

Leonard Lake Stakeholders Association

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



May 1, 2026

Support your Lake - and Your Lake Association

Annual LLSA Membership for 2026 commenced May 1st this (and every) year and runs to April 30th next year. Thank you for your continued support and a big welcome to new members! It's...



ANNUAL MEMBER DUES RAISED TO \$80.00 FOLLOWING A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF MEMBERS AT THE 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Each year, the LLSA volunteers and board members undertake a range of core association activities that support community engagement and shared stewardship of our lake and surroundings...our annual meeting, various community events (the Regatta returns this year!), participation in workshops and lake health conferences, connecting with other lakes to share ideas, active membership in key related organizations such as FOCA, Friends of the Muskoka Watershed, and the Muskoka Lakes Association, engaging with government, participation in District-wide water testing initiative (that includes Leonard Lake), and our excellent Water Team pursuing water quality testing and lake health initiatives and projects.

Membership fees have remained at \$55.00 since 2018, while expenses that support the foundation and core work of the association have risen significantly. As a consequence, annual membership revenue has not fully covered operating costs for the past few years. A number of Leonard Lake property owners generously stepped-up each year with donations to help fund water team activities, purchase essential equipment, and undertake new projects specific to Leonard Lake - donations that in essence bridged the shortfall between membership fee revenue

and core business costs.

To address this structural revenue deficit, and to ensure the association is operated on a sustainable basis for all stakeholders going forward, the board undertook a review of operating costs and membership fee revenue and presented the findings at the 2025 LLSA Annual Meeting. As presented, core operating costs for the association are approximately \$7,500 annually and a recommended membership fee of \$80 for the 2026 year would cover core annual operating costs and allow a small buffer going forward. Members voted unanimously to raise the membership fee to \$80 as of May 1, 2026.

With current affordability concerns being top of mind for everyone, we understand the membership fee increase may be concerning for some members. We can assure members that the fee increase will continue to fund our water testing program (which makes up to approximately 50% of our core operating costs) and that we will continue to be mindful of cost saving options.

We appreciate your continued support.

If you have questions or would like to speak to a Board member, please respond to this EBLAST.

Sincerely,
LLSA Board

HOW DO I RENEW OR JOIN OR DONATE TO LLSA?

If you need information on membership visit www.leonardlake.net

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION PAYMENT OPTIONS

E-transfer is safe and quick: llsa1@outlook.com

No password is needed.

Please add your name, lot number, phone number(s) and email address in the message section so your payment can be correctly attributed to your property.

You can also use the contact form in the membership section of www.leonardlake.net for this purpose.

Prefer to mail? Send to Ann Lowry, 1032 Leonard Lake Rd 2, Bracebridge, ON, P1L 0M5 (and include your name, lot number, phone number and email address.)

Prefer to drop off? Leave your envelope with a cheque in the drop box at the Lowry cottage driveway, 1032 Leonard Lake Road 2 (and include your name, lot number, phone number and email address).

Michael's Corner

The **Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) is easily one of the most recognizable and widespread birds in central Ontario, including Leonard Lake. It is considered to be medium-sized, measuring roughly 25–30 cm in length, with a notable combination of blue, white, and black plumage. The bird's back, wings, and tail appear bright blue, while the underparts are white, and a distinctive black necklace crosses the chest. A prominent crest on the head can be raised or lowered depending on the bird's mood, giving it a dynamic and expressive appearance.





Behaviourally, Blue Jays are intelligent, vocal, and highly adaptable. They are well known for loud, harsh calls and their ability to mimic hawks, which can startle other birds. They are omnivorous, feeding on acorns, seeds, fruits, and insects, and are famous for caching food for later use.

Around our lake, where mixed forests of oak, maple, and pine are common, Blue Jays live and thrive year-round, often visiting feeders and forest edges. They are also somewhat bold and occasionally aggressively loud, especially around food sources. You'll very often hear them announce their arrival at your cottage particularly if you hang a bird feeder.

M. Hatton Rd 2

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