Loon Call

LITTLE LAKE JOSEPH ASSOCIATION

LLJA.ca

2021

Little Lake Joseph Association • Box 1268, Station "K" • Toronto, ON Canada M4P 3E5

Produced By: Laservision Graphics Ltd.

Loon Call 2020

LITTLE LAKE JOSEPH ASSOCIATION

Give Your Forest A Check-Up
Page 4

Safe Boating
Page 6

Water Testing (Or Not)
Page 10

President's Message

Dear Neighbours,

Greetings and may this year's Loon Call find you and your families well, especially as we continue to live through the pandemic in Ontario.

With more of us get vaccinated, restrictions should continue to end so that we can resume our fullest lives, with family and friends at the lake.

That will let us also continue to support our local businesses, especially those that will re-open after the most recent lock-down. To those friends and neighbours from the USA who were unable to get up to their cottages in 2020, I hope you will be able to return this year. It may be a good sign that we are enjoying the active family of American Redstarts, who are flitting about our property eating the insects.

Despite seeing light at the end of the tunnel, to many of us it feels like Groundhog Day. For those fortunate enough to have continuing employment, working from home for 15 months has been a strain. For many, having the cottage to escape to, alleviates that, to a great extent. We can see that the attraction of having a second home has become increasingly desirable, with cottage prices rising and construction of new and renovated buildings booming all around us.

As you will see in the news article herein, we will postpone our lake social again this year and will potentially host another AGM virtually on the August long weekend. Water testing is still on hold for us as well. Your Lake Association had its spring meeting and the lake executives meeting should be happening again virtually this summer. It will likely be dominated by discussions of the short-term rental by-law issue with local government and administration.

Yours truly had a virtual meeting with the Mayor, the CAO and the presidents of Lake Joe North and Lake Rosseau North associations last week. See news article again herein for details, but this rental issue is a controversial topic. I am optimistic that a middle ground can be found that prevents pure commercial usage, but doesn't infringe upon owner's historic rights or the traditions that allow families to experience cottage life, even if they can't afford to buy one.

I want to thank the board for publishing the Loon Call and their ongoing support of our community. You will have seen an email blast recently that included links to 2 surveys from Safe Quite Lakes on lake activity, and from the MLA on the development of the Cleveland House in Minett. If you didn't, we may not have your email, so please send us a note if that is the case. If you have lost any property on the water or want to share ideas or have any questions you can reach us at [redacted].

Be well and have a great summer.

Mark Johnstone
Little Lake Joseph Association

Fireboat to Lake Joseph

By Suzanne Koenderman

The Lake Joseph North Association has unanimously approved to move ahead with the purchase of a fireboat!

The original proposal from the Seguin's Fire Chief was to convert a used workboat into a fireboat. Due to demand and availability issues during Covid-19, there were no used boats. However, the Lake Joseph North Association exceeded their original fund raising target, raising over $175,000.00. This put them in a position to order a new boat with more sophisticated safety equipment on board, meaning the new boat will be even more effective.

This fireboat will benefit cottagers on Little Lake Joe. In many instances, it is the fastest way to get EMS or firefighters to our remote locations. A fireboat has an unlimited source of water if needed. Gordon Bay Marine is covering mooring and storage and the ongoing costs of the boat are covered by Seguin Township.

The fire chief has said that there is always more safety equipment to buy(or replace), so new donations to the fund are welcome!

More concrete information on the status and delivery of the boat will be announced when it is available.

Short Term Rentals

In the spring of 2021 Seguin Township has been incrementally sending out approximately 70 letters to residents who have been renting out their cottages, citing a 2006-125 by-law stipulating that commercial use of non-commercial properties is illegal and asking those that received the letter to contact the township.

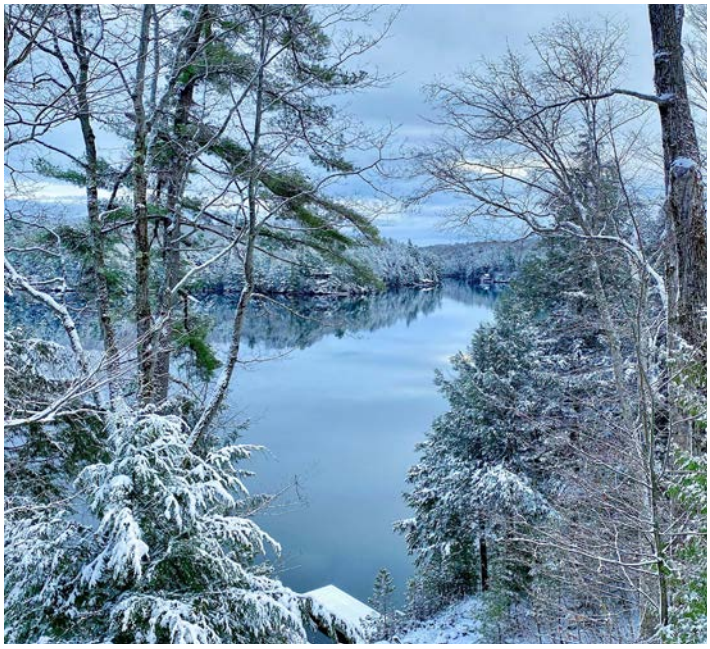
Seguin has taken a broad brush position by doing this that deviates from a complaints based approach where problem properties e.g. 'Serenity Cottages 'were dealt with as necessary.

This change from addressing problem rentals on a complaints basis is creating a polarized response. LLJA met with the Mayor, CAO to try and understand what their intent is, explore options to preserve the community, without negatively impacting stakeholders and ensure that the economic impacts of these activities are being considered.

The town admits they are in a learning process and that they are responding to concerns about septic usage, unsafe boating, fire risk and commercial taxes and the conclusion can be drawn that they are against the commercialization of renting. The days of the classified ads in the paper to rent a cottage are gone and there is no turning back.

Next steps will be feedback to council from those respondents. So far the township is not penalizing, to the extent they could, those renting but say they want to have a 'conversation'.

They are also hiring a communications officer to improve the level of communication in the township. It is to be determined if the by-law will be tested or hold-up in court. The search for a middle ground solution still seems to be a possibility based on the feedback from the Mayor. Residents are encouraged to communicate their opinions with the township and the association to continue the dialogue as this evolves.



Mayor's Message

Ann MacDiarmid, Mayor

Seguin Council continues to prioritize accessible, affordable broadband for the entire Township. We understand the frustration many people have felt with the lack of robust connectivity throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Your Council has entered into a contract with Vianet to deliver wireless to the home with connectivity at 50 mbps down and 10 mbps up to 2467 homes and businesses.

Additionally, your Council has received strong proposals from two other internet service providers that will have the capability of reaching a combined 2095 homes and businesses. Discussions are underway to finalize these projects.

Although the latter projects are somewhat dependent on successful grant applications to the Universal Broadband Fund (UBF Federal) and the Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON Provincial), Seguin will be allocating up to $900,000 towards improving connectivity for our residents. We will not let the commitment to internet service for all to drop.

Your Council is pleased to have delivered a 2021 Budget with a 0.5% tax increase while adding several important service improvements to deliver concrete progress on vital commitments made in the Strategic Plan. This increase represents an $8.78 increase in total property tax for the average residential property owner.

This budget includes a total allocation of $300,000 to improve seasonal roads throughout the Township.

In 2021, you will see the addition of a Corporate Communications Officer in response to the continued need to increase the quality and frequency of our communications to you and our neighbouring municipalities. A full time By-Law Officer will be added to increase the consistency of Seguin's ability to address bylaw issues and build more robust data to help in future planning in by-law development, monetary penalties and enforcement.

In addition, this budget includes a commitment to adding a Strategic Initiative Project Manager reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer to ensure that the key projects such as Broadband Expansion, an Integrated Trails Strategy, the West Parry Sound Wellness Centre and economic development initiatives proceed quickly to ensure Seguin is the Best Natural Place to live and work.

In addition to the wonderful addition of Jason Inwood as our Chief Administrative Officer in November 2020, Seguin has welcomed a new Chief Building Official, Curtis Livingstone, who will be responsible for overseeing a detailed review and focus on serving our customers with improved processes and timelines.

We are all looking forward to a year much different from the uncertainty of COVID-19 as spring starts to appear throughout Seguin. We will continue to work with the Public Health Unit to ensure that our community receives its vaccine allocation in a timely and efficient manner.

Until everyone has received the vaccine, please continue to practice all of the guidelines including physical distancing, wearing a mask and frequent hand washing. Above all, please support our local businesses and be kind to those around you.

West Parry Sound SMART Community Network Inc.

WPS SMART is a not-for-profit volunteer organization that is focused on enhancing high speed internet capacity in West Parry Sound. We team with Municipalities, Federal and Provincial governments, and Internet Service Providers to build and deliver internet projects. To-date, this teaming has resulted in 6 projects that have / or will, when completed, bring high speed internet to many residents and businesses in Seguin, Archipelago, Carling, and McDougall.

We are often asked to provide recommendations on the type of service that would be the best. There is no right or wrong answer to this question because internet service in our area, just like most rural areas, is limited in what is available in any specific area within the community. We believe that the ultimate goal is to have fibre to the home to as many homes as possible. This provides high speed, reliable, affordable internet with no data caps.

Due to the low population density in most rural communities, the required return on investment is not achievable for fibre for the service providers. We are reliant on all levels of government funding to help with the investments required. We are hoping that the Province will help as well by making hydro poles more accessible for ISPs to deploy fibre. That could reduce cost of implementation substantially and reach a good percentage of our homes.

In the meantime, solutions that are offered in West Parry Sound include:

- The "hubs" (cellular internet) from Rogers and Bell. In both cases the cost can be high due to data caps and service performance is hampered by volume (number of users on at any given time), if the service is cellular based.

- Bell is also offering their 25/1 service in some parts of West Parry Sound. This service has higher speed and data allocation, service performance is still hampered by volume.

- In some areas, fixed wireless is available and may or may not include data caps depending on provider. Fixed wireless service is not impacted by volume. Both cellular based and fixed wireless- based services require line of site to the tower that provides the signal.

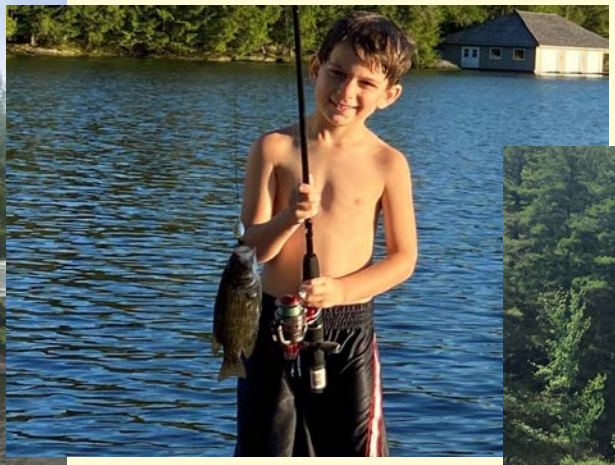
- Satellite services offered by Xplornet are also available and also include data caps and service performance is affected by volume and weather conditions.

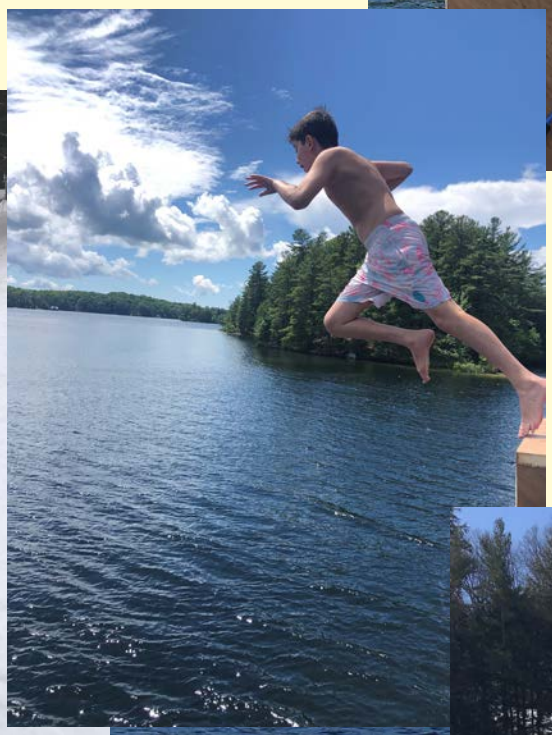
- Recently, Starlink (Elon Musk's company) commenced offering service for their low earth satellite internet solution. Those on the beta are finding that speeds are good and there are no data caps. There are drops in the service depending on the timing of the satellite rotation around the earth. As more satellites are launched into space that situation should improve. It is important to note that this is a "beta" service and pricing and performance commitments are yet to be defined by Starlink. Starlink needs a clear view of the sky to ensure the best quality of service.

We are still a long way from getting high speed internet for all in West Parry Sound, but we have made great strides in getting some Federal and Provincial government investment along with local Municipal investment. We have also gained the interest of several internet service providers and are no longer dependent on just Bell and Rogers.

Cogeco, Lakeland, and Vianet are investing in our area. Unfortunately, internet projects take time to implement and we need to keep the pressure on all levels of government to support these.

For more information: Check out www.smartnow.ca





Minutes of

Little Lake Joseph Association Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Zoom (because it is 2020)

Confirmation of Quorum. A quorum of Directors and members was confirmed and the meeting commenced at 14:05. Board Attendees: Johnstone, Koenderman, Kirsh, Paterson, Edmison, Begg, Kwinter, Davidson. Regrets: Soutendijk.

1. **Welcome and introduction of guests**
   - Mark Johnstone outlined the agenda and welcomed everyone including the local politicians.

2. **Financial Statements – Paula Kirsh – Treasurer** – Motion / Vote Required
   - Paula provided Treasurer update on financials as shown in the Loon Call for 2019.
   - Moved by: Suzanne Koendermann. Seconded by Susan Paterson. Voted and accepted.

3. **Board Update – Mark Johnston**
   - Introduction of Board Members. Invited others to stand on the Board.
   - Suzanne Koenderman and Alf Kwinter's terms expire with this AGM and both put themselves up for another term of 3 years. Mentioned by Mark Johnstone seconded by Paula Kirsh.

4. **Nancy Cohen - from Lake Joe North Association and Safe and Quiet Lakes**
   - Lake Joe North Association (LJNA).
   - Actively fundraising for a fireboat for Lake Joseph. This fireboat would be similar to the one in Rosseau and would be located at Gordon Bay to cover Lake Joseph, including our Little Lake Joe. The boat would be used for fire and other emergency responses in ~20 minutes. Donations are still being accepted for this fireboat so please contact Nancy [redacted] if interested in donating as an owner (donations are tax deductible).
   - Safe Quiet Lakes update.
   - LLJA was a founding partner. Productive year in 2020 despite challenges with community outreach.
   - Wakes and Speed Pilot project is being tested for Indian River and Mirror Lake, with a view of taking this to Lake Joseph areas in coming year.
   - Decibel Coalition: the goal is to bring in decibel limits on boat engine noise. Many US/EU jurisdictions have standards but updates to the federal Canadian laws require a base of support. Asked LLJA to cascade information and awareness.
   - LLJA is invited to join the coalition, including MLA, and other lake associations in ON, BC, QC.

5. **Mayor Ann MacDiarmid**
   - High-speed internet update.
   - Town has been active in pursuing high-speed internet including using $240K of township modernization funding and provincial/federal funding to enable Otter Lake and Humphrey Area for 4,000 residences. While LLJ will not be the benefactor for this initial program but could be for future program and new funding announced by provincial and federal programs.
   - Township is working with others to look at other options for the last mile delivery to homes.
   - New Chief Admin Officer has joined township to bring new energy to Seguin.
   - Short term rentals. Town is looking at updates and enforcement of short term rental. Current bye-laws prohibit. Many different voices for and against short-term rentals. Township hasn't finalized but could be considering options that would clamp-down on egregious rentals but have a method of permitted use.
   - Council meetings are available on seguin.ca. Please provide input to town on seguin.ca including on the Official Plan.
   - Georgian Bay Biosphere. Ann encouraged owners to do the ICECAP survey for your cottage https://www.gbbr.ca/climate-action/ and your carbon calculator.

6. **Open Discussion**
   - Members spoke about boat etiquette on larger lakes and our Little Lake Joseph.
   - Members spoke about rubbish transfer at Stanley House Road Adjournment.
   - Mark Johnstone moved to adjourn the meeting and this was seconded by Alf Kwinter and voted and the meeting was adjourned to enjoy the cottage.

Little Lake Joseph Association Financial Report

For the year end August 31, 2020

Income	
Membership fees and Other Income	$9,024
Expenses	
Loon Call 2020	$1,610
Liability & Directors' Insurance	1,442
Communications	919
FOCA Membership	426
Website	226
Donations ...	
Rosseau Nursing Station	1,000
Safe Quiet Lakes	500
Rosseau Agricultural Society	250
Total expenses	$6,373
Excess of Income over expenses	**$2,651**
Cash August 31, 2019	**$14,002**
Excess of Income over Expenses	2,651
Prepaid Expense	(520)
Cash available August 31, 2020	**$16,133**

LITTLE LAKE JOSEPH ASSOCIATION ~ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Johnstone
[redacted]
President

Paula Kirsh
[redacted]
Treasurer

Susan Paterson
[redacted]
Loon Call

Dirk Soutendijk
[redacted]
Water Testing

Ian Davidson
[redacted]
Secretary

Suzanne Koenderman
[redacted]
Loon Call

Wesley Begg
[redacted]
Water Testing

Elizabeth Edmison
[redacted]
Director at Large

Alf Kwinter
[redacted]
Membership

Denis Jean-Marie
[redacted]
Honorary Member at Large

Get Involved In Your Association

The heart and soul of any organization is its members and new voices and points of view are vital to longevity. Any member of the Little Lake Joseph Association is welcome to put forth their name to join the Board of Directors.

Presently, the Board meets twice a year - usually on the May long weekend and again in the fall. Volunteers are also welcome to assist with activities or committees. I hope you will consider volunteering your time and expertise to the LLJA.

Appeal to Non-Member Residents of LLJ

The LLJA is comprised of volunteers who freely give of their time and expertise for the benefit of all. We urge those residents who have not joined to do so per the form on page 14. It is a great value.

Little Lake Joseph Association

Box 1268, Station "K", Toronto, ON, Canada M4P 3E5

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES 2021

COMPLETE AND MAIL TODAY

The Little Lake Joseph Association (LLJA) is pleased to have almost all of our shoreline residents as members. Please encourage your friends and neighbours to become members so that we can continue to provide the best representation for all of us on important issues like water quality, boating safety and political representation.

Please complete this membership form and send us your 2021 membership dues now. You can send us a cheque in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope or you can now pay your dues using Interac e transfer.

If you would like to take advantage of paying on line, please follow these instructions:

1. **Log onto your own online banking account.**
2. **Set up LLJA as a new "payee" using the following LLJA email address:** [redacted]
3. **Use the following security question and answer:**
   - **What is the name of our LLJA annual publication?**
   - **Answer: "looncall" - it is case sensitive so use all lower case letters and type it as one word**
4. **Please indicate your full name and which cottage membership this payment is for. You can do this in the "notes" field of the Interac form.**

Alternatively, you can mail us a cheque for $100.00 payable to the "Little Lake Joseph Association", with this completed form to the above address as soon as possible.

Please check out our refreshed website at www.llja.ca regularly for news, useful information and special events including a section where you can submit ideas or questions to your board. If you wish further information related to LLJA membership please contact Paula Kirsh by email: [redacted]

MEMBER ADDRESS INFORMATION

Place label with name and address here

New and Additional Information - Any changes?

Family Name(s):_____

Home Address: _____

City: Prov. Code:_____

Phone: Cottage:_____

Phone Home:_____

E-Mail:_____

By completing this form, you will become an official member of the Association in accordance with the bylaws of this corporation. Membership will be effective from April 1, 2021 or such later date as you join. As a member, you hereby consent that your name and other information may be published from time-to-time in the Association's directory.

Annual Dues Enclosed $100.00 _____

Member's Signature

LITTLE LAKE JOSEPH 2021

McCormick/Edmison / Cardy/Mahoney
Fleming
McGourty
McKenzie/Reid
Philippov
Redmond
Shaw
Paul
Roland
Lukezic
Dare
Dare
Stallwood/Patterson
Ardellini
Bridge
Gales
McIntyre
Locke
Heersink
Senn
Tatham
Wong
Webster
Coons
Cunningham
Rusnell
Stirling
Cryer
Machin
MacDiarmid
Laurenza/Lebel
Begg
Kirsh/Lebow
SCHOOL HOUSE BAY
Jack
Bell
Barney
Baker/Cooper
Wise
Davidson
Rudolph
Gauthier
Price
Watson
Roper
Paterson
Won
Roberts
Martinovic
Young
Dacyshyn
Benham
Johnstone
Forchon
Shore
Arnold
Ader
Pilkey
Atkinson
Soutendijk
Lantos
Gregory
TURTLE BAY
Cowie
Orcutt
Thompson/Ward
Kwinter
Hunter
Dal Ferro
Teichman
Mackie
Higgins
Wilkins
Solomos/Silma
Barnhart
Toperczer
Banks
Menkes
Cassaday
Kornya
Maggiacomo
Savolainen
Campbell
Loudon
Grogan/Taylor/Green
Gratwick
Williford/Moffat
Ottaway
Braive
Givens
Hodgkinson
Stall
Kelly
Patterson
Louis
Miller
Clendenan
Gilley
DEEP BAY
Lister/Rundle
Atkinson
Atkinson
Buzbuzian
Zarek
Skain
Koenderman
Tafel
MacKinnon
Lister/Rundle
Dowdell
Edmondson
Anstey
Jean-Marie
Jean-Marie
Shewchuk
Balan
Harvey
McKague
Schroeder
Schroeder
DaCosta
Babcock
SEGUIN
MUSKOKA LAKES
Evans
Hoctor/Duncan

145 Shoreline Properties

MAP IS NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC NAVIGATIONAL DIRECTION THROUGH WILDERNESS OR WATERWAY

Note: Map not to scale

ClearWater Design