



N e w s l e t t e r



The GLCA is a volunteer organization committed to representing the interests of the residents of Gull Lake.

President's Message:

Board of Directors

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Rob Cummins

Past President

Siobhan Carmichael

Vice-President

Richard Newman

Treasurer & Membership

Marlene Robinson

Secretary

Kim Sharpe

Lake Steward

Don Drouillard

Special Events

Bink Larsen

Communications

Adam Shore

Regatta Commodore

Chas Birkett

Newsletter Editor

Sue Montgomery

Website

Connor Nijse

Merchandise

Vacant

Membership Assistant

Jane Robinson

New Membership

Mike Sheppard

"Flooded" with calls and emails...

On a Friday in mid April the water level of the Minden river began rapidly to rise, higher than usual, and more dangerously by the hour. Suddenly the spring runoff escalated, overflowing into uncharted new territory. Police were called in to begin the process of evacuating local residents, some given one hours' notice.

Where one might assume that this would be a short-lived 24 hour event, the impact became more obvious as days became weeks without the water levels retreating.

Where we are consistently bothered by low water levels in the late summer, now water levels were too high. Far too high, causing those in town to estimate to be millions in damages. Homeowners have reported that their insurance claims for coverage are being denied due to the type of flood, converting a flood into an emotional and financial event for those evacuated or damaged.

We all know this part: Gull Lake is at the end of a long chain of feeder lakes...a complex forked system that feeds down and down, cascading the spring run-off water from lake to lake. Being a 'reserve lake' (meaning we have a lake level control dam) means Gull Lake bears a special responsibility in the system, and can derive special benefits in turn. For this reason I call Gull Lake a "Premium" lake.

For this flood event, the Moore Falls dams were opened to allow maximum outflow. How the flooding happened continues to be the significant topic of discussion.

I made several trips to Minden in April and had a chance to visit some GLCA members like Murray and Penny Gordon at the mouth of the river, and David, Tammy and Mitch Rea by Miner's Bay. From what I could see in Minden, at some point it simply became more convenient for the water to flow sideways into the town lowlands where it became trapped and began to pool dangerously, rather than follow its natural contained course downstream.

Is the GLCA going to help resolve on-going water level issues? You bet. You invested in our Steering Committee and they've delivered! With or without this one-off spring flood our lake team was active throughout the 2012 / 2013 off season completed one of the largest lake level assessments and compilations in GLCA history. We now have the data and we can't wait to share it with you.

At our AGM on June 2nd you'll experience an educational presentation immediately followed by a number of proposals for enhancements to (at long last) stabilizing lake level controls on Gull Lake. And it will be up to you as members to help direct the next steps and pace of implementation.

What about Flood Relief...will the GLCA have a response for it? Definitely yes. Shawn Chamberlain, proprietor of the Dominion Hotel and Grill on the Gull accepted my invitation to speak for a few minutes at our AGM on June 2nd to provide an insiders impact statement of both residents and businesses affected and to answer questions.

This is not an AGM you want to miss. See you on June 2nd, 2013 at Kilcoo Camp.

<http://gulllakecottagers.com/>

Hello fellow Gull Lakers,

by Barb Reid, Reeve - Township of Minden Hills, Oct 2012

This letter was written prior to the flood in April 2013. Please refer to the Minden Hills website for all the updates and news regarding the flood at www.mindenhills.ca.

It's hard to believe but it's been almost 2 years since the 2010 municipal election. Overall, we've accomplished much but there is still much to do.

After more than 10 years of planning, we now have a Canadian Tire store, which I'm sure many of you have visited since it opened last May. Since then the parking lot has been very busy but, as we all know, though, getting through the summer is easy in Haliburton County; making it work in the winter is the real challenge. We wish Steve and Leeann McLean much success and hope that the Canadian Tire store will help put Minden on the radar screens of private industry.

Winter tourism is a real opportunity for Minden. We used to be a snowmobile hub until the trail system started to fall apart, grooming became sporadic and getting through Minden on a snowmobile became very challenging. In 2008 the trail into and out of Minden was downgraded and while we had a wonderful new snowmobile bridge that was acquired as part of our Riverwalk Stimulus Grant program, it became known as "the bridge to nowhere".

Since January of 2011, we have been working with the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association and the Haliburton ATV Association to make Minden a year-round destination. Last January we opened the new Mount Minden & Village snowmobile trail - an exciting new trail that is not only scenic with varied terrain, but gets people in and out of Minden on a clearly marked trail. While we didn't have much snow last year and the signs weren't installed until late February, downtown restaurants did notice more snowmobile visitors than the previous year.

For the past year we have been working on our Official Plan Update. Most of the updating reflects the need for increased protection of our natural resources, primarily our lakefronts. Studies from the MNR and other experts indicate our lakes are changing. Oxygen levels are dropping and nutrient levels are increasing. If we don't take action, our lakes will not have the requirements to support fish and other wildlife. The draft OP update contains language around the need for increased protection of wetlands, prevention of shoreline alteration and septic system inspection. The draft Official Plan Update will be available for public review in December. The draft plan will be on the Minden Hills website (www.mindenhills.ca) and an electronic copy will be sent to the GLCA and the other 12 lake associations in Minden Hills. Please contact a member of your Lake Association executive who will ensure your comments and questions get to us. Once the Update is in place, we will move to develop an updated Zoning By-Law, which should be in place by the end of 2013.

I know it's hard to get ourselves off our own docks sometimes but I encourage you to discover your municipality. Minden Hills has some of the most beautiful natural scenery found anywhere. I'm thinking about Furnace Falls on the Irondele River, Ritchie Falls on the Burnt River, the White Water Preserve, Panorama Park, the Gull River from Minden to Gull Lake, Snowdon Park, Rotary Park and so on. The village of Minden wraps itself around the Gull River and our downtown is a very charming hamlet and we are working hard to make it even more attractive. The beautiful Riverwalk trail has really transformed our village. The four fabulous blue condos on Water Street are gone. The abandoned garage on Highway 35 has been removed. The County Visitors Centre has been spruced up. The corner of Bobcaygeon Road and Highway 35 is ready for the construction of a Dairy Queen store.

We have completed a major renovation of Bobcaygeon Road that will see decorative curbing and pavement, wider sidewalks and eventually more benches for people to sit and enjoy the scenery along our main drag. Our building and by-law department has been busy handling Property Standards complaints throughout the municipality which means people are reporting problem properties and the owners, for the most part, are cleaning them up. This is a good thing as pride of place is a personal responsibility that everyone needs to take on if we are to realize our potential.

Finding the money to do this work is always a challenge and we continue to search for funding from senior levels of government for community improvement projects. If we want to attract development, we need to look like we're a going concern. We need to look like we're a good place to invest. We believe that if you look good, others will be attracted to you.

So whom are we trying to attract? Housing developers. Like many communities, we recognize where the demographic shift is going. Over the next 25 years, we're going to have a wave of retirees looking for places to call home. Many will choose to stay in urban areas but many will be seeking smaller communities such as Minden. We are primarily a community of single-family detached homes and lack multi-unit residential type housing which is so important in the housing continuum.

We also have a significant need for affordable housing - both for seniors and families. The first step in qualifying for an affordable housing project is the municipality making the land available. Minden Hills has been working with the County of Haliburton on a project to build a new combined Fire Hall and EMS Station. In fact, Minden Hills allocated \$300,000 from the 2011 surplus to a reserve for a new fire hall and we are getting "shovel ready" in the event a grant opportunity comes our way. With an anticipated construction cost of \$1.5 - \$2 million, we'll need help from senior levels of government. If and when the Fire Hall does move, we have a large piece of property bounded by Pritchard Lane, St. Germain, Prince and Milne Streets upon which an affordable housing project might be built. This fits with the overall strategy for Minden, which is to build multi-unit housing right in the village. The way to get our shops busier is to get more people living downtown. If more of our seniors lived downtown, they would be better connected to the services they need and have more social interaction as well.

One of the services we all need is health care. While we have so far not attracted a new doctor to Minden, we are getting ourselves out there. We now have a separate listing for the Minden Medical Centre on the Healthforce Ontario recruiting website and have had 2 enquiries so far. One of our community members was a professional recruiter during her career and played a key role in the recruitment of Dr. Jeff Dawson to the Haliburton Medical Centre. She will resume her efforts once the 2012 list of residents and interns is made available.

So there is lots going on but lots still to do. We want a housing project like Granite Cove here in Minden. We want more affordable housing in downtown Minden. We are still contemplating the recommendations for traffic flow improvement from the Downtown Plan about making Water Street one way from Bobcaygeon Road to either Prince Street or St. Germaine. We are still working on site options for a new public washroom and playground. The youth of our community want us to make a more organized swimming hole at Loggers Crossing and Invergordon. We are working on a new, more accessible municipal website. We will have a new community bulletin board installed beside the Riverwalk across from the Post Office very shortly.

We have a new financial software system being installed that will create capacity within existing staff levels to get the work done without the need for excessive overtime. We are committed to managing the municipality with tax increases limited to the rate of inflation.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community and look forward to seeing you this summer.

Treasurer's Report

by Marlene Robinson

2012 has been a reasonably healthy year financially for the GLCA. Although our revenue is down slightly in several areas, our expenses are also down in most categories. Membership numbers declined nearly 20 per cent—a considerable blow to our revenue. We have also made a concerted (successful) effort to decrease our excess merchandise inventory, with several major price reductions, some below cost. Our biggest single expense has been for the start-up of the lake plan, a very important investment. Even with all these issues, our net loss for the year so far is less than \$300, with every prospect of a better year to come. Our Members' Surplus (see our Balance Sheet attached) is still well over \$26,000. Once again, we thank Chris Birkett for preparing our tax return without charge (YAY, CHRIS!!!) This is a huge saving and we very much appreciate it.

This will be my last report as GLCA Treasurer. I have been holding this position as well as that of Membership Director for the past four years and am happy to hand over the treasury reins to Nick Evans. Thank you, Nick for stepping forward.

GULL LAKE COTTAGERS ASSOCIATION BALANCE SHEET AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

ASSETS	
Cash	14453.62
Investments	10000.00
Merchandise Inventory	1926.35
	<u>26379.97</u>
LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' SURPLUS	
Members' Surplus	26379.97
	<u>26379.97</u>

We wish to thank the following folks for their 2012 donations to the GLCA.

Allison, Mark & May
Barrett, Brian & Mary
Beamish, Bob & Marilyn
Bell, Don & Nadine
Christie, Doug & Barbara
Czerwinski, George
Gregory/Russell, Catherine & Greg
Kennedy, Ted & Marie

LaRue, Tom & Linda
Miner's Bay Lodge
Percy, Alan & Jan
Pinnock, Ross & Helen
Sward, Jim & Gail
Sward, Julia
Wilson, Doreen & James

Membership Report

by Marlene Robinson

I would like to thank our members for being part of our great association. In 2012 overall membership did drop back below 300 total members. The previous year we had successfully boosted membership through the initiative to go door to door and distribute the Lake Maps. In 2013 we are looking to once again break past 300 members as more cottagers on the lake become aware of the great work being done on their behalf behind the Lake Plan.

More and more of our members are choosing to use paypal and become "Green" members, which we truly appreciate! We urge you, when next you receive your Membership Renewal reminder, to please respond immediately and not let it get lost among all your other messages.

Please remember to inform us of any changes to your email addresses. We receive several returned emails with every newsletter and bulletin we send out. If you change your provider or your postal address, please let us know. We do on occasion, make mistakes, so if you haven't received any bulletins from us in the past six months, please let us know to check your info. In closing I would also like to thank my assistant, Jane Robinson, for all her help in keeping the records up-to-date, and also all the members (see attached list) who have made financial contributions to the GLCA this year.

Annual General Meeting

New Date for This Year

Sunday, June 2nd, 2013

@ Kilcoo Camp

Registration: 10:30 am
Meeting: begins at 11:00 am
Light lunch provided



90th GLCA Regatta a Success!

The 90th edition of the Gull Lake Cottagers Association regatta was once again a great success. It will likely go down as one of the hotter regatta days on record as the temperature reached a scorching 34 degrees (93 F), which happened to be the only day this summer that the temperature reached that level.

As in past years, the University of Toronto donated the use of their Engineering Survey Camp for our use. It was the first time in many years (maybe ever?) that class was in session during our regatta. It was fun to see the students doing their survey work around the property while we went about our races and raffles.

The usual fare of hot dogs and chips was served, and the schedule of events remained consistent with previous years. Indeed, part of the charm of the regatta is the minimal change from year to year – warm weather, a steep hill, kids, canoes, hot dogs and the odd highly-competitive adult!

Thanks go to the local merchants who contributed prizes for the raffle, and congratulations to our winners, also listed below.

Bawana John's Canadian Tire Carey's Garden Coneybear's Butcher Country Magi Dominion Hotel Gravity House Grill on the Gull Kawartha Diary Litwin Cottage	Marais Canoe Melbryan House Minden Fruit & Vegetable Miners Bay Lodge Molly's Bakery My Size Ommmh Pharmasave Remax-Linda Litwin	Remedy's RX Rockcliff Hotel Stedmans Studio Rose Summerkiss The wine store Village Chalet Whispers North Wild Orchid
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Regatta Awards: August 4, 2012

Bedlington Cup - 1st: J. Scott
2nd: J. Wilson
3rd: M. Lund

Chisholm Cup - L. and M. St. John

Christie Cup - Mixed War Canoe
D. Larsen, J. Larsen, J. Bell, K. Coates

Crerar Family Paddles - J. Scott and J. Wilson

Earl Family Paddles - J. Larsen and R. Allison

Minto Cup - 1st: J. Larsen
2nd: R. Allison
3rd: D. Larsen

Mixed Terrain Race - J. Allison, C. Allison, St. Clair Bean

Parr Memorial Trophy - M. Ardron and C. O'Connor

Sharpe Family Paddles - T. Beamish, M. Forrest

Stinson Plaque - J. Larsen and D. Larsen

Treadgold Trophy - 1st: L. St. John
2nd: M. Forrest
3rd: R. Scott



Sailing Regatta Race Awards: July 28, 2012

Duncan Trophy - 1st: C. Tarczy
2nd: P. Allison
3rd: M. Ardron

Fourth Annual GLCA Summer Event at Summerkiss

by Bink Larsen

On August 25, 2012, forty one Gull Lake members enjoyed a beautiful evening and delicious food at Summerkiss Restaurant, Moore Falls.

The evening began with appetizers and drinks on the front lawn, which included GLCA Director, Marlene Robinson selling some of our great Gull Lake merchandise.

Gull Lake Special Events Director, Bink Larsen invited members inside to begin dinner.

Gull Lake Director/Lake Planning member, Don Drouillard was also in attendance

Conversations, beverages and food flowed freely throughout the evening.

We are looking forward to hosting another event such as this in 2013. Please email any suggestions regarding this event or ideas for other social events you would like to see to the website.

Director Postings for 2013

The GLCA Board of Directors are members of the Association who volunteer their time and rotate based on a two year term cycle. As we move into 2013 the normal rotation cycle will create vacancies on the Board.

Nine Board members are required to sit on the Board to provide adequate diversity.

The GLCA Board has authorized the following Board vacancies be posted and filled at the 2013 AGM:

Two Board of Directors level roles which will open in 2013:

- Director covering Special Events
- Secretary

Additionally, GLCA Staff roles provide members with the opportunity to participate and contribute in specific ways in a non-Board capacity.

Staff level roles (non-Board):

- Webmaster...maintaining the GLCA website

General Summary of Role of a Director: The Board of Directors jointly perform an oversight and decision making role on behalf of the interests of members. The Board should maintain a complement of nine.

Activities including but not limited to:

- Be presented to the full membership at the Annual General Meeting
- Know and abide by current GLCA ByLaws
- Good interpersonal skills, proactive and ability to make decisions based on the needs of members
- Positive attitude and willing to get involved
- Attend meetings of the Board of Directors, held periodically throughout the year, carrying a vote of one per director
- Provide vital input and guidance to the Association.
- Establish, by resolution, committees, appoint the Chairperson of each committee, and prescribe the composition and duties of such committees from time to time. Review and consider recommendations of each committee Chairperson respecting membership of the committee

Term: Two years, currently renewable to a limit of 3 terms.

Remuneration: None

2013 Level Role Vacancies (as follows):

Special Events Director (Board):

- General Director duties
- Convene special events; AGM, summer social, assistance with the Regatta etc.
- Good interpersonal skills, and proactive
- Good written and verbal communication skills
- Good problem solver
- Ability to positively interact with merchants and members

Secretary (Board):

- Senior role within the Board
- General director duties

- High detail orientation an asset
- keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings;
- issue a notice to Members of all regular and special meetings including the Annual General Meeting
- Perform such other duties as may be required including but not limited to the distribution of minutes of Board meetings to Directors and AGM minutes to Members
- Document approval requiring the GLCA's signature in the absence of the president
- Responsible for property and documents of the GLCA, unless otherwise assigned to another director
- Excellent interpersonal skills, positive attitude
- good verbal and written communication skills

Webmaster (non-Board):

- maintains and updates the GLCA website
- Maintains connection to Paypal
- Loads and displays paid advertiser logo's
- Able to anticipate upcoming web needs of the website
- knowledge of web platform
- positive attitude and good problem solving skills

Interested applicants should forward their interest and contact information to:

Secretary, GLCA, (Kim Sharpe) @ kim.sharpe@sympatico.ca
Copy: GLCA President (Rob)

All applications received will be acknowledged upon receipt. Applicants to the Board are voted in by the members at the AGM 2013 - we have received 3 applications to date:

• **Nick Evans** - for Treasurer

Nick Evans and his wife Sue and two kids Luke and Ben have been on the lake since 2004. Their cottage is on the west side off of Rackety Trail. They all spend as much of the summer as possible at the cottage. In the cottage off season, Nick is an executive coach focused on leadership development. He is excited about taking on the role as Treasurer and working within the association to preserve what we all love about cottaging on Gull Lake.

• **Keith Kennedy** -

Keith is a leading sales representative in the Plastic Blow Molding Industry and is currently working for Concord Products and Blow Molding. He has very strong technical and design capabilities.

Being a "people person" started early in life with joining Boy Scouts of Canada for 12 years ultimately becoming a "Beaver" leader with them for several years. Another rewarding experience was his time working with the YMCA at camp pine crest as a Counselor in Training and participating in the Bark Lake leadership camp. Keith also worked with a YMCA camp called Algonquin experience which was a camp for underprivileged - city children. Being a positive influence in young lives was a rewarding experience.

Love for the outdoors began at an early age when he spent his summers as a young boy on Gull Lake. This love grew with exposure to outdoor activities, whether hunting, fishing, and skiing at private clubs or canoeing and camping in the wilderness. In summary Keith's business and life experiences have provided a well-rounded education and an ability to handle difficult situations and environments as well as an ability to adapt quickly. His general enthusiasm for people and making them feel "a part of it" is a great quality and would add value to any team or organization.

• **James Allison** - for Communications Director

James Allison was first introduced to Gull Lake when his family first purchased a property in Miner's Bay in 1993. Over the past 20 years, James has deeply enjoyed his time at the lake, working 5 summers at Miner's Bay Lodge, participating in many of the regattas and sailing races as well as developing strong relationships with other residents/cottagers on Gull Lake.

James has been nominated to serve as Communications Director on the GLCA Board, taking over for outgoing Director Adam Shore. In this role, he intends to strengthen GLCA members' engagement and input to GLCA initiatives through expanded use of the GLCA website (<http://gulllakecottagers.com>), Facebook page www.facebook.com/gulllakecottagers and Twitter [@GLCottagers](https://twitter.com/GLCottagers). James' goal is to help spread important, relevant and entertaining information to GLCA members to help strengthen the GLCA community. He brings several years of communications experience from Project Management and Account Coordinator roles held in previous jobs. Currently, James works with Scotiabank GBM as an Equity Research Associate helping cover the Retailing Sector.

Though he is a seasonal resident on Gull Lake (spending every weekend from June to September on the lake, plus the occasional week for vacation), James is always reachable and eager to discuss matters that pertain to the Gull Lake community, and welcomes any and all feedback to how the GLCA Board can better serve and communicate with its members. He is VERY excited for this opportunity!

Lake Plan Update

by Vice-President, Richard Newman

I hope what strikes you in reading this newsletter is that there is a lot of activity on the Lake --people are motivated and dare I say it? engaged. There is much work being done to secure the long-term health of our lake and it is "All good" as your kids would say. This note is an opportunity to review and consider the next cottage season. Much like New Year's Eve, a spring newsletter is time for reflection. Recently celebrating a milestone birthday, it strikes me that we only have so many summers left to make it count -- there are only so many regattas and so many camp fires. The lake itself will always be here and we are merely caretakers of the lake -- it is our job as custodians of the lake to pass this inheritance on in the future.

This is my second full-year as VP of the GLCA. The busy time begins in April with the first planning meeting for the AGM and continues to a pitch concluding with the Regatta August long weekend -- the apex of summer. Hot dogs are counted and cooked, merchandise selected, sound systems arranged, toilets rented, and the games arranged and played. Volunteers come and set-up and then tear down -- another season done. Much work goes on in the background to bring the many events that the GLCA conducts and the volunteers are amazing. Thank you all.

With the approval of developing a Lake Plan at the Spring AGM 2012 the GLCA sends a strong message that they are taking on a "Custodian" role. This shift is important as it positions stakeholders of Gull Lake in the regional political processes. Our collective voice is represented and will be heard through our Lake Plan. The completed Gull Lake Plan will be a document that regional political bodies look to for direction when creating public policy. The Gull Lake Plan will allow future custodians to create consensus to protect Gull Lake.

It is not coincidental that other lakes in Haliburton have created a lake plan or in the process of developing their own. What is driving this behavior? For many lakes, it may be because every summer it seems as though an environmental experiment is taking place.

Much like the Wizard of Oz, lake levels and water quality is seemingly managed by unknown individuals in a process that is suspect, archaic, and frustrating. It is this shared frustration that is driving lake associations throughout Haliburton to take on responsibility for their future. We cannot evade tomorrow's responsibility by not doing anything today. Organizations such as the Coalition For Equitable Water Flow (www.cewf.ca) and the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations (<http://www.cohpoa.ca>) are organizations supporting our cause. Your GLCA dues allow us to belong to these organizations and help shape & develop policy.

In 2012 we began laying the foundation for the Lake Plan. A workshop and numerous committee meetings defined scope and direction. A recently completed questionnaire conducted on-line and through the mail (October 2012 of which we had 219 respondents) will direct the Gull Lake Plan Steering committee. This feedback determines the content of the Gull Lake Plan. We have also created sub-groups to further examine potential threats, opportunities, and recommendations. Your dues supported these activities.

In 2013, the Lake Plan will shift away from laying the foundation of the Lake Plan to implementation. The content of the surveys and feedback from the sub-groups will be combined for discussion. There will be another workshop. We hope that you are engaged and informed. The final Lake Plan document will reflect your opinions.

For further updated information on the progress of our task force and project team: www.Gulllakeplan.com

AGM motioned member commitment - for 2013 and 2014:

• **Additional \$10/member towards the lake plan funding**

Visit the Experimental Lakes Area website, an Internationally renowned, northern Ontario lakes research program at www.experimentallakesarea.ca

• **The Lake Plan workshop** is now confirmed for **August 24, 2013** from 9-12 at the Minden Community Center

Contact Richard Newman at NewmanRG@gmail.com for further questions/directions.

• **The Lake Plan survey** is being collected and will be summarized in November.

Some of our volunteers are already engaged, others (particularly those involved in the Natural Heritage) will be consulted soon.



Flood Impact Summary!

by President, Rob Cummins

GLCA member Advisory: Flooding and State of Emergency in Minden

GLCA members and local media are reporting a flood advisory and state of emergency in Minden affecting Gull Lake residents as well.

The emergency is due to unnaturally high river water levels. The water level reports indicate that severe water levels have crested the river banks and are now onto the parking lot of the LCBO, Beer Store etc, and eye witnesses report water up to the doorsteps of river residents.

Measures are being taken to try and lower the impact on river and lake residents.

GLCA members around the lake are reporting docks, rafts and other waterfront property adrift on the lake and coming down the river. Reports suggest Minden officials have released the damn at Moore Falls to relieve some of the excess water.

At this time we would like to share the following with you:

1. GLCA photo's taken this weekend, as well as those submitted to us will be uploaded to the GLCA Facebook page to help assist GLCA members in identifying lost property and contacting one another.

Facebook: Not a Facebook user? We've updated the settings on our gorgeous Facebook page to be visible to everyone (not exclusive to Facebook users!):

Consider bookmarking: www.facebook.com/gulllakecottagers

• **AGM Lost and Found:** Please feel free to post pictures of lost or found property, post them to our Facebook wall, submit them to us to review, or bring items to the AGM at Kilcoo where we'll have a lost and found table for lighter, portable items to be returned to their owners.

2. Start following the story through online local media reports such as: www.mindentimes.ca and CHEX News Peterborough: Shocking flood footage taken April 22nd in Minden, including their interview with Minden Reeve, Barb Reid.
Link here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPG7uJ3Lbwc

3. Link to the official Minden flood advisory, forwarded in by GLCA Member Bruce McClennan: <http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/docs/flooding/Press-Release-April-20th-2013.pdf>

4. If you find lost property on your shoreline over the coming weeks it would be valuable to others to create an written inventory of what has washed ashore. Bring those details to the GLCA Annual General Meeting at Kilcoo.

5. We have launched a Twitter account and should have it functioning over the next few weeks. Those using Twitter can connect with us this way as well.

Minden Flood Relief Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 15th at Pinestone

SORRY, TICKETS ARE SOLD OUT

- We are still looking for golfers and volunteers, even though we are sold out
- Special guests include *Cody Hodgson* of the Buffalo Sabres and *Matt Duchesne* of the Colorado Avalanche

The post golf luncheon will include a silent auction, 50/50 draws and other events, all aimed at maximizing our donation to the Minden Flood Relief Fund.

The province is matching all funds raised.

Contact is: Gail Kivela, Director of Golf, Pinestone Resort, Conference Centre, Spa and Golf Course

4252 County Rd. #21 | Haliburton, Ontario KOM 1S0 | Canada

p: 705.457.1800 | f: 705.457.1783



*Keeping watch on Gull River, near clergy house,
Photo shared by Doug Thompson, Minden*



*Miners' Bay beach, water to the cabins,
Photo shared by the Iley family, Sugar Island*

Gull Lake Water Quality Report

by Lake Steward, Don Drouillard

Once again I was late sampling the waters due to boat reliability issues (and personal commitments). Now that I'm retired, I better understand when people say they are busier during their retirement than in their work life.

Mike Thorne (also a member of the Lake Plan Steering Committee) came to the rescue with his luxury pontoon boat and together we sampled the usual areas of the Lake on Aug 13. (This year we also tagged the areas we sampled with a GPS reading so that we can consistently sample the same spot in the future). It was a perfect day however the weather had not been so perfect in the days preceding our sampling. (We had received a few days of rain just previous to the sampling day). Due to time constraints, we had to proceed regardless, (this was similar to conditions and timing the previous summer).

The individual data for each area of the Lake is listed in the tables below and the trend line graph showing the average of all results is shown as well. (Outliers are removed from the average but made note of in the comments). Detailed information about each area over the years is retained and if you are interested in more detail you may contact me by e-mail (don.drouillard@sympatico.ca).

Each year the MOE in Dorset receives a single lake sample from us for analysis. We report to them the secchi disc reading. (a system of measuring the clarity of the water by reporting at what depth a disk lowered into the water is no longer visible). They also analyse the Total Phosphorus and Calcium levels. (These are two of the key parameters they use to assess the health of the lake).

In addition to this 'Lake Partner' sample (which is taken mid lake, in the depths off Rackety Creek), we have taken additional samples from 5 locations on the lake. We would prefer to have all analysis done by Dorset but they will not take more than one sample from each lake as they analyse most of the Ontario Lakes. We have sent our 5 additional samples to Central Ontario Analytical Lab (COAL) in Orillia for Total Phosphorus Analysis and other parameters.

As reported last year there was a large discrepancy between the Total Phosphorus results between the two Labs. (MOE results indicated that on this parameter we were a healthy lake (Oligotrophic Status as it's called scientifically) yet COAL showed that we were a lake in danger (Eutrophic Status)).

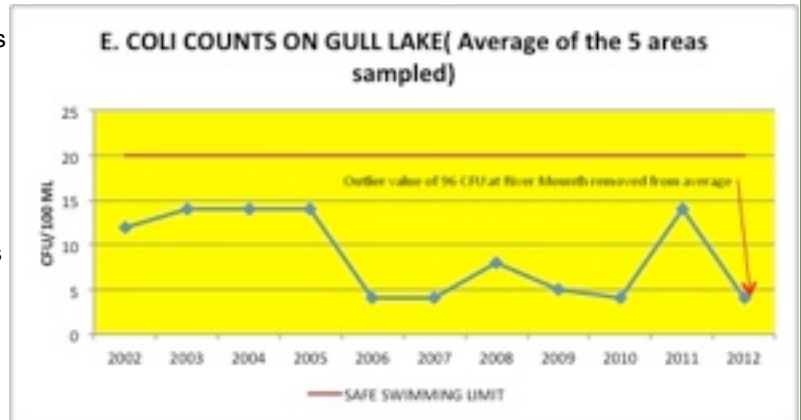
After further investigation, I compared methods (and consulted with some very smart people) and found that the method used in COAL was not suitable and inaccurate for testing the low levels in Lake water and is typically used for testing lagoons and sewage.

Through discussion with Anna DeSalles at the MOE, I was able to find another Lab that is operated by Trent University (also in Dorset) that employed the MOE method for Total Phosphorus. This lab however was not able to do any other testing for use except for Total Phosphorus and therefore for now, we have retained COAL for analysis of our other parameters.

Comments for 2012

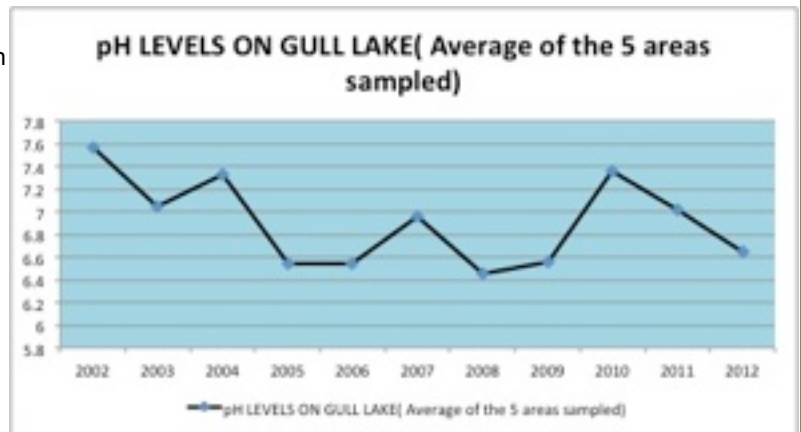
E. Coli

Very low levels (less than 4/100 ml in all areas except at the river mouth). This means that none were found but the plated volume was 25 ml and therefore they had to report it as <4/100 ml). The river mouth was 96 counts / 100 ml. (the safe level swimming limit is 20). There is no doubt that counts are always much higher in the river following a rainfall and the high counts are diluted once they enter the Lake. This is an area that we will need to investigate further.



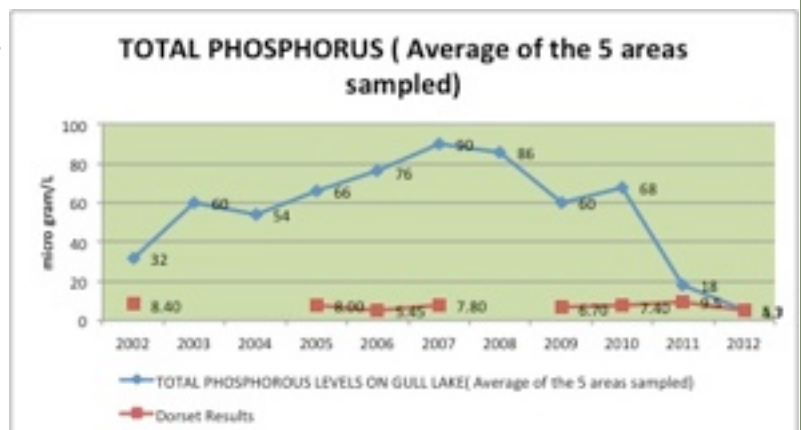
pH

Very consistent levels in all 5 areas this year. Results do not appear to be an area of concern



Total Phosphorus

Results in on this parameter are in line with what is expected for Total Phosphorus on a healthy Lake. We will continue to watch closely this parameter



The results on the blue line represent the average of the TP from 5 sample points on the Lake . I would disregard the blue line results from 2002 including 2011 as they were analysed by Central Ontario Analytical Lab (COAL) and used a method that was not suitable for low levels as found in Lake Water. In 2012, we had the total Phosphorus results done in Dorset (Trent University Lab- Joe Findeis). This Lab uses the same method as the Lake Partners analysis done in Dorset. The Red line is the Lake Partner result (average of two analysis of the same location). It appears that we now have a more accurate result that is in line with the Lake Partners results

Calcium

We are solely dependent upon the Lake Partners results in this area. Results in the past have been in the 7-8 ppm range. (well above the 2 ppm lower limit). I will post another article on the website (gulllakeplan.com) soon about the importance of calcium.

Tables of Actual Results 2012

COAL -Orillia Results (refer to Page 14)

Total Phosphorus Results (Trent University Lab Dorset)

Lab Number	Description	Date	TP ug/L
T100823-0001	Gull Lake #1 River Mouth	13-Aug-12	6.1
T100823-0002	Gull Lake #2 Gull Rock	13-Aug-12	6
T100823-0003	Gull Lake #3 Deep Bay	13-Aug-12	4.7
T100823-0004	Gull Lake #4 Lake Out	13-Aug-12	4.8
T100823-0005	Gull Lake #5 Miner's Bay	13-Aug-12	4.9

Are we a Healthy Lake? (my personal opinions)

It's hard to say. We are just scratching the surface (no pun intended) with a few quality parameters and samples. Hopefully the work being done on the Lake Plan will help answer this better. I have only been on the Lake since 2003. I've talked to many cottage owners who have grown up on the Lake and remember more fish to be caught, different water levels and much greater abundance of frogs and other aquatic life. In my 9 years on Sandy Bay, I've seen an increasing level of silt. What effect will the silt have on the fish spawning areas? Even at high water, the depth at the end of my dock has been reduced by 2 or three feet. Will this area become a marsh in another 10 years?

Why do we measure Total Phosphorus?

Phosphorus will promote abundant plant growth. That may sound like a good idea but plants die and when they decay they take oxygen from the water and leave sediment. Algae blooms will also occur (some of them toxic). When oxygen gets too low, the fish and other species begin to die. Other species less dependent on oxygen take over. We can help limit the phosphorus by use of proper septic systems, refraining from tossing yard waste into the lake or river and tastefully naturalizing the shoreline (this provides a buffer zone to filter runoff). Please take advantage of the shoreline naturalization program (in it's last year due to government cutbacks) to order plants bundles for spring planting before the end of the year. (as posted separately on the gulllakeplan.com website). There is an abundance of free information available at the local MNR office.

Water Quality and the Lake Plan

We have engaged in a partnership through u-Links. We are pleased to have Emily Grubb (4th year Trent Environmental Studies student) assist us during her related studies. On Oct 13th & 14th, Emily with the assistance of myself and Bruce McClennan has done an initial benthic sampling of the Lake. This is a sampling and analysis of the 'bug life' on the shoreline. Their presence and numbers is another important indicator of the health of the lake. In addition, Emily will research all existing data of our Lake to monitor the trend lines , comment on our 'Trophic Status' and make recommendations on what key quality parameters we need to monitor in the future. Her report will be one part in helping us in the formulation of the Lake plan.

A big thank you to Emily for her efforts with our GLCA Lake plan!

We look forward to hearing your report.



Follow up Areas

- Investigate daily results of waste water treatment plant
- Additional sampling of River Water for e-coli
- Further benthic studies
- Oxygen Survey of the Lake
 - Dissolved oxygen is very important to the survival of Lake Trout. Lake Trout require a minimum of 7 ppm dissolved oxygen in the depths where the fry seek protection from other species (with hungry appetites). Some testing was done by students at the University of Toronto Survey Camp this past summer which revealed some readings below that threshold. High phosphorus results can contribute to reduced oxygen levels but that did not seem to be the case at the time we sampled. We must continue to try to minimize phosphorus, but it is possible that climate change may also play a significant role in lower oxygen levels. Warmer waters have a reduced solubility for oxygen and this summer was a hot one. Although we can't as individuals readily make an impact on climate change, we have to act on those things that we have some control over and that is protecting our shoreline (the kidney's of the Lake) and being very respectful of what we put into the lake and watershed.

Where Have All the Fish Gone?*by Don Benson*

Throughout the Highlands people who fish are reporting smaller catches, smaller fish and fewer fish seen on fish finders. Some experts are forecasting the total collapse of the recreational fishery in Haliburton County.

We know that the major causes of this decline is lower oxygen levels in our lakes due to nutrients such as Phosphorous leaching from septic systems and the loss of natural shorelines which would normally absorb these nutrients before they reach the lake. Another major cause is the loss of fish habitat as we "clean up" our shorelines. But there is another reason.

In the early 1990's an individual had a pond stocked with pike near the upper end of Kushog Lake. A heavy rainstorm caused the dam to collapse, releasing the pike into Kushog Lake.

Twenty years later the pike have spread downstream through Boshkung, Twelve Mile, Mountain, Horseshoe, Minden and Gull lakes, all the way down to Balsam Lake and probably all of the Kawartha Lakes. Heavy catches of pike are being reported at Hastings at the east end of Rice Lake. They can and have also spread upstream, where they do not have to cross a dam into lakes such as Beech, Maple etc.

The food for pike is any other smaller fish such as rock bass, smallmouth bass, smelt, whitefish and smaller lake trout.

If you had poor fishing results this summer, the booming pike population is likely one of the culprits rather than your skill as a fisherman.

The M.N.R. recommends targeting pike to reduce their numbers. As there is no minimum size restriction, any pike caught should be kept. They are reported to be good eating.

If you fish please report your observations to your lake steward.

And remember one of the leading fish experts in the world is coming to Haliburton next spring to speak at the CHA's annual meeting on May 25th.

Author Don Benson is a former member of both the MNR Advisory Committee and the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council. He is chair of the Environmental Committee for the CHA

Extending the Five Lives of a Five-lined Skink*by Ruth E. Walker*

Skinks are not salamanders or short snakes with four legs. Skinks are lizards found throughout North America. A Haliburton skink has five stripes from nose to tail but those stripes fade as the skinks get older (kind of like our memories). Male skinks have bright orange jaws and chins.

These small ground dwellers have "Species At Risk" status in Haliburton County. So, in the interest of species conservation, here are Five-Lives Tips for our friends the skinks:

1. Always avoid exotic pet hunters: You are Ontario's only lizard and you better hide when unscrupulous folk try to satisfy lizard-loving terrarium owners;
2. Keep a low profile around dogs, cats and raccoons: you are busy predators, snacking endlessly on insects, worms or even other invertebrates but you have to watch out for the "big guys".
3. Stick to rocky outcroppings in mixed forests of conifers and deciduous trees: loose rocks provide you with nesting and food sources but this habitat also has great hiding spots when needed (see #1 and #2.)
4. Teen skinks should wear camouflage: unlike tattoos, you juveniles have bright blue tails that fade as you age. Sassy teen skinks know those tails detach when pounced on by predators.
5. Wear a sign that says: I'm A Species At Risk in Haliburton County.

I guess the skinks won't be reading this newsletter. If we want this Species At Risk to survive and thrive, it is up to us. Those cute Inukshuks all over Haliburton County? Those are skink habitats you are messing with. "THINK SKINK" before you move protective loose rocks on the ground.

Ruth E. Walker is an award-winning Ontario writer and has a cabin tucked between the Burnt and Drag Rivers in The Haliburton Highlands. She is an active member of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust.

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is a volunteer-led, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization and registered environmental charity. Its mission is to protect the natural heritage of The Haliburton Highlands for future generations. Visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca for more information.



Articles provided by

Brief History of Miners' Bay Church

by Russ Wunker, Miners' Bay Lodge

The Miners' Bay Church is located on Lot 17 Concession VII of Lutterworth Township. Lutterworth was named for the market town in Leicestershire, England, home of reformer, John Wycliffe. One of the earliest settlers was David J. Galloway, who had kept a store in Norland in the 1870's and moved to Miners' Bay where he established a store and saw mill. He became Miners' Bay's first post master in 1908 when what is now the old farm house known as #5 served as residence, post office, and store.

By the 1870's, settlers were moving into Lutterworth despite its inhospitable terrain. The Minden Echo stated that, "We have begun to think of the Township of Lutterworth as the banner township, not because it is better settled or more productive, but because of the class of settlers that till its stubborn soil."

The community of Miners' Bay continued to grow. By 1881 Lutterworth School #6 had been constructed. It still stands about one mile north of Miners' Bay on the old highway. In 1906 a decision was made to establish a Baptist church. Galloway sold an irregular lot, along the Cameron Road, measuring approximately sixty by seventy feet and comprising about one eighth acre. The deed registered August 31, 1906, in consideration of \$25.00 payment, listed William Williams, Joseph Valentine, and Joseph W. Valentine as Trustees of the "Miners' Bay Regular Baptist Church". The structure was constructed by local craftsman, Joseph Valentine and Duncan Prentice. Valentine also constructed the Lutterworth "Moore's Falls" School which is located on Green Gables Road.

Throughout the next two decades, Baptists, and other visiting clergy – some holidaying at Miners' Bay, – conducted services. During the Great War, fundraisers were held in the church yard to assist the troops. After WW I the local population around Miners' Bay decreased as logging declined and many moved away from the poor farmland to seek jobs elsewhere. By the mid 1920's the Miners' Bay Church was in decline.

In 1926, J. Enos Windsor came to Miners' Bay under the direction of the Shantyman's Christian Association which ministered to lumbermen and their families. As a summer missionary, he reopened the church for seasonal services, which have continued to be held most years ever since. On October 13, 1928, Joseph Valentine, being "the only surviving trustee" conveyed the church and lot to the Home Mission Board of the Baptist Convention.

Reverend Windsor continued to vacation at Miners' Bay for the next four decades. In 1935, the Wunker family began to attend Columbia Methodist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio where he was minister. In 1938 the Wunkers moved to Canada, took over the Bay View Hotel and renamed it Miners' Bay Lodge. They secured formal permission to organize and conduct services at the Miners' Bay Church and have done so for almost six decades.

Still owned by the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, services are held throughout the main summer season and at Thanksgiving. Miners' Bay Lodge and interested guests maintain the church, having re-roofed the structure on three occasions, and provide ongoing maintenance, insurance, and pay all expenses.

In the fall of 2011, the historic pressed tin interior was totally restored. It had deteriorated badly and private contributions received over a 15 month period brought it back to its original beauty.

Non-denominational services are held at 7:45 each Sunday evening during July and August, and at Thanksgiving. All are welcome, and individuals from Gull Lake and the surrounding area often attend.

Interested visitors can obtain a key, and a copy of the church bulletin which includes the history and a couple photos, if they drop by the office. Many folks stop by each season.



Private Road Liability Workshop

Presented by the SDLCA

July 6th @ 9:00 am till noon
 Irondale Community Centre
 Cost: \$10 per person

Many members of Lake Associations access their cottages/homes over Private Roads. Increasingly there can be issues re the use of these roads.

CHA Member Association Salerno/Devils Lake Cottagers Association has organized a workshop to bring their members and CHA members up to date on these issues.

Here are some highlights of the issues they will be addressing:

- Would cottage owners be liable for an accident on a private rd.? special concerns: children (esp. on ATV's), contractors)
- Cottagers who use a private road but refuse to pay their road dues. This is an issue that in extreme cases has been resolved in court. It is a concept known as 'undue enrichment'
- If cottagers have deeded access, is the possibility of being sued shared by all? – what about cottagers who do not support the paying of road dues?
- What is the best/economical way for private road owners/cottagers to protect themselves against law suits?
- Does it help to post: "Private Rd - Use at Your own Risk"? or using a gate?

If you are interested in attending please contact SDLCA President Doug Rodger at elpresidentesdlca@gmail.com

Paul MacInnes – Chair



<http://www.cohpoa.org>

Upcoming CHA meetings 2013

Holy Smokes we are busy!

Date	Meeting	Location	Start time	Registration needed
May 25th	Where have all the Fish Gone – with Dr Casselman	Stanhope Firefighters Hall North Shore Rd	9:30 a.m.	Yes
May 31st	Septic Inspection Day	Community Room Haliburton Funeral Home	9:15 a.m.	Yes – waiting list Also need to register for the optional lunch separately
Sept 21st	Lake Stewards Mtg	Fish Hatchery	9:15a.m.	Yes
Oct 5th	CHA AGM	Stanhope Firefighters Hall	9:15 a.m.	yes

In addition the CHA/HHSC Decision Maker Information Series continues with Professor Barb Elliot's Presentations on the Importance of Natural Shorelines to our 4 local councils –

- Completed - May 9th - 10:00 a.m. Minden Hills Council Chambers
- May 16th - 9:00 a.m. Algonquin Highlands Chambers
- May 27th - 9:00 a.m. Dysart Council Chambers
- June 4th - 10:30 a.m. Highlands East Chambers

These meetings are open to the public – if you can come to one or more of these I am sure you will enjoy it. **Your Attendance shows our Councils that there is interest in these topics**



SERVICES AVAILABLE:

Need work done at your cottage this summer?? Odd jobs, painting, light construction, landscape work.....the possibilities are endless. I am 27 years old, just returning from working in Southeast Asia and looking for work on Gull Lake this summer. I am available after July 8th. Please contact Chris Elliott at 705-286-4547 (cottage), 905-844-5260 (home) or 647-408-4547 (cell).

GullLake Newspapers delivers weekend globes and stars to your dock by 9 o'clock. Sugar island's Jacob and David Flaherty ensure a dry paper to all parts of the lake including islands for you to enjoy.

Contact David Flaherty at gulllakenewspapers@gmail.com or call 905-975-4260.



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2013 GLCA Membership Renewal Form

Members Information

Cottage address: _____

Please Print

Primary Member Name: _____
 Spouse's Name: _____
 Cottage Phone: _____
 Cell Phone: _____
 Email address: _____

Home Address: _____
 Postal Code: _____
 Home Phone: _____

Associate Member Name: _____
 Spouse's Name: _____
 Cottage Phone: _____
 Cell Phone: _____
 Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____
 Postal Code: _____
 Home Phone: _____

Please check:

Primary Members:

_____ \$50 dues
 _____ \$10 hard copy of newsletter
 _____ donation

Associate Members:

_____ \$20 dues
 _____ \$10 hard copy for newsletter
 _____ donation

The Lake Plan Steering Committee has requested a list of GLCA member email addresses to communicate information directly. To decline (opt out) of the GLCA providing your email address check here: _____

If paying by cheque please include this form along with your cheque to:
 GLCA Treasurer, 145 Fairlawn Ave, Toronto, ON M5M 1S9

Those members opting to renew online by PayPal, through our website, this form is not required.

Membership Class:

Primary Membership:

Primary Membership holder is able to exercise a voting right on all motions to members, and attending all functions year round. Primary Membership includes spouse and all minor children

Associate Membership:

Associates Membership holders enjoy all the benefits of primary members, but are unable to cast a vote on motions put forward. Associate Membership includes spouse and all minor children.

2013 Membership Dues:

Primary: \$50
 Associate: \$20
 Additional \$10 for hard copies of Newsletter mailed to you.

All 2013/2014 membership dues include the \$10 lake plan assessment (2012 AGM)

Donations greatly appreciated!

PayPal service fee of \$1.75 added for online renewals.

WWW.GULLLAKECOTTAGERS.COM

CENTRAL ONTARIO ANALYTICAL LABORATORY

4260 Burnside Line, R.R. #4
Orillia, ON L3V 6H4
Tel: (705) 326-8285 Fax: (705) 326-9316
www.coalab.ca

Date: 2012-08-13
Sampled: 2012-08-13
Collected By: Don Drouillard
Name of Facility: Gull Lake

Number of Pages sent:	1
Number of Samples Sent:	5
Number of Samples Received:	5

Date & Time Received:	Temp. Received (°C):	Receiver Initials:	Date & Time Incubated:
2012-08-14 10:40	5.7	MH	2012-08-14 12:00
F.S. Date & Time Incubated:			

Report to: Gull Lake Cottagers Association ATTN: Don Drouillard

Address: 59 Barwick Dr. Barrie, ON, L4N 6Z5

Copy To:

Telephone: 705 739-8177 Ext: Fax: Scan & Email

Email Address: don.drouillard@sympatico.com

Comments:

Identification of Sampling Location			#1 River Mouth	#2 Gull Rock	#3 Deep Bay	#4 Gull Lk out	#5 Miners Bay	Tech
Temp (°F) & Time Sampled			69					
Parameter	MDL		Lab Number	Lab Number	Lab Number	Lab Number	Lab Number	
			S-13609	S-13610	S-13611	S-13612	S-13613	
pH	mg/L	1.00 - 14.00	6.69	6.60	6.66	6.65	6.67	AV
Turbidity NTU	mg/L		0.56	0.47	0.51	0.40	0.47	AV
Total Phosphorus (P)	mg/L	0.01						
Colour Apparent	mg/L	1	7	5	6	8	7	AV
Colour True	mg/L	1	1	2	3	3	3	AV
E. Coli	per 100ml	4	96	4	<4	<4	<4	LJ
Secchi Disk			15"	17"	18"	17"	17"	

MDL = Method Detection Limit. Analysis performed by qualified analysts. Results relate only to the samples submitted. COAL is accredited in specific microbiological parameters by SOC and licensed by MOE. COAL accepts no responsibility for parameters selected, this is the responsibility of the submitting agency.

Analysis Date: 2012-08-14 Performed By: AV Audit By: TJ
Analysis Date: 2012-08-15 11:00 Performed By: LJ Audit By: GD Methodology: MP CPU100ml
Analysis Date: Performed By: Audit By:
Analysis Date: Performed By: Audit By:

Transcribed By: KH Transcription Verified By: TJ/JT Fax Authorized Release By: TJ/AB Scan & email 2012-08-15

Lagron Release Copy Data Sheet, 8002, 05-21, Revised/AT Revision 2008-10