



Shoreline News

Fall 2018

STEENBURG LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message

by Pat Stallaert

To say that it has been a busy and unusual year, would be an understatement. We knew going into this year that this would be a municipal election year, but what we had no idea of was that the McBride Mining Program would pose such a serious threat. The latter sent many of us on a rampage as we gathered information, made contacts, and prepared a defense against the greatest threat ever to challenge our community.

Though the fight is far from over, there are signs that we are on the right track, and that proponents of the Pancon - McBride Mining Project will have to think long and hard before proceeding with their exploration and development plans. The mountain of evidence pointing to this mine being a very bad idea is growing daily, and so too are the number of people who see it that way.

Results in the recent municipal election give us further reason for optimism that this mining issue and other important issues in our community will get the attention and priority they deserve, but we will all have to work together with elected officials to make this happen. In the end, it will be our strength in numbers, and our collective determination to protect the land we love, that will make the difference.

We cannot take the luxury of a hiatus over the coming winter months. We must keep the pressure on and the momentum growing. Just because the McBride exploration work is temporarily halted, we cannot afford to sit idle. We need to continue to build our case and win over those in a position of authority who can put an end to this madness, once and for all. Our short term goal is to stop this current mining proposal, but our long term goal is to make sure that these sensitive wetlands are forever recognized and protected as the essential environmental areas that they are.

Our membership numbers are up considerably this year which is great, but we need to do more than just be a member! Get involved. Become part of the conversation. Attend meetings whenever possible, and follow the discussions. We will do our best to get the information to you, but then it is up to all of us to use that information and make it count!

Your SLCA working with other lake associations and with the Limerick Area Conservation Coalition (LACC) will help drive the narrative on these and other important issues we face, but in the end, it will be your many voices that will carry the day.

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Photo Contest Winners



Mark Dunn - Nature



Melissa Menard – Life at the Cottage

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AGM Update

by Pat Stallaert

This year's Annual General meeting was held again at the Tudor & Cashel Community Centre on Weslemkoon Lake Road, as we received much positive feedback about this venue and its proximity to the lake. There was a large turnout as word of the McBride Mining project quickly spread through our community.

Usually, we would hold the formal part of our meeting after any guest speakers, but because that topic was sure to generate a lot of discussion, we started off with reports from all our Executive members.

Opening Remarks

In my opening remarks, I reiterated that because of some confusion with the date when the SLCA first began, this is not our 60th anniversary year as previously believed, but rather our 64th. Given that the number 64 didn't seem overly significant, our SLCA Executive decided at the Spring Executive meeting to hold off any special celebrations until next year when we reach our 65th year milestone. This will also give us all a chance to consider some new events and ways to help celebrate this remarkable achievement.

Financial

Our Treasurer, Dave McDonald again advised that the SLCA is in a very strong financial position. As of the time of the meeting, we were reporting a small loss as most of the income from membership had yet to be turned in and deposited, but this is the typical scenario we face at this time each year.

Municipal Affairs

Nancy Kelly, our Municipal Affairs Director, covered a number of events scheduled in the two host townships over the coming months. As far as happenings at the municipal Councils, Nancy reported that Limerick Township had sent a letter through their legal counsel, to Tudor and Cashel Township, inviting them to enter into discussions aimed at establishing a common maintenance agreement for Steenburg Lake South Road, with the ultimate aim of providing year round service to that road. In the spring, Tudor and Cashel Council voted to decline this offer from Limerick Council and maintain the status quo with regards to the South Road.

Nancy also covered off a number of changes affecting this year's municipal election. That voting would be by online and telephone only, as well as a number of new regulations governing Third Party Advertisers, that would affect how groups like the SLCA could discuss issues and share opinions on candidates and their platforms. The candidates running in both townships were listed, and two candidates who attended our meeting were given a brief opportunity to introduce themselves: Bob Bridger who was running for Councillor in Tudor and Cashel, and Carl Stefanski who was running for Reeve in Limerick.

Merchandise

Because of changes in how the SLCA markets items like branded apparel, these items will only be available at the key events around the

lake like the annual Beach Regatta and BBQ, the AGM, the Artisans of Steenburg show and the annual 5 km Fun Run. Special orders will be suspended until further notice.

Lake Stewardship

Maria Kaczmarek introduced herself as the new Acting Lake Steward, and was acclaimed to that position as there were no other volunteers. She described early results of water quality testing as being consistent so far with past years. She also advised that she had successfully applied for and received funding from FOCA under their Aquatic Invasive Species program, and that some technical experts will be visiting our lake this summer to test for invasive species including zebra mussels, and then produce a detailed report.

Membership

Diane Burke, our Membership Chair, confirmed that as of the AGM, we had 150 paid members of the SLCA and thanked the many canvassers who volunteer their time to help distribute information and collect membership fees which form the lifeblood of this association. The Brown family was also recognized as 50 year members of the SLCA and presented with a certificate.

Social

Given that we still do not have a volunteer to act as Social Committee Chair, I reviewed the many fine events available to members this year, and encouraged anyone with ideas on what we could do next year to help mark our 65th anniversary, to step up and let us know. In addition to ideas, we also need volunteers to help run the events, and a Social Chair to bring it all together.

Newsletter

As Melissa Stallaert will be stepping down as Editor of our Shoreline News, that position is also open for volunteers. And I reminded the group that we have many fine sponsors who deserve your consideration when searching for services and products they may offer.

SLCA Elections

There were no new volunteers for any of the vacant positions on the Executive committee, so Maria Kaczmarek was acclaimed as Lake Steward and Diane Burke agreed to carry on as Membership Chair for a second term. Positions still vacant are Vice President, Merchandise, Newsletter Editor and Social Chair.

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was Monika Nikopoulos, a property owner on highway 62 who met with Dr. Derek McBride and was given a full tour of the mining exploration camp. She was the one who sounded the alarms and went door to door to all the properties in the area to let them know what was going on. There was much concern and discussion about what action the SLCA should take. In the end, it was suggested that volunteers use Facebook to communicate information about the mine, and no further action was required at that time. See the article on the McBride Mining Project later in this newsletter for an update on what has happened since the August 5th AGM.

Let's Try This Again...

Last fall, we incorrectly reported that the Steenburg Lake Community Association was incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the Province of Ontario in 1958. In reality, the Letters of Patent were only registered in 1974, but that the association first began in 1954, and that Warren Lloyd was our first President. That means that the SLCA actually turned 64 years young this year. Your SLCA Executive felt it best to defer or celebrations until next year when the SLCA reaches its 65th birthday. Accordingly, the following two great contests have ben extended!

Send your submissions to merchandise@steenburglake.com by April 30th, 2019.

Help develop a new logo for our SLCA merchandise...

and

Help come up with a new slogan for the special celebrations by completing the phrase:

*"Steenburg Lake Community Association –
65 years of ..."*



CONTEST!



Fall Fire Safety

by Pat Stallaert

As the temperatures drop along with the last leaves of autumn, it is worth repeating that the dangers of fire and asphyxiation from carbon monoxide go up!

Make sure that your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detectors are functioning properly, and have fresh batteries. Check the dates to ensure they are not expired.

If you heat with wood, make sure that your chimney is cleaned regularly to avoid dangerous creosote deposits that can cause chimney fires that compromise the chimney and spread quickly through the dwelling's structure.

Keep combustibles away from fires and heat sources, and always keep all access to the outdoors free of clutter.

If you heat with electricity, make sure cords are not damaged, don't use extension cords, and be careful not to overload circuits. Never put in a larger fuse or breaker just because the load exceeds the capacity of that circuit.

Never store combustible liquids and gases like gasoline or propane indoors.

Never leave candles or lanterns unattended.

Follow all local fire regulations regarding outdoor burning. No open fires before 7:00 PM. Burn barrels must be covered with metal screens with no larger than 1.0 cm openings.





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Membership Report

by Diane Burke

What a fantastic summer – great weather and great member events!

This year we had a tremendous response to membership with 181 paid members, representing an 86% participation rate. Thank you for your ongoing support. The dues allow us to provide numerous events throughout the cottage season, provide water quality and invasive species testing, ensure that hazard markers are placed in the lake, enable us to be part of FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations), print and mailing of our bi-annual newsletter, host our annual general meeting as well as ensure we have funds on hand when necessary to provide advocacy services and assistance in support of our lake.

We welcomed many new members this year. Please join me in welcoming Jill & Dustin Watson (#183), Salina Bruni (#47), Matt Dunn & Maribeth Fitts (#119), Alex and Kaitlin Parker (#132), Carl & Mary-Lou Stefanski (#208), Gary and Debbie Tweedy (#45), Jean Wong (#34), Eric & Tracy Emory (#53), Jill and Dan Frydrych (#65) and Francs & Corie Twilt (#209). We know that you will enjoy being part of our active community.

Also, we had two families celebrate their 50 year membership. Congratulations to Steve & Glenda Brown and Ernie and Marilyn Galloway.

Thank you as well to all of our canvassers – Patrice Simmons (new), Amy Fletcher (new), Heather Lloyd (new), John Harnett, Margot Withey, Wendy Butler, Pat and Heather Stallaert, Elaine McCarthy, Christina Candy, Janet Vander Ploeg, Wendy Rudd, Dave McDonald, Susan Bridger, Bill and Carol Landon, Brendan Cameron, Cathy Wilson and Eileen Walsh. Your assistance and support are truly appreciated. I also want to thank Chris Langman for her past assistance.

We donated \$1 to our local fire department for each membership paid electronically (PayPal or e-transfer) and a cheque was recently presented in the amount of \$55.

Thanks again for being a member and supporting our lake and community. Have safe and happy winter!

Now, in addition to Paypal, you have the option to pay your membership fees online by

e-transfer through your bank...

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<http://forms.steenburglake.com/Membership.html>

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EXHILARATION!
STeenBURG LAKE

Steenburg Lake community supporting local youth

BY KRISTENA SCHUTT-MOORE
Staff

The Steenburg Lake Community Association hosted its third annual golf tournament on Saturday, Aug. 18. Normally this event is held for the lake community to get together and have a fun day out on the green. This year however they added a new aspect to the festivities.



The Steenburg Lake Community Association's Golf Committee present North Hastings Children's Services with a \$1,215 donation for the children's centre. From left, golf committee members Janet and Karl Sobotka, NHCS executive director Jessica Anderson, NHCS childcare coordinator Della Rogers, golf committee members Cathy Wilson and Ken Deboo. /KRISTENA SCHUTT-MOORE Staff

On Wednesday, Aug. 22, the golf committee of the association presented the North Hastings Children's Services with a \$1,215 donation from the funds raised at the golf tournament. Roughly 50 golfers were at the event and all helped raise the funds for program supplies at the children's centre.



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Municipal Affairs Report

by Nancy Kelly

Another glorious summer is over and we're into fall. Road maintenance across the province is finishing up in time for everyone to close up the cottage and head home for the season; until next spring, with a new update on how to frazzle nerves on a time sensitive weekend.

Many in our community are purchasing their Shoreline Road allowance. Check with your municipality for what is required.

T&C have approved a RedBox installation from the Canadian Diabetes Association at Millbridge Park for Textiles Only Recycling. It should be installed in another month.

The 2018 municipal election is over and soon to be a distant memory. Internet voting went well & was easy. Both Townships used *InteliVote*. Congrats to those who ran as candidates in the election and to those who won. They represent us. We can't vote on every agenda item, we trust they will work in our best interest.

Thank you to township Clerks, Bernice and Jennifer, the unsung heroes of elections and township business. Big job and they know their stuff. Compliance with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs is not an option.

Limerick had a close election race for Reeve: Carl Stefanski beat out Michael Douglas-Hecker by just three votes, proving once again, that every vote counts. All four Councillors, Glenn Locke, Igno Weise, Jan MacKillican and Kim Carson were acclaimed at the close of nominations.

Tudor & Cashel has just had former Councillor Libby Clarke become Reeve and a near complete change in Council. The only re-election was Noreen Reilly. Past Roads Supervisor, Ron Carroll was elected Deputy Reeve. Former Deputy Reeve, Thomas Boyd Walker & former Reeve Wanda Donaldson, who ran as Councillor, went down in defeat.

Limerick Council's next meeting is November 19, and Tudor & Cashel will meet November 6th, 2018.

Oct. 15th, Bancroft OPP issued a press release. Fraudulent e-mails have been going out requesting fundraising money for candidates. If you have, or know someone who has been a victim of this crime, contact info is below.

OPP Bancroft 1-888-310-1122 or <http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=132> or *OPP (*677), **Crime Stoppers** at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) and at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/start.htm>

Now, the South Road. T&C previously classified the road as Class 6a & 6b. It's not a private road as they now claim & residents living on the road year round should expect emergency egress, to and from. T&C former council approved a \$1.2M upgrade to Weslemkoon Lake Road last year. The previous Limerick Council extended an invitation for talks regarding the South Road and Tudor & Cashel said no with reference to the "Status Quo".

Winter is coming...!

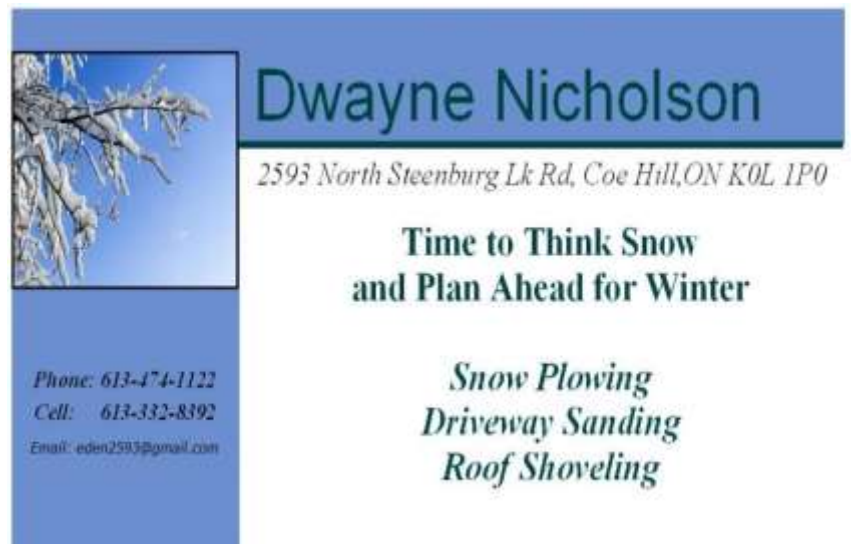
As the leaves fall and the temperatures drop with them, it's probably a good time for a reminder that if you enjoy visiting your cottage off the South Road in winter, please contribute to the snow plowing that makes year round access possible.

Contact :

Jim Tanner or Ken Deboo

(Email addresses are available at

www.steenburglake.com/MemberList.html)



Dwayne Nicholson

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In any emergency, always call 9-1-1 first

1. Tell them exactly where you are located (remember your ER address number) and what the emergency is
2. If you suspect a possible Sudden Cardiac Arrest, you can tell the operator that an AED is located on the lake and someone is being dispatched to get it.
3. Have the casualty lay down with the head elevated slightly if possible.
4. Stay with the casualty and monitor for consciousness, breathing and pulse. If there is no breathing and no pulse, perform CPR.
5. If possible, have someone meet emergency responders at your driveway.
6. Contact the **Cochranes** at (613) 474-3167 and arrange for the quickest pick-up or delivery of the AED. Mike is a trained member of the Emergency Rescue crew.
7. If there is no answer at the Cochranes, or if you know they are away, contact their neighbours **Karl and Janet Sobotka** at (613) 334-6145 as they will have access to the AED when the Cochranes are away. Karl and Janet are also on the Emergency Response team.



Remember that although this AED is easy to use with full audio instructions that guide you through its use, there is no substitute for adequate CPR training in an emergency.

Also, familiarizing yourself with the device's use prior to any emergency is highly recommended. Please review the manufacturer's video located on our website at:

www.steenburglake.com/AEDinfo.html

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"Let's Talk Real Estate"

Social Corner

by Pat Stallaert

Despite the lack of a Social Director this year, your SLCA team, along with the usual organizers, contributors and volunteers, managed to put on a full slate of events this past summer. They seem to be quite popular as all the events were very well attended.

Thanks again to the Coties for hosting their wonderful Have-a-dock Jamboree. And thank you also to the Cochranes and their volunteers for putting another great Canada Day fireworks event.

The Beach regatta was another great success. Thank you to the Burkes for making up wooden paddles as prizes, and the Little family for running the events.

Thank you to Dave McDonald and Kevin Newman for organizing our Roadside Clean-up efforts along the North and South Roads.

Thank you to Lynn Rusaw for organizing and for the Sobotkas for hosting the 3rd Annual Artisans of Steenburg show, and to all the exhibitors who took the time to share with us their passions.

Thank you to all who showed up at one of best attended Annual General Meetings in years.

Congratulations to the organizers of the 3rd Annual Steenburg Lake Golf Tournament.

And last but not least, thank you to Christiane Langman and volunteers for keeping the tradition going with the 11th Annual 5 km Fun Run.

If you have ideas and want to volunteer to run a new event next year, particularly for our 65th anniversary, or if you can help fill the void of Social Director to help coordinate all these great events, please don't hesitate to contact any member of your SLCA Executive Committee.



Roadside Clean-up



Annual Beach Regatta and BBQ



11th Annual 5 km Fun Run



3rd Annual Steenburg Lake Golf Tourney

Lake Stewardship Report

by Maria Kaczmarek

And just like that, another summer season has come and gone! Being a student makes the fall season bittersweet, and I'm sure some of you can still relate or recall the feeling. Thankfully, however, our lake remains beautiful year round and offers a great escape from all the work at anytime.

As mentioned in the Spring newsletter, I have continued participating in the Lake Partner program to measure phosphorus and calcium levels. Water samples were taken at the end of May and sent to the Lake Partner Program in Dorset. Water clarity tests were done monthly, and were also sent to Dorset. Results of these water quality tests will be published on the Lake Partner program website in November (www.desc.ca/programs/lpp).

Our lake, furthermore, had the great opportunity to participate in the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) Aquatic Invasive Species Program. Invasive species are one of the top threats to our aquatic ecosystems, threatening local economic opportunities, enjoyment of our waters, and testing the integrity of the natural environment.

As Lake Steward, I submitted a report about my concern of zebra mussels, as well as other invasive species, in our lake to hopefully receive some funding. Although our lake has participated in the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) recognition project and tested negative, it has been observed, through the Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System of Ontario (2016) and a study conducted by Ted Schaner in 1990, that there have been 4 cases of veliger zebra mussel found. Through this project my goals included to understand correct identification of zebra mussels, expand monitoring programs to the Crowe Valley Watershed, and increase local awareness, among others (*my full report can be found on the SLCA website*). Our association was among the few across Ontario that received funding towards such a project.

On August 11, 2018, another volunteer and I met with two experts and conducted a field visit, via watercraft, to 9 different sites on our lake. As a result of this visit, the invasive species, Eurasian Watermilfoil, was detected, as pictured in **Figure 1**. Due to past historical evidence, Zebra Mussels, pictured in **Figure 2**, were noted in the report, however, there were no actual sightings of the mussels on this day.



Figure 1. Image of both submerged (predominantly Eurasian watermilfoil) and emergent (white water lily) in Steenburg Lake.



Figure 2. Image of a Zebra Mussel.

I was notified by the experts, that if well established in a lake, that Zebra Mussels are widely visible and would be found colonized on soft surfaces such as docks, boats, break walls, and beaches (as pictured in **Figure 3**). The only reason they were mentioned in the final report were that sources note a history of this species being found in Steenburg Lake (*the full report can also be found on the SLCA website*).



Figure 3. Image of colonized zebra mussels on a dock in Green Lake, Minnesota.

Eurasian watermilfoil is a widely known invasive submerged freshwater plant across North America. I'm sure most of you recognize this plant and have gotten tangled in it at least once. As populations of this plant frequently cover large areas, it is rarely economically feasible to treat the entire area. On Steenburg Lake, however, various native insects were spotted with the non-native plant, which have the ability to feed on Eurasian watermilfoil and have been considered the biological control of the exotic plant. Among the native insects, therefore, it is essential that we continue active monitoring and spreading awareness in order to keep our lake in a healthy state.

In the report's final recommendations, we were encouraged to continue monitoring and educating cottagers on invasive aquatic plants, fish and invertebrates. Among the standard recommendations, such as cleaning your boat and gear before and after entering the water, draining all standing water by pulling the plug on your transom and live well at boat launch before you leave.

(Lake Steward's Report... continued from page 12)

Some new recommendations included:

- Choosing native and non-invasive species when gardening
- Leaving trees and plants along as natural landscapes offer the best defense
- Uploading invasive species distribution information to EDDMapS Ontario
- Organizing members and volunteers to perform periodic monitoring

I, therefore, encourage all members to keep an eye out for any unusual species they may notice, as it is our collective responsibility to care for Steenburg Lake. Some useful resources with more information about guides to Invasive Species include the *Shoreline Owner's Guide to Invasive Species* (FOCA), *Ontario Regulated Species List*, and the *Invasive Species Overview* (FOCA) which I have listed below.

Useful Links:

Shoreline Owner's Guide to Invasive Species (FOCA):

<https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species-guide/>

Ontario Regulated Species List: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/stop-spread-invasive-species>

Invasive Species Overview (FOCA): <https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species/>

Works Cited:

EDDMapS Ontario, 2006. Species Distribution Maps. EDDMapS.org, www.eddmaps.org/ontario/distribution/

Schaner, Ted, 1990. Detection of Zebra Mussel Veligers in Plankton Samples Using Sugar Solution. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Lake Ontario Fisheries Unit 1990 Annual Report, LOA 91.1 (Chapter 6).

The full FOCA AIS report for Steenburg Lake is available online at:

www.info.steenburglake.com/reports/SLCA - 2018 A.I.S. FOCA Report.pdf

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Financial Statements for Our Townships

by Dave McDonald

Probably one of the last things that the average person would ever be inclined to do is to go to a municipality's web-site and look at its financial statements. However, that is what I am about to encourage people to do. These financial statements are easily accessible on the web page, and provide valuable information about the municipality's financial position, and how its funds are being spent, among other things.

You don't need to be a financial wizard to review these and get useful information. There are four main components to the statements:

- Consolidated Statement of Financial Position: reports on assets, liabilities, and surplus
- Consolidated Statement of Operations: reports on revenues, expenses, and results for a reporting period
- Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets: explains the difference between the annual surplus (or deficit), and reports on acquisition/disposal of capital assets, and purchases or use of inventory
- Consolidated Statement of Cash Flow: provides details on changes in cash, identifying where cash came from, and showing how cash was used

For our purposes, as taxpayers, we are most likely to be interested in the Statement of Operations, to look at how the revenue that was generated from our taxes is being spent. Here are some high level figures showing the main source of revenue and some of the more significant expense categories for the past two years for both townships, side by side for comparison purposes:

The notes to the Financial Statements provide further information about what these categories mean:

General Government – activities of council and general management of the township and its programs and services

Protection Services – police, fire, conservation authority, and protective inspection and control

Transportation services – construction and maintenance of the township's roads and bridges and winter control

Environmental Services – waste disposal and recycling services

Health Services – operations of the cemeteries and transfers to the local medical centre

Recreation and Cultural Services – indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and library services

Beyond this there are several other schedules which break these numbers down into different categories, such as salaries and benefits, materials, contracted services, amortization, etc. However to go into further detail on these would be beyond the scope of this article.

There will sometimes be unusual situations which may arise and cause large fluctuations in certain line items, and to show these figures out of context may be unfair. There should be a valid explanation for any substantial increases or decreases from one year to the next.

I encourage people to look at these statements and get an idea how their tax dollars are being spent. If you have any issues with items in the statements, you can always contact your local elected representative; they should be held accountable for how your hard-earned dollars are used.

	Tudor & Cashel		Limerick	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Revenue				
Property Taxation	1,148,950	1,124,329	1,017,777	1,037,344
Expenses				
General Government	377,987	355,461	314,037	323,097
Protection Services	422,254	317,655	282,163	295,033
Transportation Services	902,757	829,131	968,576	700,966
Environmental Services	143,505	33,389	66,819	78,520
Health Services	19,554	23,032	369	697
Recreational and Cultural Services	42,359	32,787	54,194	64,993
	<i>* all values given in \$</i>			



Pancon – McBride Mining Project Update

by Pat Stallaert

Chances are by now, you have already learned of the most recent threat to our lake, the Pancon – McBride Mining Project. Just to be sure we are all on the same page, here are the details of what has been going on and where things stand today.

Background

Pancontinental Resources Inc., a small mining exploration company headquartered in North Carolina, but with Canadian offices in Vancouver and Toronto, entered into a new option-based agreement with Hastings Highlands Resources in April of this year, to explore and potentially develop an 880 hectare (2,174 acre) site in Limerick Township. They refer to it as the McBride Mining Project, named after the geologist and project lead, Dr. Derek McBride. If that name sounds familiar to any of you who have been on the lake since 2003 or earlier, it should. This is the same individual who in 2004 and 2005, and again in 2010 to 2012, tried to develop the property. In 2004, McBride was then partnered with a company called Limerick Mines, a small Toronto Based exploration company, and later in 2010, with a larger Agave Silver Corp. based out of Vancouver.

But exploration of this area actually began in the mid to late 1960s, when Macassa Mines first staked and explored the area. Historical reports which included approximately 100 separate core drillings, gave early indications of a potentially large, low-grade nickel, copper and cobalt deposit in an area just south of highway 620 and east of Old Hastings Road. The property was never fully explored because the relative market values of the ores did not make them viable, but the recent surge in global cobalt prices, coupled with limited supplies from and instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo (the area where 60% of the world's cobalt comes from), has lead speculators in the electric vehicle battery market to take a closer look at Canadian based sources of these metals.

What are the Concerns?

There are many concerns with a large mining project, but specific to this proposal, are the concerns over possible impacts to both surface and ground waters in the area. The property in question is situated in mostly marshes, wetlands and light forests, less than a kilometer north west of Steenburg Lake. This area is recognized as a significant refresh area for streams and ground water, and forms part of the headwaters to the Crowe Valley and beyond. Surface water from the area flows south into Steenburg Lake via a number of small streams and south west towards Dickey Lake via Nicholson Creek.



In addition, the area provides wintering grounds for deer and moose, and includes habitat for many species of birds, reptiles and plants, many of which are on the endangered species list. These include, but are not limited to Blanding's turtles, Hog Nose snakes, Whipper Will birds, and American Ginseng plants.

Although the company is reluctant to specify what type of mine might result, all indications point to a very sizeable open pit mine, and because the ore is so dilute, huge volumes of waste rock and tailings could be produced. The rock is known to contain sulphides, which form sulphuric acid when they come in contact with air and water. Not only would effluent streams be toxic, but the acid would further leach heavy metals from the rock it came into contact with, making the effluent even more toxic. Mines like these typically involve massive tailing ponds which frequently leak or fail completely, allowing millions of tons of contaminants to flow downstream destroying everything in their path.

If these were not enough, then there are concerns over the effects these operations could have on ground water and the many wells that residents in the area rely on. Even the very act of drilling for core samples has been known to affect flows and quality of groundwater, to say nothing of the vast quantities of water most mining operations require.

Then there are concerns over the blasting and resulting dust that would most certainly occur should a mine be developed. And since there are no longer any railways in the area, concentrate removed from the site would have to travel by local roads and highways to get to a refinery far away.

Current Situation

Although Dr. McBride appears to hold the claims in a combination of crown lands and private lands, and reportedly have exploration agreements with a number patent land owners (owners of both surface and mineral rights), he failed to give proper notice to other land owners on whose land they may have trespassed when re-establishing exploration grid lines.



Pancon held a public information meeting on Sunday September 9th at the Limerick Community Centre. The meeting was originally planned for September 5th, the day after school started up, and most seasonal

residents would be far away. If you have read any of the many media reports or watched the CHEX Peterborough news segment that reported on the meeting, then you will likely already have heard that the hall which holds 125 people was packed way beyond capacity with nearly 300 people in attendance. Those who could not fit in the main hall, stood out in the hallway or leaned in through windows to try and see and hear what was being said.

The meeting lasted just over three hours, and the residents in attendance quickly lost patience with representatives of the company as they tried to placate the crowd with pathetic stories of their own experience with cottaging. It was clear from the prepared presentation slides that the company had no intention to release much detailed information.

Chief James Marsden of the Alderville First Nation was in attendance and spoke at the meeting. He told representatives of Pancon that they were not properly consulted on this project, and as such, they remain opposed to it.

Mr. Ugo LaPointe of [Mining Watch Canada](#), was also present at the meeting and gave an excellent presentation on the many hazards and impacts of mines like the one being considered here. He pointed to the huge amounts of waste rock and acid generating tailings that such a facility would produce and have to manage, in perpetuity after the site closed down, and gave numerous examples of cases in Canada where such tailing ponds leaked or failed outright. Mining Watch Canada issued their own scathing [press release on September 10th](#), and also released a [detailed report on the McBride Mining Project](#) concluding that it is not a viable project on so many levels.

Layton Croft, President and CEO of [Pancon](#), introduced their newly hired Environmental Engineering firm, and in a press release on September 11th, promised that all exploration work would be halted until after a baseline environmental report was completed, and consultations with First Nations were had.

What has been done to date?

A small group of volunteers including Monica Nikopoulos, and a few area residents as well as members of the SLCA had to work quickly to organize a defense against this threat. A remarkable amount of work was done in a very short time. This included the creation of the [MineStopper.com](#) website, established and sponsored by the SLCA, as well as the [Limerick Area Conservation Coalition \(LACC\) Facebook](#) page and twitter account. An online petition on [Change.org](#) was established and already has over 2000 signatures. Hardcopy petitions have been in circulation since September 9th, and are available at a number of local businesses in the area. A donation page has also been established at the popular [GoFundMe.com](#) website. LACC has also distributed and mailed out flyers to all addresses in the area, and launched a letter writing campaign.

LACC has chosen to remain a smaller, grass roots organization, while existing lake associations in the area have come together to share resources and strategies, and cooperate on combating mining projects in this area. So far, this includes the SLCA, Shawano Ratepayers Inc. (Dickey, Pearch, Lost and Lake of Islands Lakes), Limerick Waterways Ratepayers Association (Limerick, Mephisto and St Ola Lakes), Tri-Lakes (Robinson, Brinklow and Spring Lakes), Thanet Lake Cottage Association, Crowe Lake Waterway Association, and Wollaston Lake Home and Cottage Association. Lead by your SLCA, many of these associations have already issued resolutions officially declaring their opposition to this mining project.

Going Forward

Your SLCA will continue to work with these other lake associations to strengthen our position against this mining project, and we will continue to work with the LACC where it makes sense to. We continue to work with Mining Watch Canada as they advocate for responsible mining in Canada and around the world. We will work with new municipal governments as well as provincial and federal representatives and concerned ministries, to bring to light the many reasons why this is not a suitable area for a large mining operation.

What Can You Do?

Although the temptation for many at this time of year is to put all things about the lake aside until next spring, that is not acceptable this year as long as the threat of a nickel, copper and cobalt mine still exists. McBride will have to renew his Exploration Plan or apply for an Exploration Permit in early May of 2019 with the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines if they are to continue work in the area. We intend to intervene and show cause why such a permit should not be issued.

1. We invite all our members, their family and many friends to visit and follow the [LACC Facebook page](#) and review the many articles and videos that have been assembled there (Hint: Though we do hope you take the time, you don't actually have to read or watch all the videos. Just clicking and opening the links raises their relevance on the internet...). This type of internet traffic raises the relevance of these negative mine articles, and makes it more likely to discourage investors who search for Pancon or the McBride Mining Project. This needs to be ongoing in order to keep the relevance of these articles and videos high.

If you haven't already done so, please sign the [online petition](#), and share it with all your friends and family. We are hoping to reach 10,000 signatures before spring.



Links:

www.minestoppers.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LACCMineStoppers>

<https://www.change.org/p/legislative-assembly-of-ontario-protecting-the-limerick-area-and-the-crowe-valley-watershed-conservation-area-from-mining>

<https://miningwatch.ca/news/2018/9/10/first-nation-citizens-oppose-pancontinental-resources-mining-project-sensitive>

Financial Report

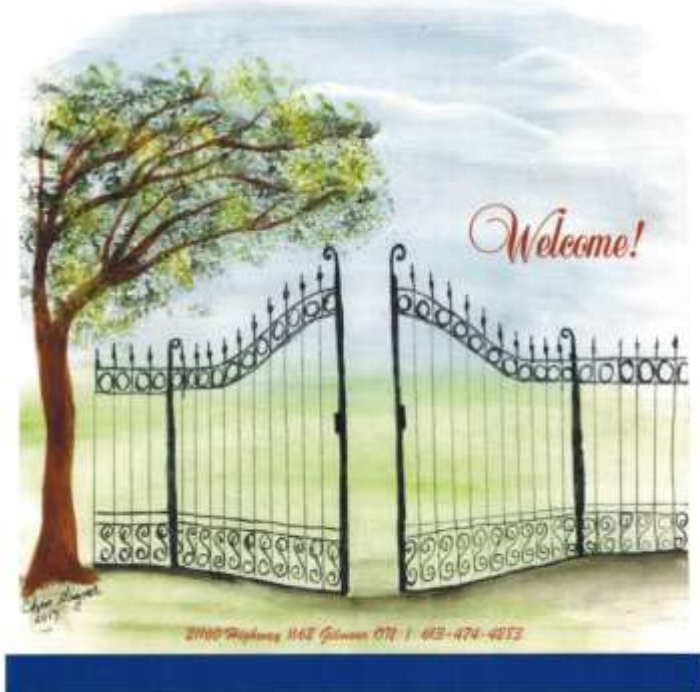
August 31, 2018

by Dave McDonald

2017-2018 was another very good year as far as the SLCA's financial results are concerned, we finished the year with a very respectable profit of \$2,862, mainly due to our continued efforts to contain expenses while still offering the same level of services and activities.

Membership Fees increased significantly over the prior fiscal year 2016-2017 (by \$330) with a very high percentage of residents on the lake being SLCA members. AGM/Regatta and Fun Run expenses were lower than the prior year, Member Handout costs were lower due to bulk purchases of supplies that were made in 2016-2017, and in 2017-2018 we did not have the large cost in our results for the AED purchase. Offsetting these favourable changes, Merchandise Sales profits were down by \$636. Expenses for 2017-2018, with prior year figure in parentheses, were: Merchandise Costs \$927 (\$1,729), Fun Run Expenses \$490 (\$607), AGM/Regatta \$415 (\$559), FOCA Dues and Expenses \$648 (\$698), Insurance \$1,684 (\$1,659), Newsletter \$1,300 (\$1,163), Members Handout \$81 (\$268), Bank/PayPal Charges \$83 (\$80), Rock Markers \$377 (\$250), Donations/Gifts \$154 (\$71), Web/Webcams \$525 (\$436), and Community Investments \$0 (\$1,695).

Further detail on our financial results is always available upon request to SLCA members. Please feel free to reach out directly to treasurer@steenburglake.com with any requests for details, or with any questions or comments



High time...



to have this conversation!

On October 17, 2018, the federal government of Canada made the simple possession and use of cannabis, legal in Canada. Each province and territory in Canada will have the right to set regulations controlling where it can be purchased and how it may be used, but you as a property owner also have rights as well as obligations with regards to the use of cannabis on your property, just as you can set rules regarding the consumption of alcohol, or smoking of tobacco products.

As a property owner, you have the right to prohibit the use of any of these substances on your property. As a property owner, you also have a responsibility for any of your guests as well as tenants while they are on your property.

You may wish to consider this where the use of any of these three categories of substances is concerned. Many people already prohibit guests or family members from smoking in their homes. For fear of sounding like a prohibitionist, you may wish to consider rules regarding the use of any or all of these substances at your cottage, particularly while you are not there to supervise or enforce common sense and good judgement.

If you rent out your property, consider adding rules regarding things like smoking, drinking and consumption of cannabis inside your cottage or even while on your property entirely, and make these very clear from the onset to anyone looking to visit or rent your cottage. Though it may be difficult to enforce, stipulating such rules may save you considerable grief down the road should there be an unfortunate incident arising from the use of these substances. Your insurance company may also question your efforts to avert a potential problem, should it become necessary to submit a claim as in the case of damages or a fire, and as we should all keep in mind, fires can spread quickly and affect large areas, especially in rural and forested areas.

As stated earlier, you have both a right and an obligation to exercise some control over the behaviour and activities your guests and tenants engage in while on your property. Part of this includes exercising some common sense and controls to ensure that their behaviour does not interfere with the enjoyment of your friends and neighbours on the lake.

The Cottage Bookshelf

Review by Dave McDonald

The Colony of Unrequited Dreams

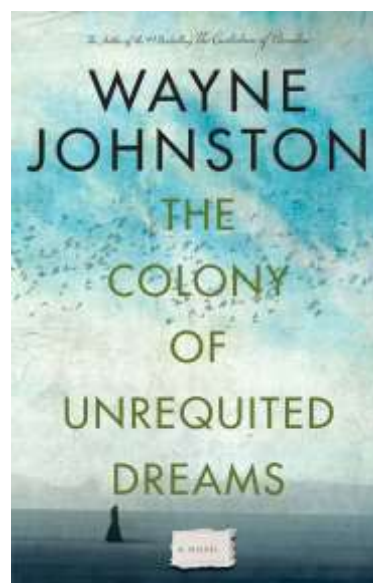
By Wayne Johnston

I've always had a fascination with our tenth province, Newfoundland and Labrador, despite having no direct connection with it. The idea that a nation would willingly surrender its sovereignty and join with a neighbouring country seems extremely rare when you look at world history. But then, there have always been those who claim that the vote was rigged, and the outcome was very close, at only 52.3% in favour of confederation. I've read several books about Newfoundland, both fiction and non-fiction. One of my all-time favourites is *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams* by Wayne Johnston, published in 1998. It's one of the few books which I've read a second time and will most likely re-read again.

This book is historical fiction, as it follows a fictionalized account of the life of Joey Smallwood, father of Newfoundland's confederation with Canada. Smallwood was born into a poor family in Gambo, Newfoundland, the oldest child in a large family. An uncle paid the tuition for Smallwood to attend Bishop Feild School in St. John's, which sets the scene for a fictionalized relationship with a female student, Sheilagh Fielding, at the affiliated girl's school. This relationship continues throughout the book and there are many interesting and entertaining letters written by her to Smallwood, always titled *Fielding's Journal*. After leaving Bishop Feild, Smallwood sets out on various career paths, the first being as a journalist. Eventually he decides to leave the island and see more of the world and sets out for New York City where he spends five years before returning home. While living in New York he becomes a committed socialist, and there are some amusing stories about him speaking to crowds there. This would most likely be where he picked up his considerable oratorical skills. Smallwood was driven and applied himself wholeheartedly to any endeavours he got into. Upon his return to Newfoundland, one of the causes he gets involved in is the unionization of the island's railway workers. He does this by setting out to walk the entire length of the main line and all the offshoot branch lines to meet with the workers. Another interesting part of the book is the story of the time that Prime Minister Richard Squires was chased from the Colonial Building by an angry mob, and the involvement in it of Smallwood and Fielding. There are many such tales throughout the book which keep it from being dry despite being basically a work of history.

Throughout the book are brief historical excerpts from *Fielding's Condensed History of Newfoundland* which provide a lot of good historical information about the country/province and help put the events of the book in perspective. Overall, it's a very educational and entertaining book which I would highly recommend. The intriguing character Sheilagh Fielding surfaces again in a later Johnston book titled *The Custodian of Paradise*.

The Cottage Bookshelf is a regular feature of your Shoreline News. Feel free to submit your own reviews and recommendations to Newsletter@steenburglake.com.



ISBN: 978-0-307-37468-4



The above items were retrieved out of our lake this fall at a point near the Headlands. The white plastic jug was likely used to denote a rock marker in the off season which broke loose and sank. The rest are clearly remnants of party activity, which was then carelessly discarded in or near the water. Come on people!!!

Cottage Cookbook

Submitted by: Heather Stallaert

For years, the only way we ever thought to serve Brussel sprouts was to boil or steam them, and then serve them with a cheese sauce. Last year, our youngest daughter showed us a recipe to grill them in the oven, and we have never looked back! This recipe is so easy, it barely qualifies as a recipe at all, but here goes...

Brussel Sprouts are delicious and nutritious, and readily available in late summer and fall.

Roasted Brussel Sprouts



Preparation: Take fresh Brussel sprouts, as many as you need for the people you are serving. Wash lightly in cold water and drain thoroughly. Remove any outside leaves that are yellowed or damaged. You can leave them whole, but we like to slice them in half from the stem to the crown so that they are more or less symmetrical. This allows the flavors to penetrate inside the leaves, and cuts down slightly on the cooking time.

Toss the halves sprouts in light olive oil until fully coated but not drenched, then season them to taste with salt and pepper.

Lay sprouts out on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper (cut face up).

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place on middle rack for about 20 minutes, or until they start to turn slightly golden brown, and soft when pierced with a fork.

If you wish, you can garnish them with a bit of grated parmesan cheese before the last 5 minutes in the oven.

Remove from oven and place in a serving dish.

Feel free to submit your favourite cottage recipes to:

Newsletter@steenburglake.com

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Continued...

Photo Contest Winners



Joanne Burghardt - Landscape



Shawn Nevins - Kids



Gloria Belton – Short Video



www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihykkVojqQ



Around the Lake...

