



October 2015

KASH KOURIER

Volume 12

Mark Your Calendar for 2016 Events:

- **KLA 2015 Membership Fees** Due January 1st - Not paid up yet? Pay now by **cheque** or **Interac**
- **KLA AGM**
July 9th, 9:30-11:30 am
Harlowe Community Hall
- **Annual BBQ**
August 13th, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Fernleigh Lodge
- **Annual Fall Dinner & Silent Auction**
Details coming soon!

KLA AGM - Great Turnout!

Over 60 people attended this year's Annual General Meeting which was held at the Northbrook Lions Hall on Saturday July 11th.

Laura, a representative from **Watersheds Canada** (Perth Office) discussed the **Natural Edge Program**. The program is designed to help people restore shorelines with native plants which will help with erosion. They are looking for volunteers to host workshops on the lake for about 10 – 20 people. The host would allow people to come to their property to participate and allow some plants to be planted. Watersheds Canada will discuss the importance of natural shorelines, provide all the materials (shovels, plants, gloves, etc., and refreshments) and the host receives a small gift. They already completed a successful project at Aragain Lodge on the south west end of the lake. www.naturaledge.ca



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Coming soon! Check your email for your new log-in to the member-only section of the KLA's new website!

www.kashwakamak.ca

AGM cont'd p. 12 ➡

Join the conversation with our **799** [Kashwakamak Lake](#) group on Facebook!

facebook

President's Corner - Gordon Hunter

Wow it is hard to imagine fall has come already! The summer seems to have flown by. I hope everyone enjoyed the better weather. We did get requests from some cottagers about missed hazards in the lake not being marked. I appreciate getting the feedback and the cottagers help in making the anchors and placing the buoys, (aka Minions!). Let us know if there are other hazards to mark on the lake. I do have a small stock pile of the buoys. If needed we can also lessen some of the buoys placed in the east end. Overall, the comments I have heard have been positive with people finding them more noticeable and liking the uniformity.

"Let us know if there are other hazards to mark with the KLA marine buoys."

Fall Dinner a Huge Success

The KLA Fall dinner held on Saturday September 12th was a huge success. Many thanks to our new organizers Sudesh and Caroline. Approximately \$690 was raised for the **Land 'O Lakes Animal Rescue** as well as many items for the local food bank. Melissa and Kevin and the staff at Fernleigh Lodge provided a newly renovated venue and excellent meal. Be sure to register early next year for this notoriously fun night with cottage neighbours and friends.

Thanks also goes to Kelly

Hagerman and her team for organizing a very fun **Annual BBQ** at Fernleigh Lodge. The weather was perfect. The animals from the Petting Zoo were a hit and **the games are always fun. It's a**



KLA minion, photo by Kim Henderson Finkle

great way to meet our neighbours and socialize!

Water Levels and Healthy Shorelines

Healthy shorelines are vital to maintaining the overall health of our lake. Shorelines help filter pollutants, protect against erosion and provide habitat for fish and other wildlife. Making even small changes can have positive impacts on the health of your property and water quality, thus protecting your investment. It is important to note that the first 10 to 15 metres of the waterfront are responsible for 90% of lake life, which is born, raised and fed in these areas. You can learn what you can do through MVCA and FOCA websites along with many other resources on the internet.

Water levels stayed high throughout the summer and as a result there was increased erosion and many floating obstacles

in the lake. It was mentioned on our Facebook page and I want to restate it here again about the effects of boat wakes. Darryl Simpson our loon watch coordinator mentioned the wake impact at our Annual General Meeting. Boat wakes do effect the shoreline erosion, nesting loons, docks **and people's ability to enjoy their property.** Please do the right thing and stay well away from the shore. Do your boating and water activities in open areas away from cottagers and other boaters.

The KLA NEEDS YOU!

The KLA needs new blood. In particular we need someone to take over the duties of secretary. If you are organized and can spare some time to help the KLA, your cottage neighbours and the area we want to hear from you. We are always looking for suggestions and new ideas so please

"The KLA needs new blood ... and someone to take over the duties of secretary..."

feel free to bring them forward.

Email me at:

president@kashwakamak.ca

or visit www.kashwakamak.ca.

On behalf of all the KLA Board we wish you an enjoyable fall and winter and look forward to seeing you at the lake soon.

Gordon Hunter

Membership Report - Don Cory

Volume 12

This is my first report to the membership as I take over for Allen Archibald who has performed this task for many years now. I hope I can perform the task as well as he has. My thanks to him in this time of transition. I have been on the lake in Whitefish Bay since my family bought the property in 1971. I look forward to getting to know more of you as I progress in this position.



ed copy of the newsletter may continue to do so if they wish.

Being on the email list is certainly the best way to be informed in a timely manner. There have been some concerns for cottagers this year such as the proposed windmill farm and

"319 KLA members are currently receiving information by email."

KLA ACTIVE MEMBERS

We currently have 369 active members which is a small decline since the last report. Of these members 319 are currently receiving information by email. Over the winter season I will be contacting some members to ensure that their information is correct and to add to our email list. Those wishing to receive a print-

the potential new Township offices. The best way for us to get this information out to you is through email and our Facebook page. So we encourage people to get on our email list. If you **haven't been receiving email** and you should be, please let me

know. You can contact me at membership@kashwakamak.ca to be included.

2015 Membership Fees Due Jan. 1st, 2015!

As always thank you to all those who have paid their fees for the year. If you have not, I ask that you do so as soon as possible. Fall reminders will be going out shortly.

As we come into the fall then winter at the cottage I encourage everyone to continue to come up to the lake. The area is very beautiful and peaceful at that time of the year.

Cheers!

Don Cory



Photo by Doug Hall

Treasurer's Report - Mary Larson

The summer has passed all too quickly with our Annual General Meeting in July, the Annual BBQ in August and the Annual fall dinner in September.

As mentioned in the June Newsletter, we have moved to an Accrual Accounting method for Fiscal 2015 which recognizes revenue and expense in the actual period which they relate to. Accordingly, membership fees owing will be recognized and set up as a receivable. Memberships prepaid (which we do have now) will be recognized in the year which they pertain to and any expenses relating to the current period will be reflected as an outstanding debt.

Did you know?

**KLA Membership Fees
are due January 1st
each year!**

Our bank balance as at September

21st, including our Interac account is \$7,301.55. This includes \$680.00 which was raised at the Annual Dinner and will be

*All correspondence
relating to the Treasurer
should be addressed to:*
**Kashwakamak Lake
Association (KLA)**
**1110 Foster's Lane,
RR #2**
Cloyne, ON K0H 1K0

donated to the Land of Lakes Petting Farm which rescues animals in need of care and a home. They are located on Hwy. #506, just east of Hwy. #41 and well worth a visit. Our bank balance will then reduce to \$6,621.55.

All other costs and revenues are in line with the normal functioning of the Association.

Annual Membership Fees due January 1st Each Year

If you have not paid your 2015 annual membership dues, please remember to do so at your earliest convenience. Details of how to pay your membership fees in general are found on page 5 in this Newsletter. Payments made through Interac may be charged a small service fee.

Road Associations

Remember that cottagers who are members of the South Shore Road Association, Silver Mine Road Association and the Kashwakamak Cottage Association pay their KLA dues through their road associations. We appreciate their efforts which make our life easier when it comes to the collection of dues.

Mary Larson



Paying your Membership Fees

There are 2 ways to pay your \$15 annual KLA membership fee:

1. Pay by cheque

Mail to:



Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA)
1110 Foster's Lane, RR #2
Cloyne ON K0H 1K0



2. Pay by Interac

How to pay your Association Dues through Interac:

- You are a member of our email group (KLA criteria)
- You bank through a Canadian banking institution only (Interac criteria)
- You use personal accounts only (Interac criteria)
- You set up the question and answer
 - ⇒ specific question to be: **Short name for lake**
 - ⇒ specific answer to be: **Kash** (KLA criteria)
- Payee email address (KLA criteria) treasurer@kashwakamak.ca

Note: If you bank with **CIBC** you will have to provide a longer answer than "Kash", so make the answer **"Kashlake"** and let Mary know you are with CIBC in the comments field.

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Kashwakamak Lake Loon Watch - 2015

There was unseasonably high water which has played havoc with our nesting loons. There were NO sightings or reports of eggs or fledglings on our lake making 2015 a very unproductive year.

Sightings of loons in groups of five or more usually suggest the males without mates are gathering for get-

together (stag parties). Sadly, this year likely will be one of the least productive seasons for our Kashwakamak Lake loons on record!

Darryl Simpson

loonwatch@kashwakamak.ca

613-336-2374

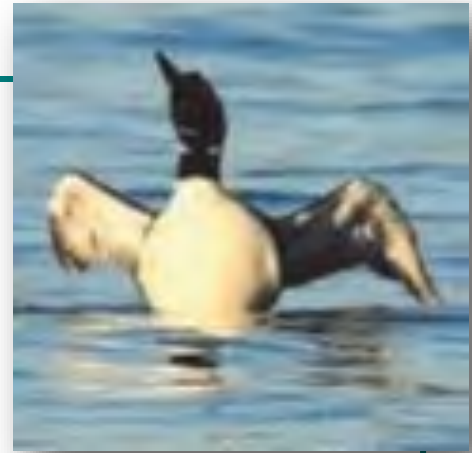


Photo by: Gord Hunter, summer 2015

"There were NO sightings or reports of eggs or fledglings on our lake this summer..."



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Lake Steward's Report - Peter Johnson

Hello fellow Kash lake lovers. What a great summer to be on **the lake. It's an amazing place to spend time with friends, family and fellow cottagers.**

I would like to thank Milt Houle for taking me out and showing me the ropes (it was nice to hear about his grand-kids too). He's a great guy and an asset to have on the lake. Thanks for the years of lake stewardship.

We started coming up regularly in April. We saw birds such as hooded mergansers and buffleheads in our bay during ice out as well as the ubiquitous (had to look up the spelling) loons, blue herons and ever soaring turkey vultures. Later in the summer we saw at least one of the eaglets flying about the conifers in Simpson's and Levis bays. Later on a group of common mergansers started coming around our dock torturing my retriever.

As of April 19th we were able to get an aluminum boat with the aid of 25 hp outboard around and through the ice flows so I assume it was completely off within a couple of days (Spring tradition and we use Steve's boat).

Water Levels

Of course the crazy water levels were a popular subject of conversation, from the extreme low levels in the spring to the consistently high levels throughout the summer. The low level causes were in the spring letter.

Judy McIntyre our KLA VP, contacted the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority regarding the high levels. Their response was that the level instrumentation on Kash was known to be suspect so the MVCA was using the Mazi-naw lake level reading as an indirect indication of Kash lake level. Unfortunately unknown to the MVCA the Mazi-naw level reading was 10 cm low. All this caused a delayed response to the heavy rains in August and a peak water level of the lake occurred on Aug 25th. They are looking into preventing this situation in future.

"The crazy water levels were a popular subject ..."

"Water visibility averaged between 5 and 6 metres throughout the summer which seems to be typical for our lake. "

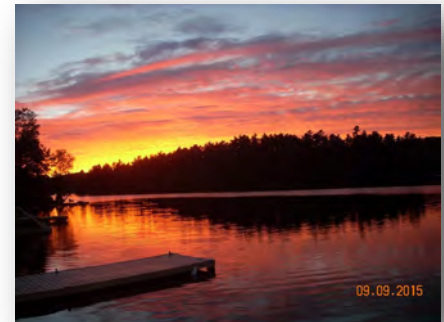
I monitored water temperature and water clarity throughout the summer. The highest temperature I recorded was 28 C in July. On Sept 6 I recorded 25 C which is great for this time of year and still nice for swimming. Water visibility averaged between 5 and 6m throughout the summer which seems to be typical for our lake. Water clarity is determined using the SECCHI method. It consists of lowering a black and white disc into the water until it disappears. In my opinion it is a coarse method of determining water clarity as the reading can be affected by time of day,

cloud condition, waves and how late I stayed up the night before.

I haven't been able to get the phosphate results from the samples I took this spring. I will include them in the spring letter. Phosphate levels of greater than 10ug/l can cause algae blooms which our lake is currently not at risk of but we must be vigilant. Phosphate sources such as fertilizers, septic systems and grey water are all under our control so we can have a direct impact on the health of the lake.

Have a great fall and winter.

Peter Johnson



Fall sunset looking at Cordwood Island, photo by Carol Van Vance

For Information on Water Levels:

Gord Moutenay, C.E.T.
Water Management Supervisor
613-253-0006 ext. 233
info@mvc.on.ca



www.mvc.on.ca

KLA Annual BBQ - August 15th - A Perfect Summer Day!

Saturday August 15th was the perfect summer day for the KLA Annual BBQ at Fernleigh Lodge! A dedicated group of cottagers enjoyed the festivities – kids of all ages enjoyed checking out the shiny new **Fire Truck**.

Animals from the **Land O' Lakes Petting Farm** visited and one family swam across the lake so as not to miss seeing the animals – pony, sheep and baby bunnies. The three legged races and the tug-o-war were very competitive this year with spectacular finishes and wipe-outs.

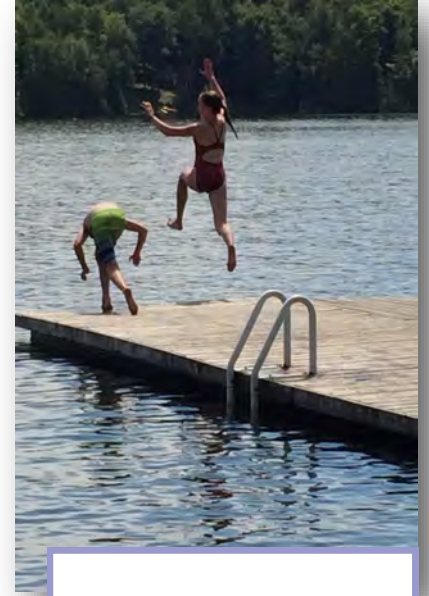
Sincere thanks to Erin and Zabrina – our fabulous face painters who truly outdid themselves in their creative designs! Fernleigh Lodge cooked up a delicious BBQ of burgers and sausages and Andrew Blake once again generously donated the popcorn as well as the use of his popcorn machine.

Many thanks to the volunteers, generous sponsors and donors for a wonderful Annual BBQ – **this event wouldn't be possible without your support.** Stay tuned for details on next year's event!

Kelly Hagerman

KLA Director, Annual BBQ Organizer

events@kashwakamak.ca



Fun at the Annual BBQ
Photo by Julie McShane



Thank you to our BBQ Volunteers!!

Erin
Zabrina
Marin
William
Heather Penney
Jim McIntyre
Rossanne Johnson
Milt Houle
Cathy & Doug Galt





BBQ photos by Don Cory



Thank you to all the people and businesses who supported the 2015 KLA Annual BBQ!

Sponsors

Andrew Blake - Popcorn machine and Popcorn

Silent Auction Items

- Suzanne Regan (Remax)
- Cottage Country Cafe
- Manion's Sales & Service
- Addison's Restaurant
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Monday - Thursday: 11-6

Friday: 11-7

Saturday - Sunday: 11-6



KLA Annual Dinner & Silent Auction - Giving Back

Our annual fall dinner and silent auction was held on Saturday, September 12th at Fernleigh Lodge and attended by 36 members of the association. Happy Hour started at 6 pm which allowed us time to appreciate the newly renovated lodge, review the donations for the auction and to chat with our friends and neighbours before sitting down at 7 pm to enjoy dinner. Kevin and Melissa and their staff prepared a terrific menu including Pork Loin stuffed with spinach, a fantastic salad, fresh sautéed veggies, and potatoes. Then to top the dinner off it was the choice of Hummingbird cake or apple pie, tea and coffee.

A big thank you to the cottagers who brought donations for the auction and food for the Food Bank. We collected 8 bags of food for the **Northbrook Community Center**. Our silent auction again this year was very successful. Accompanied by a raffle where a beautiful wall hanging quilt was donated by Cathy Galt and two professionally printed photos of the lake by Clive Elson. In total we raised **\$690** for the **Land O' Lakes Petting Farm**.

Thank you to everyone who helped out in the planning and execution of the evening. Heather Penney was missed this year, however her guidance was very much appreciated as it was a learning curve for us. Sudesh and I look forward to continuing the tradition and spirit of the annual dinner. It truly is a great time to connect with fellow cottagers.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year. Stay tuned for more details! **Caroline Elson & Sudesh Kent, Annual Dinner Coordinators**



Photos by Don Cory



(AGM Cont'd from p. 1)

Darryl Simpson also spoke to members about the Loon Watch program and the importance of responsible boating (no wakes near the shores, staying away from loons etc.) to help our loon population.

Many KLA members are concerned about the increased policing on the lake. The KLA invited the OPP for an open question and answer session but the marine officer was unable to come at the last minute due to a family emergency. President Gord Hunter suggested that people forward their questions to him and he will forward them on to the OPP. We are hoping to have them back in 2016.

Mayor Ron Higgins was able to attend at the last minute and he updated membership on what has been happening since he was elected Mayor in the fall of 2014. The first thing on his agenda was a review of the Strategic Plan for the Township. He has also set up a Community Police Advisory Committee which has quarterly meetings. He also spoke at length about the **wind turbine project and the Township's position** on this. He urged members to stay in contact with the township and voice their opinions and **concerns. The Township's position and response** is on their website, www.northfrontenac.ca (Please see the in-depth interview the KLA had with Mayor Higgins on p. 16).

President Gord Hunter announced that the KLA is looking for someone to take on the role of Secretary for the Association. This position is not time intensive. There are 4 board of director's meetings each year and the secretary's job is to pull together the agenda, take and circulate minutes, liaise with the president on issues, send out emails to the board as required and oversee the organization of the Annual General Meeting (which is not very labour intensive). This position is ideal for anyone who: likes to use email and is familiar with a computer, wants to get involved in the lake and give back, likes to have fun! Interested? Please email Gord at president@kashwakamak.ca

The **2016 AGM** is already booked for the **Harlowe Community Hall** on **Saturday July 9th** at 9:30 am. Mark your calendars. Bring your questions. We'll see you there!



Mayor Ron Higgins answering your questions during the AGM

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Great Blue Heron, Echo Bay
- Photo by Gord Hunter



Baby Snapping Turtle in
Mitchell Bay - Photo by Judy McIntyre



Bald Eagles - photos by Kathryn Aitken



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KLA Lake Sustainability Planning Update

The KLA Lake Planning Committee met in early October to review the *draft Lake Sustainability Plan*. There is still some work to do over the winter to get it ready for the public. The plan is to have it ready in the spring/early summer and share it with KLA members and the lake community. The public will have the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions at next summer's AGM on July 9th.

Your Questions Answered: Septic Re-Inspection Program

This past season the KLA's president received the following question from one of its members: **"I got a notice in the mail about manual inspection of septic systems (although I can't recall what I did with it). Is this mandatory for all cottagers on the lake even if it was permitted and approved less than 20 years ago?"**

We reached out to Eric Kohlsmith at the Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office for an answer. Here's what he told us:

The current re-inspection program is **voluntary**. A property owner needs to contact our office in some manner to participate. We do NOT inspect properties that have not contacted our office.

Properties are selected by the Township based on the following criteria:

- No record of a sewage system**
- The sewage system is 10 years or older**
- The property is waterfront**

All 5 Classes of sewage systems are inspected – outhouses/composting toilets, grey water pits, cesspools, septic tank and leaching filed and holding tanks.

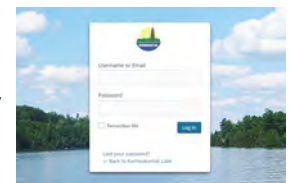
If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact Eric.

Eric Kohlsmith | Septic Inspector | Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office
t. 613 253 0006 ext. 256 | f. 613 253 0122 | ekohlsmith@mvc.on.ca

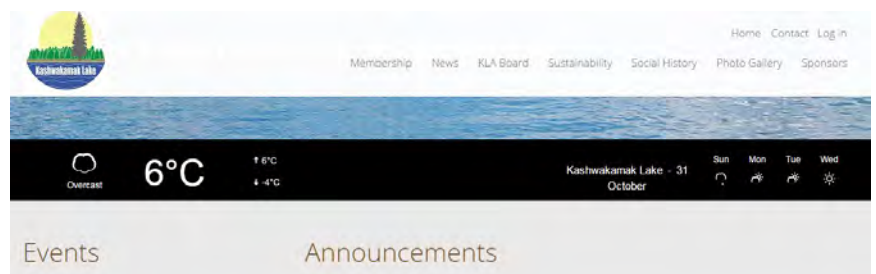


New Website coming soon!

The KLA's Scott Boyle has been busy working behind the scenes to create a new, more functional website for the association. We will be unveiling it shortly to members. The new site will have general information for the public as well as a **member log in** where KLA members can access member-only information specific to the association (the bi-annual newsletter, AGM minutes, members roster, KLA financial statements etc.). We will be emailing members with their Log In information as part of the unveiling. Don't worry it won't be complicated! We will also be sending you a quick survey to get your feedback on the site, any information you might like to see etc.



Many thanks to long time KLA member **Lew Shepherdson** for his behind the scenes work on the original website. He helped bring our organization into the electronic world and we truly appreciate all his time and guidance over the years as new KLA board members got involved year after year! www.kashwakamak.ca



North Frontenac - Interview with Mayor Ron Higgins

Interview on September 29, 2015

Sue MacGregor, KLA's Director of Communications, interviewed Mayor Ron Higgins by telephone in late September in order to introduce the new mayor to our lake community. Here's a transcript of the conversation.



What's your vision for North Frontenac? Where do you see it in 10 years from now?

"10 years from now I'd like to see more economic development and more businesses prosper here. The focus is the 'unique and pristine environment' which includes anything that supports the cottage industry and the tourist industry such as outdoor camping, any outdoor sports-related activities and the arts and crafts industry. So the short answer is I would like to see our economy become more prosperous in the coming years. We have a plan to get there but it will take a lot of work.

We would also like to have more full time residents move into the area. To do that we need the accommodations and the support network to support them – either the economic development or they want to start retiring here. We've been tossing around ideas that we will put in an action plan over the next couple of months so we can move forward."

How will you measure success?

"We know the number of full time and seasonal residents right now so we have a benchmark. That will be one barometer we can use. We also have a listing of all the current businesses so we can measure the number of new businesses on there and hopefully track the number of new visitors through them as well which would be another barometer. Taxation is another barometer by either generating more tax revenue from businesses and hopefully keep residential taxation in check."

Your background in the area was through the NF Lake Association Alliance. What do you believe the role and importance is of lake associations to the township?

"It's a huge importance, especially with the amount of downloaded services that are happening as we speak. I'm referring to the Ministry of Natural Resources who are looking at reducing the amount of dollars they are using to sustain the conservation authorities and putting more burden on municipalities to support the conservation authorities. With that the lake associations are very in tune with the environment and the lands around the lake. As a result, as you are doing on your lake, you are measuring water quality, ice in and ice out etc. and keeping a good watch on your lakes. That's going to be crucial going forward as we look at our official plan and how we do development in and around lakes. What's the capacity on lakes? What we should or shouldn't be doing. So we will be going to Lake Associations for data going forward for our planning when we do these things."

Recently it was reported that council has spent a good deal of money hiring consultants to look at office space and potentially build a new facility at great cost to the taxpayers. Where does this proposal stand?

"Those studies were done in years past. We haven't done any new studies under the new council. We haven't spent a cent on this so far. ... Before we make any decisions we need to understand all the facts. That's what we are doing right now – getting the facts and understanding

(Cont'd p. 19 - Mayor) ➡

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(Mayor, Cont'd from p. 16)

what we're dealing with. As far as a new building goes, there is no decision yet and there won't be one made this year. There are other options that we need to keep in mind as well. If the school closes we won't need a new building. Some of the information that got out into the public were not factual. I will write a year-end report to set out the facts for issues like this."

We know that the cost of policing is increasing at a great rate and that cost has been downloaded to the municipalities. Have you looked at what would it cost for NF to have its own policing and/or more efficient and effective service?

"Yes. North Frontenac put up a proposal to do an in-depth report on police costing and it came back last month. It is at least 2 times the cost of what we're paying the OPP for our current service. We closed the door on putting in our own police service at this time as the best value appears to be with the OPP."

You already mentioned the level of taxation and it is always of concern to rate payers and cottage owners. As you know, cottage owner/seasonal residents pay the majority of the property taxes in North Frontenac and account for 70% of the dwellings. We have heard from a good number of our KLA members that they are not pleased with the continued hike in property taxes – 40% since 2009.

There are around 2,000 full time and 6,000 seasonal residents which means seasonal residents pay about 70% of the taxes. When this Council did its first taxes our actual rate for NF is exactly the same as last year even with the increased cost for OPP coverage. We reduced costs in other areas to compensate for the increase in OPP costs. It was the impact of the assessments that increased taxes for some people. It had nothing to do with North Frontenac. ... The NF mill rates were exactly the same as last year."

What is the status of the proposed wind energy project? What impact might it have on North Frontenac and Kashwakamak Lake?

As your association is aware, I sent in my [position paper](#) on where we stand. I also sent a letter to the Premier stating why NextEra should not be selected as a proponent for wind energy based on them not meeting some of the mandatory requirements that were spelled out in the Clean Energy Act. All the proponents are being assessed as we speak so the status will be announced in late October or early November. Even though we've put it out there as to why they shouldn't come here, with the Clean Energy Act as it is written, it overrides our master plan and they could go ahead. If it does I will fight this even after a decision is made if they decide to come in to North Frontenac.

Having said that, because we are an "unwilling host" to wind mills I am entertaining the thought of doing solar farms on unused properties, closed waste sites, brown fields, old gravel pits, crown land – areas that won't have an impact on any of the residents, full time or seasonal. If we're successful at that it will help generate some money to help to pay for some of the infrastructure requirements we have versus through taxation. We would have opportunities for funding through vibrancy funds and doing it in a cohesive way and not being mandated to do it.

www.northfrontenac.com

Any final words for us today?

I'm pleased with all the feedback I received on what I've done to date. I know I don't please everybody but I think the majority of people think I'm on the right track. I really do appreciate all the feedback I get from residents.

Thank you Mayor Higgins.



Kashwakamak Lake Association



www.kashwakamak.ca

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Check out this and other photos on our [Lake Kashwakamak Facebook page](#). We've grown to almost 800 people! Join the conversation. Share your photos! Stay connected!



Kashwakamak Lake puppy wins 2nd place in Cottage Life photo contest

Photo by Shawna Young

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Interested in getting involved in the Lake Association?

Email Gord Hunter president@kashwakamak.ca