



# THE NEWSLETTER REDSTONE LAKE COTTAGERS' ASSOCIATION

Spring/Summer 2009

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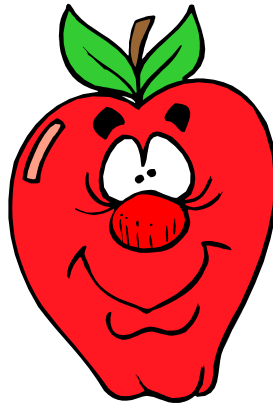
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# President's Message

## Greetings and Report on Board Activities

By Shal Gewurtz - June 2009



Greetings to all you Redstone'ians. I hope you had a great winter wherever you spent it. Maybe it's my imagination as I get older, but everyone says that this past winter was the worst ever for snowfall. I thought that was the winter before. But like me, I am sure all of you are glad to feel the warmth of the sun again and are looking forward to the coming spring and summer seasons at our wonderful lake.

When the winter issue of the RLCA Newsletter was published a few months ago, I was still a wet-behind-the-ears President, and so I used the opportunity in that Newsletter to introduce myself and spell out my goals during my watch. Now I feel like a veteran, and I think that's because I and your Board of Directors have been very busy with a full slate of interesting and important activities.

Before I summarize the work of your Board, I want to thank all the directors for their commitment and dedicated service. Although some directors have shouldered responsibilities for certain areas and deserve specific recognition for their work, as I hope to do adequately when I summarize their progress below, all the directors were active participants at meetings and through emails. One innovation was to hold Straw Votes via emails so that urgent or deadline issues could move forward between meetings. On several occasions, I apologized to directors because I worried that I was flooding their inboxes. So my heartfelt thanks go to each director, and please keep up the great work. All the Directors are listed at the back of this Newsletter, together with our Committees, so please take a moment to re-familiarize yourselves with who they are. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Al Cole for his long service on the Board. Al has decided to take a breather from the Board in the coming year, and I am hoping it's only a temporary sabbatical.



Theresa Kim cut her teeth as Newsletter Editor with the previous issue, and with this issue, she too is now a veteran. In this issue, Larry Cousins, is starting his stint as a tough Assistant Editor, with special responsibility for keeping authors "honest" (I know from experience, having felt the sting of Larry's sharp editing pen). Incidentally, Larry is also the Vice President, so he can keep me "honest" in that capacity as well. Judy Cole continues to ably look after advertisements and merchandizing, which provides considerable funds for our association. Judy is assisted by Cathy Lancia, who is also the Board's Secretary and through her minute taking, Cathy (and sometimes Judy) keeps us all "honest".



John Anderson, assisted by Aline Huleva, successfully ran the auction of RLCA's 3 fire pumps last summer, and generated more than \$2,100. In case you missed the rationale for auctioning the fire pumps, announced at the 2008 AGM and also in the previous Newsletter, the Board was concerned about a general misconception that the fire equipment could be used to fight cottage fires. Also, it was impossible to adequately educate the membership on where the equipment was and how to use it. Finally, we have no liability insurance coverage for fighting fires.

Sue Armstrong, our Treasurer and Membership chair, is doing a superb job keeping us on a sound financial footing. Starting last Fall, Sue began to explore setting up PayPal on the RLCA website as an option for RLCA members to pay membership dues electronically. This is now in place, as you may have noticed if you have visited our website recently. Instructions are included on our website, and the transaction fee of \$1.50 which is added to a member's payment is very modest and well worth it for those who want the convenience of paying electronically. Of course, Sue still likes getting cheques, so please don't be shy about sending her your 2009 membership dues. Our modest \$25 annual membership fee is very reasonable, and provides unmatched value of belonging to the Redstone Lake environment that we all love.



John Jackson continues to anchor (no pun intended) the Lake Steward role, and everyone looks forward, not only to his report at the AGMs but also to the questions and discussion that he generates. Come and hear John at this year's AGM on July 11<sup>th</sup> when he talks about Secchi Disc testing for water clarity, phosphorus levels, spiny water fleas, and zebra mussels, all of which are thankfully low or non-existent in Redstone's waters. As president, I am supposed to know everything, right, so I have recently learned that the Redstone Lake system is oligotrophic, which means a very low nutrient level and a healthy lake. The Board recently decided to reward John with a pH tester to enable him to broaden his testing of our lake. Through John's efforts, RLCA continues to participate in the MOE - FOCA Lake Partner Program, which is a province-wide, volunteer-based, water -quality monitoring program. The goal of the program is to protect the quality of Ontario's inland lakes by involving citizens in a volunteer-based water quality monitoring program. Volunteers collect total phosphorus samples and make monthly (minimum 6) water clarity observations on their lake using a Secchi disk. So John Jackson is a very busy guy, and I emphasize, a volunteer doing this on your behalf. The information from the program will allow the early detection of changes in the nutrient status and/or the water clarity of a lake due to the impacts of shoreline development, climate change and other stresses. You can check out Redstone's results by going to the following links: For total phosphorus results, the link is: [http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/water/lake\\_partner/LakePartnerTotalPhosphorusData2005.pdf](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/water/lake_partner/LakePartnerTotalPhosphorusData2005.pdf) , and for water clarity results, the link is: [http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/water/lake\\_partner/LakePartnerSecchiData2005.pdf](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/water/lake_partner/LakePartnerSecchiData2005.pdf) . Even if you are not interested in the scientific data, these links provide latitude and longitude locations, and I'll come back to that when I discuss our work on the map (See below).

For the past year, Aline Huleva has worked diligently on a Lake Planning Pilot Project to develop a lake planning tool. You saw a brief report by Aline about this initiative in the last Newsletter, so let me provide an update. This initiative has been carried out under the auspices of the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council (HHSC) and the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA), with financial support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The aim was to have common tools for lake planning and creative approaches to effectively tackle community planning in cottage country. This high profile activity was just completed, and the launch of the FOCA Lake Planning Handbook for Community Groups took place at the FOCA Annual General Meeting on March 7, 2009, with Ontario's Minister of Natural Resources, the Hon Donna Cansfield, on hand to show support for this important initiative. The Handbook is available to all FOCA member associations, and RLCA has its copy. You may remember that lake planning has been on RLCA's radar for several years with Keith Beard leading us in the preliminary steps of gathering relevant lake planning data through an innovative questionnaire. Now that the Lake Planning Tool is available, your Board recently resurrected the Lake Plan Committee to consider using the tool to develop an effective lake plan for Redstone Lake. This Committee is currently composed of Aline, Keith, and Fred Saunders. I should mention that the Municipality of Dysart et al is following our initiative with interest.



Aline continues to act as our Municipal Liaison to keep track of what's going on in the Municipality of Dysart et al. She is our "eyes and ears" for municipal affairs, and we can always count on Aline to maintain contact with municipal officials and let us know of council events in the early stages.

Aline also represents RLCA in discussions, beginning in May 2008, with representatives of all Haliburton area lake associations to explore the possibility of forming some sort of a cooperative relationship. Aline wrote about this briefly in the last Newsletter, so this is an update. The concept of sharing information, and in some cases, working jointly on projects makes sense. Since all these associations are in the same area, facing many common issues, challenges, and concerns, there are benefits if efforts are not duplicated. But your Board is approaching this initiative cautiously because we do not want to lose sight of our primary responsibility of serving our members first and foremost.

Let me mention two other areas where Aline represents RLCA. One is the Green Haliburton Initiative, about which you will find an article by Aline in this Newsletter. This is an initiative of the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) that started with a public information and awareness seminar at Fleming College on March 13, 2009. I encourage you to read Aline's article, and I will only say that the long term

objective of this initiative is to make Haliburton self reliant when it comes to energy, and other aspects of conservation and environment. The other initiative which Aline reported on in the last Newsletter is the Lakeland Conference where excellent presentations are given on many topics of current interest. This year's conference will be held on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009 at Fleming College, Haliburton Campus. The Lakeland Alliance is a collaboration of the government agencies and environmental organizations working together with landowners and partners to protect and improve the quality of the lakes and rivers throughout the greater Kawartha Lakes watershed. Representing our region at the Lakeland Alliance is the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council.

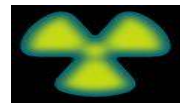


Speaking of the Lakeland Alliance, let me update you on the information John Anderson provided in the last Newsletter on the Alliance's newly-launched Shoreline Property Owners Site Visit Program. To recall, the Alliance invited interested lake associations in the Counties of Peterborough, Haliburton, and

Hastings to submit proposals to participate in its Shoreline Site Visit Program, under which a qualified advisor will conduct a total of up to 50 on-site consultations to shoreline property owners, and participate in information and promotional presentations at lake community events. The program is funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation and Lakeland Alliance members, and is part of a bigger effort to enhance the health of lakes throughout the greater Kawartha Lakes watershed, which includes the headwater lakes in the highlands of the Haliburton and Bancroft regions. Participation in the site visits is voluntary and non-regulatory. Your Board saw this as an excellent opportunity to strengthen our connections with stewardship initiatives as well as providing you, our members, with educational and practical information for shoreline enhancement. John Anderson put together an excellent, truly professional proposal which we submitted to the Lakeland Alliance for consideration. Although the Alliance was impressed with our proposal, Redstone Lake was not selected for participation in the program this year. With limited resources and so many lakes to choose from, the Alliance could only accommodate two lakes in the entire Haliburton area. However the program is likely to continue next year so we may re-apply.

John Anderson continues to be our "eyes and ears" on Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) issues and specifically the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF), and he provides an update on the CEWF in this Newsletter which I encourage you to read. Just as a refresher and for the benefit of new RLCA members, the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow – Haliburton Sector TSW was formed in August, 2006 to represent shoreline residents and advocate for fairer distribution of water. There are 65 lakes in the Haliburton area, and many lake associations, including RLCA, have joined the Coalition. An example of John's vigilance was his alert to us, in February of this year, about proposed amendments to the Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWP) that were contained in the recent Federal Budget. The proposed NWP changes may jeopardize the implementation of recommendations, strongly endorsed by the CEWF, to improve the Trent-Severn Waterway. The implementation of recommendations to form an Independent Water Management Agency for developing an integrated water management plan for the watershed, and to provide adequate funding for additional personnel and infrastructure may be delayed, and this would have an impact on our watersheds. Your Board will continue to monitor developments in this important area.

Another area we, as a Board, are monitoring is Uranium Mining in the Haliburton region. The Redstone community is not currently affected, primarily because it is generally a poor quality area for minerals. However, neighbouring areas such as Tory Hill and Wilberforce are affected, and we want to be knowledgeable about the issue and keep you informed. If appropriate, we may also want to lend our support to advocacy groups such as CUME (Cottagers against Uranium Mining and Exploration), and FUME (Fight Uranium Mining and Exploration), as well as participate in the Ontario Mining Act review. This issue is multi-faceted, involving not only health concerns, but also provincial mining rights under the Mining Act which can be assigned to prospectors who then can enter private property to clear cut and explore without the permission of property owners. I encourage you to read the material in this Newsletter on uranium mining. In a late-breaking story in the National Post on May 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Gravelle, Ontario's Minister of Northern Development and Mines, indicated that the new Mining Act will forbid companies from staking new claims in Southern Ontario on private land on which the Crown owns mineral rights. This ban will cover cottage properties, and it comes after much lobbying and pressure by cottage owners who were furious that



prospectors could show up unannounced on their land and get to work. Mr Gravelle said "We are conscious that some people might continue to stake while the legislation is debated. So I will sign a ministerial order to remove the ability to stake a claim on private property so we can end that practice". Let's hope that the final legislation, when it is passed, has this good outcome for all cottage owners.

Now let me summarize what I have been working on, in addition to serving as your president. Since June 2008, I have been working with the County of Haliburton to develop a high quality map of Redstone Lake. This is a service which the County provides to lake associations free of charge. Part of the service is that the lake association gets two free maps, one of which can be in Pdf format that can be loaded on a web site. We have now completed this project and let me assure you that our map is truly impressive. Not only is it a decent large size (20" X 32"), brand new, professional-looking, laminated, and in colour, but it is also one-of-a-kind, containing information about our beautiful Redstone Lake that you won't get anywhere else. You can find the name of that island you love to canoe to, the name of the Bay your cottage is on, and if you look carefully, you could even find your property. So you think you might want to have our map. Well your Board has decided to provide one free copy to each 2009 paid-up membership in RLCA. Those who attend the AGM on July 11, 2009 can pick up their free map, while others can make arrangements to pick their free map with Sue Armstrong, our Treasurer and Membership chair. All we ask is that your 2009 RLCA membership dues be paid in full. This is an example of how we on the Board try to serve you, our members, better, and clearly we hope to use the map in a membership drive to attract new members to join RLCA.

Another project I have been working on is acquiring insurance policies for RLCA. At the time of writing, we are considering both a Non Profit Directors and Officers Liability policy and a Commercial General Liability (CGL) policy. We are all familiar with the need in our personal lives to insure assets such as home, cottage, and car, and the same if not greater need exists to protect the association. Under these policies, coverage extends not only to Directors and Officers such as your Board members who are all volunteers, but also to our Association itself, all its members in good standing, all volunteers, and any employees (of which we have none).

Some additional activities of the Board include acquiring a postal box for RLCA so that our association can have a municipal address and a "front door" for mailing. In addition, we are developing contacts with various groups such as the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust which is promoting its new Species at Risk Journal. Check it out at [www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca](http://www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca). Aline has taken on a personal project to find out why surrounding lakes are being provided with broadband service, while Redstone is not on the plan for 2009. As you will note in her report in this Newsletter, Bell Aliant presented its plan for Broadband Expansion to the County Council back in Jan., 2009. I am continuing to monitor the activities of WRAFT as you can see from my submission in this Newsletter. Ron Foreman, our web master, continues to maintain our web site, and you will have a chance to meet Ron at the AGM. Your Board will continue to keep you posted on all these activities. Some of you may be interested in the possible development of a dedicated angler program for Haliburton County. You will find an article in this Newsletter on the information session that took place on March 9, 2009 at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association (HHOA) Fish Hatchery. The Board will monitor developments regarding this initiative.

As you can see, there is much going on, and you have a hard working Board of committed Directors serving the interests of your community here at Redstone Lake. There is still much to do, and you can help. The Board can always use additional help, so if any of this grabs you, we'd love to have you join us. Contact me or any of my directors and we'll get you involved. We are also keenly aware that there are many residents on Redstone Lake and even on my lake, Pelaw, who are not members of RLCA. Each of you, as members of RLCA, clearly believes in the benefits of a strong and vibrant lake association. So why not politely approach or call your neighbours or acquaintances who are not members and do your best to convince them to join RLCA. Our annual membership fee of \$25 is really peanuts, relative to the benefits. Never mind any altruism, surely every property owner, having invested in the Redstone area and hoping that the value of such investment is retained, has an interest in the betterment of the Redstone Lake environment, and that's what RLCA is all about. I look forward to seeing each of you at the AGM on July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve, Seminar Room. Be well and stay safe.

Shal



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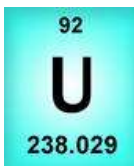
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## This Recession's Silver Lining



By Susanne Lauten, Cottagers against Uranium Mining and Exploration (CUME)  
cottagers.vs.mining@sympatico.ca

“What’s a safe distance to live from an open-pit uranium mine?” Those words jolted me awake at last year’s Gull Lake Cottagers’ meeting. “Listen up people,” a well-dressed woman spoke into the microphone. “Mining companies are exploring for uranium just east of here.” She was right. And since that day, I’ve learned more than I ever wanted to know about uranium mining. It soon struck me that many groups, all across Canada, are fighting the uranium mining industry. Nova Scotia, for example, enacted a moratorium against it more than twenty years ago. And the B.C. Medical Association successfully lobbied the province to ban it forever.

How bad could this industry be? Ontario’s “Porter Commission” reported, “The mining and milling of uranium ore produced very large volumes of long-lived, radioactive tailings which have leached into waterways in the vicinity of Elliot Lake, Ontario, thereby posing serious health and environmental problems.” *How wide a vicinity are we talking about?* A professor from Dalhousie University sent me a German study (Kueppers 1994.) “Radioactive fallout and washout from uranium mining sites is carried up to 400 kilometres, resulting in a significant increase of cancer fatalities in a wide area.” Radioactive dust. Cancer. Those were things I never wanted to worry about at the cottage. So I picked up the phone.

My first call was to the publisher of *Cottage Life* Magazine. He’d already caught wind of this issue and was writing a story about it. You can read this well-researched investigative report, “High Stakes” in the May 2009 issue. (It quotes me several times.) Then I started the network, Cottagers against Uranium Mining and Exploration, CUME. Several newspaper articles and a CBC radio interview helped spread the message. As a result, our network is growing exponentially. It seems that everyone’s passionate about protecting the land that they love.

The upcoming PROTEST RALLY at QUEEN’S PARK, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2:00-4:00 will be a chance for all anti-uranium groups to show solidarity, and to attract both media and political attention. The executive director of Greenpeace, Bruce Cox, will speak, as well as Chief Robert Lovelace of the Algonquins at Sharbot Lake. Robert Lovelace, a professor at Queen’s University, was jailed for 101 days for trying to protect this peaceful lakeside community from a ruthless uranium prospector. Amnesty International eventually secured his release.

So where’s the silver lining? Well, the good news is this: the recession has whacked the price of uranium. After bulldozing 50 acres of mature forest, and drilling 100 holes that forced uranium into local well water, the offending Arizona-based mining company has slithered back to its hole in the desert. Will it be back? Once the price is right—probably. Ontario’s deposits are the “tar-sands of uranium.” I was surprised to learn that for over a decade, Ontario’s nuclear power plants have been supplied by the rich uranium reserves of Northern Saskatchewan—one of the largest in the world.

If you’d like uranium miners to stay away from cottage country, write to the Premier, email your comments to the Mining Minister Michael Gravelle, [Michael.gravelle2@ontario.ca](mailto:Michael.gravelle2@ontario.ca) and visit your local MPP in your home riding.

This mining “wake-up call” has given us a new understanding of living with uranium. We need to test our drinking water—especially well water—for uranium. Analysis can be done through SGS Labs (705) 652-2114. Testing your home or cottage for radon gas (the second greatest cause of lung cancer) may be advisable, especially if you have a basement. Christine Atrill of FUME (705) 447-3407 is licensed in this field. And if you’d like to volunteer with CUME, please contact [cottagers.vs.mining@sympatico.ca](mailto:cottagers.vs.mining@sympatico.ca) (705) 286-6147 (905) 895-6869. We’re also grateful for any contributions to our non-profit group. Please make cheques payable to CUME and send to P.O.Box 95518 R.P.O. Newmarket Centre, Newmarket, ON L3Y 8J8. Thank you.  
Susanne Lauten

# LIVING WITH URANIUM



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## URANIUM

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British Columbia**

From Georgian Bay to Ottawa, cottage country is being staked and drilled by mining companies planning open-pit uranium mines.

“The mining and milling of uranium ore produces very large volumes of long-lived, low-level radioactive tailings which have leached into waterways in the vicinity of Elliot Lake, Ontario, thereby posing serious health and environmental problems.” Ontario Royal Commission on Electric Power Planning ‘Porter’ Report

“Radioactive fallout and washout from uranium mining sites is carried for up to 400 kilometres resulting in a significant increase of cancer fatalities in a wide area.”  
Kueppers 1994

# PROTEST RALLY

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2009, 2:00-4:00**

**QUEEN'S PARK, TORONTO**

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Chief Robert Lovelace of the Ardoch Algonquins at Sharbot Lake  
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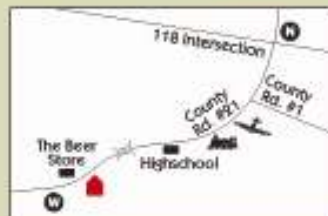
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## Report on Bell Aliant's Broadband Expansion Project

By Aline Huleva



Bell's hi-speed Internet service has come or is coming to Haliburton County in many areas surrounding Redstone Lake – Kennisis, Little Kennisis, Percy, Eagle, Halls Lakes, West Guilford to name a few, according to an accelerated program for 2009, but Redstone Lake is not on the list. The decision to offer service in any given area is determined by cost (relative to available budget) and the demand from Bell's subscribers. Some lake associations (or their members) lobbied for service in time for inclusion in the expansion project. Haliburton County held a meeting with Bell Aliant as reported in the County Voice newspaper on Feb. 5, 2009. The full presentation of the project is available at: <http://www.county.haliburton.on.ca/documents/Broadband%20Presentation.pdf>

### Bell Aliant Broadband Expansion Project around Redstone Lake



Perhaps if enough members of RLCA were to request hi-speed service at their cottage, Bell might consider putting the infrastructure in place to provide it. Therefore, if you wish to express your interest, please send a letter with your name, cottage address and phone no. to:

<b>Bell Internet Client Services</b>	And send a cc: copy by email to:
P.O. Box 70092	Jim Wilson <a href="mailto:jwilson@county.haliburton.on.ca">jwilson@county.haliburton.on.ca</a>
Ottawa (Ontario)	Chief Administrative Officer
K2P 2C4	County of Haliburton
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# The Forest Festival

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More information and the full schedule is available at:

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**The Colour Experts**  
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## **Coalition for Equitable Water Flow – Spring Update 2009**

**John Anderson**

The CEWF has been busy all winter, and the following is a brief summary of some of the things it has been working on. I encourage you to visit the Coalition web site at [www.cewf.ca](http://www.cewf.ca) to see more detail and to keep up to date on the CEWF ongoing activities.

1. Water level postings for the reservoir lakes in the Haliburton Sector of the TSW are available at the TSW Water Levels link on the website at [www.cewf.ca](http://www.cewf.ca) . Many find the information useful.
2. The Federal Budget passed under Bill C-10 contained some amendments to the Navigable Waters Protection Act that the Advisory committee of the CEWF objected to but were unsuccessful in having them removed. Those of you on email will remember receiving an email from me with information on a petition to object to that component of the bill, but all of our efforts were to no avail. The CEWF has sent a formal CEWF Position Paper to the Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Senate Committee and to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, John Baird, expressing our serious concern over the passing of those amendments and the urgent need to collaborate and consult with all stakeholders regarding the Navigable Waters Protection Act as have other like-minded groups such as the Sierra Club, Waterkeeper Canada and the Canadian Rivers Network. The CEWF Position Paper provided to the Senate Committee is on the CEWF website. The Committee is to complete public input and be ready to submit their recommendations by June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

The CEWF is awaiting confirmation of its request for a meeting in Ottawa with the Minister John Baird to discuss its concerns. You are encouraged to write to your local Member of Parliament expressing concern as this is an extremely important issue that could seriously affect our lakes and rivers forever.

The following communication on the same subject is from FOCA:

On Thursday, April 23rd the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment and Natural Resources held a meeting to discuss the changes to the Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA), which was passed March 12 as part of the recent budget bill C-10. The meeting was open to the public; however there were no opportunities for public or other witnesses to appear before the committee and make a presentation. This committee is expected to report back to the Senate by June 20.

There has yet to be appropriate independent review, consultation and debate over the changes made to the NWPA, and the public frustration over being "locked out" of the decision making process is growing. On Thursday, April 30th the Navigable Waters Protection Division, Marine Safety, is planning an information seminar in Ottawa on the recent amendments to the Act to describe the key amendments in the legislation and the "positive impact" of each amendment "towards streamlining the regulatory review and approval process". Unfortunately, the Ministry of Transport seems to be heading down the slippery slope of *informing* the public, not *involving* the public. The NWPA changes are significant, and result in our lakes and rivers receiving less protection from the impacts of development and infrastructure projects. John Baird, our Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities is changing the definition of a "navigable waterway" to streamline the approval process and give projects that would otherwise require environmental assessments.

## Notable changes:

- Allows the Government to remove an important trigger for federal environmental assessments for development projects that may impact our navigable waterway
  - Fails to recognize the public right to navigate Canada's waterways
  - Fails to provide transparency and accountability, by eliminating the need for public notification and consultation and science-based decision making
3. On February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the Minister of Environment Canada, Jim Prentice, announced further funding of \$20 million to the TSW. We have been told by the District Superintendent of the TSW that this funding will allow the TSW to replace stop logs systematically in the dams of the Haliburton Sector, thus reducing stop log leakage. This is a step in the right direction and a small start to helping to hold water levels. These funds are in addition to the \$63 million announced last year for infrastructure repairs etc. We are still waiting for the MOE Canada response to the recommendations of the Panel in their report "It's All About the Water" and in particular the recommendation of establishing an Independent Water Management Agency.
  4. The CEWF is trying to arrange to have the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and the Minister of Environment speak to us about the province's response to the Panel's report "It's All About the Water". Of particular interest are the Permits to Take Water, especially for commercial and industrial purposes. If one or both of the Ministers agree to come to Minden to speak, it will be before a general meeting of the CEWF delegates, so RLCA will be represented.
  5. The CEWF does not require an additional funding at this time. The current balance on hand of \$10,445 will be retained until needed or until further notice.
  6. Although the CEWF petitions requesting the government establish an Independent Water Management Agency was rejected by the Clerk of the House of Commons, it has been handed directly to the Minister by Mr. Devolin. We need to keep pressing the government through all members of parliament to see the formation of such an agency to fruition.

Feel free to contact the CEWF Advisory committee at [cewfchair@yahoo.ca](mailto:cewfchair@yahoo.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

Comments or complaints about water levels should be directed to [Mike.Jamieson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:Mike.Jamieson@pc.gc.ca) or [Dave.Ness@pc.gc.ca](mailto:Dave.Ness@pc.gc.ca)

## Report on the Dedicated Angler Program for Haliburton County

By Peter Minaki

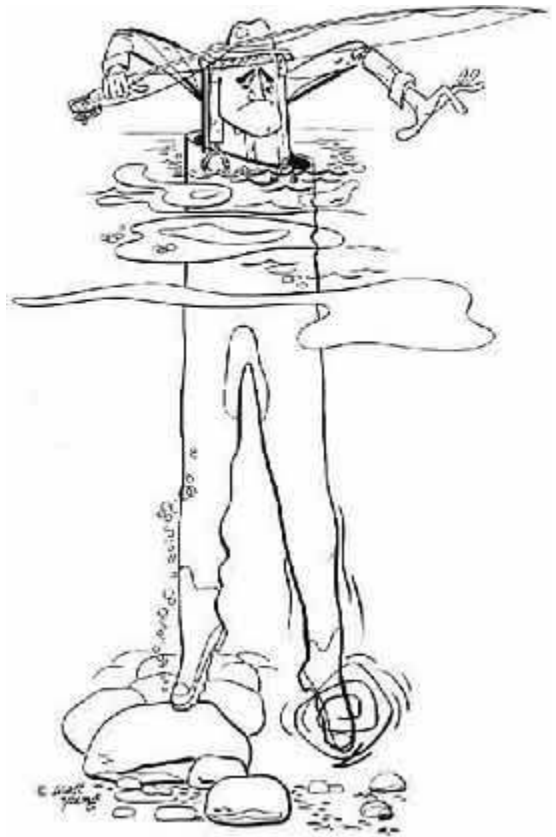
An information session was held on March 9, 2009 at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association (HHOA) Fish Hatchery on Gelert Road, for the purpose of sharing information on developing a dedicated angler program for Haliburton County. A dedicated angler is a person who likes to fish regularly and is willing to record his catches in a logbook and submit his log at the end of each year to the program manager.

Adam Clow, a 4<sup>th</sup> year geology student at Trent University in Peterborough reported on a project he is doing under the supervision of the MNR office in Minden. The project was sponsored by U-Links and Trent University in partnership with the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

As part of the project, he surveyed several existing dedicated angler programs in the US and Canada, presented the results and sought feedback from local anglers on how best to promote the program and manage the resulting data.

Of prime concern to anglers: confidentiality of data, simple format for data recording, feedback of resulting data and recognition of volunteers. The MNR stressed the importance of this kind of program in managing fish populations in Ontario lakes and rivers.

Recommended means of outreach: engage local schools, outdoors associations, lake associations and lake stewards, community groups (boy scouts, girl guides, etc.), website for information and downloadable diary. Also, it was suggested that any dedicated angler program be part of a broader stewardship program in the County.





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In my continuing capacity as the RLCA liaison on matters related to WRAFT, I was forwarding WRAFT/ CAPTR material to the RLCA membership through the email list, and rounding out the distribution through this Newsletter, especially to reach RLCA members who do not have email. Over the last few months, it was not possible for me to forward material through the email list, so the distribution of this latest WRAFT/ CAPTR material through this Newsletter is directed to all of you. Although the material is a few months old, it is still relevant.

Attached are 3 WRAFT/CAPTR items, all adopted with permission from Mr. Bob Topp, chairman of CAPTR.

The first item is a press release made on December 22, 2008. We are all being bombarded with messages about the inequity of the 2008 assessment at the top of the market. Hence the press release calls for the scrapping of the 2008 assessment. The press release encourages us to drive the message home by contacting our respective MPP in writing or in person and letting him or her know what we think. Go to the Ontario government website if you need names and addresses. Once again your help is needed to get the Liberal government's attention.

The second item, also dated December 22, 2008, was the backgrounder that accompanied the press release.

The third item, dated November 22, 2008, is the report on the 2008 WRAFT Annual Meeting, the Town Hall meeting which followed, and an announcement of an information meeting held with MPAC in Toronto on January 28, 2009.

I will continue to provide updates in future Newsletters and at the AGM. As always, I encourage you to visit the following relevant websites for more information.

For CAPTR - [www.captr.org](http://www.captr.org) For WRAFT - [www.wraft.com](http://www.wraft.com)

For MPAC - [www.mpac.ca](http://www.mpac.ca)

Shal Gewurtz

## Item 1

For Immediate Release: December 22, 2008

### **SCRAP THE 2008 PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS!**

*CAPTR and WRAFT say keeping new, out of date valuations will unfairly penalize thousands of Ontario homeowners*

**TORONTO, ON --** The Government of Ontario should cancel the most recent round of province-wide property assessments, and completely re-examine the property assessment and taxation system. Those recommendations are contained in a letter sent today to Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan, by the Coalition After Property Tax Reform (CAPTR), which is strongly supported by the Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation (WRAFT) – the two most prominent lobby groups on behalf of Ontario home and cottage owners.

The following two paragraphs are taken from the letter.

“Real estate markets are volatile and this has never been more clearly evident than in 2008 in Ontario. The sharp decline in property values which commenced during the current year has meant that the 2008 assessment is out of line with the new market reality. Homeowners may not understand the complexities of the system but they do understand that their recent assessment does not reflect the value today of their properties. To make matters worse, those who are concerned with the reduced value of their homes since the assessment will have to wait four years in order to get their next assessment.

“If all properties increased or decreased at the same rates there would not be a problem since municipalities could adjust tax rates to offset average assessment increases. **But this is not what happens.** Those properties which experienced higher than average increases in value will be hit with assessment-related tax hikes in each of the next four years. Those same urban and waterfront properties which had the greatest appreciation in value will, as in the last major real estate market crash in the early 1990’s, be faced with the sharpest declines in value while paying those inflated taxes. No resulting tax relief will be forthcoming until 2013. At that time, more stable residential areas will suffer sharp tax increases as a result of this volatile and unfair regime.”

“It’s simply unfair,” said Bob Topp, Chair of CAPTR. “And it’s just one more indication that the entire property assessment/property tax system in Ontario is very deeply flawed, whether it’s city homes or lakefront properties. That’s why we’ve asked the Finance Minister to not only scrap the new assessments, but also to take the time to review and overhaul the entire process.”

CAPTR and WRAFT are urging the Government to simply use the last round of assessments, completed in 2005. Municipalities would continue to levy property taxes in the same proportions they have been using for the past three years.

“Premier McGuinty himself has publicly recognized that the assessments are out of whack compared to when they were completed last January, due to the sharp decline in housing prices this year,” said Mr. Topp. “But for some strange reason, he and his Finance Minister seem to think that the problem will be solved if municipal governments would just decide to hold their taxes down. That would be nice, but it doesn’t solve the problem of individual homeowners’ share of taxes, which is now unjust in hundreds of thousands of cases. “

Now is the time for the Government to act, say CAPTR and WRAFT, on the eve of municipal council meetings in which budgets are finalized and taxes assessed for 2009.

CAPTR and WRAFT are also urging property owners in the Greater Toronto Area to attend a public meeting on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009, with officials from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (details are on the CAPTR website at [www.captr.org](http://www.captr.org).)

“Will anyone be angry if we stick with the old assessments? I doubt it,” said Mr. Topp. “But if the Government goes ahead with the 2008 assessments, hundreds of thousands of homeowners will be penalized.

“Will anyone be angry then? I think you can count on that.”

-30-

**For more information:**

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Chair, CAPTR  
Phone: 416-929-9885  
[captr@sympatico.ca](mailto:captr@sympatico.ca)

**Media inquiries:**

Jim Deeks  
Primary Counsel Group Inc.  
Phone 416-689-8421  
[jdeeks@primarycounsel.com](mailto:jdeeks@primarycounsel.com)

**Item 2**  
**Backgrounder to News Release**  
**December 22, 2008**

**THE ONTARIO PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND TAX SYSTEM**

**What's wrong, and what can be done?**

**1. The market slowdown and the four year assessment**

The recent assessment has created serious concern among Ontario home and cottage owners. It covered a three year period of generally strong real estate markets. The average increase for all residential properties in the province was 20%. Coincidentally, right after the valuation date of January 1, 2008, a slowdown in the volume of sales began, followed in the summer and fall of 2008 with a significant weakening in selling prices in most parts of the province. This has led to a growing concern that most properties are over-assessed. That concern is heightened by the realization that, under changes introduced in 2007 by the Liberal government, the next assessment will not be carried out until the end of 2011 rather than the end of 2008, as previously scheduled.

Does a higher assessment mean higher property taxes? The Finance Minister has said on many occasions and as recently as November 25 in the House, "that an increase in assessment does not mean an increase in property taxes." This is beside the point. **If the assessment increase on your home is up more than the average for your municipality, it will mean a tax increase.**

Let's take an example. Say the average increase for your municipality is 20%, the same as the average for the province. But let's also say the increase for **your home** is 35%. This will mean an assessment-related tax increase. The increase will be 135/120 or 12.5%. That increase will, under the new four-year cycle, be phased in over the four years, 2009 to 2012, meaning an average annual tax increase due to assessment of 3.1% **to you**.

In addition, you will also have to pay your share of the municipality's spending increase. If that averages 4% a year, it means your total annual increase will be 7.1%.

The example used here of a 35% assessment increase is not extreme. Some 1,000,000 properties in Ontario, or almost one quarter of all properties, have increases greater than 30% in the 2008 assessment.

**Further complications**

The 20% average municipal increase was selected on purpose because it equals the provincial increase. One third of your tax bill pays for education. If your municipal average is 30% and your own assessment is also up 30%, you won't pick up a bigger share of municipal costs but you will pick up a larger share of the education bill. Also, if you are in an area where there are both lower and upper tier municipalities then your assessment may be average for your lower tier municipality but above average for the upper tier district or county. This will also mean an assessment-related tax increase.

The average assessment increase for your municipality is shown on your assessment notice. If your municipality is part of an upper tier municipality your notice will not show the upper tier average and it

then becomes difficult to estimate the tax impact of your assessment increase.

## **2. What happens when real estate prices drop?**

We know that in 1990, when the last major crack in the real estate market occurred, properties that had risen most in value in the late '80's were the ones that dropped most in value in the early '90s. This means that home and cottage owners who get hit with the greatest "assessment-related tax increases" are the same ones whose property values could drop the most as the real estate market softens. This means that they'll be paying higher taxes for four years when in fact their properties are declining in value, at a faster rate than many of their neighbours'.

They will also have to wait until 2012 to find out whether that decline still exists and until 2013 to see whether that results in a drop in their taxes. The corollary to that is that if the market in fact remains soft, in particular in cottage country, there could be a massive shift of tax in 2013 back onto properties off water. Since value declines are reflected immediately, this could lead to a major upheaval in municipalities with a significant waterfront component.

## **3. What is the Government of Ontario doing about this?**

At this point (December 22), nothing. Even Premier McGuinty has admitted that the 2008 property value assessments are now inaccurate, due to market changes since the evaluations were completed. But the Premier and Ontario Finance Minister Dwight Duncan have simply responded by calling on municipal Governments to keep their taxes down in 2009. This, of course, does nothing to address the fluctuations in property values, which are used to determine homeowners' **share** of the taxes. And municipalities can't do a thing about that.

## **4. What can municipalities do?**

If the average increase in assessment for a municipality is 25%, municipalities should, and most in fact do reduce the tax rate correspondingly in order to raise the same dollars. They then increase the rate to cover expected inflationary and other cost increases. They cannot, as the Premier has suggested, deal with the sharp decline in property values that has occurred since the end of 2007. The only way to fairly handle that is by shelving the 2008 assessment and again considering ways of dealing with the volatility that is now more than ever evident in the real estate market.

## **5. What can you, the homeowner, do?**

Write or call your MPP and tell him or her that you think the 2008 assessments should be scrapped. And that the whole system needs to be re-examined.

And also, visit the CAPTR or WRAFT websites, and sign our petition:

[www.captr.org](http://www.captr.org) or [www.wraft.com](http://www.wraft.com)

Bob Topp  
Chairman, CAPTR

## **Item 3**

### **(a) REPORT ON**

#### **WRAFT ANNUAL MEETING, HELD ON NOVEMBER 22, 2008**

#### **(b) TOWN HALL MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 2008**

#### **(c) WRAFT ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES**

#### **(d) ANNOUNCEMENT OF CAPTR/WRAFT SPONSORED MEETING WITH MPAC ON JANUARY 28, 2009**

#### **(a) Draft minutes of WRAFT Annual Meeting November 22, 2008**

The Annual Meeting was again held after the FOCA Fall Seminar and was followed by a Town Hall meeting which included representatives of the three major Ontario political parties. Below are the draft minutes of the Annual Meeting.

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the members of WATERFRONT RATEPAYERS AFTER FAIR TAXATION INC. [hereinafter called "WRAFT" ] held at the Sheraton Parkway North Hotel, Highways 404 and 7, Richmond Hill, Ontario at 3:00 pm on November 22, 2008.

The Chairman of WRAFT , Cliff Hatch, acted as Chairman of the meeting and the Secretary , Ron Booth, as Secretary.

#### NOTICE OF MEETING

The Chairman read the Notice of Meeting and advised it had been sent to all members. The Secretary was directed to file a copy of the notice with the minutes and the meeting was declared to be regularly constituted.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairman asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of members held November 24, 2007 and on motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously resolved the minutes be approved.

#### APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Unaudited financial statements of WRAFT to September 30, 2008 were circulated and reviewed. It was noted that funds on hand at the end of the fiscal year were down to \$26,500. On motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously resolved that the financial statements for the period ending September 30, 2008 be approved and that an audit of the statements be dispensed with. The Secretary was directed to file a copy of the statements with the minutes.

#### APPROVAL OF ACTS OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

On motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously resolved that all acts, contracts, by-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the Directors and Officers of WRAFT for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008 be approved.

#### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Chairman advised the meeting it was in order to proceed with the election of directors of WRAFT for the ensuing year and called for nominations. The following were nominated : Gary Atkins, Tom Beer, Doug Bryden, David Bull, Guy Crombie, Mike Hasley, Cliff Hatch, Jack Hignell, Al Morson, Scott Mortimer, Mary Neal, Peter Oakes, Terry Rees, Bill Rowat and Bob Topp.

There being no further nominations the Chairman declared nominations closed and, with the consent of the meeting, directed that a single ballot be cast for the election of the foregoing as directors of WRAFT. Such ballot having been cast the Chairman declared the foregoing to have been duly elected as directors of WRAFT for the ensuing year or until their successors are elected or appointed.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Executive Director, Bob Topp, reported on the activities of WRAFT during the past year and cautioned that in view of the small bank balance it might be necessary to raise new funds dependant on the level of activity of WRAFT in the coming year.

The Executive Director thanked everyone for their assistance over the last four years.

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman announced that Bob Topp was retiring as Executive Director and that it was proposed that Terry Rees succeed him. The Chairman thanked Bob for all his efforts over the last four years on behalf of WRAFT. The Chairman concluded by urging all present to sign the WRAFT online petition and to make written and in person representations on WRAFT's position to their MPP's.

There being no further business the meeting terminated.

#### **(b) Report on Town Hall meeting**

This meeting was hosted by the Coalition After Property Tax Reform (CAPTR). For clarification, WRAFT and FOCA are founding members of CAPTR along with a number of urban ratepayer coalitions and large seniors' organizations. Some 250 individual members of FOCA, WRAFT and CAPTR attended the meeting. MPPs for Liberal, PC and NDP parties outlined their positions on property tax reform and their views on the 2008 assessment. Terry Rees reviewed the particular issues affecting waterfront property owners and Bob Topp commented on the impact of the 2008 assessment on Toronto homeowners. This was followed by an extensive and lively question and answer period. The frustration and anger of home and cottage owners was clearly evident from the exchanges that ensued. Penny Caldwell, editor of Cottage Life Magazine, was at the meeting and by clicking on the link below you can read her report on the meeting, written much better than we could.

<http://pennysblog.cottagelife.com/?p=226>

#### **(c) WRAFT organizational changes**

As noted in Cliff Hatch's comments above, effective January 1 Terry Rees will assume the position of Executive Director of WRAFT. Terry is Executive Director of FOCA, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association and has been a Director of WRAFT since its formation in 2004. Bob will continue as a Director of WRAFT and Chairman of CAPTR and will, along with Cliff Hatch and Al Morson, provide ongoing support to Terry in his new position. Following are new coordinates for Terry as well as a change of address for Bob.

Terry Rees  
Executive Director, WRAFT  
201-159 King St.  
Peterborough, ON  
K9J 2R8  
705 749 3622  
Fax 705 749 6522  
[wraft@sympatico.ca](mailto:wraft@sympatico.ca)

Bob Topp  
Chairman, CAPTR  
New address:  
84 Poplar Plains Crescent  
Toronto, ON M4V 1E8  
416 929 9885 (unchanged)  
[captr@sympatico.ca](mailto:captr@sympatico.ca)

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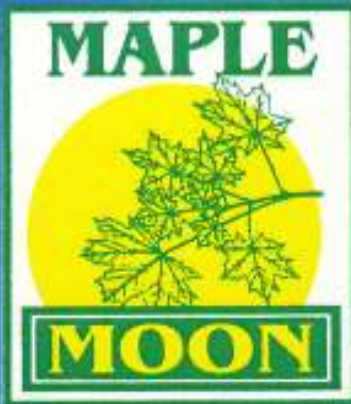
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187 Highland St., Haliburton

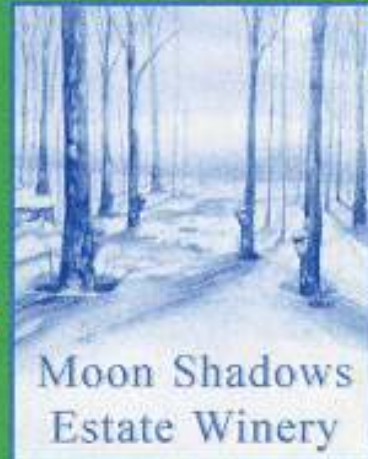


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Hello Fellow Cottagers

I imagine you are wondering what has happened to the value of your property over the long winter months while our world economy was and still is in a mess. I believe it will be June before you receive this note so I won't get into a lot technical data. It seems to be the general consensus at Royal LePage that value has dropped about 15% over last year. I think a modest correction considering the economy.

We attended the Cottage Life Show in Toronto the end of March. We came away with a large number of buyers who seemed to already know the lakes and the amount they plan to spend. The last 3 years we have been getting a lot of people at the show just looking or wondering what their cottage is worth. Cindy and I did not have one of those this year. Other agents seem to have had the same experience. Guess what I am trying to say is the buyers are alive and ready to buy when the right property comes up for them. They have done their homework and are just waiting for the special place. There were 7 sales this week (May 3) in the Kennisis /Redstone area. Good news for everyone.

On the personal news, Cindy is now living in our Little Redstone cottage and we are at the office property on Kennisis Lake Rd. We put in a heated pool so I still get to swim everyday though boating is difficult. As a matter of fact the pool is open now. Hope we don't get any more SNOW. Jim refuses to plow anymore. The old car collection in the family is starting to come out and this summer the Old Car Club hold meets every Thursday alternating between Haliburton and Minden. Come out and see some history.

**Carnochan Property Management Team** is our Son Steve, wife Julie and boys Kyle & Robert . They will clean up your yard; cart things away, mend the dock or deck, and do smaller carpentry jobs, (doing a major renovation for us now). If he can't do it he will call someone else for you). Julie offers a cleaning service. Cottage security and snow removal is also available. Reach them at [stevejuliecarnochan@gmail.com](mailto:stevejuliecarnochan@gmail.com) or call 705-754-3682.

Check out our grandson Ben's web site [www.carnochanphotography.com](http://www.carnochanphotography.com) Ben is available for that special shot you may want. His work is on display at our Office on Kennisis Lk Rd.

Let's get on with the summer! Have a happy and safe time.

Free Market values available.

This message not meant to solicit property already listed

## Report on the Green Haliburton Initiative

By Aline Huleva

On March 13, 2009, the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) held a public information and awareness seminar at Fleming College, with about 100 people in attendance.

The objectives of this information session were to:

- Present a number of proposed projects to a wider audience to build broad community and stakeholder awareness and interest.
- Prepare the ground for political support and commitment from the County and the Province.
- Provide government officials with the information they need to develop effective and efficient regulations that will facilitate the implementation of green initiatives.

The first presentation by Mike Perry was about the proposed new Green Energy Act. A couple of years ago, Perry, a Fenelon Falls Lawyer and environmental activist and his group had to give up their plans to build wind turbines in the Kawartha Lakes. Ontario Hydro was paying only 11 cents/KWH – too little to justify a large initial capital expenditure. The Act is important because it commits the province to the ideals of sustainability by mandating:

- The principle of conservation
- An obligation to connect and prioritize renewable energy sources
- Guaranteed fixed prices for green energy
- Energy audits
- Higher efficiency standards in the Ontario Building Act



To find out more about the Act, go to: [www.greenenergyact.ca](http://www.greenenergyact.ca).

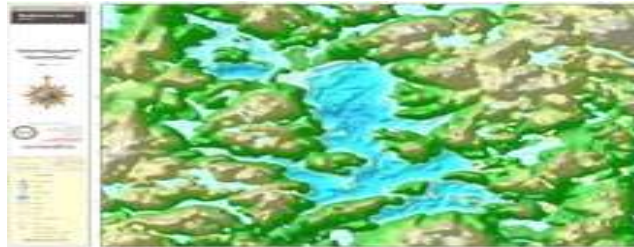
Next, John Patterson, an entrepreneur, businessman, local resident and long time leader in international community development, presented his dream of Haliburton as a major centre of environmental research and tourism.

Peter Schleifenbaum, owner of the Haliburton Forest, presented his waste wood gasifier that will be in production in the near future at the Forest. At the moment the waste wood chips that his sawmills produce are shipped to pulp and paper mills in Quebec. Last year, there were four mills in operation, but now, there is only one. Using gasification technology first used in India, and now exported to Western Europe, Schleifenbaum hopes to convert the waste wood, including sawdust, into hydro-electric energy – perhaps enough eventually to supply a serious percentage of the entire county's needs. In addition, the process produces large amounts of charcoal, which will be re-introduced into the forest to supplement and enrich the existing soils. As well, he revealed plans to explore the feasibility of building, along with a European developer, a number of wind and solar power plants at the Forest. After a number of wind tests at the Forest over the last two years, it is hoped that the first windmill will be in place in 2010.

The next presentation was given by Nathan Basiliko, professor of Geography at University of Toronto, and head of the Centre for Global Change Science. He described in detail how charcoal was used in ancient Amazonian settlements as a method of enriching agricultural soil – known as Terra Preta, literally 'dark earth' in Portuguese. This process not only enhances existing soils, it regenerates itself naturally and is used today as a fertilizer, much as peat bogs are harvested.

In the final presentation, David Bishop gave his vision of the enormous tourism and economic benefits that would flow from a community-wide Green commitment. He cited the great success of the Forest's Canopy Walk and Wolf Centre as examples of innovative projects that were in the forefront of eco-tourism. He emphasized that it was essential for Haliburton to be the first to establish itself as a Green County, and gave examples of the success that other environmental projects have had in attracting tourists, such as the North Cape Wind Farm in PEI that attracts some 60,000 tourists each year. Bishop also linked together the appeal that our strong arts community, our beautiful natural setting of pristine lakes and forests, a county-wide commitment to healthy lifestyles and an official Green policy would have to tourists world wide.

Andy Campbell, HCDC Manager, concluded by agreeing to organize a committee to explore the next steps. Anyone interested should contact him at (705) 457-3555.



## NOTICE TO ALL REDSTON'IANs

### Get Your Free 20" X 32" Redstone Map

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**Hear Ye ! Hear Ye !** Please come, one and all, to the Annual General Meeting of the **Redstone Lake Cottagers' Association (RLCA)** where a brand new, professional, laminated, colour map of Redstone Lake will be provided, for **FREE**, one copy to each 2009 paid-up membership of RLCA.

Our very friendly treasurer, Sue Armstrong, will be happy to accept your 2009 membership dues in advance of the Annual Meeting. Just go to our web site [www.rlca-haliburton.com](http://www.rlca-haliburton.com) and click on "MEMBERSHIP" for instructions on how to pay your membership dues. You can pay by cheque sent to Sue at the address given on the web site. You can also pay electronically using your existing PayPal account or open one using your credit card. To show how reasonable we are, if you want to check out our map first, you can pay your 2009 membership dues at the door. If you just can't come, we'll miss you but we'll still provide you a free map with your 2009 paid-up membership.

**This map is a result of your Association's hard work over the past year, working jointly with the County of Haliburton, in the interest of serving you, our members, better. This map is ONE-OF-A-KIND, containing information about our beautiful Redstone Lake that you won't get anywhere else. Find out the name of that island you love to canoe to, or even the name of the Bay your cottage is on. If you look carefully, you could even find your property. We guarantee you'll be truly impressed.**

*The Annual General Meeting will take place on  
Saturday, July 11, 2009, 9:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.  
at the  
Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve - Seminar Room*

*For more information, contact*

Shal Gewurtz at : [shal.gewurtz@gmail.com](mailto:shal.gewurtz@gmail.com) (416-226-2247) (cottage 754-2248)



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# Redstone Lake Cottagers' Association

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, July 11, 2009  
9:00 A.M. – 12: 30 P.M.

Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve - Seminar Room

Come out and listen to your favourite board members pontificate.

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- See who nods off!!
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- Guest Speaker



- Free hot dogs\* , , barbecued to perfection, to follow.  
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- Come and meet your neighbours
- See you there!!!!



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TEL. 705-887-5537

ecosourcemanagement@hotmail.com

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### Lake Planning

- ◆ protect and improve your lake’s health and natural features
- ◆ prepare action plans with community input and vision
- ◆ maintain the special features that make your lake unique
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### Shoreline Restoration

- ◆ reduce shoreline erosion
- ◆ discourage geese and other pests
- ◆ preserve and enhance your shoreline
- ◆ improve water quality and reduce weeds
- ◆ ensure your septic and wastewater system is functioning properly and not polluting
- ◆ enhance the value of your investment

### Property Management Planning

- ◆ conserve natural landscapes and habitats
- ◆ provide opportunities to enjoy nature
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**Eco Source Management** is committed to providing clients with practical and cost effective advice. Our skills and experience make us well positioned to help you achieve your goals and understand environmental limits. Our knowledge and dedication ensure thoughtful management of water and natural landscapes. Everyone wins when the health of our environment is put first.

*We invite you to contact us to discuss your needs.*

**[www.ecsourcemanagement.com](http://www.ecsourcemanagement.com)**

*“It’s all about clean water and a healthy landscape”*

# Membership Report

By Sue Armstrong

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## **NEW FOR 2009!!!**

Annual RLCA dues can now be paid by credit card using PayPal. Just go to [www.rlca-haliburton.com/membership](http://www.rlca-haliburton.com/membership) and click on



If you don't have an existing PayPal account you can easily open one.



## **Membership and Newsletter Mailing Policy**

As always, we encourage all members to keep us up-to-date with any change of address, phone numbers and **particularly** email addresses. Our current practice is to send as many newsletters as possible by email in order to cut costs. If you have received this current newsletter by 'snail mail' and have an active email address, PLEASE notify me at your earliest convenience so I can update your records for future mailings.

We currently have 233 active members in our RLCA database. At the time of mailing for the current newsletter, 36 are still receiving their newsletter by 'snail mail' and the remainder by email. **It is very important that you notify me of any change of email address.** According to previously decided upon policy, any member whose newsletter is sent by email and the email is returned as undeliverable, will NOT then receive one by regular mail.

## **Membership Dues Status**

As outlined in previous newsletters, our current policy is to delete past members from our database after a lapse of two years of non-payment of membership fees. As a result of this policy, 23 members were deleted from our database at the end of 2008. Currently, 206 (88%) have paid their membership dues for 2008 and 55 (24%) for 2009. I would encourage everyone to send their dues as soon as possible and also to include past dues if applicable. If you are unsure of your current payment status, please contact me and I will be happy to check on it for you. Please complete the form on the next page and send it along with your cheque. This will ensure that our database content is up-to-date.

**Thank you very much for your continuing support!**

**RLCA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/NEW MEMBER FORM**

**ANNUAL DUES - \$25.00**

[www.rlca-haliburton.com](http://www.rlca-haliburton.com)

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL NAME (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **POSTAL CODE** \_\_\_\_\_

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**IF NEW MEMBER, PREVIOUS OWNER'S NAMES** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS (please print clearly)** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL EMAIL ADDRESS (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make cheques payable to:**

**“Redstone Lake Cottagers Association” or “RLCA”**

**And mail to:**  
**Redstone Lake Cottagers Association**  
**C/O Sue Armstrong**  
**1097 Rattlesnake Rd.**  
**Haliburton, ON**  
**K0M 1S0**

**Contact information for Sue Armstrong:**  
**E-Mail: [csfa@sympatico.ca](mailto:csfa@sympatico.ca)**  
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*Musings from the Bard of Pelaw*

*(aka Shal Gewurtz)*

*Modernity – #1 of a Series*

*“Distractions at the Cottage”*

While leisurely strolling on Redkenn Road,  
Or lounging on dock of cedar board,  
I savour Redstone’s demeanour and treasure  
Of quiet, peace, and fresh air pleasure,  
And so I vow not to allow  
Distractions  
From humans, bugs, or contraptions.

But wait, it seems I relax too soon,  
For lo in the distance, I hear not a loon,  
But a Blackberry, not of the natural kind,  
Commanding attention in the shrillest of sound.  
My daydream interrupted, cloud images busted,  
I stifle a curse  
At gadget’s owner, of course.

Oh, Jim Balsillie what did you bring us,  
With your partner, Michael Lazaridis,  
A far reaching tether twix humans and computers,  
Incessantly emailing tidbits and blathers,  
Sport scores by the minute, twittering without limit.  
Can’t it wait,  
I scream in contempt.

In the final analysis, the damage is done,  
Even to salamander hiding from the sun.  
How silly, you ask, can such proposition be?  
Well let me explain, as only physicists can see,  
That Blackberry’s shrill call, no doubt leads all  
To ignore, forget  
Life’s beauty and wonders of our planet.

Shal Gewurtz,

Pelaw, April 7, 2009.



***Hello to all Redstone Property Owners especially RLCA Members,***

It is an Honour to be a part of your newsletter. We always try to encourage new owners to be a part of the RLCA.

While stats looked less optimistic early this year, things here have become very busy with Sellers listing properties and Buyers eager to step in and purchase here in our Beautiful Haliburton Highlands.

Shirley Rule and Cathy Lancia are very excited to be working together as the Cottage Country Haliburton Team and look forward to a great year together serving all of your needs.

We encourage you to be a part of our success, by referring your family or friends whenever you hear that they may be interested in purchasing a property here or in other parts of Ontario, as we can refer business to our large Re/Max Network. We reward referrals in a variety of ways but usually a gift certificate to West Guilford's Store to be used as you wish.

Also, we are planning a great Client party for this September for all clients that do Business with us or refer business to us.

***Cathy Lancia  
Broker***

***Kennisis/Redstone Office  
Cottage Country Haliburton Team  
705-754-4242***

***Shirley Rule  
Sales Representative***

[www.CottageCountryHaliburton.com](http://www.CottageCountryHaliburton.com)  
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#### Lake Plan

Aline Huleva (Lead); Keith Beard; Fred Saunders.