



Cognashene Cottagers' Association

Cognashene Cottagers' Association
Annual General Meeting
Saturday July 6, 2012
@
10:00
Cognashene Community Church

What's inside...

Recreation Program...page 2-3
Regatta Update...page 3
Private Buoys...page 4
Classified...page 5
Municipal Affairs...pages 6
Cottage Rentals...page 7-8
Stop the Drop...page 8

President's Message

Doug Deeks

Although the lateness of springs arrival this year may have been annoying, the slow release of winter is doing a world of good for water levels on the Bay. Following the setting of a new record low in January, levels have risen 30 cm and are now about even with the levels of last Labour Day. We are just 15 cm below the July 1st level last year. With the substantial Muskoka region run-off still pouring into the Bay and further north, the Lake Superior watershed still to release its winter reserve, we can expect water levels to reach parity with 2012 by July 1st barring a long run of hot dry conditions in May and June.

In late April the IJC released its long delayed recommendations on water

levels in the upper Great Lakes. Political influence on the Canadian side seems to have resulted in a re-think. The IJC has now abandoned their "do nothing" plan but no other suggestions other than developing a "mitigating strategy" for the St Clair River were forthcoming. We thank Ministers Baird and Clement on the federal level; those Cognasheners involved in the issue.

Many of you have likely been hearing of a group call the 'Georgian Bay Preservation Alliance' who seem to be intent on undoing the Community Plans of the township. We are happy to say that all of the Associations on the Bay came to battle, fought for their plans and the township heard. The 'Stop the Drop' campaign and web-site is dedicated to water level issues and is reaching out to all stakeholders including groups in the Michigan-Huron Basin. This brings a very large

voice to government. We are hopeful that they're listening.

The recreation committee has been working on putting together a superb program for the summer including a "Back to the Beach" party at Aunt Edna's Island on July 13th. (We hope this might become a tradition.) The membership committee is close to finishing a questionnaire that will give us insight into the wants and needs of our membership. The "Cottager" will be out and hopefully in your hands by very close to the May long weekend! Other activities that have kept us all busy are reviewing the Cognashene O.P. and involvement in the Ward Boundary review process. Please mark in your calendars, the CCA AGM is Saturday July 6th @ 10am at the Church. Enjoy reading the rest of the material included in this package.

Enjoy your first days back in the BAY!

Recreation Program Update

Alexander Limoges Friend

Hello Cottagers!

With the end of June fast approaching, I find myself pre-occupied making summer plans and this certainly includes planning for another great year with the Rec Program. I am looking forward to taking on the role as Program Director and to working with a great group of staff and volunteers.

I would like to welcome Beth Hornell-Kennedy, Anne Hughes and Abby Hornell-Kennedy as instructors. In addition, I welcome Haydn Walker, Leigh-Anne McKnight and Quinn Limoges Friend as assistant instructors. Lastly, I would like to welcome and introduce Samantha Kennedy who is a new cottager and who will be a great addition to our staff as assistant instructor. Thanks to the work of Jane Starr and Annie Nicholls, we have a very strong staff and some exciting changes to the format of the program.



I have already heard from a number of people offering to volunteer for the program, and we welcome more volunteers, as they are key to the fun and success of the program. Volunteering is a great way to get experience and to contribute to the Rec Program. As a volunteer, you also get to complete your high school volunteer hours!

As always, we will be running the Red Cross Swim Program and all three of the Bronze levels through the Royal Life Saving Society. This year, the format of the program will change to include a full day program and activities for younger kids. We will also have organized beach activities and sports in between lessons. Many of these changes are based on your feedback. We are all looking forward to a program that maintains the traditions that are so important to the Cognashene Rec Program, but also to a program that reflects the needs and wishes of our community. On the first day back to the beach for swimming lessons (July 3), we will

introduce ourselves, outline the summer recreation program, and let the kids and parents know who their instructors will be for their swim levels.

We will be tie-dyeing during arts and crafts, so please remember to bring anything white that you would like to dye.

The end of the year beach party theme will be outer space.

To keep the beach looking its best, beach clean up will be on June 30 at 10:00am. Please bring your rakes and shovels. With lots of help, we can get this job done quickly and have fun in the process.

Things to keep in mind:

The beach is not to be used outside of program hours. Therefore we ask that everyone arrive to swimming no earlier than 9:50 and leave after the end of the program (which varies from day to day). Staff cannot lifeguard or supervise before or after these times, as we are busy setting up for the day, or putting all of the gear away.

The Rec Program is not permitted to use the side

shoreline of the beach, so please do not pull your boats up or tie off on this shore. We strongly encourage boat pooling so that all of the boats fit on our part of the beach!

The beach is a peanut free place, so please do not bring any snacks that may contain peanuts.

We are always in need of camping equipment for our overnight canoe trips. If you have any gently used equipment that you would like to donate it would be greatly appreciated!

There is a bulletin board at the beach where you can post notices or find information.

We thank Dennis Robitaille for his help with the beach raft. (continued page 4)

How to reach me:

Should there be any changes due to weather etc. an email will be sent out to the email provided during registration. You can contact me by email at 11fal1@queensu.ca or reach me on my cell phone come July (705-795-9263). Feel

free to email me any time, I welcome your input and questions.

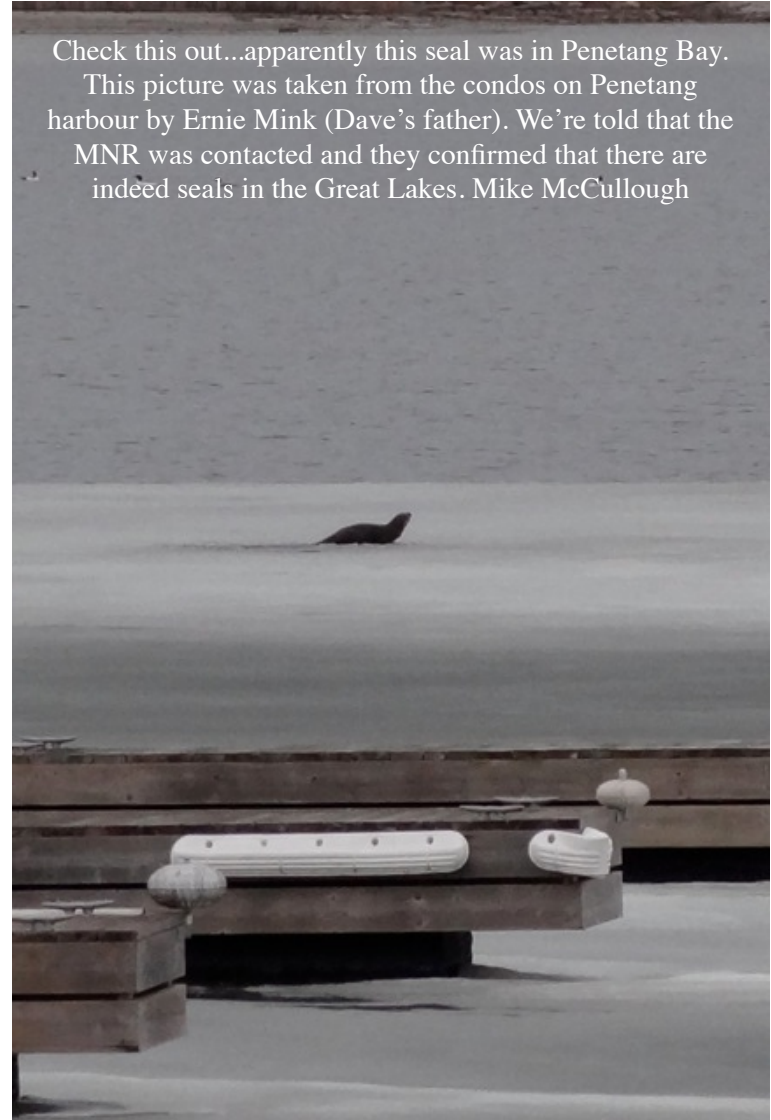
I am really looking forward to the summer and to our time together at the Beach!

Beach Supplies Needed...

As we prepare for this summer's Recreation Program, we have created a list of supplies that we need to make the program work. We ask for donations from CCA members of any the following items or suggestions of where we can purchase them at a competitive price:

- coolers to store kids' lunch bags on longer days
- portable sound system (battery or solar-powered)
- gently used kayaks and paddles
- new craft supplies (foam shapes, paper, paints, paint brushes, glue, scissors, glitter, construction paper, yarn, markers, craft paper, etc)
- new spinal board
- new buoys
- garbage pail
- Lily Pad raft
- sports equipment: various balls, pylons, nets, racquets, bean bags, pool noodles, hula hoops, etc.
- 2-3 shelters to be erected on very hot or wet days (such as the tent tops used at parties/events, can be purchased at Costco)

Please contact Jane Starr (janestarr23@gmail.com) or Ann Nicholls (daveandannie@sympatico.ca) if you are able to contribute any of the above items.



Check this out...apparently this seal was in Penetang Bay. This picture was taken from the condos on Penetang harbour by Ernie Mink (Dave's father). We're told that the MNR was contacted and they confirmed that there are indeed seals in the Great Lakes. Mike McCullough

Regatta 2013: Saturday August 3rd

Advance Notice of the 2013 Cognashene Cottagers' **Regatta!** Saturday August 3rd beginning @ 12:30 at Townsend Island is scheduled for the 88th annual Regatta, fun for children of all ages! Save the date, and participate! Donations for the raffle that supports wish list items for the Recreation program are very welcome, as is the assistance of all the wonderful volunteers that make the day enjoyable for everyone! Please contact me at meatonkent@gmail.com to contribute raffle items, or volunteer help.

Also, note the **Long Distance Swim** is scheduled for Saturday July 27 @ 1:00, and the loan of a dock/raft for the one length finish point would be greatly appreciated!

Do your private buoys meet the regulations?

Bob Snider

Not far off our island on the Musquash Channel, in the path of the boats that run from Freddy Channel to Hell's Gate, is a large rock just below the surface. We have for several years now marked this rock with a large white container. Until recently I thought we were doing a service for the community but now understand that this good deed may in fact become problematic for us if there should ever be a serious collision with the rock.

The Georgian Bay Association recently distributed to attendees at the annual meeting a short primer on Private Navigation Buoys as regulated by Transport Canada pursuant to the Canada Shipping Act. The purpose of the primer is to raise awareness amongst individuals and cottage associations that placing a plastic bottle on top of a submerged rock is not in keeping with Transport Canada guidelines, can lead to fines and in the case of an accident, liability possibly falling to the owner of the privately placed buoy.

Private Buoy Regulations

The Private Buoy Regulations are a fairly simple (one page) set of regulations meant to regulate the size, colour, marking, placement and maintenance of private buoys that are placed as aids to navigation. Under the regulations a private buoy is any buoy not owned by a government agency. In summary the regulations state:

No person shall place a private buoy that interferes with the navigation of any vessel, or that misleads the operator of any vessel

The part of the buoy that shows above the surface of the water must be at least 15.25 cm (6 inches) wide and at least 30.5 cm (12 inches) high. (Steel drums, barrels, propane cylinders, bleach bottles and fenders are likely to be found not to meet this requirement.)

The buoy must display, on opposite sides, in capital letters "PRIV" and in a conspicuous location the name, address and telephone number of its owner

Reflective material on the buoy should be no less than 10 cm (4 inches) wide and should be placed around the buoy's circumference

The buoy's anchor should be constructed and maintained in a manner that ensures that the buoy remains in position (even on the windiest days).

The Minister of Transport (not the Coast Guard) may remove any private buoy that does not comply with these Regulations



If you place a buoy, as owner, YOU are responsible to make sure that:

It meets all legal requirements, standards and guidelines of the Private Buoy Regulations, the Canadian Aids to Navigation System (TP 968) and Transport Canada directives.

You have a monitoring and repair schedule for checking that the buoy continues to meet all legal requirements,

stays in position and remains in good working order.

In the event of an accident involving a private buoy, the owner may be held liable for any resulting damages. The GBA article states that "such litigation is unlikely to stand up in court if the buoy complies to Transport Canada standards..." It is suggested by the Coast Guard that owners of private buoys consider getting liability insurance coverage.

For more detailed information on private buoys including shape and colour, Google - Transport Canada private buoy regulations. Additional information may also be found by Googling - Canadian Coast Guard Canadian Aids to Navigation System. A source of buoys that may meet the private buoy regulations can found at www.tidelandsignal.com.

With lower waters on Georgian Bay this summer there are new rocks to be concerned about. As always take care on and off the water.

Bob Snider

Classified...

Want more time to relax this summer?

Call Zander's Odd Jobs

This year, I have expanded to include my brother Quinn and other cottage friends. This will allow us to get your jobs done more quickly!

Call us June-late August for:

Painting
Boat cleaning
Brush clearing and yard work
Light carpentry
Private swimming lessons
Boat Trips...you or your kids
Small moving jobs
Grocery shopping (I know where to find all the local delicacies)
Babysitting

Alexander Limoges Friend
Cottage phone 705-756-5553
Cell 705-975-9263 (local call or text)
Email: xander2_22@hotmail.com

As a second year Queen's engineering student, I know how to problem solve and get the job done!

We do the work; you cross it off your "to-do list"

Tennis Lessons in Cognashene

-T.P.A. Certified Instructor
- July through August
-Please contact Austin Walker
Email: austin.walker19@gmail.com
Cell: 416-455-8825



Need a Babysitter?

This summer, I am available to babysit your children while you take a couple of hours off. I have spent all of my summers in Cognashene, and know the hazards it holds for young children. When I babysit, my eyes are always on your kids. I have taken my babysitting courses, and I have my bronze cross, standard first aid, and emergency first aid certificates.

Please **contact Alex Carter** if I can be of service to you.

Cottage # 705-756-1682

Cell # 416-528-7288

alex.carter@sac.on.ca

Power outage no problem!

Generator for Sale

King 3000 watt. -15 amp Generator two 120v, one 240v and one 12 v connection - \$300 -Used app: 20 hours over 7 seasons. Excellent condition.

Contact Rob Bosley at Home- (905-428-7906) or Cottage - (705) 756-1130)



Communications Update

Laura Adams

The CCA is working on a new website which we hope to have up and running very soon. We will send an e-blast to inform you when it goes live. The address will remain the same at www.cognashene.com

If for some reason you are not receiving e-blasts entitled CCA News, please contact me lauraeadams@sympatico.ca with your email address to be added to the list. We are able to accommodate several email addresses from the same household.

Municipal Affairs: Goings on in Georgian Bay Township

Bob Snider

A fixture in the Honey Harbour area for decades, the Delawana Inn, was placed into receivership on April 30. We will watch this situation carefully to see what plans for the property may develop.

Due to the low water in Church Bay the Township docks (by the HH library) may be relocated. Kevin Datema, Director of Operations for the Township will be bringing a report on the situation to the COW on May 13th. Kevin in an email stated that "one of the options is to approach the Bee Hive to ascertain if they will lease us some space to add extra docks to the existing docks in the event that our facilities are not accessible due to low water". He also stated that "we have not explored dredging at this point but we will be discussing all of these issues at the Council meeting on May13th". Since these docks are used by our community in order to access the businesses in town, having the docks is important.

The Township Council has passed a resolution instructing Township staff to enter into discussions with Mettrum Ltd. on the repurposing of the Mactier arena. Press release issued by the Township stated "Mettrum Ltd. is in the process of applying to Health Canada for a Research and Development license under the proposed

Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations." A public information meeting is to be held on Saturday May 4th at 1 PM at the Mactier arena. Further information requests should be made by contacting Jennifer Schnier Communication and Economic Development Officer for the Township at 705-818-0323 or by email at jschnier@gbtownship.ca.

The comments received by the township on the second draft of the OPA have been posted to the Township website. On the Township website follow, Your Government>Planning>Official Plan Review. The comments are divided into 11 files (probably close to 300 pages). There is resounding support for the community plans and a lot of feedback on the "Significant Coastal Wetlands" in Cognashene. Happy reading.

The Province has added two more Provincially Significant Wetlands in the Tadenac Bay area. Links to the maps are on the Township website – follow, Your Government>Planning>Official Plan Review. The map identified as Tadenac South maps shoreline on the Bay Provincially Significant Wetland. Will a PSW be coming to an area near you next?

Lake Country Grill has apparently relocated to Orillia and a new operator is taking over the facility at Nautilus Marina. The restaurant is now called Harbour House. Give it a try.

ART on the ROCKS®

Sunday July 28

12:00-4:30
rain, shine or wind

22nd Annual
Maxwell/ Whalen's Island
on the inside main channel

Come and see
great Georgian Bay
art & visit with
friends (and family)!

Questions? Call 756-1621
or 756-2821



Dan Bennett passed away on September 30th at the age of 60. He will be missed by all his family on Bone Island and this summer we plan to have a **Celebration of his Life** in August. Please contact Ann Bennett at annbennett@hotmail.com for more information.

Cottages for Rent

Hello friends,

I would like to rent out my cottage for 2 weeks in July and/or August. I have included a zip file of photos from both inside and outside the cottage on Bella Luna Island. Here are the details.

Private 3 acre island with amazing views within a 15 minute boat ride from Honey Harbour. The main cottage sleeps 4 comfortably, there is a screened porch for sunset viewing, a dining area that seats up to 12, a modern kitchen with granite island as well as a hot tub, BBQ and water toys at your disposal.

There is also a bunkie attached with a double and single bunk bed, bathroom, living room and eating area.

I know you may have other questions, so please give me a call @ 416 994-0370 or drop me an email at maryann.sayers@ricoh.ca

Thank you for considering this opportunity.

Mary Ann

Please click on the link below to view photos of my cottage:

<https://ricohcanadainc.sharefile.com/d/s335f4809d0446d49>

Minnicog Post & Beam available in July

Features 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Bright and open, the large great room (kitchen, living and dining rooms) lead to large deck and screened-in porch. Use of canoe and kayak and lovely walk to beautiful north beach. Lots of property for exploring, with terrific swimming/diving rock that includes a slide. Hot outdoor shower and a swing set & treehouse for the young ones. Accessible by water taxi or your own boat. \$2,250/week, Minimum 2 week rental

Contact: Paul

e-mail: paul.jarvis@rogers.com

Phone: 416-629-3496

Cottage for Rent

Charming cottage and sleeping cabin...

...in Cognashene, near Freddy Channel, available the first two weeks of July or the last two weeks of August and September. Well furnished with antiques and family memorabilia. Sleeps 5-7.

Contact Nancy Beck @ 802.649.5740 or email: nancyhoggson@gmail.com

Luxury cottage and cabin in north Cognashene for rent. Twenty –five minutes by boat from Honey Harbour. This tranquil family compound will sleep 8 comfortably. Great for a large family or two families to share. Enjoy fabulous sunsets, privacy, peace and quiet. There is a large fully equipped cottage with a walkway to a cabin. Boat access only, so you must have a boat or arrange for a water taxi.

www.cognashenecottage.wordpress.com Call Tim Allen @ 416-509-5219 or email cognashenecottage@gmail.com



Beautiful Bone Island Cottage – Available for Long-term Rental

Are you looking for a cottage that you can come back to year after year? If you are looking for a cottage that you can use from 2 weeks or more every year, this may be the cottage you are looking for. Located on Bone Island in Sugar Bay, this beautiful waterfront / boat access only retreat is comfortably furnished. It has 3 bedrooms and 2 ½ baths plus a Bunkie and is approximately a 20 minute boat ride from Honey Harbour.

If you are interested in finding out more details, please contact Maria Foo at marialfoo@gmail.com or (778) 388-6096.



Stop the Drop is a non-profit campaign whose mission is to *"engage users in sustained self-education, dialogue and activity to address water level issues in Georgian Bay, starting now"*. Low water levels is the focal issue around which we will build a broad coalition of individual users, of all ages and usage types (eg. cottagers, boaters, renters, shoreline business owners, etc.) in order to motivate and sustain personal and political action on this issue. We are coordinating with other relevant non-profits and community groups to maximize our and their effectiveness.

Stop the Drop will spend \$200,000 around the Bay this summer on our campaign, to recruit participants to an online community through coordinated online and in-person activity. Our goal is to have 20,000 members by Labour Day. In addition to work with associations of boaters, marina operators, tourism establishments, etc., **Stop the Drop** will be physically present at all marinas around the Bay, with flyers and branded items such as bumper and boat stickers, flags, personal referral programs.

Stop the Drop's engagement medium is to recruit participants to our online community. Joining and using the community is free. And there are strict privacy policies in place to ensure that your information is not shared with outside commercially-oriented parties. On your first visit, you would have the opportunity to sign a petition addressed to various levels of government that influence this water level issue. But the message is not advocating a specific cause or solution - rather it asks politicians to notice that their voters are paying attention to this issue, and to what they do, or do not do, about it.

Once registered as a member, you will be invited and enabled to **"get informed, get heard, get involved (when you can)"** by checking into your personal community portal when prompted as little as 1-3 times per quarter (or as much as you want). Each time you can expect to get focused, up-to-date information, short surveys, and notification of age-appropriate activities you could engage in to help the cause, all of which takes no more than 15 minutes. Examples of topics that will be covered, written by knowledgeable, objective parties include:

- Water Levels 101 – Georgian Bay & the Middle Lakes
- Who is Doing What About Water Levels in Lake Huron?
- Why it's worth showing up. How community engagement has succeeded or failed in other environmental contexts
- How to answer the question: "Why should I join Stop the Drop?"

The key to our success will be to engage all participants to keep checking in throughout the year. Governments know that petitions alone are easy to circulate and to sign in this digital age. Most signers never stick around to pay attention. **Stop the Drop** users will be different - partly because we make it so easy for you to get what you need very quickly.

Please visit the "www.Stopthedrop.ca" website to learn more about this project, and how you can play a role. If you find it valuable - regardless if you agree with every opinion expressed there - please share with all your family members, and all of your and their friends with an interest in water levels. And ask them to do the same. The more the merrier...and the more powerful.