


# LLSA MEMBERSHIP 2019

## join, renew, donate - membership matters!

<p><b>Leonard Lake Stakeholders Association</b>          A community focused on protecting, nurturing and cultivating the natural, physical and social characteristics of Leonard Lake</p>	
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### LAKE LEONARD APRIL 16, 2019

Picture courtesy of Brandon Olafson flying over Leonard Lake. Thanks Brandon!

Parts of Leonard Lake remains iced over as of April 26th, however, there is open shoreline in areas with longer direct sunlight hours per day or where a bubbler has advanced the spring melt.



### LEONARD LAKE APRIL 27, 2019

LL residents woke up Saturday to a winter wonderland, but gratefully, open water in many bays around the lake.

Thanks to Phyllis Morgan for this perfect "Oh Canada!" picture and the reminder that Mother Nature



really does a wicked sense of humour.

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## LLSA President's Message



Dear Neighbour,

On behalf of all stakeholders at Leonard Lake, we ask you to share in our commitment to improve, protect and preserve the lake environment by renewing your membership or becoming a new member of the Leonard Lake Stakeholders Association.

With a new associate membership option, we also hope to increase the involvement and interest of non-property owner youth and other seasonal or year-round residents on the lake, in important issues such as lake health and stewardship going forward.

For the first time since the founding of LLSA, we are asking members/property owners, able to do so, to make a donation that will be directed to critical areas of association and volunteer work regarding water quality. We realize this is not possible for everyone and want to say that there are opportunities for volunteering that are equally important so please drop us an email.

Three to four years ago, our basic water testing program coupled with stakeholder and volunteer observations indicated that Leonard Lake was showing signs of deterioration and an intensive investigative approach was needed to better assess

water quality.

Membership fees over the years have generally covered lake association expenses (including basic water testing), however, additional funds above membership income were needed to move forward with this initiative. In 2017, through the generous donations of a small number of stakeholders, LLSA contracted with three expert bodies to help us, firstly, to analyse past Leonard Lake data, secondly, to determine our capacity for growth on the lake, and thirdly, to guide an extensive sampling and testing regime on Leonard Lake and to analyse and document the findings.

The results, shared with all stakeholders, indicated a decline in Leonard Lake water quality. In 2018 blue green algae and toxins were confirmed by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks resulting in the issuance of a public health notice from Simcoe Health, still in effect.

Recommendations coming out of the findings included a necessary expansion of our water quality program over the long term that would increase the frequency and type of testing as well as the number of test sites. This enhanced water quality testing program will not only help to build an ongoing base of knowledge regarding the changing health of our lake, but will also act as an early warning system regarding water quality for LL stakeholders and LLSA going forward. Funding beyond membership income is necessary to undertake this program in partnership with the Muskoka Watershed Council.

Over the past 2½ years, LLSA with the support of the majority of Leonard Lake property owners has challenged the severing of a large piece of land on the north shore of the lake. Due to the vulnerability of water quality, the confirmation that Leonard Lake is now beyond development capacity, plus the potential impact of that scale of development on both water and the land, the association will continue to challenge this land severance going forward. This legal action is expensive and cannot be financed through membership dues.

With your help, the Association aims to focus its efforts on protecting and enhancing water quality and defending against lot severance - what cottagers and residents of Leonard Lake said are most important to them. We cannot accomplish these goals without membership support.

Please take a look at our great new website to find out ways to join, renew and/or donate. CLICK HERE: <http://leonardlake.net>

I would be pleased to speak directly to Leonard Lake property owners regarding any of the above.

Sincerely,  
*Mark*

Mark Scarrow, President, Leonard Lake Stakeholders Association  
416-617-0305  
email: leonardlakemuskoka@gmail.com  
CLICK HERE: <http://leonardlake.net>

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## Accomplishments 2018 (WE = LLSA BOARD AND YOU!)

**What was accomplished in 2018?** A lot... and we could not have done it without the help of many Leonard Lake volunteers, so THANK YOU sincerely! Here's a slice of what kept us and volunteers busy...

Continued a **water testing** programme in 2018 with the help of many volunteers on the lake, a Winnipeg based Algae specialist, and the Ontario Environment Ministry. "**Eyes on the Lake**" volunteers reported 10 unusual water issues with several blue green blooms were identified and sent for further testing. Carried out testing with Muskoka Lakes Association for Ecoli bacteria, water clarity and total phosphorus at several locations on the lake. Continued water testing with the lake partner programme.

Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit posted Leonard lake as having a confirmed blue-green algae bloom in 2018 which was not an "accomplishment" but getting **cooperation** between LL, Simcoe Health and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks **to pay attention to our small lake** most certainly was!

### **We communicated!**

**EBLASTS and informational emails** with Leonard Lake residents totaled 28 in 2018! ...on septic inspections, bandits on the lake, blasting on the lake, blue-green algae, voter and election information, lost and found items, cottages for sale, township and council news and fire warnings. **Oodles of correspondence and presentations** were prepared regarding the north shore severance application and multiple actions taken by LLSA, **with extensive support** from the majority of LL residents (including a letter writing campaign).

We communicated throughout the year with the District of Muskoka and the Province of Ontario to **contest OPA47** changes to Water Quality Management in Muskoka and **participated** in many meetings throughout the year including with FOCA, Council and TML. We **worked in partnership** with Friends of Muskoka, Muskoka Watershed Council and Muskoka Lakes Association.

**The Food Drive** led annually by the Roberts was a success thanks to you (and Gord and Jennifer)!

We organized another successful **Annual General Meeting** in July 2018 focusing on a new lake plan.

The **LLSA Board** meets approximately monthly throughout the year, both in person and through conference calls to plan, share information and work on joint projects.



**PLEASE SUPPORT THE WORK OF YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION IN 2019**

CLICK HERE: <http://leonardlake.net> to register and pay online, find paper forms, or donate.

1. Look for the membership form - choose ENROLL ONLINE or DOWNLOAD
2. To pay online choose PAY NOW or DONATE
3. To mail or deliver, send to:  
LLSA, c/o Bev Leabeter, 1128 Leonard Lake Rd #2, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1W8

**DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE MADE BY E-TRANSFER**

To use this method, send an e-transfer to this email address: **llsa1@outlook.com**

When you are setting up your security answer use **llsa** or if six digits are required by your financial institution use **llsa22** so that your donation can be accessed by the LLSA Financial Officer.



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