

Kash Kourier

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

VOLUME 34

KLA 2027 EVENTS

- **Membership Renewal**
January 15, 2027 \$20
- **KLA AGM**
Saturday July 10th
Lions Hall, Northbrook
9:00 am doors open
- **Annual Fall Dinner & Charity Auction**
Saturday September 18
Fernleigh Lodge

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Join the conversation:



Voting is now open! Make your voice heard!

Did you know?

As a waterfront property owner on Kashwakamak Lake, you can vote **online** or **by telephone** from **Monday, October 18 – Monday, October 26** in the fall municipal election.

Using information from your **Voter ID letter** that was mailed to you (it's delivered to the address that you receive your property taxes).

Go to northfrontenac.isivote.com

You'll need to input your **birth date** and the personal **PIN** found on the Voter ID letter

You have **1 vote for Mayor** and **2 votes for councillor** in either Ward 1 or Ward 2. Your options are specified on your Voter ID letter.

Didn't get your Voter ID Letter?

Phone: [1-800-234-3953](tel:1-800-234-3953) or [613-479-2231](tel:613-479-2231)

Website: engagefrontenac.ca/2026-municipal-election

Email: election@northfrontenac.ca

Hours of operation:

Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Election Day, Monday, October 26 9:00 am – 8:00 pm

Candidate positions

If you haven't had a chance yet, please take a look at the candidates' responses to the NFLAA on our [website](#), and in the [Frontenac News](#).

Please vote! Our Board will be looking at our members' concerns and priorities as we reach out to the new Council following the election.



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving – we sure did! The fall colours are beautiful this year and we have many happy memories of this season on the water.

AGM

Thanks to everyone who came out to our AGM this summer. We had a great turnout and a lot of great questions for our two speakers. Please see my article on page 7 for more details.

Municipal Election

Our Board decided early on this year that getting our members to vote in this fall's municipal election is priority one. I know I'm sounding like a broken record, but our votes matter. Now, more than ever, waterfront property owners like you, need to have your voice and concerns heard at council.

“Kashwakamak Lake water front property owners pay a healthy chunk of the taxes in North Frontenac.”

As waterfront property owners we can vote for our cottage property in addition to another Ontario property. Voting in North Frontenac is done either online or by phone. Please read the article on page 1 for more information.



New Hazard Marker Maps available

I'm delighted to report that we delivered on our promise to develop maps showing where the hazard and low wake markers are on the lake. Maps were given to KLA members who attended the July AGM. We will have more maps available for the 2027 AGM on July 10. Our hope is that every KLA member gets a copy. You can also download your own copy on our website.

Download your copies here:

[Kashwakamak Lake Hazard & Low Wake Marker Map](#)

[East end – Kashwakamak Lake Hazard & Low Wake Marker Map](#)

[West end – Kashwakamak Lake Hazard & Low Wake Marker Map](#)

(President cont'd p. 6)





Hello fellow Kashers!

Another summer just flew by. I've always found that if we had a questionable spring then fall seems to arrive quickly. I don't know about the rest of the lake, but in the 25 years I've been here, this has been the best year for deer flies and mosquitoes. I don't know why because with all the rain we had I would have thought the opposite.

Water Quality

I've taken two sets of samples this year, one in the main part of the lake, and one in Mitchell Bay, to monitor for calcium, sulfates and total phosphorus. I'll share the results when I get them.

High sulfates can cause lake acidification and high total phosphorus can result in excessive weed growth. High calcium can help with lake pH control, but promotes zebra mussel propagation. Low calcium can result in lower zooplankton populations and issues with growth on crayfish snails etc. Going forward I will continue to take samples in the main part of the lake as well as Mitchell Bay, because Mitchell Bay is much more shallow and highly populated than the main part of the lake and may have different chemical results. It's important to take both samples at the same time, which I haven't been able to do since the Ministry does not send out the sample packages at the same time. I'm looking to see if they can send them out at the same time next spring.

Lake Level

Water clarity this year was normal, but the lake level wasn't. The lake level had nothing to do with water management and everything to do with the amount of precipitation we received. Fall draw down began after Thanksgiving and winter levels are normally reached by mid-November.

Hazard Markers

With the help of volunteers, we were able to GPS position all the hazard marker minions, as well as low-wake markers and they were used to make the new Hazard Marker maps. Thanks to Gord Hunter and Heather Babut for their help!

The diving helmet marking the shoal going into Simpsons Bay was knocked off in early October. The water is a little too cool for me to retrieve it this year, so I put out a temporary marker. It will be safe until next year.

Hopefully you can get up to enjoy the beautiful fall and winter that we are so fortunate to experience on Kashwakamak lake.

Pete Johnson, lakesteward@kashwakamak.ca



Peter Johnson

October 15 at 11:12 AM · 🌐

Autumn at Kash. Another day in paradise



Peter Johnson

September 4 · 🌐

Earl the Heron doing the Zen thing



NORTH FRONTENAC AND NFLAA REPORT – MARILYN BOSTON

Happy fall to all!

The following is intended to provide a very brief status update on a number of subjects currently under discussion within North Frontenac that may be of interest to our KLA membership:

ALTO

North Frontenac Council officially declared that it **does not support** the proposed ALTO corridor going through the Township of North Frontenac; and then provided this resolution to the Federal Minister of Transportation; the Prime Minister of Canada; the Premier of Ontario; MPP John Jordan; MP Scott Reid; and the President of ALTO. Council received a response to their letter September 2, 2026, from the Honourable Steven McKinnon, Minister of Transport, acknowledging the correspondence regarding the proposed HSR initiative; and advising ALTO will submit a refined corridor and proposed station locations plan for approval in 2026; and that the development of a final rail alignment plan will proceed through three stages prior to a final investment decision, expected in 2029.

Septic Tank Re-Inspection

Septic tank inspections are now required when a property is sold in North Frontenac. In addition, the Committee of Adjustments requires an inspection report when new bedrooms or bathrooms are added to current structures. The council's long-term plan is to adopt a mandatory re-inspection program. In the interim, the septic inspector reported that, with the increase in budget this past summer, they have completed 71 re-inspections to date in 2026. This leaves 8 voluntary re-inspection spots available. *Please sign up for your voluntary inspection at <https://www.northfrontenac.com/open-for-business/septic-re-inspection-program>.* Council will ask for an increase in the 2027 funding for septic inspections with the increase in demand for voluntary inspections noted over the past two years.

Short Term Rentals

North Frontenac Council accepted a final report on STRs (Short Term Rentals) presented and endorsed by the Environmental Task Force. Council has hired a consultant to draft the bylaw for implementation. Council had wanted to build in an accommodation tax, but the concern was this would delay the process several years.

Highlights of the by-law:

1. STRs that are **less than 4 weeks per year** are not required to be registered. This will accommodate families who rent out their property casually to family and friends.
2. Property rentals for periods **greater than 4 weeks per year**, the township will treat the STR consistent with other commercial businesses and require for example, septic inspections, fire safety, capacity limits based on number of bedrooms/bathrooms etc. Consistent with Bylaws in most other municipalities across Ontario

(NFLAA cont'd p. 10)



(President, cont'd from p. 2)

Dam Update

Work on the Kashwakamak Lake dam is on schedule and we will see physical progress starting later in 2027. Please see Alan Dean's article on page 6 for more details.

Volunteers Making a difference

Our Board had a good year and I am delighted at everyone's dedication. Many hands make light work as they say. We hold monthly (usually) Zoom board meetings so we can stay on top of issues and deal with things that need to be addressed. Kristen Sako, our new Secretary, ran an amazing AGM and our newest Board Member, Seumas Woods, representing Weiss Point, has jumped into action joining Alan Dean, on the Dam file. Alan is also our FOCA representative and we appreciate his careful monitoring of issues that are important to our lake. Of course, Pete Johnson probably has the most physical work of us all as he maintains the hazard and low wake markers, as well as monitors the water quality. But keeping track of the books is an on-going task as well, and Bill Zerter, our new Treasurer, is doing a great job. Marilyn Boston continues to do a phenomenal job of staying on top of important issues to our lake – through chairing our Lake Sustainability Impact Assessment team, acting as North Frontenac Liaison and our representative for the North Frontenac Lake Alliance Association. I can't thank our longest serving Board member, Mary Larson, enough for her dedication in organizing the Fall Dinner and Charity Auction once again this year. Finally, none of this works without our membership director, Don Cory. Together, I hope you will agree that we have a dedicated team looking out for you all.

I am constantly amazed at the generosity of our members, both with their time in helping out, and their wallets in supporting our food bank. When we all work together, amazing things happen. Our past president Gord Hunter and his wife, Heather Babut were instrumental in helping our Lake Steward, Pete Johnson, get the GPS identifications for all of our hazard and low wake markers. We could not have created our new maps without their efforts! Thanks also go to the on-going dedication of the Impact Assessment Committee who are working with Marilyn to stay on top of water quality and other important issues for the lake throughout the year. I also want to give a shout out to KLA member, Julie McShane. She continues to support me in moderating our ever-growing [KLA Facebook Group](#). It's not always an easy task; I am grateful for her time and dedication.

Supporting the Food Bank

I am delighted to report we had our best year ever! Both donations from the AGM (\$437) and the Fall Dinner and Charity Auction (\$3,540 plus \$500 worth of non-perishable food donations) meant a whopping \$4,477 worth of support for our local food bank. Mary Larson, along with her many volunteers, made this event possible and provided amazing support to our community and a lot of fun for our members! This year, KLA member Brett Suter, surprised us all with a "Happy Hour" bar on the lawn at Fernleigh and he donated all the proceeds to the Food Bank 😊. You can read more and see the photos on page 9.

As I sign off, and if this newsletter gets in your hands before the election, I hope you exercise your right to vote. If you received it after the 26th, I hope you voted. Stay warm this fall and winter, and if you have the pleasure of year-round life or access on the lake, please share your photos with us on our [Lake Kashwakamak Facebook Group](#) so we can live vicariously through you.

Sue president@kashwakamak.ca



KASHWAKAMAK DAM PROGRESS REPORT

In September, the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) held a meeting of its Community Liaison Committee (CLC) to present an update on rebuilding the dam at the east end of our lake. Two directors of the KLA were present, Alan Dean and Seamus Woods, along with two other lake property owners, Mayor Gerry Lichty and Deputy Mayor Roy Huetl.

The MVCA's Civil Engineer, Spencer Pye, provided these timelines for the project:

- September 2026 - Project design 90% complete.
- December 2026 - Issue project for tender.
- Early 2027 - Award of contractor.
- April to July 2027 - Improvement to access road from 506 and site mobilization.
- July 2027 to February 2028 - Phase 1: build main cofferdam, demolish existing control structure and rebuild new one to high standards, repair saddle dam to the north.
- March to August 2028 - Phase 2: build second cofferdam, demolish and rebuild overflow weir and abutment.

The MVCA is determined that this work will proceed without any major disturbances for lake users or changes to the normal water level cycle.

Members of the CLC raised questions regarding treatment of the access road, relocating the portage route along the north side of the dam, noise mitigation during demolition and construction, and possible addition of boat mooring at the saddle dam.

A full copy of the MVCA presentation and answers to the questions raised at the meeting are available at this website link:

<https://mvc.on.ca/kashwakamak-lake-dam-design-bid-build/>

The MVCA will hold a meeting of the CLC in early 2027 after the tender period to announce the successful contractor. In the meantime, let us know if you have any questions.

Alan Dean, October 5, 2026





Notice: 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 operation of a watercraft is solely responsible for safe boating, including the **avoidance** of other watercrafts, swimmers and 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. The markers are the property of the KLA and not be moved by a non-KLA board member and/or their representative.

Please report any missing or damaged markers to LakeSteward@kashwakamak.ca

Annual General Meeting Update



Thanks to the 72 people who attended our AGM on Saturday, July 11 at the Lions Hall in Northbrook. 58 people stayed for the free BBQ and great discussions were had by all. Members had great questions for our speakers, Eric Kohlsmith, Regulations Inspector, Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office, Leslie Lavender, CEO, Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA), Donna Cummerford, President FOCA, along with Mayor Lichty and Councillors Roy Huetl and Mike Hage.

Read more here: [July 2026 AGM](#)

(AGM cont'd p. 8)



(AGM cont'd from p. 7)

Eric shared that there were openings for voluntary re-inspections of septic systems, so please take a look at his presentation and consider this opportunity in the future to learn more about the health of your system and maintenance advice. You can contact him at t. 613 253 0006 ext. 256 | m. 613 913-7570

| ekohlsmith@mvc.on.ca

More resources about septic systems: [QR MRSSO 5 Steps Voluntary Online Ad](#)

MVCA Amalgamation

During the Q & A, Councillor and Deputy Mayor Roy Huetl shared an update on the amalgamation of the MVCA.

“From a municipal perspective we should all be concerned for many reasons. The fact that we will not have local representation on the board in such a large regional area has me concerned. What voice will the Township of North Frontenac have? I am worried about any possible downloading from the province particularly when it comes to the management of our dams and the capital expenditure for replacement. I am not sure what will happen to our category 3 programs such as voluntary septic inspections, shore line protection and water monitoring, to name a few.

The province has told us that it will be business as usual. Then why the change?

I will learn more once the transition team starts to meet. I will be able to give updates after that.”

Click here to read more information provided by the MVCA: [26-July FAQs re Amalgamation](#)

Presentations available online

We've posted the presentations on our website for those who couldn't make it to the AGM.

[KLA AGM PRESENTATION](#)

[SUMMER '26 FOCA](#)

[SEPTIC RE-INSPECTION 2026](#)

FOCA Member Benefits

Lesley Lavender, CEO FOCA reported that “the insurance information, was a top question from the members (she) had the privilege of speaking with,” and shared the following links for easy access:

General: <https://cadeinsurance.com/foca/>

Association Insurance: <https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Lake-Associations-Tri-Fold.pdf>

Road Association Insurance: <https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Road-Associations-Tri-Fold.pdf>

Cottage First Insurance (individual): <https://cadeinsurance.com/cottagefirst/>

FOCA Member Benefits: <https://foca.on.ca/member-services/benefits/>

Annual Fall Dinner & Charity Auction – So much fun!

This year's **Fall Dinner and Charity Auction** at Fernleigh Lodge was a resounding success (and a lot of fun)! Thanks to the generous donations from many local businesses and KLA members, our fundraising totaled **\$4,040**. Proceeds from both the silent and live auction, along with our 50:50 draw and cash donations netted **\$3,540 in cash**. In addition, the **non-perishable food donations** were estimated to be worth **\$500**.

A cheque for \$3,540 was issued to the Land o' Lakes Food Bank in Cloyne and we know it will be a great help as winter approaches.

Many thanks to KLA Director Mary Larson who organized the event. It takes many hands to make an event work, and we appreciate you all. Thanks to our auctioneer Red Emond, Anna Larson, Lois Emond, Sandy and Bob Allin, Judy McIntyre, and of course our KLA Treasurer, Bill Zerter. Melissa Phillips did her magic too and Fernleigh Lodge, as always was a gracious host

Finally, thank you to all the KLA members who supported this charity event by attending and bidding generously on the auction items and 50:50 draw (our largest pot ever - \$820)!

We surpassed our goals and sold 71 dinner tickets! We appreciate you all.



Great night – lots of laughs, happy smiles and great food! Thanks Melissa!

Photos: Sue MacGregor

(NFLAA cont'd from p. 4)

- STRs will be required to registered. Details on enforcement and STR fees will be developed, with many models to draw best practices from across Ontario. The objective is to ensure that the cost of the program remains cost neutral to non- STR owners.

Invasive Species (Eurasian Watermilfoil)

After several years of effort, the Eurasian Water Milfoil project to treat the Milfoil took place on **Mazinaw Lake**. The MPOA raised over \$90,000 from last fall to pay for the treatment. Various levels of government were consulted and invited to join. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans issued an authorization and the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks issued a permit. The application of a highly targeted and localized herbicide was started on August 27-28. 25 acres were treated for about 80% of total infestations. Parallel to this, the Invasive Species Center issued a grant for a set of students to do measurements and sampling following the treatment.

Lake Carrying Capacity

With increasing developments around the shores of North Frontenac lakes and boat traffic on the lakes, following an engaged discussion at the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance (NFLAA) AGM on August 29, 2026, the NFLAA agreed to revisit the topic of determining lake carrying capacity in the future, possibly with assistance from our lake stewards and FOCA. Stay tuned for more updates on this subject.

Marilyn Boston

Oct 6, 2026

Dear Kashwakamak Lake Association Members,

On behalf of the Land O' Lakes Emergency Foodbank in Cloyne, I want to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to another very successful year-end dinner at Fernleigh Lodge.

Once again, the Kashwakamak Lake community demonstrated its incredible generosity by donating food to the Foodbank and raising an outstanding **\$3,540.00 through the silent and live auctions**.

This has become a much-appreciated annual contribution from the Kashwakamak Lake community, and we are extremely grateful that you continue to think of the Foodbank and the families we serve.

The food donations and funds raised make a real difference. The money will help us purchase food and meet the growing demand from individuals and families throughout the Land O' Lakes area who rely on the Foodbank for assistance.

A special thank-you goes to everyone who donated auction items, bid generously, helped organize the dinner and auctions, and, of course, to those who went home with considerably less money than they arrived with! Your generosity is helping your neighbours in a very meaningful way.

Thank you, Kashwakamak Lake, for once again making the Land O' Lakes Emergency Foodbank one of the beneficiaries of your generosity. We truly appreciate your continued support.

With sincere thanks,

Lois Emond
Chair
Land O' Lakes Emergency Foodbank
Cloyne, Ontario

 **Greg Schryer** · Follow
August 25 · 🌐

Some visitors tonight...east of Hog Island/Cliffs





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

Cloyne Transfer Site - 202 Skootamatta Lk. Rd. 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	Cloyne Transfer Site - 202 Skootamatta Lk. Rd. 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
506 Site - 3444 Road 506 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	506 Site - 3444 Road 506 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
Kashwakamak Site - 1749 Kashwakamak Lk. Rd. 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	Kashwakamak Site - 1749 Kashwakamak Lk. Rd. Sun: 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed
Plevna Site - 6476 Buckshot Lk. Rd 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	Plevna Site - 6476 Buckshot Lk. Rd 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
Mississippi Site - 1177 Shiner Road Tues: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Sat: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed	Mississippi Site - 1177 Shiner Road Sat: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed
Ompah Transfer Station - 10458 Road 509 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	Ompah Transfer Station - 10458 Road 509 Sun: 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm Holiday Mon: Closed
Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste Depot Hours from May 15 to September 30 Annually 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	
Re-Use Centre Hours - 506 Site - May 15 to September 30 Annually 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 www.northfrontenac.com for current information or contact the Municipal Office at (613) 479-2231 or 1-800-234-3953, 6648 Road 506, Plevna, Ontario K0H 2M0	

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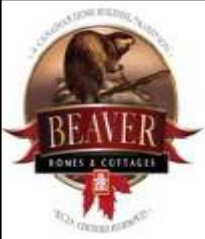
To our friends on Kash...

It is with mixed emotion that Nancy and I have decided to retire this year. We would like to thank the residents, cottagers and visitors of Kashwakamak Lake for your support, encouragement and friendship over the past 13 years.

Although the shop will be closed, we are still here and have a good selection of hoodies and t-shirts, paddling vests, paddles and the such. Just give us a call and we'll let you know what we have.

We wish you all the best this summer and hope to see you out on the lake.

Nancy and Gerard



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Michelle Oudry
September 5

Thanks Mountain Head for the great show!



Kathy Aitken
August 25

Happy to see a beautiful eagle at our end of the lake! It's been several years since we have seen one. Photo by Emily Mitchell.



Mathew Matta
September 11

Labor Day Week. Had a great time at Twin Oaks Lodge with old friends and hosts Carla, Grant Thompson and Don. Dinners were great as usual. Fishing was good despite the mid week rain storm and wind. Caught some nice small mouth and largemouth with 3 smallies over 18". Back for bass openers in June.

"The Only Place to Go"

Smitty's Warehouse Operation

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Kitty K
September 26 at 2:53 PM · 🌐

Moon set Saturday September 26th @ 6:15am



Sue Grau
October 10 at 4:31 PM · 🌐

Beautiful long weekend at Kash. Even managed a quick, very chilly swim.



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Mike Flaherty is with Sue MacGregor

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Magical sky on a chilly October evening.

Newsletter editor:
Sue MacGregor

webeditor@kashwakamak.ca

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