

# Kash Kourier

## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

VOLUME 33

### KLA 2026 EVENTS

- **Membership Renewal**  
January 2026 \$20
- **KLA AGM**  
Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>  
Lions Hall, Northbrook  
9:00 am doors open
- **Annual Fall Dinner & Charity Auction**  
Saturday September 19  
Fernleigh Lodge

### Inside this issue:

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### Join the conversation:



## JULY AGM A SUCCESS!

This year's AGM had one of our highest attendance records yet with over 75 people in attendance. Thanks to the Lion's Hall, their team and our volunteers, our event went off without a hitch. The BBQ was delicious! We had a jam-packed agenda that started out with the election of our board for directors for 2025-2027. Please see **President's Report** p.2 for the list of the directors and their positions.

### North Frontenac Environmental Task Force


#### Presentation by committee chair, Roy Huetl, NF Councillor

Roy Huetl shared that the Task Force was created as a result of the Strategic Plan in 2023. Our lakes and surrounding areas were the #1 concern from all stakeholders. The task force is made up of 3 councillors: Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and John Inglis, 5 community volunteers and 2 staff members. Their focus is:

- 1- BESS (Battery Energy Storage System)
- 2- Net Metering (Solar Panels @ Town Offices)
- 3- Invasive Species
- 4- Septic Inspection Program
- 5- Short Term Rentals



You can stay up-to-date by reading their [Quarterly Newsletter](#) on North Frontenac's website.

(AGM cont'd p. 8) 



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER – SUE MACGREGOR



I apologize for the delay in getting this newsletter out. Unforeseen computer issues meant I had to recreate it. I hope you like some of the changes.

I continue to marvel at how each cottage season seems to zoom by so quickly. This was a glorious summer with lots of sunshine. I know we had a great time both in and on the water this year. I hope you did too!

### AGM

Thank you to all who came out and supported this year's AGM. It was a great success. We had a jam-packed agenda but managed to keep everything on schedule so we could enjoy the BBQ at 11:30 am.

### Election Year

Elections for the Board for 2025 – 2027 went smoothly. Returning Board members included: Marilyn Boston, Don Cory, Alan Dean, Kim Howson, Pete Johnson, Andrew Johnston, Mary Larson and Sue MacGregor. We had nominations from the floor: Kristen Sako – Mitchell Bay and Bill Zerter – South Kashwakamak Lake Road. The directors were voted in unanimously.

### Thank you!

We always welcome new people on the Board, but it's also difficult to say goodbye to others who have served us so well. Outgoing Secretary Heather Nowlan completed her second term as Secretary and brought incredible organizational and procedural expertise to the Board. Many, many thanks Heather. Our outgoing Treasurer, Judy McIntyre originally joined the board over 15 years ago, replacing her father, Al Twombly. Judy's expertise in accounting brought the KLA up to today's standards, making it a smooth transition for Bill Zerter, our new Treasurer. In addition to her time as Treasurer, Judy

### KLA 2025-2027 Board of Directors

Sue MacGregor, President

Bill Zerter, Treasurer

Kristen Sako, Secretary

Pete Johnson, Lake Steward

Marilyn Boston, VP & North Frontenac Liaison

Don Cory, Membership

Mary Larson, Special Events

Kim Howson, Special Events & Advertising

Alan Dean, MVCA Dam replacement & FOCA

Andrew Johnston, MVCA Dam replacement

spearheaded the Lake Sustainability initiative in 2010 and led the Committee that developed Kashwakamak Lake's first Lake Sustainability Plan that was approved in 2016. This was no small feat. There were multiple committees. It was a multi-year project and would not have happened without all her effort and oversight. This is a lasting gift to all of us who treasure the lake.

I truly appreciate all the work our Board does, along with their commitment. It's always fun getting together (we had a nice Happy Hour on my dock in late August).

(President cont'd p. 9) 



Photo:  
Don  
Cory

Oct. 6,  
2025



## LAKE STEWARD'S REPORT – PETE JOHNSON

So ends another season on our beautiful lake.

### Low Lake Level

The spring started a little rough with cool temperatures and some heavy rains. After that, as we all know, it led into an incredible summer of sun, heat and very little rain. This resulted in low water levels throughout the summer. Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) was notified that our online lake level link wasn't working which they promptly repaired. As of now, we are back at the normal lake level for this time of year.

I wouldn't be a cottager if I didn't comment about the bugs. I found the black fly and mosquito season to be rather muted. However, the deer flies this summer were epic. I'll take mosquitoes any day.

### Water Quality

Water clarity this year was less than normal. For a lot of the summer the clarity was less than 4 m. It took until the end of September to clear up and get to 5 m. which is normal.

I have noticed and been told by other cottagers that weed growth was down this year. The reduced water clarity may have impacted that.

### Water Markers

It appears the marker chain replacement was a success. There was only one rogue minion this summer and that's because I hadn't replaced the chain. Hopefully these new cables will minimize issues. Plans for next summer is to GPS position all the low wake and shoal markers on a map. We will make it available as a PDF on our website and have printed copies for sale at our July 11 AGM.

Starting this spring 2026, I will be taking two sets of water samples: one in the main part of the lake and one in Mitchell Bay. As many of you know, Mitchell Bay is significantly different from the main part of the lake in that it has higher cottage density and much shallower water. I'll be doing it on the same day so that we can make relevant comparisons.

Hope to see you up here this winter.

Cheers, *Pete*

[lakesteward@kashwakamak.ca](mailto:lakesteward@kashwakamak.ca)



Peter Johnson

November 19 at 10:43 AM · 🌐

Frost across the bay this morning



## LAKE SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE – MARILYN BOSTON

The *Lake Sustainability Impact Assessment Team* continued its work throughout the summer. Here's an overview of their efforts.

- 1) Sustainability sub-team members are working on an update to the **Kashwakamak Lake Water Quality Program**. An additional water sample site has been added in Mitchell Bay. They are continuing to work FOCA's [Lake Partner Program \(LPP\)](#) and [MVCA](#) for support and data collection. We will share any updates when they are available. An updated Water Quality section will be included as part of the formal update to the [Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan](#), which is underway.
- 2) **Kashwakamak Lake Sustainability Plan Update** – The sub teams have been identified to work on respective sections. This effort is largely focussed on updating the 2016 plan with the benefit of the **Love Your Lake Survey** results. Our target is to have an update ready for the 2026 AGM, if not sooner. We are looking for volunteers to help complete the work. Please contact Marilyn Boston, [nfliaison@kashwakamak.ca](mailto:nfliaison@kashwakamak.ca) for more information.
- 3) **Lake Carrying Capacity** – Work in North Frontenac Council was deferred by the Environmental Task Force to 2026. This is an expensive and time-consuming effort that requires a lot of resources. The KLA's Lake Sustainability team is however, going ahead with a **"Recreational capacity study"** that is based on methodology used by [Sequin Township](#). We will share more as we proceed.

- 4) **Woodcrest Expansion - Gap Assessment** – Considerable work was done going through in detail all of the documents provided by Council on the Woodcrest Expansion that was approved in 2013. As many of you will recall, this approval was less than transparent and raised a lot of questions about how North Frontenac Council approves development projects. The purpose of this examination was to assess the process and see where improvements could be made for any future development projects on Kashwakamak Lake and throughout the township.

The committee identified numerous gaps and recommended that the KLA send a letter to Council requesting a review of a number of those gaps. This letter was sent to the Mayor and Council in early October. Both the Mayor and CAO, Corey Klatt have responded indicating they will follow up. As of mid-November we have not heard anything. This letter was recently shared with Frontenac County's Planning team as well, which is lead by Dmitry Kurylovich, Project Manager/Senior Planner, Planning and Economic Development, [dkurylovich@frontenaccountry.ca](mailto:dkurylovich@frontenaccountry.ca).



Photo: Emily Keogh Good

July 5, 2025

"Flying Heron!"





## FOCA REPORT – ALAN DEAN

### 2025 FOCA Fall Seminar - September 20, 2025

Your KLA membership includes membership in the Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA). More than 125 registrants attended FOCA's Fall Seminar, with Alan Dean representing the KLA. The event theme was "Passing the Torch".

Green Party Leader, Mike Schreiner, provided opening remarks followed by a FOCA update by CEO Lesley Lavander. The Seminar continued with five presentations:

- Betty Plewes of Climate Legacy on **"Five Ways to Protect the Planet for Future Generations"**
- Kassandra McKeown of Cambrian Indigenous Services on **"Land Relationship Visioning: A First Nations Perspective"**
- Dana Ventenilla, a FOCA Summer Student, on **"Youth Engagement and Social Media"**
- Gavin Vance, FOCA Lake Stewardship Coordinator, on **"A Generational Call-to-Action for Lake Partner Program Water Samplers"**
- Peter Lillico LLB on **"Top Five Cottage Succession Planning Mistakes"**.

The Event Summary and the slides for each presentation can be accessed from the FOCA's website: [Events - FOCA answers Ontario cottage country questions](#)

Take advantage of your membership. You can check FOCA's website, [Welcome to FOCA!](#) for upcoming webinars and information that might be of interest.



## MVCA UPDATE – ALAN DEAN



### Kashwakamak Dam Rebuild

Photo: [MVCA Facebook](#)

Work on the [Kashwakamak Lake Dam project](#) continues as planned. Juraj Cunderlik, Director of Engineering at the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, advises that it is "currently at the 30% design stage and there have been no changes since our last update. Main construction is still anticipated to begin in fall 2027". We will keep you updated as new information is provided. Questions?

Email [directorAlan@kashwakamak.ca](mailto:directorAlan@kashwakamak.ca)

(MVCA cont'd p. 6)





## Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

The KLA received an email on November 21 from the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) regarding the Ontario Government's proposed consolidation of Eastern Ontario Conservation Authorities. This raises some red flags for those of us in MVCA's watershed. Director Alan Dean is looking into this further and we will report back. The commenting period ends December 22.

**Here's a portion of the release:** "The Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposes to consolidate Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) with four other CAs to form the St. Lawrence Regional Conservation Authority, an area over 18,500 km<sup>2</sup> and 46 municipalities. The province is also proposing to establish a new provincial Agency to oversee the activities of the regional conservation authority with the powers to direct regional strategic planning, and financial and operational matters.

The eleven municipalities that sit on MVCA's Board of Directors would fund the new region and help fund the new provincial Agency. No details have been provided regarding how local municipalities would retain meaningful oversight of the new regional authority and control increases to municipal levies. Currently, municipalities fund ~68% of MVCA's annual operating budget compared to a combined provincial and federal contribution of 5%.

Since 2020, over \$3 million of local municipal dollars have been invested in the eleven dams and six conservation areas owned or managed by MVCA. MVCA was able to secure an additional \$1.38 million in grants to help implement those capital works. Currently, MVCA is undertaking final design of a \$6 million replacement of the Kashwakamak Lake Dam for which it is receiving a 40% grant from the federal government (... ) The province's proposed new CA boundaries can be viewed on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) website at [www.ero.ontario.ca](http://www.ero.ontario.ca) (posting 025-1257). The province is seeking feedback on its proposal. Feedback can be submitted on the ERO website. The commenting period **ends December 22, 2025.**"

### Notice re: KLA Low Wake and Hazard Markers

Each spring, and throughout the season, on behalf of the Kashwakamak Lake Association (KLA), Low Wake and Hazard Markers are placed, and/or checked around the lake in an effort to mark some of the lake's shoals, rocks, boulders, narrow passages etc. While best efforts are made to mark the most hazardous areas, it is not realistic to be able to mark everything, especially in areas that are close to shore or have little boat traffic.



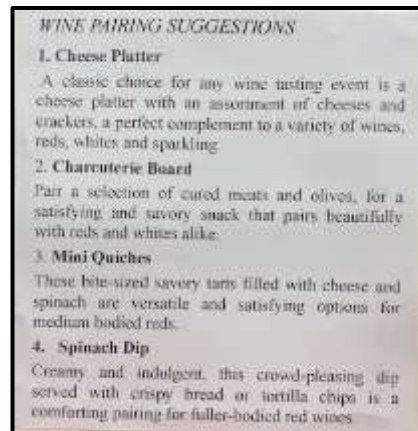
- It is critical that boaters realize that these **MARKERS** are **NOT** navigational buoys. Instead, the markers are intended to call attention to **SOME** of the lake's hazards.
- **EVERY** individual operator of a watercraft is solely responsible for safe boating, including the avoidance of any marked or unmarked water hazards.
- While we try to identify and mark hazards, the KLA is not responsible for ensuring all hazards are marked, or continue to be marked.

Please report any missing or damaged markers  
to [LakeSteward@kashwakamak.ca](mailto:LakeSteward@kashwakamak.ca)



## July Wine Tasting

For the first time the KLA hosted a wine tasting event at the Lion's Hall in Northbrook on July 19. Owner Sander from [Potter Settlement Artisan Winery](#) in Tweed gave a rousing show. He artfully walked us through the story of making each wine that we tasted. It was informative, entertaining and delicious. Many thanks to KLA director Mary Larson for having the vision and drive to make this happen. Thanks too, go to director Kim Howson and volunteers Sandi Allin and Bill MacGregor for helping out. There was a lot of chatter and the consensus was that, *"it exceeded expectations!"*



## Fall Dinner and Charity Auction

This year's Fall Dinner and Charity Auction at [Fernleigh Lodge](#), September 22 did not disappoint! Not only was the weather beautiful (if a little chilly), Melissa Philip's dinner got rave reviews.

The silent auction and live auction successfully raised almost \$2,000 for the Land O'Lakes Foodbank in Cloyne. Many thanks to Red Emond for stepping up to do the live auction as Doug Gault wasn't able to make it this year.

Thanks to all the volunteers (Board Members Mary Larson, Kim Howson) for organizing such a great event. New Treasurer, Bill Zerter for keeping track of the proceeds for the Food Bank and thanks also to Sandy and Bob Allin for their on-going support for this fun night. Save the date for next year --Saturday September 19, 2026!



Kevin Phillips meets  
new KLA Treasurer  
Bill Zerter





### Fire Smart Presentation

Fire safety is always a topic of concern, especially with the uptick of forest fires. We appreciated the presentation by Sonya Robinson, Public Information Officer, North Frontenac Fire Department. The Fire Smart presentation was loaded with useful information on what we can all do to protect our properties from spreading fires. You can get access to all the important information here: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/firesmart>

### Protect your property

Her presentation focussed on the steps to keep your home/cottage safe from wildland fires by managing your [three priority zones](#) (PDF).



President Sue MacGregor



### 2025 focus for Lake Sustainability

The KLA's focus for lake sustainability includes the following:

- ▶ continue to educate owners about the importance of shoreline health to combat erosion, improve water quality, animal life etc.

The KLA continues to invest in supporting healthy shorelines and water quality by giving three lucky KLA members a [Watershed Canada's Natural Edge shoreline assessment and planting kit](#) valued at \$395. This year's winners are Chris Freel - Don Anna Road, Janice Way - Kashwakamak Lake Road and Stephanie Wills - Reichart Lane. We look forward to seeing their shoreline improvements!





I look forward to working with the Board and what this coming winter and next season bring.

### Volunteers make a difference!

We continue to count on volunteers to help us make things happen. We couldn't do half of what we do without your help: the new members of the Lake Sustainability Impact Assessment Committee, Julie McShane, Brian Howson, Sandy and Bob Allin, Red Emond, Lawrence Martin, and Susan Barchard!

### Lake Sustainability Impact Assessment Team

Marilyn Boston's *Lake Sustainability Impact Assessment Team* was formed 9 months ago. They are a group of dedicated KLA members focussed specifically on Lake Sustainability priorities for Kashwakamak Lake. They provide updates to the KLA Board, and as appropriate, recommended action items and information to share with our members and the larger lake community. I can't say enough about the great work they are doing. I am humbled by their commitment and the areas of expertise that they bring to the table. You can read more about their activities on page 4 of this newsletter.

### FOCA's Lake Partner Program saved from Ontario Government cuts!

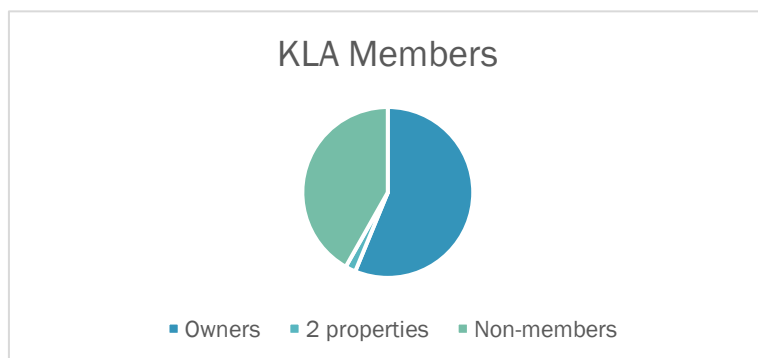
The KLA sent a letter of support for the continuation of this program. I'm happy to report that the Ontario Government changed its' mind and reinstated funding for this vital program. The KLA's Lake Stewards have been involved in this program from the onset, starting with Elma MacLachlan and we're delighted that it will continue to provide us essential information on the quality of our water.

### Hazard Markers and Low Wake markers

Some members shared their concerns with our Lake Steward about missing markers, broken chains etc. You can read more in Pete's *Lake Steward's Update* on page 3. This is a gentle reminder that these are KLA property and not to be moved.

### Membership Report

Don Cory, our long-standing Membership director, shared that we have a total of 600 total properties on the lake and 345 properties are KLA members. Of these, there are 255 non-member properties, and of these 12 are people owning more than 1 property. This means the KLA represents **58.6%** of the lake ( $345 / (600 - 12) * 100 = 58.6\%$  representation). While this is the highest membership rate of any lake in North Frontenac, we'd like to grow.





### Make your voices heard!

With a municipal election coming in the fall of 2026 our voice as lake-front property owners and taxpayers will become even more important.

Did you know that Kashwakamak Lake property owners make up the largest percentage of North Frontenac's tax base? Please help us reach the non-members, your new neighbours etc. by getting in contact with Don at [Membership@kashwakamak.ca](mailto:Membership@kashwakamak.ca). The Board also made a decision that current KLA memberships can be passed on to new owners for the balance of the year when a property gets sold, so if you see a neighbouring property for sale, please approach them and have them contact Don.

As I sign off in late November with our cottage all tucked away for the winter season, I wish you all a safe, happy and healthy fall, winter and spring. And for those who get to enjoy the lake year-round, please share your photos on our [Lake Kashwakamak Facebook Group](#)!

Sue

[president@kashwakamak.ca](mailto:president@kashwakamak.ca)



 **Diana Dietz**  
June 18 · 🌐

This happy girl reeled in a nice smallmouth out by Fernleigh last night!



 **Wendy Bray**  
August 16 · 🌐

Testing out the flottables. A fun family « parade ».



 **Kathy Aitken**  
October 12 · 🌐

Happy Thanksgiving! What a change from 1976 when there was a snowstorm, our car got stuck and my family paddled across the bay in the blizzard (using socks as mittens) to find refuge with friends who had a wood stove. Turkey dinner was still served.



Open Hours for Waste Disposal / Recycling Sites / Transfer Station / Hazardous Waste / Re-Use Centre  
All sites are closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day

As of May 15, 2025

**Summer Hours**  
**Commencing May 15th annually**

**Winter Hours**  
**Commencing October 1st annually**

<b>Cloyne Transfer Site - 202 Skootamatta Lk. Rd.</b> Sun: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm Mon: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm Wed: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Fri: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Sat: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Holiday Mon: 9:00 am - 1:00pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm	<b>Cloyne Transfer Site - 202 Skootamatta Lk. Rd.</b> Sun: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Wed: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Fri: 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon Holiday Mon: Closed
<b>506 Site - 3444 Road 506</b> Sun: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Mon: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Tues: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Wed: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Fri: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Sat: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Holiday Mon: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	<b>506 Site - 3444 Road 506</b> Mon: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Thurs: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Fri: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Sat: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Holiday Mon: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
<b>Kashwakamak Site - 1749 Kashwakamak Lk. Rd.</b> Sun: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Thurs: 12:00 Noon - 5:00 pm Sat: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Holiday Mon: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<b>Kashwakamak Site - 1749 Kashwakamak Lk. Rd.</b> Sun: 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed
<b>Plevna Site - 6476 Buckshot Lk. Rd</b> Sun: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm Wed: 8:30 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm Fri: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm Holiday Mon: Closed	<b>Plevna Site - 6476 Buckshot Lk. Rd</b> Sun: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:00pm Wed: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:00pm Fri: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:00pm Holiday Mon: Closed
<b>Mississippi Site - 1177 Shiner Road</b> Tues: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Sat: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed	<b>Mississippi Site - 1177 Shiner Road</b> Sat: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed
<b>Ompah Transfer Station - 10458 Road 509</b> Sun: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Wed: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Fri: 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm Holiday Mon: 1:00pm - 5:00 pm	<b>Ompah Transfer Station - 10458 Road 509</b> Sun: 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed
<b>Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste Depot Hours from May 15 to October 1 Annually</b> Mississippi Site: Tuesday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Plevna Site: Wednesday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm 506 Site: Wednesdays 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm 2nd Saturday of each month 9:00 am - 2:00pm	
<b>Re-Use Centre Hours - 506 Site - May 15 to October 1 Annually</b> Wednesday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Saturday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	
Open hours are subject to change. Please refer to the North Frontenac Township Website <a href="http://www.northfrontenac.com">www.northfrontenac.com</a> for current information or contact the Municipal Office at (613) 479-2231 or 1-800-234-3953, 6648 Road 506, Plevna, Ontario K0H 2M0	





*Diana*

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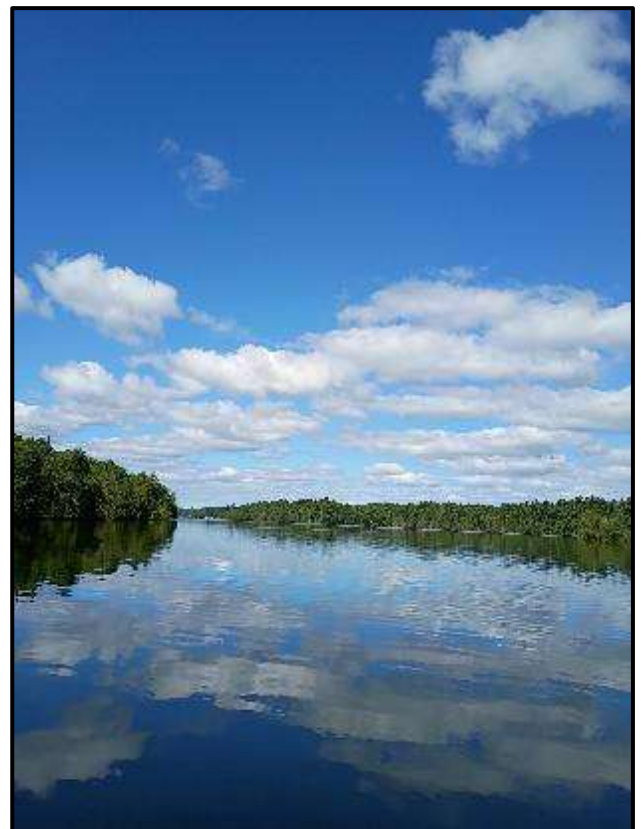


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Moonyene Johnson Ken Boyd

September 22 · 🌐

Morning awakes on this last day of summer 2025  
- Welcome autumn at 2:19 pm today

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