

Leonard Lake Update January 24, 2021



The 2020 LLSA Annual General Meeting will be held by Zoom
Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 10:00 AM Eastern Time

Happy New Year and we wish the best of good health to you and your family in these unusual times.

Since the beginning of the Leonard Lake Stakeholders Association over 15 years ago, the annual members meeting (AGM) has been held in person during each of the summer seasons. In addition to the Lake business at hand, the meetings at the Milford Bay Community Centre have provided an opportunity to reconnect with friends and neighbours in a casual setting and to discuss and debate thoughts and ideas regarding Leonard Lake.

2020 was an unusual year where Covid-19 forced us all to set aside traditional ways of meeting and interacting - both personally and professionally, in the name of safety and health. As a result, LLSA deferred the 2020 summer annual in-person gathering and business meeting in the hopes that the virus would be short-lived and that we could resume our normal practices as the year progressed - but of course, here we are near the end of January 2021 still masking, hand-washing and distancing, but blessed that a vaccine program has begun.

LLSA had great plans for 2020 that focused on in-person interaction with Leonard Lake residents around important Lake issues such as the Lake survey results, the content of the Lake Plan and Lake Plan policies, and of course, water quality, of which the Lake had both a major event of golden-brown algae for a full month early summer and a blue-green event late fall. We did our best to "re-tool", using EBLASTS and emails, and of course Zoom and conference calls and although we are forever grateful to the many Lake residents who stepped forward to engage and participate, we all know that there is no substitute for face-to-face talks.

We are ever hopeful that late in 2021 we will be able to meet and talk to one another face-to-face, but in the interim, the Zoom AGM at the end of February will at the very least ensure that we connect as members, vote on the business of the Lake Association and look ahead to the next season.

On a positive note, the Leonard Lake water team was active all summer in 2020, being mindful of Covid-19 precautions, once again sampling and testing. "Eyes on the Lake" with volunteers watching for water issues were also most helpful identifying bloom activity around the Lake so that water could be sampled and sent off for bloom identification and toxicity.

A notice will be coming out by email soon with the details of the Zoom AGM on February 27, 2021. Members in good standing will be eligible to participate and vote at the AGM. In all previous annual meetings, membership dues could be paid at the door, but the online AGM this year cannot offer this option, so if your membership is not paid for 2020, go to <https://www.leonardlake.net/> If you are unsure if your membership was paid for 2020 please contact us at leonardlakemuskoka@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you on-line, February 27!



Following a series of engaging Zoom and conference call discussions with a majority of Leonard Lake (LL) property owners, the LL Plan was finalized and forwarded to the Township of Muskoka Lakes (TML) on December 21, 2020, with a request that the Township incorporate The Plan and policies into the amended TML Official Plan. The LL Plan is one of four plans from various Muskoka Lakes put forward to the Township.

January 14, 2021, Mark Scarrow presented the Leonard Lake Plan to the TML Planning Committee. Council members present took the time to thank Leonard Lake property owners and the LLSA Board for the work and consultations that have been ongoing since 2018.

The Planning Committee members agreed that our Plan would be forwarded to the Official Plan Review Committee for review and consideration. A public meeting will be held - perhaps early summer - once the first complete draft of the Official Plan is ready, and as is standard practice, the meeting will be open to members of the public for comment.

The final Lake Plan and Consultation Report that was submitted to TML can be found at <https://www.leonardlake.net/lake-plan-2-0>

WANTED

Jennifer and Jason Self would appreciate hearing from any Lake resident that has the name, number or email information for a contractor who does repairs to cottage piers. The Selfs need some repair work done to existing piers and possibly some new ones added. Please contact Jason at jasonhunterself@rogers.com to share any leads.

LEONARD LAKE PHOTOS

Thanks to those who have taken the time to share pictures and memories. There is much on all of our minds right now and a few smiles or laughs can be a welcomed diversion. We are always looking for lake pictures to share - people, scenery, times gone by, local flora and fauna, activities, etc. Any season will do! Send to leonardlakemuskoka@gmail.com



Courtesy of J. Riffel



courtesy of A. Hankey

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