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## President's Letter

Ross Fraser

Having spent all this time arranging the excellent work written by others into so many Crane Lake Newsletters, who would have thought that the hardest part lay ahead. Writing an article from scratch is a creative challenge I have been quite content to leave to others over the years, but now, it seems, it's my turn!

My first President's Letter must begin with thanks to others. First, to Darlene Cade Fraser, whose 10-year term as President of the CLA ended this past November. Darlene's time on the Board began in 1992, and during her tenure with the CLA, countless projects, programs, events, and advocacy efforts were completed on your behalf. She leaves us to begin her new role as our Councilor with the Township of the Archipelago, succeeding Ian Mead who served as our Councilor for 16 years. Ian's commitment to our Ward and community is unquestioned, and the TOA is a better place for both people and for the environment thanks to his efforts and years of service. While I had the privilege of working with both since I joined the CLA Board in 2010, I have neither the language nor the space to fully articulate my personal thanks and those of the Crane Lake families to Darlene and Ian for their work on our behalf. We are excited for Darlene's new adventure as she serves Crane and Blackstone Lakes at Council and look forward to many years of

excellent work together, as we have enjoyed with Ian. To Ian, we send a most heartfelt thanks, and wishes for a wonderful and relaxing 'retirement' from public service! Looking forward to seeing you both on the lake - one, I hope, a bit more relaxed than the other!

The year ahead holds much promise and excitement. While both Canada and the world continue to deal with the pandemic, for the first time in a few years, we look forward to spring with less uncertainty about our ability to gather safely. The CLA looks forward to once again welcoming our Members to join us for the AGM in-person this year. Formal notice will be provided when dates and locations are confirmed, but please ' earmark ' the third Saturday in July for the time being! Oliver has provided information in an article below about plans for a 2023 Lollapalooza and there is more to come!

The Crane Lake Association is entirely dependent on volunteers to complete its programming. We have an extremely talented and dedicated Board, but there aren't always enough hands! This year, our long-standing Sailing Commadore is unavailable to coordinate the Sailing Regatta event. If we want to continue with this program, we need volunteers to step-up to help. Please email us at [contactus@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:contactus@cranelakeassociation.ca) to learn more or to let us know you are interested in helping!

I have promised a brand new, very impressive Commodore hat to the volunteer who steps into this role. For the record, I don't know what a Commodore hat will look like, because I think I made it up. But in my mind it looks like a fancy pirate hat, maybe with a feather? We'll see. As if that wasn't enough incentive, the Commodore has a great day on the water and joins the sailors for the after-race festivities. If you aren't ready to be Commodore, but would like to help, there are several other jobs that need doing at the Sailing Regatta, Lollapalozza, and other events and festivities throughout the year. If you are ready for more than a one-day commitment, I hope you will consider contacting us to learn about joining the CLA Board of Directors, which Bruce speaks to in an article below. Regardless of how you engage, we can't wait to see you this year!

As some of you may already be aware, the Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act was passed, after nearly a decade in the works. As an incorporated non-profit, the Crane Lake Association is obligated to be in compliance with the new Act by October 18th, 2024. Much work had already been done several years ago to bring us towards compliance based on early drafts of the legislation. However, with the Act now complete, we will be finishing this project. You can look forward to some early review this summer, with amendments to our Articles of Association to be voted upon at the 2024 AGM.

The Crane Lake Association is an active member of FOCA, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations. FOCA is a representative body for waterfront cottage property owner groups like ours, with over 525 Association members across the province. Recently, several members of the CLA Board attended FOCA's Spring Seminar, covering a range of interesting and important topics, some of which are spoken about within this newsletter. As an example, we have learned of potential regulation changes from Transport Canada to make wearing PFD's (personal floatation devices) mandatory by law. Public consultation for this Mandatory PFD Wear is anticipated to begin in April, so please keep an eye out for more information. In addition to the CLA's regular forms of communication, I invite all of you to sign up for FOCA's Elert - a monthly newsletter for their members. Please follow this link to learn more: <http://focanew.wpengine.com/news/elerts/>.

It is a privilege to take on this new role, and one I do not take lightly. Our Board is a group of effective, caring, and committed volunteers, and I thank them each sincerely for the work they have done and will continue to do. This is a long and storied organization, and its success is owed to the dedication of volunteers for decades. As you know, we have been working to highlight our history, and in this newsletter we include an Association bulletin from April 1973. We have come a long way from the 2-page typewriter-written update, but the focus of our Association has always been to preserve Crane Lake, its water quality, and the natural environment for future generations to enjoy. For me, this has manifested personally as I write this first article as CLA President. I get to thank my Mom for her 10 years in the role in the same newsletter as an update from 1973 in which my Grandfather served as President. We come to Crane Lake to enjoy nature, for fun, for relaxation, and for community. But we also come to protect and preserve for the benefit of those young family members and the Crane Lakers yet to come. Hopefully in another 50 years, a member of the Cade/Fraser family will be volunteering! Whoever is in this job, we need only look to our history to be certain of our Association's commitment to the Lake. Though as you look to our history, I might ask you not look too closely at the dues back in 1973...inflation is a real pain! See you on the lake!

## CLA Board of Directors

2022-2023

**Ross Fraser - President**

**Monica Gemeinhardt - Vice President**

**Steven Neugebauer - Treasurer**

**Carolyn Ferreira - Secretary**

**Dianne Jennings - Director at Large**

**Fred Nagy - Past President**

**Alysha Ferguson - Director at Large**

**Brian Harris - Director at Large**

**Steve Ridout - Water Quality**

**Bruce Sanderson - Fire Safety Committee Chair**

**Oliver Woodburn - Director at Large**

[contactus@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:contactus@cranelakeassociation.ca)

[firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca)

# Councillor's Corner

Darlene Cade Fraser

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I'm excited to write this first report in the CLA newsletter as your Ward 5 Councillor for The Township of the Archipelago! My introduction into Township business has been extremely interesting and certainly educational. When you stop for a minute to consider the expanse of the Township's boundaries along the stunning, rugged eastern shores of Georgian Bay including several inland freshwater lakes, and that we are the protectors of the UNESCO designated Georgian Bay Biosphere, the largest freshwater archipelago in the world with incredible natural biodiversity, it is easy to understand that our natural environment is the single largest focus for the TOA. This focus compliments and reinforces the importance of the continuing efforts by the CLA with respect to water quality and shoreline preservation.

Barely a Councillor, my first request came from residents on Crane & Blackstone who found themselves trapped without road access because of the remarkable snowfall that fell during a significant Christmas snowstorm that lasted for several days! The Township declared for the first time in its history an 'Extreme Weather Event' which announced to their residents the potential reduction in services caused by the unusually harsh inclement weather. With all available snow plows out on the roads, and staff working extremely hard during their Christmas holiday, it took several days to clear the roads to both Lakes. The concern regarding the delay was presented at the January Council meeting and the staff are examining different approaches to avoid such a delay in the future. As you know, the first section of the Blackstone-Crane Lake Road is the responsibility of Seguin Township who were also overburdened during the storm and were unable to clear their portion of the road as quickly to allow access for the TOA vehicles.

The TOA staff is currently involved in many different projects. Several years ago, Ian brought to our attention that the setback for new construction throughout The TOA was the lowest distance from the shoreline compared to any other Township or Municipality in surrounding cottage country. In support of protecting our natural environment, the TOA will hopefully be finalizing a draft amendment to this by-law to increase the distance within the next few months, which will be followed by a Public Hearing.

Waste reduction is always top of mind due to the accelerating costs associated with garbage collection. The Township has completed a thorough study of options available to help reduce organic waste. The TOA will introduce the Food Cycler Program this year with the initial purchase of 100 Food Cycler Units available at a cost to residents. These small units are proven to reduce organic waste significantly and efficiently. This Organic Waste Diversion strategy will result in less organic waste transported to the township's Waste & Recycling sites. Better for the environment, and certainly a reduction in total disposal costs. Of course, the reduced amount of organic waste in your Cycler could also be disposed of as healthy compost in your gardens!

Connectivity continues to be challenging in the remote areas of cottage country. The staff and an ad hoc Committee from Council have worked diligently for the past three years to find better opportunities to bring stronger more reliable connectivity to residents in all Wards. They made great headway, but the decision is to now bring the Committee of the Whole into this discussion to further the aggressive actions required to find appropriate solutions.

Of course, fireworks and fire safety continue to be of utmost importance. I will send out updated information as we draw closer to Spring! Ian and I are continuing our efforts to transfer his email list over to me which we hope to accomplish before the end of March. With many thanks to Ian, I will continue to send all messaging through him to you! But at any time, don't hesitate to reach out to me! [dcadefraser@thearchipelago.ca](mailto:dcadefraser@thearchipelago.ca)

# Preparing for a Safe Summer

Bruce Sanderson



As I write this article, we've just had another couple of inches of the white stuff. Hopefully as you are reading this, the temperatures have started to rise, and we are that much closer to heading up to the cottage for another great summer near the waters of our beloved Crane Lake!

As you review or update your checklist this year for preparing the cottage for a safe and happy summer, please note these essential items to take and tasks to perform upon arrival.

- Pack batteries: That includes batteries for flashlights and batteries for all your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors as applicable. I also remove batteries at fall close-up from all devices like clocks, weather stations, etc., but not from smoke / CO detectors. Batteries function best at room temperature. Prolonged exposure to extreme cold temperatures can dramatically reduce battery life.

Upon arrival at the lake:

- Before you go to bed on arrival day, put fresh batteries in all your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors as applicable (some have permanent batteries that last up to 10 years). Test all of your safety devices, including those that plug in to a wall outlet. Thereafter, test these devices at least monthly.
- At the same time, check the expiry date on all your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. A typical lifespan for these devices is 7-10 years from the date of manufacture, but some have a lower designed lifespan. The manufacturing date and or a "replace by" date will be clearly marked on the case. Purchase new units as needed and replace before or at expiry. Note that if your device does not have a visible manufacture date or "replace by" date it is reeeeeeeally old and should be replaced immediately!
- Check the pressure in all your fire extinguishers and give them a shake to loosen the dry powder chemical mixture inside. If you do not already have fire extinguishers mounted in various locations in your cottage and outbuildings, it is strongly recommended that you have several of these on hand.

At this time of year, I like to remind everyone that Ontario Law requires properly working smoke / fire detectors in every home and carbon monoxide detectors in every home with a fossil fuel burning appliance, and don't forget your sleep cabins / bunkies! Refer to the manufacturer's installation instructions for advice on where to locate these devices.

An essential fire safety item, as mentioned above, is the fire extinguisher. I have at least 3 in my cottage at all times, with one large one mounted just inside each of my two entrances. The theory is that as you are running out of the building, you can grab one near an exit and then turn around and try to extinguish the fire if it is safe to do so, while having the door at your back for a quick exit if needed.



Fire extinguishers are not yet legally required in Ontario homes, but they are strongly recommended as an integral part of your fire safety plan. Also mount one in each of your sheds or outbuildings. I've found a great size for home use is the 3A/40BC type. These can be found in all hardware stores. I like the Kidde model sold by most Costco stores for about \$45 plus tax, which is the best size/price value I've found.

Also note that Fire extinguishers are legally required in any powered watercraft with an inboard engine or fixed (non-portable) fuel tank and any powered watercraft over 6 metres in length (minimum 5BC size/type). This includes PWCs (fixed fuel tank). If you bought such a boat or PWC from a dealer it would have come with a fire extinguisher (now you know why). If you purchased privately, make sure it is equipped with a fire extinguisher. If you have questions about any of this information, please don't hesitate to contact the Fire Safety Committee at [firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca). Also, if you are interested in joining the Fire Safety Committee and helping us maintain our equipment and / or educate fellow cottagers in fire safety, please use this address to reach us.

Have a great, safe and healthy summer!

## Lollapalooza 2023!

Oliver Woodburn

Did you "Lollapalooz" with us last year? We had 27 boats and well over 125 people join in the fun of spending a day on the water with family, friends and neighboring cottagers. Using the newly updated CLA lake map, participants travelled to various landmarks to answer quizzes, complete tasks or play a game of chance and then collect a poker card. In the end the 5 boats who had the best poker hands made up from the collected cards won a fire extinguisher for their cottage. Based on the feedback we received and the smiling faces seen in the boats, I believe that everyone who joined in the fun was a winner.

So... we're already planning to do it again in 2023! Brainstorming and ideas have been flowing on ways to make our second Lollapalooza even more "impressive" and fun than the first. Stay connected with the CLA through our FB page, emails and newsletter where we'll announce the date and details later this Spring.

AND, please consider volunteering to help run the Lollapalooza this summer. We're grateful to the people who volunteered last year and who all confirmed that they had a fun afternoon on the lake!





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***Stay safe and enjoy your summer.***

# RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL AWNINGS



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## MANUFACTURING

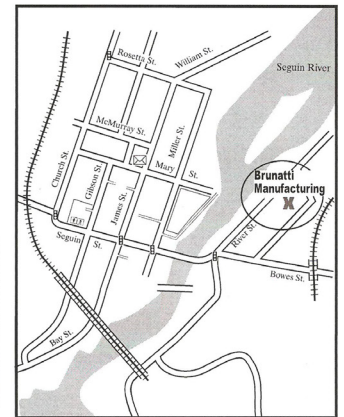
### BOAT COVERS

### BOAT UPHOLSTERY (NEW & RECOVERED)

### AWNINGS



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# Underused Housing Tax

Ross Fraser

The Underused Housing Tax was implemented by the Federal government effective January 1st, 2022, representing a 1% tax on the ownership of vacant or underused housing. If you are an affected owner of a residential property on December 31st, you must file an Underused Housing Tax return for the preceding calendar year. The government has provided an exemption for Canadian owners of vacation or recreational properties, with certain conditions. However, cottage owners who are neither Canadian citizens nor permanent residents may still be affected and subject to the Tax, as are some Canadian owners if they do not fall within another exemption under the act. Each family impacted should obtain their own, individualized tax advice from the appropriate professionals, with the following provided for information only.

The Government has prepared a website, which outlines the tax and, among other things, outlines the exemptions:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/taxes/excise-taxes-duties-and-levies/underused-housing-tax>.

It is important to identify if you are an affected owner. If so, even if your ownership qualifies for an exemption, you must still file an Underused Housing Tax return for the calendar year. Penalties for individuals can reach \$5,000, while properties owned by a corporation can reach \$10,000.

Please be sure to contact your relevant tax professionals to review your individual situation. For updates and information about the Tax as it develops, FOCA maintains a website:

<https://foca.on.ca/property-taxation-assessment/#uht>.



# Fire Notification List

Bruce Sanderson



When a 911 call is placed for a fire incident on Crane Lake, Seguin Fire Service is notified. Seguin provides fire support to Crane Lake under a contract with the Township of the Archipelago which we pay for on our taxes. At the same time as Seguin Fire Service gets the call, a mass notification is sent out by a company called Northern911 to anyone on Crane Lake who has signed up to receive these notifications, including our Fire Safety Committee volunteers.

Be aware that although Seguin Fire Service has committed to respond with "best efforts", because of its distance from the lake, it is much more likely that volunteers on Crane Lake arrive at the scene of an incident first. As time is always of utmost importance to limit damage and to prevent a fire from spreading, if we are able to start applying water to a fire while the professionals are on the way, the outcome will be much more positive.

Any Crane Lake cottage owner / family is eligible to receive notifications of fire incidents on Crane Lake. If you happen to be on the lake at the time of a fire incident and are able and willing to respond, you can sign up to receive these notifications.

We have created an online "Fire Notification Signup" form on the Crane Lake Association website. It is located under the "Fire Safety" tab on the home page at [www.cranelakeassociation.ca](http://www.cranelakeassociation.ca). As soon as the form wording is finalized (hopefully by the time you are reading this), the password access will be removed and you can then fill out the form.

We are allowed a maximum of 100 spaces for cell numbers and an additional 100 spaces for e-mail addresses (for a total potential of 200 contacts). Please note the following guidelines:

- Decide whether you would prefer to receive the notification by text message or by e-mail. If you don't have a preference, we will fit you in where space is available. There is a place to indicate your preference on the form.
- Please limit the number of people per cottage

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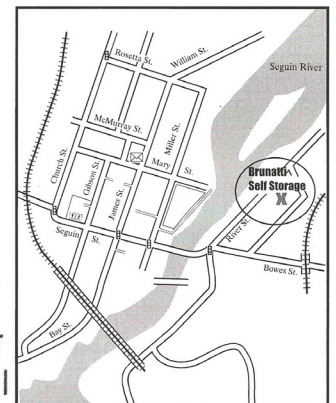
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address to one (1), unless there are more than one Fire Safety Committee members at your cottage, as we are limited to a total of 200 contacts. Note that once someone receives a fire notification, they can redistribute it to as many people as they wish.

- Even if you already receive text notifications of fire incidents (like Fire Safety Committee members), please fill out this form so we have all the information in one place.
- The person in your cottage you select to receive the notification should ensure they always keep their phone within earshot to become aware of a notification as soon as possible after it is sent.
- Signing up for notifications does not mean you are required to personally respond to a fire, but it allows you to know the location of the fire should you be on the lake at the time of the incident and able and willing to provide assistance. This assistance could be retrieving / delivering a portable pump, helping run hoses, operate a pump, or even transporting people with mobility issues to safety.
- We will provide further information and instructions once the signup has been completed, but you should set up your phone / device so the Fire notification message is a priority, has a distinctive notification sound, and overrides any privacy or "Do Not Disturb" settings (for example if the call comes overnight). We will provide you with the phone number(s) and e-mail address(es) that the notifications will originate from.
- After the notification lists are set up with Northern 911, we will let you know and do a test of the system.
- To give you an idea of past history, there have been two live fire incidents on Crane Lake in the last 4 years. They are infrequent (and hopefully will stay that way) but can happen at any time.

If you are signing up for notifications, please complete the form by April 15, 2023. We will be sending the information to Northern911 all in one batch. If you sign up after this date (assuming space is still available), you can still be added to the list, but it will be at a later time.

If you have any questions about this process, you may contact Bruce at [firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca). Best wishes to everyone for a safe cottage season 2023! See you on the water!

## Lake Map Index Update

Bruce Sanderson

In 2022 the Crane Lake Association was very pleased to distribute our updated "Crane Lake Cottagers Map" (7th Edition). Along with the new map we distributed an updated Index of cottage addresses and names, where people gave their consent to be included in the Index.

If you are new to Crane Lake, or did not fill out the online permission form last year to be on the Index for the Crane Lake Association Map, and wish to have your cottage listed on the Index going forward, please go to the Crane Lake Association website at [www.cranelakeassociation.ca](http://www.cranelakeassociation.ca), click on tab "The Lake", and select "Lake Map Index Consent". Read and fill out the form and we will add you to the next issuance of the Map Index. If you are already on the index, you need do nothing.

If you haven't yet received your Crane Lake Map & Index, you can contact Monica, Bruce or Alysha to arrange a time to pick it up. These are free to Crane Lake Association members, and \$20 for non-members or for extra copies. E-mail addresses for contact are [firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:firesafety@cranelakeassociation.ca), [monicagem@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:monicagem@cranelakeassociation.ca) or [alyshaferguson@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:alyshaferguson@cranelakeassociation.ca).

Talk to you soon!



# Who are the “Cal Gals”?

Sharon Hooker

During the long, all-too-quiet summer of 2020, while we were all missing friends, family and travel, Dianne Jennings, a lifelong Crane Lake cottager, was inspired to create a Facebook page to connect cottagers on both Crane and Blackstone lakes. This started the ball rolling for a sharing of information and photos and a few funny anecdotes. The comments soon led to the suggestion of having a photo contest to provide content for a calendar so that everyone could share their special moments and have them displayed year round on their walls both at home and at their cottages. A few ladies loved the idea and offered to help plan and execute the brilliant suggestion.

The group sent out a notification through social media and Ian's email chain asking for entries to be considered for the calendar. They promised prizes for the top photos, and the contest was launched. With no prior experience, the ladies met to discuss parameters, layout and inclusions. These were productive meetings fueled by Sangria and snacks and many a chuckle was had. Although many of the ladies had never met, they soon forged strong friendships that made the isolation of the Covid summer not only bearable but downright enjoyable!

Many lessons were learned through trial and error, but the end result was enthusiastically received and they sold out the first order of 2021 calendars and had to order more to meet the demand. This success has encouraged them to continue and a new cottage tradition was born. The feedback from the 2022 calendar last summer was even more positive and the group has many wonderful ideas for calendars to come. They are starting earlier this year to ensure that calendars are distributed earlier and some new format ideas are under discussion. Stay tuned for notices on the Facebook page, (Crane Lake/Blackstone Connect), and start taking those photos! They especially love to see what some people get up to at the cottage in winter. (hint, hint)

In case you'd like to say hello on the lake, let us introduce you to the Cal Gals: Dianne Jennings, Cindy Eccles, Cindy Brandon, Karin Doss-Reid and Sharon Hooker.

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# Safety Messaging

Steve Ridout

## Safe Winter Driving

- Please take the time to prepare yourself and your vehicle for safe winter driving.
- A leading cause of collisions that occur during the winter months is poor driving, not poor driving conditions.
- Drivers play an important role in keeping winter roads and highways safe; the winter months are a particularly important time to stay focused on the road and on other vehicles and eliminate all distractions.
- Slow down, stay alert and stay in control – these simple steps will go a long way in reducing the number of winter weather-related collisions on our roads.
- Planning and being prepared for your trip are important measures in staying safe during the winter months.
- Before heading out, the OPP encourages motorists to use MTO's Ontario 511 and Traveller Information Service for 24/7 and up-to-date access to road information on provincially maintained highways.
- If you need to call Ontario 511 after heading out, be sure to observe Ontario's ban on cell phone use while driving; pull over to a safe location on the roadside or use hands-free Bluetooth technology.

## Preparing yourself for safe winter driving:

- Plan your trip before starting out. Visit the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) web site for road conditions at: [www.511on.ca](http://www.511on.ca).
- Check the current and forecast weather conditions and monitor the media for weather and road conditions.
- Carry a survival kit in your vehicle. For a description of a winter driving survival kit visit: <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/winterdrive/winterdrive.shtml>. Recommended items include a shovel, blanket, warm clothes, food, booster cables, flashlight, high energy foods, matches and a candle.
- Dress for winter even though you will be in your car. Then you will be prepared if you become stranded.
- Carry a cell phone to contact emergency services if you experience trouble.

## Preparing your vehicle for safe winter driving:

- Equip your vehicle with proper winter tires. When compared to regular or all-season tires, tests have proven that snow tires provide better traction, control and reduced stopping distances on snow covered or icy roads.
- Have your vehicle fully serviced to avoid unnecessary breakdowns and ensure that your heater/defroster, lights and wiper blades are all working properly.
- Make sure your windows are all clear of ice and snow before heading out.
- Fill up your windshield washer fluid, make sure the sprayers are working properly and have additional windshield washer fluid in your vehicle.
- Have an ice scraper or snow brush in your vehicle at all times to clear the snow and ice from all windows, mirrors, lights and roof.
- Keep your fuel tank at least half full so that you don't run out of gas if stranded, and to prevent condensation in your fuel tank.

## Adjusting your driving habits:

- Make it a habit of allowing extra time to travel to and from destinations.
- Slow down and adjust your driving to the current road and weather conditions and leave extra space between vehicles as stopping distances are more than double on snow or ice-covered roads.
- Make it a habit of using your full set of headlights during the winter months; daylight running lights do not engage your rear taillights, making it difficult for drivers behind you to see your vehicle.
- Stay alert, focus on the road and avoid sudden braking, accelerating or steering.
- Never stop on the roadway. If possible, park your vehicle well off the roadway and stay in it until rescuers arrive.
- Head out with a fully charged cell phone preferably with a location type app loaded such as What3Words, google maps or <https://www.ofsc.on.ca/trail-maps/> to assist emergency services to locate you should you need help.

For more information about safe winter driving, go to:

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/winterdrive/winterdrive.shtml>

## Off-road vehicle (ORV) safety

- Take an all-terrain vehicle (ATV)/ORV safety course and learn to ride from an expert.
- Know your ATV/ORV and read its operator's manual before you ride.
- Graduated licensing requirements apply to young and novice drivers when driving on-road.
- Complete a pre-ride inspection and check lights, brakes, tire pressure, oil, gas and other fluid levels.
- Stay in control – never ride beyond your skill level or abilities.
- Always ride according to trail, road and weather conditions.
- Use extreme caution when turning, crossing, climbing and descending hills – always cross obstacles using the proper technique.
- Drive sober – it's against the law to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs – they will affect your judgement and slow your reaction time.
- Ride with others and always let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.
- Be responsible and courteous. Respect others on the trail.
- Ride in designated areas only.
- Preserve the environment and keep noise levels low.

Remember:

- An ORV must be registered and display a rear licence plate except in exempt areas, such as far northern Ontario. ORV must also be insured under a motor vehicle liability policy.
- For off-road driving, the driver must be at least 12 years of age, unless they are under the direct supervision of an adult. For on-road driving, the operator must be at least 16 years of age and hold a valid G2 or M2 licence or greater.
- The Off-Road Vehicles Act of Ontario specifies that drivers and passengers must wear a helmet unless the vehicle is driven on property owned by the person driving the ORV. The driver and passenger must wear an approved motorcycle helmet that is securely fastened under the chin with a chin strap.
- Excess weight on the rear carrier rack of an ORV may cause it to tip backwards when climbing hills with even the slightest grade. Caution should be used when using an ORV for hauling.
- Never carry a passenger, unless the ORV is designed for two people.
- Always be prepared for the unexpected. Carry a tool kit, first aid supplies, tow rope, flashlight, tire repair kit, high-energy food and a fully charged cell phone. Also carry a map, compass or GPS unit, and know how to use them.

For more information on ATV safety or legal requirements, please refer to:

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/driver/drive-ATV.shtml>



## Snowmobiling

### NO ICE IS SAFE ICE- stay off

- Remain on marked trails
- Check Trail Status and Ice Conditions Before Heading Out
- Increased risks posed by a milder winter means a common sense approach needed to avoid a tragic outcome during riding season
- Check for trail status updates on the OFSC Interactive Trail Guide (<https://www.ofsc.on.ca/trail-maps>) when planning your ride and fishing enthusiasts may wish to view the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (<https://www.ofah.org/>) website. Those who ride on closed trails face possible fines and risk not having insurance coverage should an incident occur.
- If you have to travel out onto an ice surface, always remember that "No Ice Is Safe Ice" (<https://www.redcross.ca/training-and-certification/swimming-and-water-safety-tips-and-resources/swimming-boating-and-water-safety-tips/ice-safety>) and you need to be aware of current & past weather conditions, recent commercial ice breaking activity along with checking with area residents who have "local knowledge of ice conditions". The following web sites are a must see for those who travel on ice surfaces- Cold Water Boot Camp (<http://www.coldwaterbootcamp.com/pages/home.html>) along with [https://twitter.com/OPP\\_News/status/1342817627077488641](https://twitter.com/OPP_News/status/1342817627077488641).
- If You Don't Know, Don't Go!
- Lastly, booze and drugs never mix with snowmobiling and impairing one's judgement while riding on newly opened trails and/or unknown and dangerous ice conditions is only a recipe for a tragedy to happen
- The late onset of cold temperatures and lack of snow in many parts of Ontario have set a particularly dangerous stage for snowmobilers, especially those who are considering riding on frozen waterways. Close to 40 per cent of OPP-investigated snowmobile fatalities have occurred on frozen lakes and rivers over the past 10 years. Snowmobilers are therefore urged to avoid all frozen waterways at all times.
- With speeding, driving too fast for the conditions and alcohol/drug-impairment the leading causes in snowmobile fatalities, snowmobilers are reminded that the conscious choice to include these (and other) risks in their ride – more so than the risks themselves – make snowmobilers their own worst enemy when tragedy strikes.
- Adhere to OFSC trails, which are an excellent trail system that offers the safest areas to ride on. The OFSC provides a snowmobile trail network that covers more than 30,000 kilometres throughout Ontario's snow-belt. For more information about the OFSC and up-to-date information on trail conditions, visit: [www.ofsc.on.ca](http://www.ofsc.on.ca)

For more information about the OFSC and snowmobiling in Ontario, visit: <https://www.ofsc.on.ca/safety/>.

## What 3 Words

<https://what3words.com/news/emergency/three-words-to-tell-canadian-emergency-services-exactly-where-you-are>

Emergency services are trained to gather as much location information as possible from callers. Consequently, they have access to several different technologies and methods which help them to identify callers' locations - with what3words being one of them. While not intended as a replacement for the traditional 'must-pack' survival gear worth bringing along on all hikes and outdoor adventures, the technology has become a well-used partner to emergency services around the world, saving dispatchers and responders time and resources in an emergency.

What3words.com provides a simple way to communicate a very precise location. Across Ontario, the technology has been successfully used for everything from rescuing pets, to locating lost & injured snowmobilers/ATVs with pinpoint accuracy.

Using a what3words address gives callers a simple way to describe precisely where help is needed and enable call takers to dispatch resources straight to the scene, saving precious minutes in an emergency. what3words has divided the world into a grid of 10ft squares and given each square a unique combination of 3 random words: a what3words address. The app is free to download for both iOS and Android devices, and works offline, making it ideal for use in areas with an unreliable data connection, such as hiking trails and campsites. what3words can also be used via the online map at [what3words.com](https://what3words.com).

Even without the app being loaded, OPP Communications staff were able to locate the injured driver. Read more in an article available at the following link: <https://www.orilliamatters.com/police-beat/map-app-helps-opp-rescue-injured-snowmobiler-on-lake-couchiching-3252269>.

## Join the Crane Lake Board!

Bruce Sanderson

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We currently have two openings for Board Members of the Crane Lake Association. Anyone / everyone is welcome to stand for office. Regardless of your perceived skill or comfort level, this is a fantastic opportunity to get to know your lake community better, share your ideas, and contribute to the ongoing success of our various projects and the betterment of Crane Lake for all stakeholders.

In particular, we're looking for anyone with any type of online skills that might include things like digital preparation of documents like flyers or newsletters, or experience with website maintenance. Or even if you are a little computer savvy, have a flair for the artistic, and are willing to learn, let us know.

Beyond Board membership, we're also looking for anyone who would like to help with any of our activities or events. We're always looking for volunteers, including for example, for our annual regatta and sailing race or our new favourite annual event, the Poker Run / Lalapalooza. The popularity of this event has grown, and we'll need additional assistance this summer to make it successful.

If any of this sounds like you would like to be involved, please contact us at [info@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:info@cranelakeassociation.ca) with your name and contact details. Someone will respond and discuss it with you further.

Thanks and have a great summer on the lake!

April 27, 1973.

CRANE LAKE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATIONNEWS BULLETINANNUAL MEETING - 1972.

This meeting was held at Crane Lake House with approximately 80 present. It was a lively session and the Committee Members submitted fine reports on such items as Water Quality, Fishing, and Aga Ming Road, Fire Pump, etc. By approval of the meeting the name of our Association was changed to Crane Lake Conservation Association from Conger Township. C.A.

It was also decided, and you are hereby notified, that the Annual Meeting for 1973 will be held on Saturday August 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Crane Lake House. Please plan to attend.

Mr. R. J. Rooks was elected as Auditor. The other officers are detailed below.

FISHING - In 1972 there were 15,000 fingerling Lake Trout placed in Crane Lake. We are pleased to inform you that we arranged for a further 12,000 Lake Trout fingerlings for this year and they were placed in our lake early in April 1973. There is lots of food in the lake for them - in three or four years a fingerling should reach 3 to 4 pounds - and continue to grow.

ROADS - We were happy to find the roads in fine shape right to the cottages and landing on Easter Weekend - April 21st. (The ice left the lake on April 18th.) Thanks to excellent co-operation of Mr. Saint, the road in that area is being straightened and widened.

WATER QUALITY - The Executive has planned a consistent check again this year. Each cottager must continue a constant surveillance in his cottage area to ensure that no improper waste is entering the Lake. Some 12 persons have assisted so far in the taking of water checks - we have the equipment and would welcome further assistance. Please let any of the Executive Members know of your desire to keep your water clean.

FIRE PUMP - As notified earlier this second pump will be in the Narrows at the Cunnane property. Our Vice-President Ted Despard has constructed a fine hut to house it. We must promptly secure a third pump for the north-west section of the Lake when funds become available from dues.

DUES - 1973. There are many points on which your Executive must act in order to maintain or improve the standards at Crane Lake. There are presentations at Ontario Municipal Board hearings, discussions



- 2 -

with Minister of Natural Resources office, Highways Department etc. In dealing with the Boards it is the number of paid up members which gives us strength to act on your behalf. Would each Cottager or Landowner be kind enough to register be sending your annual fee of \$5.00 now to Ben Scott, our Treasurer. (Some did pay in advance at the September 1972 meeting - thanks.)

ANNEXATION OF CONGER TOWNSHIP - You will recall that there was an Ontario Municipal Board hearing held in Parry Sound District from July 10th to July 14th last year and your Executive attended together with our Mr. John Wilson. The Municipalities used legal counsel and one of the Cottager's Association had over \$2,000. legal expense in putting forward their objection to annexation at the meeting. The application of Parry Sound and Townships of Foley and McDougall to annex Conger were dismissed.

The Board continues hearings again shortly to hear applications by three other municipalities to annex Conger. At our Annual meeting in September 1972 the majority expressed a keen desire not to be annexed and we are continuing to press for this action.

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During the winter we were sorrowed to hear of the unexpected death of Lou Gray and we express our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gray and the family. Most members will be aware that Lou worked countless hours on the Aga Ming Road problem and assisted us in our Annual meeting.

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Executive, September 1972 to August 1973:

54 GOODVIEW RD SUITE 72  
 Secretary: Mr. Bill Kunc, ~~30 Godstone Rd.~~, Willowdale  
 Treasurer: Mr. Ben Scott, 8 Kingsfold Ct., Islington  
 Vice-Pres: Mr. Ted Despard, T.H. 205, 51 Waterford Dr., Weston  
 President: Mr. Don Cade, 18 Pinehurst Cr., Islington.



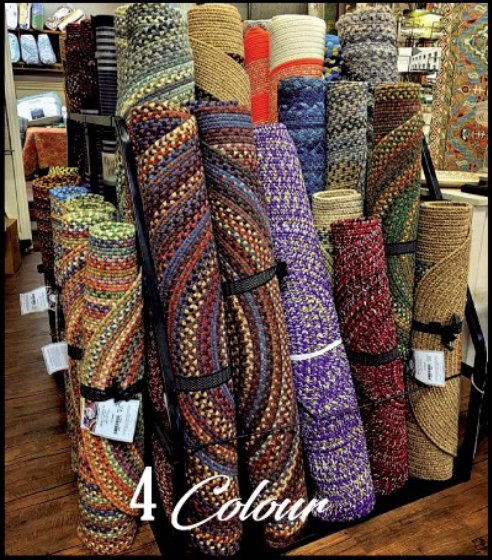
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