



2021 KLCOA SPRING REPORT

This report has been prepared ahead of the 2021 virtual Spring Meeting. We will only be discussing some of the details in this report at the meeting in the interest of time. We welcome questions in advance of the Spring Meeting on May 26. Please see end of report for details.

Note that the contents page may only be interactive on some devices if it is downloaded first.

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AGENDA

2021 Spring Report

2021 KLCOA Spring Meeting

Virtual Event ([Click here to register](#))

Wednesday May 26, 2021

7:00 Welcome

Determination of Quorum

Approval of Agenda of 2021 Virtual Spring Meeting

[Approval of Minutes of Fall 2020 Annual General Meeting](#)

Introduction of Board Members

7:05 Mayor Andrea Roberts

7:15. Councillor John Smith

7:25 Sgt. David Moffatt - Provincial Marine Coordinator

7:40 Financial Review 2020 Actuals and 2021 Budget

– Treasurer, Grant DeMarsh

7:50 Update – KLCOA President - Deb Wratschko

8:10 Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve – Malcolm Cockwell

8:25 Launch of 'KENNISIS All Of Us' Survey

8:30 Questions previously submitted and questions from the Floor

8:45 Adjourn

2019/2021 KLCOA Board of Directors



Gino Ariano	Marker Buoy Program, Traditional Rights of Way
Arlene Burch	Swimming, Connectivity
* Grant DeMarsh	Treasurer, Abandoned Docks
Scott Durie	Public Land Use, NIMC, Abandoned Docks, Survey
Frances Duiker	E-blasts, Survey
Brian Evans	Fish Stocks, Invasive Species
Tina Fagg	Kennis Breeze Newsletter, Advertising and Fundraising
Jacque Geall	Fireworks, Insurance, Survey
*Sheelagh Lawrance	Secretary, Ladies of the Lake Luncheon, Survey
Joan Middleton	Membership, Regatta, Website
John Middleton	Roads, Safety and Security, Dysart Council
Terry O'Connor	Lands and Properties (Soap Pond), Marker Buoy Program, Legal Affairs, Septic Improvement Project
*Janis Parker	Vice President, Art on the Dock, Coalition for Equitable Waterflow, NIMC, Survey
*Jim Prince	Vice President, Stewardship Director, Sailing Regatta, Survey
Natalie Wood	Roadside cleanup, History Book Project, Summer '21 Challenge
*Deb Wratschko	President, Survey

* Executive



2021 Updated Calendar

2021 Spring Report

The KLCOA board has completed a risk assessment on all of our summer programs based on the current COVID-19 pandemic safety concerns. Looking at timelines for registration, event organization, as well as federal, provincial and local guidelines we have made some tough decisions on the first events of the season. We will continue to **monitor** and make changes as we move forward in time and new information becomes available. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Tree Planting Program	Postponed to 2022 due to lack of seedling supply for Spring 2021
Roadside Cleanup	May 1 and May 2 (Postponed)
Spring General Meeting	Will be a virtual meeting held on Wednesday May 26 at 7:00pm – Registration Required
Succession Planning Seminar (Targeting Tax)	Virtual event on June 15 - Registration Required
Annual Ladies of the Lake Luncheon	CANCELLED
Annual Canada Day Fireworks	Moved to July 31 (Monitor)
Swimming Lessons	CANCELLED
Art on the Dock	July 17 and July 18 (will run provided that all COVID 19 protocols can be met)
Rock Bass Fishing Derby	July 10 - (will run provided that all COVID 19 protocols can be met)
Regatta	CANCELLED - Details on our KLCOA Summer '21 Challenge later in this report
Sailing Regatta	Date to be announced - (will run provided that all COVID 19 protocols can be met)
Sunday Sailing Series	Dates to be announced - (will run provided that all COVID 19 protocols can be met)
AGM	Virtual meeting to be held on Wednesday Sept 15 starting at 7:00pm. Details to come



Treasurer Report

- 2020 was a very different year. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, many programs did not run leading to a surplus of \$9,763
- For 2021 our member revenues are lower as we offered the option of a reduced membership based upon the 2020 surplus.
- We have done our best to estimate our costs for 2021 but are still unsure what programs will actually run
- There are certain “one-off” costs that will be incurred in 2021 to conduct the Member Survey that will be released in late May.
- We are budgeting for a deficit of \$12,010 in 2021 This offsets the 2019/2020 combined surplus of \$10,815.
- We continue to be in a healthy financial position



2021 Spring Report

Treasurer Report (con't)

Budget Summary

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
	2021	2020	2019	2018
REVENUE				
Memberships	19,000	22,170	23,210	21,845
Advertising Revenue	6,000	7,275	7,000	8,500
Interest	150	83	208	166
Total Revenue	25,150	29,528	30,418	30,511
USE OF FUNDS				
Programs and Events	14,950	5,922	9,519	11,806
Membership	19,550	13,842	17,279	18,861
Reserve re 2021 memberships	2,660		-	-
Total	37,160	19,764	26,797	30,667
Surplus (Deficit)	-12,010	9,763	3,620	(156)
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS and OUTFLOWS				
AOTD Contributions	5,750	6,026	4805	5000
AOTD Donations and costs	-5,750	-6,026	-7373	-5000
Total	0	0	(2,568)	-
Surplus (Deficit)	-12,010	9,763	1,052	(156)



2021 Spring Report

Treasurer Report (con't)

Program and Event Detail

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
	2021	2020	2019	2018
Fireworks (incl event insurance for 2021)	4100	0	2438	2,355
Regatta	500	0	1342	1,469
Marker Program - Mtce.	600	1357	636	2,358
Swimming Program	0	0	-636	-379
Sailing Regatta	400	0	19	0
Rock Bass tournament	250	234	203	183
Shoreline Restoration	1250	0	710	3,383
Water Testing program	2000	141	1502	1,243
History Book	2200	0	0	0
Traditional Rights of Way	3000	4190	3305	726
Roadside Clean-up	150	0	0	0
Lake Map Initiative	0	0	0	0
Abandoned Docks	500	0	0	0
Septic Improvement	0	0	0	467
Total Program and Events	14950	5922	9,519	11,806



2021 Spring Report

Tresurer Report (con't)

Membership Expense Detail

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
	2021	2020	2019	2018
General Membership	3000	2605	5086	4,297
Technology	2000	1716	1636	6,158
Memberships FOCA	2375	2225	2225	2,225
Memberships CEWF	200	200	200	200
Memberships CHA	50	50	50	350
Insurance	3000	2752	3348	2,413
General Expenses	500	0	492	0
Porta Potty fees	0	0	750	1,102
PayPal fees	750	706	828	717
Property Taxes	525	503	482	451
Community Support	1000	3000	2050	850
Member Survey	6000	0	0	0
Bank Fees	150	86	132	99
Total Membership	19550	13842	17,279	18,861



Membership Report

Thanks to everyone for their renewal or new signup!

As of May 1 we have 540 members signed up. Last year at this time we had 517 and at the end of the 2020 season we had 625 memberships.

If you have new neighbors or ones that are not members, encourage them to join!

Why should I become a KLCOA member?

The Kennisis Lakes community has approximately 950 properties. Membership is strictly voluntary, but the continued annual support of members allows the association to expand its involvements, activities, and endeavours in the interest of all property owners and for the preservation of our lakes.

Members receive a KLCOA sign for their property as well as annual date stickers upon renewal.

You may continue to [renew](#) online for 2021 or sign up [as a new member](#) if you do not have an existing membership.

As we are a volunteer organization, it would be helpful if you pay online, but if you prefer to pay by cheque or e-transfer, instructions are provided when you sign up using the above link.



Membership Report (con't)

Sticker/Sign Pickup

You may pick up your sticker at the following locations – modified due to the impact of Covid-19

*Note: It will take approx. one week from sign-up until your sticker is available for pickup. If you mail your cheque it will be a minimum of 2 weeks.

When	Where
In person	Can be picked up via membership Director if required by contacting Joan Middleton 705 754-2243 at 2301 Watts Road
Weekends May long weekend – July 1	Pick up in Person at Kennis Marina Store once reopened per Covid-19 guidelines
Anytime July 1 – Oct 10	Pick up in Person at Kennis Marina Store once reopened per Covid-19 guidelines

After Oct 10, stickers will no longer be available for pickup but they will be kept on file and will again be available when you sign up the following year.

If you require a sign please send an email to:
jmiddletonlake@gmail.com or call 705 754-2243



Communications

Currently, the KLCOA communicates with members in the following way:

- 2 Face-to-face meetings per year (virtual during COVID)
- Website (www.klcoa.org)
- Regular e-blasts
- 3 newsletters per year (Kennisis Breeze)
- Kennisis Lake History Book Project – Facebook Page
- Roadside sign at Kennisis Lake Road and West Shore

Drive



IT TAKES A LAKE.....

COMING MAY 26, 2021

2021 KENNISIS ALL OF US SURVEY



We know that at KENNISIS, ALL OF US are passionate about our beautiful lakes and we hope that our 2021 survey will give everyone a chance to talk about what's important for our community.

ALL OF US and our families have our own special ways of enjoying time at our properties. Participating in this survey will help to ensure a better understanding of what we are all loving and what we're not so keen on! We need to make sure that the KLCOA is accurately representing and investing in the issues, interests and values of our Lake community.

We really do want to hear from everyone; whether you are the property owner or a family member; whether you live here full-time or part-time; no matter what your interests are.

When can I start?

The survey will go live after the KLCOA 2021 Virtual Spring Meeting on May 26 starting at 8:45pm.
Please Register for the meeting at klcoa.org

How do I access the survey?

You can access the survey from the KLCOA website at klcoa.org or from an eblast starting May 26, 2021.

How long do I have?

Survey will remain live from May 26 to July 31, 2021.

Who can do the survey?

We really want to hear from ALL KLCOA members and their families, but anyone from the Kennis Lake community can complete a survey. If you want to become a member, please sign up at klcoa.org.

We're looking forward to starting the conversation!

Every good conversation starts with a good listener.



Kennisis Breeze Newsletter



2021 Spring Report



Spring 2020 Newsletter

Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association

Kennisis Breeze

The Kennisis Breeze newsletter is published three times a year in the spring, summer and fall.

After the KLCOA Board meeting to determine 2021's seasonal events, it became clear that many of our summer activities would once again be cancelled, monitored or rescheduled. Instead of filling our newsletter with plans for our social events, we are taking this time to review, refresh, remind, re-educate and "reshare" some of the important components to our lake community.

We will continue to publish a summer and fall issue.

As always, we welcome pictures, stories and special 50th anniversary celebrations. If you wish to contribute to your newsletter, please contact valentinafagg@gmail.com

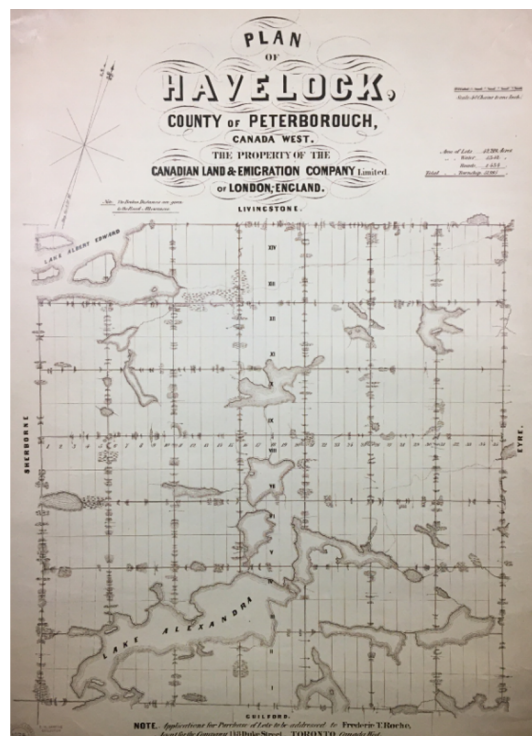
Each year, the KLCOA advertising campaign begins in February and we invite local businesses to advertise in our newsletter or on our website. Despite the fact that many businesses were challenged to stay "open for business", a number did choose to purchase advertising space. Thank you to the many businesses who support our lake community and provide the additional dollars which help us to pay for the numerous KLCOA initiatives. This is very much appreciated by KLCOA.

History Book Project Update

The history book project is slowly moving along. If you have not joined the Kennisis Lake History Book project Facebook page please do. We had several student U-Links projects completed in late April on the environmental history of the lake. Many little tidbits of history have created the need for more research and follow up. We welcome any research buffs who would like to help.

Areas that still need research & more volunteer help to research:

- Synopsis of the logging that happened at and around the lake – there is lots of documentation available
- Research into the Hunt camps – this will require some research into old MNR files, Ontario trapping records, Fur Harvesters' of Ontario notes & records etc.
- Synopsis of the Haliburton Forest – lots of documentation available/people to chat with
- Synopsis of winter snowmobile history- several cottagers have great old photos
- Research about the roads – when they were built- what they were like. Also, research into cottage road names.
- summer interviews (covid protocols in effect)
- Marina stories – many cottagers who owned the marina (s) are still on the lake and many cottagers worked at the marina and have great stories to tell.
- local lake icons – if there is someone from the lake that you think needs a mention?
- Names of cottagers that we MUST talk too.



We are always looking for more cottager story submissions.

Please email Natalie Wood wodmcf@rogers.com

KLCOA Summer '21 Challenge



2021 Spring Report

Natalie Wood is leading a team of people dedicated to bringing the KLCOA membership a summer of fun in lieu of the Annual Regatta which has been cancelled because of COVID restrictions.

The KLCOA Summer '21 Challenge will take place from July 1 to Sept 5 with some events specific to the holiday weekends and others that happen all summer long.

Events include challenges for all ages and will be judged by age group. Here is an idea of some of the Challenges.

- Special Challenges for Canada Day Weekend

- Summer long challenges

- August Dockside - Regatta Edition

- Digital Scavenger Hunt

- Bird Bingo

- Challenges Just for Kids

- Challenges just for Pets

Prizes include 'Bragging Rights' and special certificates.

The Summer '21 Challenge is for members only. There will be a members only Facebook page set up for entries as well as an email account.

Details will be released in early June so you can start preparing for:

The KLCOA Summer '21 Challenge



Roadside Cleanup

Due to **COVID-19**, the May 1 and 2 planned roadside clean-up was postponed until it is cleared by the Municipality and the County. Unfortunately, that means our lake roadsides may not be as litter free as hoped heading into summer. Many individuals have been picking up roadside litter as they walk and the **KLCOA** is very grateful.

We all have a role in keeping our lake roads litter free. The main litter found in the roadside ditches are beer cans and plastic soda bottles. This is distressing because it isn't one or two, it is a can or bottle every few feet. The other main source of garbage found along the roadside is cigarette butts. A tossed cigarette butt is a fire hazard and a typical filter can take 18 months to 10 years to decompose. Various items from old tires, to ceramic coffee cups, Styrofoam, plastic planter pots, dry wall and tin foil have been picked up around the lake roads.

We ask that every cottager do their part in keeping our lake community clean.

- Make sure garbage is secure when in storage at the cottage and on transport to the landfill.
- Do not throw any garbage out of the car window or while walking.
- Dispose of household items appropriately either by donating to a thrift shop, finding a new home for them or bringing them to the landfill.
- Carry a plastic bag with you on your walk and pick up any litter if it is safe to do so.





2021 Spring Report

Roads Report

The KLCOA continues to provide suggestions and recommendations to Dysart et al for improvements on our roads. Thank you to the Roads Committee – John Middleton, Doug Atkinson, Edwin Kling, and Peter Hewitt who collectively assess what our recommendations should be for the next year planning cycle.

Maintenance is a regular activity for the Roads Department. With COVID 19 restrictions and social distancing it is taking longer to work their way around the 300+ kilometers of the road network. For those that are full time residents, winter maintenance has continued, and roads generally are plowed early AM.

With regards to project work, Dysart has invested in software to better evaluate and prioritize capital road work on an ongoing basis. We continue to work with Dysart to see what additional work is possible and so that we continue to get attention around the lakes.

This new software has identified a number of 2021 projects for the 2 lakes. The following projects have been approved but we do not have any confirmed start dates at this time.

- The end of Wilkinson will get a granular 'A' next layer of gravel in preparation for tar/gravel at some point in the future.
- Champlain Road – granular 'A' application
- Winkler Road – double surface treatment (tar and gravel)
- Boomerang Road – double surface treatment (tar and gravel) - north end to Winkler Road
- In addition, Wilkinson Road, Harrier Road, Soap Pond Road – brushing the entire length
- NO commitment has been made to date on Kennisis Lake Road past Paddy's Bay other than intent to tar/gravel at some point in the future. The ditching that needs to be done might get done in 2021 if resources become available later in the year.

As always, if you see roads issues requiring attention, please call Dysart Roads at (705) 457-1830.

Abandoned Dock Initiative

Over the last few years, it seems that there are more and more abandoned docks pulled up on the shorelines of Big and Little Kennisis. After 60 plus years of property ownership and enjoyment of our lakes, it makes sense that owners have had to replace docks; things just deteriorate. Having said that, most of us have broken down our old docks and re-purposed what we could, removing and disposing of the remaining bits from the shoreline.



Unfortunately, some property owners have just pulled their old docks into bays and resting place and have abandoned them; not sure what they thought would happen to them. Over the last couple years, some of these docks have created potential navigational issues during our high water season. Not the least, they are truly unsightly in our otherwise beautiful environment.

We understand that many of us move our docks into sheltered bays for the winter and return them to our properties the following season. These are not the docks that are at issue, nor are docks that are used for swim platforms, etc. One simple suggestion is to add your contact information to the dock so that it is clear that there is a dock owner.

Abandoned Dock Initiative (con't)



2021 Spring Report

The KLCOA has initiated a special program to identify docks that are unclaimed. The goal is to identify, dismantle and dispose of abandoned docks.

It's disappointing that we have this problem, but we hope through education and this one-time clean-up, that we will not have to address this concern again moving forward. In 2020, the program started with communication and education.



Throughout the summer of 2021, we will begin identifying docks that appear to be abandoned. We will tag each dock, create a pictorial inventory and reach out broadly to clarify the status of the docks. We will leverage our website, e-blasts, newsletters and social media to share information and communicate.

Then, in 2022, when it is clear that a dock is truly abandoned, volunteers will dismantle and dispose of it from our lakes – it is expected that this will happen in mid-July, 2022.

Note: the goal is to tackle abandoned docks from “resting places” on Big/Little Kennesis – **not** docks from personal property. We each have a responsibility to dispose of personal property in a safe and appropriate manner.

Kennis Lakes Safe Boating – Hazard and Navigation Markers

- The KLCOA Hazard and Navigation Marker Program will continue in 2021. - **Pat O’Keefe (Co-Ordinator)**
- 24 Hazard Markers will be deployed on the most dangerous hazards identified by members and the KLCOA Hazard Marker committee.
- All markers are tended by KLCOA Volunteers - Largest Cottage Association Program in Ontario.
- The Hazard Marker Liability Information has been distributed via Posters, E-Blasts, Newsletters, and the KLCOA Website.
- Additional locations for markers are identified by community members on an ongoing basis.
- **NOTE - Hazard markers may be deployed later this year due to COVID-19 related issues. Please be aware of this.**
- **And Please Remember, NOT ALL HAZARDS ARE MARKED!**
- **2021 – No Wake Marker Buoys**
- The KLCOA will again deploy “NO WAKE” markers in the Cabin Island and Blueberry Islands channels to remind boaters to limit speed and reduce wake in these areas that are popular swimming and recreation locations. These were reported to be successful in keeping boat traffic to lower speeds during the 2020 deployment.



**NOT ALL HAZARDS ARE MARKED!
INDIVIDUAL BOATER RESPONSIBILITY TO AVOID
NAVIGATION HAZARDS!**



Boating Safety

We are a Lake community and so as we near summer and get out on our boats to enjoy the water it is important to remember our boating responsibilities and etiquette.

Join our 2021 Virtual Spring Meeting to hear Sgt. David Moffatt, Provincial Marine Co-Ordinator speak on Boating statistics, regulations and safety.

Follow the [Boating Code of Conduct](#) and obtain your Pleasure Craft Operator's Card

Minimize your wake especially in narrow channels and near shore so that natural shorelines are not eroded, loon and duck nesting sites are not disturbed, and your neighbours' floating docks and parked boats are not bounced around and damaged. An excellent report on the dynamics of boat wakes can be [found here](#).

Reduce your speed especially in narrow channels and near shore where other boats and swimmers could be in danger and remember that within 30 metres of the shore your speed should be less than 10 km/hr (it's the law).

Head for the centre of the lake when travelling at speed or when water skiing, wake boarding, or tubing, etc - don't ride parallel to the shoreline. Give everyone a wide berth and travel slowly when pulling away from docks, launching ramps or swimming areas.

Respect your neighbours' TRANQUILITY by moving around the lake rather than operating on one small area.

Protect the environment by treating bays as no wake zones, operating in water over 1.2 metres (4 feet) deep to avoid disturbing the lake bottom, stowing garbage until you return to shore, and avoiding spillage of gas and oil into the water during refuelling.

When anchored take care not to obstruct navigation for other boats. Clean your boat and trailer when transporting them to other lakes and when bringing them into the Kennis lakes to avoid transporting invasive species.

Wear life jackets.

Alcohol and drugs in combination with boating are dangerous and illegal.

Norah's Island Management Committee (NIMC)



2021 Spring Report



NIMC (3 reps KLCOA and 3 reps HHLT)

Jeff Pinkney – KLCOA co-Chair
Scott Durie – HHLT co-Chair
Janis Parker - KLCOA
Paula Kleinschmidt Lepsky - KLCOA
Greg Wickware - HHLT
Sheila Ziman - HHLT

Investment Income from Norah's Island Endowment Fund for 2020 = \$1,582.36:

- Total Expenses for 2020 = \$349.34 made up of:
 - Property Tax = \$79.34
 - Insurance = \$200.00
 - Other (Maintenance) = \$70.00
- Norah's Island Endowment Fund:
 - Dec 31st 2019 = \$60,000.58
 - Dec 31st 2020 = \$60,272.43
- With the pandemic with us for another summer, a big thank you to all EyesOnTheIsland volunteers who reported last summer. Please direct any questions about the program to KLCOA volunteer rep Paula Kleinschmidt-Lepsky who looks after our EyesOnTheIsland program.
Email: pmklepsky@gmail.com



<https://www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/get-involved/become-a-member/>

KLCOA – Stewardship

Protecting our Lakes

It's all about the Water!

Septic Health



Shoreline Health



Water Quality Monitoring

2021 Water Quality Monitoring:



2021 Spring Report

Lake Partner Program (Under Review – Pandemic Dependent)

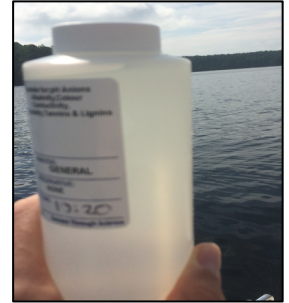
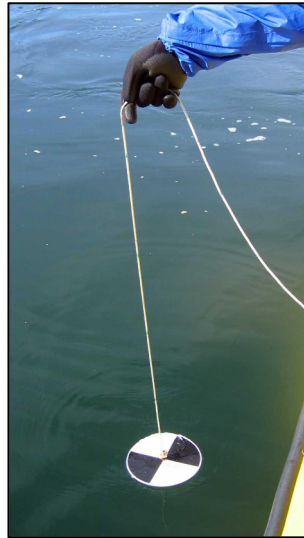
May

1. Water Clarity
2. Total Phosphorus
3. Calcium

KLCOA Water Quality Testing

July and September

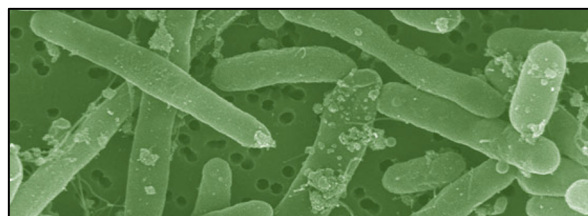
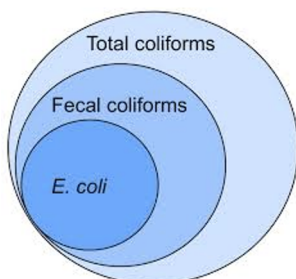
1. Total Phosphorus
2. Nitrate and Nitrite
3. Ammonia
4. Dissolved Oxygen
5. Temperature Profile



Future Monitoring Objectives:

Fecal Coliform (Likely Delayed due to Pandemic)


- A one-year pilot of Fecal Coliform Counts could provide insight on the current lake baseline conditions prior to the completion of the Septic Inspection Program.
- **Significance:** Fecal Coliform bacteria indicate the presence of contamination and the presence of other pathogenic organisms.
- **Sampling plan:** sample after a large rainfall event in July or August.



What can I do to keep my Lake Happy and protect our water quality?



2021 Spring Report

1. Get your septic inspected..... **DONE** 
2. Follow proper septic maintenance practices.
3. Keep a naturalized shoreline (30m natural vegetative buffer zone).
4. Plant native plants to protect your shoreline from erosion and storm water runoff.
5. Use erosion and sediment controls during construction.
6. Properly dispose of pet waste.

Thank you to our Water Quality testing team!

Water Quality Sampling Team:

Julie Bamm (WQ Sampling Program
Coordinator)

Cathie and Brent Heppell

Margaret Cox

Natalie Wood

Randy and Arlene Burch

Rob Allan and Tracy Stewart

Tim Tibbs

WQ Data Team:

Sarah Ariano, Jim Prince

Natural Shoreline Project Goals



2021 Spring Report

1. Improve awareness about **Natural Shorelines**
2. Make the Connection
 - **Water Quality, Natural Shorelines & Septic Health**
3. KLCOA – Leading the way with:

• Love Your Lake Assessments	• Natural Shoreline Education
• Native Plant Purchase Program	• Shoreline Restoration Pilot Projects & Workshops



Less of this



More of this



KLCOA Natural Shoreline Projects (2022)

- Continue with the Native Plant Purchase Program
- Shoreline Health Education
- Shoreline Restoration Projects

Shoreline Health Initiatives and the Pandemic

Unfortunately, many of the Natural Shoreline initiatives have had to be postponed due to the pandemic and lack of native plant availability. The KLCOA plans for projects to continue, once the restrictions have been lifted.

BESHORE HALIBURTON





2021 Spring Report

Why are Natural Shorelines Important?

Our communities' economic and environmental future is dependent on our water quality.

One of the only sources of nutrients entering our Haliburton lakes is Phosphorus from septic systems. We all know that increased phosphorus can lead to algae blooms and in turn, can lead to decreased property values and decreased property tax revenue.

It is the one thing we can control through proper septic system operation and maintenance and the preservation of natural shorelines to help to remove these nutrients.

This isn't for today or tomorrow, but rather looking ahead many decades.

"75% of our shorelines should be in a natural state for a minimum of 30 m (100 feet) back from high water, otherwise water quality will degrade over time.

Water quality is what determines our property values and our enjoyment on the lake."

WE ARE ALL HERE FOR THE WATER!

BESHORE HALIBURTON

BESHORE is a new initiative in Haliburton County Initiative that provides education and the science behind the need to protect our shorelines in order to preserve our water quality.

The **BESHORE** campaign is intended to:

- Remind folks of their emotional connection to our beautiful lakes
- Embed the importance of natural shorelines
- Encourage property owners to support the passing of a shoreline preservation by law and
- Start the long process of convincing folks that we all need to start restoring our shorelines

You can check out the **BESHORE** campaign at <https://www.beshore.ca/>



U-Links/Trent Benthic Testing on the Kennisis Lakes

- BENTHIC TESTING - Shoreline substrate (“muck”) assessment as an indicator of lake health.
- U-Links and Trent University performed Benthos sampling around the lake to establish benthic health trending (September 2019/October 2020). Reports on klcoa.org.
- Program will continue in 2021/2022.



**Benthos
Macroinvertebrates**

Announcing the Launch of: Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch (Haliburton)



The **Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch** Program is a collaboration of U-Links, Trent University, Fleming College, lake associations, lake stewards, Haliburton Highlands Land Trust and citizen scientists to monitor the health of the waterways and woodlands of our region.

The focus is to address the research needs of individual lake associations and property owners but taking a regional approach of sharing resources, and collecting, analyzing and sharing data on the health our watersheds and forests.

The future benthic testing programs will be coordinated by **Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch**

Call for Citizen Scientists!



Are you interested in the health of our lakes and would like to get involved?

Want to know what lives in the muck in our shorelines and why it matters?



Woodlands & Waterways EcoWatch is conducting a Citizen Science Training Pilot Program during the summer of 2021.

The KLCOA has positions reserved for this training!

The purpose of this training is to increase the capabilities of local, interested individuals who would like to support the **KLCOA** and **Woodlands & Waterways EcoWatch** with their time to perform benthic sampling in the Fall of 2021. The ultimate goal will be to have a roster of trained individuals who will assist with the collection of benthic macroinvertebrates and with some of the analysis. This will reduce the amount of Trent and Fleming undergraduate students required to carry out sample collection and will hopefully increase local interest in biomonitoring.

The training program will be split into two sessions: a virtual classroom and in-person workshop session. Both sessions are required to be considered trained and will likely take approximately 8 hours to complete. Sampling will take place on weekends in Sept./Oct. 2021 and will require approximately 1 to 2 days of effort. University students in relevant Environmental or Biology programs would be ideal.

Contact Jim Prince – jimprince@sympatico.ca

Blue-Green Algae Update

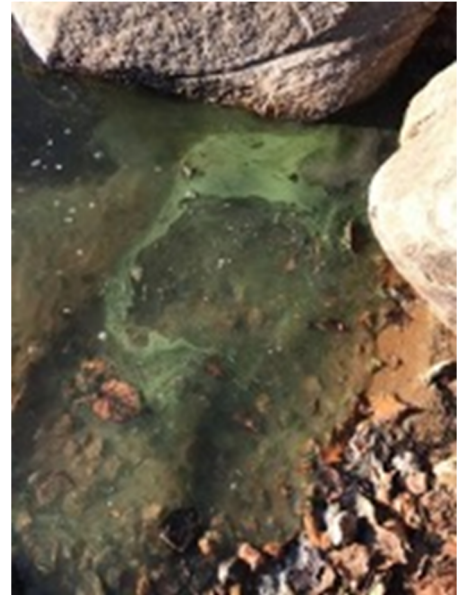


2021 Spring Report

Blue Green Algae Event - Little Kennisis – November 20

A small blue-green algae event was observed roughly half-way along the North Shore of Little Kennisis on November 8, 2020. A site visit by the KLCOA (Nov. 10, 2020) confirmed that the algal bloom was on the surface and accumulated on the shore due to very gentle water flow and a light breeze. It appeared to be from a broader area of the lake (not a local condition) and accumulated on the shore due to the local shoreline topography and the weather conditions on the day that it was observed.

This is the first reported BG Algae event reported on our lakes. There have been no new sightings of possible blue-green algae blooms on Little or Big Kennisis Lakes since that event. The original event dissipated with wind before the Ontario MOECP (Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks) could arrive to test it (Nov. 12, 2020).



An expert from the MOECP has indicated that it does appear to be a blue-green algae bloom after reviewing photographic evidence, details of the bloom location and weather conditions on the day of the sighting.

The testing for blue-green algae is very specific and must be done directly from a potential bloom by the MOECP to be declared positive. Therefore, it is unlikely that we will have any conclusive sample analysis confirming the bloom on Little Kennisis.

The water quality testing that the KLCOA does on a regular basis cannot specifically test for blue-green algae and we have been informed by the MOECP that it is not something that we can take on.

There are a number of different types of blue-green algae blooms, some toxic and some not. Unfortunately, without testing, it is not possible to determine what type a bloom is. The MOECP advises to err on the side of caution when a potential bloom is present. Follow the guidelines as laid out and [here](#) and [here](#).

Blue-Green Algae Update (continued)

What can you do if you suspect Blue Green Algae?

The KLCOA is encouraging people to check their shorelines if they are at their properties and report any possible sightings as follows:

Take pictures of the possible bloom and surrounding shoreline. Note the date, time and weather conditions (wind intensity and direction, wave action).

Report the possible bloom to the MOECP

Notify MOECP Peterborough office directly - Chris Johnston | Senior Environmental Officer | 705-927-7809 chris.johnston@ontario.ca
Or the general tip line at 1-866-663-8477

Notify the KLCOA

Lake Stewardship Director (Jim Prince) jimprince@sympatico.ca
President (Deb Wratschko) klcoa.president.2017@gmail.com
The KLCOA will notify Dysart et al, Haliburton County and the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

The KLCOA has been working with our community to control nutrient loading in our lakes by advocating for natural healthy shorelines and proper septic inspection and maintenance. With this blue-green algae event, and the others in Haliburton County, this focus will become even more critical.



Septic System Inspections Update



2021 Spring Report

Septic Inspection Update – Dysart Area 1, Kennisis Lakes

The municipality of Dysart et al has completed the Area 1 Septic Re-Inspection Program and issued a summary report of the results in the in the Dysart Council Agenda for the January 26, 2021 Council meeting. The report can be found here – [**DYSART SEPTIC REPORT LINK.**](#)



Completion of the Septic Inspection Program is good news for our Kennisis Community and for our water quality. The program was planned for 2018 and 2019 and during that period, 759 inspections were completed. A significant number of property owners did not comply with the mandatory inspection requirement and were ordered to complete the inspection in 2020. In 2020, 134 additional properties were inspected. Only 4 properties remained uninspected (Jan.2021) and legal action was being commenced by Dysart et al against the property owners for non-compliance with the By-law.

Several of things stand out in the Dysart report:

- 893 systems were inspected – The Kennisis Lakes have ~950 dwellings. That represents a good portion of the properties, recognizing that some properties were exempt.
- 229 Septic Systems failed during the inspection program or 26%. That's a big number. Finding and correcting that many issues with the septic systems should be considered a success.
- There were more “major issues” than “minor issues” identified during the program. This was consistent over the three years.
- 158 Septic Systems had “Major Issue Failures” or 18% of all Systems inspected. Again, a very large number for major issues with septic systems.
- Of the major failure types 128/201 or 63% were due to under capacity septic systems. This suggests that there have been a significant number of property re-developments or additions without permits.

A full analysis of the Septic Inspection Program can be found [here](#)



Update on the proposed Haliburton County Shoreline Preservation Bylaw

On May 12, 2021, Haliburton County Council approved the award of the contract for consultation to the Draft Shoreline Preservation bylaw to **Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. (in partnership with J.L. Richards & Associates)** Details of the consultation request can be found in the staff report [here](#).

Background

The KLCOA has taken the position to support for the objectives of the DRAFT Haliburton County Shoreline Preservation bylaw, (find them here – [Proposed Bylaw Objectives](#)) and a robust community consultation process prior to implementation.

The KLCOA board, who are elected by the members to represent the members, voted to give this ‘support in principle’ based on the following:

- The KLCOA has advocated for shoreline preservation regulations since the inception of the Lake Plan in 2007 in order to protect the water quality in our lakes.
- We have been publicly reporting our advocacy for strong shoreline vegetation protection at AGM's and Spring GM's and publishing those presentations on our website, in eblasts and newsletters for many years. We have also communicated opportunities for public input on the proposed Shoreline Preservation bylaw over the past years as they were announced by the County of Haliburton.
- We have received significant support from our members for our advocacy of shoreline protection and mandatory septic system inspections in order to protect our water quality.
- Continued advocacy in these areas is critical as we have seen evidence of water quality degradation in both lakes, evidence of a sewage spill and a blue-green algae bloom in recent years. The KLCOA has programs and actions plans in place to respond to these issues and events.

This is a comprehensive DRAFT document that is a work in progress that has the potential of ultimately protecting our shorelines and our water quality. Everyone in the County will have a different viewpoint on what will affect them and how they feel about the bylaw. Again, that is why the consultation process is so important. The County is looking for constructive questions and feedback that will help them continue to develop a solid and meaningful Bylaw.

You can have your say, and find the current status for the Haliburton Shoreline Preservation By-Law here:

<https://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/en/living-here/shoreline-preservation.aspx?mid=79446>



Connectivity Update

Connectivity – EORN Cell Gap Project Update

On April 28th, EORN and Rogers gave a presentation to Haliburton County Council on the Cell Gap Project, which aims to provide 99% of the area where people live (or have cottages), work and travel in eastern Ontario with cellular voice calling by 2025; 95% of the area with email, web browsing & social media; and 85% of the area with video-conferencing and streaming by cell – see map. [link to 2025 cell coverage map] In Haliburton County, 21 existing towers (including the one on Kennisis Lake Rd) will be upgraded (beginning this summer) and 30-40 new 5G sites will be built. (No information is available yet as to where these might be located.) Proposed new locations will go through the usual municipal approval process including community meetings.

Connectivity Update – Bell Canada

There are several important developments resulting from the KLCOA's dialogue with Bell Canada on connectivity issues over the past six months.

UBF Application for Fiber to Kennisis Properties – In early March, Bell applied to the federal Universal Broadband Fund for funding to bring fibre to the home to all properties around the Kennisis Lakes, (in part due to the urging of the KLCOA). KLCOA drafted a [letter in support](#) of this application which Bell submitted with the application. The earliest we expect to hear from the federal government with respect to this application is the summer and it may take even longer.

Improved Landline Service – Last Fall, a number of property owners on Watts Rd indicated that they were experiencing major problems with their Bell landlines. Bell is planning to do significant service work this summer on the copper wires that provide this service to ensure that it is working properly.

In the meantime, if you are having difficulty with your landline or are experiencing a power outage you must contact Bell at 310-Bell to report and ask for a ticket number. Bell will only send repair people with a ticket number and prioritize areas with a lot of ticket numbers.

Wireless Home Internet – Bell is planning to install “Wireless Home Internet”, a cellular-based technology to provide digital/internet service on the existing communications tower on Kennisis Lake Road this summer. This will make this higher speed connectivity available to about half the properties on Kennisis (based on current projections of “line of sight”, this is likely to include most of the west and north shore of Kennisis Lake, the western end of Wilkinson and the western end of Little Kennisis).

Letter to Federal & Provincial Governments in Support of the Universal Broadband Fund Application – The KLCOA drafted and sent a letter to Minister Monsef signed by 280 individuals representing approximately 170 properties. [See letter here.](#)

KLCOA Public Lands



2021 Spring Report

Did you know that the KLCOA owns and protects land on the Kennisis Lakes for our community?

The KLCOA owns several land parcels on our lakes including:

- **The Blueberry Islands**
- **Bullfrog Bay Lands**
- **Two Loon Island (Island C)**

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust owns **Norah's Island** and the KLCOA supports the management and protection of the island through the Norah's Island Management Committee.

These lands are available for the public to use, so long as individuals follow the established land use principles that were developed for the public to follow.

An important aspect of these lands, is that they are to be protected from development in perpetuity for the benefit of our lakes and our community.

Soap Pond Lands

There is small pond in the southwest corner of Kennisis Lake that is know as Soap Pond or Lipsey Bay, that was owned by Dysart et al. The Soap Pond lands are a quiet, natural spot, with an abundance local flora and fauna. The KLCOA approached Dysart to request acquisition of the lands surrounding Soap Pond to protect them from development and to make them available for public use. Dysart acknowledged the request and the lands were declared surplus and agreed to transfer the lands to the KLCOA in February 2021. The legal land transfer activities are now underway.

The KLCOA Lands Committee continues to work on protecting lands for public use around our lakes.

The Committee is currently conducting an inventory of Open Space and Environmental Protection zone lands on the Kennisis Lakes.

If you are interested in participating in land protection for our lakes please contact our KLCOA President at klcoapresident2017@gmail.com



KLCOA Traditional Rights of Way

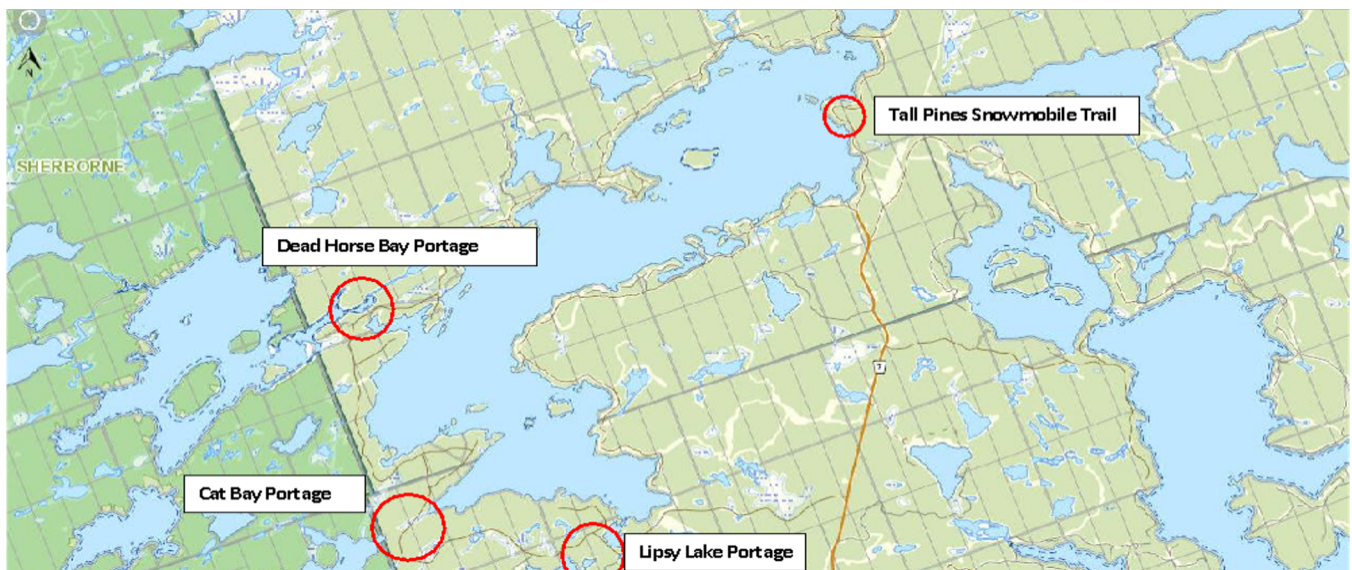


2021 Spring Report

Background

A number of portage routes connect Kennisis to other lakes or rivers in the area

- Lipsy Lake portage linking Lipsy Lake to Soap Pond on Kennisis
- Cat Bay portage connecting Cat Lake with Cat Bay on Kennisis
- Klaxton Lake to Lipsy Lake
- Dead Horse Bay portage linking Red Pine Lake to Dead Horse Bay on Kennisis (the Cat and Dead horse portages connect Kennisis with the Leslie Frost Recreation and HHWT)
- Tall Pines snowmobile trail





KLCOA Traditional Rights of Way (con't)

- The KLCOA recognized the value of preserving and protecting these important portage routes in its lake plan and has been researching portage routes and associated traditional rights-of-way (TROW) for several years. The KLCOA's TROW working group has been researching and finding title documents that reference the right to the public to access existing travelled portages to preserve peoples' rights to travel freely on the beautiful lakes and rivers of Haliburton County.
- Over the past few years the KLCOA has clarified the legal status of two important portages (Lipsy Lake to Soap Pond on Kennesis Lake and Cat Lake to Cat Bay on Kennesis Lake) and the rights of portage associated with these routes.
- Lipsy Lake to Soap Pond – this portage crosses 5 parcels of land 4 that are public (municipal land) and 1 private lot. The deed to the private property includes the express right to portage over this land.
- The Cat Lake to Cat Bay on Kennesis Lake Portage crosses 7 parcels of land including 2 private. The deeds to both private properties contain language that provides for the express right to portage over this land.
- Both the Lipsy and Cat Lake portage routes cross lands expressly subject to the right of portage

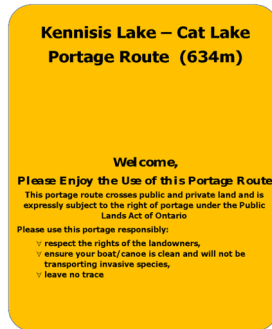
KLCOA Traditional Rights of Way (con't)



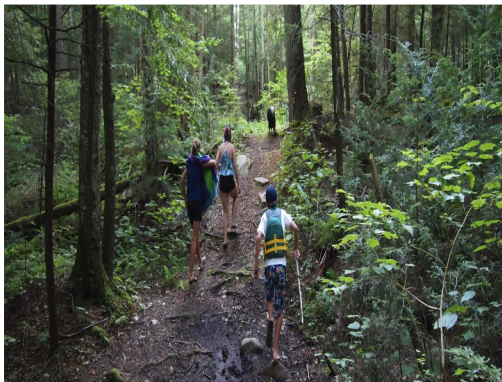
2021 Spring Report



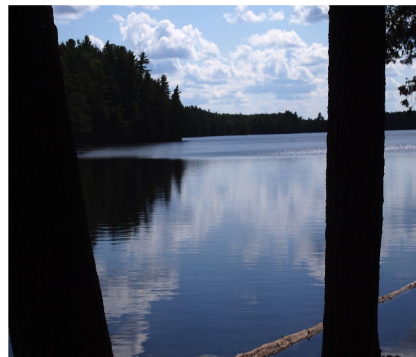
Old Portage Sign



New Portage Sign



Trail from Cat Bay, Kennisis to Cat Lake



Cat Lake from Portage to Kennisis

Next Steps:

- Develop advocacy/educational outreach program to ensure all interested parties are aware of their rights and responsibilities related to use of portage routes including portage signage
- Research indigenous use of portages routes from original crown survey notes and indigenous treaty documents
- Consider advocating for new municipal bylaws to keep ensure authorization to use the portage routes on public municipal lands, and include processes for public consultation should these routes be proposed to be changed or closed
- Explore the development of protocols with the municipality and MNR to retain access and monitor portage route use
- Understand enforcement of rights to portage – liaise with office of Attorney General to obtain more clarity on dispute resolution process



KLCOA Traditional Rights of Way (con't)

- **The KLCOA's TROW committee plans for 2021:**

- Continue advocacy and communication around the importance of preserving and protecting TROW's in the general area of Kennisis Lake and areas beyond including the wider network of lakes and canoe routes to the south of Kennisis Lake, such as Claypack and Growler (Bat) Lakes
- Investigate Legal Status of the Portage route linking Kennisis to Buckskin Lake as this provides a route from Kennisis to the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails network (HHWT).
- Continue to seek, gather, and review evidence of historic portage use (surveys, maps, notes).
- Determine portages of particular interest and then request and review original surveys and surveyors' records from the MNRF's Office of the Surveyor General.
- Examine detailed title documents (PIN maps, plans, parcel register, transfers) for relevant legal references for new portages and rights-of-way.
- Report any violations of likely traditional rights-of-way to the MNRF.
- Discuss with the MNRF and the Ministry of the Attorney General, and continue discussions with the Township and County, on procedures for protecting the public interest in portage and other traditional rights-of-way.
- Continue to ensure the routes we have established as being legal most notably Cat Bay (Kennisis Lake) to Cat Lake and Lipsy Bay (Soap Pond) to Lipsy Lake remain unencumbered and open to use by the Lake Community and other visitors.
- Continue to post Portage Signs as necessary and as new portage routes are established as being legal under the Public Lands Act of Ontario.



2021 Spring Report

Water Level Update

Here is the latest water level update as of May 14, 2021 from the CEWF (Coalition for Equitable Water Flow)

Weather

- The total precipitation during 2021 winter was 25% less than normal followed by 50% less than normal amounts of precipitation in March and April. Rainfall amounts for early May have been near normal. The 7 day forecast suggests a transition to high temperatures. There is 5 mm of rainfall forecasted for this week.

Outlook

- The Trent-Severn Waterway watersheds including the reservoirs experienced an earlier than normal freshet, which in combination with sustained warmer air temperatures has resulted in the loss of winter snowpack and melt runoff recession towards early April. The result of early melt and exceedingly dry conditions were the minimal flows experienced in April until present across the system. The most recent rain fall events (over the past 15 days) were spatially variable and currently, flows remain below average and receding across the Trent-Severn Watershed.

Trent Severn Water Management team will be active, and the changing conditions will be closely monitored. Any watershed condition updates will be released by your Conservation Authority or local Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources district.

Haliburton and Northern Areas

- In general, water levels in the Haliburton Reservoirs are below average. The Gull River reservoirs are 88% full. Burnt River reservoirs are 96% full. The Gull River and Burnt River flows are below average for this time of the year. The Central Reservoirs are 96% full. Levels are expected to gradually increase, and flows are expected to continue to recede with warmer temperatures and low precipitation.

For more information check the [Coalition for Equitable Water Flow](#) website.

A graph showing the current water level in comparison to the max, average and low history levels is updated regularly by Parks Canada and can be found on our website [here](#).



2021 Spring Report

Fisheries Update

- It has been almost 4 years now since the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources established a Fisheries Management Zone Advisory Council made up of representatives from across the Zone 15 to assist with a review of fishery regulations in the Zone 15. The Coalition of Haliburton property owners Associations (CHA) <https://www.cohpoa.org/lake-health-3/fish-and-fishing/> (lots of great info on this website) established a subcommittee to provide input to the Haliburton region representative on the MNR Council. I was the KLCOA representative on the CHA subcommittee.
- The continuing Covid19 Pandemic has significantly delayed the draft of the proposed regulation changes which originally should have been ready for public review in the spring of 2020. The draft plan is now anticipated to be presented to the Advisory Council later this summer and possibly posted for public review by late 2021 or early 2022.
- Historically the principal game fish in KENNISIS has been the Lake Trout. The introduction of Rock Bass into the lake resulted in the elimination of the various species of minnows that supported the Lake Trout's diet leaving them to survive largely on aquatic insects. The result is the small bodied Lake Trout we see today.
- Generally, the health of the Lake Trout population throughout Zone 15 is under stress with heavy fishing pressure and expanded ice fishing opportunities.
- The Zone 15 regulation review process was conducted on a species by species basis and any regulatory changes that will be proposed are intended to provide self sustaining enhanced fishing opportunities for anglers.
- **Background info on Lake Trout in Zone 15**
- As a species Lake Trout are characterized as either small bodied (ex. KENNISIS Lake, Redstone) or large bodied (ex. Boshkong chain of lakes).
- Small bodied Lake Trout feed largely on zooplankton, insects and small fish while Large bodied trout have access to smelt, herring or whitefish.
- Lake Trout grow slowly, mature at a late age, have low reproductive potential and have low replacement and have a short life span.
- Hooking mortality is between 30-60% in summer (water temperature issues) and 20% in winter.
- MNR modelling has determined that harvest rates in Zone 15 exceed the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and a recovery plan is necessary.



Fisheries Update (con't)

- MNR has modelled various alternative approaches for a recovery plan including a reduction in the daily catch (currently 2 with a full licence), a shorter summer or winter season and various combinations of these strategies.
- A reduction in the daily catch will slow the exploitation process but since Lake Trout are being caught beyond the MSY it will have little effect in population recovery.
- A shorter summer season would not recover the population.
- A full winter closure would be necessary to reduce angling hours.
- **Anticipated Regulatory Response for Lake Trout**
- Expectations are that changes in the keeper sizes based on the type of Lake Trout population in any given lake (small or Large bodied) will be introduced along with potential changes to the length of the summer and winter season. Additional regulations and educational initiatives may also be applied. These changes will be subject to a public consultation process.
- **Brook Trout**
- The MNR has continued stocking Brook Trout into Kennisis Lake with some 3000 Dickson strain Brook Trout released in late April 2020.
- **Angler Diary Program**
- To assist the MNR with ongoing information on the health of the trout populations in Kennisis Lake, I would encourage frequent anglers to participate in the [MNR's Angler Diary Program](#).
- I would like to hear any questions or comments on the fishing in Kennisis and whether you are participating in the Angler Diary Program. You can contact me at brianevans416@rogers.com



2021 Spring Report

Invasive Species - Waterways

- When invasive species enter our waters, they can eat native species, out-compete them for food and habitat and introduce and spread disease.
- **Some aquatic invasive species can survive up to 2 weeks out of water and not every invader attached to your boat can be seen with the naked eye.**
- Letting invasive species aboard your boat helps them spread in our lakes, rivers and streams and costs us millions to repair their damage.
- Kennisis Lake is not exempt from this risk. We are already dealing with the negative impact to our fishery as a result of the introduction of Rock Bass and the Spiny Water Flea to our Lake. **We must be vigilant** to preserve our environment.
- As we enter a new cottage season where boats are moving in and out of our lakes and waterways please **review the [Ontario's Angler Action Plan](#) and the [Boater Action Plan](#)** to reduce the risk of importing invasive species and spreading them to other lakes.
- **A special note** to any Kennisis boaters launching in and out of Haliburton's Drag /Spruce Lakes. The Drag and Spruce Lake Property Owners Association has been fighting at great expense to control an invasive weed species called Eurasian Water Milfoil for several years. Once this dense quick spreading weed is established in a lake eradication is almost impossible. It can severely impact swimming and boating particularly in sand bar areas and result in decreased property values. Spread of this weed is almost always by boat movements so be very careful to follow all proper boat cleaning procedures before launching back into any other lakes.
- In addition, a couple of invasive snail species (the Chinese Mystery Snail and Banded Mystery Snail) have been spreading through Haliburton lakes and reported to be in Beech, Boshkung, Eagle, Haliburton, Horseshoe, Kashagawigamog and Twelve Mile. As with the Eurasian Milfoil issue a fully cleaned boat is critical to minimizing the risk of spread to our lake.
- Some of the Key points of the **Ontario Angler and Boater Action Plans** are:
- **It is illegal to release/transport prohibited invasive species.** If you catch one, you must destroy it right away so it cannot reproduce or spread. Do not return it to the water.
- **Do not transport live fish over land.** Fish must be dead and should not be in a livewell filled with water.
- **Use local bait.** Collect or purchase your bait as close as possible to where you plan to fish. This reduces the risk of introducing species or diseases.



Invasive Species - Waterways (con't)

2021 Spring Report

- **Never dump your bait into the water or on the ice.** It is illegal to release your bait or dump the contents of your bait bucket into any body of water, including onto the ice. You must dispose of your bait at least 30 metres from any body of water.
- **Clean your boat and gear BEFORE leaving the water** of any mud, vegetation, mussels or anything suspicious from your boat, motor, trailer or fishing equipment.
- **Drain all standing water** by pulling the plug on your transom and live well at the boat launch. Never take an aquatic invasive species from one body of water to another.
- **Rinse out your livewell before travelling to a new body of water.** Prevent the spread of fish-harming pathogens like Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) by cleaning your livewell with a 1:10 solution of bleach and water.
- **Dry your boat for at least 5 days in sunlight or disinfect your boat** with hot water over 50°C or pressurized water over 250 PSI before travelling to a new body of water.
- **Avoid driving your boat through aquatic plants.** Remove and dispose of plants from your boat, motor and trailer before travelling over land.
- Invasive species are a significant concern in Ontario. In 2020 the Ontario government outlined a plan to add an additional 13 fish, plants and other species to the growing list of invasive species threatening our environment. They sought public input on the plan which included consideration of additional regulatory measures on the movement of watercraft between bodies of water. We will update you when the regulations are released.
- We encourage you to review the following Ontario guidelines before starting your boating and angling season this year. There are also guidelines for cottagers, gardeners and hikers. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-action-plans>
- The CHA website is a great source of in-depth information on the subject of Invasive species in Haliburton - <https://www.cohpoa.org/?s=invasive++species>

Kennisis Marina Update



2021 Spring Report

Kennisis Lake Marina is under renovations and estimate a re-opening on May 28. Watch for their updates.

Currently, the ramp and gas services at the Marina are closed due to Covid-19 stay at home orders and will remain closed until June 2.

Membership Stickers will **NOT be available at the Marina until they re-open.**



Liasions and Affiliations

The KLCOA has a number of Liasions and Affiliations with organizations that support our Lake Community. All of these organizations have great websites filled with a wealth of information. Links included below.

FOCA – [Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association](#)

As the pre-eminent Ontario organization, FOCA serves and represents lake associations, waterfront property owners (WPO) and waterfront communities through education, communication and government advocacy.

CHA – [Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations](#)

A member-driven group of approximately 50 property owners' associations, representing more than 120 waterbodies and 15,000 shoreline properties from across the geographical limits of Haliburton County, in Ontario Canada.

CEWF – [Coalition for Equitable Water Flow.](#)

A volunteer organization that represents the interests of the more than 30,000 Ontario taxpayers who own residential shoreline property on the 35 reservoir and 20 flow-through lakes within the Haliburton Sector of the Trent River watershed.

Government Connections

The Kennisis Lakes fall under the municipal authority of **Dysart et Al**

www.Dysartetat.ca

Dysart et Al is part of the **County of Haliburton**

www.haliburtoncounty.ca



Liasions and Affiliations (con't)

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Leading to healthier communities and economic prosperity through protecting Ontario's air, land and water.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Protecting Ontario's biodiversity while promoting economic opportunities in the resource sector and supporting outdoor recreation opportunities.

Safe Quiet Lakes

Safe Quiet Lakes was formed in 2011 by representatives of lake associations in Central Ontario. They work collaboratively with lake community stakeholders to promote safer and quieter lakes.

Watersheds Canada

Watersheds Canada is a federally incorporated non-profit organization and registered Canadian charity. They are committed to providing programs to communities across the country that work to engage and help shoreline owners enhance and protect the health of lakes and rivers.



Volunteering

- Thank you to all of the volunteers that have given their time and energy to the KLCOA.
- Everyone from the Board of Directors to committee members to activity and event volunteers have helped to make our Lake Community the special place that it is.
- We are always looking more volunteers.
- If you have a few hours or more to give then there is something for you to do.
- Volunteer for an event or a committee
 - Ladies of the Lake, EyesOnTheIsland, NIMC, Regatta and many more
- Talk to any Board member to express your interest. Our contact information is on the contact page of the website klcoa.org



KLCOA

Board of Director Election

Election of Board of Directors

At the Annual General Meeting of the KLCOA on September 15, 2021, elections will be held for the new Board of Directors. All current directors wishing to run again must stand for re-election along with any new candidates.

The Board is a working board. Each Director is expected to take on at least one portfolio and/or major project. There are a **minimum** of six board meetings per year, in a combination of face-to-face meetings(when allowed under COVID public health rules) and conference calls. You must be a KLCOA member in good standing in order to be elected to the Board.

We are currently accepting nominations for new board members. We are especially looking for new directors with skills in website administration, as well as expertise or keen interest in land use management, environmental issues, government relations, building community and engaging our next generation.

If you are interested, please contact the Nomination Committee with any questions you may have. You will be required to submit the [nomination/consent to run form](#) as well as a 4 or 5 sentence paragraph about who you are, your skills set, why you want to run, and a cottage-themed photo of yourself, which will be published to the membership after July 25th.

Nomination Committee Lead: Janis Parker, KLCOA VP janis@parkerpad.com
Deb Wratschko, KLCOA President klcoa.president.2017@gmail.com
Sheelagh Lawrance, KLCOA Secretary sheelagh@bell.net

We would appreciate any nominations before July 25 in order to post them on the KLCOA website. **Watch for slate listing after July 25th.**

The 2021 KLCOA AGM will be held virtually on Wednesday, September 15 at 7:00pm
Registration and details will come out at the end of July.

Questions, suggestions and comments



2021 Spring Report

Once again, we will be offering the opportunity to submit questions, suggestions and comments to the board before the meeting on May 26.

We respectfully ask that all submissions include a name and cottage address so that we can verify membership. All submissions and corresponding replies will be published with the persons name only.

Email: klcoa.president.2017@gmail.com

Dates for submission of questions, suggestions and comments:

Thursday May 20 to Monday May 24, 2021 at 12:00 noon

As many questions as possible will be answered at the end of the meeting on May 26. The answers to all questions including any additional questions asked at the meeting will be published by June 2, 2021.



Report from Councillor John Smith

2021 Spring Report

Repair and Resurfacing of Kennisis Lake Road in West Guilford

The County plans to resurface the section of road in West Guilford from the bridge north to just south of Shane's Crt - approximately 700 meters in length. The work is planned to start in late May or early June.

The project will include milling of the existing surface, grading and compaction of granular, a few minor repairs and new paving. The work is expected to take 2 to 3 weeks from the time the contractor starts. The contractor will be responsible for traffic control and minimizing disruptions. At least one lane of traffic will be kept open at all time.

Dysart Road Work

The KLCOA Roads team reports elsewhere in this update regarding specific road work to be completed around our lakes this summer. Dysart appreciates the input of this team of volunteers and I won't repeat what they are reporting.

The current Dysart Council has adopted a "data driven" approach to roads maintenance and improvements. The critical data inputs are current road conditions and average daily traffic counts for individual stretches of each Dysart road. These factors, combined with a commitment to a minimum average road condition, are used in a software application to determine the roads to be resurfaced in any given year. From my perspective this "fact based" approach makes considerable sense.

During 2020 Dysart performed a condition assessment of all 300+ kilometres of our roads along with traffic counts for all roads outside the village of Haliburton. The traffic count was done during the months of July and August. I advocated for this timing rather than the traditional approach of doing traffic counts prior to Victoria Day or after Labour Day believing this new timing is fairer and should result in more road maintenance dollars being directed toward cottage roads. The road condition assessment and traffic counts will be updated regularly going forward.

As part of the budgeting process for 2021 Dysart Council agreed to increase the amount of funding directed toward improving our roads. Initially the amount was set a \$1.5 million with a commitment to increase it annually by 3%. Subsequently Council agreed to add more than \$200,000 for 2021 from funds that would otherwise have been added to reserves.

As seems to be the case with all construction related work, one result of the pandemic has been a dramatic increase in costs. Consequently, we are not able to complete nearly as much work in 2021 as we had originally hoped.

Completing the ditching of Kennisis Lake Road from the Paddy's Bay bridge down to the dam remains a personal priority of mine and I am hopeful this work will get done in 2021 by Dysart's roads employees.



Report from Councillor John Smith (con't)

2021 Spring Report

This work is a prerequisite to restoring the hard top surface on this stretch of road - part of the nearly 30 kilometres of local roads that were once hard top and were converted to gravel due to a lack of roads funding in past years. The increased funding level started in 2021, hopefully combined with a return to more normal construction costs, should support getting high traffic stretches of roads throughout Dysart returned to a hard top surface over the next few years.

Let's All Slow Down

In addition to road conditions, speeding remains a problem on many of our local roads. Data from our traffic surveys tells us many drivers exceed posted speed limits. This is especially dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. We all need to slow down in the interest of public safety. In support of building greater obedience to posted speed limits Dysart recently purchased four flashing speed signs. This radar technology has proven effective elsewhere in slowing traffic by warning drivers they are going too fast. Signs will be rotated among selected locations where our surveys show excess speeding.

New Rules re Use of Dysart Landfills

Earlier this year Dysart Council changed the hours and days of service for our five landfills. The objective was to cost effectively align the services to the needs of users. In some case hours were reduced where experience shows there was little actual use. Some hours were also expanded. All landfills are now open until 7 pm on Sundays and holiday Mondays during the summer. This should more effectively serve the needs of seasonal residents.

Dysart Council also introduced some new fees and restrictions on what can be dropped off at a landfill. These are less about collecting money and more about encouraging residents to reduce what they bring to the landfill. For example, there is now a small fee for leaves. When people ask why, I explain that our landfills have really become transfer stations.

Since 2019 everything dropped off at the Kennisis site is trucked away for disposal elsewhere. The same applies to the Haliburton landfill and will soon be so at West Guilford. Private contractors hauling garbage is very costly from both an economic and environmental perspective. Most of us don't really need to bring leaves to the landfill. They can be left to naturally compost in our own gardens/forests.

A full 20% of Dysart's budget – about one third of your Dysart tax bill - goes to the cost of operating landfills and hauling waste. There are better uses for that money. The best way to manage waste is not to create it in the first place. Please do your part and consider that reality with whatever products you decide to purchase.

Better managing the amount of recycling helps but it still costs us a lot to haul containers of recyclable materials. I encourage you to check out the Waste Wizard App on Dysart's website to guide you in determining what goes where in Dysart's recycling program.

Household batteries and scrap metal can be dropped off at any Dysart landfill and we get paid a little something for each so glad to have these items.



Report from Councillor John Smith (con't)

2021 Spring Report

County Shoreline Protection Bylaw

As many of you will know this past winter County Council decided to embark on a new path regarding the proposed shoreline protection bylaw. Earlier in May County Council approved the selection of Hutchinson Environmental Sciences Ltd. to lead the development of a Shoreline Preservation By-Law specific to the County of Haliburton.

Their work will include summarizing the current science related to protection of water quality with a direct correlation to shoreline preservation of natural vegetation, reviewing the experiences of other Ontario municipalities which have Shoreline Protection By-laws currently in effect and creating a plan to engage significant stakeholders and report findings to County Council. Public consultation is to be completed by a report which summarizes the consultation feedback and, where warranted, clarifies the framing, scope and aims of the Shoreline Preservation By-law.

Land Around Soap Pond

Most of the land around the Kennisis Lake water we know as Soap Pond is environmentally sensitive and was designated Environmentally Protected many years ago. As a result, the developer of the West Shore area gifted the property to Dysart. Since access to the property is really only practical by water it is difficult for Dysart staff to manage the property. As a result, earlier this year Dysart Council made the decision to give the property to the KLCOA. Its volunteers will more easily be able to monitor these lands and ensure its environmental protection. We all play an important role in protecting this very sensitive area. When boating there please slow down and minimize your disturbance of mother nature and including the surrounding land.

Update re Cell and Internet Services

The need for improved cell/internet service in our area became even more pronounced over the past year. Haliburton County has been a participant in the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) for several years.

In March EORN announced that it had awarded a contract to Rogers that will leverage federal, provincial and local funding, along with a substantial investment by Rogers, to improve cell services across eastern Ontario, including all of Haliburton County. You may have seen local media reports. More details are available at

<https://www.eorn.ca/en/projects/improving-cell-service.aspx>

Service improvements will be rolled out over the next four plus years. Rogers will initially focus on upgrading the technology on existing towers. This will speed the deployment since securing approvals and constructing new towers takes longer. Upgrades to existing towers will expand the range of coverage and capabilities available. The tower located on Kennisis Lake Road just south of West Shore Road is used by Rogers and presumably will be upgraded.



Report from Councillor John Smith (con't)

2021 Spring Report

Rogers is still working to finalize the ideal locations for required new towers. All new towers must go through a review process and are subject to formal approval by a federal government department.

Dysart has a policy related to proposed new towers that tries to balance the importance of protecting our natural environment while recognizing the need for good telecommunications services. It requires that the service provider organize and publicize a public meeting related to proposed new telecommunications towers which will be 15 meters or more in height. The policy discourages the installation of towers in waterfront areas and encourages tower construction which blends with the surroundings noting mono-pine structures are the preferred design style.

After the public consultation process Dysart will advise the federal government department of our perspective on the new tower application but this federal department remains the approving authority. EORN has encouraged Rogers to engage local lake associations as they identify preferred locations for new towers.

In some ways the construction of new towers is not ideal but we all need to recognize that without new towers significant service improvements will not be possible. Prior to any new tower construction, we will all have a chance to evaluate the proposal and offer our input.

In addition to the Cell Project, EORN has completed a "Gig Plan". EORN is proposing a project to deliver ultra-fast internet speeds to homes and businesses in the region. Working from the cottage would become realistic. This project has been presented to both the federal and provincial governments and will require substantial contributions from each.

"Gig" refers to an internet speed of 1,000 Mbps or 1 Gbps (gigabit per second). It provides seamless, reliable connectivity needed for business, healthcare, education and other services. Gig speed is also needed for smart technologies that depend on reliable, continuous high-speed connectivity for real-time data sharing. Delivering Gig service generally involves a fibre optic or cable connection to the home or business although some are now trying to deliver new and improved internet services via satellite.

We can't pretend to know right now the future of technology. My own belief is that no single solution will meet all needs and that in the end we will be best served if there are multiple solutions with the related competition working to advantage consumers.



Report from Councillor John Smith (con't)

2021 Spring Report

Stay Safe

The pandemic has been very difficult for many over the past year plus. On behalf of our entire community a warm thanks to those Kennis residents who have stepped up in support of various local charities. Your support makes a huge difference.

While some local businesses flourished as a result of the pandemic others still face major challenges. As things begin to re-open, I encourage you to consider those businesses that have had to deal with significant restrictions around their operations including being entirely closed or limited to curbside pickup. Please do what you can to support them.

As always, feel free to contact me should you have any questions, suggestions or concerns about any matter related to our local government.



Have a great summer!