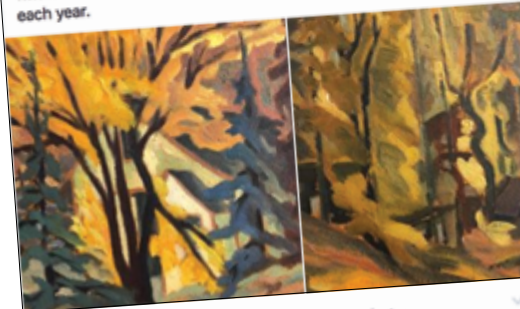
Judy and Jacque invite everyone to join their Facebook page and chime in with their own memories, heirlooms and photos. You just never know what treasures you will find.



Judy Ruttan Vancleef
September 3 at 6:23 PM
Jack Featherstone at Bigwin - 1960's Thank you Rosemary Featherstone for this photo of your late husbands father.



Ian Hanna
21 hrs
With the Fall colours coming on - I thought I would post these wonderful paintings of Limberlost - done in 1943 by our Great Uncle - Lowrie Warrener.
He is widely recognized as one of Canada's earliest and most important pioneers of abstract art.
Lowrie and his wife Rachel (Buchan) Warrener spent many summers at their cottage at Clovelly Point (where he painted numerous pieces) and where their son and daughter in law, John and Liz continue to cottage, each year.



Jacqueline Bradley
September 16 at 7:33 PM
Another trout pic! My Grandma Rose Crozier caught this monster in LOB! The fish was so big that my grandfather had to paddle the canoe to the shore so they could beach it. I'm guesstimating this was in the early 1940s



Michael Whittingham
September 6 at 8:48 PM
American Dorothy Ruth Bauckus, later on my mother; here as a young woman in Muskoka, On, at her Grove Park cottage across from Bigwin Inn. L 30's



Jacqueline Godard updated the group cover photo.
August 14
Britannia Hotel early 1900's owned by Thomas J. White and inherited by Paul S. White.



On behalf of all Lake of Bays residents, past and present, the Lake of Bays Association would like to thank Judy and Jacque for their efforts!

Photo Contest

Deadline, December 31, 2019

Open to all Lake of Bays Association members and families for submission in the categories below.

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 high resolution to:



executivecoord@loba.ca

by December 31, 2019.

Subject line of the email, Lake of Bays 2019 Photo Contest.

Contestants agree to the use of their photos for the Lake of Bays Association yearbook, newsletter, website and social media sites.

Check out the winning photos and all 2018 submissions at


loba.ca/photo-gallery/2018-photo-contest/

Continued from page. 5—Muskoka Water Management

So how we manage each small piece of the watershed affects river flows and lake levels. But first we need to understand how all of the pieces work and how they fit together.

With poorly managed home finances, debt leads to expenses that allow too much money to flow out too fast.

Good flood management means managing excess runoff from every piece of the watershed, so by the time excess flows get into big rivers and lakes, there is less flood water to manage. An updated MRWMP is only one part of our portfolio. That's like controlling our chequing account while draining our credit cards, RSPs and savings accounts.

Each corner of the watershed has unique opportunities for flood control if we use a broad watershed hydrology approach to understand how the pieces all work together. We need to assess and conserve all of our natural infrastructure, including wetlands, headwater streams and forests. We also need to look at our built infrastructure in a different light and to consider building new natural infrastructure where it makes sense. We may also need new kinds of controls on how and where we build. 




Huronia

Security & Monitoring
Fire & Safety
Audio Video
Lock, Key & Safe


huronialarms.com

Muskoka • Midland • Collingwood



- ✓ Do your laundry in 4 minutes
 - ✓ Use FABRICARE wash, dry and fold services
 - ✓ 2 minutes to drop it off & 2 minutes to pick it up
 - ✓ Open 7 days a week
- www.fabricare.ca

FABRICARE ...
"We keep Barrie, Simcoe and Muskoka green clean"



MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C020045



Welcome Councillor Anderson!

Mr. George Anderson has been appointed Ridout Councillor for the remainder of the current term of Township of Lake of Bays Council (2018-2022).

The Lake of Bays Association asked Mr. Anderson about his background; "My family roots in Ridout go back some 80 years. I grew up loving the area and it has always been my special place on this planet.

"I am an Outdoor Educator and I was employed by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (formally the Muskoka Board of Education), for 32 years until my retirement in 2013.

"I am looking forward to representing the people of Ridout and the Township of Lake of Bays. I offer the following: I enjoy people; I am a good listener; I have a completely open and clean slate. Positive communication, research, collaboration and compromise have always guided me in decision-making. I am in an excellent position to listen equally to seasonal cottagers, full-time residents and visitors.

"The care of the natural world has always been the guiding principle of my life. I believe that the sustainability of the natural environment must be included in our discussions. Maintaining a healthy environment will ensure a sound economy and a resilient future for the people of Lake of Bays.

"Please contact me using the Lake of Bays email address ganderson@lakeofbays.on.ca, or call 705-789-6140 to share any information, concerns or questions." 