

## Leonard Lake Stakeholders Association

A community focused on protecting, nurturing and cultivating the natural, physical and social characteristics of Leonard Lake



***Support your Lake - and Your Lake Association -  
RENEW OR JOIN NOW***

***E-transfer is safe and quick: [llsa1@outlook.com](mailto:llsa1@outlook.com) - No  
password***

**(p.s. a BIG THANK YOU to the recently PAID members!)**

**LLSA ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026, 9:30 AM  
MILFORD BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**GUEST SPEAKER - DR NORMAN YAN - FRIENDS OF THE  
MUSKOKA WATERSHED (FOTMW)**



Dr. Norman Yan is highly regarded as an engaging, deeply knowledgeable, and action-oriented speaker on lake ecology, environmental science, and citizen science.

In part, his body of work and expertise includes co-authoring over 200 publications on Canadian lakes, and as a founding member of the Friends of The Muskoka Watershed, leadership and cooperative work in groundbreaking projects such as ASHMUSKOKA, SALTY MUSKOKA, and investigating solutions to prevent lake algal blooms.

<https://fotmw.org/about/#norman-yan>  
<https://www.yorku.ca/science/profiles/faculty/norman-yan/>  
[How Lakes Work](#)

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**SATURDAY, JULY 25TH**  
**Rain Date SUNDAY, JULY 26TH**  
**GAMES FOR KIDS AND ADULTS!**  
**LOCATION: FINKBEINER'S COTTAGE**  
**12:00 PM TO 3:00 PM**

**LET US KNOW ASAP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO WE CAN PLAN TOO!**

[leonardlakeregatta@gmail.com](mailto:leonardlakeregatta@gmail.com)

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**LEONARD LAKE WATER TEAM REQUEST... DO YOU HAVE A LILY PAD YOU'RE NOT USING ANYMORE AND ARE WILLING TO DONATE TO THE WATER TEAM? IF SO, CONTACT BILL HEATLIE AT [wmheatlie@gmail.com](mailto:wmheatlie@gmail.com) or 705-840-6421**

**As a treatment experiment, the water team intends to construct a floating 'garden' that would be placed at the outlet of a stream that could removed phosphorus from the stream instead of bringing it into the lake.**



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## MICHAEL'S CORNER

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**Red-winged Blackbirds** are one of the most recognizable birds in North America.

Males are glossy black with striking red and yellow shoulder patches, which they display especially while singing or defending territory.

*(showing off to attract a mate or scare a rival)*



Females look entirely different and may be one of the most misidentified birds on the continent. Females are brown and black overall, showing a sparkly sheen in the right lighting. This colouration helps them stay camouflaged while nesting in reeds and grasses.

*(Seen May 13, 2026 at Leonard Lake)*



These birds are highly territorial during breeding season. Males perch on cattails or shrubs and deliver a familiar “conk-la-ree!” song to both warn other males and to attract mates. Red-winged Blackbirds are widespread across Canada and the United States, especially near marshes, ponds, and roadside wetlands.

In Muskoka, Red-winged Blackbirds are a classic sign of spring. Their calls are often heard echoing around our lake and especially in marshy parts of our shorelines sometimes even before the ice disappears. Early in the season, they will come to bird feeders when food is scarce.

One fun fact is that a single male may defend territory for several females at once. Another is that these smallish birds will chase much larger animals — including hawks, crows, and even people — if they approach a nest.

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## **AVENIR ENERGY**



Do you use propane to heat your residence on Leonard Lake? Those new to the lake may be unaware that a LL property owner (Jim Riffel) has successfully negotiated a better fixed-price delivery rate for propane each year with Avenir Energy for a group of Leonard Lake property owners based on potential volume use. Once on the Leonard Lake list, owners continue to deal directly with Avenir regarding their own account, but benefit from the rate negotiated by Jim rather than the Avenir's floating rate for propane.

If interested or if you have questions, contact Jim Riffel at [bigjimpropane@gmail.com](mailto:bigjimpropane@gmail.com) Include LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, COTTAGE ADDRESS, HOME ADDRESS, POSTAL CODE, CELL NUMBER or contact Jim at 416-823-0666.



Bears out of their den and looking for high energy food until the berries and green foliage are plentiful. Rd2 S Watkins

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