



FARLAIN LAKE Community Association

Ripples

Farlain Lake Community Association Newsletter

Fall Issue

October 2018

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Another season comes to a close!

From the President...

As I write this, we are heading into Thanksgiving weekend - the ideal time to give thanks for all the blessings and opportunities we enjoy, not the least of which is our lake and the community around it.

* Thank you to Past President Herb Huck (see his report included under the Annual General Meeting article below).

* Thank you to the late Tiny Councillor Richard Hinton for his support of the FLCA, and our deepest sympathy to his family, friends and colleagues on Council for their tragic loss.



* Thank you to all the donors, volunteers and sponsors for their support of our efforts to control the EWM (see below for more details).

* Thank you to Tiny Township Council for its continued support of our EWM control efforts with a donation of \$8000 for this year as well as the contribution of tax receipts for those contributing over \$500.

* Thank you to all those who continue to support the FLCA through your membership, participation and your feedback.

MNRF Fish Monitoring

The MNRF fish monitoring took place as planned in June and a report, which usually takes about 8-10 months to complete, will be available on Fish Online possibly by April 2019. The data needs to be audited, entered in the MNRF database, aging completed, zooplankton hauls analysed and then the report generated. Those interested may go to [Fish Online](#) for more information about the monitoring program.



Our FLCA Year Ahead...

Based on the results of the online member survey conducted earlier in the spring, and discussion at the AGM, the coming year is full of priorities...

Eurasian Watermilfoil

There is no question that the work to control the EWM needs to continue - a preliminary report on the work done this year is in a separate article below. A more extensive report will be sent out to you later in the fall as the Committee is busy reviewing the outcome of this year's efforts and will be making a full report at the upcoming October 14 Board meeting.

As I prepare this newsletter to send we received word that our application for a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to support our work has been approved!! More details will follow later this fall but this is wonderful news!

High Water Levels

The increasing high water levels came through as a major concern in the survey responses. While there is little we can do to control Mother Nature, we will continue to monitor, provide information and education related to preparing for them and protecting your property, and continue discussions with the SSEA, including the possibility of measuring water level changes.

Communication

The first issue is the FLCA web site. If you visited it recently you may have noticed that it is currently out of date in a few areas such as the Home, AGM and contact pages. The host and support service for our site is going out of business and we are

working hard to find the right solution for a new host and content management platform. As the webmaster, I am no longer able to change the content. The best option is to move to a new content manager called WordPress but that requires work to establish a new framework using one of the templates in WordPress and then importing and updating the content from our current site. The web site is a vital component of our communication with members and is the face of the association outside our community. A range of options have been explored and we hope to have a solution shortly. However the current site will remain as is until a transition to a new server and site can be completed. We will rely on emails to the members to keep you updated on everything.

The second and very important issue is the need for a volunteer communications coordinator. I have been looking after communication with our members for almost 10 years now. Given the work involved in my current role as president, we are in serious need of someone to take on this role on a volunteer basis. This involves the regular distribution of email communication using Constant Contact for our newsletter, Ripples, and any ad hoc messages that need to be sent to members (and mailed to those who do not have access to email). We also need to take advantage of social media - potentially Facebook and Instagram to engage more members of the community, including the next generation of members. Although the responses to the online member survey indicated that the majority of those responding preferred communication via email, that's not the case with our younger generations. They are vital to our future!

Membership

We are currently sitting at 72 members (15 new and 57 renewed from 2017-2018). There are 38 not renewed from last year. If you are among those, we ask that you please renew your membership, which has been kept at \$40 for the past 6 years, no later than December 1. Our membership year runs from August 1 through July 31 annually. As of December, those who have not yet renewed will no longer receive communication from the FLCA.

Don't be left out of the loop - use the Membership Form included here and either send in your payment or use the easy e-transfer option (see the instructions provided). Not sure if you renewed? Simply send us an email to inquiries@farlainlake.ca.

Septage

Councillor Cindy Hastings provided an update on the spreading raw septage on land at the Annual Meeting. See the minutes of the AGM below. We will continue to monitor the issue and communicate any progress to you.

Building Community

Those responding to the survey told us they would like to see more fun social activities that would help to build community. While we can consider options for doing so next summer, and we have members willing to help, these things take time to plan and a "champion" who can provide leadership in making it happen. Our current volunteers are very stretched.

Can you help?

Building Relationships

Relationships with organizations outside the FLCA are critical to our success. We have a very good relationship with Tiny Township which continues to grow, and will continue to build the relationship with the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA). The FLCA is a member of the Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations (FoTTSA) and Doug Kirk, FLCA Director, sits on the FoTTSA Board. The Federation of Ontario Cottager Associations (FOCA) is an organization of lake associations and provides another opportunity for sharing information and strategies for dealing with common issues such as managing invasive species.

Tiny Township is clamping down on encroachments on Township property throughout the Township. At Farlain Lake, the focus has been on the boat launch area and the land adjacent to it. The Township is planning to "clean up" the area and we have already seen a few changes to date. There has been little communication with the FLCA as to what specifically the Township is planning and we hope to close that gap. We need to understand exactly what "cleaning up" the area means, particularly from an environmental perspective, and ensure that what the plans are, are not counter to our efforts to protect the lake. One of the key recommendations in the FLCA's Lake to Sky Plan which was developed in 2013, accepted by the members and recommendations shared with the Township Council at the time, is the protection of the lake's natural shoreline.

As your new President, I have huge shoes to fill thanks to Herb's dedication and hard work. I look forward to the challenge and the opportunity to work with the FLCA Board and volunteers. But we all need the support of you the members.

We welcome your ideas, suggestions and concerns at any time! Please continue to contact any member of the FLCA Board using the FLCA email at inquiries@farlainlake.ca.

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Di Chiara
President



Follow-up to the 2018 Annual General Meeting



The FLCA Annual General Meeting held on Sunday July 30 was well attended and we thank our guests Steffen Walma, Tiny Township Deputy Mayor, Councillor Cindy Hastings and Robert Canning from the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) for not only taking the time to attend but also to participate in the meeting.

Our apologies to those of you not able to attend as we have not been able to post a report or the minutes to the web site for your information. Attached please find the report presented by President Herb Huck, the PowerPoint presentation for the meeting, and a draft of the minutes of the meeting for your review.

Once again we sincerely thank Herb Huck for his leadership, service and commitment to the FLCA and to Farlain Lake since 2009. Serving as Director, Secretary and finally President for the past 3 years, Herb has contributed a great deal to the ongoing growth and evolution of our community association and its relationship with other organizations. Herb completed two terms of 3 years plus an extension of an additional 3 years as allowed in the By-laws but accordingly, had to step down. We will miss him a great deal on the Board but know that he is there to help out when we need him and his sage advice!



Nominations were received for Wendy Huck and Doug Kirk as incoming Directors, and both Ross Graham and Bill Sweeney agreed to continue on the Board for an additional year. As no additional nominations were received in response to the Call for Nominations distributed to members prior to the meeting, the following were elected for 2018-2019, and the officers were subsequently elected by the new Board:



L to R: Wendy, Pat, Bill, Elizabeth, Doug, Ross
Missing: Don

President (and Communications) - Elizabeth Di Chiara
Vice President - Don Ferguson
Secretary - Wendy Huck
Treasurer - Ross Graham
Director (Membership) - Pat Kelso
Director (Environment) - Bill Sweeney
Director - Doug Kirk (FoTTSA rep)

Please contact any member of the Board through inquiries@farlainlake.ca.

Eurasian Watermilfoil Control Efforts

Work continued over the summer on our efforts to control the spread of the Eurasian Watermilfoil. The EWM Committee under the leadership of Peter Andrews spent countless hours over the course of the winter and spring planning the strategy for this season, including the application of the herbicide Reward to specific targeted areas of infestation in July and harvesting in August. Along with the help of over 20 volunteers and professional divers, and a great deal of hard work, they removed a significant amount of the plant from the pioneer and one other infested area. Although the results of their efforts can clearly be seen when touring the affected areas, the plant has continued to spread. The Committee has reviewed the results and has begun developing plans for next year.



The war against this aggressive plant will be ongoing and doing nothing is not an option. The report and preliminary recommendations will be reviewed by the Board at its next meeting on October 14 and we will share the outcome with you following that meeting.

Our sincere thanks go to our great EWM Committee...

Peter Andrews

Daryl Andrews

Judy Buchanan

Don Ferguson

Greg Goss

Ross Graham

Brian Kelso

Pat Kelso

Bruce Johnston

Special mention goes to Bill Sweenie who has provided the "home base" for all our EWM efforts - providing and storing equipment, "hosting" base camp for all the harvest work over the years, storing the pontoon boat and motor used for the DASH unit, and the list goes on! Bill's son-in-law Kirk Harrald has also been a

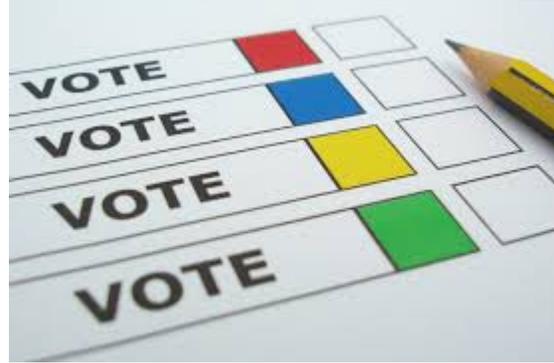
huge help to the Committee. Thank you to Brent Graham as well for his input into the planning process.

A huge thank you to all of the over 20 hard-working "Weed Warriors" who helped with the harvesting!

Tiny Township Municipal Election

The election of Councillors for the Tiny Township Council takes place on **Monday October 22, 2018** and everyone is encouraged to vote!

Information for voters is available on the Tiny Township web site. A list of the candidates and contact information is [attached here](#) for your information.



While both the Mayor, George Cornell, and Deputy Mayor, Steffen Walma, are acclaimed, 3 Councillors must be elected from 4 candidates. The Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations (FOTTSA), of which the FLCA is a member, has compiled the responses from each of the 4 Councillor candidates to a series of questions that may help guide voters in their decision-making.

We enjoy a good relationship with the Township and look forward to continuing to strengthen it. Vote for our future - please review the information that was included in the recent issue of the FOTTSA newsletter, Tiny Cottager, by [clicking here](#).

We Need You!

...and we need your support in growing our membership!

More members mean a stronger voice for the Farlain Lake Community. And membership provides access to valuable information, a strong community network, the opportunity to influence the future of our Lake and protect it for generations to come.

Join for one, two or five years and encourage your friends and neighbours to do the same! Download the 2018-2019 Membership Form [here](#).

Payment is easy now with the introduction of e-transfer - [click here](#) for instructions.

Farlain Lake Community Association, 31 Farlain Lake Road West, Tiny, Ontario L9M 0B9 Canada

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