



# TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION

Group Box 129, Temagami, ON | P0H 2H0 | (705)237-8927 | Fax (877)281-4687  
[tla@onlink.net](mailto:tla@onlink.net) [www.tla-temagami.org](http://www.tla-temagami.org)

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## Temagami Lakes Association Annual General Meeting

Friday July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 10 a.m.

The 82nd Temagami Lakes Association Annual General Meeting was held at Camp Wabun

**Greetings:** TLA President Chip Kittredge began the meeting by welcoming members and guests. He thanked Camp Wabun for allowing the meeting to be held at this site. Chip introduced the following guests: Deputy Mayor Lori Hunter and Temagami First nation Chief Roxanne Ayotte.

Lori Hunter thanked the TLA for their letter of support on budget matters and discussed the financial challenges of budgeting and keeping taxes low. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and housing has approved the Official plan 5 year review. Our Mine landing transfer station is not in compliance with Ministry of the Environment regulations as there are bear and open garbage issues. The Municipality has hired an attendant to bring the town into compliance with the MOE. Check with municipal staff or John Harding, landing attendant, if there are any questions. A request for enhanced fire protection on Lake Temagami resulted in the formation of a fireboat committee – ad hoc committee of council to look at a number of issues such as training, education and liability insurance... This committee has a draft plan that includes public consultation. The draft plan is available on line or at the municipal offices and this issue will be discussed at the September Town Council meeting. Public input is encouraged.

Roxanne Ayotte, chief of the Temagami First Nation reported that two band members were nominated for Diamond Jubilee Awards: 93 year old Tom Seville, the last WW II veteran as well as Vickie Blake, who is very involved in volunteering in the community and is Finance Manager of TFN. Chief Ayotte also reported on a project with young First Nations people being out on their land, n'Dakimenan, taking care of it and participating in cleaning portages and campsites on several surrounding lakes. As well a number of TFN children have received scholarships to various camps on Lake Temagami, including Camp Wabun.

### **Introductory Remarks and Quorum Confirmation.**

TLA President Chip Kittredge again thanked members for taking time out of their holiday to attend the meeting. TLA member Kelly Roman's Master's thesis on lake associations in Ontario reported that the average lake association has 140 members and \$5000 in the bank while the TLA has over 600 members, is 80 years old and has significantly more money in the bank. Chip concluded that the TLA is a lasting organization that has stood the test of time.

Chip reported on the many initiatives that the TLA is working on including: lead weight sinkers can be exchanged for non-lead sinkers at the TLA building to protect against loon mortality; mercury testing project; maintaining campsite monitoring and privy projects and of course our very significant water testing program. The work of the organization is accomplished largely through volunteers with their time or financial support. Chip thanked all the volunteers who make the organization a success.

Peter Healy thanked Blake and Judy Stormes for helping with meeting proxies and Diana Van Vlymen and Andrew Healy for facilitating member registration at the meeting.

A quorum was confirmed.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Dan O Mara moved to approve the agenda with one addition of mercury testing. Steve Drake seconded. Carried.

### **Adoption of the minutes of the 2012 AGM**

Russell Tuckerman moved to approve the minutes of the 2012 AGM. Mary Soper seconded. Carried.

### **Introduction of Directors**

President Chip Kittredge introduced the members of the board present: Peter Calverley, Tim Richardson, Andrew Healy. Unable to attend: Ted Tichinoff, David McFarlane, Gerry Kluwak, Justin Metz and Will Goodman.

Chip thanked executive secretary, Peter Healy for 'making all things possible.' Chip also recognized previous presidents in attendance: Andrew Healy, Vince Hovanec, and former directors Boyd Matchett, Jack Goodman, Jim Dow and Carol Lowery.

### **Resolution 1: Approval of 2012 Financial Statements**

Peter Healy, standing in for Treasurer David McFarlane reviewed the 2012 financial statement. He pointed out that the directory sold \$3000 worth of advertising, compared to the cost of \$7300 to print and mail the directory to members. As for the Temagami Times, the TLA took in \$17 000 in advertising while it costs \$22000 to produce and mail the three issues of the Temagami Times. This publication is sent to all property members within the Municipality.

Under Income: Water Quality, the TLA received \$2700 in donations, while \$15 000 was spent on water testing. Peter thanked members for their donations. At year end the TLA was \$6000 under budget.

It was moved by Steve Drake and seconded by Dan O'Mara to approve the financial statement. Carried.

**Resolution 2:** It was moved by Carol Lowery and seconded by Allan Eustis to approve the actions of the Directors and Officers since commencement of the 2012 AGM. Carried.

**Resolution 3:** to amend the By-Laws to allow the current president Chip Kittredge to serve one additional year, from Sept. 1, 2013 to Aug. 31, 2014 only, as Director. Peter Healy spoke for Ted Tichinoff who was unable to attend.

From Minutes TLA Board Meeting of April 24, 2013: Moved by Gerry Kluwak and seconded by David McFarlane that pursuant to section 43 of the governing, the bylaws be amended to extend the elected term of one director, Chip Kittredge, that for an additional year in order to permit him to sit as president of the association,

if nominated and elected in September, for that one additional year. Carried. (Chip Kittredge secluded himself from the meeting while this matter was discussed and voted on)

After some discussion regarding this being a once only occurrence it was moved by Russ Tuckerman and seconded by All Eustis to approve this one time amendment to the by-Laws. Carried.

### **Committee Reports**

**Municipal Taxation:** Peter Healy reported that in Ontario every employee contributes a per cent of their paycheck towards OMERS pension unlike in the USA hence municipalities in Canada do not have unfunded pension liabilities as do cities in the USA. . All property owners received new assessment notices. Those who live in town for the most part received an increase in property assessments. For those with property on water most assessments went down indicating a significant decrease in taxes. The TLA thanked the Municipality for responsible budgeting.

**Natural Resources:** Members are asked to please report sightings of loons, loon chicks and nests so the information can be sent to Bird Studies Canada.

Director Tim Richardson's son Murray has started a mercury testing program at Carleton University. Members are asked to pick up a testing kit at the TLA office to test mercury levels in fish they are catching. Mercury comes from bedrock, especially in acid lakes, although the pollution contributing to acid rain has been reduced in the region over the last decade.

**Planning and Tenets for Temagami:** Andrew Healy reported on the TLA's reviewing of planning applications and understanding of planning and related issues. He thanked Gerry Kluwak who is co-committee member and Peter Healy for assistance in understanding planning issues.

Andrew reviewed the tenets: Protection of shoreline reserve; No new road access; No new mainland development. These principles, agreed to in early 90's prior to amalgamation, were integrated into the official plan for Temagami so all new development has to take the tenets into account. The tenets Defense Fund is available in the event of a challenge to these tenets.

There have not been significant changes to the rules agreed to in the 1990's and the status quo is working. The TLA supports this status quo and has supported the Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw review in writing. Each application for a minor variance is reviewed by the planning committee. If there is a need for more consideration, a professional planner is used to assist with TLA input to the town. We do try to maintain as impartial a position as possible as applicants are often our members or neighbours.

**Q&A:** Jack Goodman asked about the MNR restriction of sale of crown land on Lake Temagami and as this is a trout lake. Has there been any change in council abiding by this MNR ruling?

Andrew replied that the policy where there are no new crown lots that are to be disposed of is still in place. Official plan that allowed 5 new lots per year no longer applies because of the cold water trout lake policy TLA countered in writing.

**Water Quality:** Peter Healy, Diana Van Vlymen and Adam Tretjack, our summer students working for the TLA, have been working on the environmental water testing initiative. Diana gave a slide show overview of how the

water testing is done. 43 locations throughout the lake have been tested this summer in May and will be retested in early August. Results will be posted on our website.

Turbidity, ph, total phosphate and dissolved oxygen are being tested at depths up to 75 metres. Trent University's Dorset laboratory analyzes the water samples for us.

**Water quality results:** Temagami does not have a high level of phytoplankton and has exceptional clarity relative to most lakes. The ph is 7.4 compared to 7.8 last summer. Ph is higher in summer than in spring due to higher phytoplankton levels in summer. As water temperature decreases, dissolved oxygen increases. Total phosphate is a major indicator of water quality. Total phosphate levels are quite low indicating overall health of the water specifically 4.1 micrograms/litre compared to 4.3 in 2012.

Algae levels can throw off the balance so it is important for human users to reduce phosphate inputs. Some ways this can be accomplished include: replace and upgrade old septic systems, use phosphate-free soaps and do NOT use fertilizer on plants – there are plenty of indigenous plants that grow well in the region. The swimming, canoeing and fishing that we all enjoy greatly depends on high quality water.

This very ambitious water health testing initiative began with the hiring of an environmental consultant to help set up this water health testing initiative. We believe our water quality initiative is a very impressive undertaking to protect our lake water quality.

Q&A Ann Gardner asked if Diana's report could be added to the website. Peter Healy agreed.

**2012 Lake Temagami Water Levels** – Peter Healy, who sits on an advisory committee with representatives from First Nations, MNR, Ontario Hydro, Federal Government, lodge and cottage owners associations reported on water levels on the lake and how water is drawn out of the lake. A full report and data is available on our website.

**Q&A** Jack Goodman: Are water levels controlled by satellite and remote control? Should we send someone down on a snowmobile to check on the monitoring as his dock level troubles have increased in recent years? Peter answered that there are on the ground recording stations and they are monitored remotely. There are weekly visits to the dam for checking. Recent flooding situations downstream add to the complications of maintaining water levels over a wide region.

How close does the committee monitor how much water levels are taken out in the spring? MNR has a full time employee monitoring water levels.

**Friends of Temagami** – Bob Olajos VP of Friends of Temagami, an environmental backcountry advocacy group, attended along with Mike McHugh, Secretary of the organization. Friends of Temagami focus on the backcountry in a wide region around Lake Temagami. They have been working with others on the world's largest old-growth red pine forests in the Wolf Lake area, trying to encourage the provincial government to protect this region. This is a very significant region for biodiversity in North America. The TLA is both a member and supporter of F of T.

Bob thanked the TLA for their support. The average Temagami canoeist spends \$75 a day and 7 days in the region contributing about \$9 million to the Ontario economy, showing that there is important economic activity in these recreational activities. FoT is now working with a 6 person crew to restore the trails on Temagami Island, with a permit from MNR. The Blue trail will be worked on this year and others in following years. Bob asked for volunteers who could contribute some time to assist. Hiking the trails should be ready after next Friday.

A new adventure planning map has been released by Friends of Temagami and is available at the TLA building. Bob encourages all TLA members to have one of these maps on their wall.

**Temiskaming Health Unit** – Rene Duvall and Doug Metson reported that they take water quality very seriously. The Health Unit has partnered with the TLA on the drinking water sampling initiative. Water samples will be tested by the health unit. If members have questions, please call Rene at the New Liskeard office. Water samples must be “treated” water rather than raw lake water. Boiling lake water -a rolling boil for 1 minute –is a safe option for drinking lake water untreated.

Doug Metson reported that one of the biggest problems on Lake Temagami is steel septic tanks. These allow raw sewage to seep into the lake. Records of septic systems are in file back to 1962 and all properties on the lake are under their jurisdiction. Doug offered to answer one-on-one questions of members today and at the corn roast tomorrow. A health inspector will also be available at Saturday’s corn roast.

**Temagami Police Services Board – OPP** - Don Johnson, a member of the police services board, reported that Lori Hunter is chair of Police Services board. He introduced Dan Dawson, Temagami Detachment Commander. Don spoke about break and enter crimes on the lake. Some motion cameras have been installed and have successfully apprehended theft and breakups in progress. These crimes take up a lot of policing time and seem to be committed by the same offenders who usually get sentences of 2 years less a day. When released from jail break-ins begin again. One suggestion is to place gas and alcohol in a protected hiding place in the bush. Identify any large items by engraving your driver’s license number on the item. This acts as a huge deterrent as police can immediately check these numbers. The OPP has 2 engraving tools to lend and there are a couple at the TLA office.

Peter Healy checks more than 140 cottages each year. This year there were several break-ins that were obviously searches for gasoline near the shoreline of properties.

### **New Business and Motion to Adjourn**

Peter Healy thanked Camp Wabun and its directors for their continued support of the TLA and hosting the meeting. The kitchen staff was thanked for providing lunch. Blake and Judy Stormes were thanked for looking after the proxies and Trish Healy for taking minutes of this meeting. Debbie and Sandy Nixon were thanked for providing their pontoon boat for organizing for today and tomorrow event. Peter thanked Chip Kittredge for his excellent work as President.

President Chip Kittredge thanked Peter Healy for his work as Executive Secretary and his assistants Diana Van Vlymen and Adam Tretjack for their work at the TLA building and water testing program.

Dan O Mara offered Ducks Unlimited banquet tickets to be held in Temagami August 10<sup>th</sup>. He expressed concerns about fire protection on the lake and encouraged members to attend the public input meeting on August 8 at the Temagami Municipal Building at 3 p.m. to provide input especially regarding insurance and liability and the possible acquisition by the town of a fireboat.

Chip once again thanked the membership for their presence at this meeting and their ongoing support for the organization and welcomed all to stay for the buffet lunch.

Motion to adjourn was made by Dan O Mara, seconded by Mike Bloomfield. Carried at 12:14