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President's Letter

Darlene Cade Fraser

Lounging on a beach somewhere enjoying tropical temperatures and warm sunshine?

Engaged in Canadian winter outdoor activities enjoying the cold weather and the abundance of snow? Captivated by a good book while relaxing in a cozy chair by the fire?

Whatever your preferred choice on how to spend these early months of the new year, there is common ground. We are all looking forward to the arrival of Spring and Summer on Crane Lake and the opportunity to be once again amongst family, friends, and our Crane Lake community! With fingers crossed, the promising comments made this morning (Feb 26, 2022) by the Director of Ontario's COVID-19 Science Advisory Table, on an Ontario radio station, and reinforced by comments made by Canada's chief public health officer, should give us reason for great optimism! "Let's not get ahead of ourselves, but we're looking really good and much better than other places." "If we just would now throw away our masks and pretend the pandemic would be over, that's actually not the case, but we should have, if we're a bit lucky, a really good spring, summer and early autumn". While local health authority guidelines for COVID management will always be encouraged, the relaxation of certain existing COVID regulations and limitations starting in March could mean the Summer of 2022 on Crane Lake could well be 'the Best Ever'!!

Throughout the past year or two, several of your CLA board members have focused on two major projects. Many hours of their personal time have been dedicated to ensuring the content of the finished 'product' for each project is enjoyed by all members.

The CLA Map Project

As most of you are already aware, a few members of your Board are very involved in the update to our Crane Lake map. This is an exciting project for us because it has been several years since the map and legend have been revisited and, as you can imagine, there have been many changes in the interim! The 2022 version will be an important addition to every cottage! The very detailed work involved to create an updated Legend for the map is almost finished, and the hope is this will be ready for our members at our 2022 AGM in July!

Announcing the release of the Crane Lake Video History Project!

This very special video project has taken us a few years to create, but, WOW, this was worth the wait! The Board is extremely proud to finally launch this video in the month of March 2022. Our goal was to capture a small slice of history of our beloved lake in a 20 minute production and we are so thankful to the many individuals that assisted us along the way!

Many of you sent us ideas, information, family stories and old photographs, and several individuals allowed us to conduct & film their interviews. Unfortunately, not every story received, nor every person who offered to help, could be included. There was so much information that it was extremely tough to keep the video within the 20 minute timeline! The personal family stories are remarkable as told by several of our Crane Lake cottagers about our very early 'settlers'. The videography is spectacular with overwhelmingly beautiful aerial views of our lake in every season. We are certain you will find the quality of this production to be exceptional. Gary Mueller, CLA board member, envisioned this project and, on behalf of the board, took it on personally. We are extremely grateful to him, and appreciative of his time and his professional experience that shines throughout this video production! We know you and your family and friends will really enjoy the stories! To see the video – use this link: <u>http://www.cranelakeassociation.ca/history.</u>

In our spring newsletter, in preparation for the Spring return of most cottagers, we will be focused on Boating & Water Safety Awareness. Recent boating industry figures confirm that boating sales exploded during COVID – bringing new drivers and many more boats to our Ontario lakes. The CLA will continue to provide resources for continued education regarding boating & water safety, and we will maintain our committed focus on the quality of our lake's water and shoreline. Water is the number one concern for a huge majority of our membership as expressed in our Lake Plan survey several years ago. It is the quality of our water that ensures continued enjoyment of water sports by our cottagers and their friends and family. Crane Lake offers each of us a Piece of Paradise – let's ensure our future generations enjoy this same opportunity!

Crane Lake Video Release

The Crane Lake Association

Announcing the release of the Crane Lake History Project!

Our goal was to capture a small slice of history of our beloved lake in a 20-minute production. It has been a few years in the making from conception to editing. We would like to thank those who assisted: by sending us ideas and information, being interviewed, conducting interviews, filming and editing.

Unfortunately, not everything nor everyone could be included in this project.

Special thanks are due to Gary Mueller who conceived of the project and oversaw it to completion. We hope you enjoy it!

To view, please click on the link below: <u>http://www.cranelakeassociation.ca/history</u>



CLA Board of Directors

Darlene Cade Fraser - President Monica Gemeinhardt - Vice President Steven Neugebauer - Treasurer Carolyn Ferreira - Secretary Fred Nagy - Past President Alysha Ferguson - Director at Large Ross Fraser - Communications Brian Harris - Director at Large Gary Mueller - Director at Large Steve Ridout - Water Quality Bruce Sanderson - Fire Safety Committee Chair Oliver Woodburn - Director at Large contactus@cranelakeassociation.ca





Councillor's Corner

Ian Mead

Here it is February 2022 and we're still in pandemic mode – this is really getting old! Hopefully this is the last variant of any consequence. Thank heaven the border is open and if all goes as planned, Lynda and I will be in Florida when you are reading this.

Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw Review

Our review and changes to the Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw continue to be a work in progress. The consultant who is working on it has provided proposed changes to Council several times and we are currently waiting on a version that we can present to the ratepayers. From my perspective, the most important change will be the change to the "front yard setback". As you know, today's setback rule is 25 feet which can lead to minimal or no retention of a "ribbon of life" which is essential to maintain/improve water quality. As a result we asked for a change to 50 or 66 feet. Since then it was realized that the Province designates Crane and Blackstone as cold water trout lakes and as such insists on a setback of 100 feet.

Personally, I think 66 feet will be adequate and perhaps optimal because most of our current cottages were built prior to the formation of the TOA and as such were somewhat obligated to build back 66 feet because they did not own the shore road allowance.

At any rate, we have to wait for the final draft, after which a public session(s) will be held so that you can voice your opinion. This is planned for this summer sometime and hopefully we'll be back to normal by then so that the meetings can be in person or perhaps a hybrid version with in-person and Zoom participation.

Site Alteration Bylaw

The review of the Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw has created a need for a new bylaw. That bylaw will be called a Site Alteration Bylaw. Again, due to workload and timing, this project has been recently contracted out to a consulting firm and we're waiting on their work plan.

This bylaw will be the start to controlling negative environmental alterations to cottage lots. Again, when we have a final draft, it will be presented to the ratepayers for input.

High Speed Internet in the TOA.

As I mentioned in my article of February 2021, the TOA has partnered with Seguin, WPS Smart and Vianet to try and facilitate/expedite the delivery of affordable, unlimited high speed internet to TOA ratepayers. The goal is unlimited internet with minimum speeds of 50 Mb down, 10Mb up and at an affordable price – say \$75 - \$100/mth.

So what's happened in a year? Well, not as much as I/we would have liked. An extension of a tower just north of Parry Sound was completed by Vianet which allowed them to feed a new tower in Pointe au Baril. The Pointe au Baril tower is now up and should be operational soon. This tower will feed all the people within a certain radius and provide future expansion capabilities. Now we're looking for entrepreneurs (ISP's) to pick up the ball and erect small towers to deliver "last mile" wireless internet to the islanders in the north.

In the south, Vianet was supposed to build a tower somewhere in the Otter Lake area of Seguin. This tower would then be the feed point to provide wireless internet to the South TOA. Again, we would need ISP's to deliver the "last mile" service. Well, the tower isn't built yet due to some NIMBYism and we're not quite sure at this time if it is still in the master plan, and there are reasons for that.

As you may or may not know, companies like Vianet have a heavy reliance on Federal and Provincial funding and it appears that the funding is going to the big guys like Bell and Rogers. Many, many millions of dollars

are being granted to Bell and Rogers so that they can deliver fiber to the home and quite frankly that makes sense to me. Having now experienced fiber to the home since last summer, that solution is far better than any wireless or satellite offering. After observing how they thread the fiber through the ditches and up to the house it is evident that fiber is as easy to work with as copper wire. The technology is absolutely amazing.

So, from my perspective, the ultimate solution is fiber to the home/cottage and there is no reason why Bell can't do that today – time and money permitting. That obviously is not going to happen overnight but that is utopia in today's technology. The TOA Connectivity Committee is busy rethinking our position and we plan to invite Bell and whoever to come and discuss how we can help them, help us.

In the interim, we do have options on Crane. There is that wireless tower on the Crane Lake Resort property which was erected and owned by Core Broadband quite a few years ago. It was fairly recently sold to Lakeland Networks and they are not committing to any improvements to that tower at this time so we'll set that aside for now. I used to get my internet from that tower but then the trees grew and the signal faded – LOL. At that time, I switched to the Bell Turbo Hub (ZTE) and that's what I still have. It is OK for surfing and E-mails but quite expensive. No streaming!

Another option is Xplornet satellite which, from what I understand, is OK. The latest satellite option is Starlink. One of my fellow Councillors has had Starlink since this time last year. She replaced Xplornet with Starlink. At first it was not near as good as Xplornet but as of late and since she put the dish on her roof it is "excellent". It is costly at \$145.00/mth but does allow you to stream and say goodbye to XpressVu!

So, needless to say, we are a bit disillusioned with progress but will continue to facilitate and make sure there are no Municipal roadblocks for any company wanting to bring high speed internet to the TOA.

Stay tuned!

Are you on my E-mail List?

If you currently are not on my E-mail list and would like to be, just send me an E-mail at <u>ianm@vianet.ca</u> and ask me to add you.

Cheers Ian

- Address 206 Crane Lake Water The Archipelago, ON P2A 0B7
- Phone 705-378-2089 summer 705-484-5235 – winter 905-301-4583 - cell







Treasurer Report

As of December 31, 2021, our combined bank/savings balance was \$66,244. For 2021, our dues income was a little better than planned and overall income was much better than budgeted due to generous donations from the sales of Crane Lake serving boards and the 'Crane Lake - Blackstone Connect' Calendars". For 2021 our expenses were generally lower than planned amounts since we have not yet incurred expenses for the map updates.

The 2021 fund activity is summarized below:

	Operating Fund	Capital Fund
Income	\$12,541	\$5,880
Expense	\$7,827	\$1,429
Net Gain (Loss)	\$4,715	\$4,451
Balance on 01-Jan-2021	\$9,414	\$44,774
Balance at 31-Dec-2021	\$14,128	\$49,225

Our formal financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 will be available at the 2022 Annual General Meeting in July, as well as a current update to our financial position.

Membership Report

It's that time of year again! It's time to send in your association dues for 2022.

For the 128 Crane Lake Association members that supported us for 2021, I hope you will continue to support us for 2022! For the 96 cottages that are not members, including those whose membership has lapsed over the years, I hope you will (re-)join the membership in 2022. **The association membership dues for 2022 remain at \$100**. The benefits of membership in the Crane Lake Association include:

- Winter, Spring and Fall Newsletters highlighting upcoming events and current issues
- Entitlement to vote at the Annual General Meeting
- Participation in the Crane Lake Regatta
- Maintenance and renewal of our fire pumps, fire boat, defibrillators and other fire protection and life-saving equipment
- Representation in matters of mutual interest pertaining to the Crane Lake community.

Dues may be paid by Interac e-Transfer to Steven Neugebauer – <u>CLA.Steve1@gmail.com</u> or forward your cheque payable to the Crane Lake Association, to: Steven Neugebauer, 81 Wrendale Crescent, Keswick, ON, L4P 4C7, Canada

Please include your account number on your e-Transfer/cheque; and please do not send cash by mail. We hope that all Crane Lake property owners and members will join us for the 2022 AGM in July.

Crane Lake Association



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. Test all of your safety devices, including those that plug in to a wall outlet and those with permanent batteries. 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 reeeeeally 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 behind you 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 most Costco stores for about \$40 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. 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!

eam

We are taking reservations For the 2022 Spring Opening season!

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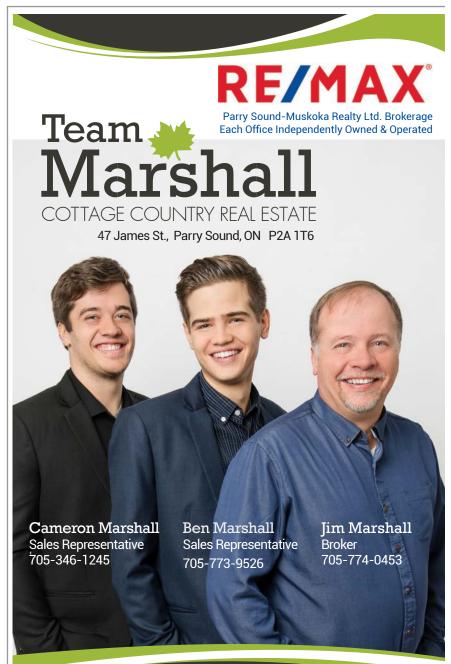
FOCA and Underused Housing Tax Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (February 2022)

Since mid-2021, FOCA has expressed concerns about the new Underused Housing Tax (UHT) which was implemented effective January 1, 2022 by the federal Finance department, and will be assessed/ payable in 2023. FOCA's concern was that secondary property owners ("cottagers") could be unfortunately and mistakenly penalized by a federal policy that is really designed to free up rental and other accommodations in population centres (mostly urban) that are facing housing shortages.

It is now clear that Canadian owners of secondary properties will not be impacted by this tax; however it remains unclear for American and other foreign owners of rural waterfront property in Canada. FOCA remains vigilant on this issue.

Read related information here:

- Federal Government releases draft "Underused Housing Tax" legislation -January 2021 <u>https://www.thor.ca/blog/2022/01/</u> <u>federal-government-releases-draft-</u> <u>underused-housing-tax-legislation/</u>
- Underused Housing Tax (UHT): New Proposed Tax for Non-Resident Property Owners - October 2021 <u>https://www.djb.com/2021/10/</u> <u>underused-housing-tax-uht-new-</u> <u>proposed-tax-for-non-resident-property-owners/</u>
 - Government of Canada consultation on the UHT - 2021
 <u>https://www.canada.ca/en/department-</u><u>finance/programs/consultations/2021/</u> tax-unproductive-use-housing-nonresident-non-canadian-owners/ underused-housing-tax.html.



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Crane Lake History Corner

The Crane Lake Association has existed for decades, and we hope that all members will enjoy a flavour of the experiences and memories of the lake in all those years, and the many years that preceded the Association.

As we continue to celebrate the history of Crane Lake, thanks to the efforts of Bruce Sanderson, we have taken another dive into the Archives, today sharing a spring newsletter from May 8th, 1972.

For those not aware, the Crane Lake Association was previously called the "Conger Township Conservation Association" and while our name may have changed, the mission of the organization has largely stayed focused on the preservation of the water quality and natural environment for future genreations.

Almost 50 years old, this newsletter highlights:

- The purchase of the second Fire Pump on the lake, originally stored on Lorna Island;
- An overview of our water quality sampling efforts and reminders on the importance of maintaining septics in good working order to protect the lake;
- A resolution to the developmen of what was then known as Aga Ming Road;
- The formal notice of the pending change of the organization's name.

We hope you enjoy this look into the history of our community:

Crane Lake Association

May 8th., 1972

CONGER TOWNSHIP CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

We now have 75 paid-up members of the Association. The first Newsletter went to 180 people, of which 10% were returned for wrong addresses. This is about par. The response so far has been very encouraging. We hope those who have not yet joined will now do so. Simply mail your \$5.00 in the enclosed envelope.

At the last meeting of your Executive on April 27th., 1972, Don Cade was authorized to purchase the sencond fire pump so that it will be available for this seasom. The first one is now readily available at Crane Lake House. Mr. Rufus Kydd on Lorna Island has agreed to accept custody of the second pump. It will be stored in full view, close to his dock. Drop by, introduce yourself, and make sure that you know how to operate the fire pump.

Water Quality

Mr. Hugh McMahon has lines up a program for the coming season. The plan is as follows:-

- . Samples are to be taken at each of six locations weekly on the Sunday.
- . One set of samples is to be delivered on Sunday night to the Ontario Water Resources Commission on Resources Road near Islington Avenue and Highway 401. This set of samples will be checked for algae condition.
- . One other set of six samples is to be delivered on the same street to the Department of Health for a bacteriological count.
- . Six people are to be asked to take responsibility for taking weekly samples and for delivering them to a designated person on the Lake who will drop them off in Toronto as indicated. If you are asked to act, please accept. If you wish to volunteer call or write the Secretary.

This work is important. Each cottager is also asked to make sure that his own system is in good working order. It is an offense to pollute and if we don't adequately police ourselves then first thing we know some other body will do it for us. - There is still a diversity of opinion as to the adverse effect of detergents on algae growth in a Lake such as ours. However, soap is just as effective as detergent in soft water and your Executive strongly urges all cottagers to use only soap.

Status of Ago Ming Road

The road difficulties experienced by those in the Kingshott

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Development area have, after months of negotiation, been verbally solved, but the lawyers are still struggling with technicalities. In a nutshell, each property owner will have to trade off his right-of-way over a short section of the present road (which the Department of Transportation and Communication refuses to cross). In exchange they will get proper legal deed and road over a new straightened route. The Department will then maintain the whole road.

The Special Roads Committee is impatiently pushing the lawyers to get the legalities settled and agreements drawn up. When that is done they will contact the cottagers for the required signatures. If all those involved cooperate quickly when contacted then this needn't take long, but in the meantime the Committee is trying to get a special agreement to have the Department do some road maintenance, which they may or may not do.

Your Executive has not planned a social event of any form for the coming season. We do feel that one event of some form would be welcome to many people who are looking for an opportunity to meet other residents. We are looking for someone to volunteer to be a Social Convener for a single event. Call or write Don Cade at address given below.

Bill Kunc reports that the Department of Lands and Forests has already put Lake Trout into our Lake. They have planted 15,000 fingerlings 5 to 7 inches long. These will be ready for fishing in five years if the operation is successful.

Studies are continuing relative to planting Pickerel in Crane Lake. A planting will be made before the fall of this year even if current studies indicate that this should be done.

The new Hydrographic Map is now available from the Department of Lands and Forests, Parry Sound, at \$0.50 per copy.

It was suggested that we post a sign at the Department of Lands and Forests garbage dump stressing the need for care when each of us dumps garbage. We have decided against it for the moment, but we do ask everyone to take care not to strew garbage at the top of the hill. - Now if we can only train the local wild animals to do likewise.

This will be the last Newsletter before summer. Please reserve the evening of Saturday September 2nd. for a short annual meeting at Crane Lake House. The meeting will be planned for 8:00 p.m. Notice of the meeting will be posted at Crane Lake House and at Dyett's Store.

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Some of us were at the Lake for the May 6th. week-end. A torrential rain on May 6th. did nothing to help the road situation, but all in all the main road appears to be in good shape. The ice went out on Tuesdáy May 2nd.

NOTICE RE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND "CHANGE OF NAME"

Kindly be advised that the Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at Crane Lake House, on Saturday September 2nd., 1972 at 8:00 p.m. Please plan to attend.

As this Association has developed into a organization concerning only Crane Lake cottagers and residents, and as Blackstone Lake cottagers, and perhaps those on other Lakes in Conger Township have formed their own Associations, it is the opinion of the Executive that we should change the name of this Association from "Conger Township Conservation Association" to "Crane Lake Conservation Association".

This is notice that at the next Annual Meeting it will be moved:

THAT the Articles of Constitution detailed below be amended to read as shown herein:

ARTICLE 1. NAME - The Association shall be known as Crane Lake Conservation Association.

ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP - The Association shall be open to all owners and lessees of lands touching on Crane Lake or Lakes flowing into Crane Lake below the Blackstone River entrance into Crane Lake.

It is important that you attend as a substantial number of members must be present to consider this Motion, and also to consider the results of the survey which will be presented with respect to the 1972 Water Quality study, and the reports on re-stocking the Lake, etc.

Mr. D.R. Cade - President - 18 Pinehurst Cres., Islington, Ontario
Mr. Wm. Kunc - Vice President - 30 Godstone Road, Willowdale, Ontario
Mrs. F. Jacklin - Treasurer - Rosseau Road P.O., District of Parry Sound
Mr. E. H. Despard - Secretary - 51 Waterford Dr., T.H.#205, Weston, Ont.

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Crane Lake Association