

Skeleton Lake

Cottagers Organization



It's Summer Time on the Lake!

Welcome to the July 2020 edition of the Skeleton Lake Newsletter. Summer is in full swing and the lake is looking beautiful. I hope you find this newsletter informative. Please feel free to let me know of any other topics you would like to see included in future newsletters, and I'll see what I can do. I'll talk to you later this summer. Until then, stay safe and stay well during this pandemic.

Best,

Tim Lutton
tim@skeletonlake.ca

Proposed Lipppa Pit and Quarry

The second Case Management Conference (CMC #2) for the Lipppa appeals,

originally scheduled for March 25, was postponed because of COVID-19. It has not been rescheduled yet.

In June, the LPAT requested that proceedings be held using video conferencing. The SLCO, Township of Muskoka Lakes and Ross Earl all objected based on the amount of public interest. LPAT agreed noting that "Party preference (was) to not hold the second CMC via Video..." We still expect it to be held, in person, sometime in the Fall if not later.

In the meantime, our Lippa Committee has continued to review peer technical reports with our experts and develop "Issues Lists" and arguments that will form the core of our case. We've also been active in gaining support among the broader community in defence of TML's OP rule E14.2 restricting crushing within 2km of waterfront. This rule affects all lakes in Muskoka and must be maintained.

And finally, the MNRF has referred the Lippa's ARA (Aggregate Resources Act) Application to the LPAT. This was outstanding at all of our previous meetings. It means that Lippa has satisfied all of the MNRF's requirements. However, we're unclear if it means that all public concerns have been satisfied - we think not.

Annual General Meeting Postponed

Due to COVID-19, this year's AGM has been postponed to **Tuesday Sept 15 @7:00pm** and will be held by Zoom video conference. Further notice and Materials for the meeting will be sent to you in advance.



New SLCO Clothing Merchandise!

SLCO is introducing it's new high quality "ONE TREE ISLAND" logo collection of Adult Hoodies, Golf Shirts, Tee-Shirts and Caps with our unique embroidered logo!

Pre-orders are being taken until Sunday, July 19th at our new [Online Store](#).

Orders placed by July 19th will be available for pick-up at **Skeleton Lake Marina** on/after July 31

On: 11/11/2019 11:11 AM

Mens and Women's sizes and several colours are available. Please spread the word to your friends and family and show your pride for our beautiful lake! Please note that all proceeds from merchandise sales go directly to supporting our fight to Stop the Lippa Pit.

Order yours now before they're gone!

SLCO Online Store

Septic Pump Out

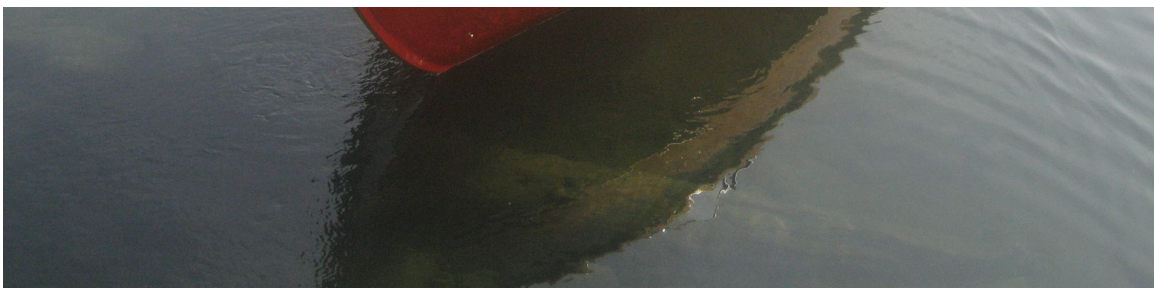
SLCO is pleased to once again organize a **septic pump-out for water access properties**. This activity is usually held every few years. For those in need, we organize a members discount. It is usually scheduled for the end of the summer or early fall. Please let us know at admin@skeletonlake.ca if you're interested in getting your water access septic tank pumped out this fall.

Summer 2020 Events

As a friendly reminder, the SLCO Board of Directors made the difficult decision to cancel this year's summer events due to the ongoing pandemic and social distancing requirements. These events include the Regatta, Sailing Race, Family Day and Bugs in the Mud.

We realize many of you will miss the annual fun and social events. Our Recreation Committee is considering alternative activities and virtual contests that can be held while observing social distancing rules. If you have suggestions of your own for such events, please forward them to our Recreation Director Bob Smith at bob.smith@skeletonlake.ca.





Vintage Boat Parade

Do you have a vintage boat on Skeleton Lake?

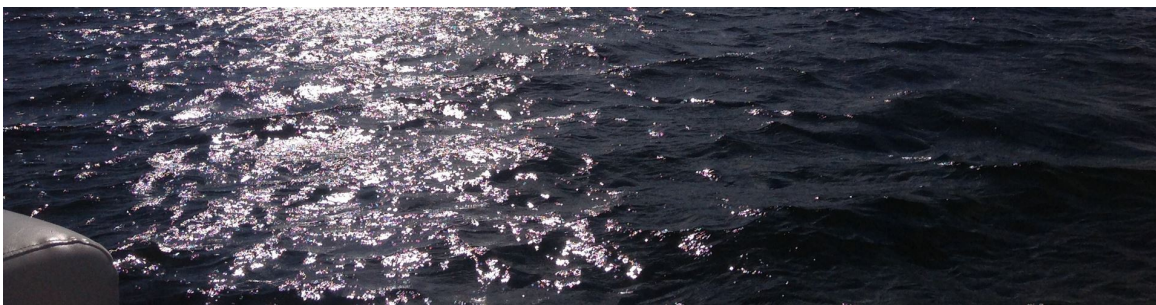
With social distancing this year, we have less opportunity to be a community in person. So, a few members thought we would have a Vintage Virtual Boat Show instead. A few owners of vintage boats assembled a flotilla on July 1 at the north shore. The flotilla departed at 3:00 pm and proceeded counterclockwise around the lake. It was fun to watch as they passed by cottagers' docks for a salute to Canada Day and all the wonderful families around the lake.

Please email one or two pictures of your vintage boat and tell us a bit about your craft to vintageboats@skeletonlake.ca by July 30th. We'll be posting those on our [website](#) for our SLCO members to enjoy!

Skeleton Lake Photo Contest

We know you have some great photos of summer fun at your cottage. So we are inviting you to join in our photo contest. Thanks to those that have already submitted their favourite pics. The theme is 'Life at the Cottage'. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 photos and the SLCO Board will determine the winners. Please submit your photos in their best possible format to photos@skeletonlake.ca. Winners will be announced during the fall. Please note that any submitted photos may be used in future SLCO Newsletters.





Water Quality

The results are now in for the June 14, 2020 water testing, which was the first test of the season.

Secchi testing (clarity) was done on a very sunny, calm day and resulted in a count of 11 meters. This is an excellent result for clear, Skeleton Lake.

All locations tested 'good to great' for total coliform and E. Coli counts. Temperatures around the lake were 60-68 F. Further details can be found by clicking: [Water testing Skeleton Lake, June 14, 2020.docx](#)

Boat Noise

From the 2010 Vision Survey, 'Peace and Quiet' was rated as one of the most important features that drew respondents to Skeleton Lake. Unfortunately, this can at times be a polarizing subject when it comes to the subject of boating. We all want to enjoy the lake. As such, please use common sense and be mindful of how your activity is impacting those around you when you are boating. Below are 2 links that provide good information and advice that address the various issues that can arise with boating on lakes:

[Respectful Boating in Muskoka](#)

[Boat Right Be Polite](#)





It's for the Birds!

Murray and Linda Stroud (North Shore) had their four grandchildren (5th generation on the lake) from Alberta visit just before the 'corona lock down'. They ended up sequestered at the cottage for six weeks. They built and painted some bird houses, sold them to cottagers and donated the money to the SLCO legal fund to oppose the proposed Lipa rock and gravel quarry. They want to ensure Skeleton Lake stays pristine for their kids to enjoy too! Thanks to Max, Octavia, Lyla and Aryana Barlett for the \$110 donation.

Linda Haslam-Stroud



Skeleton Lake Marina

The following announcement is being made by the Skeleton Lake Marina.

Covid-19 Update:

Due to the current COVID pandemic and recent changes mandated by the Muskoka Simcoe Health Unit, as of July 13 2020, it is mandatory for all patrons to wear a mask within all Muskoka Marinas facilities. We will be monitoring access to our indoor buildings and monitoring maximum capacity within our buildings. We thank you for your patience and ask that you respect the safety of all during these times.

For more information, please read the [Press Release](#) or contact the Muskoka Simcoe Health Unit.

Junior Stewardship

Without the Regatta and our other family friendly events this year, kids might be looking for something to do, either at the cottage or from home. Bryerswood Youth Camp Optimist Club is offering the Next Best Thing Virtual Camp for kids 5-13, taking place from July 20-24. Registration is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. Donations of \$20 and up can receive a charitable tax receipt.

Register online at: BryerswoodYouthCamp.com
There's is also a link to view our [video](#)

FOCA News

SLCO is part of FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers's Association). As such, we are pleased to provide you an article of current interest from their June Elert:

Canada/U.S. Border Remains Closed for Cottagers

On June 16th the Prime Minister extended the ban on Americans travelling to their Canadian properties **until at least July 21**. FOCA's inquiries to our elected officials confirm Canada's direction that "this decision is required to keep people in both of our countries safe". The ban on non-essential travel covers the land border between the two countries, as well as air, sea and rail travel into Canada. There are very limited exceptions, outlined by the [Canada Border Services Agency](#).

American property owners are encouraged to speak with their waterfront neighbours or service providers to get their property checked in their absence.

History Project

The team is currently putting together a first rough draft of the upcoming book on the history of Skeleton Lake. They are currently in the editing phase, and plan to have the book completed this fall and get it to the printer by year end.

To see a sample of the fascinating history that the team is pulling together, click on [Norvoc Camp](#).

Please continue to follow us on [Facebook](#) or visit the [SLCO website](#) to get the latest updates.

