

# Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan

October  
2016

Final report prepared by the Kashwakamak Lake Planning Committee, a sub-committee of the Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA)



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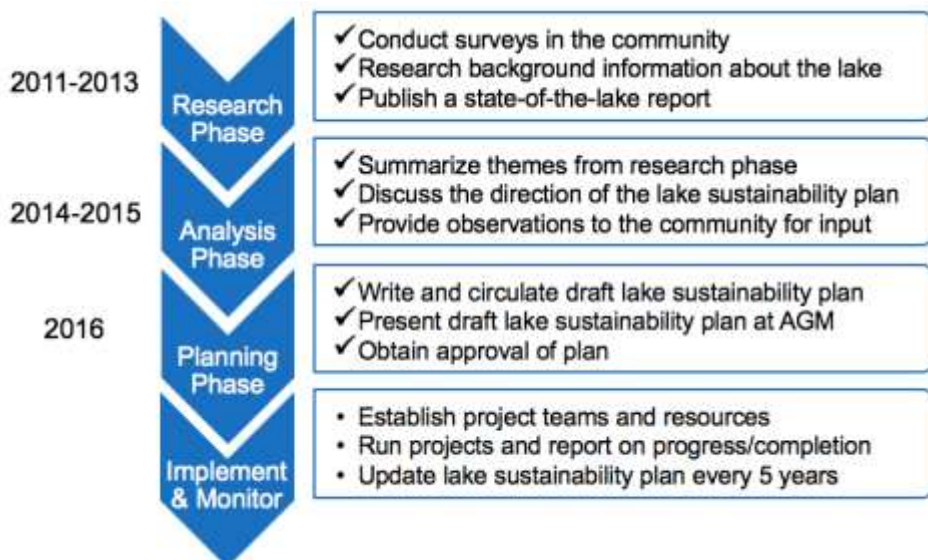
## INTENT

A typical lake sustainability plan is built to respond to a major issue such as land development or pollution. There are over 40 lakes in Ontario with lake plans in place. The Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA) decided to pursue building a lake sustainability plan in 2011, not because of a major issue, but to proactively prevent one from developing.

The purpose of a lake plan is to set a future vision for the lake by:

- Promoting discussion and action with all community members
- Identifying and protecting specific lake values
- Identifying issues and impacts

To date, the Kashwakamak Lake Planning Committee (KLPC) has conducted surveys, research, produced reports, and obtained feedback in preparation for establishing a Lake Sustainability Plan. This document is the draft plan to be circulated in the community for the purpose of obtaining feedback and updates to ensure it reflects the needs and views of the whole community. The Lake Sustainability Plan will form the basis for action plans that will contribute to making our lake something our future generations will continue to enjoy.




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*We have often described "Kash" as "heaven on earth." All cottage/homeowners on the Lake have a duty to be lake stewards and try to preserve the natural beauty of the area..."*

**Community Survey Comment**

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## BACKGROUND

### 1. What is a Sustainability Plan?

Sustainability is defined as a way that future generations have access to the same opportunities and quality of life on the lake that we do. It is a balancing act - one where nature, community and economy all work together.

The Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan is a long-term action plan that reflects current and historical knowledge of the lake and community expectations about what is needed to protect the natural, physical, cultural and economic aspects of the lake and its watershed.

The lake planning process offers the opportunity for everyone with an interest in the lake, i.e. anyone who works, plays, lives on, does business or bears responsibility for the lake and its watershed, to come together to discuss their concerns and share their expertise. The process of gathering community input is as important as the end result. Through discussion, residents identify what they value about the lake, learn about the issues affecting it, develop awareness of available resources, and offer recommendations on goals, objectives and actions that promote sustainable development and overall protection of the lake and its watershed.

### 2. How the Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan was developed

In 2010, The Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA) established a sub-committee with membership representing permanent and seasonal residents, commercial property owners, the Township of North Frontenac (TNF), and the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and mandated them to initiate the process that would lead to the development of the Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan.

The purpose of the lake planning process is to:

- Identify specific lake values (i.e. water quality, health of shorelines, fishing, natural habitats)
- Promote community discussion and action
- Educate and communicate with all lake community members and interested parties
- Set a future vision for the lake
- Identify issues and impacts
- Set environmental and social targets
- Recommend stewardship actions
- Recognize and address new issues as they arise

In fulfillment of this mandate, the committee drafted the State of the Lake report (July 2013) using data collected from interested parties from two questionnaires, individual and group consultations, and research using electronic, telephone and personal contacts. The final report was approved at the 2014 KLA Annual General Meeting as a living document that will be revised as new information becomes available or additional issues arise.

The next step was drafting a strategic, long range plan rooted in the State of the Lake Report and data gathered from Kashwakamak Lake constituents that encourages a cooperative and shared responsibility for the protection of the lake.

### 3. Vision

The vision for the Lake Sustainability Plan is to develop a plan that carries forward a legacy of enjoying the lake while supporting the natural environment for future generations. This is an effort that brings together common interests of the community as we all contribute to the solutions to ensure that we have a healthy community for generations to come.

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*“For generations, the Kashwakamak properties have been a focal point for all our families to visit each other, and a central place where we can all visit nature and forget the worries of our jobs, no matter how stressful.”*

Community Survey Comment

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### 4. Community Participation

Community input is critical to the development and implementation of the sustainability plan. Residents, both permanent and seasonal, and commercial operations who derive income directly from the lake have been represented on the KLA sub-committee along with the MVCA and the Township of North Frontenac. The sub-committee consulted other parties who had access to or benefited from Kashwakamak Lake including business owners and residents from areas of Northbrook, Cloyne and Fernleigh, outfitters from as far away as Kingston, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF).

Throughout the five year lake planning process our goal was to keep stakeholders informed and involved. This was done through email, direct mail, regular [website](#) updates, [Facebook page](#) updates, articles in the *Frontenac News*, KLA meetings and the KLA's *Kash Courier*. Going forward the KLA and the KLPC will focus on continued community input and participation in the implementation of the lake sustainability plan. Current information and a [link](#) to this and other reports can be found on the KLA's website, [www.kashwakamak.ca](http://www.kashwakamak.ca).

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan would not have been possible without the countless hours and dedication of the Kashwakamak Lake Planning Committee (KLPC). Our steering committee includes

Scott Bennett –	Environmental Sustainability
Peter Burbidge –	Cottager
Joanne Fisher –	Cottager
Sue MacGregor –	Communications
Judy McIntyre –	Chair and Kashwakamak Lake Association Liaison
Fred Perry –	Deputy Mayor, Township of North Frontenac
Kevin Phillips –	Owner, Fernleigh Lodge
Darryl Simpson –	Cottager
Alyson Symon –	Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority

In addition to the support and funding from the KLA, we would like to acknowledge support from the following organizations:

- Bird Studies Canada (BSC)
- Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO)
- Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA)
- Mazinaw Lanark Forest Inc. (MLFI)
- Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MEECC)
- Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA)
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH)
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNR)
- Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)
- Township of North Frontenac (TNF)

We would also like to thank the following students for their work on this initiative:

- Kris Kok, a student at Carleton University, who was hired by MVCA to help with lake plans under the Canada Summer Jobs Program through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC).
- Andrea Lee, a Carleton University graduate who was hired by MVCA as an intern under a Training Incentive Placement Program funded by Youth Employment Fund (Government of Ontario) through the Canadian Career Academy in Carleton Place.
- Natalie Reynolds, a student at the North Addington Education Centre in Cloyne, Ontario who designed the issue icons and her teacher, Katie Ohlke for her support in this project.

Finally, we would also like to acknowledge members of the KLA, area residents and visitors of the lake – all who provided us with feedback through surveys and discussions, as well as 31 commercial neighbours, with whom we conducted telephone interviews.

Recognition is also due to the sustainability planning committees from Otty Lake and Bob's Lake whose plans were excellent resources.



## ACRONYMS

BSC	Bird Studies Canada
FOC	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
FOCA	Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
HRSDC	Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
KLA	Kashwakamak Lake Association
KLPC	Kashwakamak Lake Planning Committee
MLFI	Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc.
MMAH	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
MNRF	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
MOECC	Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
MPAC	Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
MVCA	Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority
OFAH	Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
OMNRF	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
OPP	Ontario Provincial Police
TNF	Township of North Frontenac

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*"Of all the things that I appreciate at the cottage are the sight and sounds of people enjoying themselves ... Laughter of kids, the shouts of joy when a new water skier gets out of the water for the first time, or the quiet sound of a paddle banging against the gunnel of canoe."*

Community Survey comment

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

Located downstream of Mazinaw and Marble Lakes and upstream of Farm, Mud and Crotch Lakes, Kashwakamak Lake is essentially a widening of the Mississippi River and is located in the Township of North Frontenac (TNF).

The watershed extends northwest to Denbigh and the outflow from Mazinaw Lake is the main source of water for the lake. The Mississippi River enters the west end of the lake from the outlet of Georgia Lake at Whitefish Rapids and exits at the Kashwakamak Lake Dam at the east end of the lake to flow down the Mississippi River.

The total drainage area for the lake is 417 square kilometres, with a surface area of 1208 hectares. The lake perimeter is approximately 72 km long and its shoreline is dominated by numerous inlets and shallow bays. The average depth of the lake is 8.4 metres and the maximum depth is 22 metres. Kashwakamak Lake is at an elevation of 261 metres above sea level.

Based on 2014 Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) mapping information, there are an estimated 534 properties on the lake.



Kashwakamak Lake is fortunate to have 27 large tracts of Crown Land along much of its shoreline. It is estimated that 39% (plus numerous crown islands) of the lands fronting onto the lake are Crown. In addition, there are 87 vacant lots. There are several small wetlands around the perimeter of the lake, and the surrounding land is mostly forest covered, as it is poor agricultural land.

Photo: Liz Hall



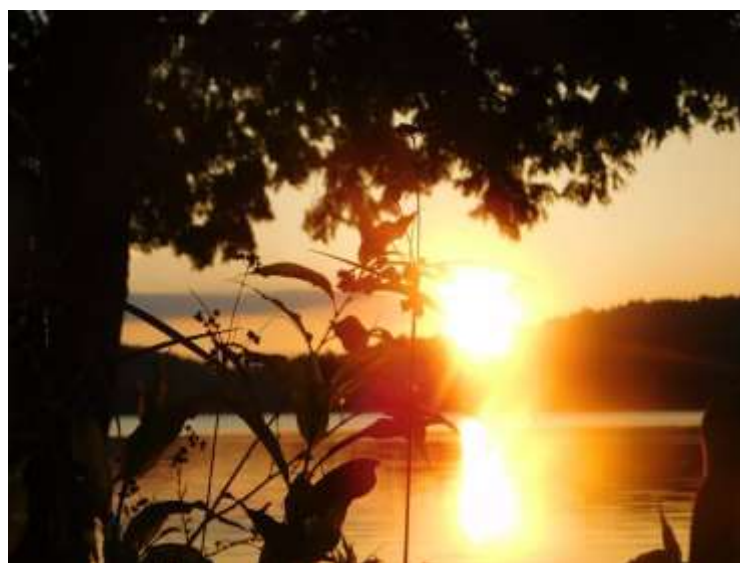
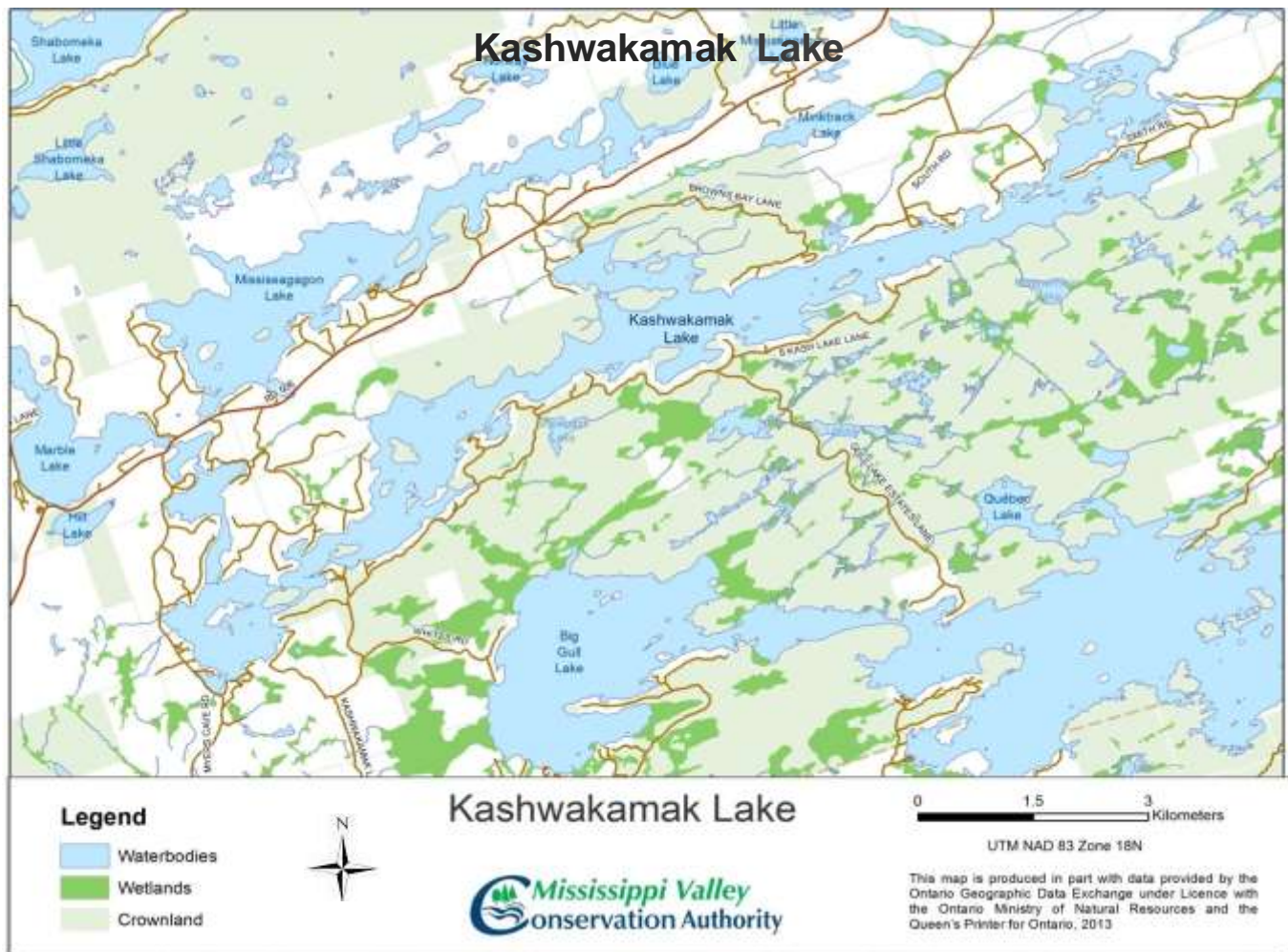


Photo: Moonyene Boyd

## What do you value about Kashwakamak Lake?

The Kashwakamak Lake Planning Committee (KLPC) conducted a survey of lake users to obtain a view of how they use the lake, what they value about the lake and what they see as the issues potentially impacting those values. The Survey was conducted through the summer and fall of 2011. The KLPC also conducted a separate phone survey of local businesses. The community survey was completed by 170 individuals and 31 businesses participated in the business survey. Survey results were then shared at the 2012 Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA) Annual General Meeting and public discussion and input was sought. (**See Appendix 1 of the [State of the Lake Report: Survey Results](#)** ).

In the **Community Survey**, respondents were asked to identify and rank the features that they most value about Kashwakamak Lake. A list of 11 potential values were provided and participants were invited to add any values that were not on the list. The **Values** most identified (weighted score) by the community respondents were:

1. Clean, Clear Water
2. Peace and Tranquility
3. Recreational Enjoyment
4. Appreciation of Wildlife, Birds, etc.
5. Retention of Crown Land
6. Night skies
7. Natural Shorelines
8. Cottage Safety/Property Security
9. Landscapes
10. "Cottage Country" Characteristics
11. Sense of Community

In the **Business Survey**, respondents were asked why the Kashwakamak Lake community is important to their business. The responses were as follows:

1. Customers
2. Good roads to customers' property
3. Good cottage/camper relationships
4. Lake quality
5. Social events

## What are the issues on Kashwakamak Lake?

Through the community survey participants were asked to identify and rate what they regarded as the issues for the lake. A list of 18 potential issues was provided and respondents could also add any additional issues not included on the list. The issues/concerns identified by the respondents were as follows (listed by weighted score):

1. Personal Water Crafts
2. Boating Related Issues
3. Fish Depletion
4. Weeds/Algae
5. Daytime Noise
6. Water Levels
7. Residential/Commercial Development

8. Water Pollution
9. Night time Noise
10. Tree and Vegetation Removal
11. Septic System Issues
12. Outdoor Light Pollution
13. Road Access
14. Camping on Islands
15. Logging Operations
16. All-Terrain Vehicles
17. Water Access
18. Snowmobiles

In the **Business Survey**, participants were asked to identify their businesses' issues or concerns about the Kashwakamak Lake community. No issues were identified by 50% of those surveyed.

Of those businesses surveyed, 6.6% identified 2 issues:

- Lack of local customers
- Fish Habitat

Of those businesses surveyed, 3.3% identified the following issues:

- Customer needs change with demographic change
- Jet Skis
- Lack of government support for business
- Logging Restrictions
- Low water levels in fall
- Municipality not encouraging development
- Over protective cottagers
- Plans fall back to MNR
- Some roads are poor
- Unsure sustainability is important
- Want to expand business






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*"Cottagers play an  
important part of  
my business."*

Business Survey Comment

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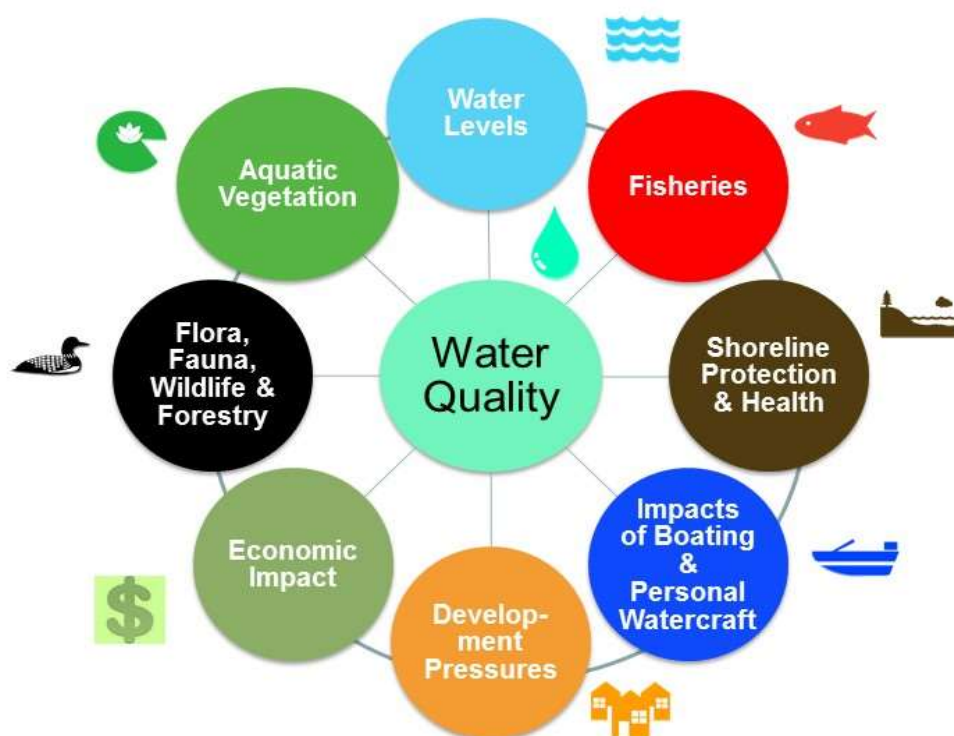
From the above we have identified the following nine issues:

1.  Impacts of Boating and Personal Watercraft
2.  Development Pressures
3.  Water Quality
4.  Aquatic Vegetation
5.  Fisheries

6.  Shoreline Protection and Health
7.  Water Levels
8.  Flora, Fauna, Wildlife and Forestry
9.  Economic Impact

## INTERDEPENDENCE OF ISSUES

Many of these issues overlap and are interdependent. Based on survey results and discussions with many people **water quality** is at the centre of every issue.



## 1. IMPACTS OF BOATING AND PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

Power boating is a popular recreational activity that many lake residents and users enjoy. Boating was identified as the third most popular recreational activity, with 85% of survey respondents indicating that they boat on Kashwakamak Lake. Personal Watercraft was the #1 issue of those surveyed, and boating was the #2 issue. Motorized boats and personal watercraft can introduce invasive species and pollute the environment through emissions. Motorized boats and personal watercrafts can irritate property owners with excessive speed, noise and by coming in too close to shore present a safety concern to swimmers and other boaters. Boat and Personal Watercraft wakes can accelerate shoreline erosion and impact wildlife by flooding nest sites. Boat propellers can chop up invasive aquatic plants and aid in spreading them.

### ISSUES

Shoreline erosion, noise, boat traffic, personal safety, invasive species, pollution, impact on wildlife

### WHAT WE KNOW


- Shoreline erosion is a common and natural process that many waterfront properties encounter
- Boat wakes can cause shoreline erosion, disturb aquatic ecosystems, swamp the nests of loons and other waterfowl, damage docks and boats, upset canoes and small boats and create danger to swimmers
- The extent to which boat and personal watercraft wakes contributes to shoreline erosion around Kashwakamak Lake is currently not documented
- There is no information available to determine if current boating activity is a significant source of air and water pollution for the lake
- All operators of recreational powered watercrafts who operate within Canadian waters require a Pleasure Craft Operators Card, regardless of engine size, or length of boat
- Conventional two-stroke marine engines in boats and personal watercrafts emit proportionally more volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other air pollutants than more fuel efficient, direct injection two-stroke and four-stroke engines

A **personal water craft** (PWC), also called a **water scooter**, is a recreational watercraft that the rider sits or stands on, rather than inside of, as in a boat. PWCs have two style categories: "sit down", where the rider used the watercraft mainly sitting down and typically holds two or more people and "stand up", where the rider uses the watercraft standing up. They are often referred by the trademarked brand names Jet Ski, WaveRunner or SeaDoo. The US Coast Guard defines a PWC as a jet boat less than 13 feet or 4 metres in length.



## GOAL

To minimize the negative impacts of boating on Kashwakamak Lake

1.  IMPACTS OF BOATING & PERSONAL WATERCRAFT		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Ensure our lake community is aware of the impacts of specific boating behaviors	Share information and educate motor boat users how to minimize their impact on the lake	Information can be distributed through KLA website, newsletters, emails and Facebook page  Presentation at an AGM – how to minimize boat wake
	Reduce impact on shoreline erosion and on wildlife	Add “no wake zone” signs  Add speed reduction signs in narrow areas throughout the lake  Encourage loon nest protection and promote distance of watercraft from nesting birds and wildlife
	Protect Kashwakamak Lake from the introduction of invasive species	Continue to provide information about the introduction of invasive species and their impact on the lake  Evaluate and explore the feasibility of providing boat washing facilities  Post additional and larger signs at public access points warning of the spread of invasive species
	Promote safe boating habits	Invite the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to an AGM to share their experiences and findings on our lake  Continue maintenance and installation of KLA marker buoys throughout the lake  Develop and provide boating etiquette brochures to the lake community and commercial lodges and campgrounds



	Educate users on new low emission engine technology	Information can be distributed through the <a href="#">KLA website</a> , newsletters, emails and the <a href="#">Lake Kashwakamak Facebook group</a>  Share information on new technologies in both 2 and 4 stroke engines, the positive effect of motor maintenance
	Gain an understanding for how many motorized, and non-motorized boats are on the lake	Through a survey, a boat census or data collection, identify motorized, versus non-motorized boats, hours of use, time of day, time of year of use etc.

## 1. IMPACTS OF BOATING & PERSONAL WATERCRAFT: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Pay attention to your boat wake and understand the impact it has on the shoreline and wildlife
- Ensure your boat is well-maintained and that the engine is running efficiently
- Beware of the implications in moving boats from lake to lake
- Read **Section 10** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Boating, Buoys, Safety and Impact of Boating](#) to learn more about boating on Kashwakamak Lake

## 2. DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES

As the population continues to grow, maintaining the health of the lake, while meeting demands for development and redevelopment will be a continuing challenge. Promoting sustainable future development within our watershed will help to protect the lake's overall health. 96% of those surveyed in 2011 indicated that retention of crown land was either very important or important.

### ISSUES

Overdevelopment, increase in number of boats, shoreline clearing, loss of habitat, erosion, privacy, noise and other pollution

## WHAT WE KNOW

- Development is managed through the Township of North Frontenac (TNF) by the Official Plan and Zoning Bylaws:
  - The **Official Plan** sets out the municipality's general policies for future land use (policies for where and how to manage growth and development).
  - The **Zoning Bylaws** guide how development can take place within a property (where buildings and other structures can be located, lot sizes and dimensions, parking requirements, building heights and setbacks from lots lines, water, etc.)
- The North Frontenac Official Plan was approved on December 23, 2003. Under the *Planning Act* Official Plans must undergo review and update (if needed to reflect current policy) every 5 years. A new North Frontenac Official Plan adopted by Council in February 2012 was never approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). Following the approval of the Frontenac County Official Plan in January 2016, MMAH delegated the approval authority for local Official Plans and Official Plan amendments to Frontenac County Council. Frontenac County is now responsible for approving the new Township of North Frontenac Official Plan. A new draft North Frontenac Official Plan is currently under review and is slated for approval in the fall of 2016
- The Township of North Frontenac Zoning Bylaw was approved by Council in July 2004. A new draft Zoning Bylaw was prepared in June 2011 but was not approved. Further revisions and approval of the new Zoning By-law are on hold pending approval of the new Official Plan
- The Planning Act includes requirements for public consultation when changes are being considered to the Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw documents. This provides an opportunity for the lake community to formally review and provide comments and recommendations to the Township and/or the County regarding changes to the Official Plan or Zoning Bylaws
- Approximately 39% of the lands fronting onto the lake are crown. This estimate does not include the un-purchased 66 foot shore road allowance in front of privately owned properties
- Lands are managed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR)
- Under agreement with OMNR, the TNF manages 19 established campsites on the Crown Land around Kashwakamak Lake
- Cottage lots were originally severed and sold by the Crown starting in the late 1950s
- To date there have been no large scale residential developments, such as subdivision or condominium type development on the lake
- Based on a 2014 Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) mapping information, there are an estimated 534 properties including 4 resorts/marinas on the lake
- There is an ongoing Algonquin Land Claim, and Kashwakamak Lake is part of the claim territory. A proposed Agreement in Principle is available at [www.ontario.ca/landclaims](http://www.ontario.ca/landclaims)


Township of North Frontenac Zoning By-Law Provisions Related to Dwelling and Accessory Structures on Residential Waterfront Lots				
	North Frontenac (Zoning By-Law No. 15-04 2004)		North Frontenac ( Zoning By-Law No. 15-04 2011 Draft)	
Zone	Waterfront Residential (RW)			
Lot Area	4000 m <sup>2</sup> ( 0.98 ac)		To be decided	
Water Frontage	45 m ( 147.6 ft.)		61 m (200 ft.) 91 m ( 300 ft.) for narrow water body channel	
	Main Building	Accessory Building	Main Building	Accessory Building
Lot Coverage	15%	5%	15%	3%
Front Yard	30 m (98.4 ft.)	7 m ( 22.9 ft.)	30 m (98.4 ft.)	With water frontage: 30 m ( 98.4 ft.) Without: 7 m (22.9 ft.)
Exterior Side	7 m (22.9 ft.)	7 m ( 22.9 ft.)	7 m (22.9 ft.)	7 m ( 22.9 ft.)
Interior Side	3 m ( 9.8 ft.)	3 m (9.8 ft.)	3 m ( 9.8 ft.)	3 m (9.8 ft.)
Rear Yard	7.5 m ( 24.6 ft.)	3 m (9.8 ft.)	7.5 m ( 24.6 ft.)	3 m (9.8 ft.)
Setback from High -water Mark	20 m ( 65.6 ft.)		30m ( 98.4 ft.)	

For more information, please refer to page 55 of the KLA's [State of the Lake Report](#).

Township of North Frontenac Zoning By-Law Provisions Related to Dwelling and Accessory Structures on Residential Waterfront Lots (continued)		
	North Frontenac (Zoning By-Law No. 15-04 2004)	North Frontenac (Zoning By-Law No. 15-04 2011 Draft)
Zone	Waterfront Residential (RW)	
Shoreline Occu- pancy Provisions	No shoreline structure shall be permitted within a depth of 20 m (65.6 ft.) from the shoreline except a boat house, boat port, float plane hangar, dock or wharf.	No person shall erect any building or structure in the Waterfront Residential (RW) Zone unless the lot upon which such a building or structure is to be erected has <i>frontage</i> onto and direct access to public street or private lane, except a boat house, boat port, float plane hangar, dock or wharf.
Building Height	Main Building: 10 m ( 32.6) Accessory Building: 6m (19.7 ft.) Boat House: 1 storey	
Decks	Maximum of one gazebo and viewing stand per lot is permitted. Additional provisions shall not apply to such structures where they are set back 5 m (16.4 ft.) from the high water mark	A maximum of one gazebo or viewing deck or platform per lot is permitted. Additional provisions shall not apply to such structures where they are set back 5 m (16.4 ft.) from the high water mark.
Dwelling unit area	Single, detached, mobile home, seasonal or group home (1)	Single, detached, mobile home, seasonal or group home (1). Apartments in a house shall be permitted in accordance with Section 4.2( <i>Accessory Residential Uses</i> )
Docks	Non-toxic materials. Limited to floating, cantilevered or post dock construction. Shall not exceed 2.4 m (7.84 ft.) in width or 10 m (32.8 ft.) in length.	
Sleeping Cabins	A maximum of one Sleep Cabin per lot shall be permitted as an accessory use to a main permitted seasonal residential or waterfront residential dwelling. Shall not exceed 18 m <sup>2</sup> ( 193.7 ft <sup>2</sup> )	A sleep cabin or a loft above a detached garage shall comply with the provisions of Section 4.2 ( <i>Accessory Residential Uses</i> )
Marine Facilities	No shoreline structure which will destroy fish habitat will be permitted. The gross floor area of a boat house or boat port shall not exceed 38 m <sup>2</sup> (409.1 ft <sup>2</sup> ).	No shoreline structure which will destroy fish habitat shall be permitted. The gross floor area of a boat house or boat port shall not exceed 38 m <sup>2</sup> (409.1 ft <sup>2</sup> ).
Private ROW set-back		
Swimming Pools	Private Swimming Pools, both above-ground and in-ground both open and covered shall be permitted subject to any By-law of the township regarding swimming pools and following requirements in section 4.1.2	Private swimming pools, both above ground and in-ground both open and covered <i>and including inflatable pools</i> shall be permitted subject to any of the By-law of the Township regarding swimming pools in section 4.1.2

## GOAL

To protect the lake environment and ecosystems from the impacts of development and redevelopment

2.  DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Ensure the Township Official Plans and Zoning Bylaws have development and redevelopment policies that will protect the long-term health of the lake	Identify future allowable development by assessing the impact of the Township of North Frontenac's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaws on Kashwakamak Lake	<p>Hire a consultant to prepare a report that applies the current TNF Official Plan and Zoning Bylaws to our lake showing maximum allowable development on the lake according to the current municipal land use regulations</p> <p>Contact the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) (1-866-296-6722) to obtain the number of Seasonal versus Permanent Dwellings located on Kashwakamak Lake</p>
	<p>Work with the TNF and MVCA to obtain up to date information about the lake in order to provide constructive feedback on Official Plans and Zoning Bylaws</p> <p>Ensure shoreline buffer areas are protected during and following any development</p> <p>Provide educational information to the community regarding development pressures and how they can be minimized</p>	<p>Meet with the TNF and share our lake sustainability plan; maintain open communications with the TNF</p> <p>In reviewing changes to the Official Plan and Zoning By-Laws (see recommendations on page 18) encourage the Township to enhance policies, provisions and implementation tools and efforts aimed at maintaining a natural vegetated shoreline buffer</p> <p>In the sale of shore allowance to the abutting property owner, encourage the Township to put measures in place (i.e. covenant on title) requiring that the shoreline vegetation buffer is maintained to the standard set out in the Official Plan and/or Zoning By-Law</p>
	Ensure that any development plans (including Green Energy initiatives) are shared in an open manner throughout the entire process	<p>Communicate regularly with KLA members about any current applications</p> <p>Establish a criteria and a process where TNF communicates directly with the KLA for applicable development applications</p>

		<p>Seek a volunteer to sit on the TNF Committee of Adjustment/Planning Advisory Committee or to attend the meetings</p> <p>Request the KLA be informed of all severance and variance applications by the township, to ensure that the lake community is kept up to date</p>
	Stay current on the TNF Official Plan and Zoning Bylaws and scheduled reviews	At the time of the Official Plan 5 Year review and at the time of any update of the Zoning By-Law, form a sub-committee of the KLA to review and provide comments to the Township (Official Plan and Zoning By-Law reviews) and/or County (Official Plan review)
Monitor the status of the Algonquin Land Claim	Stay current on the Algonquin Land Claim and ensure that potential impacts to Kashwakamak Lake are highlighted	<p>Communicate regularly with KLA members through the KLA website, newsletters, emails, Facebook group and other social media outlets</p> <p>Regularly review the website regarding the status of the land claims</p>

## **2. DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW**

- Stay up to date on TNF issues by checking their website regularly and reviewing agendas and minutes from township meetings
- Communicate with the KLA if you hear of any upcoming changes, so that together we can stay ahead of any development or re-development pressures
- Understand the current township Official Plan and Zoning Bylaws  
<http://www.northfrontenac.com/services-planning.html>
- Read **Section 7** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Lake Development](#) to learn more about development on Kashwakamak Lake

## **3. WATER QUALITY**

Clean, clear water was ranked as the number one lake feature valued by survey respondents. Surface water quality in Kashwakamak Lake is affected by both natural processes and human activities. Human causes include shoreline development, excessive recreational use, faulty septic systems and surface runoff carrying fertilizers or other chemicals. Water quality for Kashwakamak Lake and other area lakes is assessed according to several parameters that provide a measurement of nutrient loading. Higher levels of nutrients such as phosphorus can affect the health of the Lake, promoting algal blooms and excessive aquatic plant growth. Other potential pollutants such as hydrocarbons, metals and bacteria (*E. coli*) are generally not monitored on lakes except as needed for a specific feature (ex. public beaches are monitored for *E. coli* bacteria), an event (ex. gasoline spill), or other potential issues.



## ISSUES


Nutrient loading, pollution, water clarity, aesthetics, invasive species

## WHAT WE KNOW

- Water sampling shows that Kashwakamak Lake has low to moderate nutrient levels (total phosphorus), fluctuating between Mesotrophic and Oligotrophic status
- Dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles for the lake show that by mid-July the bottom waters of the lake become oxygen deficient, this reduces habitat and survivability for aquatic life
- pH levels are consistently above 7.0 and within the Provincial Water Quality Objective range of 6.5 to 8.5
- In 2013 sampling of the lake for invasive species confirmed the presence of both Zebra Mussels and Spiny Water Flea. Spiny Water Flea were found again in 2014
- The voluntary septic re-inspections program started in 2006 found that 51% of the 144 systems inspected between 2006 and 2012 required some form of remedial work (ex. repairs, pump out)

## GOAL

Protect, maintain and improve the water quality of Kashwakamak Lake

3.  WATER QUALITY		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Monitor and assess water quality to determine lake health	Continue and enhance the monitoring of water quality on Kashwakamak Lake to provide ongoing record of water quality conditions and identify sources of impairment	Through the KLA Lake Steward, continue to participate in <a href="#">Lake Partner Program</a> (MOECC and volunteer) Programs  Encourage MVCA to continue their active involvement in water quality monitoring on the lake through their <a href="#">Watershed Watch Program</a>
	Assess current water quality monitoring programs to ensure they are adequate and appropriate in terms of what is being monitored and how it is being monitored	Consult with water quality monitoring experts (MVCA, MOECC and others) to determine adequacy of current levels of monitoring  Work with MVCA and/or Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) to modify/expand sampling parameters, locations, and/or frequency as needed to identify sources of water quality impairment  Work with MVCA water to assess potential benefit of increasing the monitoring frequency of every 5 years

	Ensure water quality data is being used to identify and report on trends or changes in lake health	Work with MVCA to regularly review changes and trends in water quality parameters relative to Provincial water quality objectives
Reduce or eliminate sources of water quality impairment	Promote awareness of threats to water quality through education and good stewardship practices	<p>Information can be distributed through KLA website, newsletters, emails and Facebook page</p> <p>Work with the TNF and the North Frontenac Parklands to gain an understanding of the number of people using Kashwakamak Lake campsites, which ones, and at what times</p> <p>Develop a 'campers and renters package' that would include information do's and don'ts related to water quality and pollution</p> <p>Establish a committee to supply firewood to the campgrounds</p> <p>Work with TNF to distribute the campers packages</p> <p>Provide presentations and guest speakers at AGMs</p>
	Support stewardship projects and programs aimed at reducing surface runoff and pollution	<p>Support and promote efforts to maintain and create natural vegetated buffers on the lake shore</p> <p>Participate in the <a href="#">Watersheds Canada Love Your Lake Program</a></p>
	Develop an awareness and education program on septic system care and maintenance	<p>Prepare and distribute to all residents a brochure on septic system care and maintenance</p> <p>Include information on septic system care in KLA newsletters and on KLA website</p> <p>Provide presentations and guest speakers at AGMs</p> <p>Support the TNF in implementing mandatory septic inspections and re-inspections</p>

### 3. WATER QUALITY: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Read **Section 4** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Water Quality and Aquatic Life](#) to learn more about water quality on Kashwakamak Lake
- Keep your shoreline well vegetated: start a buffer strip by leaving some grass uncut near the water and replanting areas lacking shrubs and trees with native vegetation
- Don't use fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides near the water
- Avoid spilling fuels on the land or water
- Dispose of leftover hazardous waste (i.e. antifreeze, paint thinner or other chemicals) at a designated hazardous waste facility
- Ensure your septic system is healthy – through regular pumping, inspections, and filter Installation and/or maintenance, <http://mvc.on.ca/?s=septic+system>

### 4. AQUATIC VEGETATION

16% of those surveyed in 2011 indicated that weeds and algae had moderate or significant impact to their enjoyment of their property or time at the lake.

While many people consider aquatic plants to be weeds, they are an important and necessary part of a healthy lake ecosystem. They provide shelter, breeding sites or nesting sites and food for many fish, insects and animals; they help to prevent algae blooms by taking up nutrients; they improve water clarity by stabilizing sediments; and they prevent shoreline erosion by dissipating wave/wake energy and holding onto sediment that would otherwise wash away. While aquatic vegetation is a natural and essential part of a balanced ecosystem, higher amounts of phosphorus (nutrient enrichment) can lead to an overgrowth of “weeds” and algae, resulting in impairment to water clarity and water quality. In extreme cases, algal blooms will form, affecting the aesthetics and enjoyment of the lake.

## ISSUES

Excessive growth, interference with recreation, aesthetics, introduction of invasive species


## WHAT WE KNOW

- Understanding what drives excessive aquatic vegetation growth and establishing management actions are key in managing aquatic vegetation growth rate
- There is no specific research or documentation of weed growth in Kashwakamak Lake; however it has been observed that there has been noticeable increase in weed growth in the past 10 years

- Filamentous algae is a common and troublesome aquatic weed that forms dense, hair-like mats near shore bottom sediments or submerged objects in lakes with good transparency where light reaches the bottom
- Excessive nutrient loading (phosphorus and nitrogen) can result from man-made sources such as lawn fertilizers, faulty septic systems, soil erosion and phosphorus-rich detergents
- The concentration of nutrients in the water, water temperature and the amount of light can all influence the type and the amount of algae and aquatic plant growth in the lake
- As a lake ages, a buildup of nutrients in the sediment can cause a natural increase in plant growth over time (eutrophication); this process can be sped up when a lake receives an overload of nutrients from fertilizer runoff, leaky septic systems, or erosion; increases in water temperature caused by changes in climate and the removal or shoreline vegetation that would normally provide shade, can also contribute to excessive plant and algae growth

## GOAL

Work towards achieving aquatic vegetation levels that balance the ecological health of the lake with the continued human enjoyment of the lake

4.  AQUATIC VEGETATION		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Develop a better understanding of the state of aquatic vegetation in Kashwakamak Lake (types, amounts, changes over time)	Monitor aquatic vegetation within Kashwakamak Lake	<p>Develop a volunteer-based aquatic vegetation monitoring program to monitor species diversity and vegetation density</p> <p>Use the <a href="http://citizenwaterwatch.ca">citizenwaterwatch.ca</a> monitoring website</p> <p>Monitor/map aquatic vegetation and wetlands on a regular cycle (ex. annually, every two years, 5 years, etc.)</p> <p>Use Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) <a href="#">toolkit</a> to monitor for invasive aquatic plant species</p>
	Encourage research into determining the factors contributing to growth of aquatic vegetation	Continue working with Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and other partners when opportunities arise and actively seek out other opportunities

	Promote stewardship and land use practices aimed at reducing excessive aquatic vegetation and algae growth	<p>Educate property owners about the value of aquatic vegetation, the causes of excessive aquatic vegetation growth</p> <p>Work with groups of shoreline owners for targeted, effective reductions in aquatic vegetation/algae</p> <p>Provide information to the community regarding approved means to control or remove excessive weeds/vegetation</p>
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#### 4. AQUATIC VEGETATION: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Read **Section 4.4** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake Plan State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Weeds and Algae](#) to learn about both the benefits of aquatic vegetation, and some of the concern about and cause of excessive weed and algae growth
- Do not use fertilizers that can enter the lake through surface runoff
- Ensure your septic system is healthy – through regular pumping, inspections, and filter installation/maintenance
- Avoid operating your boat motor through weedy areas – as weeds can spread when they are chopped up

#### 5. FISHERIES

Fish depletion was ranked the third highest issue/concern by survey respondents. Wildlife biodiversity is an integral part of the overall health of the lake. Maintaining a healthy and natural habitat ecosystem on the lake will protect wildlife and fish populations that depend upon it. The state of a lake's fishery is a good indicator of the overall health of the lake environment. A healthy lake with good water quality and sustainable use will support a healthy fish population. This in turn will increase the natural beauty and enjoyment of Kashwakamak Lake. Fishing was identified as the eighth most popular recreational activity, with 62% of survey respondents indicating that they fish on Kashwakamak Lake.

## ISSUES


Fish habitat protection, proper fishing practices and enforcement of fishing regulations

## WHAT WE KNOW

- Kashwakamak Lake boasts a diverse fish community including walleye, northern pike, largemouth bass and pan fish populations
- The weedy inlets and bays of Kashwakamak Lake are ideal habitat for cool water and warm water fish species that dominate the lake.
- The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) oversees a Broad-scale Fisheries Monitoring Program. Netting was done on the lake in 2008 and then again in 2013. For more information, please go to: [2013 Lake Bulletin Report](#) and [2008 Lake Bulletin Report](#)

## GOAL

Ensure a healthy fish habitat

5.  FISHERIES		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Protect, maintain and enhance indigenous fish and wildlife diversity and their required habitat in Kashwakamak Lake	Improve fish habitat and fish population around the lake	<p>Map and assess condition of walleye spawning areas around the lake</p> <p>Examine potential for improvement to existing and creation of new walleye spawning sites</p> <p>Work with appropriate agencies to undertake fish habitat enhancement projects</p> <p>Ensure fish habitat is protected as per the <a href="#">MNR Natural Heritage Reference Manual</a> and Environment Canada's <a href="#">How Much Habitat is Enough?</a></p> <p>Lobby the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) to conduct inventories and research to better understand the state of the fishery (populations, spawning and other habitats, need and opportunity for rehabilitation and/or stocking), and to implement rehabilitation and stocking efforts if the need is identified</p>
	Work to reduce stressors on fish populations	<p>Develop an awareness and education campaign about the lake's fisheries, lake friendly fishing practices and current fishing regulations</p> <p>Request that OMNRF provide increased enforcement of fishing and ice fishing regulations</p>



## 5. FISHERIES: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Read **Section 11** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake Plan State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Fishing](#) to learn about the fishery in Kashwakamak Lake
- Look for bass spawning sites near your shoreline and dock and avoid disturbing those areas during spawning season (generally late May to mid-June)
- Do not dump fill or sand along the waterfront
- Leave trees where they fall in the water unless they are a hazard to boaters or swimmers
- Use docks as bridge over the weedier shallows, or moor a raft in deeper water, rather than removing aquatic vegetation/weeds and logs to make a swimming area

## 6. SHORELINE PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Shorelines provide essential habitat for fish, reptiles, waterfowl and mammals. A healthy shoreline helps to minimize erosion, and filters contaminants from entering the lake. Maintaining a healthy shoreline is critical to the lake ecosystem and to protecting the overall water quality of the lake. 95% of those surveyed in 2011 indicated that shoreline protection was either very important or important.

### ISSUES


Shoreline erosion, removal of aquatic vegetation, loss of habitat, developed shorelines

### WHAT WE KNOW

- There has been no evaluation of Kashwakamak Lake erosion conditions
- Observation shows that banks are slowly being undercut as demonstrated by overhanging trees that eventually over time fall into the lake
- The protection of fish, wildlife, their habitats and water quality depends upon the protection of vegetated lake shores
- Shoreline erosion can result in the loss of land and affect shoreline property values
- The [Township of North Frontenac \(TNF\) Zoning By-law No. 15-04 \(Draft\) dated June 2011](#) requires that the remaining shoreline frontage be retained or restored a 15 metre (49.2 ft) in depth, measured from the normal or controlled high water mark (Section 4.22.2). The intent of the By-law is to eliminate the total clearing of trees and vegetation from the cottage to the lake. The Zoning By-law Amendments cannot be passed until the TNF Official Plan is passed

## GOAL

Increase community awareness regarding shoreline protection and health

6.  SHORELINE PROTECTION AND HEALTH		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Maintain and encourage healthy shorelines	Determine the percentage of natural versus altered (degraded, hardened and/or ornamental) shorelines on the lake	Participate in a shoreline study with <a href="#">Watersheds Canada Love Your Lake</a> to determine the percentage of natural versus altered (degraded, hardened and/or ornamental) shorelines  Repeat the study at various intervals to monitor progress
	Educate lake community on programs available for shoreline restoration	Understand MVCA and other shoreline restoration programs offered and continue to share with community  Share examples of shorelines that have been maintained, restored or protected

## 6. SHORELINE PROTECTION AND HEALTH: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Read **Section 5** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake Plan State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Shoreline Erosion](#), to learn about erosion on Kashwakamak Lake
- Read the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority document "Solutions for Shoreline Erosion"
- Work with Watersheds Canada through the Natural Edge Program to re-establish a natural shoreline
- Host a workshop for the Natural Edge Program
- Check out Watersheds Canada Love Your Lake Program
- Restore your buffer zone
- Reduce boat wakes

## 7. WATER LEVELS

Water levels can be a source of concern for Kashwakamak Lake residents, ranking sixth among the issues and concerns the survey respondents identified for the lake. Comments included concern about damage to trees and wildlife from high water levels, better notification of planned changes in the water levels, and reducing the amount of drop in the water level. Changes in weather conditions including unusually high or low amounts of precipitation and/or storm events can periodically contribute to unusually high or low water levels. Climate change predictions suggest that we will see seasonal changes in the amounts of precipitation and that may change the timing, duration and intensity of both high flow (flood) and low flow (drought) events.

Kashwakamak Lake is a managed system, operated by the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and not within the KLA's control. The dam located at Kashwakamak Lake's outlet is owned and operated by the MVCA and is used to manage water levels under normal conditions according to management strategies and operation ranges set out in the Mississippi River Water Management Plan (2006). The Kashwakamak Lake dam will be in need of major repair at some time in the near future. MVCA is currently considering policy options to guide the apportionment of cost (cost sharing) between municipalities, in accordance with the Conservation Authorities Act, for capital projects such as dam repairs.

### ISSUES

Too high, too low, property damage, impact on a lake's ecosystem and wildlife

### WHAT WE KNOW


- Kashwakamak Lake is a reservoir lake meaning that throughout the winter the water level is lowered allowing room for storing water from spring rains and snow melt under "normal" or typical spring conditions; the lake gradually fills up again to provide suitable water levels throughout the summer recreation season
- A number of factors are taken into account in operating the dams along the system including flood control, low flow augmentation, fish and wildlife, waterpower, tourism and recreation
- Summer water levels are targeted before the start of the walleye spawn to protect a prime spawning shoal located at the head of the lake at Whitefish Rapids
- Fall drawdown begins after Thanksgiving weekend
- Over 53 years of records the annual maximum water levels have showed a relatively constant level, averaging 261.22 meters above sea level, yet average winter flows on the Mississippi River have increased substantially since the 1970s and have shown greater year to year fluctuations
- Climate change models predict spring high flows to be lower and occur earlier in the year;

summer flows will be lower and the low flow levels will last longer, whereas fall and winter flows will be higher with a greater risk of flooding and potential shoreline erosion

- Shoreline ice damage is expected to become more prevalent, putting permanent shoreline structures at risk of damage

## GOAL

Increase community awareness of water level management, to sustain natural ecosystems and to minimize risks from flooding

7.  WATER LEVELS		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Promote understanding and awareness of dam operating ranges and work with MVCA to manage expectations regarding fluctuating water levels	In cooperation with MVCA, maintain/improve the water level reporting program	<p>Maintain good liaison/dialogue with MVCA regarding water level management policies and practices</p> <p>Work with MVCA to establish a communication strategy to update property owners when water levels are a concern</p> <p>Provide/disseminate information regarding best practices and “what to expect” when living on a lake with fluctuating water levels</p> <p>Encourage the use of shoreline best management practices that are resilient to projected changes in ice conditions and water levels (ex. floating docks)</p> <p>Assist MVCA in recruiting several water monitoring volunteers to help MVCA in overseeing the water level monitoring system</p> <p>Monitor and provide input on the development of the MVCA Capital Project Levy Policy as it relates to dam repairs</p>

## 7. WATER LEVELS: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Read **Section 2** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake Plan State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Hydrology and Water Levels](#) to learn about water levels on Kashwakamak
- Look on the **MVCA website** to see where you can access [Kashwakamak Lake water level data](#)
- Leave deep rooted vegetation along the shore as a form of erosion protection against ice and wave damage
- If your permanent dock needs to be replaced or repaired consider replacing it with a floating dock or other type of removable dock

## 8. FLORA, FAUNA, WILDLIFE AND FORESTRY

Maintaining and enhancing wildlife health on the lake was identified as an important objective by the lake community. 99% of those surveyed in 2011 indicated that wildlife and birds were highly valued - as either very important or important

### ISSUES

Loss of wildlife habitat, invasive species (i.e. Emerald Ash Borer), species at risk (i.e. Bald Eagle), diminished loon nesting, loss of habitat through development and re-development, destruction of natural shoreline vegetation, fire control and prevention


### WHAT WE KNOW

- Kashwakamak Lake falls in the Northern portion of the Mixed Woods Plain Eco zone
- The lake is surrounded by large tracts of Crown Land that is mostly forested; the area is geologically controlled by the Canadian Shield and is covered with a diverse mixture of hardwood and conifer forests
- Forests are managed by the Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc. (MLFI) in cooperation with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR)
- No data has been collected on the condition of wildlife in the area
- Threats to wildlife include the loss of habitat through development and re-development and destruction of the natural shoreline vegetation
- Local wildlife centres: Sandy Pines Wildlife Centre (Napanee), [www.sandypineswildlife.org](http://www.sandypineswildlife.org) and the Rideau Wildlife Sanctuary (North Gower) [www.rideauwildlife.org](http://www.rideauwildlife.org)
- Forests drive both tourism (cottagers) and business (logging) and provide home for our wildlife, flowers and fauna
- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has developed a fire warning rating system, including daily references to humidity, rainfall, drought axis, yearly snowfall rate and snowfall compaction. This rating is posted on highway signs with a needle graph indicating the fire reading



## GOAL

Protect and ensure sustainable management of wildlife and forests

8.  FLORA, FAUNA, WILDLIFE AND FORESTRY		
Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Understand wildlife in the area	Collect data on wildlife in the area	<p>Conduct surveys to determine presence within the area and monitor for changes</p> <p>Work to set up a reporting mechanism for people to be able to report wildlife presence etc.</p> <p>Continue to share loon sightings with the KLA Loon Watch</p> <p>Enhance areas for loon nesting around the lake (i.e. nesting platforms)</p> <p>Provide information to the membership regarding interactions between humans and wildlife through the website, newsletter, emails, Facebook group, Twitter and other social media</p>
Protect Species at Risk	Encourage the protection of Species and Risk	Provide information to the community advising them what the Species at Risk are, and what they can do to help
Understand forestry in the area and fire prevention and control of fires	Encourage KLA community to review forestry management activities in the area and fire prevention and the control of fires	<p>Information can be distributed through <a href="#">KLA website</a>, newsletters, emails and the <a href="#">Lake Kashwakamak Facebook Group</a></p> <p>Encourage the KLA community to understand fire risk and common causes of fires</p> <p>Provide information to the community regarding the risk of fires, prevention and control</p> <p>Work with the Fire Chief to share information regarding fire bans</p>



## 8. FLORA, FAUNA, WILDLIFE AND FORESTRY: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Report loon sightings to the **KLA Loon Watch Program**
- Don't transport firewood from another location (to reduce the chance of transporting insects, like ash borers)
- Re-establish your shoreline
- Reduce boat wakes
- Read **Section 6** of the full [Kashwakamak Lake Plan State of the Lake Report \(July 2013\): Flora, Fauna and Wildlife](#) to learn more about what we have in our area

## 9. ECONOMIC IMPACT

An important part of the "big picture" about the sustainability of the Kashwakamak Lake community are the businesses that provide local goods and services. Whether it's a need such as plumbing, towing, or food, local businesses rely on customers to keep their doors open. Without these businesses, it could be very difficult to get the products or services we need in our community.

### ISSUES

In 2012, members of the Lake Kashwakamak Sustainability Planning Committee talked with 31 local businesses to understand their values and concerns. Three of the businesses said that they were likely closing their operations within a year. The top value and concern expressed by 75% of those surveyed is the need for local customers. Without them, they will go out of business.

### WHAT WE KNOW

#### BUSINESSES ARE BENEFICIAL

In addition to providing the goods and services to the community, there are a number of benefits from local businesses.

- Tax revenue for the local government. This means there is less pressure on residential property taxes for government revenue
- Contributions to community organizations in the form of donations or services in kind to help those less fortunate
- Local employment. Of the 31 businesses surveyed by the Lake Kashwakamak Sustainability Planning Committee in 2012, there were between 130 and 145 full time jobs provided in the community

## TOURISM DRIVES THE ECONOMY

It's important for the community to understand that seasonality is significant for businesses in the area. Based on a 2012 survey conducted by the Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Planning Committee, 31 businesses identified their peak business months of the year. When aggregated, the summer months of July and August show to be the busiest times of the year. This shows us that tourism and cottagers contribute to the economic impacts in the community. From individual discussions with these 31 business owners, 16% of them mentioned the importance of cottagers and tourists for their business.



## SPENDING LOCALLY SUPPORTS THE COMMUNITY

Think about this. Money spent at an international retailer provides local jobs, but the wealth of the owners is extracted from the community. Money spent at a locally-owned retailer stays within the community where the owner will spend the money again on advertising, food, services, etc. The concept of a "circular economy" is that keeping money within a community helps build local wealth and prosperity for the community. 75% of businesses surveyed stated that customers are the main reason the Kashwakamak Lake community is important to them. One of the top concerns, is the lack of customers.

Several businesses made a point of telling us that local business is competitive. If you're seeing a better deal in the city, then talk to the local business owner to see what they can do for you.

## GOAL

Support local businesses and the local economy to help ensure the overall sustainability of Kashwakamak Lake

## 9. ECONOMIC IMPACT

Objective	Actions	Recommendations
Support Local Businesses	Raise awareness of the benefits local businesses provide to the community	Annual article in KLA newsletter Continue to provide advertising space for local businesses in the newsletter and on the website.
	Educate seasonal residents about the available businesses and services	Print short list of local businesses and phone numbers for cottagers Include in KLA Welcome Kit
	Market "Buy Local" in the Community	Post signs on cottage roads

## 9. ECONOMIC IMPACT: WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- **Think local, buy local** - if it costs more, ask for a better price or understand why it's worth more locally.

*"Seasonal residents should appreciate that local prices are usually competitive with Big Box Stores and service is better locally."*

Business Owner Comment



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## THE FUTURE

### Next Steps

The Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan was formally released at the July 9, 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Kashwakamak Lake Association. Members of the Lake Community read it in advance and came prepared and provided valuable input. Based on input at the AGM, the Sustainability Plan was put forward for “adoption in principle.”

Lake Sustainability Committees were listed and members of the Lake Community signed up to volunteer on their committee of choice. Each Committee will then prioritize the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Sustainability Plan. Time lines for implementation of specific actions will fall from each committee. People who had expressed interest in volunteering throughout the lake planning process were emailed to update them about opportunities to get involved. New volunteers will be welcome at any time.

The Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan is a living document and will evolve. An Appendix will keep track of implementation initiatives associated with the plan and its recommendations. Lake Plan Status reports will be given to the community at each Annual General Meeting in July. Over the course of implementation the plan will be reviewed and updated in response to changes in our Lake environment and community. The Kashwakamak Lake Association will continue to consult and involve its members and the lake community as we move into the implementation stages of the plan.

The Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan will be formally reviewed and updated every five years. It will also be updated in accordance with any changes to the North Frontenac Official Plan in order to adapt to future conditions and changes. The implementation of this plan begins today with the help and support of the Kashwakamak Lake community. Ongoing community participation is essential to this whole process.

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*“We truly love the lake area and wish that its beauty and water quality be preserved. We also hope that most cottagers share this desire and ... that we will all be caretakers of the lake.”*

Community Survey Comment

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