



Sharbot Lake Property Owners' Association

Winter 2014 E-Flash

President's Message – Kevin Browne

I am sure you are feeling the winter this year. Normally my family and I have the opportunity to enjoy the cottage during the winter but this winter seems different as the cold digs into the skin deeper than I remember in previous years (maybe I am just getting older). I usually enjoy winter but find that it is more challenging this year but hope is with us as we move through the calendar months with Spring getting closer and closer. As we move towards Spring which is closely followed by Summer I am excited by the prospect of more enjoyable times at the lake and the great conversations with our neighbours.

Your executive has been working towards new goals since the Lake Plan has been produced. We have changed the SLPOA web site to introduce a forum allowing for discussions so that you can see the topics that are out there and to encourage you to join the conversations.

Please take the time to visit www.slpoa.ca website and click on the [SLPOA Forums](#) button on the left. This will take you to a number of discussion and informative items. All you need to do is register and then you can join the conversation.

Check out **The Story of the Lake** in the [Environmental Issues](#) section started by Rem Westland.

We look forward to your conversations.

Environmental Issues Coordinator – Rem Westland

In our last AGM meeting we told you that Ken Waller (Vice-President) was working with other lake associations to convince the Municipal Council that the time has come to take a serious look at the advantages and disadvantages of a Compulsory Septic Re-inspection program in Central Frontenac. As many of you know a Septic Re-inspection committee was setup by Council and is expected to make its report in June 2014. I was able to be selected as one of the members of the committee.

We will therefore continue to have first-hand input and information in this important area of concern. To read more about this please visit the SLPOA Forum, click on announcements and see the topic [Township Council Meeting On Septic Re-inspection](#).

We need volunteers!

The SLPOA could not be the successful association it is without our volunteers. There are so many who help out every year and it means so much to all of us.

There is always room for more so if you like that rewarding feeling we all get after having done something nice for others, send us a note to president@slpoa.ca. There are many ways you can help, from behind the scenes to active participation. You may be surprised that you have the exact set of skills we are looking for and if you don't there is always someone willing to teach.

You may have an idea that you would like to put forward and volunteer for. We are always looking for new ideas for the association to participate in to advocate for the preservation of our lake, creating a close community and organizing fun social events

Shoreline Planting Program

Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority offers a free shoreline vegetation planting service to waterfront property owners.

Why? ...because a naturally vegetated shoreline area is one of the most effective ways to maintain the quality of your lake's water and to protect your shoreline from erosion. MVCA staff frequently meet people interested in creating a more natural shoreline area on their property but many are discouraged because they don't have the time or ability to plant. Cost, planning, and access to native plants are also an issue. MVCA are making shoreline stewardship easier by providing plans, labour, and materials, for free. Their site visits will only focus on your shoreline naturalization.

This program is being offered on a first come first served basis at no cost to the property owner. Contact Brian Anderson now to get your planting scheduled for spring 2014 by calling 613.253.0006 ext. 228 or by emailing banderson@mvc.on.ca. More information is available on their [website](#).

Marking of Shoals and Underwater Objects

We are all familiar with the recycled bleach bottles and flags put out by cottagers that mark submerged rocks and shoals. However are we allowed to do this and are they legal? This has been a discussion for many years at the SLPOA AGM as members ask if something can be done.

According to Transport Canada, anyone can put out markers provided they do not interfere or confuse boaters. The catch is that they are required to conform to the regulations of the Canada Shipping Act 2001 Private Buoys. This act outlines the size, construction and anchorage of buoys and notes that steel drums, barrels, propane cylinders, bleach bottles and jugs are not to be used as markers. As the bleach bottles mark boating hazards, the OPP will apparently not remove them as they perform an important function. So the question becomes would approved

buoys that can be either yellow or white with an orange diamond improve the boating experience on Sharbot Lake? A sample of an approved buoy is in the picture to the right.



Near Sudbury, Ontario, buoys have been used by the [Lake Wahnapiatae Home and Campers Association](#). They divided the lake into zones and volunteers are responsible for the buoys in the assigned zone and this information is available on their website.

Marker buoys are available from a company in New Brunswick which appear similar to those used by Lake Wahnapiatae. This buoy was designed by FOCA and has the approval of Transport Canada.

We look forward to hearing if you believe the association should play a role in promoting safe boating by marking some of the lake's shoals with these approved buoys. Join the conversation in the [Forum](#).

CALLING AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Submit your photos to us and you could be a winner!



We want your photos to see the pictures that you feel reflect the cottage environment. These can consist of nature, animals, kids, friends and events. Post your photos on the SLPOA website in the Forum under [Sharing – Pictures](#) along with your message.

Contest entries must be received by Wednesday July 2nd, 2014.

Contest winner will receive a **FujiFilm FinePix XP60 camera** donated by Systematix IT Solutions.

Winner will be announced at the AGM on July 19, 2014.

Seedy Saturday Farmers Market and Seed Exchange

Soldiers Memorial (Oso) Hall

March 22, 2014

9 am – 1 pm

10 to 11 am Heritage Seeds Workshop (\$10.00)

Cate Henderson, Seed Saver and Gardener for the Heirloom Seed Sanctuary, will lead a workshop and Q & A on growing your very own heritage seeds in your garden.

The Heirloom Seed Sanctuary is a ministry of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul in Kingston.

In addition to the workshop, there will be a Seedy Saturday seed exchange and a farmer's market with local meats, winter veggies, preserves, baking, fair trade organic coffee, etc.

For details and workshop registration, email:

info@handsonharvest.ca



Lakeshore Property Development on West Basin

Along with the Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association and the Eagle Lake Property Owners Association, SLPOA contributed to the development of a summary lakeshore property management document for "at capacity lakes". In the case of Sharbot Lake this relates to the West Basin only as it affects only highly-sensitive lake-trout lakes as designated by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

This document provides clarification of what can be done in terms of lot development, severances, renovations and rebuilding on the shoreline properties. A copy of this document is available in the SLPOA Forum under the General Interest section in the [Open Forum](#) and it is titled Lakeshore Property Development on West Basin.

As part of the lakeshore development initiative, a workshop was held on Saturday September 7th in Sharbot Lake where Ken Waller and Kevin Browne attended. This workshop explained how the local regulations would impact residential waterfront properties with sample cases that were discussed in detail.

This informative workshop was organized and presented by Cathy MacMunn and Glenn Tunnock of the township planning office.