

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

December 3, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Topic: Regular Meeting of Council

Time: December 3, 2024 6:30 P.M. [Closed Session beginning at 5:00 p.m.]

Location: Council Chambers, 701 Highway 124 McKellar, ON P0G 1C0

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81153445672>

Dial by your location
+1 647 374 4685 Canada
+1 647 558 0588 Canada

24-626
2024-82

1st Resolution
1st By-law

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**
4. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
5. **CLOSED SESSION**
 - 5.1 Minutes of Closed Session – November 19, 2024
 - 5.2 Personal matters about an identifiable individual; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(b) – Reviewing Resumes for Administrative Assistant Position & Discussion of By-law Enforcement Recruitment
 - 5.3 Litigation or potential litigation; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(e) – Update on potential litigation
 - 5.4 Acquisition or disposition of land; pursuant to Municipal Act Section 239(2)(c) - Post Office Lease Agreement
6. **CALL TO ORDER**
7. **RESPECT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT DECLARATION**

In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.

- 8. ROLL CALL - REGULAR SESSION 6:30pm (Public can join via Zoom)**
- 9. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**
- 10. PUBLIC MEETING**
 - 10.1 Zoning By-law Amendment (McBride Rezoning) Public Meeting
- 11. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**
 - 11.1 Lake Stewardship & Environmental Committee
 - (i) Presentation of the Revised Tree Canopy & Natural Vegetation By-law
 - (ii) Aquatic Environmental Report – Lake Manitouwabing prepared by Generations Effect
 - (iii) Building Climate Change Resistance
- 12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**
- 13. MOTION TO REVIEW A PREVIOUS MOTION**
- 14. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**
 - 14.1 Minutes of the November 19, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council; and Minutes of the November 22, 2024 Special Meeting of Council
- 15. PLANNING MATTERS**
- 16. COMMITTEE/BOARD MINUTES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL**
 - 16.1 Minutes of the October 17, 2024 Meeting of the Lake Stewardship & Environmental Committee
- 17. STAFF REPORTS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL**
 - 17.1 ADMIN-2024-04 IT Services & Support Updates
- 18. MAYOR'S REPORT**
- 19. CORRESPONDENCE FOR CONSIDERATION**
- 20. MOTION AND NOTICE OF MOTION**
 - 20.1 Motion to Move Forward 2024 Surplus Funds into Reserve Accounts for the Fire Department, Recreation Committee and Historical Committee
 - 20.2 Motion to Call on the Province to Provide an Update on Fibre Internet Projects within the Township
 - 20.3 Appointment to the Township of McKellar Library Board
 - 20.4 Annual Christmas Bonus for Township Employees

21. BY-LAWS

- 21.1 By-law No. 2024-82 Being a By-law to Amend By-law No. 95-12, with respect to lands legally described as CON 12 PT LOTS 33 TO 35 RP 42R7768 PARTS 5, 6 AND 7 RP 42R21796 PART 1 McKellar (McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road - McBride)
- 21.2 By-law No. 2024-83 Being a By-law to Authorize the Corporation of The Township of McKellar To Accept A Transfer of Lands from The Incorporated Synod of The Diocese of Algoma (Parts 4, 5 and 6, Plan 42R-6765)
- 21.3 By-law No. 2024-84 Being a By-law to Enter into an Agreement with the Ontario Provincial Police for the Provision of a 9-1-1 Calling Service

22. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 22.1 Unfinished Business as of December 3, 2024

23. NEW BUSINESS

24. PUBLIC NOTICES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, INQUIRIES AND REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

25. CONSENT AGENDA – CORRESPONDENCE

- 25.1 AMO Watchfile – November 15, 2024 & November 21, 2024
- 25.2 Township of Seguin Resolution re. 22 New Beds at Belvedere Heights, Funding and Cost Estimate
- 25.3 The Labour Market Group
 - (i) September 2024 Jobs Report
 - (ii) October 2024 Publication
- 25.4 Township of Carling Resolution re. OPP 2025 Annual Billing Statement
- 25.5 Township of Papineau-Cameron Resolution re. Amendments to the Ontario Building Code to Include Provisions for Pre-approval Affordable Housing Plans
- 25.6 Township of Terrace Bay Resolution re. Ambulance Shortages and Health Care System Issues
- 25.7 Letter of Support for NOMA's Resolution re. Billy Bishop Airport
- 25.8 Near North District School Board letter to the Minister of Education Re: Closure of McDougall Public School
- 25.9 Ministry of Natural Resources, Carbon Storage Projects in Ontario

26. QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD (RELATED TO ITEMS ON AGENDA)

27. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

- 27.1 By-law 2024-85 - Confirming the Proceedings of Council

28. ADJOURNMENT

Instructions for Joining the Council Meeting

1. Please try to sign in between 6:20 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. if possible; you are still welcome to sign in after 6:30 p.m. if necessary.
2. Please wait to be let in the 'meeting room'; this won't take long.
3. Please have your mic and video on mute unless you are speaking; this ensures there are no distractions or background noise to disrupt the meeting.
4. When you sign in, please sign in with your full name (first and last), not a company name.
5. A question-and-answer opportunity will be available at the end of the meeting, as per normal protocol, or during the Public Meeting.
6. If you have permission to speak please identify yourself (first and last name).
7. Please respect meeting protocol and do not interrupt the meeting. The Municipality reserves the right to remove attendees who are disruptive or disrespect meeting protocol.



Township of McKellar

701 Hwy #124, P.O. Box 69, McKellar, Ontario POG 1C0

Phone: (705) 389-2842

Fax: (705) 389-1244

APPLICATION FOR ZONING AMENDMENT

General Instructions: Read carefully before completing application.

1. Application to be completed in full.
2. **Fee: \$1,500.00**
Includes costs of photocopying, postage, holding of special meeting, and any other directly relatable expenditure over and above normal municipal staff administrative costs, and shall exclude any costs associated with the participation of professionals, such as engineers, planners or solicitors or the costs associated with the holding of Ontario Municipal Board hearings.
3. **Deposit: \$1,000.00**
The applicant shall reimburse the Township on demand for all costs incurred in the processing of the application, including but not limited to the costs of professional planning services, legal fees, costs relating to the serving of notices and advertising, survey fees and engineering fees. A deposit of \$1,000.00 shall be required to cover above costs, which shall be returned if no additional costs are incurred or a further deposit may be required to cover additional costs.
4. Application to be signed by owner or authorized agent only.
5. The consideration of this application does not make the Township liable for any of the applicant's costs for legal, surveying, or other professional costs.
6. If there are objections to the amending By-law and a hearing of the Ontario Municipal Board is to be held, the applicant should arrange to be present in person, or to be represented by legal counsel at the meeting.

To Accompany Application:

A legal survey plan or a plan of the property accurately drawn to an appropriate scale based on a true survey showing:

- Existing buildings or structures on site and their dimensions
- Location of proposed buildings including their height and dimensions
- Location, widths, and names of abutting roads
- Natural features: watercourses, wooded areas, swamps, etc., and
- Any other information which might be helpful for Council's consideration of the application

Personal information contained on the application form will be used for the purpose of considering your application for a Zoning Amendment. Questions regarding the collection of this information should be directed to the Clerk.

APPLICATION FOR ZONING AMENDMENT

APPLICATION TO AMEND



OFFICAL PLAN

ZONING BY-LAW

1. Applicant Information		
1.1 Name of Applicant: <u>FIONA MCBRIDE</u> Address: <u>1420 AVONBRIDGE DRIVE</u> <u>MISSISSAUGA ONT</u> <u>LSG 3G5</u>	Telephone Number: <u>416-804-1981</u>	Cell Phone: <u>Same</u>
	Fax: <u>N/A</u>	Business Phone: <u>N/A</u>
1.2 Name of Owner(s) <u>AILSA MCBRIDE &</u> (if different from the applicant) <u>RIANA</u> Address: <u>MCBRIDE</u> <u>AS ABOVE</u>	Telephone Number: <u>AILSA: 647-981-8208</u>	Cell Phone: <u>RIANA: 647-983-8208</u>
	Fax: <u>N/A</u>	Business Phone: <u>N/A</u>
1.3 Name of the person who is to be contacted about the application (if different from the applicant) Address:	Telephone Number:	Cell Phone:
	Fax:	Business Phone:
2. Purpose of this Application (check appropriate box and complete applicable sections)		
2.1 Application is hereby made for a(n):		
<input type="checkbox"/> OFFICAL PLAN AMENDMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT		
For the lands hereinafter described and shown on the attached sketch		
What is the existing official plan designation(s) of the subject land?	What is the existing zoning of the subject land? <u>Rural</u>	
What is the proposed amendment to the official plan?	What is the proposed zoning of the subject land? <u>Special Provision</u>	
What are the reasons for the proposed change?	What are the reasons for the proposed change? <u>Stand alone detached garage, no primary dwelling.</u>	

3. Location of the Subject Land (complete applicable boxes in 3.1)			
3.1 Road: <u>McWELLAR - FERGUSON BOUNDARY ROAD</u> Address: Concession Number: <u>12</u> Lot Number: <u>34+35</u> Registered Plan Number: <u>42 R - 7768</u> Lot(s)/Block(s): Reference Plan Number: Part Number(s): <u>5-7</u> Island Number: Parcel:			
3.2 Are there any easements or restrictive covenants affecting the subject land? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, describe the easement or covenant and its effect:			
4. Description of Subject Land and Servicing Information (Complete each subsection)			
4.1 Description	Frontage (m.)	Depth (m.)	Area (ha.)
	<u>231</u>	<u>1200+</u>	<u>40.4</u>
4.2 Buildings or Structure (Attach Separate list if necessary)	Type <u>GARAGE/STORAGE</u>	Existing Size	Proposed Size <u>24' x 34'</u>
4.3 Access (check appropriate space)	Provincial Highway	Existing	Proposed
	Municipal road, maintained all year		
	Other public road	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Right of way		
	Water access (if so, describe below)		
	Describe in section 7.2, the parking and docking facilities to be used and the approximate distance of these facilities from the subject land and the nearest public road.		
4.4 Water Supply (check appropriate space)	Publicly owned and operated piped water system		
	Privately owned and operated individual well		
	Privately owned and operated communal well		
	Lake or other waterbody		
4.5 Sewage Disposal (check appropriate space)	Publicly owned and operated sanitary sewage system		
	Privately owned and operated individual sewage tank (1)		
	Privately owned and		

APPLICATION FOR ZONING AMENDMENT

	operated communal septic system		
	Privy		
	Other means		
	A certificate of approval from the Director having jurisdiction under Part VII of the E.P.A. submitted with this application will facilitate the review.		
4.6 Storm Drainage (check appropriate space)	Method of Drainage:		
	Surface		
	Ditching	✓	
	Piping		
4.7 Other Services (check appropriate space)	Electricity		
	School Busing		
	Garage Collection		
4.8	If access to the subject land is by private road, or if "other public road" or "right-of-way" was indicated in section 4.3, indicate who owns the land or road, who is responsible for its maintenance and whether it is maintained seasonally or all year. MCDUGAL & MCKELLAR SEASONAL MAINTENANCE		
5. Lands			
5.1	What are the existing uses on the subject land? Vacant Lot	Date use Established:	
	What are the proposed uses on the subject land? Garage for Storage	Proposed Commencement Date: 2025	
5.2	Are any of the following uses or features on the subject land or within 500 metres of the subject land, unless otherwise specified. Please check the appropriate boxes, if any apply.		
	Use or Feature	On the Subject Land	Within 500 Metres of Subject Land, unless otherwise specified (include approx.. distance)
	An agricultural operation, including livestock facility or stockyard	N/A	
	A landfill	N/A	
	A sewage treatment plant or waste stabilization plant	N/A	
	A Provincially significant wetland (Class 1, 2 or 3 wetland)	N/A	
	A Provincially significant wetland within 120 metres of subject land	n/a	
	Flood plain	N/A	
	A rehabilitated mine site	N/A	
	A non-operating mine site within 1 km of the subject land	N/A	
	An active mine site	N/A	
	An industrial or commercial use, and specify the use(s)	N/A	
	An active railway line	N/A	
	A Municipal or Federal airport	N/A	
	6. Current Applications		

APPLICATION FOR ZONING AMENDMENT

6.1	<p>Is the subject land currently the subject of an application for a minor variance, consent or approval of a plan of subdivision?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown If YES and if KNOWN, specify the appropriate file number and status of the application.</p>
6.2	<p>Has the land ever been the subject of an Official Plan Amendment or Zoning By-Law Amendment?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown, if YES and if KNOWN, specify the number for the amendment.</p>
7. Other Information	
7.1	<p>When was the subject land acquired by the current owners?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December 2019</p>
7.2	<p>If there is any other information that you think maybe useful to the Township or other agencies in reviewing this application? If so, explain below or attach a separate page.</p> <p>THE APPLICANTS HAVE A COTTAGE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD. THERE IS INSUFFICIENT SPACE FOR A GARAGE ON THAT LOT & THUS THEY WOULD LIKE TO BUILD A GARAGE/STORAGE SPACE ON ^{THIS} THEIR</p>
8. Plans	<p style="text-align: center;">VACANT LOT ACROSS THE ROAD. (WPSGN MAP ATTACHED)</p>
8.1	<p>Key Plan</p> <p>Every application shall be accompanied by a key plan, drawn to an appropriate scale, properly dimensioned and showing thereon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The boundaries and dimensions of the parcel of land that is the subject of the application, the part of the parcel that is the subject of this application, the location of all adjacent properties and/or islands, transportation routes, etc; • The distance between the subject land and the nearest township lot line or landmark, such as a railway crossing or bridge; • All lands within 120 metres (400 feet) of subject lands; • The nearest highway or township road
8.2	<p>Property Sketch</p> <p>Every application shall be accompanied by a sketch (based on a boundary survey plan of the subject land prepared by an Ontario Land Surveyor) drawn to an appropriate scale, properly dimensioned and showing thereon;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The boundaries and dimensions of the subject land and the part that is the subject of this application; • The boundaries and dimensions of any land owned by the owner of the subject land and that abuts the subject land; • The location and dimensions of existing and proposed buildings and structures and their distance from lot lines; • The location of land previously severed from the parcel originally acquired by the current owner of the subject land; • The approximate location of all natural and artificial features on the subject land and adjacent lands that in the opinion of the applicant may affect the application, such as railways, roads, watercourses, drainage ditches, river or stream banks, wetlands, wooded areas, wells and septic tanks, landscaped open spaces, planting strips, parking areas, loading areas, driveways and walkways; • The existing use(s);

- Use on adjacent lands
- The location, width and name of any roads within or abutting the subject land, indicating whether it is an unopened road allowance, a publicly travelled road, a private road right-of-way;
- If access to the subject land is by water only, the location of the parking and boat docking facilities uses;
- The location and nature of any easement affecting the subject land

Additional Information, including architectural drawings and elevations, shall be furnished by the applicant at the request of the Township.

9. Affidavit/Sworn Declaration

9.1 The contents of the application and appendices shall be validated by the Applicant (or authorized agent) in the form of the following Affidavit/Sworn Declaration before a Commissioner or other person empowered to take Affidavits.

Dated at the Township of McKellar this 18th day of October 2024

I, Fiona McBride of the CITY OF MISSISSAUGA in the County/District/Regional Municipality of PEEL solemnly declare that all the statements contained in this

application are true, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the **CANADA EVIDENCE ACT,**

DECLARED BEFORE ME at the Township of McKellar in the District of Parry Sound this 18th day of October 2024.

Karlee Britton **KARLEE HELAINA BRITTON,**
 a Commissioner, etc., Province of Ontario,
A Commissioner of Oaths for the Corporation of the Township of McKellar.
 Expires September 6, 2025.

[Signature]
Signature of Applicant or Agent

10. Authorizations

10.1 If the Applicant is not the owner of the land that is the subject of this application, the written authorization of the owner that the applicant is authorized to make the application must be included with this form or authorization set out below must be completed.

Authorization of Owner for Agent to Make the Application

I, Ailsa McBride + Rianam McBride am the owner of the land that is the subject of this application for an Official plan Amendment and/or Zoning By-law Amendment and I authorize Fiona McBride to make this application on my behalf.

Date: 10/17/2024 Signature of Owner: Ailsa McBride R McBride

10.2 If the applicant is not the owner of the land that is the subject of this application, complete the authorization of the owner concerning personal information set out below.

Authorization of Owner for Agent to Provide Personal Information

I, ALLSA MCBRIDE + RIANNA MCBRIDE, am the owner of the land that is the subject of this application for an Official Plan Amendment and/or Zoning By-law Amendment and for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, I authorize FIONA MCBRIDE, as my agent for this application, to provide any of my personal information that will be included in this application or collected during the processing of the application.

Date: 10/17/2024 Signature of Owner: Allsa McBride R McBride

11. Consent of the Owner (this section must be completed for the application to be processed)

11.1 Complete the consent of the owner concerning personal information set out below.

Consent of the Owner to the Use and Disclosure of Personal Information

I, ALLSA MCBRIDE + RIANNA MCBRIDE, am the owner of the land that is the subject of this application and for the purpose of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, I authorize and consent to the use by or the disclosure to any person or public body of any personal information that is collected under the authority of the Planning Act for the purposes of processing this application.

Questions about this collection of personal information should be directed to the Township Clerk.

Date: 10/17/2024 Signature of Owner: Allsa McBride R McBride

12. Payment of Fees (this section must be completed for the application to be processed)

12.1 Complete the consent of the owner concerning payment of fees set out below.

As of the date of this application, I hereby agree to pay for and bear the entire cost and expense for any engineering, legal, landscape architectural and/or external planning consulting expenses incurred by the Township of McKellar during the processing of this application, in addition to any application fee set by the Township of McKellar.

Date: 10/17/2024 Signature of Owner: Allsa McBride R McBride

13. Ontario Municipal Board Hearing Costs (this section must be completed for the application to be processed)

13.1 Complete the consent of the owner concerning Ontario Municipal Board Hearing costs set out below.

The registered owner hereby acknowledges and agrees to pay all costs incurred by the Township of McKellar related to an appeal in the event that this application is approved and the matter comes before the Ontario Municipal Board.

Date: 10/17/2024 Signature of Owner: Allsa McBride R McBride

Updated January 10, 2022

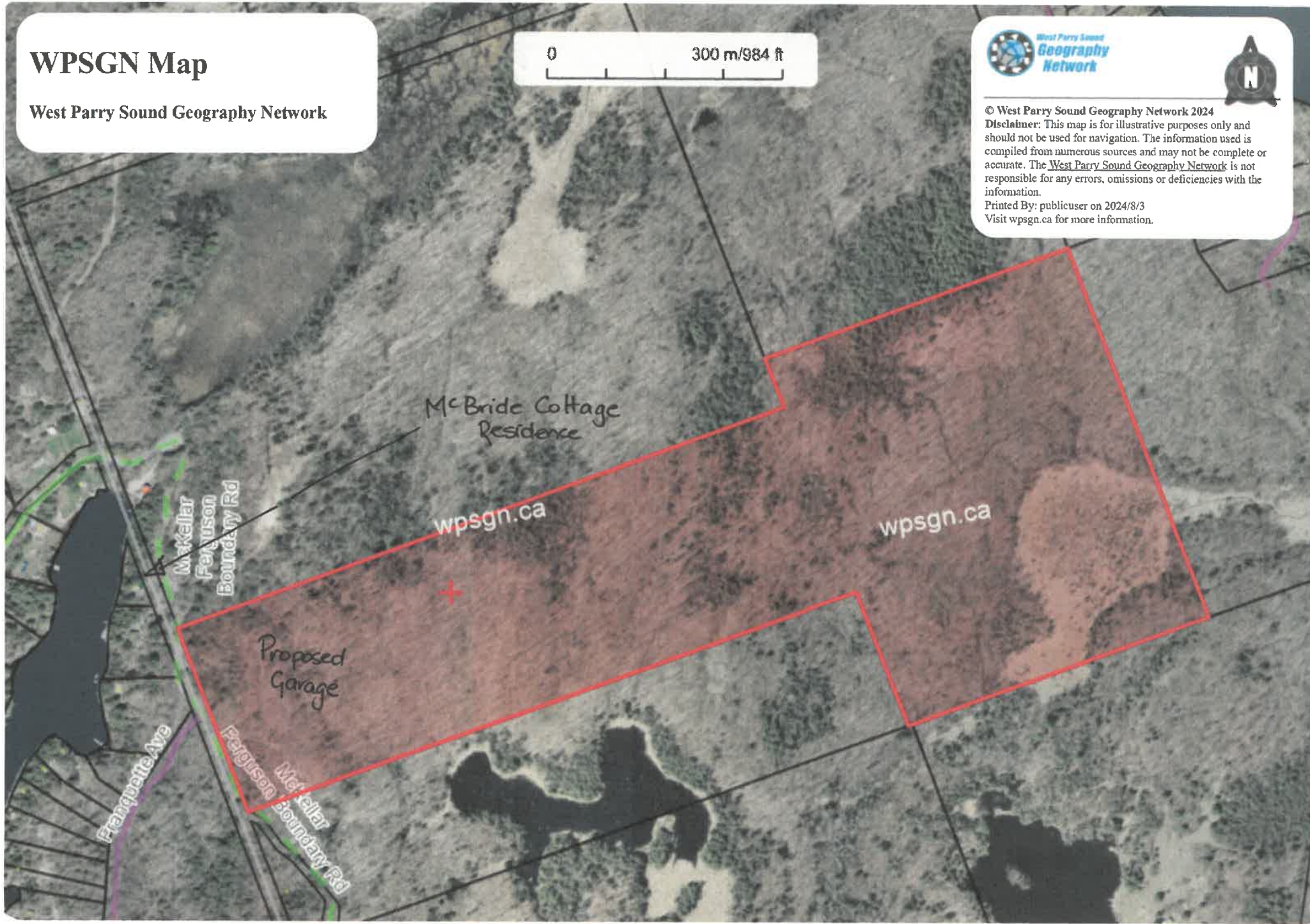
WPSGN Map

West Parry Sound Geography Network

0 300 m/984 ft



© West Parry Sound Geography Network 2024
Disclaimer: This map is for illustrative purposes only and should not be used for navigation. The information used is compiled from numerous sources and may not be complete or accurate. The West Parry Sound Geography Network is not responsible for any errors, omissions or deficiencies with the information.
Printed By: publicuser on 2024/8/3
Visit wpsgn.ca for more information.



McBride Cottage Residence

wpsgn.ca

wpsgn.ca

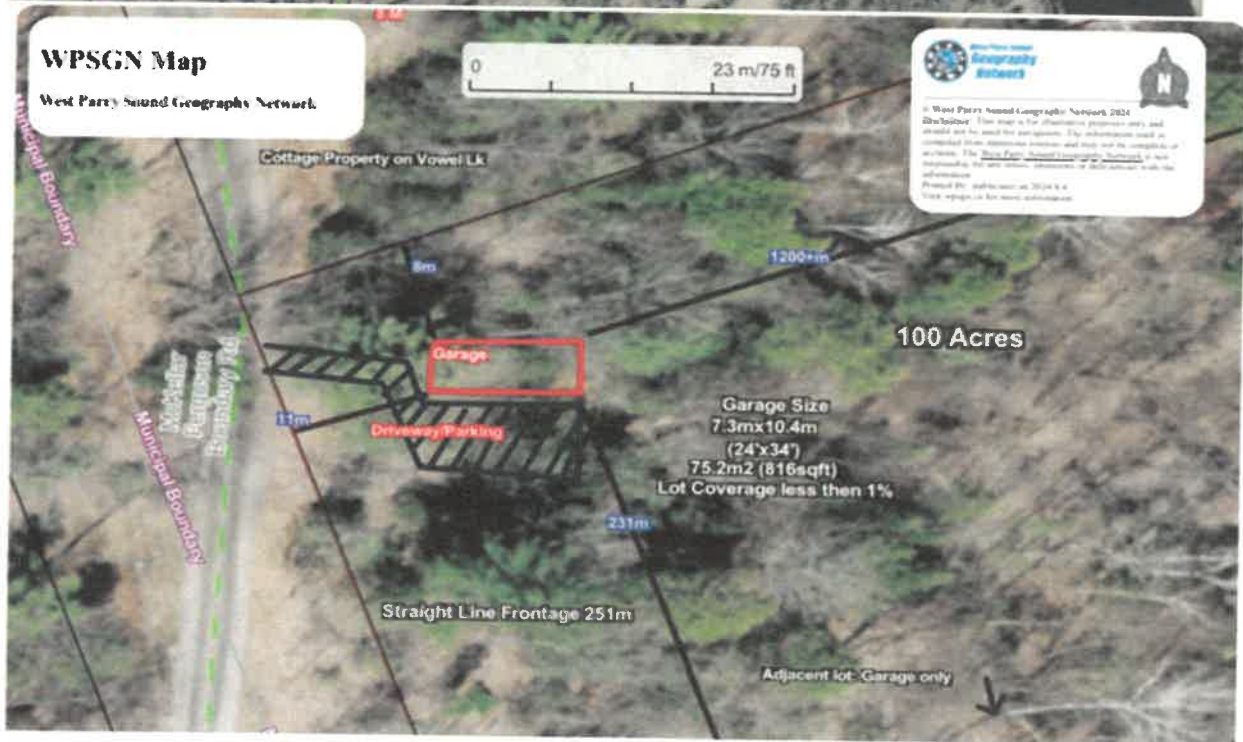
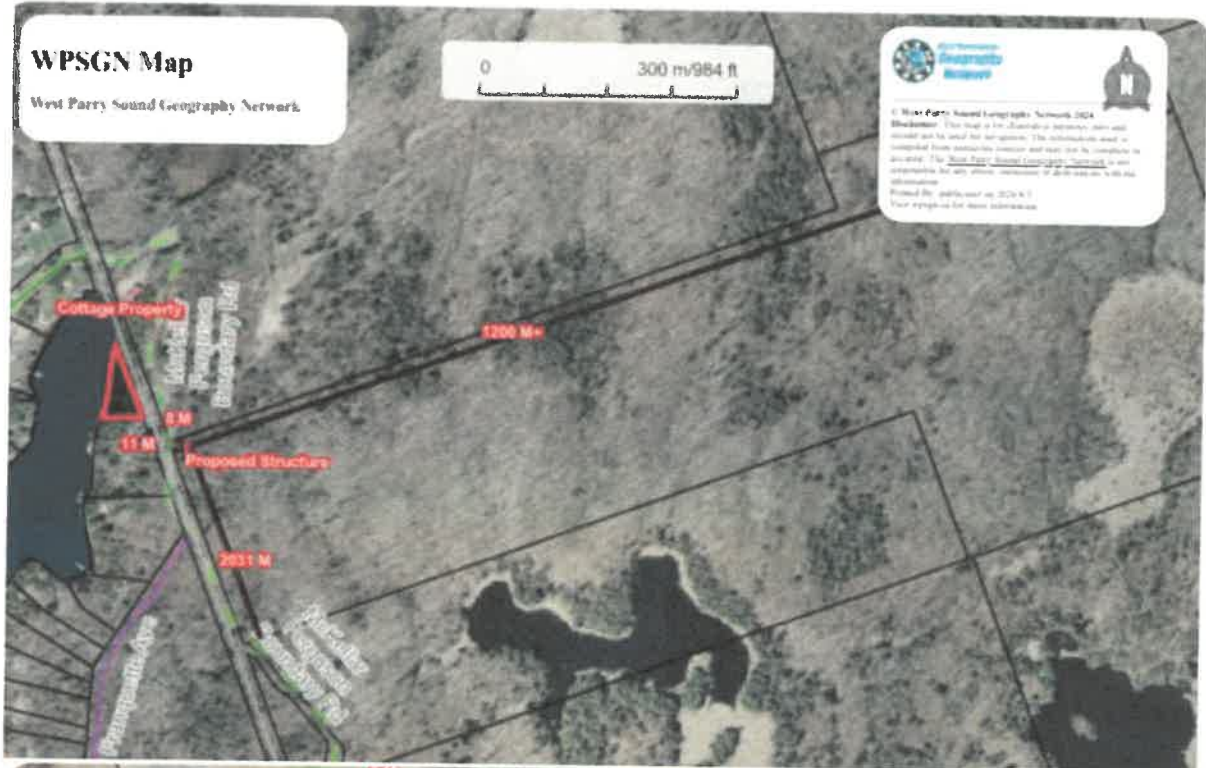
Proposed Garage

McKellar
Ferguson
Boundary Rd

Franquette Ave

Ferguson
McKellar
Boundary Rd

Site Plan



Date: November 19, 2024
To: Karlee Britton, Acting Clerk/Administrator, Corporation of the Township of McKellar
From: Tara Michauville, Planner
CC: Dave Welwood, RPP, MCIP, Senior Planner
Subject: Application for Zoning By-law Amendment (MCBRIDE) – CON 12 PT LOTS 33 TO 35 RP 42R7768 PARTS 5, 6 AND 7 RP 42R21796 PART 1 McKellar, known locally as McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road, McKellar ON
JLR No.: 31960-000

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION The property is legally described as CON 12 PT LOTS 33 TO 35 RP 42R7768 PARTS 5, 6 AND 7 RP 42R21796 PART 1 McKellar (unaddressed on McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road) McKellar ON.

The subject land has an area of approximately 40.4 ha with frontage on the eastern side of McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road of approximately 231 m.

APPLICATION The applicant has requested a Zoning By-law Amendment to rezone the section of the subject property currently zoned Inland Development 1 (RU) to Special Provision (SP.16.80) to permit a detached garage as the primary use of a property subject to all other requirements of the Inland Development 1 (RU) zone.

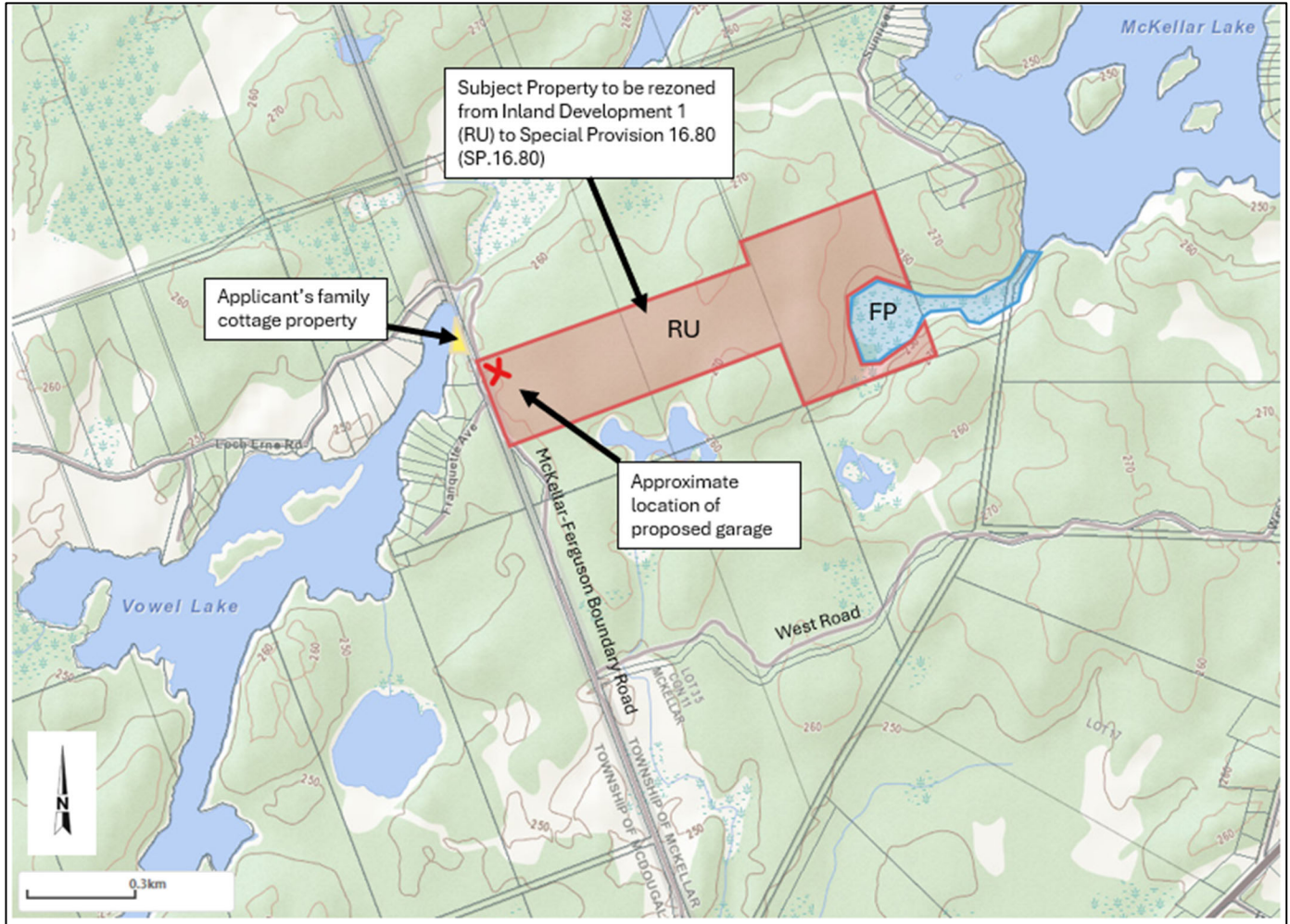
RECOMMENDATION The application is consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement and conforms to the Township's Official Plan. Therefore, the application is recommended for approval.

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, a Zoning By-law Amendment is being sought to re-zone the part of the subject lands currently zoned Inland Development 1 (RU) to Special Provision (SP.16.80).

The subject lands are located on the eastern side of McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road, which is a seasonal, municipally maintained road on the north side of Highway 124. The lot has an area of approximately 40.4 ha and frontage of approximately 231 m on McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road. The lot is currently vacant and largely forested (see Figure 1). The applicant's family owns property at 290 McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road, to the north of the subject lands, on Vowel Lake in neighbouring McDougall Township, and would be using the proposed garage for personal use associated with their waterfront property.

Figure 1 – Subject property



The subject lands are designated Rural and Environmentally Sensitive within the Township’s Official Plan and are zoned Inland Development 1 (RU) and Flood Plain (FP) in the Township’s Zoning By-law No. 95-12.

Adjacent lands to the north are designated Rural and Licensed Pits/Quarries in the Official Plan, while to the west, south and east, are all lands are designated Rural. Provincial mapping shows that the property to the north has an approved Class B license for the extraction of aggregate (ID 4624313 pit). There are two small wetlands located on the subject property towards the centre and rear of the property, approximately 300 metres from the proposed garage. The surrounding properties are mostly large, low density lots with natural vegetation and characteristic of the Rural designation. Properties on the western side of McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road contain some smaller, waterfront residential lots on Vowel Lake.

ANALYSIS

Provincial Planning Statement (PPS), 2024

The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) is issued under Section 3 of the Planning Act and is intended to provide policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development.

The 2024 PPS came into effect on October 20, 2024, and provides for appropriate development while protecting resources of provincial interest, public health and safety, and the quality of the natural and built environment. The Planning Act requires that municipal decisions affecting planning matters “shall be consistent” with the PPS.

The PPS states that rural areas in municipalities should be supported by building upon rural character and leveraging rural amenities and assets. Rural lands shall be developed where service levels are existing to avoid uneconomical expansion of infrastructure.

Section 3.5 describes land use compatibility with major facilities (such as resource extraction) be avoided near sensitive land uses to minimize potential adverse effects from the facility’s operations. It further states in Section 4.5.2.4 that mineral aggregate operations shall be protected from development and activities that would hinder their expansion or continued use. The proposed detached garage is not considered a sensitive land use and will not interfere with the existing aggregate operation located to the north of the subject property.

The proposed development is consistent with the PPS 2024.

Official Plan of the Township of McKellar (2018)

The subject lands are designated Rural and Environmentally Sensitive on Schedule A of the Township’s Official Plan. Permitted uses in the Rural designation include low density residential. Environmentally Sensitive areas as shown on Schedule A require confirmation of the boundary when development is proposed adjacent to these areas (within 120 m for significant wetlands and 30 m from Type 1 fish habitat). The proposed detached garage is over 900 m away from the Environmentally Sensitive area and therefore no studies are required.

Section 5.1 addresses Accessory Uses and states that a building or structure is considered accessory when the use is ancillary to the principal use. The proposed detached garage will be the principal use on the property and will not be considered an accessory building.

Section 5.2.6 requires development that is considered a more sensitive land use, within 300 m of the boundary of a licensed pit of quarry to provide a compatibility study. The proposed detached garage is not considered a sensitive land use. Should zoning be changed in the future to permit a sensitive use, a land use compatibility study would be required.

Section 5.8.2 states that all new development must front upon a year-round, publicly maintained road subject to exceptions which permit a limited number of seasonal residential dwellings in the Waterfront designation and certain resource uses that are not dependent on direct access to a publicly maintained road system, for water access properties. The proposed use of the property as a garage is related to storage for a seasonal dwelling located in the Waterfront designation, and does not depend on year-round maintenance of the seasonally maintained public road. Therefore, it is our opinion that the application meets the intent of the policies for municipal roads.

Section 6 of the Official Plan describes policies for development in the Rural designation that include considerations for character, objectives, growth, housing, servicing, and standards as they relate to this application.

With low density residential being a permitted use in the Rural designation, a detached garage is a common building found in rural lands and associated with low density residential development. As a principal use, it would serve the storage needs of the owner’s family property, which is too small to accommodate a garage. In doing so, the rural character of low density residential development will be

retained, the general support for new development appropriate to the rural area is met as the lot retains its large size. The proposed development will not be adding any water or wastewater services and meets the standards of minimum lot size. The proposed development is located on a seasonal municipally maintained road which will be used by existing property owners (seasonal cottage on the same road) and is not anticipated to create more traffic along the road.

Based on our review, the application conforms with the relevant provisions of the Township's Official Plan.

Township of McKellar Comprehensive Zoning By-law No. 95-12

The subject lands are currently zoned Inland Development 1 (RU) and Flood Plain (FP) per the Township of McKellar's Zoning By-law.

Portions of the subject lands are zoned Flood Plain (FP), corresponding with a small water body and flood plain area at the rear of the property.

Permitted uses in the RU zone include a single detached dwelling and accessory buildings, including a garage, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule B – Zone Requirements Table. The FP zone only allows Rural Uses (excluding buildings or structures) and Open Space Uses. Within the FP zone, no development of buildings or structures are allowed.

The proposed garage shall comply with the zone provisions of the principal use of the RU zone which includes a maximum lot coverage of 15% for buildings; setbacks to the front, interior and rear yards of 7.5 m, 5 m and 7.5 m respectively; and a building height of less than 10 m. The proposed garage will have a lot coverage of 1% or less and will meet the yard setbacks and building height requirements. It shall also comply with the FP zone, being located over 900 m from the delineated wetland.

Under General Provisions, Section 3.15 refers to frontage on a public road or street and states that no building or structure shall be built unless it fronts upon an open public highway maintained year-round by the Township. The exception to this provision for the Inland Development 1 (RU) zone allows for hunt camps. An exception to the provisions of this section is proposed to be included in the proposed zoning by-law amendment to allow for the use of a private residential garage on the subject property. A prohibition on sanitary facilities has been proposed as part of the by-law to ensure the garage cannot be used for human habitation.

Based on our review, it is our opinion that the proposed amendment maintains the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law.

RECOMMENDATION

The application to amend the zoning of the subject lands from Inland Development 1 to Special Provision 16.80 to allow a garage to be the primary use on the property is consistent with the 2024 Provincial Planning Statement, conforms to the Township of McKellar's Official Plan, and maintains the general intent and purpose of the Township of McKellar's Zoning By-law. The application is therefore recommended for approval.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, or if additional information is required, please contact the undersigned.

J.L. RICHARDS & ASSOCIATES LIMITED

Prepared by:

Tara Michauville

Tara Michauville, MSc
Planner

Reviewed by:

David Welwood

David Welwood, MES, RPP, MCIP
Senior Planner

TM:dw

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

BY-LAW NO. 2024-82

Being a By-law to amend By-law No. 95-12, as amended, with respect to lands legally described as CON 12 PT LOTS 33 TO 35 RP 42R7768 PARTS 5, 6 AND 7 RP 42R21796 PART 1 McKellar (McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road) (McBride)

WHEREAS By-law No. 95-12 regulates the use of land and the use and erection of buildings and structures within the Township of McKellar;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar deems it advisable to amend By-law No. 95-12 as hereinafter set forth;

AND WHEREAS authority to pass such a by-law is provided by Section 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13* and amendments thereto;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** Zoning By-law No. 95-12 is amended as follows:

- 1.1 Schedule 'A' (Sheet 1) to Zoning By-law 95-12, is hereby further amended, by rezoning the Inland Development 1 (RU) Zone of the subject property to Special Provision 16.80 (SP 16.80) Zone as shown on Schedule 'A' attached hereto and forming a part of this By-law.
- 1.2 Section 16 (Special Provisions) is further amended, by adding the following paragraph at the end of the section (16.80):

"Notwithstanding the requirements of this By-law, on lands legally described as **CON 12 PT LOTS 33 TO 35 RP 42R7768 PARTS 5, 6 AND 7 RP 42R21796 PART 1 McKellar (McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road)**, as identified as SP 16.80 on Schedule 'A' attached hereto, the requirements of the Inland Development 1 (RU) Zone shall apply, except:

- a) A detached garage having a ground floor area of $\pm 75.19 \text{ m}^2$ will be permitted as the primary use of the property.
- b) Sanitary facilities will not be permitted on the subject property.
- c) Overnight human occupancy is prohibited.
- d) Access to the property is permitted via a street maintained seasonally by the Township (McKellar-Ferguson Boundary Road).

2. **THAT** Schedule 'A' attached hereto is hereby made part of this By-law.

3. **THAT** this By-law shall come into force and effect pursuant to the provisions of and Regulations made under the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990*.

READ a FIRST and SECOND time this 3rd day of December, 2024.

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

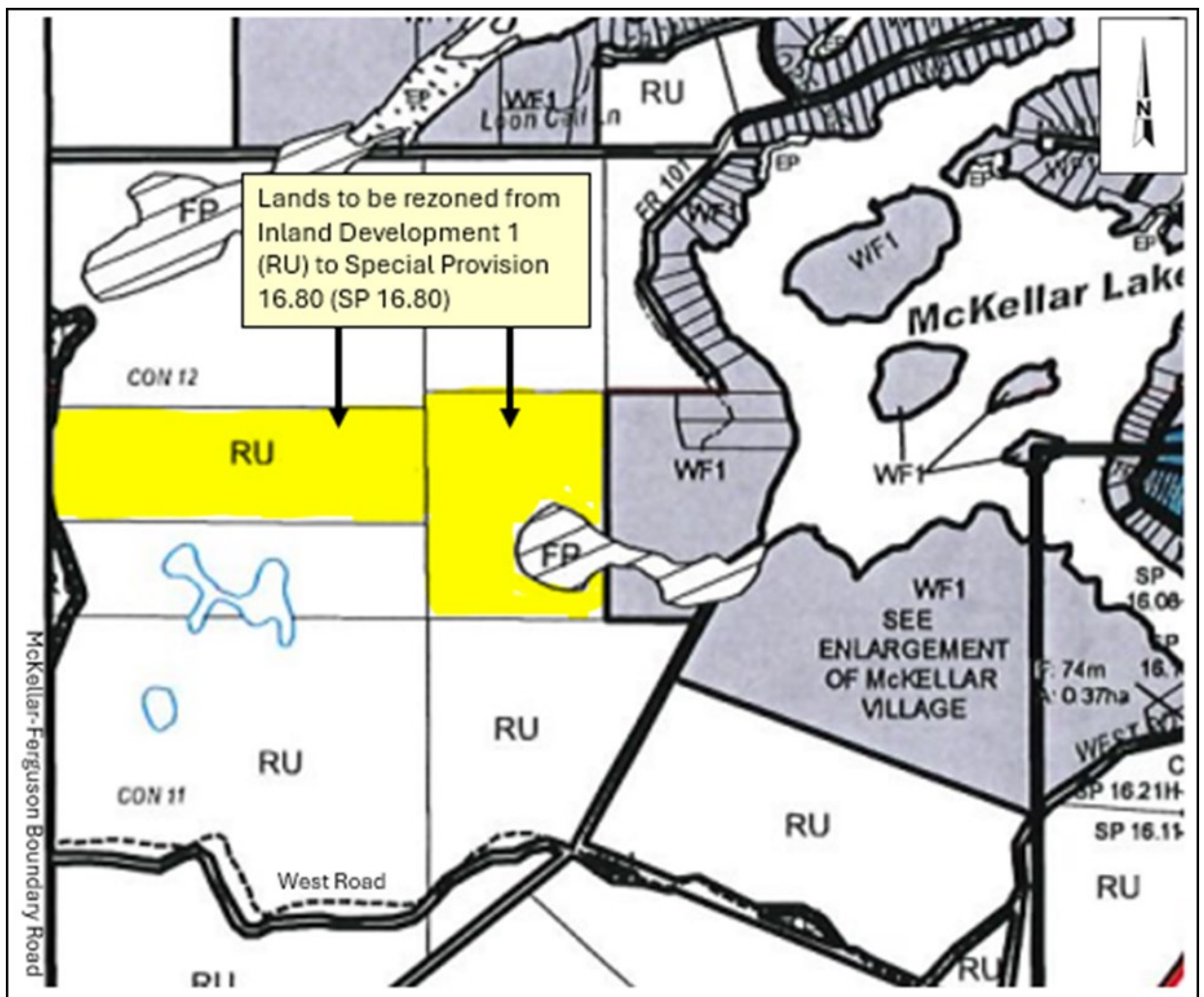
READ a THIRD time and PASSED in OPEN COUNCIL this 3rd day of December, 2024.

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

SCHEDULE 'A' to By-law 2024-82

1. This is Schedule 'A' to By-law 2024-82, being a portion of 'Schedule A', Sheet 1 to Zoning By-law 95-12, passed this 3rd day of December, 2024.



Map not to Scale

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

SCHEDULE "E"

Reminder: A signed detailed written submission must be provided to the Clerk's Office by 1:00 on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Failure to provide a signed detailed written submission by the Tuesday prior to the Council meeting will result in the deputation not being placed on the Council's agenda.

Decorum dictates respect for all opinions and individuals are reminded there is zero tolerance for coarse language and inappropriate behaviour. By submitting this Form you have indicated agreement with this requirement.

Personal Information on this form is collected under the legal authority of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c25 as amended. The information is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Correspondence to Council and Committee meeting agenda, minutes and correspondence are public documents and are published on the Township of McKellar website. When corresponding with the Township of McKellar, please be aware that personal correspondence or delegation materials (together with names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers) may be included on the Council or Committee meeting agenda and subsequently appear on the corporate website.

If you feel there is a compelling reason that your correspondence to Council should not be included on the agenda and released to the public, please notify the Clerk's office.

Corporation of the Township of McKellar

Proposed Bylaw 2024 - xx

Being a By-law to adopt a TREE CANOPY AND NATURAL VEGETATION
POLICY

WHEREAS Subsection 270 (1.7) of the Municipal Act 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 requires municipalities to adopt and maintain a policy for the protection and enhancement of the tree canopy and natural vegetation (see McKellar Township By-Law 2019-12),

AND WHEREAS healthy lakes and rivers in McKellar Township are of immeasurable benefit to everyone,

AND WHEREAS the tree canopy and natural vegetation along the shorelines is known as the “ribbon of life” because of: its importance in protecting animal, insect and aquatic wildlife habitat; maintaining the environmental quality of surface water by trapping excess nutrients (mainly phosphorus and nitrogen) and other pollutants (including pathogens, pesticides and heavy metals); moderating stormwater runoff by preventing erosion, flooding and removal of sediment; and, moderating of water temperature in an era of climate warming,

AND WHEREAS shorelines are highly attractive to human settlement,

AND WHEREAS, because of settlement along a shoreline, the buffer zone, a vegetated portion of land between development (residential, industrial or agricultural) and water, is often changed in a way that threatens the essential functions of the shoreline in maintaining the health of the waterway,

AND WHEREAS, according to the Ontario Provincial government’s Lake Capacity Assessment Handbook, preserving and replacing a vegetated buffer is a best management practice for lake health, and water quality improvements increase with buffer size,

AND WHEREAS A healthy Riparian Zone significantly mitigates the impact of human activity in the Upland Zone, bolstering the health of the Littoral Zone (see Figure 1),

AND WHEREAS development on the shoreline has been shown to change the number and variety of plant life and the number of species and quantity of fish in the littoral zone and the amount of nutrients entering the lake through runoff, and a healthy littoral zone is vital to the overall health of Manitouwabing Lake and other lakes in McKellar Township,

AND WHEREAS A healthy tree canopy in the upland zone provides cooling of the land, oxygen production in the atmosphere, and retention of rainwater in the ground and nutrient uptake from the rain runoff, and acts as a barrier between human activity and wildlife

AND WHEREAS native plant species are adapted to local conditions, support local biodiversity and do not require the use of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides which degrade water quality, and have deeper roots, which stabilize the shore and improve absorption of water to replace groundwater

AND WHEREAS the Township of McKellar wishes to create performance measures designed to enhance McKellar

AND WHEREAS the presence and population of the Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) is an indicator of lake health and of value to the residents of McKellar; a count of the loon population may be used as an indicator of lake health in addition to standard measurements of lake profile data, including periodic E. coli, phosphorus and calcium measurements,

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar enacts as follows:

1. THAT the Township of McKellar Tree Canopy and Natural Vegetation Policy is hereby adopted as set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law;

2. THAT this By-law shall come into force and effect on the date of final passing thereof. READ a FIRST and SECOND time this Xth day of MONTH, YEAR.

Original signed by _____ Mayor

David Moore, Mayor

Original signed by _____ Clerk

Karlee Britton, Clerk

READ a THIRD time and PASSED in OPEN Council this ____ th day of

_____, _____.

month year

TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR.

TREE CANOPY AND NATURAL VEGETATION POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Township of McKellar recommends the preservation, renewal and replacement of the tree canopy in the whole of McKellar Township. The Township of McKellar further recommends the maintenance and renewal of a vegetative zone of native vegetation at the shoreline and wherever possible in the upland areas of the township.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to offer a summary understanding of local vegetation, conservation considerations and promote best practices for the creation and preservation of a healthy tree canopy and naturalized vegetative buffers in the Township's settlement areas as well as on its shorelines and rural residential properties in compliance with section 270(1)(7) of the Act.

WHO IS IT FOR?

This policy applies to all properties and development on public and private lands in the Township of McKellar. It is a resource which should be referred to and utilized as guiding principles for residential, commercial and Township properties, reflecting the significance of tree canopies and natural vegetation to provincial interests and the need for a co-ordinated cultural shift away from manicured, carpet-like grass lawns which became popular in the middle of the 20th century.

WHAT IS A TREE CANOPY?

A tree canopy is the dense gathering of closely spaced trees and their branches.

In a rural setting, the greater the percentage of the ground that is covered by a tree canopy, the better the trees can

- mitigate ground, air and water temperature
- create shade for buildings as well as surface water
- reduce air pollution
- provide habitat
- improve the aesthetics and value of property
- assist in stormwater management
- improve retention of moisture in the soil and replace groundwater
- prevent erosion
- sequester carbon, thereby decreasing air pollution
- absorb nutrients before they are washed into the surface water with rain run off
- help maintain a healthy lake as indicated by its trophic status (the Lakeshore capacity model (Ontario MOE) established a quantitative linkage between the level of shoreline development and the level of phosphorus in a lake.)
- create oxygen for the atmosphere

This policy advocates for the maintenance of trees whenever possible on a piece of property scheduled for development. In the case of trees which are limiting a view, removal of lower branches to enable that view is preferable to removing the tree.

WHAT IS A VEGETATIVE BUFFER?

A vegetative buffer is a living zone of plants and can be made up of any combination of trees, shrubs and herbaceous or grassy vegetation. A naturalized vegetative buffer contains a combination of **native or indigenous** vegetation as opposed to turf and introduced plant species. Native vegetation has been defined as plant life which occurred in the area prior to the time of Euro-American settlement.

A buffer differs from a setback, which is the minimum distance required between a structure or infrastructure and a natural feature, although a buffer may be included within a setback. Since setbacks are mandatory, vegetative buffers almost always make up at least a portion of the setback. Intuitively, the greater the setback, the greater the potential for a naturalized vegetative buffer. The maintenance of a vegetative buffer of any size maintained in an existing setback should be encouraged to provide greater protection of water quality and to decrease erosion at the shoreline.

Several qualities affect the effectiveness of vegetative buffers in the role of protecting the littoral zone from upland human activity. Buffer size, condition of buffer (i.e. density of vegetation, suitability of vegetation, soil status (disturbed / undisturbed) and intensity of upland use are key factors that determine the effectiveness of a vegetative buffer.

Where the vegetative buffer is less than 10 m, factors such as the density of vegetation and substrate quality increase disproportionately in importance. Vegetative buffers are effective when they are 15 m or greater.

Shoreline development is inescapable – development allows access for enjoyment. However, currently it often happens that for that developed portion of the shoreline, there is no vegetative buffer or if there is, it is mowed grass turf which is unsuitable as a rainwater filter. In unsettled

lake shorelines, the natural vegetation at the shore filters the rainwater, removing and storing nutrients in the plants which would otherwise be excess in the lake water. Developed shoreline zones can be viewed as the weak links in a shoreline chain. Current development standards (Lake Protection Workbook, Watersheds Canada) allow for the development of 25% of a property's shoreline.

In addition to providing inadequate filtration of rainwater run-off into lakes and rivers, a mowed grass turf is favoured by Canada Geese and their excrement may add to the excess nutrients flowing into the lake water.

Developed shoreline increases the importance of maintaining and creating effective vegetative buffers in the undeveloped zones and finding alternatives to turf in the developed zones that contribute to the health of McKellar Township's lakes as opposed to presenting threats to the health of our township's lakes and rivers and creeks.

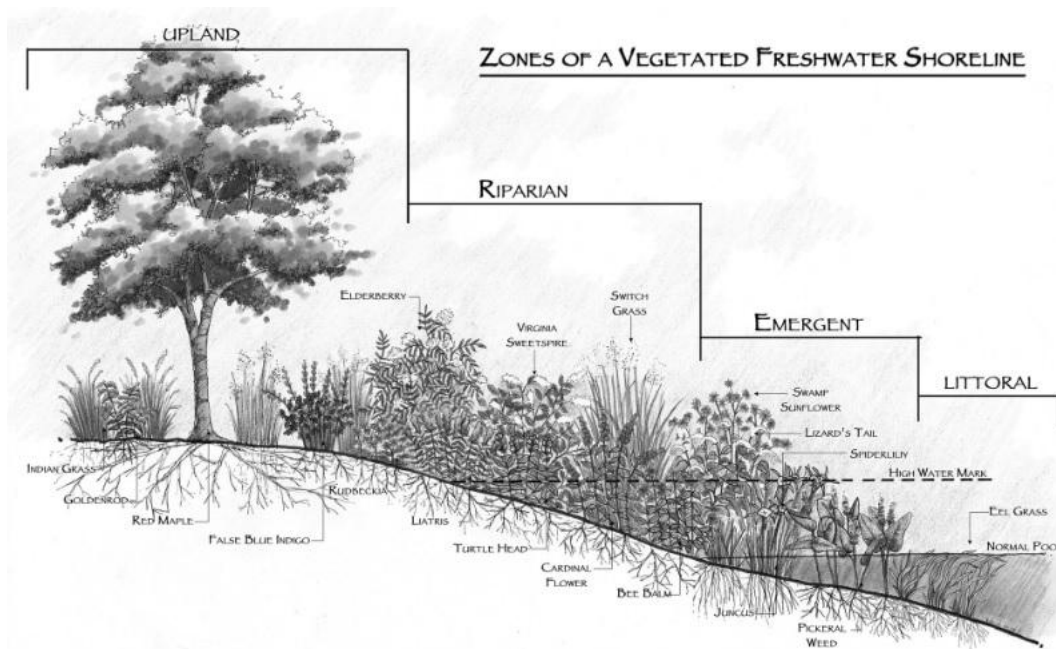


Figure 1

Riparian buffers shield the ground, prevent erosion, restrain runoff flows, and get the water underground where much of its excess nutrient load (such as substances that breed aquatic algae) can adhere to soil particles or be absorbed by living roots. Sediment is trapped up on the land, where it belongs, and runoff water, is guided into the soil, where nutrients can feed land plants and contaminants are filtered out. (“Shoreline buffers and water quality”, www.scnps.org 2020)

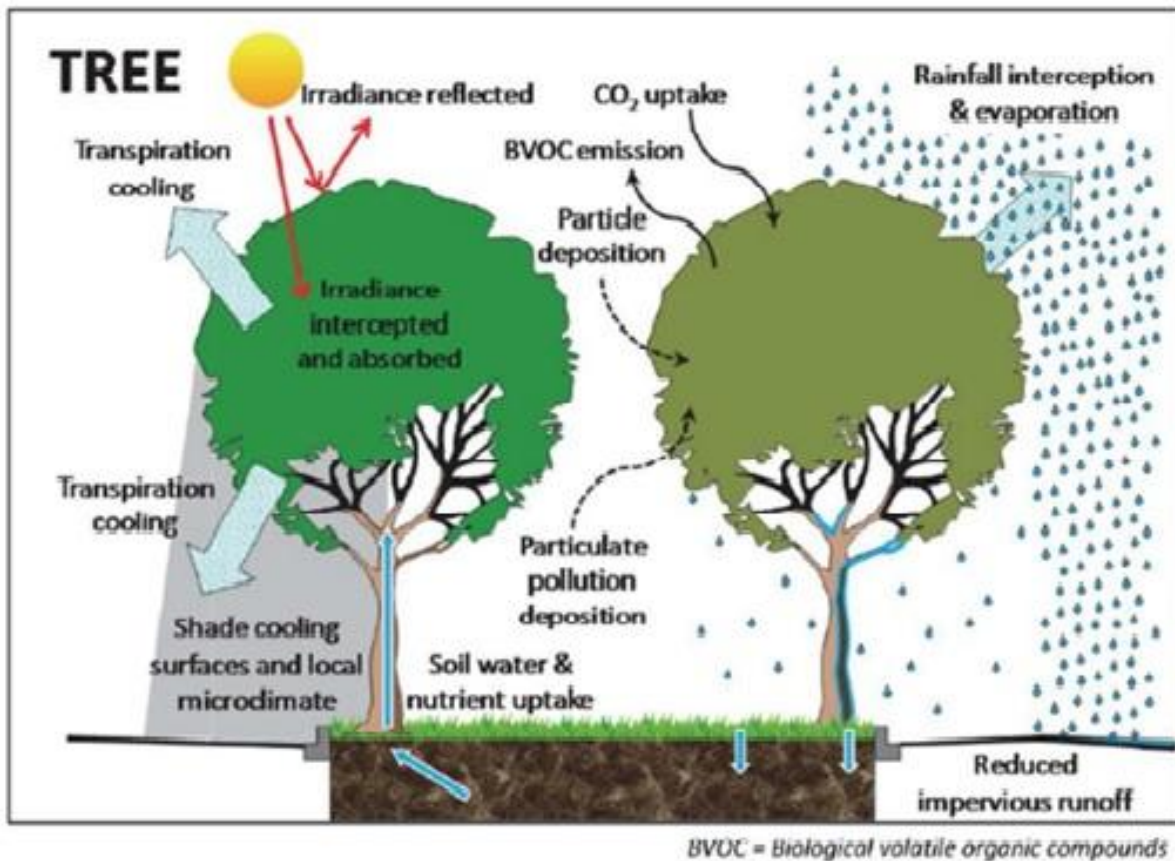


Figure 2 The above diagram from Water: The Journal of Environmental Quality illustrates the benefits of a tree canopy.

SHORELINE VEGETATION

Vegetation in the riparian zone serves as a buffer between the Upland area and the surface water (lakes, rivers etc). Vegetative buffers may be

a combination of trees, shrubs, and grassy or herbaceous vegetation. In general, maintenance and restoration of native plants in the shoreline buffer is preferred to use of non-native species, since native species are adapted to local conditions, support local biodiversity, and do not require the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, which can degrade water quality (Muskoka Watershed Council 2013). Shoreline buffers in the riparian zone should be 20 m deep.

The littoral zone, the land in the water from the shoreline to the deepest penetration of light to the bottom of the lake or river, is a vital area to preserve since 90% of the species in the lakes and rivers spend part of their life cycle there and it is therefore extremely important to the health of the water body and the habitat of its fauna. Native plants in the littoral zone should be preserved, maintained and replaced. Sand should not be placed at the shore or in the water as it smothers the benthic life in the littoral zone. Fallen trees and woody debris should be maintained in the littoral zone to provide habitat and promote the moderation of water temperature.

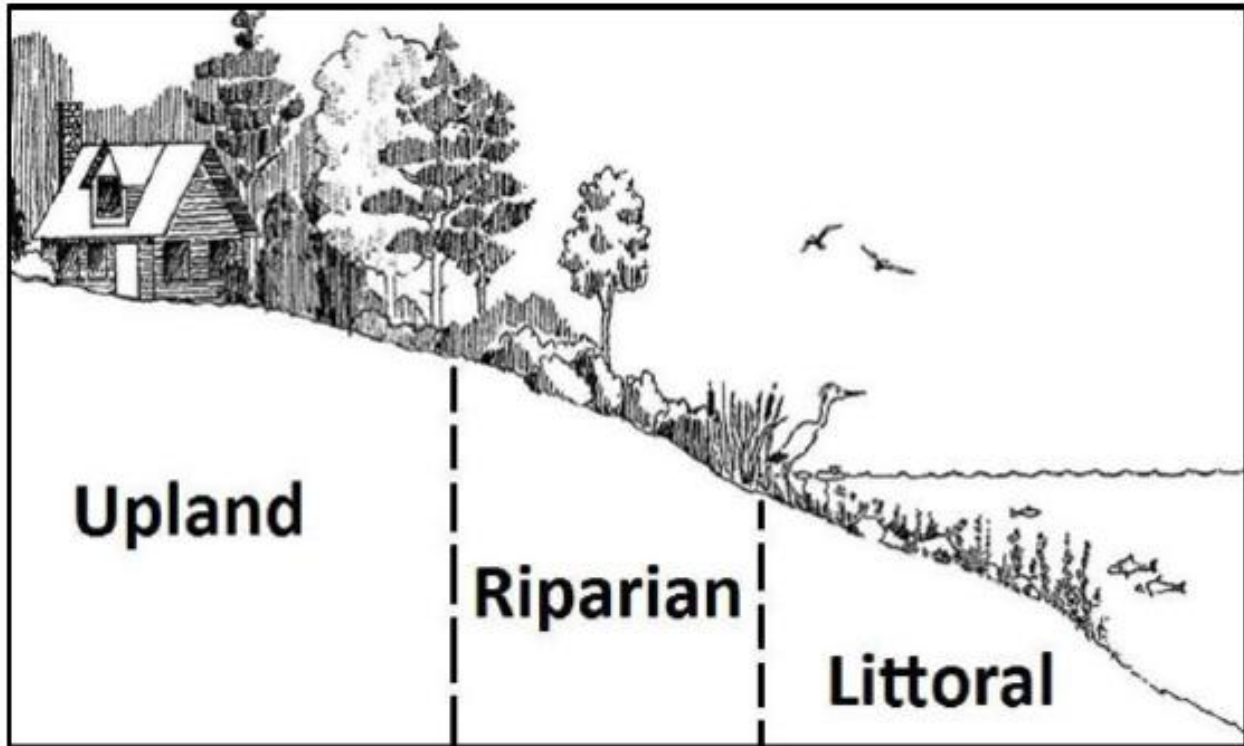
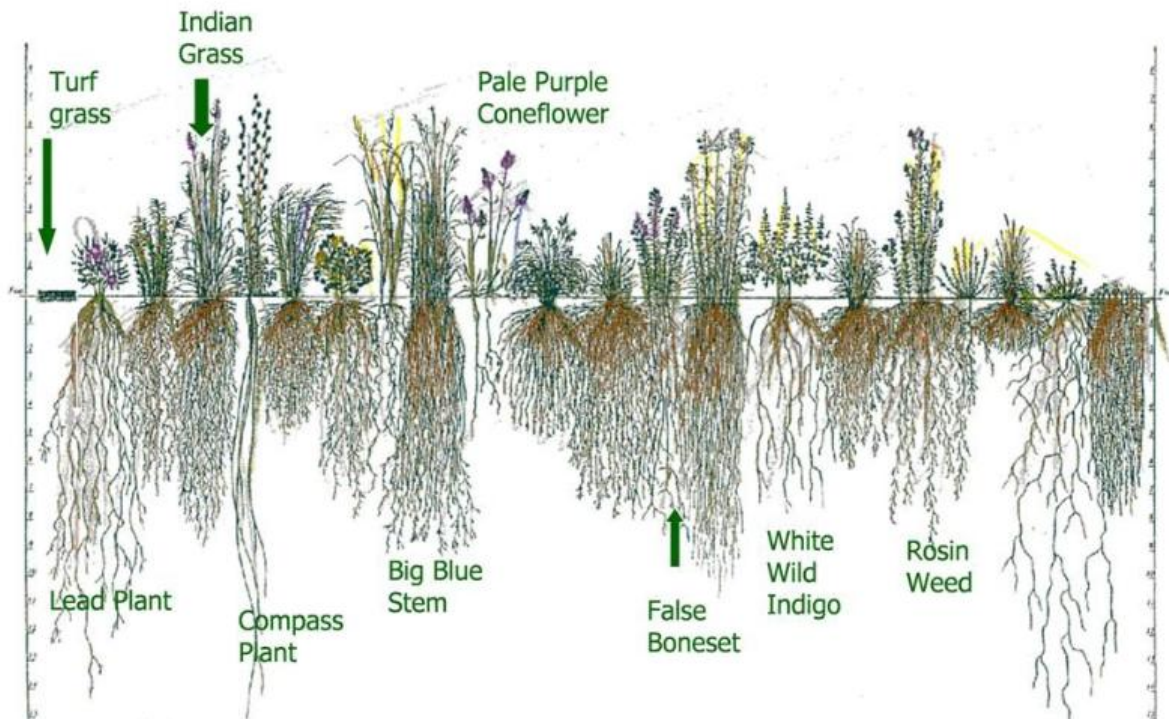


Figure 3 (Courtesy of Muskoka Watershed Council 2013)

In summary, shoreline buffers should be:

- At least 20 meters or more upland from the high-water mark as recommended by the MNR
- Be composed of natural vegetation native to the area with a broad corridor of undisturbed vegetation. Native vegetation does not require the use of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides, provides improved habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species
- Be composed of plants with deep roots, not a grass lawn
- Shoreline hardening, or armouring could be avoided and/or replaced with naturalized shoreline
- The removal of shoreline vegetation on the land and in the water at the shore and the covering of the land immediately adjacent to the lake or in the lake with sand, precludes any filtration of rainwater before it enters the lake and smothers the benthic organisms essential for a healthy food chain in the water body

- 75% of the shoreline, and 75% of the area of the property (including buildings) should be maintained in a naturalized state - covered in native vegetation without added shoreline hardening features.
- Pathways should be curved, and made of pervious material such as gravel, to impede the flow of rainwater run off into the lake and increase the percentage of rainwater that is absorbed into the soil. Water movement below the surface tends to be slower than surface flow, thus creating more time for plants to take up the nutrients.



(naturenearby.org)

Figure 4. Plants with long roots capture nutrients before they get into the surface water of a lake or river, help prevent erosion and do not need fertilization or tending. Please note that plants with short roots, including grass, should be planted over a septic bed.

Beneficial compromises should be considered, namely:

- A buffer of any size is better than no buffer of naturalized vegetation, and
- Taking off the lower branches of a tree to open a view is preferable to removing the tree.

Types of Plants that can be maintained or replaced in the riparian zone include:

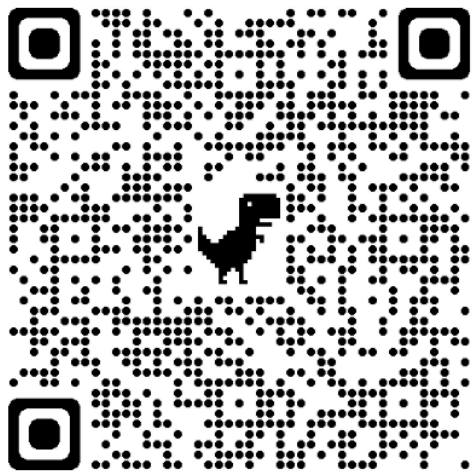
Schedule "A" 2023

Trees	Shrubs	Partial Shade	Full Sun	Shoreline
Riparian Zone	Black Chokecherry	Bearberry	Black-eyed Susan	Blue Flag Iris
Balsam Fir	Nannyberry	Bloodroot	Big Bluestem Grass	Blue Vervain
Red Maple	Northern Bush	Bunchberry	Canada Goldenrod	Boneset
Tamarack / Larch	Honeysuckle	False Solomon's	Butterfly weed	Cardinal Flower
Black Spruce	Pagoda Dogwood	Seal	Flat-topped Aster	Swamp Milkweed
Eastern Hemlock	Red Osier Dogwood	Jack in the	New England Aster	Joe Pye Weed
	Smooth Wild Rose	Pulpit	Pearly Everlasting	White Turtlehead
Medium Sized	Swamp Rose	Wild Columbine		
Chokecherry	Sweet Gale	Foamflower		
Pin Cherry	Winterberry Holly	Ostrich Fern		
Service Berry	Common Elderberry			
Striped Maple	Lowbush Blueberry			
Ironwood	Meadowsweet			
Eastern White Cedar	Serviceberry			
	Steeplebush			
Large Sized				
Bur Oak				
Red Oak				
Silver Maple				
Trembling Aspen				
White Birch				
Red Spruce				
Eastern White Pine				
Butternut				
Sugar Maple				

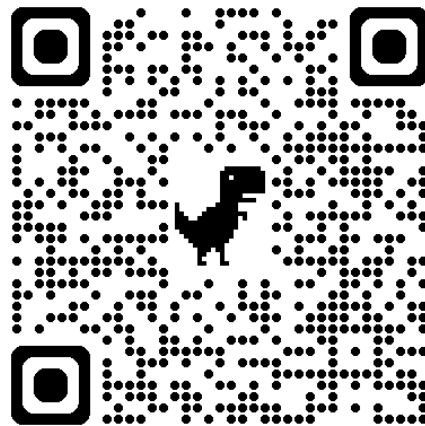
Figure 5 Plants native to the McKellar area.

Mitigating the risk of wildfire.

A note about prevention of fire damage due to encroachment of forest fires on settled lands: notwithstanding the information provided above, residents whose properties are adjacent to forested areas are encouraged to consult the information at the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation or Firesmart Canada for guidelines on mitigating the possibility of their dwelling being involved in an adjacent forest fire by carefully choosing the plants that are immediately adjacent to the house. Notably plants in these areas should be those that show more fire resistance, such as: deciduous trees and shrubs, plants that retain water well, have low fuel volume, are low growing and non-resinous ground cover of succulents. Pathways and driveways should be composed of permeable gravel, rather than bark or wood chips in these areas. Visit these resources for more information:



or



Aquatic Environment Report

Manitouwabing Lake

Author
generations effect

November 2024

Prepared For
Township of McKellar and
Manitouwabing Lake
Community Association



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I
INTRODUCTION	1
WATER QUALITY	3
OVERVIEW	3
LAKE PARTNER PROGRAM	4
BENTHIC MONITORING	13
MANITOUWABING LAKE STATE OF THE BASIN REVIEW 2018	24
FISH COMMUNITIES	26
OVERVIEW	26
NEARSHORE COMMUNITY INDEX NETTING PROJECT	29
CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES	33
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS	35
WATER QUALITY	35
FISH COMMUNITIES	36
STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES	36
REFERENCES	38
APPENDIX A	40

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Generations Effect, a social enterprise of the Georgian Bay Mnidoo Gamii Biosphere, has prepared this Aquatic Environment Report for the Township of McKellar and Manitouwabing Lake Community Association (MLCA) to provide residents and cottagers with one report summarizing water quality and fish community monitoring data for Manitouwabing Lake. In addition, the report provides recommendations for further monitoring as well as possible stewardship activities. The report is divided into three sections to reflect this purpose – water quality, fish communities, and recommendations.

Water Quality

Volunteers on Manitouwabing Lake participate in the Lake Partner Program (LPP) and the MLCA and McKellar Township initiated a benthic monitoring program in 2020 (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Active and recently active LPP and benthic monitoring sites on Manitouwabing Lake.

The LPP collects data about phosphorus, water clarity, calcium, and chloride from volunteers. The simple tests for total phosphorus (TP) and water clarity provide a strong basis for assessing the health of the ecosystem, and whether TP is too high or too low.

Monitoring TP is very important as phosphorus is the nutrient that controls plant growth (including algae) in lakes. Measuring TP year after year is necessary to detect long-term changes in water quality that may be due to impacts of shoreline development, climate change, and other stressors.

A high-level summary of current Manitowabing Lake LPP results is presented in Table 1. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the LPP received and analysed a greatly reduced number of water samples in 2020 and 2021. As such, gaps in the data may be present in these years. Where available, updated information is presented.

Table 1. Overview of Manitowabing Lake LPP sampling results (Station 2973).

	Site ID 8	Site ID 9	Site ID 13	Site ID 18	Site ID 19	Site ID 23
Average TP	n/a	13.3 µg/L	n/a	n/a	n/a	11.0 µg/L
TP trend	Decreasing	No trend	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing	n/a
Trophic status	Meso-trophic	Meso-trophic	Meso-trophic	Meso-trophic trending towards oligo-trophic	Meso-trophic	Meso-trophic
Clarity	2.3 m	1.5 m	2.0 m	2.2 m	3.3 m	1.4 m

Note: Clarity is reported as an average. TP is reported as an average for sites with three to five years of data. Trends are reported for sites with more than five years of data. Trophic status is described in terms of three broad categories – oligotrophic, mesotrophic, and eutrophic. TP concentrations between 10-20 µg/L indicate a mesotrophic or moderately enriched environment.

Volunteers also began monitoring water temperature and a variety of other parameters (e.g., dissolved oxygen, total dissolved solids, pH) in Manitowabing Lake in 2022. This additional monitoring, along with continued E. coli monitoring, is a joint effort by MLCA and the Township of McKellar and is overseen by a limnologist on the township’s Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee. These data can be viewed on [DataStream](#) and found on the [Township of McKellar website](#).

Benthic monitoring was initiated in 2020 at four locations throughout the lake following the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN) protocol. Benthic macroinvertebrates, or benthos, are small aquatic organisms (e.g., insects, crustaceans, worms) that spend all or part of their lifecycle living at the bottom of the lake. Some benthos can only be found in waterbodies with very good water quality, while others can tolerate poor water quality (Figure 2).

Benthic monitoring is a type of biological monitoring that uses an “effect-based approach” to provide information about how an ecosystem has responded to a stress. This complements water chemistry monitoring (e.g., TP, pH, dissolved oxygen) which looks at water quality from a “stressor-based approach”, providing information about an ecosystem’s exposure to stress. Together these approaches offer a more complete picture of aquatic ecosystem health (i.e., the lake’s exposure to stress and associated ecological response).

Site MWABING03 was discontinued in 2024 following the sale of the property on which sampling occurred. Sampling continued at the remaining three sites in 2024. Currently, all four sites are considered ‘typical’ when compared to other lakes in the region. This means that the benthic community in the lake is typical for what we would expect to find in this region.

A thorough review of existing water quality data for Manitouwabing Lake was conducted by aquatic scientist Bev Clark and published in 2018. The report indicates that TP concentrations throughout the lake are very similar among monitoring sites and between years. There is no clear evidence of increasing TP concentrations over time. The lake is at the lower end of the mesotrophic range (10–20 µg/L), meaning that it will share characteristics more like oligotrophic lakes. In addition, the lake is highly influenced by its watershed. This means that water in the lake will have water quality characteristics similar to the water coming in from the various sources, such as Manitouwabing River.

Highly pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in poor, fair, and good quality water



Chironomidae (Midge Larva)



Hirundinea (Leech)

Semi-pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in fair and good quality water



Anisoptera (Dragonfly Larva)



Amphipoda (Scud)

Pollution sensitive - most likely to be found in good quality water



Ephemeroptera (Mayfly Larva)



Trichoptera (Caddisfly Larva)

Figure 2. Benthic macroinvertebrates found in Manitouwabing Lake and their pollution sensitivities.

Fish Communities

Manitouwabing Lake is home to a variety of fish species. Table 2 provides a high-level overview of the fish communities in the lake.

Table 2. Summary of Manitouwabing Lake fish communities and their management (see [link](#))

Major fish species	Largemouth bass (introduced), smallmouth bass (introduced), walleye (introduced), black crappie (introduced), northern pike (introduced)
Other fish species	Lake whitefish, creek chub, brown bullhead, yellow perch, bluntnose minnow, eastern blacknose dace, cisco, pumpkinseed, rock bass, common carp, white sucker
Lake trout management	Not designated
Current stocking	None
Historic stocking	Walleye (1938, 1950–2010), smallmouth bass (1941, 1950–1966)
Contaminants (species tested)	Northern pike, walleye, black crappie

The most recent surveys conducted on Manitouwabing Lake were part of a Nearshore Community Index Netting (NSCIN) project undertaken in 2014 and 2015. Findings from the project suggest that the fish community of Manitouwabing Lake has changed significantly since the next most recent survey in 2004 (Figure 3). Since 2004, black crappie were illegally introduced to the lake and have become a major component of the fish community. Brown bullhead declined in abundance from the peak seen in 2004. Largemouth bass catch rates have increased steadily over the successive surveys although they still comprise a small portion of the catch. Catch rates of the other species did not display any major changes. Based on the 2014–2015 NSCIN project, further walleye stocking is not advised by the MNR and the lake should instead be managed as a natural walleye lake.

Fish consumption advisories for Manitouwabing Lake are determined by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. Fish are exposed to, and absorb, contaminants in the water in a variety of ways (e.g., consuming contaminated food) and pass those contaminants on to humans when consumed. In Manitouwabing Lake, mercury is the contaminant of concern. Table 3 summarizes the Manitouwabing Lake fish consumption advisories.

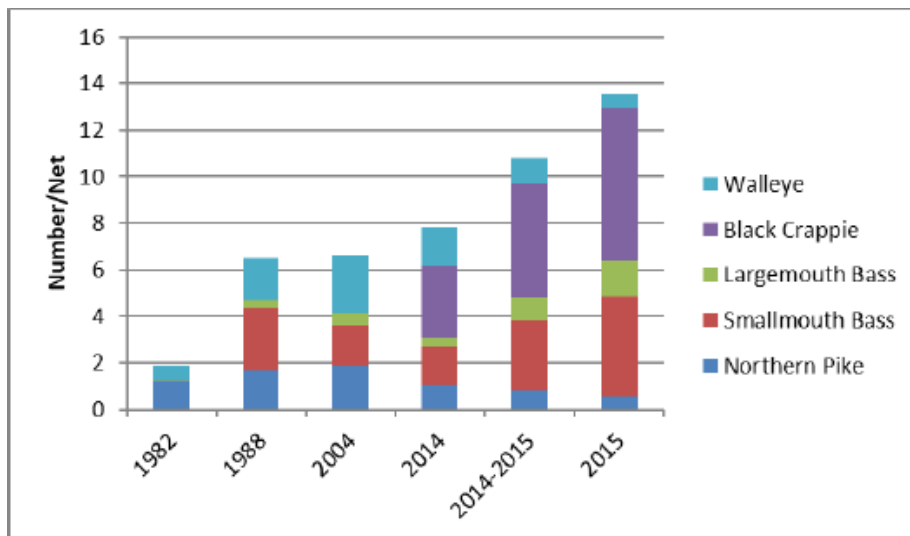


Figure 3. Catch rate (number/net) of major game fish species from 6' trap nets in Manitouwabing Lake, by year (Scholten, 2020).

Table 3. Fish consumption advisories for Manitouwabing Lake (see [link](#)).

Species	General Population	Sensitive Population*
Black crappie ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 32 meals/month of fish 20-25cm max 12 meals/month of fish 25-30cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 12 meals/month of fish 20-25cm max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm
Northern pike ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 16 meals/month of fish 30-35cm, 35-40cm, and 40-45cm max 12 meals/month of fish 45-50cm max 8 meals/month of fish 50-55cm, 55-60cm, and 60-65cm max 4 meals/month of fish 65-70cm, 70-75cm, and >75cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 8 meals/month of fish 30-35cm and 35-40cm max 4 meals/month of fish 40-45cm, 45-50cm, 50-55cm, and 55-60cm no meals of fish >60cm
Walleye ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 8 meals/month of fish 25-30cm and 30-35cm max 4 meals/month of fish 35-40cm, 40-45cm, and 45-50cm max 2 meals/month of fish 50-55cm, 55-60cm, and 60-65cm no meals of fish >65cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm no meals of fish >30cm

* Women of child-bearing age and children under 15; ¹ Mercury

Recommendations

Based on results from LPP sampling, benthic monitoring, Clark's (2018) water quality report, and the most recent fish community survey, several recommendations are made in this report.

Water Quality

1. Continue annual LPP sampling at several sites. Preference should be given to sites that are spread throughout the lake and that have the longest datasets. Suggested sites are Station 2973, Site IDs 8, 9, 13, and 18.
2. Continue with annual benthic monitoring. With lakes in the region facing many threats (e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, development, pollution), benthic communities act as a barometer of ecological change and impacts. Continuing to monitor the benthic community in Manitouwabing Lake will allow for trends to be tracked over time and the observation of any notable shifts (statistically significant changes) that would be cause for further investigation and potentially require remedial actions.
3. Continue with the additional water quality monitoring that was started on Manitouwabing Lake in the fall of 2022.
4. Should the MLCA wish to continue with bacteria monitoring, it should happen in the framework of a scientific investigation focused on testing specific hypotheses on potential sources of contamination through a focused sampling program. For example, recreational sites (e.g., beaches) could be considered for bacteria monitoring as per the province's [Beach Management Guidance Document](#).

Fish Communities

1. Anglers should familiarize themselves with the [new regulations](#) for the sale and possession of live bait in Ontario. Highlights include:
 - A valid fishing license is required to catch your own live baitfish, leeches, crayfish, and northern leopard frogs.
 - There are specific fish species that can and cannot be used as bait in Ontario.
 - Bait can only be caught in your home Bait Management Zone (BMZ) and cannot leave your BMZ.



- Baitfish and leeches you catch cannot be sold unless you are a licensed dealer.
 - If you fish outside your home BMZ, you must buy your baitfish and leeches locally, keep a receipt, and use or dispose of your bait within two weeks of the purchase date.
2. Anglers should use the app [MyCatch](#) by Angler's Atlas to log fishing trips and share fishing data confidentially with biologists.

Stewardship Activities

1. Encourage Manitouwabing Lake property owners to maintain and/or restore natural shorelines. GBB's [Life on the Bay Stewardship Guide](#) and [Planting for Pollinators](#) guide are helpful resources for property owners interested in native plants and naturalization. Native plants can be sourced from the MLCA [Native Plant Seedling Sale](#) and the annual GBB Native Plant Fundraiser (check the GBB [events page](#) in the spring).
2. Property owners interested in minimizing their ecological footprint can utilize GBB's [Life on the Bay Stewardship Guide](#).
3. There are many [citizen science programs](#) for interested cottagers and residents to get involved in (e.g., invasive species reporting, IceWatch, FrogWatch, Canadian Lakes Loon Survey).

INTRODUCTION

Manitouwabing Lake is situated within the Williams Treaty of 1923 and the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 (Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, 2022) in the traditional territory of Wasauksing First Nation and Shawanaga First Nation (Figure 4).

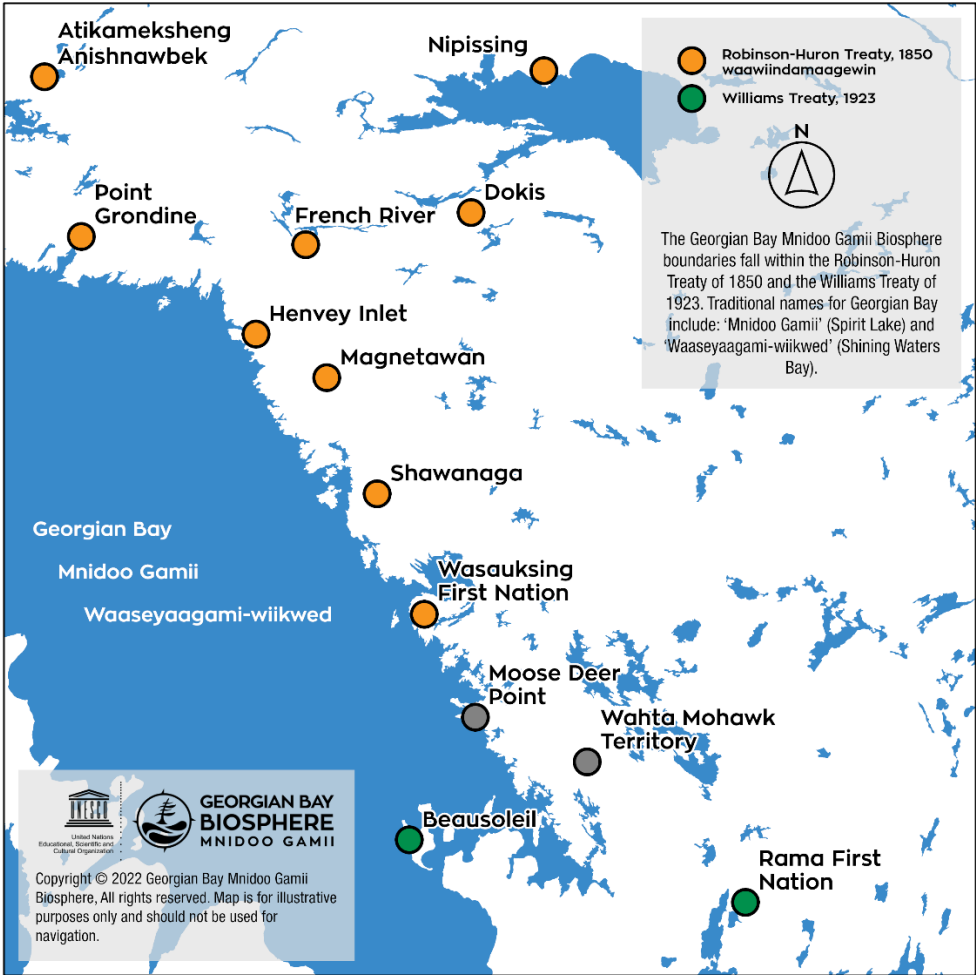


Figure 4. Signatories to the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and Williams Treaty of 1923.

Manitouwabing Lake is located almost entirely within the geographic and municipal township of McKellar (Figure 5). It is one of the largest lakes in the Parry Sound area, measuring roughly 1,200 hectares in size (Scholten, 2020). The lake collects water from a fairly large watershed through numerous inflows including the Manitouwabing River, and outflows at the south end of the lake (Clark, 2018). Lake water level is regulated by a dam located on the outflow at Hurdville which has raised the water by approximately 2.5 m from its natural level (Scholten, 2020). The

dam is owned and operated by Parry Sound Generation Corporation for the purpose of hydroelectric power generation downstream at Parry Sound (McIntyre, 2005).

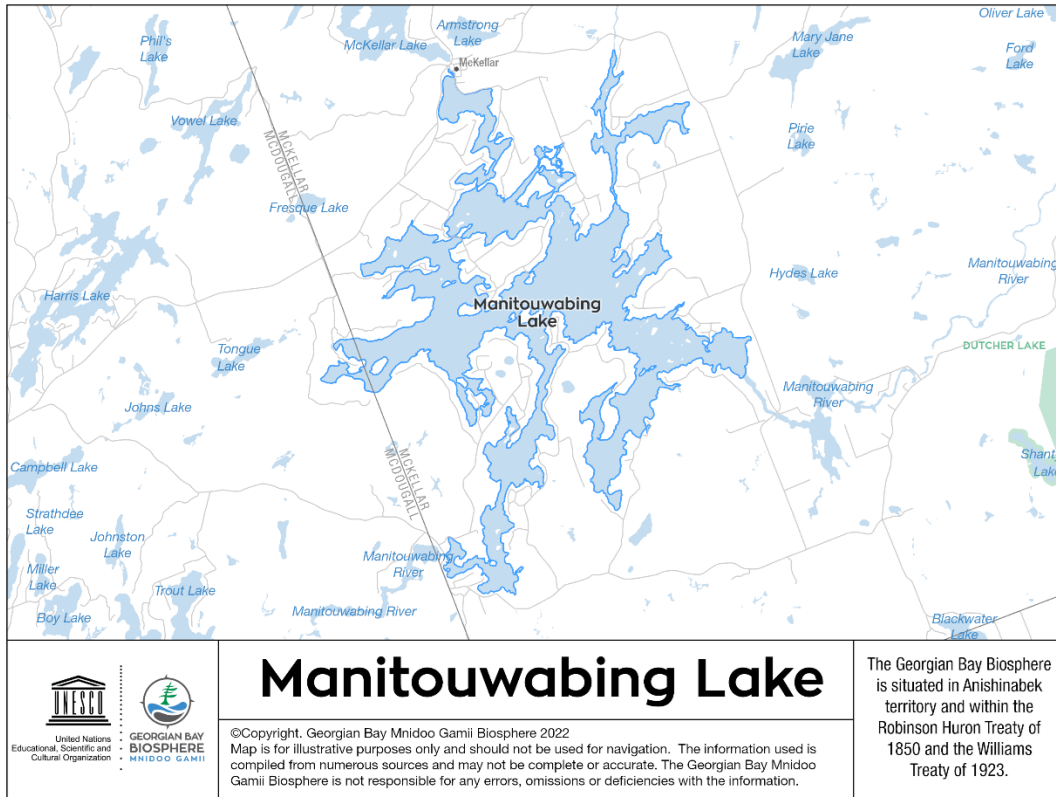


Figure 5. Manitowabing Lake and surrounding area of McKellar.

The lake has a maximum depth of 33.6 m (110 ft), a mean depth of 5.6 m (18.4 ft) (McIntyre, 2005), and a flushing rate of 2.8 times per year (Clark, 2018). A diverse cool/warm water fish community is supported by the lake, dominated by northern pike, smallmouth and largemouth bass, black crappie, and walleye (Scholten, 2020).

Manitouabing Lake is the site of six resorts and over 1,000 private residences (MLCA, 2019). Public access to the lake is possible from several boat launches as well as public docks.

WATER QUALITY

Overview

Volunteers on Manitouwabing Lake participate in the Lake Partner Program (LPP) run by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). All past and present LPP data for Manitouwabing Lake are available through the Lake Partner Program [open data website](#).

Volunteers also began monitoring water temperature and a variety of other parameters (e.g., dissolved oxygen, total dissolved solids, pH, E. coli) in Manitouwabing Lake in 2022. This additional monitoring, along with continued E. coli monitoring, is a joint effort by MLCA and the Township of McKellar and is overseen by a limnologist on the township's Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee. These data can be viewed on [DataStream](#) and found on the [Township of McKellar website](#).

Additionally, benthic monitoring is conducted at several sites on the lake (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Active and recently active monitoring sites on Manitouwabing Lake.

Lake Partner Program

The LPP is an Ontario-wide, publicly funded, free program that collects data about phosphorus, water clarity, calcium, and chloride from volunteers. The simple tests for total phosphorus (TP) and water clarity provide a strong basis for assessing the health of the ecosystem, and whether TP is too high or too low.

Monitoring TP is very important as phosphorus is the nutrient that controls plant growth (including algae) in lakes. Measuring TP year after year is necessary to detect long-term changes in water quality that may be due to impacts of shoreline development, climate change, and other stressors. Inland lakes require TP data to help assess background concentrations relative to present day concentrations. Data collected by volunteers are analyzed by the Dorset Environmental Science Centre (DESC) which makes all data [available online](#).

Methods

As a general rule, only one representative sampling location is required for each lake even in large convoluted lakes with multiple arms. In the event that there are compelling reasons to believe that water quality in different areas of the lake would be influenced differently by rivers or development for example, or there are local observed differences or perceived problems, more sites might be recommended. Generally speaking, if the watershed influences are similar across a lake, the water quality will be similar as well.

Spring total phosphorus sampling (following [LPP protocols](#)) is sufficient for most locations in the region, as there are few areas that experience fall algal blooms. Additionally, Secchi disc water clarity measurements are taken each month at the same location as the TP samples. The black-and-white Secchi disc is lowered into the water until it is at the absolute limit of being visible. This depth is the Secchi depth of visibility, which is directly related to water clarity and can be used as a simple and effective monitoring tool for determining the effects of human activities on water clarity and, indirectly, on the nutrient content in the water.

The materials needed to take the water samples and conduct water clarity measurements are sent to volunteers by the province. Instructions are included in this package, additionally, training videos are available online. Samples are returned



(postage paid) to DESC for analysis and Secchi observation sheets are mailed to DESC in November.

Interpreting Results

Water Clarity

In general, water clarity, as measured by Secchi depth, tends to be higher in large bodies of water like the open areas of Georgian Bay and in bays with good water circulation. Water clarity tends to diminish (smaller Secchi depth values) in enclosed bays, near wetlands or sources of organic material, and in lakes or areas that have higher nutrient levels either from natural or anthropogenic sources.

Secchi depth values should be compared over several years to assess whether there are water clarity trends for a particular area. Where more than one year of water clarity data exists for a sampling location, Secchi depth in metres is graphed and an average depth is given.

Calcium

Calcium is a nutrient that is required by all living organisms. Some organisms, including those that make up the lower food web, use calcium in the water to form their calcium-rich body coverings. The lower food web forms the foundation of a healthy food web. Prey fish and juvenile predatory fish (piscivores) rely on the lower food web as a main source of food for growth, and predators depend on plentiful prey for their growth – if the lower food web is in poor condition, in time higher levels of the food web will respond and reflect that condition. These organisms of the lower food web, like Daphnia, mollusks, clams, amphipods, and crayfish, are very sensitive to declining calcium levels.

Calcium concentrations have been shown to be decreasing in Canadian Shield lakes in response to depleted watershed stores of calcium caused by logging and decades of acid loading associated with acid rain. Combined with lower food availability and warmer temperatures predicted as part of a changing climate, this decrease represents an important stressor for many aquatic species.

Calcium concentrations should be considered over the long term to identify trends.



Chloride

Chloride is a naturally occurring ion found dissolved in water. It can come from natural sources (e.g., weathering of rocks and soils) as well as human sources (e.g., road salt, agricultural inputs). Chloride is often measured as an indication of salinity, although other ions also affect salinity including calcium, magnesium, sodium, and others.

Lakes and rivers naturally contain low concentrations of chloride (generally <100 mg/L). Too much chloride can be toxic to freshwater plants and animals. In areas where road salt is applied in the winter, elevated chloride levels are a growing concern.

Similar to calcium, chloride concentrations should be considered over the long term to identify trends. Where more than one year of data exists for a sampling location, chloride concentration in mg/L is graphed.

Total Phosphorus

As phosphorus is the nutrient that controls the growth of plants (e.g., algae) in the aquatic environment, TP concentrations are used to interpret nutrient status. The nutrient status of an aquatic environment is typically described in terms of three broad categories – oligotrophic, mesotrophic, and eutrophic (Figure 7). TP concentrations below 10 $\mu\text{g/L}$ indicate an oligotrophic or unproductive environment. Aquatic environments with TP concentrations ranging between 10 and 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$ are termed mesotrophic and are moderately enriched. Finally, TP concentrations over 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$ indicate a eutrophic aquatic environment in which persistent, nuisance algal blooms are possible.

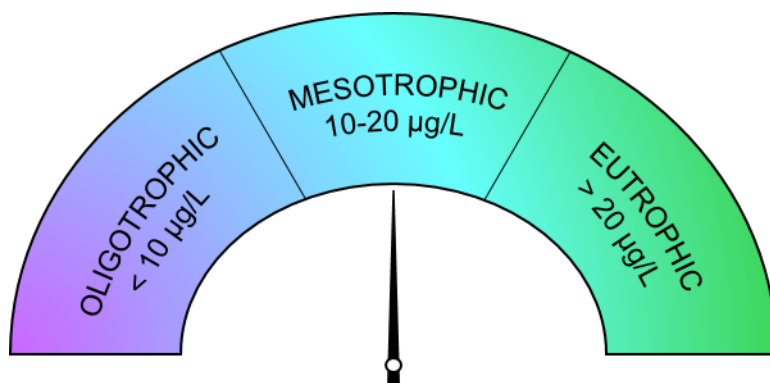


Figure 7. A lake's trophic status is determined by its total phosphorus concentration. Oligotrophic lakes have TP levels less than 10 $\mu\text{g/L}$; mesotrophic lakes have TP concentrations ranging between 10 and 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$; and eutrophic lakes have TP concentrations over 20 $\mu\text{g/L}$.

The Interim Provincial Water Quality Objective (PWQO) for TP in lakes is 20 µg/L. This measure is intended to serve as a warning for, and to prevent, conditions that could result in the nuisance growth of algae. Results in this report are used to characterize trophic condition and assess TP trends (e.g., upward, downward). When interpreting data, the MECP cautions that although only three years of data are required to establish a reliable, long-term average to measure current nutrient status, a longer data set is required to examine trends. Some aquatic environments exhibit relatively large differences in TP between years, highlighting the need for long-term data collection to distinguish between natural variation and true anomalies.

Average TP is calculated for sampling locations with between three and five years of data, as well as, locations with five or more years of data for which there is no apparent trend. For sampling locations with five or more years of TP data and for which there is an apparent trend, a trend line is shown on the TP graph and average is not calculated. Visible outliers are removed for the purpose of determining whether a trend exists.

The LPP database (available [here](#)) contains TP data from over one thousand sampling locations across Ontario. Readers may find the database useful in understanding how Manitowabing Lake TP concentrations compare to other waterbodies across the province.

Results

All sites recently sampled on Manitowabing Lake through the LPP have TP concentrations indicating mesotrophic conditions. This means the lake is moderately enriched with TP concentrations ranging from 10 to 20 µg/L.

Station 2973, Site ID 8	
• Description: West of Maplewood	• Average TP: n/a
• Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Average Secchi depth: 2.3 m
• Trophic status: mesotrophic	• Average calcium: 3.9 mg/L
• TP trend: decreasing	• Average chloride: 2.3 mg/L

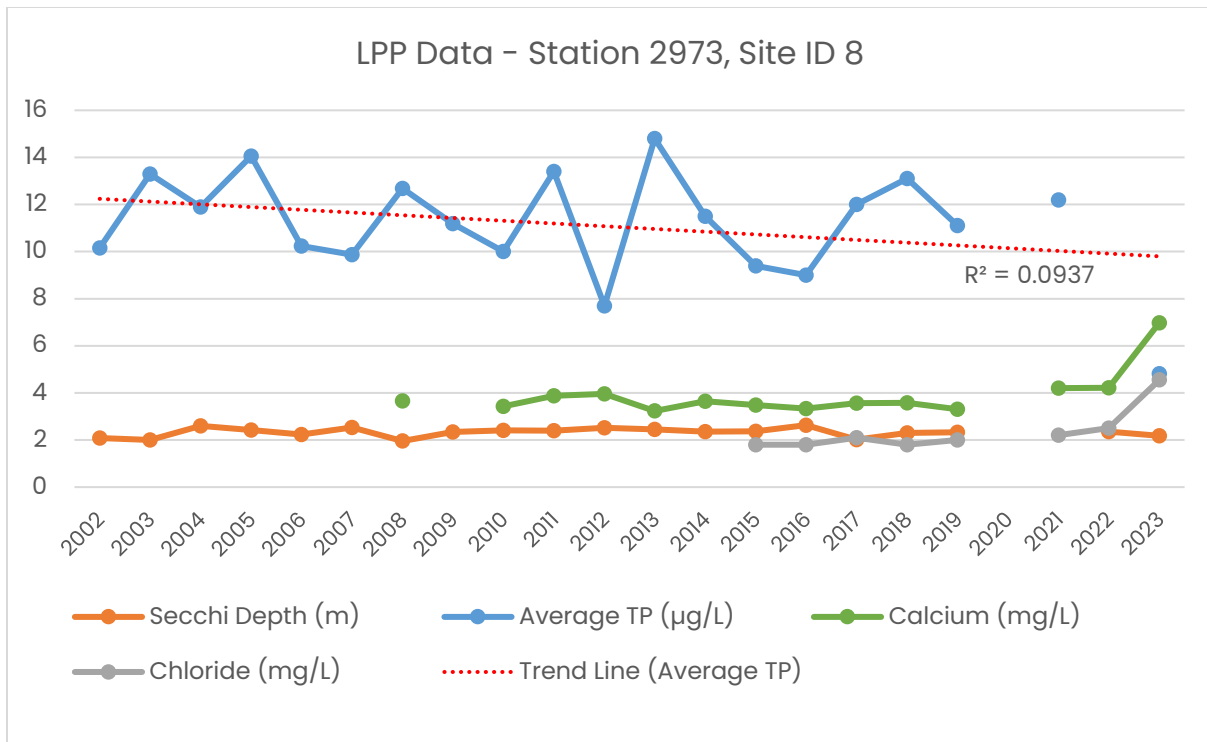


Figure 8. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, chloride, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 8.

Station 2973, Site ID 9	
• Description: E of Longhorn, Hardle’s Cr	• Average TP: 13.3 µg/L
• Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Average Secchi depth: 1.5 m
• Trophic status: mesotrophic	• Average calcium: 4.9 mg/L
• TP trend: n/a	• Average chloride: 0.7 mg/L

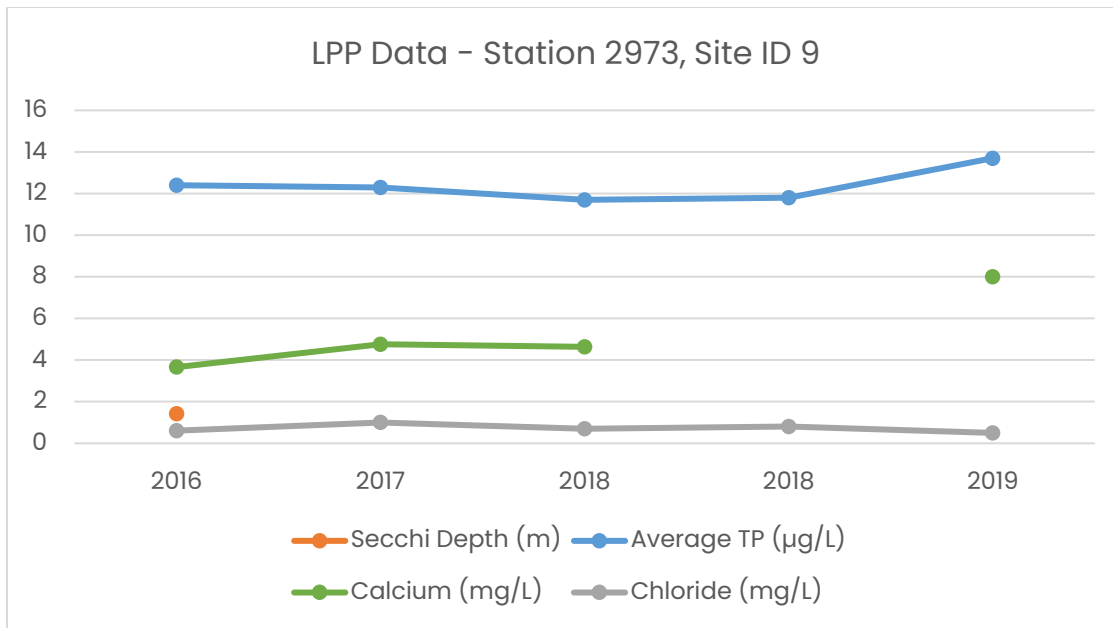


Figure 9. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, chloride, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 9. Note: two TP and chloride data points are given in the LPP database for 2018.

Station 2973, Site ID 13	
• Description: Jones Bay	• Average TP: n/a
• Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Average Secchi depth: 2.0 m
• Trophic status: mesotrophic	• Average calcium: 3.1 mg/L
• TP trend: decreasing	• Average chloride: 1.1 mg/L

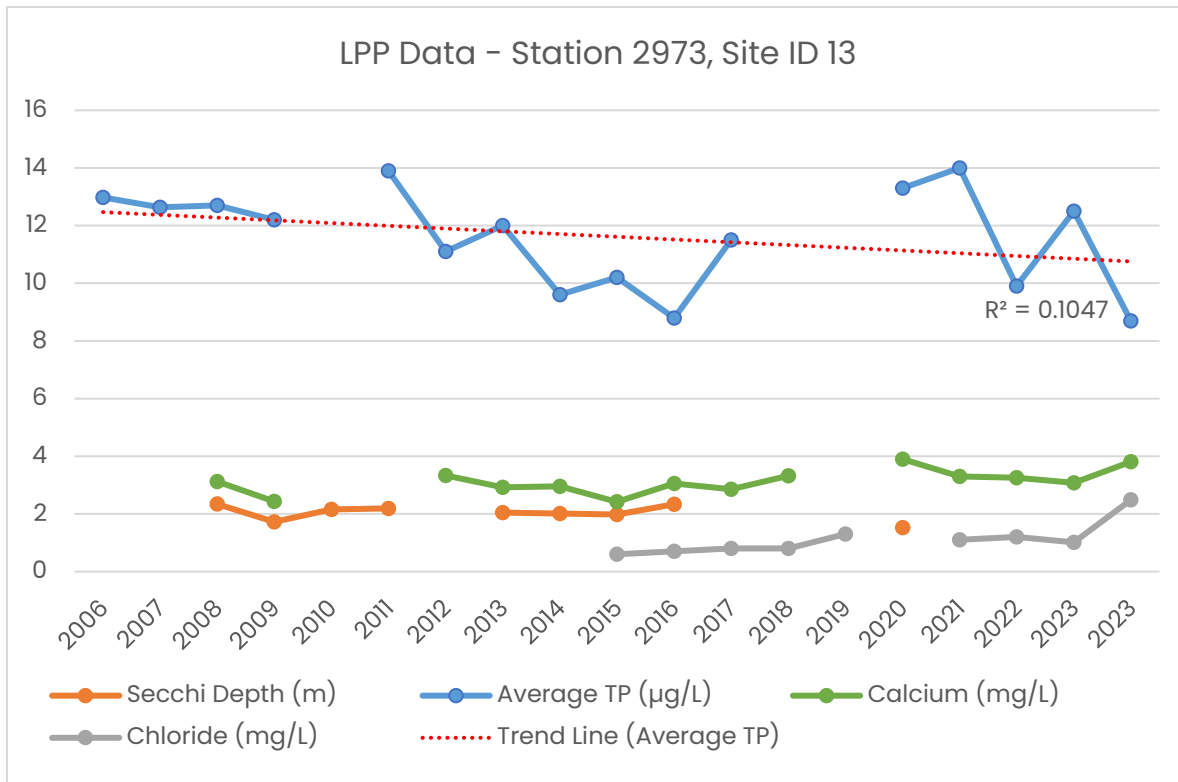


Figure 10. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, chloride, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 13. Note: two TP, calcium, and chloride data points are given in the LPP database for 2023.

Station 2973, Site ID 18	
• Description: McKellar Bay	• Average TP: n/a
• Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Average Secchi depth: 2.2 m
• Trophic status: mesotrophic trending towards oligotrophic	• Average calcium: 4.0 mg/L
• TP trend: decreasing	• Average chloride: 7.0 mg/L

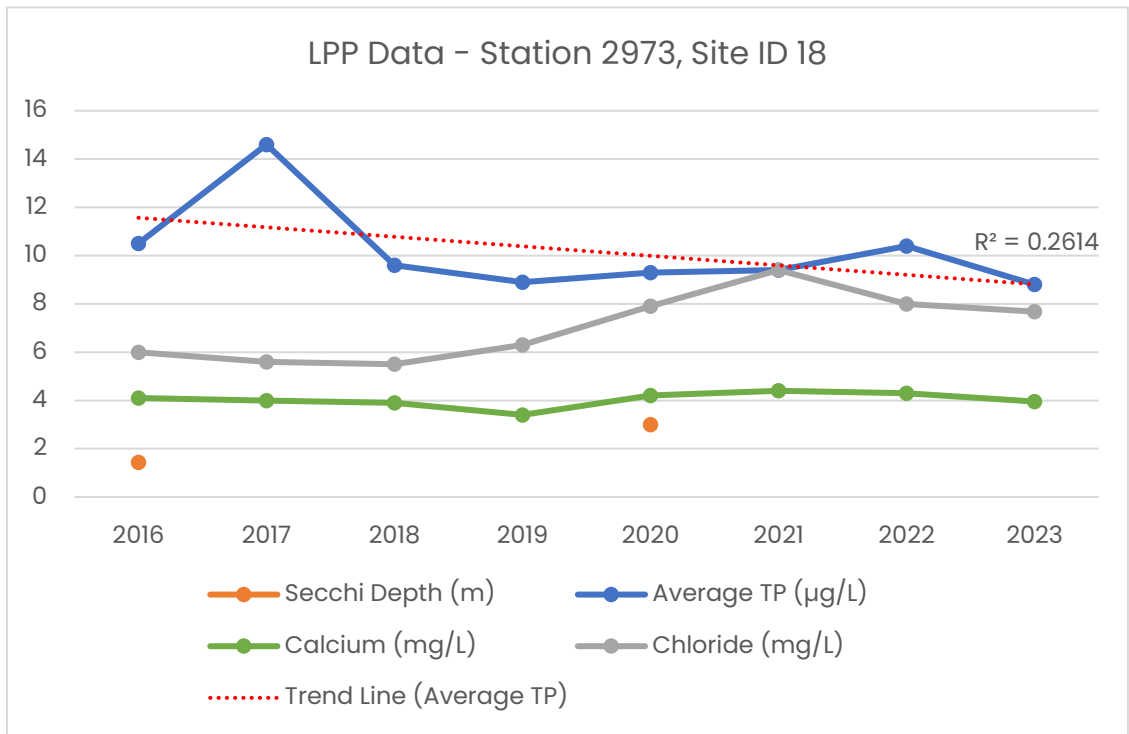


Figure 11. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, chloride, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 18.

Station 2973, Site ID 19	
• Description: McKellar Bay, near dock	• Average TP: n/a
• Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Average Secchi depth: 3.3 m
• Trophic status: mesotrophic	• Average calcium: 3.9 mg/L
• TP trend: decreasing	• Average chloride: 7.1 mg/L

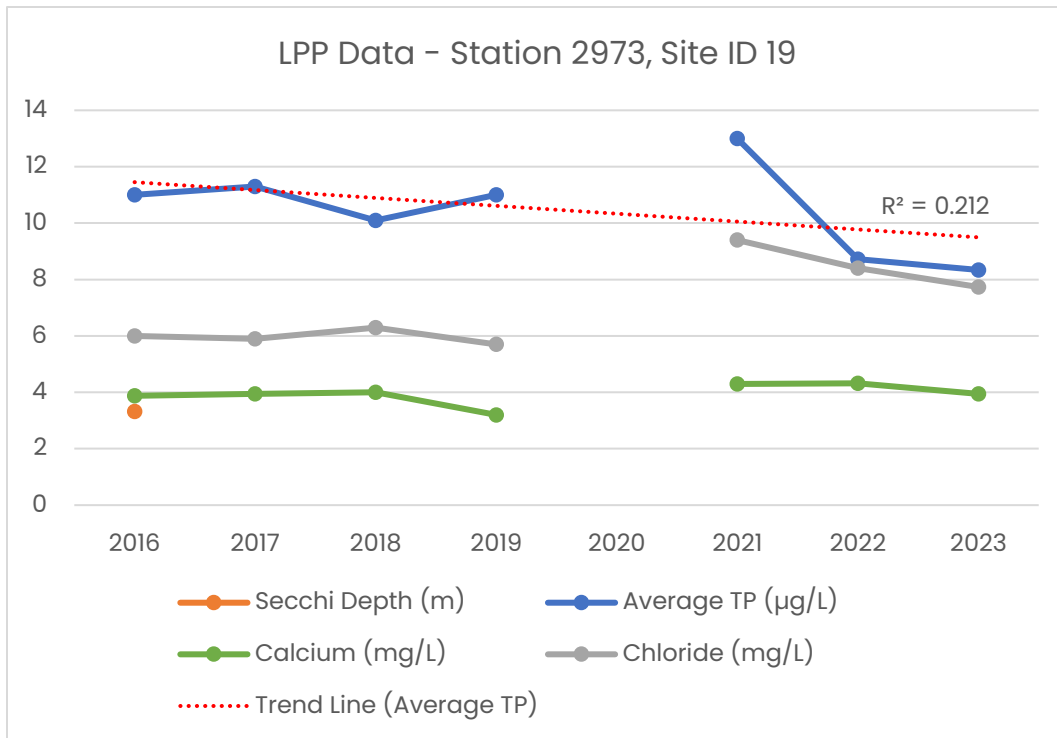


Figure 12. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, chloride, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 19.

Station 2973, Site ID 23	
• Description: East of Hurdville	• Average TP: 11.1 µg/L
• Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Average Secchi depth: 1.4 m
• Trophic status: mesotrophic	• Average calcium: 4.0 mg/L
• TP trend: n/a	• Average chloride: 1.8 mg/L

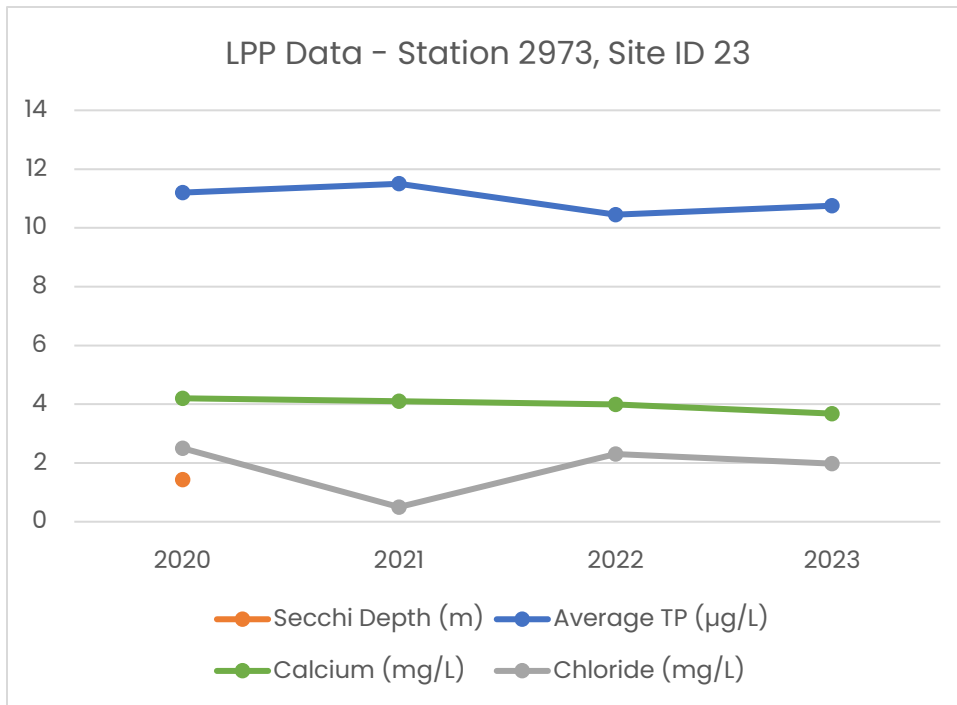


Figure 13. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, chloride, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 23.

Recommendations

Continue LPP sampling annually. Prioritize locations that have a long, continuous history of sampling or areas with notable water quality concerns. Suggested sites are Station 2973, Site IDs 8, 9, 13, and 18.

Continue with the additional water quality monitoring that was started on Manitouwabing Lake in the fall of 2022.

Benthic Monitoring

Different types of water quality monitoring provide water managers with complementary information. Most people are familiar with the idea of looking at water quality from a “stressor-based approach”. This includes monitoring water chemistry parameters like pH, dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, and others. Stressor-based monitoring approaches provide important information about an ecosystem’s exposure to stress, but they leave unanswered questions about the significance (or effect) of that stress.

Biological monitoring uses an “effect-based approach” to provide information about how ecosystems have responded to a stress, for example by looking at fish communities or benthic macroinvertebrates. However, effect-based approaches leave unanswered questions about what stresses are being responded to. Therefore, these approaches (chemical and biological monitoring) are complementary and together provide a complete picture of aquatic ecosystem health (i.e., the lake’s exposure to stress and associated ecological response).

For example, volunteers on Manitouwabing Lake monitor phosphorus levels which provide a measure of exposure to stress (e.g., impacts from humans, climate change). These measures could be phosphorus levels going up, going down, or staying the same (as shown by the trend lines on the LPP data charts). But what is the impact from these trends on the ecosystem? By adding benthic monitoring, we can start to see if and how the ecosystem is reacting to a stressor.

Over the last three decades, the use of biological monitoring in Ontario has increased dramatically. Researchers, water managers, and the larger scientific community are recognizing the ability of biological monitoring to reflect the impacts of stressors on aquatic ecosystems including the effects of non-point-source and episodic pollution, habitat changes, and the cumulative effects of multiple stressors. Accordingly, the use of biotic changes to evaluate ecosystem condition and water management performance has grown in relevance and legitimacy – to the point that legal and regulatory frameworks in many countries now require information on biological condition. Ontario’s Water Resources Act (R.S.O 1990, C. 040) and Environmental Protection Act (R.S.O. 1990, C. E19), for example, define impairment and adverse impact in clearly biological terms.

Benthic macroinvertebrates (or benthos) are small aquatic organisms (including insects, crustaceans, worms, and mollusks). The term benthic macroinvertebrate can be broken down to better understand the nature of these organisms. Benthic macroinvertebrates spend all or part of their life cycle living at the bottom of the lake (benthic), they are quite small but can generally still be seen with the naked eye (macro), and they lack a backbone (invertebrate).

These animals are well suited as indicators of water and sediment quality as they spend most or all of their lives (1-3 years) in constant contact with the benthic environment in a specific area. Furthermore, they are relatively easy and inexpensive to sample, and have varying tolerances to disturbances and pollution.



A healthy lake will support high richness (the number of species) and abundance (the number of individuals). If a lake has low species richness and mainly pollution-tolerant species, the lake could be impaired. Figure 14 highlights common taxa found in lakes throughout the Parry Sound-Muskoka District, including Manitouwabing Lake, and their varying pollution sensitivities.

Highly pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in poor, fair, and good quality water



Chironomidae (Midge Larva)



Hirundinea (Leech)

Semi-pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in fair and good quality water



Anisoptera (Dragonfly Larva)



Amphipoda (Scud)

Pollution sensitive - most likely to be found in good quality water



Ephemeroptera (Mayfly Larva)



Trichoptera (Caddisfly Larva)

Figure 14. Benthic macroinvertebrates found in Manitouwabing Lake and their pollution sensitivities.

It is important to note that an aquatic ecosystem with pollution tolerant species is not necessarily a cause for concern. If pollution sensitive species are also present in the same area, this indicates that the water quality must be good enough for the pollution sensitive species to thrive, along with those that are less sensitive. When an aquatic ecosystem hosts pollution tolerant species with no evidence of pollution sensitive species, this could indicate a need for further investigation into potential water quality issues.

Changes in the benthic community of a lake (e.g., changes in the types of organisms, abundance) can indicate changes in the lake ecosystem (e.g., improvements in water quality, habitat alteration, introduction of invasive species).

Finally, benthic macroinvertebrates are an important part of the food web of a lake. Certain benthic macroinvertebrates are a critical food source for a variety of fish species, while others play a key role in decomposing organic matter.

The objectives of the Manitouwabing Lake benthic monitoring program are to:

- Determine the ecological condition of Manitouwabing Lake and compare it;
- Compare Manitouwabing Lake to similar lakes in the Parry Sound–Muskoka District; and
- Compare sites within Manitouwabing Lake.

Methods

Certified GBB staff oversee benthic macroinvertebrate sampling on behalf of the Township of McKellar and MLCA using the standardized Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN) protocol for lakes. For each of the four sites, three shallow, nearshore areas representative of the lake are selected as test sites (referred to as “lake segments” in the protocol) and sampled each year using the travelling kick-and-sweep method. The individual doing the sampling disturbs the bottom of the lake in transects from 1m depth to the water’s edge for approximately 10 minutes. Using a net, the dislodged material is collected and placed in a bucket. These samples are then processed to count and identify the different types of benthos in the sample (video available [here](#)). There are 27 different groups of benthos that are searched for, ranging in sensitivity to water pollutants and water quality.

Interpreting Results

Manitouwabing Lake has had benthic macroinvertebrate sampling conducted each year since 2020. The objective of the benthic monitoring is to characterize the average benthic community of the lake and compare it to lakes in the Parry Sound-Muskoka District to determine whether the benthic community in Manitouwabing Lake is considered typical of what would be expected for a lake in this region.

The District Municipality of Muskoka has been working with lake associations to conduct benthic monitoring throughout the district since 2004. This rich Muskoka dataset, combined with additional benthic data for lakes in south-central Ontario from the Dorset Environmental Science Centre and from Jones et al. (2007), provides the basis needed for regional comparisons among lakes.

As detailed in the [2018 Muskoka Watershed Report Card Background Report](#), the Muskoka Watershed Council (MWC) reports on lake benthic communities in terms of the percentage of pollution-sensitive taxa found. Specifically, the pollution-sensitive taxa include larval mayflies (*Ephemeroptera*), dragonflies and damselflies (*Odonata*), and caddisflies (*Trichoptera*), collectively referred to as EOT. These taxa are very sensitive to pollution and habitat alterations, meaning that their numbers will be highest in healthy lakes and lowest in unhealthy or disturbed lakes. The average %EOT for a lake is compared to the normal range for %EOT in lakes in the region. In other words, this monitoring seeks to answer the question, does the %EOT for the lake of interest fall within the normal range of what would be expected for a lake in the region?

The normal range for %EOT in lakes in the region was determined by MWC for the Muskoka Watershed Report Card by “randomly selecting one data point from each lake sampled between 2012 and 2017 and characterizing the distribution of values observed among these lakes” (MWC, 2018, p. 46). The resulting range of %EOT values is shown in Figure 15 and is used for analysis in this report.

Following the methodology used by MWC (2018), the average %EOT was calculated for each of the four sites on Manitouwabing Lake using data collected between 2020 and 2023. The average %EOT for each lake was then compared to the normal range (Figure 15) to determine whether the lake is considered typical, atypical, or extremely atypical. These categories are defined by MWC (2018) as follows:



- Typical: %EOT is between the 10th and 90th percentile. These lakes resemble the majority of lakes in the region, and therefore are comprised of typical percentages of EOT species.
- Atypical: %EOT is between either the 5th and 10th percentile or the 90th and 95th percentile. These lakes are outside of the normal range of the majority of lakes in the region. The percentages of EOT species may be slightly higher or lower compared to the majority of lakes in the region.
- Extremely Atypical: %EOT is less than the 5th percentile or greater than the 95th percentile. These lakes do not represent the majority of lakes in the region in terms of the percentages of EOT species. These lakes may have very high or very low percentages of EOT species compared to the majority of lakes in the region.

If a lake is considered atypical or extremely atypical, additional monitoring may be necessary to try to understand potential causes and/or contributing factors.

Typical Range of EOT values, 113 Random Lakes

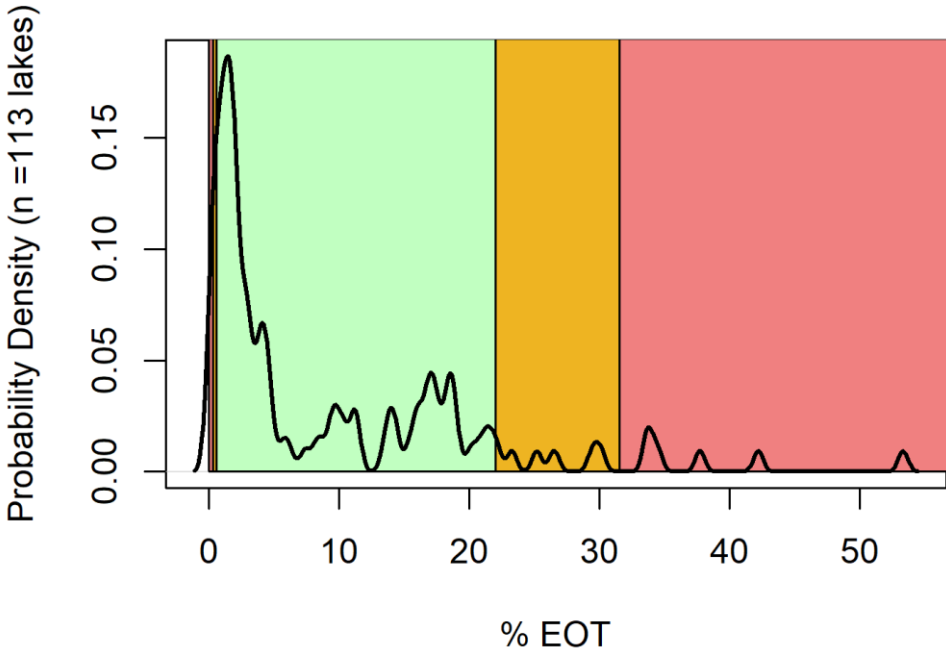


Figure 15. Range of %EOT values of sampled lakes in the region from 2012 to 2017. Typical is shown in green which is between the 10th and 90th percentile (%EOT between 0.55 and 20.99). Atypical is shown in orange which is between the 5th and 10th percentile (%EOT between 0.3 and 0.54) and 90th and 95th percentile (%EOT between 22.1 and 28.01). Extremely atypical is shown in red which is less than the 5th percentile (%EOT less than 0.29) or greater than the 95th percentile (%EOT greater than 31.5).

Results

Three sites (three lake segments each) were sampled in Manitowabing Lake from 2020–2024 (MWABING01, MWABING02, MWABING04) (Figure 16). One site, MWABING03, was sampled from 2020–2023. This site will not be sampled going forward.

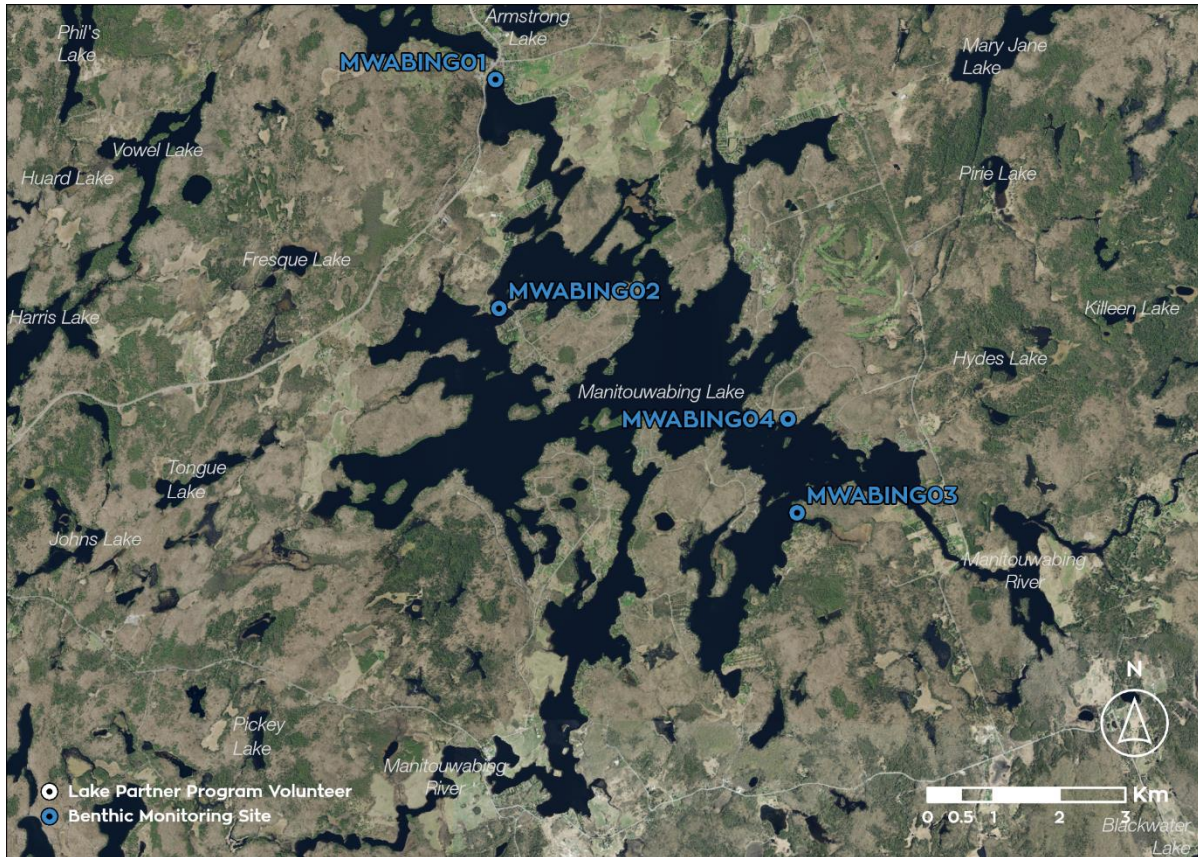


Figure 16. Benthic sampling locations on Manitowabing Lake.

Site 1 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 17, the %EOT for site 1 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.

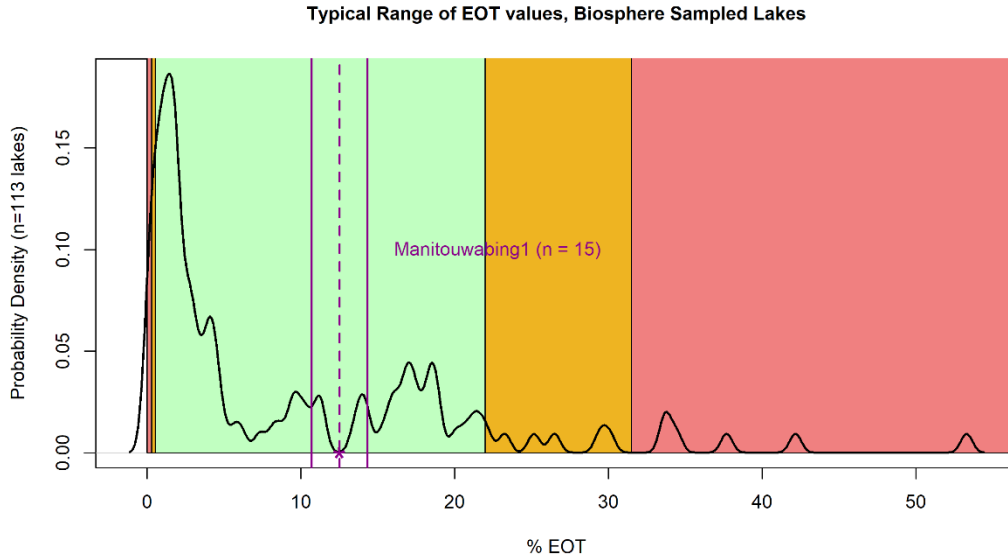


Figure 17. Manitouwabing Lake site 1 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 5 years (n=15) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes).

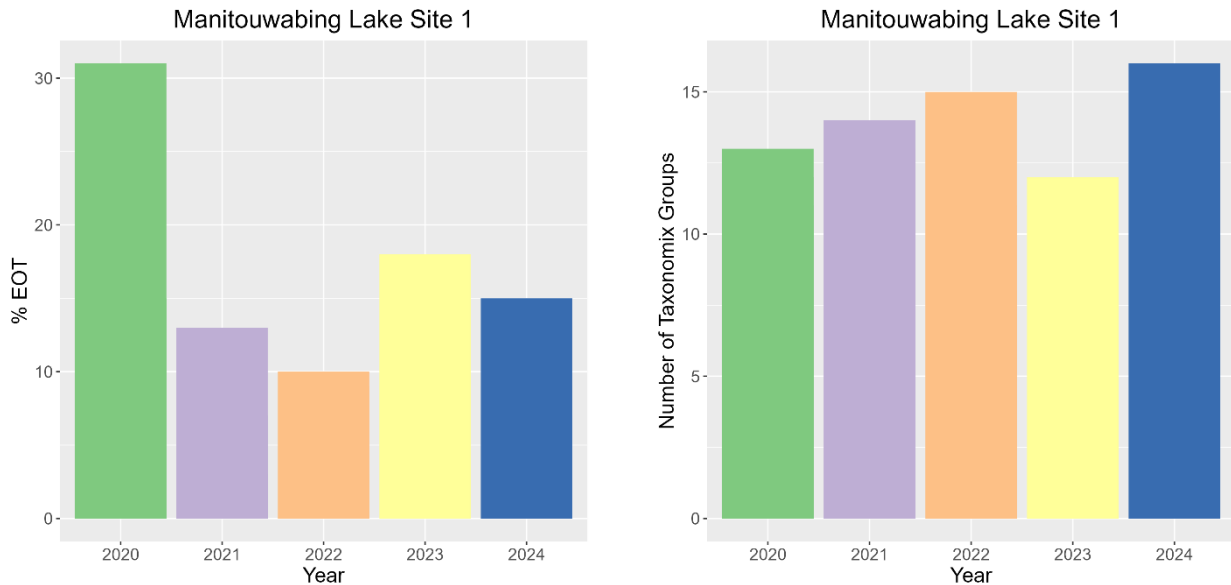


Figure 18. %EOT and the number of taxonomic groups for Site 1 on Manitouwabing Lake from 2020 to 2024.

Site 2 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 19, the %EOT for site 2 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.

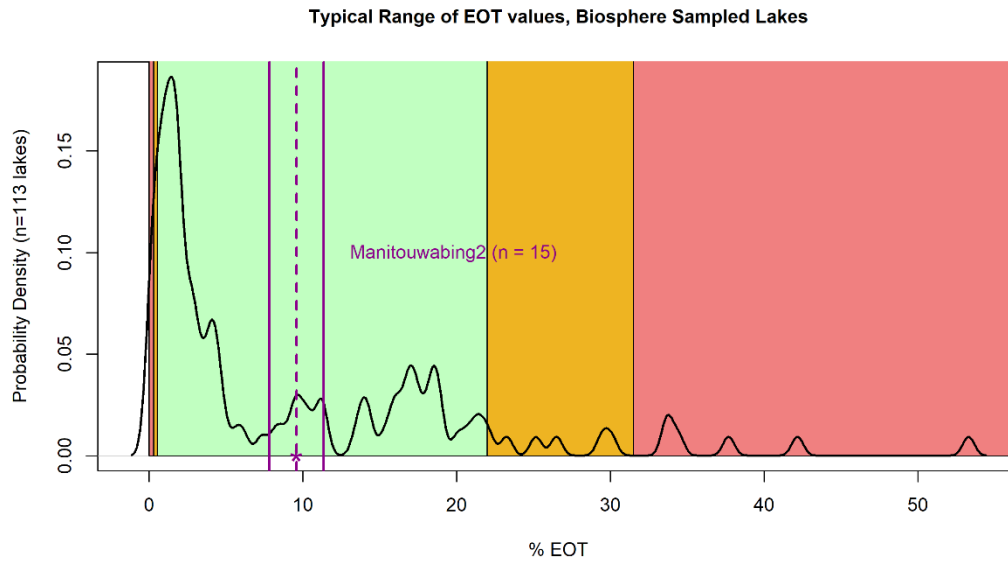


Figure 19. Manitouwabing Lake site 2 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 5 years (n=15) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes).

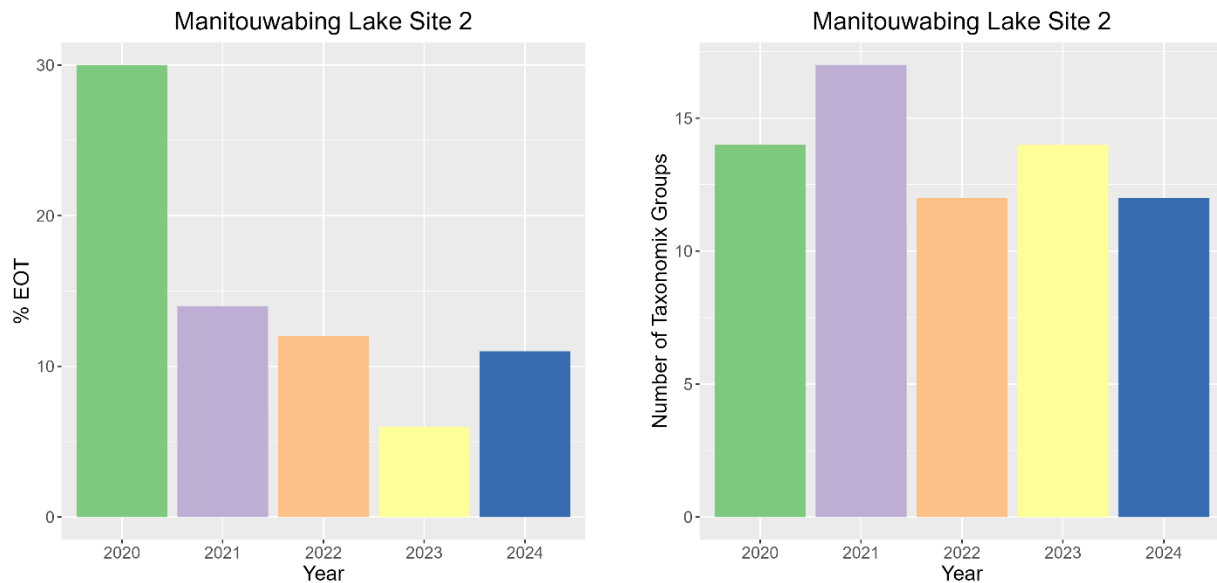


Figure 20. %EOT and the number of taxonomic groups for Site 2 on Manitouwabing Lake from 2020 to 2024.

Site 3 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 21, the %EOT for site 3 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.

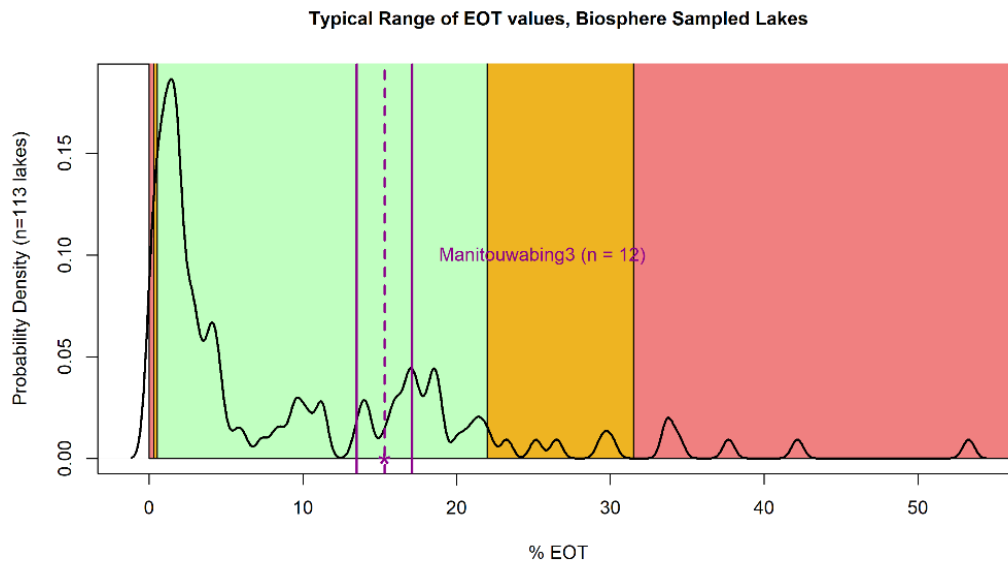


Figure 21. Manitouwabing Lake site 3 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 4 years (n=12) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes).

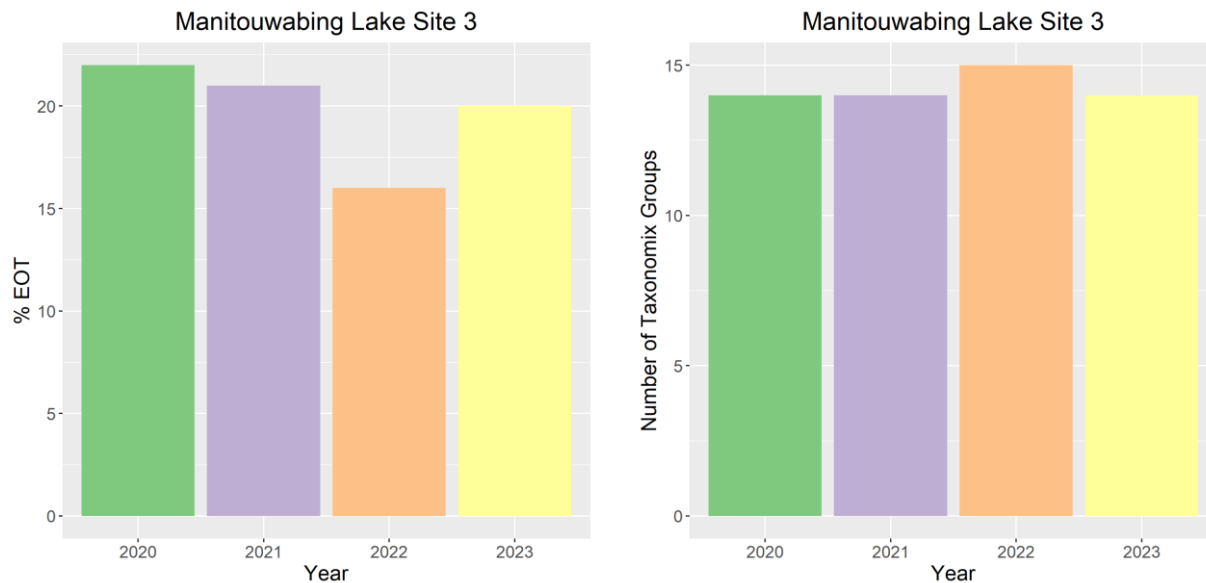


Figure 22. %EOT and the number of taxonomic groups for Site 3 on Manitouwabing Lake from 2020 to 2023.

Site 4 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 23, the %EOT for site 4 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.

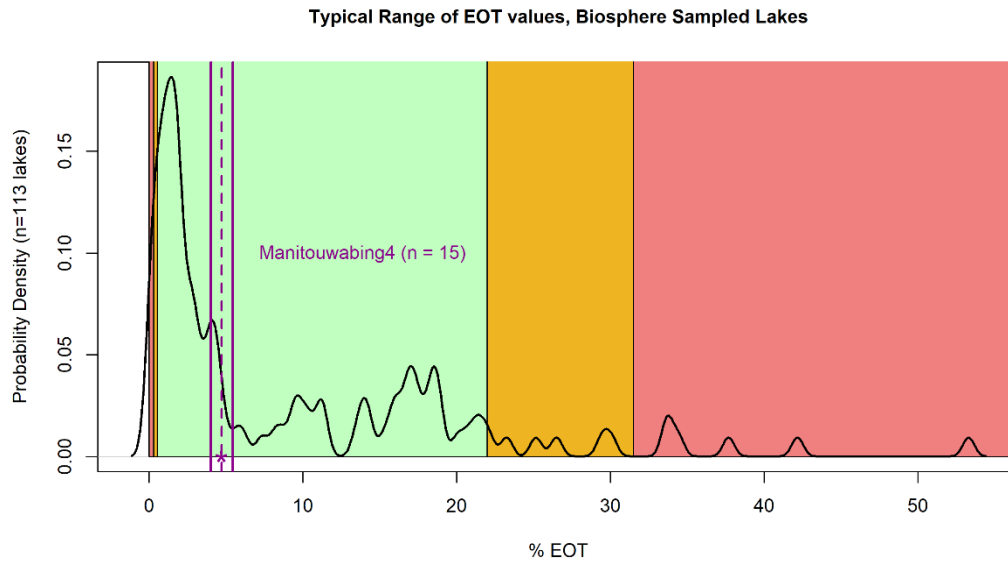


Figure 23. Manitouwabing Lake site 4 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 5 years (n=15) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes).

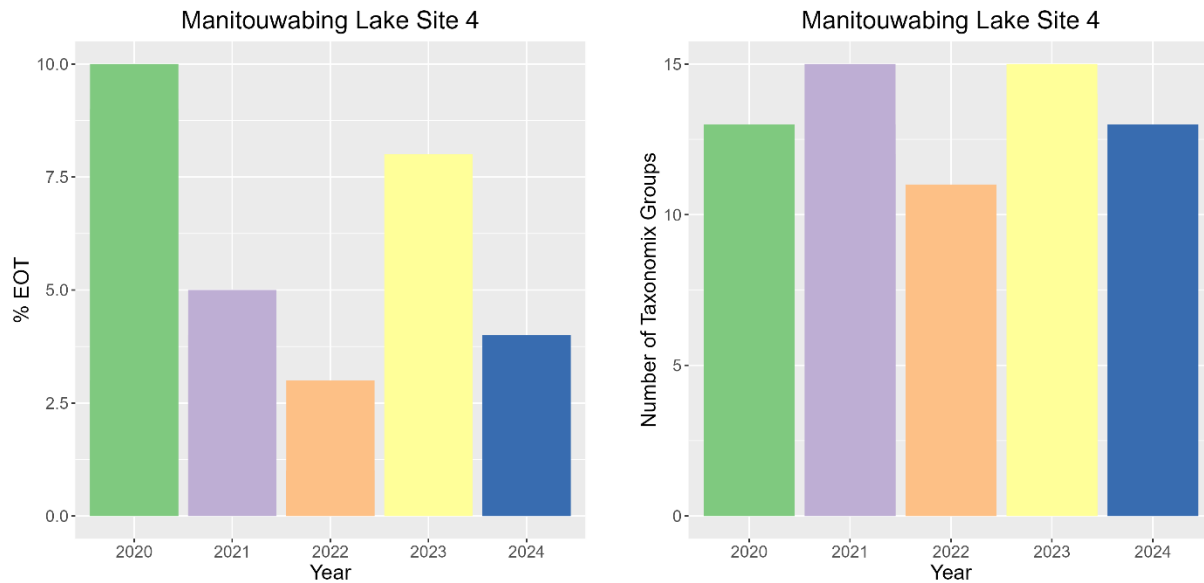


Figure 24. %EOT and the number of taxonomic groups for Site 4 on Manitouwabing Lake from 2020 to 2024.

Recommendations

With lakes in the region facing many threats (e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, development, pollution), benthic communities act as a barometer of ecological change and impacts. Continuing to monitor the benthic community in Manitowabing Lake will allow for trends to be tracked over time and the observation of any notable shifts (statistically significant changes) that would be cause for further investigation and potentially require remedial actions.

Manitouwabing Lake State of the Basin Review 2018

Bev Clark, Aquatic Scientist, was hired by the MLCA to conduct a thorough review of existing Manitowabing Lake water quality data and provide recommendations for future water quality monitoring activities. Clark's report was published in 2018 and is available on the MLCA's website. The key conclusion and recommendations from the report are provided in full below (complete report available in Appendix A).

The following conclusions were drawn in Clark's (2018) report:

- The bottom line with respect to phosphorus is that concentrations are similar throughout the lake and consistent between years.
- The phosphorus values indicate a lake that is highly influenced by its watershed with no sign of deterioration in water quality (with respect to phosphorus) over the years.
- Manitowabing Lake's mesotrophic status is not likely the result of human activity in the watershed but rather the result of export of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) from wetlands. Most of the 11.5 µg/L TP in Manitowabing Lake has its origins as DOC in the watershed's wetland complexes.
- DOC concentrations throughout the lake are relatively similar (4.2-6.0 mg/L) with slightly more tea stained water in the south east areas of the lake. This relatively narrow range in DOC values throughout the lake indicates similar wetland conditions throughout the different subwatersheds.
- Manitowabing Lake is not expected to support algal blooms.
- Bacteria data are difficult to interpret. There are conclusions that can be drawn by examination of the data, but there are also many aspects of bacteria in lake water that cannot be deduced from these data. Generally, the Manitowabing Lake bacteria data show that about 5% of the samples are



over 100 counts which is the guideline for recreational use. This indicates that the water is swimmable in most areas 95% of the time.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made in Clark's (2018) report:

1. Several central locations (LPP Site #11, 1 and 3) and possibly one new location near the outflow be monitored by LPP volunteers with an effort to maintain a long-term monitoring record. Some of these sites may or may not be currently sampled. Long-term monitoring records are important to assess the effect of external drivers on the nutrient status of the lake.
2. The efforts used to collect bacteria data could be directed at other issues such as:
 - Education towards aspects of nearshore (shoreline) management.
 - Useful inventories such as areas where aquatic plants grow to assess whether the extent of plant beds are changing.
 - Long-term records of water levels and/or temperature.
3. Late summer monitoring of dissolved oxygen in the deepest location and in isolated bays where the depths are greater than 7-8 m (see page 11 of Clark (2018) report for a map) may provide additional information to address the potential for algal blooms. After areas are identified as having the oxygen depleted at the bottom (with measured oxygen profiles) in year one, there can be samples taken 1 meter from the bottom in subsequent years to assess whether or not there are elevated phosphorus concentrations in the bottom water.
4. All efforts should be made to ensure that invasive species do not enter the watershed. There are many organizations that provide guidance on invading species, e.g. The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations.
<https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/>

Additional years of LPP results have become available since Clark's report was published in 2018. These additional data are available through the Lake Partner Program [open data website](#).

FISH COMMUNITIES

Overview

Table 4 provides a high-level overview of the fish communities in Manitouwabing Lake.

Table 4. Summary of Manitouwabing Lake fish communities and their management (see [link](#)).

Major fish species	Largemouth bass (introduced), smallmouth bass (introduced), walleye (introduced), black crappie (introduced), northern pike (introduced)
Other fish species	Lake whitefish, creek chub, brown bullhead, yellow perch, bluntnose minnow, eastern blacknose dace, cisco, pumpkinseed, rock bass, common carp, white sucker
Lake trout management	Not designated
Current stocking	None
Historic stocking	Walleye (1938, 1950–2010), smallmouth bass (1941, 1950–1966)
Contaminants (species tested)	Northern pike, walleye, black crappie

The first documentation of a Ministry-led fish community study on Manitouwabing Lake is from 1959. A cursory survey documented the presence of walleye, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, yellow perch, lake whitefish, and common carp. Northern pike, however, were not found to be present at that time. A historical note on the Ministry’s lake file indicates that northern pike were introduced to the lake via unauthorized introduction in the 1960s. Interestingly, Manitouwabing Lake is the only lake known to contain common carp in the Parry Sound area. Another unreferenced historical note on the Manitouwabing Lake file states that carp were introduced to the lake at the turn of the century (1900) or earlier. Stocking of walleye began in 1938 and in 1941 for smallmouth bass (McIntyre, 2005).

During a 1974 Aquatic Habitat Inventory Survey, northern pike were documented in the lake for the first time. At this time walleye, smallmouth bass, and brown bullhead were all captured in low numbers. On the other hand, northern pike, common white

sucker, rock bass, yellow perch, and cisco were captured in high numbers (OMNR, 1974).

In 1982 a trap net and gill net survey was conducted on Manitouwabing Lake to assess the health of the fish population. Results of the survey indicated a well-balanced fish community with good recruitment, although productivity appeared low and there were indications of over-exploitation of game fish (McIntyre, 1983). When this survey was repeated in 1988, the results showed a drastic change to a coarse fish dominated community (i.e., dominated by fish other than game fish) (Sober, 1989). The brown bullhead population saw a dramatic increase between these two surveys. Weight and number of fish caught in 1988 were much higher than in 1982, attributable primarily to the growing brown bullhead population. Walleye, northern pike, and smallmouth bass populations were essentially unchanged.

Intensive creel surveys were conducted in the summer of 1983 and the winter of 1984. Together these surveys revealed high fishing pressure on Manitouwabing Lake and modest harvest of game fish (MacMillan, 1985a; 1985b). Fishing effort exceeded 30 rod hours per hectare with fishing for northern pike described as very good, but only fair for walleye and smallmouth bass. Comparing this information to volunteer creel data pooled from 1973–1979, it appears that fishing quality has not changed much on the lake over time.

In an effort to rebuild walleye stocks and promote natural rehabilitation in Manitouwabing Lake, several habitat enhancement projects were carried out over the decades. Details on some of these efforts are quite sparse. For example, in a note on the lake file in 1985, a walleye spawning bed enhancement project at Broadbent Rapids is mentioned (MNR, 2010). A separate note added in 1988 states that spawning bed rehabilitation work was completed below the Hurdville Dam (limestone rock placement and sand removal) and spawning bed rubble was cleaned at Squaw Rapids on Middle River (MNR, 2010). No other details are provided.

In addition to spawning bed enhancement work, lake-specific fishing regulations were changed in 1998. The walleye daily catch limit was reduced to two fish per day and a maximum size catch limit of 35.6 cm (14") was imposed (this regulation was later revoked in 2008). Furthermore, in 2000, the Manitou-Seguine Game and Fish Club commenced rehabilitative stocking of walleye fry, in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). In 2000 and 2001 alone, over 638,000 walleye fry were stocked at various sites in Manitouwabing Lake (McIntyre, 2000; 2001).

An End of Spring Trapnet (ESTN) survey was conducted in 2004, shortly after walleye stocking began. The purpose of the survey was three-fold. First, to assess the status of the nearshore fish community, particularly the walleye population. Second, to evaluate the impact of previous walleye fry stocking, and third, to evaluate the impact of regulations for walleye implemented in 1998. ESTN surveys use live capture, 6' trap nets set overnight for approximately 24 hours. A total of 30 net sets were completed from May 17–June 10 resulting in the capture of 2,820 fish weighing over 1,400 kg. As summarized by McIntyre (2005), productivity was found to be exceptionally high, but over 70% of the catch weight was comprised of brown bullhead (Figure 25). Abundance indices for walleye, smallmouth bass, and largemouth bass were somewhat low relative to provincial and Parry Sound area lakes. These figures were similar to those observed on the lake in the 1980s (Figure 26). Northern pike abundance was slightly higher than the provincial and Parry Sound average and similar to abundance measured in the 1980s. Other nearshore species including yellow perch, rock bass, and pumpkinseed were caught in very low abundance.

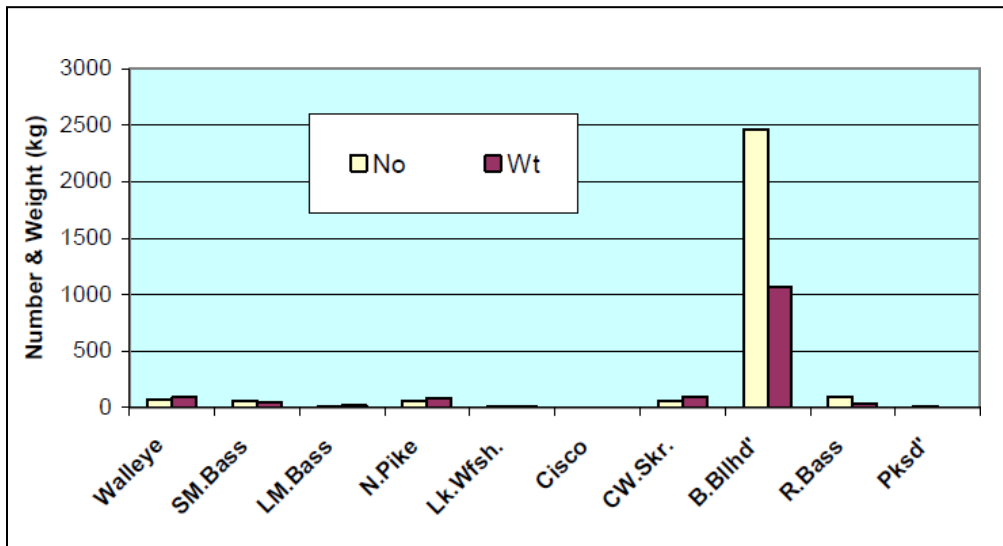


Figure 25. Catch composition for the 2004 ESTN survey on Manitouwabing Lake (McIntyre, 2005).

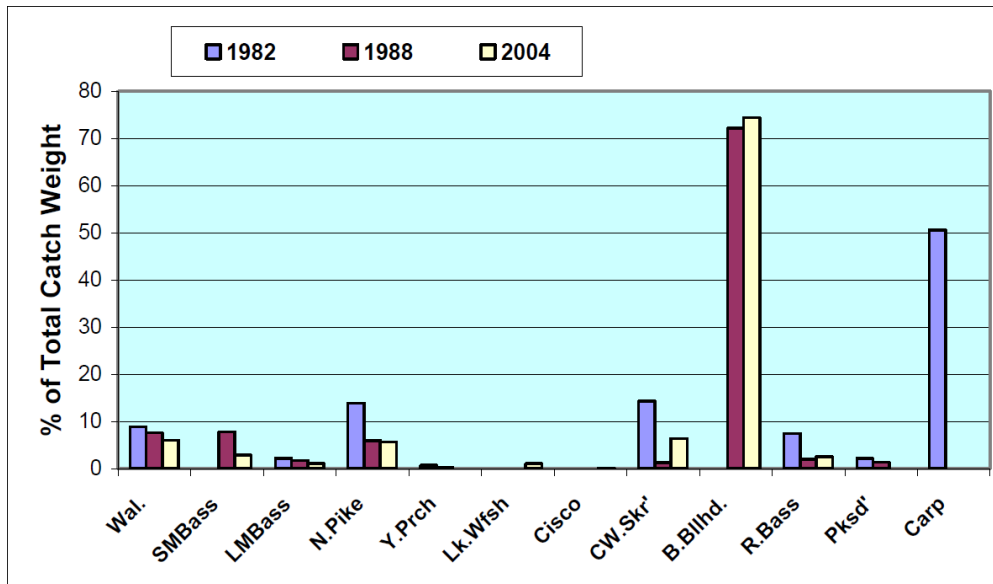


Figure 26. Catch composition by species for the 1982, 1988, and 2004 trapnet surveys on Manitouwabing Lake (McIntyre, 2005).

Nearshore Community Index Netting Project

Manitouwabing Lake was most recently surveyed by the MNR in 2014 and 2015 (Figure 27). A Nearshore Community Index Netting (NSCIN) project was conducted over the two years. The purpose of the survey was to obtain information on the composition of the fish community and the abundance and population of primary game fish species (Scholten, 2020).

NSCIN surveys use live capture, 6' trap nets set overnight for approximately 24 hours. Netting is conducted in late summer from August 1 until the surface temperature cools to 13°C. Net set locations are typically randomly selected, however in this case the same sites used in the 2004 ESTN (McIntyre, 2005) were used again. Captured fish are enumerated by species and major game fish species are sampled in greater detail including length, weight, and the collection of calcified structures for age determination.

A total of 16 net sets were completed from September 8-13, 2014 and 15 net sets completed from September 28-October 2, 2015. Most of the results presented in the NSCIN report are reported by combining results from both years.

By both number and weight, brown bullhead was the most abundant species (average 16.4/net, 7.4kg/net). Of the large game fish, smallmouth bass were the most abundant by number and weight (3.0/net, 2.0kg/net). Northern pike (0.8/net, 1.1kg/net), largemouth bass (1.0/net, 0.8kg/net), and walleye (1.1/net, 1.6kg/net) were all caught at similar rates but varied more in their total weights due to differences in average size of each species. Black crappie were the most numerous game fish overall (4.9/net), but accounted for less weight (1.2kg/net). Finally, white sucker, rock bass, and pumpkinseed made up the remainder of the catch (Figure 28). Table 5 presents a summary of size and age ranges for each game fish species as well as an indication of growth rate.

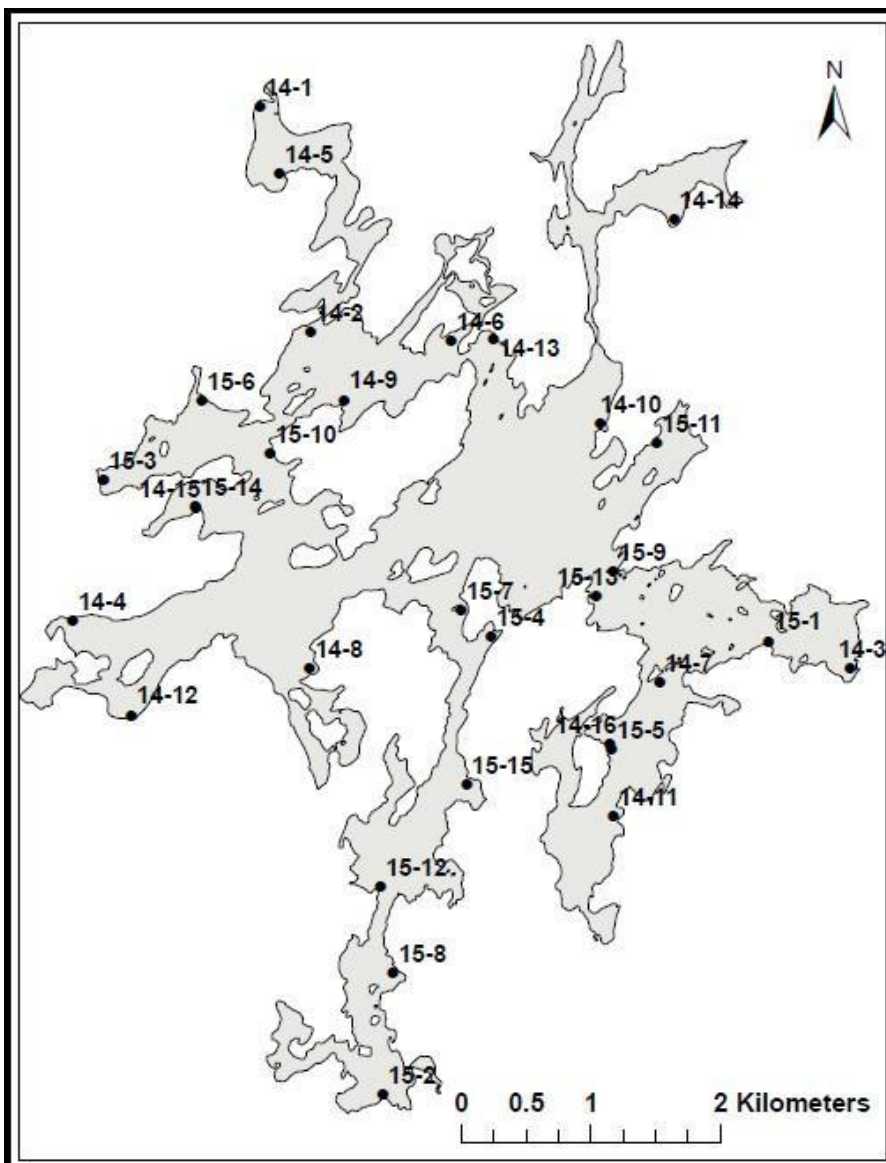


Figure 27. Manitowabing Lake trap net set locations, NSCIN 2014-2015.

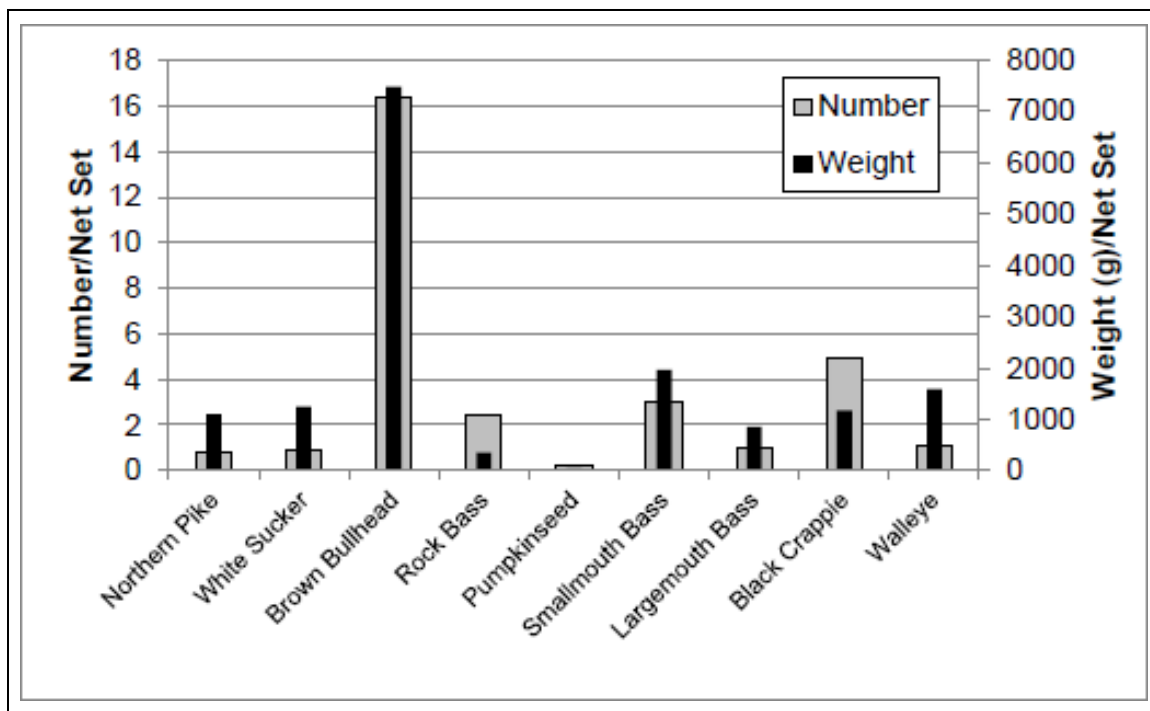


Figure 28. Catch summary by number (wide bars, left vertical axis) and weight (narrow bars, right vertical axis) for Manitouwabing Lake NSCIN 2014-2015 (Scholten, 2020).

Table 5. Summary of game fish species' lengths, ages, and growth rates (Scholten, 2020).

	Walleye	Northern pike	Smallmouth bass	Largemouth bass	Black crappie
Min fork length (mm)	249	337	160	180	115
Max fork length (mm)	672	840	444	431	315
Mean fork length (mm)	487	559	325	347	232
Min age (years)	2	1	1	1	1
Max age (years)	19	8	12	9	5
Mean age (years)	7.7	4.3	6.1	3.1	2.7
Growth rate	Above average	Below average	Above average	Above average*	Above average

* The observed growth rate of largemouth bass was very rapid; above maximum values observed elsewhere in the province.

The 2014-2015 NSCIN report (Scholten, 2020) summarizes that overall, catch composition and abundance of the major game fish species caught were similar to previous surveys, other than the appearance of black crappie (Figure 29). While black crappie had been reported to occur in the lake previously, they did not occur when the last MNR survey was conducted in 2004. Since being illegally introduced to the lake, black crappie have become a major component of the fish community as evidenced by the fact that they were the second most commonly caught species by number. Several species previously documented were not caught during the 2014-2015 sampling including yellow perch, lake whitefish, cisco, and common carp.

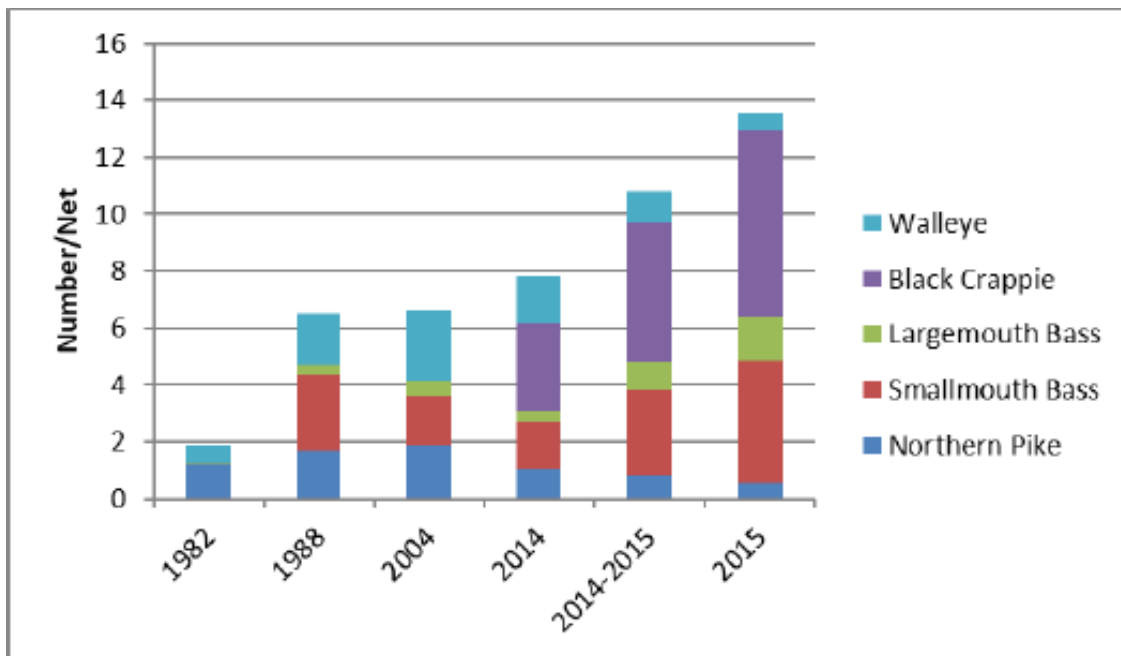


Figure 29. Catch rate (number/net) of major game fish species from 6' trap nets in Manitouwabing Lake, by year (Scholten, 2020).

The overall catch rates of northern pike and walleye in 2014-2015 were somewhat lower than in the past. Smallmouth bass, on the other hand, had a higher catch rate than observed in 1988 and 2004, but not to the point of concluding that a long-term trend has occurred. Largemouth bass catch rate has increased with each successive survey reflecting a real long-term increase in abundance. Brown bullhead catch has shown the greatest variation over surveys; none were caught in 6' trap nets in 1982, extremely large numbers were caught in 1988 and 2004, and a decrease occurred in 2014-2015 (Figure 30). Scholten (2020) states that the implications of changing bullhead abundance on other members of the fish community is unclear but that a real decline in abundance more recently may ease competitive interactions with other species.

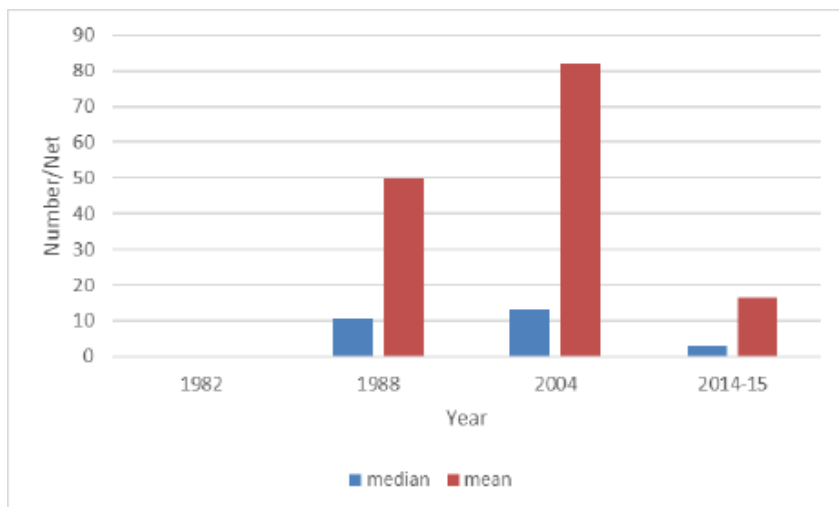


Figure 30. Mean and median catch of brown bullhead from 6' trap nets in Manitowabing Lake, by year (Scholten, 2020).

Based on the findings from the 2014–2015 NSCIN project, it was determined that Manitowabing Lake should be “managed as a natural walleye lake and supplemental stocking should not be done” (Scholten, 2020, p. 15). Provincial guidelines recommend that stocking of a species not occur when a viable self-sustaining population is present (OMNR, 2002). Furthermore, the report recommends that “no lake-specific management actions take place at this time” (Scholten, 2020, p. 15).

Consumption Advisories

Consumption advisories or restrictions on fish are commonplace across jurisdictions in North America. Fish are exposed to, and absorb, contaminants in the water in a variety of ways (e.g., consuming contaminated food, absorption from the water as it passes over their gills). Contaminants found in fish can come from local sources, as well as sources from thousands of kilometers away (e.g., airborne contaminants that end up in the water via rain or snowfall). Examples of contaminants that are known to be transported long distances include mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and toxaphene.

Based on species, size, and location, certain fish are more or less suitable to eat than others. Smaller fish tend to be less contaminated than larger fish of the same species. In the Great Lakes, leaner fish (e.g., bass, pike, walleye, perch, panfish) tend to have much lower contaminants than fatty species like trout and salmon. In inland



lakes, top-predatory fish such as pike and walleye generally have greater contaminants than panfish or whitefish.

Advisories provide consumption advice for the general population and sensitive populations. The sensitive population includes women of child-bearing age (women who intend to become pregnant or are pregnant) and children younger than 15 years of age. These groups are considered sensitive because pregnant women and nursing mothers can affect the health of their baby through a diet elevated in contaminants, and young children are affected by contaminants at lower levels than the general population.

In terms of advisories for eating fish from Manitouwabing Lake, mercury is the contaminant of concern (Table 6). Specifically, advisories exist for black crappie, northern pike, and walleye due to concerns around mercury. To learn more about fish consumption advisories and how to reduce the risk from contaminants in fish, please visit the [MECP website](#) on eating Ontario fish.

Table 6. Fish consumption advisories for Manitouwabing Lake (see [link](#)).

Species	General Population	Sensitive Population*
Black crappie ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 32 meals/month of fish 20-25cm max 12 meals/month of fish 25-30cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 12 meals/month of fish 20-25cm max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm
Northern pike ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 16 meals/month of fish 30-35cm, 35-40cm, and 40-45cm max 12 meals/month of fish 45-50cm max 8 meals/month of fish 50-55cm, 55-60cm, and 60-65cm max 4 meals/month of fish 65-70cm, 70-75cm, and >75cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 8 meals/month of fish 30-35cm and 35-40cm max 4 meals/month of fish 40-45cm, 45-50cm, 50-55cm, and 55-60cm no meals of fish >60cm
Walleye ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 8 meals/month of fish 25-30cm and 30-35cm max 4 meals/month of fish 35-40cm, 40-45cm, and 45-50cm max 2 meals/month of fish 50-55cm, 55-60cm, and 60-65cm no meals of fish >65cm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm no meals of fish >30cm

* People who are pregnant or may become pregnant and children under 15; ¹ Mercury

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Water Quality

Continue annual LPP sampling. If capacity is limited, preference should be given to sites that are spread across different areas of the lake and that have the longest datasets. Long-term datasets are important to assess the effect of external drivers on the nutrient status of the lake (Clark, 2018). Suggested sites are Station 2973, Site IDs 8, 9, 13, and 18.

Continue with annual benthic sampling to accurately characterize and track trends in the benthic community in the lake. Lakes in the region are experiencing increasing pressures, such as climate change, invasive species, and development. It is important to continue monitoring water quality even in lakes considered to be healthy so that if/when changes start to occur, those changes are noted and appropriate actions can be taken swiftly (e.g., stewardship actions, enhanced monitoring or studies). Without long-term, continuous monitoring, changes in the benthic community and water quality more broadly may go unnoticed until there is a significant problem.

Continue with the additional water quality monitoring that was started on Manitouwabing Lake in the fall of 2022. Reporting out to the public on results of the monitoring in a way that is understandable and meaningful for a general audience is very important. Continue providing water quality testing reports to Council and consider using the new Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee [Facebook page](#) as another means of sharing results with the general public for increased engagement.

Should the MLCA wish to continue with bacteria monitoring, it should happen in the framework of a scientific investigation focused on testing specific hypotheses on potential sources of contamination through a focused sampling program. For example, recreational sites (e.g., beaches) could be considered for bacteria monitoring as per the province's [Beach Management Guidance Document](#).

Fish Communities

The province of Ontario released [new regulations](#) for the sale and possession of live bait in July 2020, anglers should familiarize themselves with these changes to remain in compliance with the new regulations at all times. Highlights include:

- A valid fishing license is required to catch your own live baitfish, leeches, crayfish, and northern leopard frogs.
- There are specific fish species that can and cannot be used as bait in Ontario.
- Bait can only be caught in your home Bait Management Zone (BMZ) and cannot leave your BMZ.
- Baitfish and leeches you catch cannot be sold unless you are a licensed dealer.
- If you fish outside your home BMZ, you must buy your baitfish and leeches locally, keep a receipt, and use or dispose of your bait within two weeks of purchase.

Recreational anglers should use the app [MyCatch](#) by Angler's Atlas to log fishing trips and share fishing data confidentially with biologists. Use of the app can help supplement fisheries data between MNR population surveys.

Stewardship Activities

MLCA should continue to encourage Manitouwabing Lake property owners to maintain and/or restore natural shorelines. GBB's [Planting for Pollinators](#) guide offers property owners assistance in choosing plants for their property that are native to eastern Georgian Bay and that help to enhance the property and conserve important natural habitats. Native plants can be sourced from the MLCA [Native Plant Seedling Sale](#) and the annual GBB Native Plant Fundraiser (check the GBB [events page](#) in the spring).

Property owners interested in decreasing their ecological footprint can also utilize GBB's [Life on the Bay Stewardship Guide](#). The guide covers a range of topics including how to live with wildlife, how to use landscaping to improve water quality, best practices during construction, how to store chemicals and garbage, and many more. The Life on the Bay guide is designed to be used by waterfront property owners on Georgian Bay and inland lakes.

There are many [citizen science programs](#) for interested cottagers and residents to get involved in. Examples include invasive species reporting, IceWatch, FrogWatch, Canadian Lakes Loon Survey, and many others.



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APPENDIX A

Manitouwabing Lake State of the Basin Review 2018



Killian

Prepared for: Manitouwabing Lake Community Association

By: Clark, October 2018

Contents

Manitouwabing Lake – State of the Basin Review	3
Overview	3
Watershed Influence.....	3
Water Quality.....	4
Total Phosphorus	4
Dissolved Organic Carbon	8
Algal Blooms.....	10
Dissolved Oxygen	11
Bacteria	12
Invasive Species	13
Recommendations	14
Appendix	15

Manitouwabing Lake – State of the Basin Review

Overview

Manitouwabing Lake is a large important resource in McKellar Township north west of Parry Sound (Lat, 45.452 Long, 79.904). General Lake characteristics are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – General characteristics of Manitouwabing Lake. Data from OMNR and MOECP.

Area	1178 ha
Volume	6597 x 10 ⁴ m ³
Max Depth	33 m
Mean depth	5.6 m
Watershed Area	400 km ²
Clarity (Secchi depth)	2.4 m
Runoff	0.464 m
Trophic status	mesotrophic

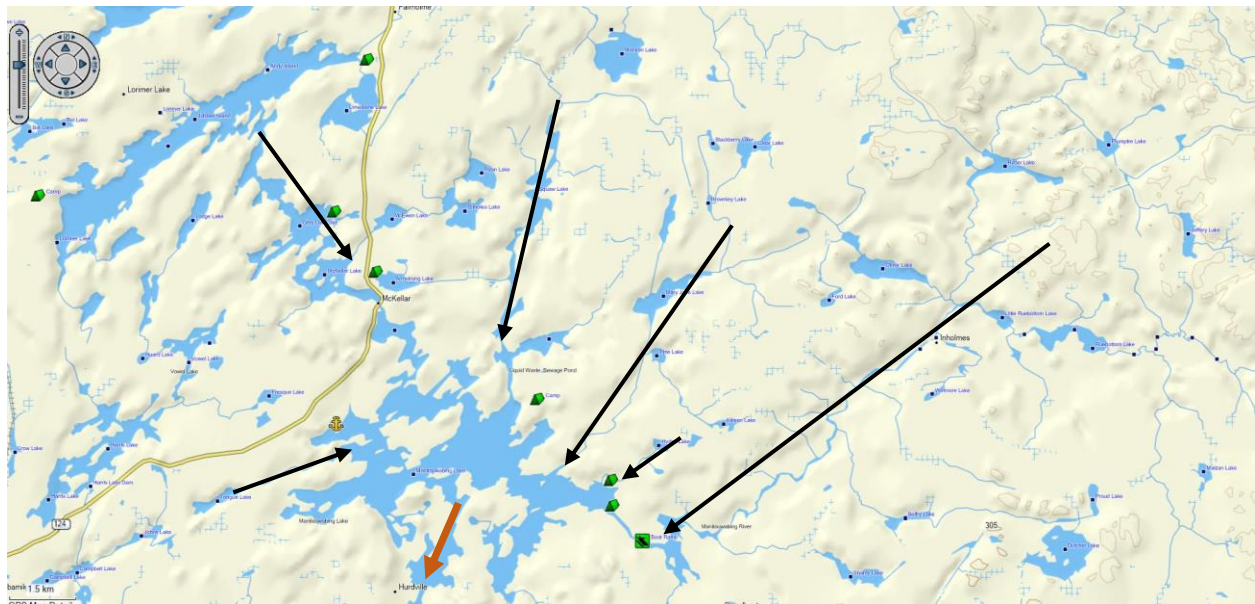
Despite its importance, Manitouwabing Lake and other lakes in the area have not been studied in detail or well characterized with respect to many aspects of water quality. Nevertheless, the data that have been collected to this date allow us to conduct a preliminary assessment of the lake and its watershed and then go forward to make recommendations regarding future steps.

Watershed Influence

Manitouwabing Lake collects water from a large watershed through numerous inflows including the Manitouwabing River (Figure 1). These inflows mix within the lake and exit through the outflow at the south end of the lake. This outflow winds its way to Parry Sound through the Seguin River and ultimately into Georgian Bay.

A large watershed will increase the flushing rate for a lake and give the lake water quality characteristics that are driven by watershed processes more so than by local influences. Using the data in Table 1 we can calculate that the water in the lake is replaced 2.8 times per year or approximately every 4 months. This replacement rate will be, of course, higher during the spring and lower during drier months. Water quality measured in the lake near major inflows will have characteristics similar to those of the inflow and if the watershed characteristics are similar between inflows then this will lead to similar water quality throughout the lake. This is an important consideration because measured water quality is similar for several key parameters throughout Manitouwabing Lake which would indicate similar watershed characteristics for the major inflows to the lake.

Figure 1 – The Manitouwabing watershed showing several major inflows (black arrows) and the outflow to Georgian Bay (brown arrow).



Water Quality

Total Phosphorus

The most revealing characteristic of Manitouwabing Lake (total phosphorus) has been measured by volunteers through the Ministry of the Environment's Lake Partner Program (LPP). Phosphorus is the element that controls the production of algae and, in fact, most of the other organisms that reside in the lake. Lower phosphorus concentrations indicate lower productivity and are generally typical of dilute, gin clear, lake trout lakes. Higher concentrations are found in more productive lakes with more fish, more weeds and more algae. When concentrations of phosphorus are high enough to exacerbate nuisance algal blooms there can be concerns about water quality as a result of toxins that can be produced by bluegreen algae (cyanobacteria). Blooms of this nature are generally rare in Ontario.

Volunteers participating in the LPP have collected total phosphorus data at numerous locations throughout Manitouwabing Lake (Figure 2). The concentrations observed are very similar from place to place in the lake (Table 1 and Figure 3). This indicates that the watershed has a strong influence on the concentration of phosphorus in the lake (through a high flushing rate) which likely obscures any local influences that may occur within the lakes many embayments.

Figure 2 – Lake Partner Program sample sites in Manitouwabing Lake.

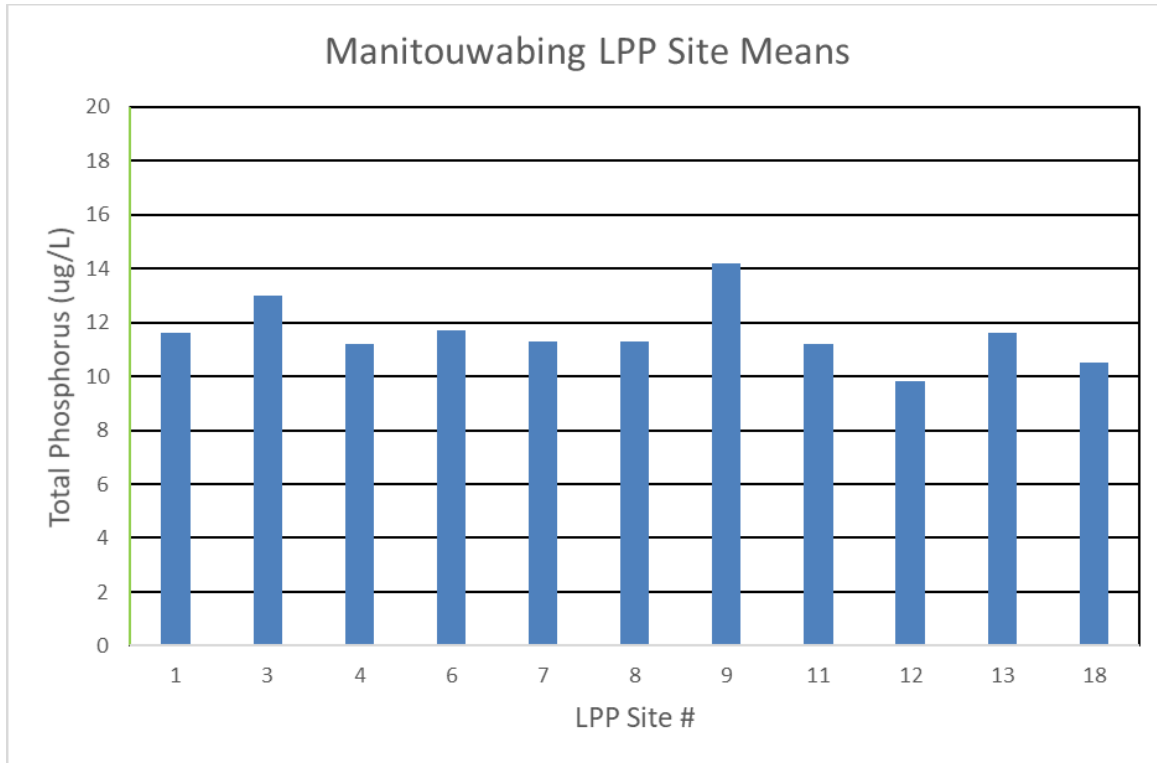


Table 1 – Mean total phosphorus concentrations at Lake Partner Program sample sites throughout Manitouwabing Lake.

Site	Lat.	Long.	Mean TP	Status
1	452845	795344	11.6	
3	452748	795302	13	
4	453020	795512	11.2	
6	452837	795413	11.7	current
7	452901	795538	11.3	
8	452810	795500	11.3	current
9	452822	795244	13.8	current
11	452917	795443	11.2	
12	452856	795253	9.8	
13	452713	795326	11.6	current
18	453008	795455	12.6	current
19	453019	795512	11.2	current
20	452901	795538	7.7	current
21	452932	795504	12.7	current
22	452959	795249	11.2	current
		Mean	11.5	

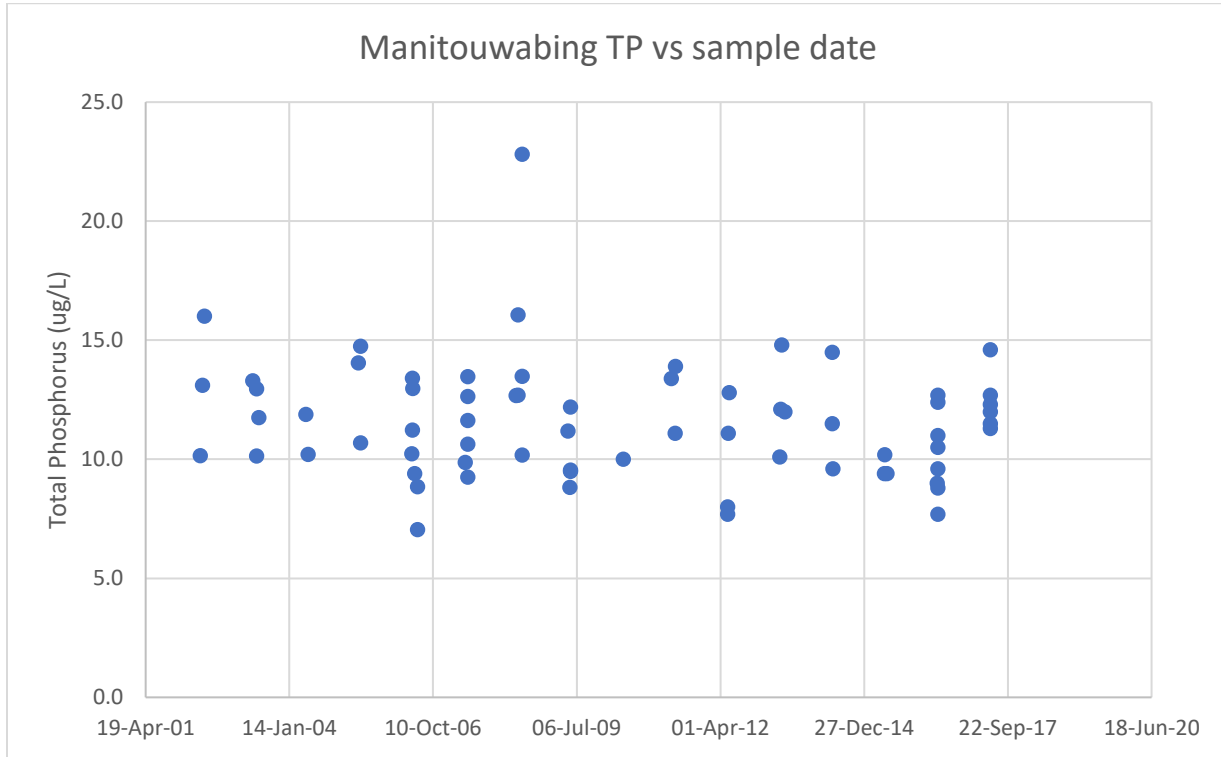
The lakewide mean total phosphorus concentration is 11.5 µg/L. This indicates that Manitouwabing Lake is at the lower end of the mesotrophic range. Lakes that are below 10 µg/L are considered to be oligotrophic (clear dilute and unproductive). Mesotrophic lakes (10-20 µg/L) are in the middle of this trophic classification and these lakes show considerable variation in productivity between the low end of the scale at 10 µg/L and the high end of the scale at 20 µg/L. Lakes over 20 µg/L are considered to be eutrophic with more chance of supporting nuisance algal blooms. Lakes at the lower end of the mesotrophic scale like Manitouwabing will share characteristics more like oligotrophic lakes while lakes at the high end of the scale (closer to 20) will begin to share characteristics of eutrophic lakes.

Figure 3 – Mean total phosphorus concentrations in Manitouwabing Lake at the LPP sample sites



The bottom line with respect to phosphorus is that concentrations are similar throughout the lake and consistent between years (Figure 4). Figure 4 shows that phosphorus concentrations have not increased since 2001 and are similar between sample stations (see Appendix). It is important to note that the range in observed values (approx 10-15 µg/L) is normal for multiple stations over time. These values indicate a lake that is highly influenced by its watershed with no sign of deterioration over the years in water quality with respect to phosphorus.

Figure 4 – Total phosphorus measured by the Lake Partner Program at the locations and dates shown in Appendix 1. Two points considered to be outliers were eliminated. The one datapoint above 20 µg/L is also likely an outlier but duplicate samples were in agreement so the data were retained.



It is important to recognise that human phosphorus inputs to the lake are possible through the operation of failing or inadequate septic systems. It is also possible to add nutrients through the unwise use of shoreline areas that border the lake (riparian areas). Harmful land use practices include the removal of natural shoreline vegetation, proliferation of lawns, use of fertilizers, etc. Education of property owners with respect to these issues can protect the ecosystem integrity of the lake.

Guidance for sustainably living by water is available from many sources.

<http://naturecanada.ca/living-by-water/>

Dissolved Organic Carbon

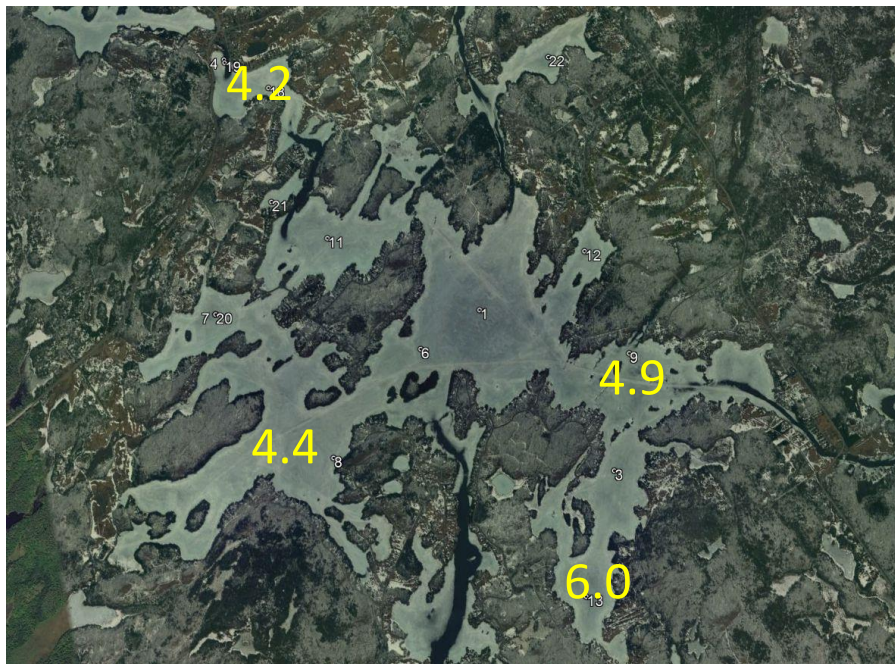
While Manitouwabing Lake is considered to be a mesotrophic lake we can see that much of this phosphorus has its origins in the watershed and is transported to the lake as Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC) which originates in wetlands. This is the material that causes tea stained water in lakes. In other words it's mesotrophic status is not likely the result of human activity in the watershed but rather the result of export of DOC from wetlands. Concentrations throughout the lake are relatively similar (4.2-6.0 mg/L) with slightly more tea stained water in the south east areas of the lake. This relatively narrow range in DOC values throughout the lake indicates similar wetland conditions throughout the different subwatersheds.

DOC concentrations measured by the LPP are shown in Table 2. Sample Locations are shown in Figure 5.

Table 2 – Dissolved organic carbon concentrations measured by the LPP.

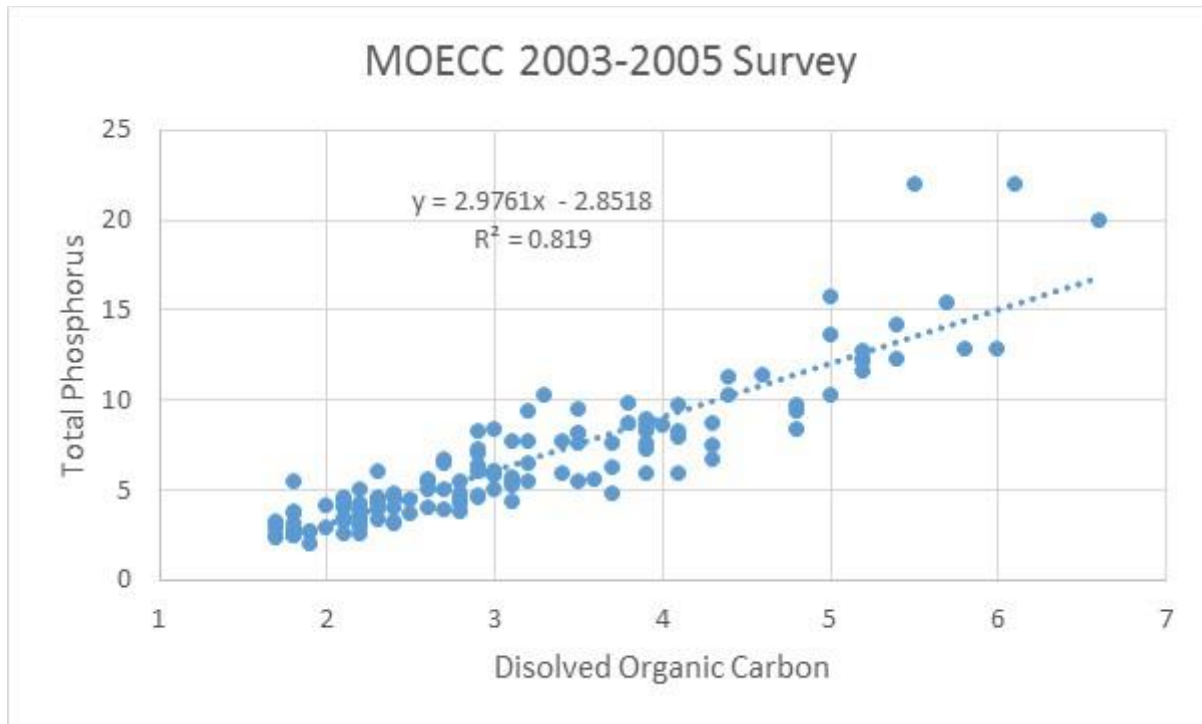
LDESC	LP_STN	SITE	DATE	DOC (mg/L)
MANITOUWABING LAKE-18	2973	18	5/18/2018	4.2
MANITOUWABING LAKE-19	2973	19	5/24/2018	4.1
MANITOUWABING-9	2973	9	5/24/2018	4.9
MANITOUWABING-13	2973	13	5/24/2018	6.0
MANITOUWABING LAKE-8	2973	8	5/20/2018	4.4

Figure 5. DOC concentrations (mg/L) throughout Manitouwabing Lake shown in yellow.



In Figure 6 we can see the relationship between DOC and TP measured by The Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (MOECP) at numerous locations in the nearshore areas of Georgian Bay. The close relationship shows that most of the phosphorus in these areas is associated with DOC. In other words, the phosphorus has its origins in wetlands throughout the watershed.

Figure 6 – The relationship between DOC and phosphorus in nearshore areas of Georgian Bay.



If we consider that Manitouwabing Lake's mean DOC concentration is 4.7 mg/L this corresponds to 11.1 µg/L total phosphorus on the graph in Figure 6. This indicates that most of the 11.5 µg/L TP in Manitouwabing Lake has its origins as DOC in watershed's wetland complexes.

Algal Blooms

Algal blooms can occur for several reasons. Most often they are caused by elevated phosphorus concentrations. Blooms are rare below 10µg/L and become more likely as concentrations approach 20 µg/L. The Provincial Water Quality Objectives recommend maintaining concentrations below 20 µg/L to avoid nuisance algal blooms. Blooms can also be exacerbated by aspects of climate change such that they may now occur in areas where they have previously been absent. Finally, a species of algae called *Gloeotrichia* can bloom in low phosphorus lakes because it derives its nutrients from the sediments rather than from the water.

Manitouwabing Lake is not expected to support algal blooms. It is important to note that if you see a cloudy ball of filamentous algae near the bottom of the lake in a nearshore area – this is not an algal bloom. In addition, sometimes when algae die in the main lake they can be blown by the wind and concentrated into nearshore areas and these occurrences are usually not indicative of algal blooms. Algal blooms are usually indicated by large quantities of bright green cells in the water that cover extensive areas (see photo below).

If you think that an algal bloom is occurring the correct response is to call the MOECP Spills Action Centre.

Spill Reporting 1-800-268-6060

They will then investigate the bloom and call the Ministry of Health if a bloom is confirmed. They will also sample the bloom to confirm the species and will test for the presence of toxins. There is no reason to test for toxins without first following the steps indicated above.



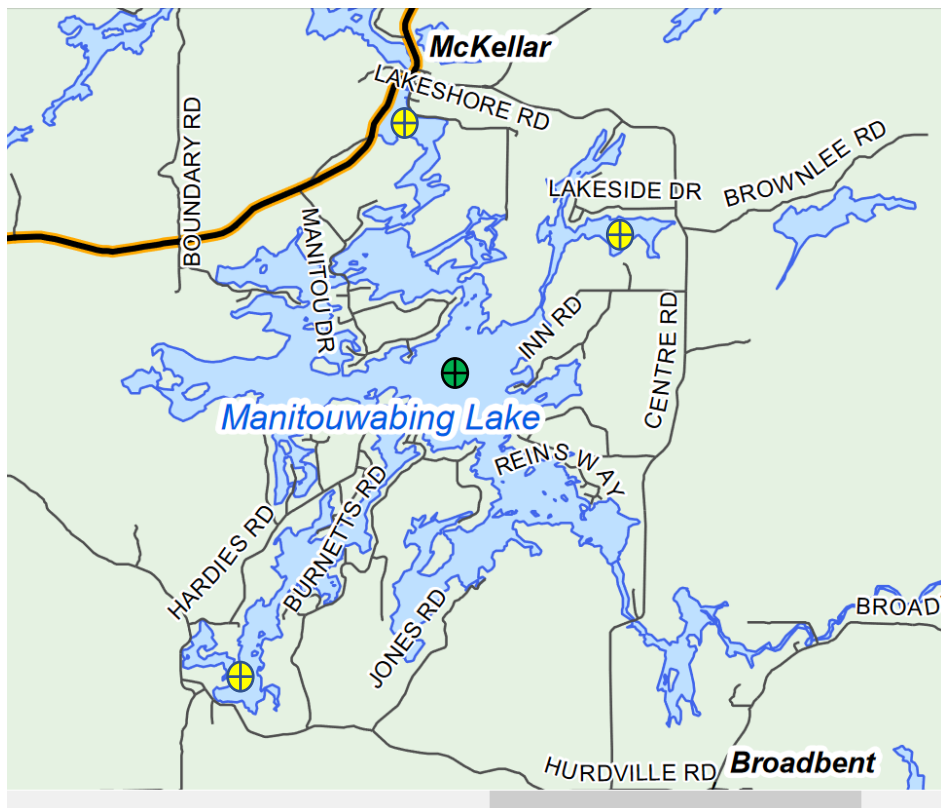
A severe blue green algal bloom.

Dissolved Oxygen

In areas where the bottom waters have their oxygen concentrations reduced to below 1mg/L (this is called anoxia) in late summer there can be phosphorus released from the sediments into the bottom waters. In some cases, this phosphorus can be available to support algal blooms in the mixed, warmer surface water. For this reason, there is merit to measuring dissolved oxygen profiles in the lake for those areas that are deep enough to stratify (the process where warm surface water cannot mix with cold bottom water). In most cases the water needs to be about 7-8 m deep or deeper before this can occur. Shallower areas mix completely to the bottom. In stratified areas, the cold bottom water cannot have its oxygen replenished from the surface such that when oxygen is consumed by bacteria the loss of oxygen cannot be reversed until the lake turns over again in the fall. Under these circumstances there may be phosphorus that enters the cold bottom water from the sediments. If this phosphorus ends up being entrained into the warmer surface water in sufficient quantities, it can help to support algal blooms under the right conditions.

Areas in Manitouwabing where this may occur are shown in yellow on the map below and these areas could be assessed with oxygen/temperature profiles on or 14 days either side of Sept 01. Any additional areas that may stratify could be confirmed in the initial years of monitoring.

Map showing the deepest location (green) and isolated bays that are likely to stratify in yellow (from MLCA).



Bacteria

Volunteers have been collecting bacteria data in many areas throughout Manitouwabing Lake for several years. The data available on the MLCA website has been summarized in Table 3.

Bacteria data are difficult to interpret. There are conclusions that can be drawn by examination of the data in Table 3, but there are also many aspects of bacteria in lake water that cannot be deduced from these data. Generally, these data show that about 5% of the samples are over 100 counts which is the guideline for recreational use. This indicates that the water is swimmable in most areas 95 % of the time. These results are normal for areas where there are no sewage treatment plants or large stormwater discharges.

What these data cannot tell us is:

1. how long the counts were over 100 in a given area,
2. the area or extent to which the >100 count result applies, and most importantly,
3. the source of the bacteria (human or otherwise).

Table 3. Number of samples taken at each site with the number of samples over 100 counts.

Sector		Site												Sum	%>100
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
McKellar/grey Owl	# samples	11	8	15	11	9	11	8	8	11	10	1	1	104	
	# 100 or >	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	7
McKellar	# samples	36	43	30	42	30	4	2	3		12	1	1	204	
	# 100 or >	2	1	0	4	0	4	0	0		3	0	0	14	7
Middle River	# samples	20	35	31	32	33	20	7	4	4	4	0	0	190	
	# 100 or >	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			4	2
Maplewood	# samples	40	28	28	26	23	30	25	31	4	1	0	4	240	
	# 100 or >	5	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0		1	11	5
Tait's Is	# samples	26	30	20	8	3	0	1	21	26	22	25	28	210	
	# 100 or >	2	2	0	1	0		0	0	1	0	0	1	7	3
Manitou Camp	# samples	29	19	23	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	72	
	# 100 or >	3	0	0					0					3	4
Lona	# samples	28	31	22	26	24	30	42	1	3	0	1	2	210	
	# 100 or >	1	0	1	0	2	1	9	0	0		0	0	14	7
Smith Pine	# samples	22	45	23	27	22	35	28	37	11	12	1	4	267	
	# 100 or >	1	5	0	0	0	4	0	3	1	2	0	0	16	6
Bailey	# samples	33	37	47	31	5	3	5	1	4	2	0	0	168	
	# 100 or >	0	2	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0			8	5
Average 5% are 100 or greater															

Invasive Species

The presence of invasive species is not technically a water quality issue but certain invasive species can cause changes in water quality. Mussels, for example, can cause water clarity to increase. In almost every case the invading species will cause changes to the ecosystem's integrity. It is therefore important to avoid the spread of invasive species where possible.

A complete review of the invasive species present or the potential for invasion by numerous species is not possible within the scope of this review. There are, however, many useful resources that can be used to identify invasive species and cautions that can be applied to limit unwanted invasions.

It is important to remember that some invasions of terrestrial vegetation can also have impacts on aquatic ecosystems.

Further Information:

<https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/>

<http://www.invadingspecies.com/>

<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/invasive-plants/species/>

https://www.ontario.ca/page/stop-spread-invasive-species?_escaped_fragment_=/

Recommendations

1. Several central locations (LPP Site #11, 1 and 3) and possibly one new location near the outflow be monitored by LPP volunteers with an effort to maintain a long-term monitoring record. Some of these sites may or may not be currently sampled (see Table 1). Long-term monitoring records are important to assess the effect of external drivers on the nutrient status of the lake.

2. The efforts used to collect bacteria data could be directed at other issues such as:

- education towards aspects of nearshore (shoreline) management.
- useful inventories such as areas where aquatic plants grow to assess whether the extent of plant beds are changing.
- long-term records of water levels and/or temperature.

3. Late summer monitoring of dissolved oxygen in the deepest location and in isolated bays where the depths are greater than 7-8m may provide additional information to address the potential for algal blooms. After areas are identified as having the oxygen depleted at the bottom (with measured oxygen profiles) in year 1, there can be samples taken 1 meter from the bottom in subsequent years to assess whether or not there are elevated phosphorus concentrations in the bottom water.

4. All efforts should be made to ensure that invasive species do not enter the watershed. There are many organizations that provide guidance on invading species, e.g. The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations. <https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/>



Killian

Appendix

Site	Description	Lat	Long	Date	TP1	TP2	Mean (ug/L)	Site Mean
1	Great Bay	452845	795344	20-May-02	12.7	13.5	13.1	11.6
1	Great Bay	452845	795344	31-May-03	10.2	10.1	10.1	
3	Longhorn & James Bay	452748	795302	20-May-02	24.3	36.6		13
3	Longhorn & James Bay	452748	795302	31-May-03	12.4	13.5	13.0	
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	20-May-02	51.1	44.8		11.2
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	20-May-06	14.0	12.9	13.4	
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	08-Jun-07	11.5	11.7	11.6	
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	22-Jun-08	10.1	10.3	10.2	
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	24-May-09	9.5	9.6	9.6	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	02-Jun-02	18.7	13.3	16.0	11.7
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	15-Jun-03	11.4	12.1	11.8	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	23-May-04	9.2	11.2	10.2	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	23-May-05	10.5	10.9	10.7	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	24-Jun-06	7.1	7.0	7.1	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	22-Jun-08	24.2	21.5	22.8	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	18-May-09	9.4	8.3	8.8	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	22-May-11	11.0	11.2	11.1	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	20-May-12	7.8	8.2	8.0	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	19-May-13	10.0	10.2	10.1	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	19-May-14	13.8	15.2	14.5	
6	L Tait's Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	17-May-15	9.4	9.4	9.4	
7	N / W Tait's Island	452901	795538	20-May-06	10.2	12.3	11.2	11.3
7	N / W Tait's Island	452901	795538	08-Jun-07	9.2	9.3	9.3	
7	N / W Tait's Island	452901	795538	22-Jun-08	12.6	14.3	13.5	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	05-May-02	9.7	10.6	10.2	11.3
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	04-May-03	13.2	13.4	13.3	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	08-May-04	12.2	11.6	11.9	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	07-May-05	16.5	11.6	14.1	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	14-May-06	10.0	10.4	10.2	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	21-May-07	10.5	9.3	9.9	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	11-May-08	13.0	12.4	12.7	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	05-May-09	11.6	10.8	11.2	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	27-May-10	9.6	10.4	10.0	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	24-Apr-11	14.0	12.8	13.4	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	22-May-12	7.8	7.6	7.7	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	01-Jun-13	13.2	16.4	14.8	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	18-May-14	11.6	11.4	11.5	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	05-Jun-15	9.2	9.6	9.4	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	19-May-16	9.2	8.8	9.0	
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	23-May-17	13.8	10.2	12.0	
9	E of Longhorn,Hardie's Cr	452822	795244	24-May-05	15.0	14.5	14.7	13.8
9	E of Longhorn,Hardie's Cr	452822	795244	08-Jun-07	14.2	12.8	13.5	
9	E of Longhorn,Hardie's Cr	452822	795244	23-May-08	16.9	15.2	16.1	
9	E of Longhorn,Hardie's Cr	452822	795244	23-May-16	12.6	12.2	12.4	
9	E of Longhorn,Hardie's Cr	452822	795244	23-May-17	13.0	11.6	12.3	
11	N Tait's Is.	452917	795443	24-Jun-06	9.2	8.5	8.8	11.2
11	N Tait's Is.	452917	795443	31-May-12	13.4	12.2	12.8	
11	N Tait's Is.	452917	795443	26-May-13	13.2	11.0	12.1	
12	Manitouwabing(golf cs.)Bay	452856	795253	04-Jun-06	9.1	9.7	9.4	9.8
12	Manitouwabing(golf cs.)Bay	452856	795253	08-Jun-07	11.0	10.3	10.6	
12	Manitouwabing(golf cs.)Bay	452856	795253	23-May-09	9.2	9.8	9.5	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	21-May-06	13.4	12.5	13.0	11.6
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	08-Jun-07	13.1	12.2	12.6	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	23-May-08	13.3	12.1	12.7	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	24-May-09	12.7	11.7	12.2	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	24-May-11	13.0	14.8	13.9	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	26-May-12	11.2	11.0	11.1	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	23-Jun-13	12.0	12.0	12.0	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	24-May-14	9.4	9.8	9.6	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	19-May-15	11.0	9.4	10.2	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	23-May-16	8.8	8.8	8.8	
13	Jones Bay	452713	795326	23-May-17	11.8	11.2	11.5	
18	McKellar Bay	453008	795455	24-May-16	10.4	10.6	10.5	12.6
18	McKellar Bay	453008	795455	23-May-17	14.0	15.2	14.6	
19	McKellar, near dock	453019	795512	24-May-16	11.2	10.8	11.0	11.2
19	McKellar, near dock	453019	795512	23-May-17	11.4	11.2	11.3	
20	South of Fire RTE 150 Basin	452901	795538	23-May-16	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.7
21	Moffat Basin, Deep spot	452932	795504	23-May-16	12.6	12.8	12.7	12.7
22	Basin South of Lakeside Dr.	452959	795249	24-May-16	9.2	10.0	9.6	11.2
22	Basin South of Lakeside Dr.	452959	795249	23-May-17	12.6	12.8	12.7	
				Average				11.5

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Investigations of Water Quality McKellar Township 2024

Water sampling in McKellar Township is a partnership between the MLCA and the Township of McKellar. MLCA provides the equipment and the volunteers for sampling and coordination, and the Township funds the sampling analyses. This excellent partnership has endured for many years.

Sampling for E. coli has continued for the 24th year in many parts of the lakes of McKellar Township. We have a good team of water samplers. Samplers pick up their sampling bottles, check their sampling assignments by email, sample within the time allowed, keep the samples cold from the time they leave the lake, label them, and deliver them to the sampling coordinator. I'd like to thank all the samplers – both those who have been sampling for years and those who joined us this year.

Sampling for monitoring E coli is done three times in the summer – the end of June, the end of July and the end of August. Results are displayed on the MLCA and the Township web sites. Generally, the results are good. The provincial guidelines indicate that surface water is safe for recreation at a level of less than 200 CFU/100 ml. Anything over that, we call a “hot spot” and try to resample before the next regular sampling dates. This year, torrential rain over much of the sampling period in June resulted in the need to add another sampling period a couple of days later. The E coli results were high in many areas (>500 in 5 sites). Heavy rains cause a lot of sediment to be washed into the lake with resulting high levels of E coli. Re-sampling in a few spots a week later found considerably lower results, likely as a result of ultraviolet radiation on sunny days in the intervening period. It is speculated that climate change may cause occasional periods of very heavy rain. Results in July and August showed very few spots over 200 CFU/100 ml. Those who swim and boat in the lakes of McKellar Township need to take precautions to keep themselves safe from illness after heavy rains, both when they are swimming and when they are using the water in their households. Water taken out of the lake for household use needs to be treated before using it for dishes, washing vegetables or drinking. Samples of treated drinking water should be taken into Public Health periodically for analysis. It was disturbing that MLCA received a phone call from one member who did not know that water being piped into his household needs to be treated before use.

Oxygen levels were approaching zero deep in the lakes in many areas at the end of July and mainly remained so for September. As the unmixed bottom layer of water loses oxygen throughout the summer, it triggers the release of phosphorus from the lake sediment at the bottom into the water column. A higher level of phosphorus is associated with a tendency to blooms of blue green algae, as phosphorus is the limiting factor in the growth of blue green algae. So MLCA volunteers who are taking samples for E. coli analysis at the end of August are asked to watch for blooms of blue green algae which can result from higher phosphorus levels.

Sampling for phosphorus and calcium was first carried out by MLCA in the fall of 2022 and has continued in the summers of 2023 and 2024. The sites chosen for the sampling were mainly

those used in the Lake Capacity Study of 2021 carried out by Dr. Carl Mitchell and his associates. These sites are based on watersheds and flow patterns within Manitouwabing Lake. Five other major lakes in McKellar Township were included in sampling for phosphorus and calcium in 2023 and 2024 – namely Moffat, Grey Owl, Mary Jane, McKellar and Armstrong Lakes. We use a YSI Pro Quattro for measuring lake parameters such as oxygen, barometric pressure, salinity, pH and other indices that are used by limnologists to assess lake water quality. The lake parameter measurements are taken at various depths. The Secchi depth is the first thing measured when going out to collect phosphorus or calcium samples. The Lake Partner Program designed their sampling to be done at secchi depth so phosphorus and calcium samples are taken at this level by MLCA as well. This sampling takes two, and I would like to thank my husband, David, for all his help. The collection of samples is done with a Niskin deep water sampler. As in the 2021 Lake Capacity Study, deep water samples are also taken for phosphorus in a few areas. Samples are filtered in the boat as they are collected, to remove any debris that could contaminate the results. It is important to try to get back to the same spot for successive samples to try to control one of the factors that might cause variation, and we do this using GPS coordinates.

The lake stratifies according to temperature in the summer: the colder, denser water stays on the bottom with very little mixing. There is drop in the percentage of dissolved oxygen that occurs during this stratification of the water column. In the lower, colder, layer, poor water quality may develop with high organic decomposition and low dissolved oxygen levels. Decomposition uses oxygen in the water, so this is a good reason **not** to put your leaves in the lake, because they will use oxygen and make it less available for plants and animals. As on land, plants in the water produce oxygen, so it is important to leave vegetation growing in the water undisturbed, as much as possible.

Phosphorus levels in McKellar Township at the end of May varied from a low of 7 in Mary Jane Lake, to a high of 34 deep in the South Tait area of Manitouwabing Lake. In July, the lake stratification and resulting low oxygen levels at the bottom of the lake, likely led to higher phosphorus levels in McKellar Bay and the Hurdville Arm (59 and 84 respectively). Robinson Bay had an elevated phosphorus level of 105 at secchi level in mid-July but had returned to a more normal level (9) in the last half of September (28th). Elevated phosphorus levels were found deep in South Tait (161) and McKellar Bay (206) in September, but this is to be expected as the low oxygen levels (2% and 0%, respectively) would have driven phosphorus out of the sediment. Phosphorus levels in September at Secchi levels ranged from <2 to 22.

It was apparent that stratification of the water column had taken place when the sampling was done in the last two weeks of May. Ice out was April 2, so we are considering moving the sampling date to an earlier time in order to sample the lake soon after the spring mixing, as is ideal. Average surface temperatures were 19.9°C in May, 25.6°C in July and 21.8°C in September over all 18 sites.

One concern that many residents near freshwater lakes have is an increase in saline as a result of road and driveway salt distribution in the winter. Fortunately, our salinity measurements are in the expected range for lakes in our regions. However, like many environmental groups in the province, we plan to provide education to McKellar residents on this topic.

The Georgian Bay Biosphere is paid by the Township and the MLCA to sample the benthic layer in Manitouwabing lake. Benthic Analysis is literally examining the “Bugs in the Mud” – this can indicate how healthy the lake is – counting which species are present and in what quantity. This type of analysis is used in all seven continents to monitor water quality. Reports on this are available on the MLCA and Township web sites.

The report from the GBB on benthic analysis reports the following (pg 28) : “As detailed in the 2018 Muskoka Watershed Report Card Background Report, the Muskoka Watershed Council (MWC) reports on lake benthic communities in terms of the percentage of pollution-sensitive taxa found. Specifically, the pollution-sensitive taxa include larval mayflies (Ephemeroptera), dragonflies and damselflies (Odonata), and caddisflies (Trichoptera), collectively referred to as EOT. These taxa are very sensitive to pollution and habitat alterations, meaning that their numbers will be highest in healthy lakes and lowest in unhealthy or disturbed lakes. The average %EOT for a lake is compared to the normal range for %EOT in lakes in the region.” In 2024 the %EOT for the Manitouwabing Lake fell within the normal range of what would be expected for a lake in the region.

Loons are at the top of the food chain in a lake, so their presence is the sign of a healthy lake. Many thanks to Patty Duffey, who conducted a count by Township residents of the loons present on McKellar Township lakes again this summer and who reports our numbers to Birds Canada. There is special interest in the number of chicks that survive throughout the summer.

Respectively submitted,

Jennifer Ghent-Fuller,

MLCA Lake Steward

November 26, 2024

Parameter	Relevance to biodiversity ¹
pH	pH is a measure of the concentration of hydrogen ions in the water. Acidic water below pH 6.5 and basic water above 8.5 can cause problems for aquatic life (MOEE 1994). pH levels can be affected by industrial effluents and runoff or atmospheric deposition (acid rain).
Calcium	Calcium is a mineral that organisms require to survive. Low levels of calcium (< 1.5 mg/L) can cause problems for small planktonic crustaceans and affect the food chain. There is recent evidence of widespread calcium declines in many lakes including in Ontario (Jeziorski 2008, OMOE 2013). Calcium rich lakes (> 20 mg/L) with high pH (> 7.4) are most vulnerable to invasion by Zebra Mussel (Neary and Leach 1992).
Total Phosphorus	Phosphorus is an important nutrient in lakes. However, too much phosphorus can lead to blue-green algal blooms and excessive plant growth that reduces oxygen levels in lakes. These impacts are generally avoided when total phosphorus levels are below 20 µg/L (MOEE 1994).

¹ some lakes may naturally have water quality values that are beyond the threshold levels that can have impacts on biodiversity (e.g., low pH, high phosphorus).

https://sobr.ca/biosite/wp-content/uploads/Indicator-Water-Quality-in-Inland-Lakes_May-19-2015.pdf

Citation

Ontario Biodiversity Council. 2015. State of Ontario's Biodiversity [web application]. Ontario Biodiversity Council, Peterborough, Ontario. [Available at: <http://ontariobiodiversitycouncil.ca/sobr> (Date Accessed: May 19, 2015)].

Notes on the Resilience to Climate Change Conference attended in October 2024 in Bracebridge

The main message in this resilience to Climate Change Conference was that we can mitigate the negative changes and challenges that are and will be happening by applying and acting on the knowledge we have of our watersheds and our precious environment. Climate change is here and, in itself, accelerates more climate change. Perhaps the most impactful statements in the conference were that our area will become warmer but will still be livable and that there will be climate refugees from areas of the world that are no longer livable coming to live in Canada. I would urge Council to plan for a possible influx of people in a few decades by identifying lands where a sewage treatment plant could be built for the village, where a water tower could be placed and where housing could be built that least disturbs the agricultural industry, the forests and the waterways of McKellar Township. Below are my notes from the talks I heard at the conference and which I have shared with the members of the Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee and the executive of the MLCA.

Jennifer Ghent-Fuller

November 27 2024

1. RESILIENCE – Muskoka Summit on the Environment OCT 4 2024

Introduction to the Conference from the Agenda

“Welcome to Resilience! We begin with the belief that we all want the wonderful environment we enjoy in Muskoka to continue into the future. Today is a journey of discovery that will help us understand what our watershed is, how it responds to the stresses it faces, how those stresses are worsening, and what we can do to care for it, keeping our environment wonderful into the future.

Our watershed is not just a place with water running through. Our watershed is a complex, multi-dimensional, living, socio-ecological system that includes us and our economy. It is impacted by multiple stresses that grow stronger daily. Think about that!

Resilience is the capacity of anything to retain or recover its structure and behaviour despite external stresses that act upon it. Ecologically, resilience is the capacity of an ecosystem (a socio-ecological system) to resist stresses that would otherwise alter its state and functions and/or to recover following release of that stress.

Environmental management is the purposeful actions taken by a society to help sustain and enhance resilience of the socio-ecological system of which that society is a part. Actions that help the system adapt to or mitigate impacts of stressors and actions that repair past mistakes. In a rapidly changing world, environmental management policies and actions currently used in Muskoka are no longer adequate to sustain resilience, let alone enhance it. How do we build a better Muskoka?

Our speakers will offer you different glimpses of the problems and possibilities. They will offer different perspectives; you may change your own perspective by the end of the day. An our youth representatives will give perhaps the most important perspective since they are the ones who will be here as our future unfolds.”

2. Notes on WHAT’S UP WITH THE WATER? – Dr. Shaun Watmough, Trent University

(swatmough@trentu.ca) <https://www.trentu.ca/wqc/dr-shaun-watmough>

https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C5&q=shaun+watmough&oq=shaun+watmough

Six main points

1. What we do on land impacts the water
2. Water quality varies naturally because of land use characteristics
3. Changes in human activity
4. Climate change can affect water quality
5. Recovery in water quality of possible
6. Help is needed to improve water quality in some cases

What we do on land impacts the water

- Even in massive lakes, such as Lake Ontario, we can affect water quality
- The amount of nitrogen in Lake Ontario has doubled in the last 20 years
- The relative amount of nitrogen and phosphorus affects algal blooms

Changes in Human Activity

- Land use in Southern Ontario is changing
- Row crops are increasing (soy, corn) in 90 % of the catchment area
- Because fields are wet in the spring, farmers can plant earlier if they install tile drainage
- The water coming out of the tile beds is high in nitrogen
- Corn needs soil that is high in nitrogen
- Typically nitrogen is held in the soil by microbes, but not with tiles; this is pushing more nitrate into the lakes
- More row crops / tile drainage = more nitrate (but not Total Phosphorus)
- Dissolved phosphorus does increase
- We have doubled the concentration of nitrogen in Lake Ontario
- Muskoka – most lakes are oligotrophic
- Concentration of nutrients differ between lakes
- Temporal change
- Nitrogen and Phosphorus are nutrients needed for life
- Now there are diffuse sources from the landscape – the problem has moved away from point sources, such as phosphorus in soaps, etc
- Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC) – basic nutrient –
- Supports growth of microorganisms, blocks heat, binds to contaminants
- Wetlands determine DOC, N, P
- Lot of wetlands increase in DOC
- Decrease in nitrogen (anoxic de-nitrification occurs in wetlands) – install wetlands that slow the water down
- Phosphorus – when you have high DOC, also have high P
- Wetlands have no effect on Calcium (Ca) or Magnesium (Mg)
- Calcium comes from rocks and soils – deep weathering – less acidic
- Calcium levels – low (0 – 1.04), medium (1.05-2.04), higher 2.05-3.04, greater than 3.05
- Algonquin Park has thin, shallow soils
- Why is human activity changing
- Most Phosphorus reduction happened in the 70's
- After the 1980's more timber harvesting, which leaves behind debris
- Sometimes this leaf and branch debris is in streams – this blocks the water; leaves get caught between patches of debris, altering the drainage

- Whether due to human or beaver activity, blocked drainage leaves behind fields of dead standing trees
- The phosphorus in the soil is not needed to nourish the trees because they are dead
- Nutrients are released from decomposing plant tissues, which adds phosphorus and nitrogen into the system
- Changes in the wetlands changes the Phosphorus in water
- Calcium has been going down across Muskoka since the early 1980's
- It has gone down 40%
- Organisms that need calcium disappear (crayfish, clams etc)
- Acid rain leaches calcium from the soil – less calcium going into the lakes
- Harvesting trees decreases the calcium
- The more harvesting of trees occurs, the more the calcium decreases

Climate Change can affect water quality

- when drought occurs, streams dry up, wetlands, too
- during warmer, dryer summers stream flow decreases to zero, there are a number of days with no stream flow
- especially a problem with shallow soils
- drought events can cause acidification in wetlands
- protons associated with sulphate exchange with metal cations adsorbed to peat, releasing metal ions to drainage water
- following drought events, there is an increase in sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4) and an associated acid pulse with high aluminum and other metals
- acid pulses counteract the decrease in emissions

Recovery is possible

- changes brought about in Sudbury are a good example
- in the 1950's and 1960's, there were no trees in Sudbury, just bare rock, because of the sulphur emissions from metal mining – the astronauts trained there because of the similarity to the moonscape
- there has been a reduction in sulphur emissions and a re-greening
- sulphate levels are going down in the lakes near Sudbury
- DOC is going up
- With the increase in pH, there are more fish species [0-7 pH is acidic, 7 is neutral; 7.1 – 14 is basic]
- DOC is increasing in the lakes around Sudbury
- Browner lakes in a wetter climate, - change in median DOC under 10 % more rainfall conditions

- Main reason DOC is changing – when change pH (to make it less acidic) – solubility of DOC increases – as lakes improve, they get browner
- Not much recovery for 20 years in Sudbury
- Sudden increase in base cation
- As lakes improve, they get browner
- Aggregate mining increases may be contributing to recent changes in precipitation
- Wood ash is rich in nutrients that our soils need – high pH, high calcium
- Soil pH goes up by 2 pH units when treated with wood ash
- [low pH = more acidic, high pH = more basic]
- If you increase pH at the surface – after 3 years it's not fully down to a 60 cm depth
- Possible to spread wood ash at a catchment scale – can it increase the calcium in the lakes
- to treat the soil adding wood ash to the soil in the forest helps the soil recover from acid rain
- 1 yogurt container of **COLD** (remember embers can smoulder for weeks) wood ash to 1 square yard] as long as the trees at that site are growing and dropping the leaves and the leaves are allowed to remain in situ, the calcium will return from the decomposing leaves into the soil
- Questions:

What is the impact of built dams?

- When a dam is built, there are massive changes – there is methylation in the flooded areas – mercury and other toxins in the soil are dissolved; more methane is produced
- Controlled burning: when we prevent forest fires, the fuel for fire builds up on the ground in the form of dead branches, dead trees, which lead to bigger fires when sparked by lightning. Indigenous communities practiced controlled burning to allow the forests to renew themselves. Certain species of trees require fire to establish themselves. Fire preserves biodiversity.
- Increased use of road salt / dust suppressant (calcium chloride) increases chloride in the water. Originally blamed beavers, but humans are altering hydrology.
- Southern Ontario dust is affecting lakes up north. When bitumen is mined, underneath it is dolomite; pH in Fort McMurray is 7.6 [too basic]
- Trucks carrying aggregate (gravel) give off dust
- Speaker would like to do a snow survey to measure the dust
- There is a large aggregate industry in Simcoe county
- Young students are worried about the future of climate – climate change is not academic anymore – it's a real-life situation
- There is a lot of angst in students for many reasons

- Wolastinite – reaction in soil takes in carbon; need to increase the carbon sinks – expensive
- Fracking has increased to increase the production of natural gas – for example in Pennsylvania – not straightforward because that industry prevents impoverishment in that area
- Most often, politicians plan for the period of time until the next election – have to look further down the road than 5 years
- Are contaminants coming in (dust) or just cycled (pollen)
- We need to understand the systems in order to protect them – we don't know everything about lake health yet
- We are learning all the time – monitoring lake health parameters is very important

3. Getting Ahead of Weather Gone Wild

Dr Blair Feltmate Univ of Waterloo

Dr. Feltmate is the Head of the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation, University of Waterloo. Previous positions he has held include Vice President, Sustainable Development, Bank of Montreal; Director, Sustainable Development, Ontario Power Generation; Partner, Sustainable Investment Group/YMG Capital Management. He has written textbooks on **Sustainable Banking** and **Aquatic Ecology**.

Dr. Feltmate is on the Advisory Table, National Adaptation Strategy, Canada. He is Sustainable Finance Council member, Global Risk Institute, and he is a member of Climate Proof Canada (Insurance Bureau of Canada). Dr. Feltmate is Expert Member, International ISO Strategic Advisory Group, ESG, and he is on the Science, Innovation and Policy Board of Canada's Forest Trust. He is on the Climate Advisory Board, Minister of Environment (Ontario). Blair was Chair, Federal Government of Canada Expert Panel on Climate Adaptation.

Dr. Feltmate was a NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow (University of Waterloo). He holds a Ph.D. in Theoretical and Applied Ecology (University of Toronto), Master's in Sustainable Development (Wilfrid Laurier University), Master's in Zoology (University of Toronto), and Hon. Bachelor's Biology (University of Toronto). He is generally interviewed by the media 100 times per year on climate change/ESG related issues. Email: bfeltmate@uwaterloo.ca Phone: 226-339-3506

Flooding and Wildfire are the two most common causes of damages to homes

Basement flooding is the most costly to insurance providers; high heat causes the most deaths.

1. Climate change is irreversible.
2. Costs are bending up – things are getting worse faster
3. Preparing Muskoka for extreme weather a) flooding b) wildfire

Severe weather will get more severe – this is an “evolving risk” not a “new normal”

Canada’s Changing Climate Report 2019 (new will be out in 2025)

We need to do everything we can to slow down the rate of climate change

When we burn coal, oil and natural gas, CO₂ is released, which traps heat and energy that would otherwise escape into space

1995 – Conference of the Parties (COP) - then used 70 million barrels of oil a day

In 2028, we will be using 106 million barrels of oil a day. The world’s population increases by 8,000 people per hour.

Climate change is also driving climate change, independent of burning fossil fuels. When snow and ice melts, it no longer reflects sunlight, and there is consequently more warming.

Costs are continually rising, in terms of insurance paid out. 60 % of costs are because of too much water in the wrong place. Costs are going up curvilinearly (rate of increase is going up). 10% of homes are uninsurable for basement flooding. The insurance cap is lowering.

INTACT Centre does research on avoiding damages

For every dollar that is invested in adaptation to climate change, there are \$3 - \$8 in avoided losses per decade. In areas where there was flooding, even if your home wasn’t flooded, the prices went down (reduction in sold price, decrease in listings, longer on the market, mortgage impact (loan to value ratio)

The average cost of basement flooding is \$50,000

Intact Center does research – After the Flood – quantified the stress by going door to door in flooded and non-flooded areas – Now correlating medication use, amount of counselling needed, lost work time; not just property insurers. All industry sectors are being hit – the risk is in the system.

We have lost 50% of natural infrastructure – there is a decrease in the percentage of undeveloped land. Land is paved or turned into agricultural use, causing faster run-off and more flooding.

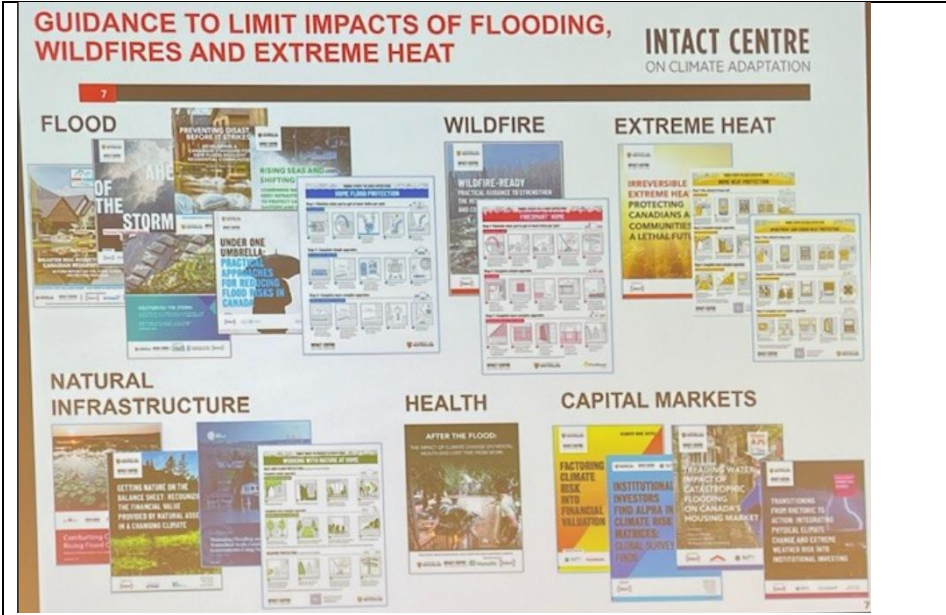
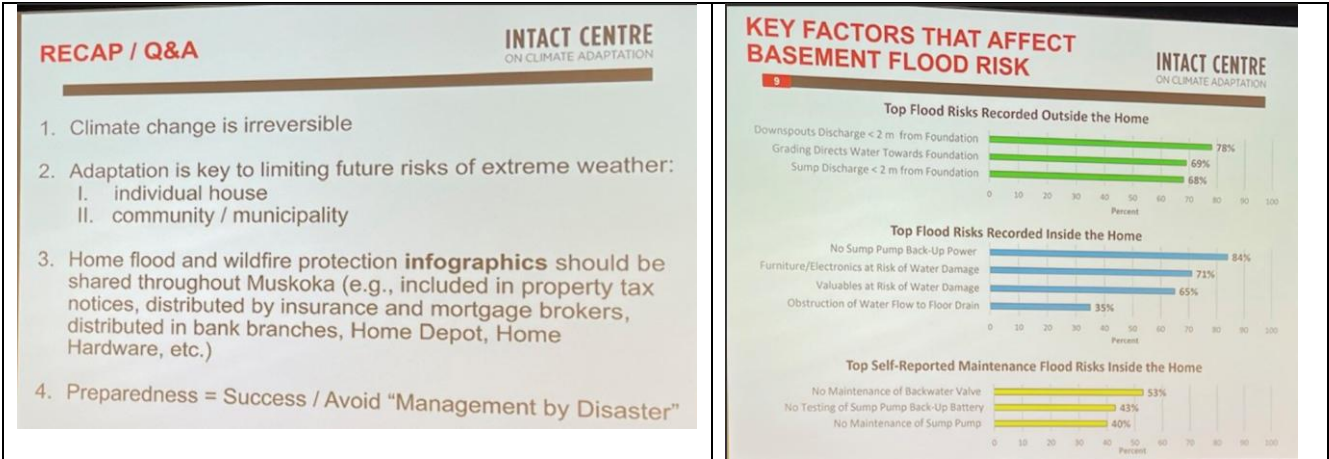
When pension funds are investing now, they are asking if the company has investing in climate change risk – what are the companies they are considering investing in doing to mitigate the risk? If investors are asking about climate change mitigation, it becomes important.

Credit rating of municipalities increases if they are taking action to prevent damage from climate change.

Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation

INTACT summarized the practical measures to mitigate damage. People don't read long reports. Summarize 70 pages into a two page infographic – they get read. Practical measures are suggested, like having a battery back up for your sump pump, have a FireSmart home. Best way to solve the problem is to avoid it. Can you use cement fiber or metal shingles on your roof to increase the equity. Build your porch from resin material that won't burn. In some areas (eg parts of California that have had lots of wildfires) fire insurance is no longer available. Can't get a mortgage without fire insurance – home becomes a stranded asset.

Climate Change puts extreme weather on steroids. Canada will become a desired destination for eco-refugees. The most important thing to do is educate women – always decreases the birth rate and leads to more stability.



4. A Youth Perspective on Environmental Resilience in the Muskoka River Ecosystem

- Speaker was Alice Drawehn, who started Grade 10 last month
- Bringing in a youth voice gives optimism to youth
- More people want to look at the lake as purely recreational
- Need resilience
- People are important to the environment
- People have the ability to destroy and construct and love
- No-one will care about what they don't know
- Young people don't have a deep connection to nature
- Speaker has been taught by her parents and grandparents and attendance at canoeing camps to love nature – she sees herself as being unusual amongst her peers
- Resilience is being connected to Mother Earth
- How it affects us and how it connects to you
- Youth need to be at the table

5. Notes on An Indigenous Ontology of Water (talk at Resilience, Muskoka Summit on the Environment 2024, Oct 4)

Dr Deborah McGregor, U of T Indigenous Canadian Canada – US International Commission of Boundary Waters

- [Professor Deborah McGregor joined York University's Osgoode Hall law faculty in 2015 as a cross-appointee with the Faculty of Environmental Studies & Urban Change. Professor McGregor's research has focused on Indigenous knowledge systems and their various applications in diverse contexts including water and environmental governance, environmental justice, forest policy and management, and sustainable development. Her research has been published in a variety of national and international journals and she has delivered numerous public and academic presentations relating to Indigenous knowledge systems, governance and sustainability. She co-edited *Indigenous Peoples and Autonomy: Insights for a Global Age* with Mario Blaser, Ravi De Costa and William Coleman (2010). She is co-editor (with Alan Corbiere, Mary Ann Corbiere and Crystal Migwans) of the *Anishinaabewin* conference proceedings series <https://www.osgoode.yorku.ca/faculty-and-staff/mcgregor-deborah/>
- https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C5&q=deborah+mcgregor&oq=deborah+Mc]
- Terms Water governance/ management – works in the knowledge economy
- Indigenous knowledge is learned from elders – bringing this knowledge into other spaces

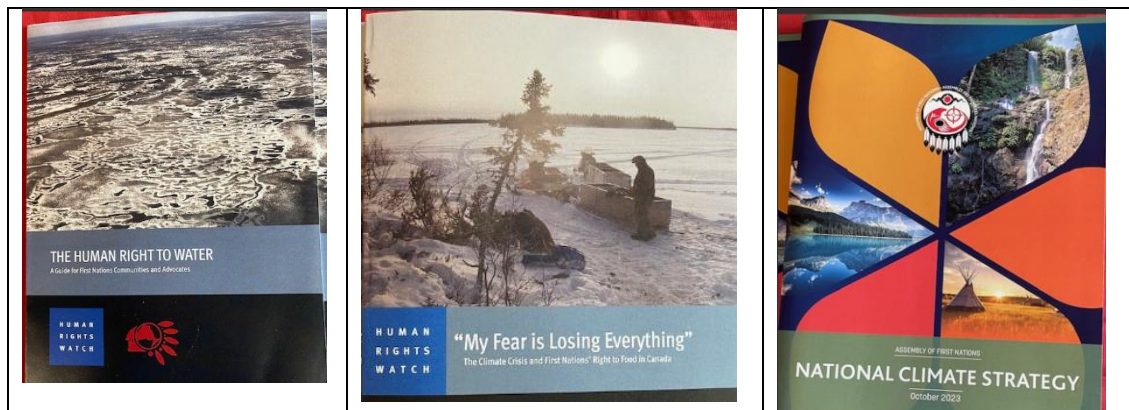
- “Muskoka” is an Anishinabe word
- Dr. McGregor considers herself a Great Lakes Anishinabe
- When you know something you have to / should do something about it – the meaning of land acknowledgement
- Dr McGregor works on climate change, water changes
- Indigenous knowledge was generated differently through generations of accumulated knowledge
- Indigenous societies had all the characteristics of other societies, economy, governance
- Indigenous societies did make mistakes – self-determined their own solutions
- How to be just in the world
- Tried to pass on sustainable knowledge that transformed over time – indigenous knowledge is not in the past, but is current
- Water is Life
- Concern for water is not new to our communities as water has always been and continues to be recognized as a life-giving force
- We are composed of water, carbon, calcium
- Water always had to be taken care of
- Acknowledging colonialism – an act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families
- Colonialism still plays a role in how people interact with water – without taking indigenous into consideration – may be recolonizing
- Important to look at the land through an indigenous lens
- Water source planning
- Colonial land division
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission – the Canadian government pursued a policy of disconnecting Indigenous from their natural world, pursued a policy of cultural genocide to divest from legal and financial obligation to Aboriginal people and gain control over their lands and resources.
- Reconciling with water – relates to healing
- Earth-based Reconciliation
- Elder Crowshoe explains “if human beings resolve problems among themselves, but continue to destroy the natural world, then reconciliation remains incomplete (Honouring the Truth, 2015)
- Ask: How can I make this part of my work?
- First Nations communities do not enjoy the same water quality
- Gross mismanagement of lands and waters has caused wide-spread and on-going detrimental impacts to all aspects of lives and livelihoods of First Nations (and everyone else)
- Water Governance Crisis

- History and ongoing relationship with waters
- Lack of environmental protective regimens in first nations communities
- Federal and provincial environmental protection protocols are failing
- Exclusion of traditional knowledge
- Disaster Reports – call for need to transform how we do things
- What does transformative thinking look like?
- Indigenous people were managing water because they had to
- Article 25 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides protection for the special relationship with water – recognizes the Indigenous Legal Tradition as sources of law
- Inherent right of self-governance
- Ask: what are our roles and responsibilities to water?
- Roles and responsibilities are more than rights, jurisdiction, authority
- Water is thought of as a relative – can't govern it – water is alive – Traditional Knowledge of Indigenous people
- Clean Water Act – water doesn't do jurisdictions – needs to be an ethic of responsibility
Traditional Knowledge of women (taking care of water) – (see also O'Connor Report on Walkerton)
- Personhood of Nature – decisions need to be good for water
- Offering versus Giving
- How do we take care of water?
- Robin Greene – don't think how we can take water sustainably – think of how we can give = Offering/Giving
- Waterscape in Canada
- Water and Waste Water Assessments – there have been different reports over time
- Stuck in jurisdictional realm – this outlook doesn't recognize the nature of water
- It's not about living together with water
- Need partnerships and collaborations
- Indigenous thought – there are four elements – Fire Water Earth Air (Wind)
- Colonial outlook is in silos
- Fire suppression is a bad idea – need controlled burning
- Nibi which means water in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe)
- Water is a relative
- Need to care for water
- Women and girls have a special connection to water
- Have to be safe with water as well
- Humans don't have the right to interfere with waters' duties/responsibility to give life – committing injustices

- Different ontologies in relation to water / challenges with sharing knowledge ([Ontology - Wikipedia](#))
- Dr McGregor's slides illustrating the difference between the definition of water by western academics and indigenous ontology
- What is water?
- A colourless, transparent, odourless liquid that forms the seas, lakes, rivers, and rain and is the basis of the fluids of living organisms
- A transparent, odorless, tasteless liquid, a compound of hydrogen and oxygen, H₂O, freezing at 32°F or 0°C and boiling at 212°F or 100°C, that in a more or less impure state constitutes rain, oceans, lakes, rivers, etc.: it contains 11.188 percent hydrogen and 88.812 percent oxygen, by weight. A special form or variety of this liquid as rain
- —
- Water
- In Western legal traditions, water is treated as a subject or object, often to be owned or used
- Legal relationships between beings are structured on the basis of spirit
- Spiritual Law is the first form of law from which we derive all other legal understanding
- (Craft, 2018, 58)
- Anishinaabek Water Law
- Anishinaabe Inaakonigewin (Craft, 2014)
- Water has spirit
- We do not own water
- Water is life
- Women are responsible for water
- We must respect water
- Water can suffer
- Water needs a voice
- Water must flow
- Aimée Craft – Anishinaabe scholar in Ottawa – Taking care of water – report
- [Aimée Craft is an award-winning teacher and researcher, recognized internationally as a leader in the area of Indigenous laws, treaties and water. She holds a University Research Chair Nibi miinawaa aki inakonigewin: Indigenous governance in relationship with land and water. <https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-law/common-law/faculty/craft-aimee>
- https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C5&q=aimee+craft+water&oq=Aimee+Craft]
- Challenges with sharing knowledge – academics are in a silo society
- Indigenous knowledge often not shared as Indigenous people are not at the table
- Indigenous knowledge systems = gather knowledge from indigenous through the generations – may not be benefiting from changes

- First Nations people have to deal with broader society all the time – scientists don't deal with Indigenous knowledge much
- Indigenous knowledge gets extracted from the whole – eg sweet water (maple sap), water as teacher – takes other forms, eg snow, ice
- (Jackie Nookie wrote on Traditional Knowledge in the 1990's) – how traditional knowledge can show up in models
- Ontario – Source water protection process
- Magpie River – recognized as having rights
- How do we decolonize the process
- We coexist with water
- What is your relationship with the natural world
- There are gaps in our knowledge if we rely solely on science – people with traditional knowledge want scientific knowledge as well
- “dish with one spoon”: want to share knowledge
- Okanagan Water Strategy – inclusive and adaptive governance
- Climate change started in North America when Europeans set foot on it, because approach changed from living with it to owning it
- Decisions by non-Indigenous governments – how do policies relate to First Nations – can't prove you own the land
- Indigenous land – held by the Crown – most species at risk are found on indigenous lands
- Indigenous ontology does not monetize the natural world –
- Indigenous laws will intersect with common law
- Gets people to think differently
- Kyle White – crisis with relationships with natural world and with each other
- Granting legal rights to water gets people to think about it differently

Indigenous materials on display at the conference





Friends of the Muskoka Watershed
Science Driving Solutions

Road salt hurts our lakes

Road salt is **toxic** to sensitive aquatic life in Muskoka and in Muskoka, we use a lot of road salt. The soft water of our lakes and rivers is particularly vulnerable.

In Lake Muskoka, chloride levels from road salt have increased 30-fold in the last 50 years.

Friends of the Muskoka Watershed, assisted by citizen scientists, is studying the salt sources and impacts. Once the salt is in the lakes, it can only be removed by natural flushing.

There are now an estimated 26,000 tonnes of road salt in Lake Muskoka.

- Road salt also damages shoes, cars, pets' feet, concrete bridges, buildings and much more.
- In the water, salt hurts zooplankton which eat algae to keep our lakes clean.
- Salt enters our waterways from runoff. Sources include streets, sidewalks, highways, driveways and parking lots.

Support our work at fotmw.org/donate

How can I make a difference? Spread the word, not the salt

1. Use less salt – a 300ml (10 ounce) cup will do an average driveway (enough for 10 square metres).
2. Use sand when possible.
3. Shovel first and more often.
4. Only use salt if temperature is over -12 C. Any colder and salt is not effective.
5. Store salt in a water-resistant closed container and clean up spilled and excess applied salt to save for another time.
6. Wear boots with good traction.
7. Redirect downspouts away from walkways
8. Check that the melt path of your snow does not create icy, slipping hazards.
 1. Use winter tires and reduce driving speed. Stay home if it's icy..
 2. Gather up the sand from snow piles left to melt. This sand has toxic road salt that will continue moving into our waterways.
3. **Share the message with others.**



BE SALT SMART



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

Present: Mayor David Moore
Councillors Morley Haskim, Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland, Debbie Zulak
Staff: Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Moved by: Councillor Zulak
Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-598 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Agenda for this Regular Meeting of Council, as amended to Move Item 17.1 & 17.2 to precede Item 14.1 Adoption of Minutes.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland
Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-599 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar, pursuant to the Ontario Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, as amended, move into closed session at 5:01 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- 5.1 Minutes of Closed Session – November 5, 2024 & November 8, 2024
- 5.2 Personal matters about an identifiable individual; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(b) – Resignation from the Fire Department
- 5.3 Labour relations or employee negotiations; pursuant to Ontario Municipal Act Section 239(2)(d) – Employee Employment Contracts & By-law Enforcement Recruitment
- 5.4 Acquisition or disposition of land; pursuant to Municipal Act Section 239(2)(c) - Post Office Lease Agreement

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen
Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-600 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby reconvene into open session of Council at 6:32 p.m.

Carried

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

Present: Mayor David Moore
Councillors Morley Haskim, Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland, Debbie Zulak
Staff: Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton
Fire Chief, Robert Morrison *for his respective items on the agenda*



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

RESPECT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DECLARATION

In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-601 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby accept the reports, recommendations and directions arising from the closed session held November 19, 2024.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-602 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the deputation from Lou Vaillancourt of the Canadian Red Cross to present the Canadian Red Cross Response Services and Volunteer Recruitment Opportunities.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-603 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report FD-2024-22 Month End Status Update for October 2024 from Fire Chief, Robert Morrison, for information purposes.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-604 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive Report FD-2024-23 Emergency Plan Changes November 2024 from Fire Chief, Robert Morrison; and

FURTHER THAT the changes made by the Fire Chief in the Emergency Management Plan are approved.

Carried

Fire Chief, Robert Morrison left the meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-605 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Minutes of the November 5, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council; and the November 8, 2024 Special Meeting of Council, as circulated.

Carried



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-606 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby acknowledges receipt of the application submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the purchase of Crown Shore Road Allowance fronting 127 Brownley Road, McKellar; and

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to complete the Municipal Comment Form indicating that the Township has no objections to the application.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-607 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the October 24, 2024 meeting of the Township of McKellar Recreation Committee.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-608 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Minutes of the September 23, 2024 meeting of the Parry Sound Area Planning Board.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-609 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Accounts Payable Preliminary Cheque Run Report for October 2024 from Treasurer, Roshan Kantiya, for information purposes.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-610 WHEREAS the Township of McKellar has received its 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement, indicating a significant 20% increase in policing costs compared to the previous year; and

WHEREAS this rise in expenses places an additional financial burden on our community, impacting our Municipal budget and the services we provide to residents; and

WHEREAS the Township of McKellar values the essential services provided by the OPP but is concerned about the sustainability of continuous cost increases of this magnitude;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar respectfully requests that the Ministry of the Solicitor General review the current billing model for OPP services to seek ways to mitigate the impact on small, rural Municipalities like McKellar; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General; the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Association of Municipalities of



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Ontario; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and all West Parry Sound Area Municipalities.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-611 **WHEREAS** the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health are conducting a review of the funding approach for local public health agencies in Ontario; and

WHEREAS Northern Ontario faces unique challenges due to its vast geography, dispersed populations, and limited infrastructure, which drive up the costs and complexity of providing essential public health services; and

WHEREAS residents of Northern Ontario experience poorer health outcomes than their Southern Ontario counterparts, with significantly higher rates of avoidable mortality and opioid-related deaths; and

WHEREAS the "Perspectives from Northern Ontario on the Public Health Funding Review" letter outlines critical equity considerations, emphasizing the need for an equitable, rather than equal, funding model that addresses these unique challenges in the North;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby supports and endorses the contents of the "Perspectives from Northern Ontario on the Public Health Funding Review" letter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution, along with the endorsed letter, be sent to Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore; the Ontario Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; Executive Lead Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Elizabeth Walker; Boards of Health of Ontario; Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli; Parry Sound Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; Timiskaming Cochrane MPP, John Vanthof; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-612 **WHEREAS** oral health is essential to overall health, yet many equity-seeking populations in Ontario face challenges accessing basic dental care due to low reimbursement rates that discourage private providers from accepting publicly funded benefits such as Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works (OW); and

WHEREAS the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit has recommended a provincial oral health strategy with a remuneration model that ensures equitable access to preventive and treatment dental services, especially for underserved communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby support the Board of Health's recommendation for a provincial oral health strategy, including an evaluation of the funding model to better serve vulnerable populations across Ontario; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier); the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Ontario Minister of Health); Dr. Kieran Moore (Chief



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Medical Officer of Health); Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing); Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka); John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane); Michael Sherar (President and CEO of Public Health Ontario); Ontario Boards of Health and the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-613

WHEREAS Municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

WHEREAS the current sources of Municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in Municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with Municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to Municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow Municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to Municipalities; and

FURTHER calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to Municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and

FURTHER THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Carried



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-614 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the Aquatic Environmental Report – Lake Manitouwabing prepared by Generations Effect, a social enterprise of the Georgian Bay Biosphere, for information purposes.

Deferred

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-615 **WHEREAS** no formal agreement has been established, and no start date has been scheduled for the work; and

WHEREAS the Township intends to solicit quotations from other qualified agencies to complete the work;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby rescind Resolution No. 2024-544 awarding the painting of the St. Stephen's Church roof to David Winter.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-616 **WHEREAS** Resolution No. 2024-562 was deferred at the October 15, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby authorize the Treasurer to remit payment to Belvedere Heights in the amount of \$47,399.00, as requested in their letter dated October 7, 2024 to offset the cost of engineering and architectural services incurred in 2024 to support the addition of 22 new private rooms; and

FURTHER THAT Resolution No. 2024-562 is hereby rescinded.

Deferred

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-617 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby direct the Public Works Superintendent to post "No Hunting" signs at each entrance to the Balsam Wilderness Trail.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Haskim

Seconded by: Councillor Ryeland

24-618 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the consent agenda for correspondence.

Carried

QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD (RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

There were no questions from the in-person audience or via Zoom.



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-619 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give By-law No. 2024-80, Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council, a First and Second reading;

And further Read a Third time and Passed in Open Council this 19th day of November, 2024.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Ryeland

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-620 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar adjourn this meeting at 8:07 p.m. to meet again on November 22, 2024 for a Special Open Meeting of Council to discuss the 2025 Capital Budget; or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

DRAFT



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2024

Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Moore took Roll Call.

- Present:** Mayor David Moore
Councillors Morley Haskim, Mike Kekkonen, Nick Ryeland (*attended electronically via Zoom*), Debbie Zulak
- Staff:** Clerk/Administrator, Karlee Britton
Treasurer, Roshan Kantiya
Fire Chief, Robert Morrison *for his respective items on the agenda*
Public Works Superintendent, Tom Stoneman *for his respective items on the agenda*

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND/OR PERSONAL INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

RESPECT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DECLARATION

In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.

Moved by: Councillor Zulak
Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-621 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby approve the Agenda for this Special Meeting of Council, as presented.

DIVISION VOTE

- YEAS: Councillors Haskim, Kekkonen, Ryeland, Zulak and Mayor Moore
- NAYS: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: None.

Carried

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen
Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-622 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby move into Committee of the Whole at 2:02 p.m. to receive the draft 2025 Capital Budget from Treasurer, Roshan Kantiya and to facilitate discussions among Council and staff.

DIVISION VOTE

- YEAS: Councillors Haskim, Kekkonen, Ryeland, Zulak and Mayor Moore
- NAYS: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.
- ABSENT: None.

Carried



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2024

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Treasurer, Roshan Kantiya presented an overview of the first draft of the proposed 2025 Capital Budget.

Fire Chief, Robert Morrison spoke to the Capital items/projects within the Fire Department. He, along with the Treasurer, responded to questions and provided clarification to Council members.

Fire Chief, Robert Morrison left the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Public Works Superintendent, Tom Stoneman spoke to the Capital items/projects within the Public Works Department. He, too, answered questions from Council with support from the Treasurer.

Public Works Superintendent, Tom Stoneman left the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

Moved by: Councillor Zulak
Seconded by: Councillor Kekkonen

24-623 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby rise and report from Committee of the Whole at 4:17 p.m.

DIVISION VOTE

YEAS: Councillors Haskim, Kekkonen, Ryeland, Zulak and Mayor Moore
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Carried

QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD (RELATED TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

There were no questions from the in-person audience or via Zoom.

Moved by: Councillor Haskim
Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

24-624 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby give By-law No. 2024-81, Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council, a First and Second reading;

And further Read a Third time and Passed in Open Council this 22nd day of November, 2024.

DIVISION VOTE

YEAS: Councillors Haskim, Kekkonen, Ryeland, Zulak and Mayor Moore
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Carried



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

Council Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Zulak

Seconded by: Councillor Haskim

24-625 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar adjourn this meeting at 4:19 p.m. to meet again on December 3, 2024; or at the call of the Mayor.

DIVISION VOTE

YEAS: Councillors Haskim, Kekkonen, Ryeland, Zulak and Mayor Moore

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Carried

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

DRAFT

LAKE STEWARDSHIP AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF MCKELLAR TOWNSHIP

Final Minutes

Thursday October 17th, 2024

† Educational resources posted by this committee are available on the Township of McKellar Website here:
<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf>

Item	Time	Please note: These are ongoing agenda items. Only items marked with an * will be discussed at the next meeting.
1.	*	<p>Land Acknowledgement: In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here, and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.</p>
2.	*	<p>Roll Call*: Tony Best (X); Ross Crockford (); Peter Duffey (); Jennifer Ghent-Fuller (X) ; Melanie Jeffrey () ; Axy Leighl (X) ; Carl Mitchell (X); Suzanne Poff (X); Nick Ryeland (X); Rick Speers (X); Rob Gibson () Guest: On Zoom: We need 5 committee members to have a quorum (Y)</p> <p>Does anyone have a declaration of pecuniary and/or personal interest and general nature thereof? (no) Thank you Rick, for taking notes of these meetings.</p>
3.1	*	<p>Motion to accept the minutes of September 12th, 2024. (attached) Moved: Axy Seconded: Sue Approved: Yes [Amendment: Approved with Amendment :]</p>
3.2	*	<p>Would any committee member like to add any item to the agenda? (No) (Motion to add item to the agenda if needed) [Motion to accept the Agenda . Amendments: Moved: Seconded: Approved: ()]</p>
3.3		<p>Strategic Planning</p> <p>Carl (via email) - : For upcoming topics, I think the shoreland preservation stuff is key in my opinion. Something fun to engage more interested residents would be the bird inventory. Re: bird inventory, some of you may be familiar with this app? https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/</p> <p>Jennifer – the next brochure could be about shoreline preservation and vegetation – need to keep pushing for adoption of the Tree Canopy and Vegetated shoreline bylaw amendment presented to Council in November of 2023</p> <p>Peter – education re: shorelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue working on recycling - Loon awareness – will not be making location of loon nesting sites public to protect them

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shoreline education important – there is only one nesting pair left on Lake Manitouwabing – there were two chicks which did not survive; Chick on Grey Owl is now a good size - Lead sinkers are fatal for loons – they pick up pebbles on the lake bottom to aid in their digestion – if they pick up a lead sinker, it will kill them - Need to keep the number of current topics to one or two because of time, cost <p>Rob – education on protection of loon nesting sites – waves near shores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education about the harm using pesticides does - In many properties, the Township owns the road allowance (usually 66 feet) at the shore; need to take this into consideration in legislating a 30 m setback - Seguin has a requirement of 90 % vegetative buffer within the required setback. <p>Tony – education re: avoiding use of lead sinkers; this campaign has been named “Get the Lead Out” in other areas; barbless hooks</p> <p>Ross – will continue campaign to protect Turtles and hoping Council will approve future placement of signs at turtle crossing sites</p> <p>Sue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E-bird shows that 192 bird species are found in the McKellar area - The app “Merlin” allows you to record birds – we could put this information on the Facebook page Mark Calhoun has offered to assist - Need to do education on living with wildlife – last year there was concern about coyotes on the Balsam trail -
4. Goals		General Updates on Current Issues.
4.1	*	<p>Waterfront/ Shoreline protection –</p> <p>October 17th – Nick and Tony discussed 30 m setbacks with John Jackson, who suggested moving to a 20 m setback when he discussed it with them – next Council meeting is on Oct 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please be aware of pending open meeting to discuss the Official Plan – it will be listed under Township Services / Building and Planning / Proposed Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendments 2024 <p>– Karlee has asked Jennifer to present Tree Canopy and Natural Vegetation Policy presented last November again and to include a definition of native vegetation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jennifer will redraft and send out to review for discussion at our Nov meeting - There have been no developments since it was presented to Council in Nov 2023 - Jennifer will draft flyer on the shoreline while reviewing this bylaw revision - <p>Welcome package – not much progress in the last month</p> <p>Oct 17 2024 – Jennifer sent out a summary of the 4 talks she attended at the Resilience to Climate Change Conference in Bracebridge on Oct 4 – there were some good flyers at the conference</p> <p>Discussion about the possibility of mailing the welcome package to people who have become new residents since Sept of 2022 (cerlox bound flyers and Lake Protection Workbook) and asking staff to identify recipients (new residents)</p> <p>Possible List of items to include in the McKellar Township Environmental Welcome Package</p> <p>Oct 17 – need a flyer on water quality</p> <p>Maps (there are about 500 paper maps produced by MLCA in 2022)</p> <p>Septic flyer</p> <p>Flyer on pesticides and fertilizers</p> <p>Write a flyer on water quality being connected to shoreline and littoral zone vegetation health</p> <p>Invasive species pamphlet</p>

		<p>Catch and release best practices flyer Statement on pollinators Statement on importance of littoral zone/benthic health Information on Bats / Bat houses, Birds / Bird Houses Boat wakes – impact on nesting birds Ash in woods (replenishing calcium lost to acid rain) Water treatment Microfibers and microplastics (we have a presentation) Native plants Wildlife Road Salt INTACT Fire and Flood damage prevention measures</p> <p>B. September 12 – no further update on Welcome Package August 9th -Welcome Package A package of possible information to be included in a Welcome Package for new residents has been distributed to committee members. Discussion.</p> <p>Committee members agreed that it is best for new residents to be presented with hard copy information. Ross and Jennifer will decide what information to include and it will be bound with cerlox binding.</p>
4.2	*	<p>Water Sampling Oct 17 – water sampling is complete – on Township web page and MLCA next week Jennifer trying to document lake turnover (temperature) Sept 12 – Water sampling for the year will finish at the end of September</p>
4.3	*	<p>Septic Education – Oct 17 – we have very few septic care flyers left – will get estimates for more Did not include possibility of using toilet paper which is better for septics (RV toilet paper)</p>
4.4		<p>Publicity Facebook Page = Sue posted the zoom link for the LSEC meeting Karlee is receiving the postings for her approval – Sue, Peter, Ross</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It's important to post regularly on the same day each week - Sue has started posting and will continue - Rob suggested posting about bears coming out of hibernation next spring - We could put the zoom link for our meetings on our facebook page - Send postings to members of the committee? <p>Presentations - YouTube videos from this committee are posted here: https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf along with other videos</p> <p>Our postings (listings and a table of contents) are uploaded on the township web page under "Residents/Environment." Jennifer has been gradually updating the page with Mary Smith's help. https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/environment.aspx</p>
4.5		<p>Microplastics/Microfibres/ Washing Machine Filters – video on our YouTube channel posted</p>

4.6	*	<p>Earth Day / Clean Up Our Lakes / Recycling</p> <p>Oct 17 – if our recycling material is not being sorted by Waste Connections anymore, but merely being put on another truck to be sent to Enterra in Burlington or to Vaughn (fibres), why can we not recycle a broader range of items = asked Karlee if we can contact Circular materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some people are still putting in plastic bags <p>Another issue is whether we need more bins for the compactor – Tom Stoneman has been sent data collection sheets to track how many days the recycling bins are full and unavailable</p> <p>Nick is looking into what can be done about getting blue bins that people can use to take their recycling in to the Transfer Station</p>
4.7	*	<p>Fishing / Wildlife –</p> <p>Oct 17 – Ross’ deputation to Council was received favourably and was praised as a good step</p> <p>And passed the following resolution:</p> <p>Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen Seconded by: Councillor Zulak</p> <p>24-512 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive the deputation from Ross Crockford, a member of the Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee, regarding the proposal to install road signage in designated wildlife hotspots; and FURTHER THAT the Council approves the Committee's proposal to identify five key locations where "Wildlife Crossing" signs would provide the greatest benefit; and FURTHER THAT the Public Works Superintendent be directed to assist the Committee and the installation contractor in determining the appropriate height and placement of the signage in accordance with the Highway Traffic Act; and FURTHER THAT the Public Works Superintendent conduct a final inspection of the installed signage and retain the authority to remove or reposition any signs, should they present safety concerns.</p>
4.8		Fish Catch reporting signs for Armstrong Lake - are up at Armstrong Lake beach.
4.9		Catch and Release Signs are up at township launch sites.
4.10		Benthic Study – July 2024 – Sampling took place in 3 sites
4.11		Pesticides/Fertilizers – March 7 th – The new brochure was distributed to residents at the end of Feb.
4.12		Invasive Species – Sept 12 – Chair has discussed the existence and location of phragmites in McKellar Township with staff The concern about Phragmites would be a good article for our Facebook page. Often a spray is used – “habitat aqua,” which is purported to be harmless to animals and other vegetation.
4.13		Dark Skies – We have a brochure that was made in about 2021.
4.14		Water Levels – May 1 – paper reposted on FB –Requested changes (clean up of the web page). A paper detailing previous work on water levels is posted on our section of the web page. Water-Levels-on-Lake-Manitouwabing-JGF-Amended-July-2022.pdf (mckellar.ca) Reposted in April 2024
4.15		Pollinator Patches / Gardens–
		ICECAP – This item removed. Council will communicate directly with GBB about this.
4.16		EV Chargers –
4.17		Organic Waste Planning (investigate the possibility of a processing facility shared with other townships in the future?) May 9 Council did not go ahead with the Food Cycler Program

4.18		Drinking Water Source Protection																		
5.		<p>Budget – Oct 17 – will have draft budget ready for review at the November meeting</p> <p>Coming up – FOCA conference is Nov 9th online – Jennifer is representing MLCA – any others can participate for \$30 Meetings will be held in Council Chambers through the winter unless the driving is bad, then they will be solely on zoom. Zoom set up seems to work now – new microphone.</p>																		
6.	*	<p>Dec 14th is LSEC decided to continue to meet <i>usually</i> on the second Thursday evening of each month <i>and to change the time to 7 pm.</i></p> <p>LSEC Meeting Dates in 2024:</p> <table data-bbox="298 562 1179 772"> <tr> <td>January 11th</td> <td></td> <td>July 11th</td> </tr> <tr> <td>February 8th</td> <td>No Quorum</td> <td>Friday August</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 7th</td> <td>No Quorum</td> <td>September 12th</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 11th</td> <td>No Quorum</td> <td>October 17th (3rd Thursday)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 9th</td> <td></td> <td>November 14th</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 13th</td> <td></td> <td>December 12th</td> </tr> </table> <p>Old information is occasionally removed from the bottom of each item in these minutes, but can be found in old minutes on the Township’s web page under Environment.</p>	January 11th		July 11th	February 8th	No Quorum	Friday August	March 7th	No Quorum	September 12 th	April 11th	No Quorum	October 17 th (3rd Thursday)	May 9th		November 14 th	June 13th		December 12 th
January 11th		July 11th																		
February 8th	No Quorum	Friday August																		
March 7th	No Quorum	September 12 th																		
April 11th	No Quorum	October 17 th (3rd Thursday)																		
May 9th		November 14 th																		
June 13th		December 12 th																		
7.		<p>Motion to adjourn. Moved: Sue Seconded: Nick Approved: All Time: 7:35 pm</p>																		



Township of McKellar Report to Council

Prepared for:	Mayor & Council	Department:	Administration
Date:	December 3, 2024	Report No:	ADMIN-2024-04

Subject: IT Services & Support Updates

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Township of McKellar does hereby receive this report for information.

Background:

Near North Business Machines (NNBM), based in Huntsville, ON, formally assumed responsibility for the Township's IT and Support Services on September 3, 2024. Leading up to the transition, NNBM collaborated closely with the Township's previous IT provider to ensure a smooth and seamless migration, successfully completed at the start of September.

Analysis:

The initial phase of the project, which involved moving the domain, installing the Sophos firewall, and cleaning up staff computers, has been successfully completed. This not only enhances the overall security of the Township's network but also improves the performance and reliability of staff workstations, reducing downtime and increasing productivity.

The infrastructure project has also been completed. Key components of this project included installing a new lockable rack enclosure, which drastically reduced the size of the rack, freeing up valuable space for future infrastructure expansions. Additionally, the IT room, previously cluttered with unused hardware, has been cleared and the hardware catalogued, creating a more organized and efficient space. As part of the project, NNBM managed network switches, installed a robust Sophos firewall, and added network drops and Wi-Fi access points, significantly increasing connectivity throughout the Municipal building. The building now benefits from reliable and expanded access to Starlink, enhancing communication and online capabilities.

The server project is currently underway and is on track for completion by the end of December. A new scalable cluster server has been ordered and delivered by NNBM, with an installation date of November 28, 2024. This server offers significant advantages in terms of scalability, allowing for future upgrades without the need for a full server replacement every five years, resulting in long-term cost savings and operational efficiency.

The additional space on the server will allow staff and NNBM to build shared files for records management and retention. This will enable the scanning and digital storage of older documents that must be retained per the records retention By-law. Digitizing these records will make them easier to access and search, enhancing staff productivity and reducing the time spent sifting through paper files.

Looking forward, this infrastructure will also support the Township moving toward paperless record keeping. Not only does this provide environmental benefits, but it also solves a practical issue, as the Township currently lacks adequate space to house physical archives. Moving records online

ensures their preservation, protecting them from potential damage due to risks like flooding and fire within the building.

Additionally, the shared drives offer improved security, as access can be controlled to ensure only authorized staff can view sensitive files. This heightened level of security strengthens data protection while maintaining convenient access for staff, further boosting overall productivity and compliance with record management protocols.

As for the cost, 50% of the server has been paid upfront as required for the order. With the Township's current server nearing capacity, this upgrade was essential. NNBM has agreed to defer the remaining 50% of the payment until January 2025, allowing it to be allocated within the 2025 capital budget. This flexible arrangement helps the Township manage its finances while addressing its immediate infrastructure needs.

Additionally, while the infrastructure project was underway, NNBM was able to access the attic throughout the building to move cable. During this time, network drops for future security cameras were also installed. This proactive approach saved the Township additional labor costs, as the work was completed while NNBM was already on-site. By planning ahead, the Township can easily install security cameras in the future with minimal disruption, and only the cost of the cameras themselves will need to be budgeted for.

The Township of McKellar Public Library has also benefited from the migration to NNBM. Connectivity issues that had previously affected both Library staff and patrons have been resolved, ensuring a more reliable and faster internet experience. The Library's IT room was also reorganized, with unnecessary items removed and cables rerouted, resulting in a cleaner, more efficient workspace that makes future troubleshooting and maintenance easier. Once the Microsoft 365 project begins, the Library will be included in the upgrades, and staff will receive new email addresses, providing improved communication tools and better integration with the rest of the Township's network.

Overall, the connectivity throughout the Municipal building has significantly improved, all without the need to move the Starlink dish. In addition, the heater system for the dish has been set to automatic, ensuring there will be no issues with ice or snow buildup when winter arrives, allowing for uninterrupted internet service throughout the season.

Looking ahead, the Microsoft 365 project is set to begin in early 2025. This will include upgrading staff computers to Microsoft 365, bringing several key benefits: improved collaboration tools like Teams and SharePoint, enhanced cloud storage with OneDrive, and advanced security features to better protect our records and data. These upgrades will streamline workflows, facilitate remote work, and boost overall staff productivity.

In Spring 2025, NNBM will address connectivity issues at the Public Works Garage, Minerva Park, and both Fire Stations. Initial work has already begun, with outdated hardware being cleared out and catalogued. NNBM will collaborate closely with department heads to assess their IT needs and help them achieve their 2025 goals, all under the Township's fully managed system contract. This proactive approach ensures that each department is equipped with the necessary tools and infrastructure to operate efficiently and effectively.

Policies Affecting Proposal:

Procurement By-law 2019-44

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the completed IT upgrades have improved network security, optimized infrastructure, and increased connectivity across the Township building. The upcoming server installation will further enhance records management and support the move towards paperless operations, while the Microsoft 365 project will streamline collaboration and productivity.

Looking ahead, a key capital project for 2026 will be the selection and migration to a new tax accounting software. This upgrade will consolidate all accounting functions into a single platform, eliminating the need for the Treasurer to manually bridge the gap between property tax and accounting systems, ultimately saving time and improving efficiency.

Overall, these initiatives lay the foundation for a more secure, efficient, and forward-thinking Township.

Respectfully submitted by:



Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

Attachments:



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

DATE: December 3, 2024

RESOLUTION No. 24-___
AGENDA ITEM No. 20.1

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby authorize the Treasurer to transfer surplus funds as of December 31, 2024, remaining in the following operating budgets to their respective reserve account:

2024 Recreation Committee operating budget to the Recreation Committee reserve account; and

2024 Historical Committee operating budget to the St. Stephens/Hemlock Church capital reserve account; and

2024 Fire Department operating/capital budget to reserve account; and

FURTHER THAT these transfers occur annually, without a resolution from Council, moving forward.

Carried _____ Defeated _____ Deferred _____

David Moore, Mayor

DIVISION VOTE

	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councillor Morley Haskim	_____	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Mike Kekkonen	_____	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Nick Ryeland	_____	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Debbie Zulak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mayor David Moore	_____	_____	_____	_____



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

DATE: December 3, 2024

RESOLUTION No. 24- .
AGENDA ITEM No. 20.2.

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

WHEREAS the residents of the Township of McKellar are aware of the Provincial government’s commitment to delivering reliable high-speed internet access to every community across the Province by the end of 2025; and

WHEREAS the Provincial government has released an interactive mapping tool to provide information on the rollout of high-speed internet, but the tool lacks sufficient detail and fails to provide specific or timely updates for projects in this area, leaving residents uncertain and uninformed; and

WHEREAS residents are receiving fraudulent calls from individuals falsely claiming to be Bell employees or contractors, attempting to gain access to their computers under the pretense of setting up high-speed internet;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar strongly urges the Provincial government to enhance the interactive mapping tool and provide more detailed, area-specific updates on infrastructure projects as improved communication will help ensure residents are well-informed, reducing confusion and protecting them from potential scams; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure; Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; the Association of Ontario Municipalities; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and to all Ontario Municipalities for support.

Carried _____ Defeated _____ Deferred _____

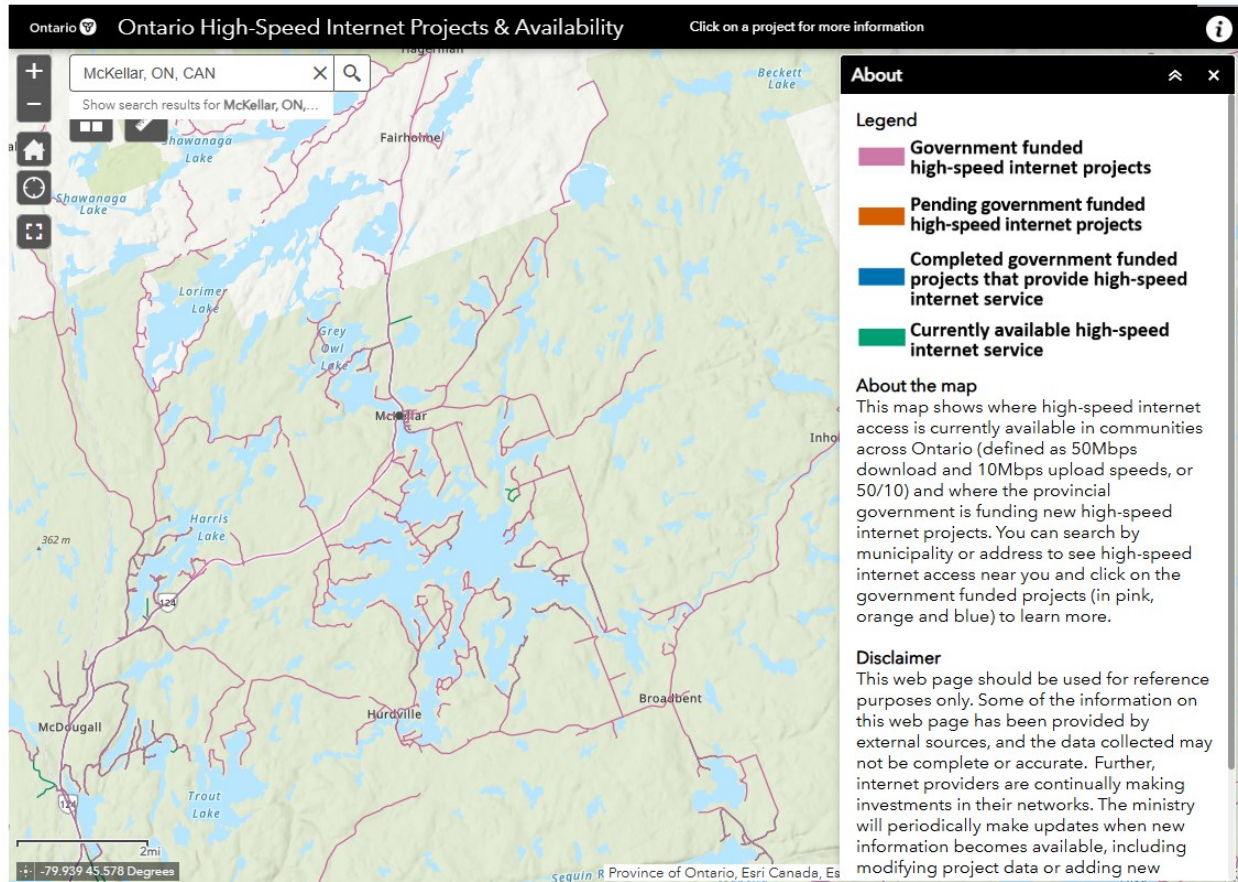
David Moore, Mayor

DIVISION VOTE

	YEA	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councillor Morley Haskim	_____	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Mike Kekkonen	_____	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Nick Ryeland	_____	_____	_____	_____
Councillor Debbie Zulak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mayor David Moore	_____	_____	_____	_____

Ontario High Speed Internet Projects

Website Link: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-connects-making-high-speed-internet-accessible-in-every-community>



Map of High Speed Internet Projects within the Township of McKellar

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

BY-LAW NO. 2024-83

Being a By-law to Authorize the Corporation of the Township of Mckellar to Accept a Transfer of Lands from The Incorporated Synod of The Diocese Of Algoma (Parts 4, 5 And 6, Plan 42R-6765)

WHEREAS Sections 8, 9 and 10 of the Municipal Act, 2001, give a municipality broad authority to pass by-laws authorizing the acquisition of lands; and

WHEREAS the Corporation of the Township of McKellar (the "Township") became the owner of 11 Dickinson Road, McKellar where St. Stephen's Church and the St. Stephen's cemetery are located, by way of a transfer from The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma which was registered on December 30, 1994; and

WHEREAS the Township believed it was the owner of and has possessed the lands where the driveway providing access to 11 Dickinson Road, McKellar is located since on or around December 30, 1994, which lands are more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto (the "Lands"); and

WHEREAS it has been discovered that the registered owner of the Lands remained The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma; and

WHEREAS the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma is willing to transfer registered title to the Lands to the Township; and

WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Township of McKellar considers it necessary and desirable to acquire paper title to the Lands for municipal and public purposes;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** this Council authorizes the Township to accept a transfer of the Lands from The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma.
2. **THAT** this Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk/Administrator to sign all documents and to take all action necessary to carry out the intent of this By-law.

READ a FIRST and SECOND time this 3rd day of December, 2024.

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

READ a THIRD time and **PASSED** in **OPEN COUNCIL** this 3rd day of December, 2024.

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

Ontario
Provincial
Police

Police
provinciale
de l'Ontario



Municipal Policing Bureau
Bureau des services policiers des municipalités

777 Memorial Ave. Orillia ON L3V 7V3

777, avenue Memorial
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

Tel: 705 329-6200 Fax: 705 330-4191

Tél. : 705 329-6200
Télééc.: 705 330-4191

File Reference:600

The Corporation of the Township of McKellar
P.O. BOX 69
McKellar ON P0G 1C0
By email: clerk@mckellar.ca, deputyclerk@mckellar.ca

November 20, 2024

Dear Sir / Madam

This letter is a follow up to our August 2023 correspondence sent to advise of upcoming changes to the Primary Public Safety Answering Point (P-PSAP) service agreement with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to align with the requirements of Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) services. The P-PSAP service is a necessary requirement of providing 9-1-1 to the public as it is the first point of contact when dialing 9-1-1; operators determine whether the caller requires police, fire or ambulance service before routing to the call to the appropriate agency. The new OPP P-PSAP agreement has been developed and is attached to this letter.

At this time, the rate for this service will remain at \$0.561 / capita / annum. Accordingly, the total annual cost of the service to all members of the group in 2025 will be \$11,351.27 based on a residential population served of 20,234.

While we encourage you to review the new agreement in its entirety, a summary of significant updates to the agreement include:

	Previous Agreement(s)	New Agreement
Terminology	Central Emergency Reporting Bureau (CERB) Public Emergency Reporting Service (PERS)	P-PSAP NG 9-1-1
Termination	90-day notice period	180-day notice period
Term length	2 (two) & 5 (five) year, renewable by written notice	Rolling term

To proceed with services under the new agreement, the OPP will require the attached agreement to be signed by the appropriate party, be accompanied by a by-law or band council resolution, and returned to the OPP by December 1, 2024.

Agreements will be effective as of January 1, 2025 and changes to billing based on population updates will be reflected in the annual billing issued in January 2025.

I have attached a P-PSAP information package for your reference. Please notify us at the soonest opportunity if you have any questions, or if you wish to discontinue the P-PASP service from the OPP. Note that the OPP is one of multiple providers of P-PSAP service to choose from, and that a P-PSAP service must be in place for members of your community to continue to be able to access 9-1-1. If you have any questions regarding the service, changes to the agreement, or billing please contact ppsap@opp.ca.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Ridout', written in a cursive style.

Superintendent Steve Ridout
Commander, Municipal Policing Bureau

Attachments P-PSAP Agreement
P-PSAP Information Package

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

BY-LAW NO. 2024-84

Being a By-law to Enter into an Agreement with the Ontario Provincial Police for the Provision of a 9-1-1 Calling Service

WHEREAS Section 22 of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 as amended*, authorizes Municipalities to enter into agreements with the Ontario Provincial Police for a program established and administered by the Ontario Provincial Police; and

WHEREAS the Corporation of the Township of McKellar, as a participating member of the 9-1-1 Emergency Service for the Parry Sound Area, wishes to enter into an agreement with His Majesty the King in the Right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional service on behalf of the Ontario Provincial Police for the purposes of providing and operating a Central Emergency Reporting Bureau for an on behalf of participating Municipalities in the 9-1-1 Emergency Service for the Parry Sound area; and

WHEREAS the Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions of the agreement between the parties thereto;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** the Mayor and Clerk/Administrator are hereby authorized to execute under seal of the Corporation, an Agreement attached hereto as Schedule 'A' between the participating Municipalities in the 9-1-1 Emergency Service for the Parry Sound Area and the Ontario Provincial Police.
2. **THAT** By-law No. 2019-29 and any and all By-laws or parts thereof which are inconsistent herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

READ a **FIRST** and **SECOND** time this 3rd day of December, 2024.

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator

READ a **THIRD** time and **PASSED** in **OPEN COUNCIL** this 3rd day of December, 2024.

David Moore, Mayor

Karlee Britton, Clerk/Administrator



**AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF
PRIMARY PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING
POINT (PSAP) SERVICES**

**AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF PRIMARY PSAP SERVICES
EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2025**

BETWEEN:

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO
as represented by the
MINISTER OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL
on behalf of the ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE**

("OPP")

OF THE FIRST PART

AND:

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND, THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF MCDOUGALL, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CARLING,
THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE, THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SEGUIN,
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARCHIPELAGO; AND THE WASAUKSING
FIRST NATION**

(the "9-1-1 Authority")

OF THE SECOND PART

RECITALS:

- (a) **WHEREAS** Bell Canada has entered into agreements with the 9-1-1 Authority to provide the 9-1-1 Authority with a 9-1-1 Public Emergency Reporting Service (PERS), and which authorizes the 9-1-1 Authority to deliver 9-1-1 services using NG 9-1-1 technology;
- (b) **AND WHEREAS** it is the obligation of the 9-1-1 Authority under its agreement with Bell Canada to ensure that a Primary Public Safety Answering Point serves the territory in which the 9-1-1 Authority operates;
- (c) **AND WHEREAS** the 9-1-1 Authority is permitted under its agreement with Bell Canada to contract with a third party for the management and operation of the Primary Public Safety Answering Point;
- (d) **AND WHEREAS** the 9-1-1 Authority wishes to contract with the OPP for the management and operation of the Primary Public Safety Answering Point, which is or is expected during the term of this Agreement to transition from being delivered by PERS to being delivered using NG 9-1-1 technology;
- (e) **AND WHEREAS** the 9-1-1 Authority confirms its adherence to this Agreement by executing it, as provided for herein, and providing the OPP with a certified copy of the resolution or by-law authorizing it entering into this Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and covenants herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1 The Parties warrant that the recitals are true.

2 **DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

2.1 In this Agreement:

“9-1-1 Call” means a request for public safety assistance signaled by a 9-1-1 caller using a device and communications service supporting 9-1-1 contact, regardless of the media (e.g., voice, video, text, other) used to make that request; **“9-1-1 Caller”** means the end user contacting 9-1-1.

“Agreement” means this agreement and Schedule “A”, which is attached to, and forms part of this Agreement.

“ALI” means an Automatic Location Identification, which consists of a database feature that displays, to the Primary and Secondary PSAP, address and location data with respect to a source from which the 9-1-1 call originates.

“ANI” means an Automatic Number Identification, which consists of a database feature that displays the telephone number of the primary exchange service that originates the 9-1-1 call to the Primary PSAP.

“Call Control” means a feature that allows the 9-1-1 call taker at the Primary PSAP to maintain control of

the line upon which the 9-1-1 call was made regardless of calling party action.

“ESZ” means Emergency Services Zone, which is a geographic area served by a Secondary PSAP in the territory of the 9-1-1 Authority.

“GIS” means “Geographic Information System”, a system for capturing, storing, displaying, analyzing and managing data and associated attributes which are spatially referenced.

“NG9-1-1” means a secure, IP-based, open-standards based system comprised of hardware, software, data, and operational policies and procedures that (1) provides standardized interfaces from emergency call and message services to support emergency communications, (2) processes all types of emergency calls, including voice, text, data, and multimedia information, (3) acquires and integrates additional emergency call data useful to call routing and handling, (4) delivers the emergency calls, messages and data to the appropriate PSAP and other appropriate emergency entities based on the location of the caller, (5) supports data, video, and other communications needs for coordinated incident response and management and (6) interoperates with services and networks used by first responders to facilitate emergency response.

“Party” means the OPP or the 9-1-1 Authority, and “Parties” shall mean both of them.

“PERS” means “Public Emergency Reporting Service” which is a telecommunications service provided by Bell for the delivery of 9-1-1 calls.

“PSAP” means “Public Safety Answering Point” which is the entity responsible for receiving 9-1-1 calls and processing those 9-1-1 calls according to a specific operational policy.

“Primary PSAP” means the Primary Public Safety Answering Point serving the 9-1-1 Authority and located at the OPP Provincial Communications Centre (PCC), which is the first point of reception by the OPP of 9-1-1 calls.

“Secondary PSAP” means the communication center of a fire, police or ambulance agency, within an ESZ, to which 9-1-1 calls are transferred from the Primary PSAP, and for which the Secondary PSAP is then responsible for taking appropriate action.

“Selective Routing and Transfer” means a feature that automatically routes a 9-1-1 call to the appropriate Primary or Secondary PSAP based upon the ALI and ANI of the telephone line from which the 9-1-1 call originates.

2.2 **Severability** - If any term of this Agreement shall be held to be illegal, invalid, unenforceable, null, void or inoperative by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining terms shall remain in full force and effect.

2.3 **Section Headings** - The section headings contained herein are for purposes of convenience only and

shall not be deemed to constitute a part of this Agreement or affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement in any way.

- 2.4 **Entire Agreement** - This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the Parties, with respect to the provision and operation of services as defined hereunder and supersedes any previous agreement whether written or verbal. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this Agreement and a tender document such as request for proposals issued by the 9-1-1 Authority for the provision of services as described hereunder or the proposal that the OPP submitted in response to the tender document, this Agreement shall prevail to the extent of the conflict or inconsistency.
- 2.5 **Amendments** - Any amendments to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall not take effect until approved in writing by both Parties. Either party may make changes to this Agreement with the consent of the other party by appending an amendment signed and dated by both parties reflecting the changes.

3 **NOTICES**

- 3.1 **Notice** - Any notice required pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing by mail or by electronic mail to the following addresses:

To the 9-1-1 Authority

The Corporation of the Township of
McKellar
P.O. BOX 69
McKellar ON P0G 1C0

Email: clerk@mckellar.ca

To the Ontario Provincial Police

Attention: Municipal Policing Bureau

OPP General Headquarters
777 Memorial Avenue Orillia
ON L3V 7V3

Email: OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca

Or to such other addresses either of the Parties may indicate in writing to the other. Any notice given in accordance with this Agreement shall be deemed to have been received upon delivery, if delivered by mail or by email, five (5) days after sending.

- 3.2 **Notices in Writing** - All notices required under this Agreement shall be in writing.

4 RATES AND METHOD OF PAYMENT

4.1 The 9-1-1 Authority shall pay the OPP for providing and operating the Primary PSAP as follows:

- (a) **Amount of Annual Rate** - The 9-1-1 Authority shall be charged and shall be required to pay an annual rate of \$11,351.27 based on the residential population served in the geographic territory of the 9-1-1 Authority of 20,234 at a per capita cost of \$0.561.
- (b) **Review of Annual Rate** - The annual rate specified in clause (a) shall be reviewed at the end of every calendar year and may be revised by the OPP based on changes to the residential population or changes to costs of labour and equipment. In the event that the residential population of the geographic territory of the 9-1-1 Authority increases or decreases by more than 10% during either the previous year, or cumulatively since the date the Agreement began, the annual rate shall be adjusted accordingly for the following year, and the 9-1-1 Authority shall pay the revised annual rate. The OPP shall determine the residential population using population figures found in the latest version of the Ontario Municipal Directory, or if not found there, then in other recognized sources.
- (c) **Invoices** - The first invoice shall be issued immediately to the 9-1-1 Authority upon the start of the Agreement. The 9-1-1 Authority shall subsequently be invoiced annually at the beginning of each calendar year, and the invoice shall cover the time period for the subsequent calendar year, or portion thereof that this Agreement is in effect.
- (d) **Payments** - Payments invoiced under this Agreement shall be made payable to the Minister of Finance, and payment shall be due no later than thirty (30) days following receipt of the invoice. Any payments which have become due and owing after this time period, in whole or in part, shall bear interest at the rate set by the Minister of Finance from time to time.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OPP

The OPP shall manage and operate the Primary PSAP and:

- 5.1 **Personnel** - Staff the Primary PSAP to answer and transfer 9-1-1 calls to the appropriate Secondary PSAP at a level appropriate with the 9-1-1 call volume in the geographic territory of the 9-1-1 Authority.
- 5.2 **Equipment** - Provide, in its operation of the Primary PSAP, terminal equipment which permits the utilization of features provided by Bell Canada to the 9-1-1 Authority consisting of ALI, ANI, Selective Routing and Transfer and Call Control features, as well as equipment to communicate with deaf, hard of hearing, and speech impaired callers.

- 5.3 **Hours** - Operate the Primary PSAP twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.
- 5.4 **9-1-1 Call Response** - Answer and transfer all 9-1-1 calls received by the Primary PSAP and associated ANI/ALI information, to a designated Secondary PSAP within the proper ESZ, as deemed appropriate by Primary PSAP personnel. This shall include maintaining control of the line upon which each 9-1-1 call is received until the 9-1-1 call is confirmed as being transferred to the appropriate Secondary PSAP or until the 9-1-1 call is terminated.
- 5.5 **Record Retention** - Retain digital voice records of all 9-1-1 calls received at the Primary PSAP, in accordance with OPP policy, and ANI/ALI data for one hundred eighty (180) days from the date such records are created. The OPP is prepared to provide to authorized personnel, certified copies of audio recordings, as it directly pertains to the Primary PSAP for the purposes of civil litigation and/or criminal proceedings provided the request is received no later than five (5) days prior to the end of the retention period of the recordings or records. The OPP shall retain the original recordings or records until the conclusion of any civil or criminal proceedings to which such records relate.
- 5.6 **Backup Primary PSAP** - Provide an operational backup Primary PSAP to which 9-1-1 calls shall be transferred at the discretion of the OPP or Bell Canada in the event that the usual Primary PSAP is unable to receive the 9-1-1 calls.
- 5.7 **Non-English Callers** - Make reasonable efforts to respond to 9-1-1 calls from non-English callers, subject to the OPP's ability to access the services of a third-party provider. The OPP does not warrant that it shall be able to provide services to non-English callers, or that it shall be able to access such services from a third-party provider.
- 5.8 **Reports** - Upon request from the 9-1-1 Authority, or as determined by the OPP in consultation with the 9-1-1 Authority, the OPP shall provide reports which show the overall efficiency of the Primary PSAP in answering 9-1-1 calls, including the volume of 9-1-1 calls.

6 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE 9-1-1 AUTHORITY

The 9-1-1 Authority shall:

- 6.1 **Payment** - Be responsible for the amount of payment, in the manner, and within the timelines set out in Article 4.0 herein.
- 6.2 **Designate Secondary PSAPs** - Designate Secondary PSAPs that are not OPP Detachments for each and every ESZ in the geographic territory of the 9-1-1 Authority to which the Primary PSAP shall answer and transfer a 9-1-1 call, and co-ordinate the participation of all such Secondary PSAPs in the manner required by this Agreement.
- 6.3 **Warranty** - Warrant and represent that each Secondary PSAP serving the 9-1-1 Authority is

operative twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, and shall answer and respond to all 9-1-1 calls directed to it from the Primary PSAP.

6.4 **Changes** - Notify the OPP in writing immediately upon becoming aware of any changes, including but not limited to changes to NG9-1-1 or any technology in use that shall affect or is likely to affect the services the OPP provides under this Agreement, or of any changes to, or the termination or expiry of any Agreement between the 9-1-1 Authority and Bell Canada related to the services provided hereunder.

6.5 **GIS Data Responsibility** – The 9-1-1 Authority shall be solely responsible for GIS data it has provided. The OPP is not responsible for aggregating, creating, maintaining, or updating GIS data on behalf of the 9-1-1 Authority.

7 **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

7.1 **Limitation of Liability** - Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, the OPP shall not be responsible or liable for any injury, death or property damage to the 9-1-1 Authority, its employees, subcontractors or agents, or for any claim by any third party against the 9-1-1 Authority, its employees, subcontractors or agents arising from:

- (a) **External Information** - The accuracy or completeness, or lack thereof, of any information the OPP receives from the 9-1-1 Authority, Bell Canada or any other third party, which the OPP relies on in providing services under this Agreement.
- (b) **Equipment and Services** - Equipment or services provided by any other party (including the failure of any other party to provide equipment or services) which the OPP uses and relies on to provide services under this Agreement including but not limited to:
 - (i) Equipment or services required to transfer services provided under this Agreement from any other party to the OPP,
 - (ii) Services provided to non-English speakers who place 9-1-1 calls,
 - (iii) Services provided by Bell Canada to the 9-1-1 Authority including under PERS or NG9-1-1 and,
 - (iv) Services provided by Secondary PSAPs, which are not part of the OPP.
- (c) **Call Volumes** - The inability of the OPP to respond to 9-1-1 calls due to call volume that exceeds the capacity of the Primary PSAP, including the equipment and personnel who work at the Primary PSAP.

7.2 **Survival** - Section 7.1 shall survive the termination or expiry of this Agreement.

8 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- 8.1 **Compliance with Laws** - Both Parties agree to comply with all applicable laws in effect in the Province of Ontario in performing their respective obligations and duties under this Agreement.
- 8.2 **Confidential Information** - Both Parties agree that except where required by law, or for the purpose of performing duties or obligations under this Agreement, neither Party shall directly or indirectly disclose, destroy, exploit or use, either during or after the term of this Agreement, any confidential information belonging to the other Party, unless the other Party has provided its written consent. Both Parties further agree that when this Agreement terminates or expires, they shall return all confidential information belonging to the other Party.

9 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 9.1 **Dispute Resolution** - Subject to Article 10.0 herein, if any dispute arises between the OPP and the 9-1-1 Authority as to their respective rights and obligations under this Agreement, the Parties may use the following dispute resolution mechanism to resolve such disputes:
- (a) The Unit Commander of the Primary PSAP and a representative of the 9-1-1 Authority herein shall attempt to settle the dispute within fifteen (15) business days of the dispute arising;
 - (b) If the Unit Commander of the Primary PSAP and the representative of the 9-1-1 Authority are unable to settle the dispute within fifteen (15) business days of the dispute arising, they shall refer the dispute to the Director. The Director and the representative 9-1-1 Authority shall attempt to resolve the dispute within fifteen (15) business days;
 - (c) If the Parties are still unable to resolve the dispute, the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner of the OPP and representative of the 9-1-1 Authority agrees to attempt to resolve the dispute within fifteen (15) business days; and,
 - (d) If the Parties are still unable to resolve the dispute, each may, with the agreement of the other Party, refer the dispute to arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Act, 1991, as amended.

10 TERM, TERMINATION AND RENEWAL

- 10.1 **Term** - This Agreement shall come into effect on the date first written above and shall remain in force, subject to either party terminating the agreement as specified in this section.
- 10.2 **Termination** - Either Party to this Agreement may terminate this Agreement without cause and without incurring any liability upon providing one hundred eighty (180) days written notice of

termination to the other Party, in which case this Agreement shall terminate one hundred eighty (180) days following the delivery of such notice. Should a notice to terminate be given, the 9-1-1 Authority shall continue to be obligated to pay for the cost of the services described in this Agreement up to and including the date of such termination and the OPP shall continue to be responsible to provide the services described in this Agreement up to and including the date of such termination.

- 10.3 **Immediate Termination** - Either Party may terminate this Agreement immediately without incurring any liability if Bell Canada withdraws offering PERS or any successor technology such as NG9-1-1 to the 9-1-1 Authority or if the Agreement between Bell Canada and the 9-1-1 Authority for the provision of PERS or any successor technology such as NG9-1-1 is terminated or is expired and not renewed.

11 **GENERAL**

- 11.1 **No Waiver** - The failure of a Party to this Agreement to enforce at any time any of the provisions of this Agreement or any of its rights in respect thereto or to insist upon strict adherence to any term of this Agreement shall not be considered to be a waiver of such provision, right or term or in any way to affect the validity of this Agreement.
- 11.2 **Waiver in Writing** - Any waiver by any Party hereto of the performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be effective only if in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of such Party.
- 11.3 **No Prejudice** - The exercise by any Party to this Agreement of any right provided by this Agreement shall not preclude or prejudice such Party from exercising any other right it may have under this Agreement, irrespective of any previous action or proceeding taken by it hereunder.
- 11.4 **Restructuring** - The 9-1-1 Authority shall notify, and consult with the OPP before the 9-1-1 Authority's boundaries are altered, the 9-1-1 Authority is amalgamated with another 9-1-1 Authority, the 9-1-1 Authority is dissolved or the legal status of the 9-1-1 Authority is subject to other substantive changes.
- 11.5 **Relations** - The Agreement shall not create nor shall it be interpreted as creating any association, partnership, employment relationship or any agency relationship between the Parties.
- 11.6 **Media** - Both Parties agree that they shall not at any time directly or indirectly communicate with the media in relation to this Agreement unless they first notify the other Party in writing.
- 11.7 **Promotion** - Neither Party shall publicize or issue any publications related to this Agreement unless they first notify the other Party in writing.

- 11.8 **Assignment** - Neither Party shall assign this Agreement or any portion thereof without the prior written consent of the other, which consent may not be arbitrarily withheld.
- 11.9 **Force Majeure** - Neither Party shall be liable for damages caused by delay or failure to perform its obligations under this Agreement where such delay or failure is caused by an event beyond its reasonable control. The Parties agree that an event shall not be considered beyond one's reasonable control if a reasonable business person applying due diligence in the same or similar circumstances under the same or similar obligations as those contained in the Agreement would have put in place contingency plans to either materially mitigate or negate the effects of such event. If a Party seeks to excuse itself from its obligations under this Agreement due to a force majeure event, that Party shall immediately notify the other Party of the delay or non- performance, the reason for such delay or non-performance and the anticipated period of delay or non-performance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the **9-1-1 Authority** has affixed its Corporate Seal attested by the signature of its duly authorized signing officer(s), and the Provincial Commander of the OPP has personally signed this Agreement to be effective as of the date set out herein.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCDOUGALL

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CARLING

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SEGUIN

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARCHIPELAGO

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

THE WASAUKSING FIRST NATION

SIGNATURE

Print Name & Title

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)

Provincial Commander

Print Name

Date: _____ day of _____, 20__

SCHEDULE "A"

BYLAW OR BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Attached to and forming part of the Agreement between

HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO
as represented by the
MINISTER OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL
on behalf of the ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

And

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCDOUGALL, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CARLING, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MCKELLAR, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SEGUIN, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ARCHIPELAGO, AND THE WASAUKSING FIRST NATION

**PLACEHOLDER
BY-LAW/BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION**



22. Unfinished Business

Date	Res. No.	Item & Description	Assigned to	Status
		Deerfield-Bay Road Upgrades	Public Works & Administration	All information provided by the Engineer was presented to the representative for the Association in Spring 2024.
		Stoney Road, Dockside Drive and Bruce Trail (Fire Route 152, 152A, 152B) Road Upgrades	Public Works & Administration	Road studies completed. Documents have been forwarded to the Manitou Cottage Association. A petition is requested to be received by January 3, 2025.
		Hurdville Road Reconstruction (1.9KM)	Public Works & Administration	Engineer drafting drawings and tender for work, to be started and completed Spring/Summer 2025.
Mar. 7/23	23-204	By-law 2023-23 Being a By-law to Regulate Dogs in the Township	By-law Enforcement	By-law deferred at Dec. 19/23 meeting. BLEO to make updates and present to Council at a future meeting.
Jul. 4/23	23-470	Re-name Hart Road (formerly Fire Route 306)	Administration	Residents on road have been contacted, they are coming up with another name.
Nov. 21/23	23-726	Placement of a Dry Hydrant	Fire Department	An item on the 2025 Draft Capital Budget. FC & PW Superintendent will determine a suitable location.
Jan. 9/24	24-013	Purchase and Circulation of Transfer Station Permits	Administration	In-house proof to be circulated to Council for approval.
Jan. 9/24	24-017	By-law 2024-03 Adopt a Human Resources Policy	Administration	To be discussed at a future meeting in Closed Session.
Feb. 7/24	24-080	By-law 2024-15 Being a By-law to Amend the Parking By-law (with respect to fees)	By-law Enforcement	Report to Council with area Municipality fees.
Mar. 1/24	24-107	Quotations for Playground Equipment for Broadbent Ball Park	Administration	Surveys have been collected.
Mar. 19/24	24-160	New Fees & Charges By-law	Administration	
Sept. 3/24		Review Cemetery By-law		
Sept. 17/24	24-520	Information Session for Various Pavement Products used on Municipal Roads	Public Works	Miller available the week of January 13 th or 20 th to provide a presentation to Council.
Nov. 19/24	24-562 24-616	Payment to Belvedere Heights	Treasury	Waiting on more information from the Board of Management prior to remitting payment.



November 14, 2024

- OEB Bulletin for re: new connections.
- Human Rights Impact Assessment for AI Tools.
- ERO posting on changes to excess soils regulations.
- ERO posting on proposed changes to energy legislation.
- Applications open for Codes Acceleration Fund.
- ROMA Conference: Rural Routes – Program Updates.
- Request Your Delegation Meeting at 2025 ROMA Conference by Deadline November 27 5:00pm.
- Tips to how to best prepare for your provincial delegation meetings at the ROMA Conference.
- ROMA 2025 *Rural Routes*: ROMA Exhibit Hall is almost sold out!
- Foundations in Planning & Advanced Land Use Planning – Winter Workshops.
- Indigenous Community Awareness – February 2025 Workshop.
- ROMA Pre-conference Workshop January 18 - Two Keys to Municipal Success.
- NEW Workshop! Apathy to Action: Building Resilient Communities through Managing Assets.
- NEW Workshop! Equity, Inclusion and Innovation in Municipalities, March 25.
- Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official - March 2025 Workshop.
- Disability Inclusion Virtual Workshop – March 27.
- Managing Communications through Crisis – April 2025 Workshop .
- Canoe webinar: Leveraging Stakeholder Relationships for Procurement Success.
- Lighting upgrades in 2025? Talk to LAS!
- New Where to Recycle map.
- OAITH Wrapped in Courage Campaign.
- HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: Levelling Up – Transforming Housing.
- Food waste: Initiatives Leading Change Symposium.
- AdvantAge Annual Seniors' Housing Forum.
- Careers.

Provincial Matters

The Ontario Energy Board has [issued a bulletin](#) to electricity distributors providing guidance and expectations for meeting obligations to ensure new connections are timely.

The Law Commission of Ontario, and Ontario Human Rights Commission have developed [an assessment toolkit](#) to help organizations implementing AI systems ensure systems are designed to avoid discrimination and encourage compliance with human rights requirements.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is [seeking comments](#) on proposed changes to excess soil management to remove barriers for the reuse of soil. Comments are due November 21.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is seeking comments on [proposed legislative amendments](#) to related to integrated energy planning and affordability measures. Comments are due November 22.

Federal Matters

The [Codes Acceleration Fund](#) (CAF) is open to projects geared towards accelerating the adoption and implementation of the higher tiers of the national model energy codes or other mandatory energy

regulations. Approximately \$30M in funding available.

Education Opportunities

ROMA is pleased to share the 2025 conference concurrent sessions. Sessions are designed from the rural perspective, highlighting solutions and innovation for rural communities. [Register for the ROMA Conference today.](#)

MMAH is now accepting requests for delegations at the ROMA Conference. [Details on how to request a delegation meeting is here.](#)

AMO has developed a guide for municipal officials to request, prepare for and attend delegation meetings with provincial officials. Download the guide [here.](#)

The ROMA conference exhibit hall connects with over 1,500 attendees from rural Ontario municipalities. With the exhibit hall almost sold out, book your trade show booth today. Download the [exhibitor package](#) today.

[Foundations in Land Use Planning](#) familiarizes participants with legislation, land use planning processes, and provides real life examples to give a deep understanding and insight into important planning matters. From a strategic perspective, [Advance Land Use Planning](#) analyzes case studies through instructor lead instruction and group discussion.

The OFIFC and AMO workshop provides historical and current insight and knowledge into the damage brought to Indigenous communities. This workshop builds understanding and insight that is critical to developing strong, productive, and meaningful relationships between municipalities and Indigenous leaders and communities. Through a self-paced learning module and live virtual component, this workshop will provide knowledge and tools to utilize in moving improved and stronger Indigenous-municipal relations forward in Ontario. [Register today](#) for the February 19 workshop.

AMO's [Two Keys to Municipal Success: Sustainability & Engagement](#) workshop explores strategies for planning your organizations financial sustainability and how to successfully communicate to and engage your community on your plan and efforts.

Asset management is about making informed, evidence-based decisions that help you allocate limited resources effectively and prioritize infrastructure investments. The [Apathy to Action: Building Resilient Communities through Managing Assets](#) interactive workshop offers municipally elected officials the opportunity to explore how asset management not only fulfills legislative requirements but also enhances decision-making and strengthens service delivery.

The [Equity, Inclusion and Innovation in Municipalities workshop](#) examines the importance and opportunities in embedding equity, inclusion and innovation within municipal decision-making processes, policies, and innovations. Explore practical strategies to create a more inclusive and equitable leadership approach and municipal organization.

Municipal leadership is often a pin cushion for our culture's broader issues. Conflict and misunderstanding is a big part of many municipal leaders current realities. This workshop provides an opportunity to transform conflict into collaboration. The [Navigating Conflict Relationships as an Elected Official October workshop](#) teaches skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones in your role as an elected municipal official.

AMO Education has partnered with the Abilities Centre to deliver a workshop designed to enhance your understanding and approach to inclusion. Register for this important [Disability Inclusion Workshop.](#)

Your community elected you to provide sound and confident leadership in the best interest of your community. During a crisis, this approach to leadership is critical. AMO's workshop on [Managing Communications through Crisis](#) provides insight and tools to support in being this leader.

LAS

The [Canoe Procurement Group](#) is hosting a [member-only](#) webinar on November 26 at 11am EST. Join Procurement Manager Stephanie Dion and Contract Manager Tony DeSciscio to explore how building trust and engaging stakeholders can enhance your procurement team's role. [Register here](#).

The [LAS Facility Lighting Service](#) provides a complete turn-key solution for your lighting upgrades, both indoors and out. [Contact us](#) today for a free budget proposal for your 2025 budget.

Municipal Wire*

Add this new Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority '[Where to Recycle](#)' map to your municipalities' websites and communications materials. Get answers to your questions at this [FAQ](#).

The [campaign](#) from the Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses educates community and elected officials about violence against women and the services needed. Make a proclamation on November 25.

[HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: Levelling Up – New Approaches to Transform Housing](#) is showcasing strategies to sustain and grow the community housing sector. Dive into finance, scale, and development on February 27-28 in Toronto.

Join Ontario Food Collaborative's [virtual symposium](#) on November 21, 2024, to explore impactful food waste solutions, practical tips, and the true costs of waste with industry experts.

Expanding Living Options for Seniors will be held virtually on November 22 from 8:45 am – 2:30 pm. The event shares transformative solutions in seniors' supportive housing and care. Register [here](#).

Careers

[Chief Administrative Officer - Municipality of Red Lake](#). Closing Date: December 12

[Administrative Assistant to the Director - City of Vaughan](#). Closing Date: November 25.

[General Manager of Operations - County of Brant](#). Closing Date: December 2

About AMO

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AMO Contacts

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[Conferences/Events](#)

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[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)



AMO Watchfile



November 21, 2024

- Human Rights AI Impact Assessment tools.
- OMAFA webinar on land-use siting for energy projects.
- ERO posting on changes to excess soils regulations.
- ERO posting on proposed changes to energy legislation.
- ERO Posting on changes to electricity system connection infrastructure.
- Integrated Energy Resource Plan Consultation.
- Intake announcement - Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund.
- ROMA Conference: *Rural Routes* - Program updates.
- ROMA Conference: *Rural Routes* - Request your delegation meetings.
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- Managing Communications through Crisis, April 2025 workshop.
- Canoe webinar: Leveraging Stakeholder Relationships for Procurement Success.
- Use Canoe for easy budget pricing.
- Plan for your 2025 road need study now.
- Blog: Fortifying Your Municipality Against Cyber Threats.
- Enbridge Gas Integrated Resource Planning webinars - Register TODAY!
- New Where to Recycle map.
- OAITH Wrapped in Courage campaign.
- HSC's 2025 Regeneration Forum: *Levelling Up - Transforming Housing*.
- AdvantAge Annual Seniors' Housing Forum.
- Careers and RFP.

Provincial Matters

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The Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Agri-Business are hosting [a webinar](#) with the IESO on November 21 to provide information and answer questions about renewable energy project siting.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is [seeking comments](#) on proposed changes to excess soil management to remove barriers for the reuse of soil. Comments are due November 21.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) on proposed legislative amendments to related to integrated energy planning and affordability measures. Comments are due November 22.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) on proposed regulatory changes that will shift the cost and risk burden of funding new distribution infrastructure from first-movers. Comments are due December 7.

The Ministry of Energy and Electrification is [seeking comments](#) to inform the development of a provincial energy plan to guide the transition to a clean, reliable, affordable energy supply. Comments are due December 13.

Federal Matters

The \$6 billion Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund launches with \$1 billion for direct municipal and Indigenous infrastructure projects supporting housing-enabling infrastructure. Visit the [CHIF website](#) for [application details](#) and upcoming webinars.

Education Opportunities

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Planning your 2025 budget? The [Canoe Procurement Group](#) makes it easy to get pricing for the goods and services you plan to purchase next year. Provide Council with accurate numbers and avoid unpleasant surprises when the time comes to buy. [Contact Sarah](#) to learn more.

Is a [Road or Sidewalk Assessment](#) part of your 2025 plan? [Contact Tanner](#) to learn more and get a no-obligation quote for a high-quality service with LAS partner Streetscan. Get better data to make better decisions.

According to the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, [ransomware is the most disruptive form of cybercrime](#) currently impacting North America. These cyber-attacks not only disrupt services but can also lead to significant financial losses and an erosion of public trust.

Municipal Wire*

Enbridge Gas' Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) webinars will provide an overview of what IRP is, their system planning process, stakeholder engagement process and the latest on their pilot project. Register [region](#).

Add this new Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority '[Where to Recycle](#)' map to your municipalities' websites and communications materials. Get answers to your questions at this [FAQ](#).

The *Wrapped in Courage* [campaign](#) from the Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses educates community and elected officials about violence against women and the services needed. Make a proclamation on November 25.

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Careers and RFPs

[Request for Proposals for the provision of Assertive Street Outreach Services - County of Simcoe](#).

Closing Date: December 16, 2024.

[Director of Operations and Development - Town of Tillsonburg](#). Closing Date: November 29, 2024.

[Foreperson, District Parks - City of Brampton](#). Closing Date: November 25, 2024

[Town Manager/Clerk - Township of Black River-Matheson](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Director of Public Services - Township of Black River-Matheson](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Treasurer - Township of Black River-Matheson](#). Closing Date: November 30, 2024.

[Senior Project Manager - Ministry of Transportation](#). Closing Date: December 10, 2024.

[Director of Public Works - Oxford County](#). Closing Date: December 15, 2024.

[Manager of Public Works - Township of Lanark Highlands](#). Closing Date: November 29, 2024.

[Public Works Operations Supervisor - Township of Lanark Highlands](#). Closing Date: November 29, 2024.

[Waste Collection Program Co-Ordinator - City of Greater Sudbury](#). Closing Date: December 10, 2024.

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Seguin Township

5 Humphrey Drive,
Seguin, Ontario P2A 2W8

Tel: (705) 732-4300

Toll Free: (877) 473-4846

Fax: (705) 732-6347

www.seguin.ca

SENT VIA EMAIL TO KAMI JOHNSON, ADMINISTRATOR :
Ltadministrator@belvedereheights.com

November 14th, 2024

Belvedere Heights Board of Management
21 Belvedere Ave.
Parry Sound, ON P2A 2A2

Re: 22 New Beds at Belvedere Heights, Funding and Cost Estimates

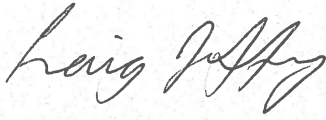
Dear Board Members:

At the regular meeting of the Township of Seguin Council held on October 21st, 2024 Council received a delegation and presentation by Belvedere Heights Board Chair Pam Wing and Board Member Don Carmichael related to the 22 new private room addition to Belvedere Heights and Infrastructure Ontario Funding options.

At the regular meeting of Township of Seguin Council held November 4th, 2024 Seguin Council defeated Resolution No. 2024-327 (copy enclosed) related to Option 2 of the presentation by the Belvedere Heights Board representatives. Seguin Council directed Township of Seguin staff to advise the Belvedere Heights Board of Management that Seguin Council does not support the Board's Option 2: Carling Council to support construction loan and subsequent conversion to 25-year debenture. Council also directed staff to advise the Board that Seguin Council supports the Board's Option 1: Belvedere is IO client: all 8 municipalities required to guarantee IO financing.

Please advise what are the next steps required to implement the Board's Option 1.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Jeffery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Craig Jeffery
Clerk

encl.

cc Partner Municipal Councils



Resolution No. 2024- 327

The Corporation of the Township of Seguin

Moved by erry
TFellner

Seconded by Greg
GGetty

Date November 4th, 2024

WHEREAS in June 2024 all eight municipal owners of Belvedere Heights long term care home endorsed the proposal to add up to 24 new long-term care beds;

AND WHEREAS the opportunity to receive a \$35 per diem construction funding subsidy needed to fund the new build is predicated, in part, on securing financing by the November 8th, 2024, deadline;

AND WHEREAS Infrastructure Ontario provides an option to secure construction funding in October 2024 prior to the November deadline without an upfront guarantee from all eight municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Carling has agreed to enter into agreement with Infrastructure Ontario to secure the construction loan on behalf of Belvedere Heights;

AND WHEREAS Belvedere Heights will enter into a loan agreement with the Township of Carling guaranteeing payment of all financial obligations to Infrastructure Ontario for the borrowing costs;



The Corporation of the Township of Seguin

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Seguin endorses the Belvedere Heights proposal to enter into a loan agreement with the Township of Carling to support a two-year construction funding loan with the guarantee that Belvedere Heights will provide funds from operating reserves as required in advance of all Infrastructure Ontario payment terms.

<u>DIVISION LIST</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	
Adams	—	—	—	—	CARRIED —
Buszynski	—	—	—	—	DEFEATED <u>CON</u>
Collins	—	—	—	—	
Fellner	—	—	—	—	
Finson	—	—	—	—	
Getty	—	—	—	—	
MacDiarmid	—	—	—	—	

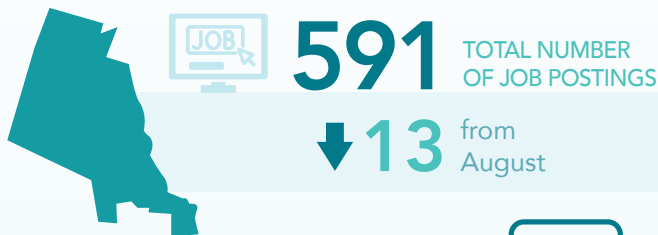
MONTHLY JOBS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2024

The Labour Market Group
Guiding partners to workforce solutions.

NIPISSING DISTRICT

There were 591 job postings recorded for Nipissing District in September. While this figure represents a very slight decrease in month-over-month (-2.2%, -13) comparisons, it is a significant increase in year-over-year (+34.6%, +152) comparisons. 284 Unique employers posted jobs in September; also marking a significant increase in year-over-year comparisons (+21.4%, +50) and a slight decrease in month-over-month (-4.4%, -13) comparisons, however, the jobs/employer ratio saw a minimal increase from last month.



OF THE 591 JOB POSTINGS



100%
Collected from
online sources.



1.4%
(8) Requiring a
bilingual individual.

24.9%
(147) Criminal
Record Check



For postings
that listed an
annual salary.



\$73,329.95/year
AVERAGE



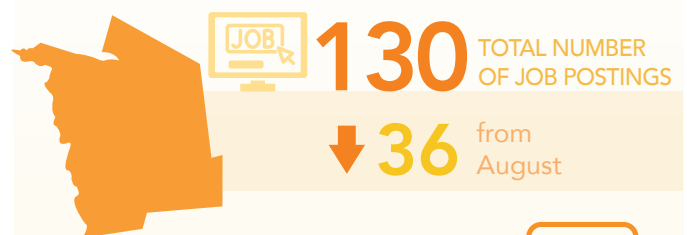
\$26.41
HOURLY WAGE

The average hourly wage
in September for those
postings which listed one.

Of the 194 postings which listed an hourly wage 1% (2) were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$16.55/hour.

PARRY SOUND DISTRICT

There were 130 job postings recorded for the Parry Sound District in September. This is a significant decrease in month-over-month (-21.7%, -36) but a more significant increase in year-over-year (+32.7%, 32) comparisons. 69 Unique employers posted jobs in September; a notable decrease; -20.7% (-18) to the previous month's figure of 87, and a slight decrease from; -5.5% (-4) the September 2023 figure of 73 unique employers.



OF THE 130 JOB POSTINGS



100%
Collected from
online sources.



0.8%
(1) Requiring a
bilingual individual.

14.6%
(19) Criminal
Record Check



For postings
that listed an
annual salary.



\$76,666.67/year
AVERAGE



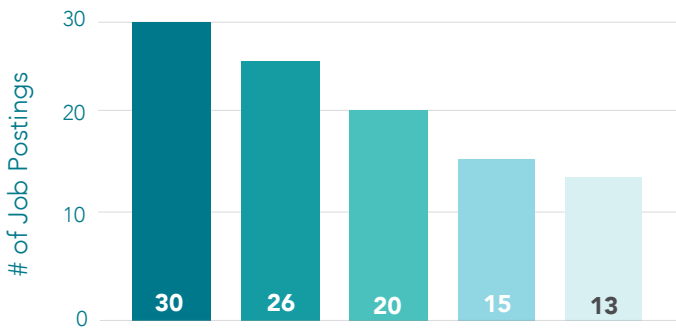
\$27.77
HOURLY WAGE

The average hourly wage
in September for those
postings which listed one.

Of the 60 postings which listed an hourly wage none were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$16.55/hour.

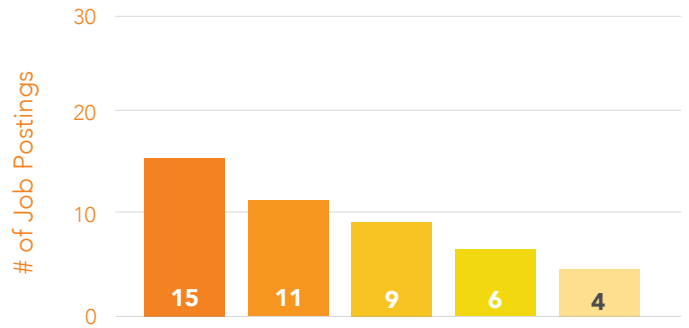
TOP 5 EMPLOYERS POSTING JOBS

- North Bay Regional Health Centre
- Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board
- Near North District School Board
- Nipissing University
- District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board



TOP 5 EMPLOYERS POSTING JOBS

- Near North District School Board
- Walmart - Parry Sound
- West Parry Sound Health Centre
- District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board
- Oakcrest Co.



TOP 5 INDUSTRIES HIRING (NAICS)

1 **25.7%** of all job postings

Health Care & Social Assistance (NAIC 62)



Top 5 Positions

- 37** Social Service Worker / Case Manager
- 15** Registered Nurse
- 14** Administrative Assistant / Clerk
- 13** Personal Support Worker
- 11** Registered Practical Nurse

- 2** **16.8%** : Retail Trade (NAIC 44-45)
- 3** **14.9%** : Educational Services (NAIC 61)
- 4** **7.3%** : Transportation & Warehousing (NAICS 48-49)
- 5** **6.8%** : Professional, Scientific & Technical Services (NAICS 54)

The Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS-62) industry saw the lion's share of job postings in September with 25.7% (152) of the total. The Retail Trade (NAICS-44-45) industry saw the largest month-over-month increase in job posting representation with a +3.8% change from August. The largest month-over-month decrease occurred within the Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS-72) industry with a -3.2% decrease in the September job postings.

TOP 5 INDUSTRIES HIRING (NAICS)

1 **26.9%** of all job postings

Health Care & Social Assistance (NAIC 62)



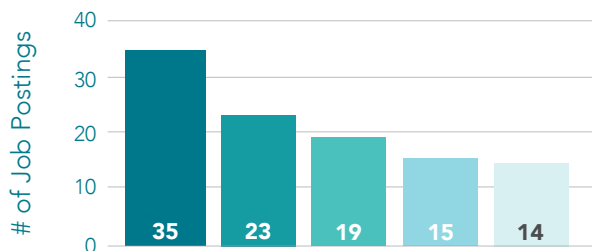
Top 5 Positions

- 9** Social Service Worker / Case Manager
- 5** Administrative Assistant / Clerk
- 4** Personal Support Worker
- 3** Registered Nurse
- 3** Dental Hygienist

- 2** **20%** : Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)
- 3** **15.4%** : Educational Services (NAICS 61)
- 4** **9.2%** : Accommodation & Food Services (NAICS 72)
- 5** **6.9%** : Manufacturing (NAICS 31-33)

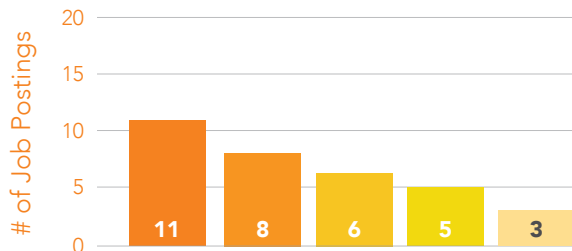
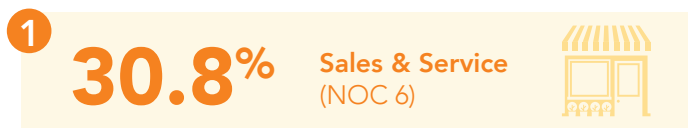
The Health Care and Social Assistance (NAICS-62) industry saw the greatest number of job postings in September with 26.9% (35) of the overall share amongst all major industry classification. The Educational Services (NAICS-61) industry saw the largest month-over-month increase of +2.7% when compared to August; accounting for 15.4% (20) of the job share this month. The largest month-over-month decrease of -7% occurred within the Accommodation and Food Services (NAICS-72) industry which accounted for 9.2% (15) of the job postings this month, still one of the top 3 contributors.

TOP 3 OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORIES (NOC)

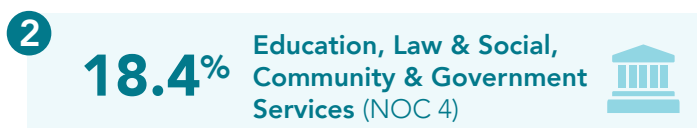


- Sales Associate / Representative
- Food Service Worker / Barista
- Customer Service Representative
- Cleaner / Housekeeper / Janitor
- Clerk / Cashier

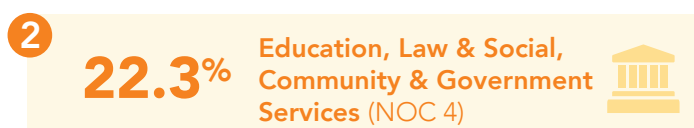
TOP 3 OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORIES (NOC)



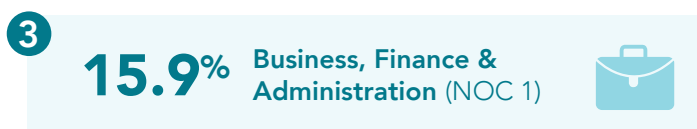
- Sales Associate / Representative
- Clerk / Cashier
- Food and Beverage Server / Bartender
- Cook / Chef
- Hotel Front Desk / Housekeeping



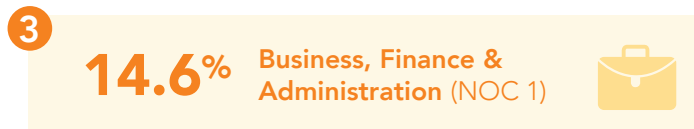
- Social Service Worker / Case Manager (34)
- Teacher - Elementary/Secondary (29)
- Personal Support Worker (14)
- Early Childhood Educator / Assistant (9)
- Professor/Instructor - College/University (7)



- Teacher - Elementary/Secondary (12)
- Social Service Worker / Case Manager (6)
- Personal Support Worker (2)
- Early Childhood Educator / Assistant (4)
- Teacher Assistant - Elementary/Secondary (2)



- Administrative Assistant / Clerk (19)
- Accountant / Bookkeeper (15)
- Finance / Investment Professional (7)
- Recruiter / Human Resources Professional (5)
- Marketing Professional (4)



- Administrative Assistant / Clerk (9)
- Finance / Investment Professional (6)
- Recruiter / Human Resources Professional (3)
- Marketing Professional (1)

Sales and Service (NOC-6) based occupations made up the largest portion of job postings with 28.1% (166) of all postings in September when compared to the major occupational classifications. It was the Health (NOC 3) based occupations that saw the largest month-over-month increase with a +4.3% change. The largest month-over-month decrease of -4.7% was seen for Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services (NOC-4), however, it still made up the top 3 Occupational Classifications this month.

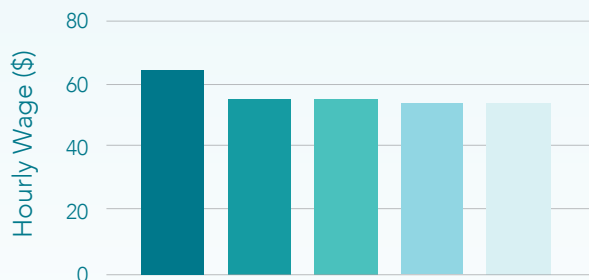
Sales and Service (NOC-6) based occupations represented the largest number of job postings in September with 30.8% (40) of all postings when compared to the other occupational classifications. The largest month-over-month increase; +10.4%, was seen in the Business, Finance and Administration (NOC-1) occupations. Education, Law and Social, Community and Government Services (NOC-4) saw the largest month-over-month decrease in job posting share of -7.8%, however, it still made up the top 3 Occupational Classifications this month.

TOP 5 HOURLY WAGE VACANCIES



\$62.23

Service Worker - After Hours
@ Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services



\$57.90 **Mental Health Therapist**
@ West Nipissing General Hospital

\$57.18 **Physician Assistant**
@ West Nipissing General Hospital

\$57.00 **IT Development Manager**
@ CRC Solutions

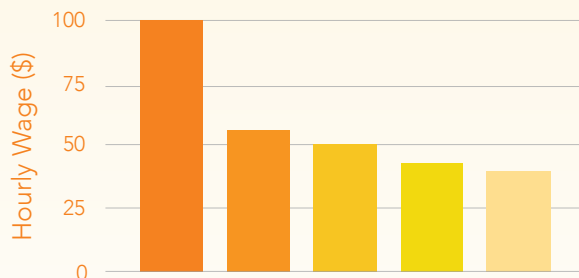
\$57.00 **HVACR Technician**
@ MWM

TOP 5 HOURLY WAGE VACANCIES



\$100.00

Massage Therapist
@ Parry Sound Massage Therapy Clinic



\$56.00 **Registered Nurse - Floating**
@ West Parry Sound Health Centre

\$50.00 **Mechanic - Heavy Equipment**
@ Bowman Landscaping and Excavation

\$40.00 **Dental Hygienist**
@ Dr. Robert Guthrie

\$38.32 **Case Manager - Community Outreach and Support**
@ Canadian Mental Health Association - Muskoka Parry Sound Branch

TOP 3 ANNUAL SALARY VACANCIES

\$300,000.00

Dentist - Associate
@ McKeown Dental



\$130,000.00

Prevention Services Supervisor
@ Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services

\$130,000.00

Alternative Care Services Supervisor
@ Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services

Lowest Annual Salary \$36,000.00

Sales Supervisor - Retail (Assistant)
@ Dollarama L.P.

The average hourly wage in September, for those postings which listed (32.8%) one, was \$26.41/hour. This is fairly similar to the current 12-month average of \$26.10/hour. Of the 194 postings, which listed an hourly wage, only 1% (2) were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$16.55/hour, this is inline with the gradual trend we have been seeing the past few months. For postings that listed an annual salary, the average was \$73,329.35/year. This almost identical to the current 12-month average of \$73,859.85/year.

TOP ANNUAL SALARY VACANCY

\$140,000.00

Director Of Finance
@ District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board



\$125,000.00

Financial Services Manager
@ Bourgeois Ford North

\$110,000.00

Veterinarian
@ Verzijlenberg Veterinary Professional Corporation

Lowest Annual Salary \$37,000.00

Customer Service Manager
@ Walmart - Parry Sound

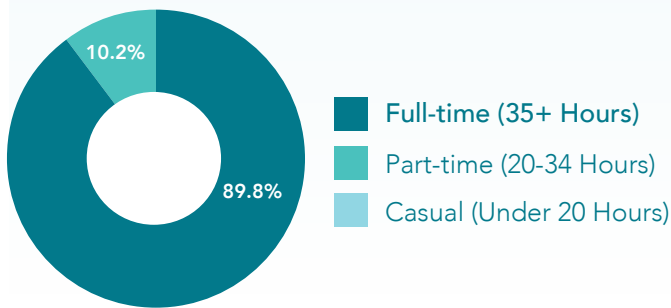
The average hourly wage in September for those postings which listed (46.2%) one was \$27.77/hour. This figure is a slight increase; +3.5% (+\$0.93/hour), to the current 12-month average of \$26.84/hour. Of the 60 postings which listed an hourly wage none were listed at the provincial minimum wage of \$16.55/hour. The average annual salary listed in the month of September was \$76,666.67; significantly higher; +10.4% (+7,235.69/year), than the current 12-month average annual salary of \$69,430.98/year.

FULL-TIME / PART-TIME BREAKDOWN

89.8% of listings in September

↑ 13.5%
from August

89.8% (531) of the listings in September indicated that the employment offered would be classified as full-time. This figure represents a significant increase; 13.5%, from the previous month when 76.3% of the job postings were classified as full-time.



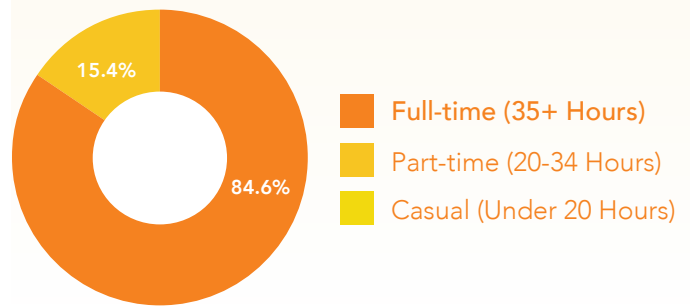
591 Postings listed hours offered (100%)

FULL-TIME / PART-TIME BREAKDOWN

84.6% of listings in September

↑ 10.3%
from August

84.6% (110) of the listings in September indicated that the employment offered would be classified as full-time. This figure is a significant increase; +10.3%, from the previous month where 74.3% of the job postings were classified as full-time.



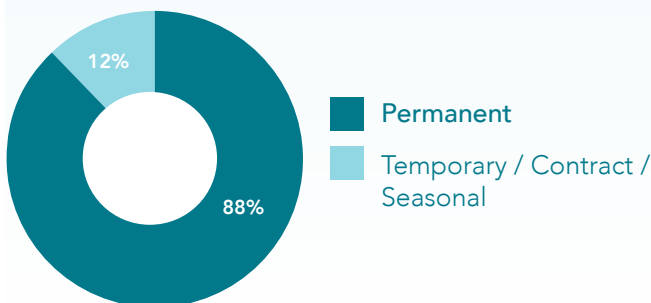
130 Postings listed hours offered (100%)

TERM OF EMPLOYMENT

88% of listings in September

↑ 1.4%
from August

88% (520) of the listings in September stated that the opportunity in question would be permanent. This is nearly identical (+1.4%) to the previous month's figure of 86.6%.



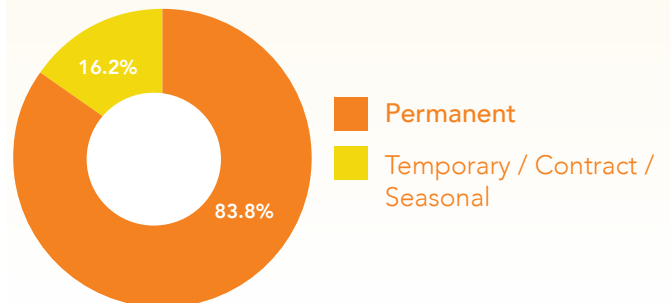
591 Postings listed hours offered (100%)

TERM OF EMPLOYMENT

83.8% of listings in September

↓ 1.1%
from August

83.8% (141) of the listings in September stated that the opportunity in question would be permanent. This is almost identical from the previous month's figure of 84.9% (-1.1%).



130 Postings listed hours offered (100%)

ALL EMPLOYERS WITH POSTINGS IN MONTH



NIPISSING DISTRICT

401 Auto - North Bay Chrysler
A&W Restaurant
ABM Integrated Solutions
Account on Fullerton
Actlabs
Addiction Treatment Centre of Excellence
- Canadore College
Airport Animal Hospital - VetStrategy
Alex McKillop Tax Ltd.
Algonquin Pharmsave & Compounding Center
AllRoads Auto Sales
Alterna Savings
Alzheimer Society Sudbury-Manitoulin
North Bay and Districts
Anishinabek / Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre
Apollo Transport
Aramark Canada Ltd.
Arborworks
Ashley HomeStore North Bay
Avison Electrical
Bath & Body Works
Bentley & Co Ltd
Best Buy
Beyond Wireless Inc.
Beyond Wireless North Bay-McKeown
Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Bay
and District Incorporated
Bin City Liquidation
Binx Professional Cleaning
Blue Sky Animal Hospital
Blue Sky Economic Growth Corp
Blue Sky Orthodontics
BNA Lawn Maintenance
Boart Longyear - North Bay
Boart Longyear - Sturgeon Falls
Boutique Marie Claire Inc
Bradwick Property Management
Brainworks
Breathe Easy Cleaning Services
Bulk Barn Foods Limited
Bumper to Bumper - H.E. Brown
CAA INSURANCE
CAA North & East Ontario
Caisse Alliance
Canada Post
Canadian Addiction Treatment Pharmacy
Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services
Canadian Mental Health Association
- North Bay and Area
Canadian Shield Health Care Services Inc.
Canadian Tire - North Bay
Canadian Tire - Sturgeon Falls
Canadian Tire Gas+ - North Bay
Canadore College - College Drive
Canor Construction
Carriers Canada
Cascades Casino
Casselholme Home for the Aged
CBI Health
Cementation Canada
Central Welding & Iron Works
CIBC - North Bay
CJ Limited - Charm Diamond Centres
Closing the Gap Healthcare
Cogeco
Columbia Forest Products Ltd
Commissionaires
Community Counselling Centre of Nipissing
Community Living North Bay
Complete Landscaping
Conseil Scolaire Catholique Franco-Nord
Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario
Contact North
Contrans Flatbed Group
Country Style & Mr. Sub
CRC Solutions
Crisis Centre North Bay
DenKar Controls Inc.
Dentistry on Airport

Dentistry on Worthington
Designed Roofing Inc., Essential Exteriors
& Northland Glass & Metal
Diagnostic Sleep Clinic
District of Nipissing Social Services
Administration Board
District School Board Ontario North East
Dollarama L.P.
Dragonfly
Dyno Nobel
East Ferris Pharmsave
Ecotrex Ltd.
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Essential Exteriors
Evergreen Landscaping
Express Parcel
Eye Associates of North Bay
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott North Bay
Fastenal
FDM4
FedEx Express Canada
Fire & Flower Inc
First Choice Haircutters
First Onsite
First Student / First Transit
Follett Company
Freightliner North Bay
GardaWorld
Giant Tiger - North Bay
Godspeed Group
goeasy
GoodLife Fitness
Goodyear Canada Inc. (Retreading)
Grant Energy Inc.
Grant Thornton LLP
GreenFirst Forest Products Inc.
Grounded Electrical
Groupe Optimum Inc.
GRW Transport Limited
Guy's Tire Sales Inc
H&R Block
Hair Designers
Hands, TheFamilyHelpNetwork.ca
Hearing Life Canada
Hemo Logistics Inc.
Hickory Farms
Home Depot
Home Instead Senior Care
Homewood Suites by Hilton North Bay
Hopper Buick GMC
HOSE TECH
Imagine Therapeutic Services
Indigenous Services Canada - First Nations
and Inuit Health Branch
Indigo Books & Music
Intelcom Express
J&R Property Management
Jackman Flower Shop Limited
Jim Fournier Contracting
John's Renos
Kal Tire
Kaltech Mining Services Ltd.
Kana Leaf
Kia North Bay
King's Roofing North Bay
Knight Piesold Ltd.
KPMG LLP
Kristin Hodge Dentistry
La Voyager Inc
Lakeshore Dental Care
Les Compagnons des francs loisirs
Les Soeurs de l'Assomption de la Sainte
vierge
MacEwen North Bay
Manitoulin Group of Companies
Marina Point Village
Mark's/L'quipeur
Martin Roy Transport / MRT
Mattawa River Resort Inc.
McDougall Energy Inc.
McKeown Dental

Metal Fab Ltd.
Metis Nation of Ontario
Metro - North Bay
Michaels
Miller Technology Incorporated
Ministry of Transportation
Modern College of Hairstyling and Esthetics
Money Mart - North Bay
Montessori Learning Centre of North Bay Inc.
MP Bookkeeping
Mr Seamless Eavestroughing Ltd
Murray Ok Tire
MWM
Myrt's Family Restaurant
National Veterinary Associates
Near North District School Board
Neddy's North Bay Hyundai
Nijjaansinaik Child and Family Services
Nipissing Serenity Hospice
Nipissing Transition House
Nipissing University
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic
District School Board
Nordic Minesteel Technologies Inc.
North Bay & District Multicultural Centre
North Bay Cardiology
North Bay Construction Documents
Depository
North Bay Golden Age Club
North Bay Humane Society
North Bay Mazda
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
North Bay Police Service
North Bay Regional Health Centre
Northern Diversified Limited
Northern Lakes Dental
Northern OK Tire
Old Dutch Foods
One Kids Place Children's Medical Treatment
Center of North East Ontario
One Plant
Ontario Health
Ontario Northland
Paragon Bay Group Ltd.
Paramed Home Health Care
Partner's Billiards and Bowling
Petro Canada and Restaurant - Temagami
Pickard Construction
Popavape SuperCenter
Pop's Cannabis Co.
Premier Mining Products
Purolator Inc.
Queen Street Family Dentistry
Rahnmet
Redpath Mining Contractors and Engineers
Reitmans Lte/ltid
Roots Canada
Royal Bank of Canada
Salvation Army, The
Savage Equipment Leasing Inc.
Scotiabank - North Bay
Securiguard Services Limited
Sephora Canada
Serco Canada Inc.
Shoppers Drug Mart - Josephine St.
Showcase
Sienna Senior Living
Sobeys - North Bay
Sobeys Flowers
SPAR Canada
Spencer Gifts
Spirit Halloween
Stantec
Staples Canada
Statistics Canada
Stock Transportation
StorageVault Canada Inc.
Structure Spine and Sport
STUDYBUDDY CANADA IMMIGRATION
INC.
Sturgeon Falls IDA

Subway - 22 Wing
Subway - Lakeshore Drive
Subway - Main Street
Subway - Pinewood Park Drive
Subway - Shirreff Ave.
Subway - Sturgeon Falls
Subway - Trout Lake Road
Sword Management
Syl's Neighbourhood Kitchen
T.E. Parolin & Sons
Talize
Tan Tan Wok
Testmark Laboratories Ltd.
The Beer Store - Main St. W.
The Children's Aid Society of the District
of Nipissing and Parry Sound
The Corporation of the City of North Bay
The Cosmetic Clinic
The Erb Group of Companies
The Home Depot - North Bay
The Lindsay Weld Centre for Children
The Station Tap House & Steak co.
The Submarine Place
Thermo Coustics Limited
ThinkOn
Tim Hortons - Algonquin Ave.
Tim Hortons - North Bay
Tim Hortons - Sturgeon Falls
TJX Companies - Winners
Tranquil Care Inc.
Trans Canada Safety
True North Chevrolet Cadillac Ltd / Fix Auto
North Bay
Tulloch Engineering
Tutor Match
Twiggs Coffee Company Inc
Union of Ontario Indians
Valin Partners
Valois Motel & Restaurant
VetStrategy
Victim Services of Nipissing District
Victorian Order of Nurses / VON
Vida Salon
Virgin Plus
Volkswagen North Bay
VON Canada (Ontario) - North Bay
Voyageur Aviation Corp
Walmart - North Bay
Waters Edge Care Community
Welcome Inn Mattawa
Wendy's Restaurant
Wendy's Restaurants - McKeown Ave
Wendy's Restaurants-North Bay
West Nipissing General Hospital
Wine Rack - North Bay, ON
Winners
YMCA of Northeastern Ontario



PARRY SOUND DISTRICT

1886 Lake House Bistro
Adams Bros. Construction
Alio Health Services
Almaguin Family Dental
Almaguin Highlands Community Living
Arborworks
Bayshore Health Care
Ben's Pharmacy
Best Buy Express
Bourgeois Ford North
Bowman Landscaping and Excavation
Breathe Easy Spa Boutique
Burger King - Parry Sound
Canadian Mental Health Association -
Muskoka Parry Sound Branch
CarePartners
Comfort Inn Parry Sound
Contact North
CSN Buchans

Dawson Dental - Callander Bay Dental
Dentistry on the Bay
District of Parry Sound Social Services
Administration Board
Dr. Robert Guthrie
Eastholme Home for the Aged
Edgewater Park Lodge
Edward Jones
GF Preston Ltd
Grand Tappattoo Resort
Hammond Transportation Ltd.
Jolly Roger Inn & Resort
Lakeside Contracting
Lane Family Pharmsave
Lawson Landscapes
Lifemark Health Group
Mac Lang
Marshall Well Drilling
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation
and Parks
Municipality of the Village of South River
Near North District School Board
Nijjaansinaanik Child and Family Services
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic
District School Board
Oakcrest Co.
Parry Sound Chevrolet Buick GMC
Parry Sound Friendship Centre
Parry Sound Massage Therapy Clinic
Phoenix Building Components Inc
Resources Ink
RONA - Parry Sound
Scotiabank - Parry Sound
SMRT Computer Solutions
SNDL

Stacked Pancake and Breakfast House
Subway - Parry Sound
Swift Canoe and Kayak
The Beer Store - Parry Sound
The Children's Aid Society of the District of
Nipissing and Parry Sound
The Friends
The Home Depot - Parry Sound
Tim Hortons - Parry Sound
Town of Kearney
Tree Wise Guys
Trestle Brewing Company Limited
Upton Developments
Verzijenberg Veterinary Professional Corporation
Victorian Order of Nurses / VON
Walmart - Parry Sound
West Parry Sound Health Centre
Westech Group Ltd.
Wilson Transportation LTD
YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka



WHAT IS THE LMG MONTHLY JOBS REPORT?

This Jobs Report is a monthly publication produced by the Labour Market Group.

Each month we compile this report based on our job portal **readysethired.ca**.

Readysethired.ca is an online job portal that provides and collects real time job postings within the districts of Nipissing and Parry Sound. These postings are updated daily and provide job seekers with a one stop shop for local current employment opportunities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT LOCAL JOBS, PLEASE CONTACT :

The Labour Market Group
readysethired.ca
info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca



The Labour Market Group
Guiding partners to workforce solutions.

October 2024

LABOURFOCUS



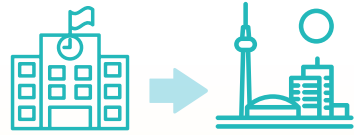
The Labour Market Group

IN THIS EDITION

ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES ARE GRADUATING JOB-READY STUDENTS

CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS

ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES ARE GRADUATING JOB-READY STUDENTS



90.4%

of **UNIVERSITY GRADUATES** are employed within 6 months

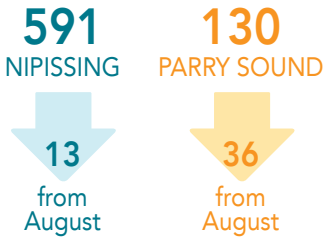
MCU graduate survey results (2022)

TOP 5 UNIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT RATES (IN 2020-2021 FROM 2019 GRADUATING CLASS)

University Program Area	6 Months after 2019 Graduation	2 Years after 2019 Graduation
Optometry	100%	100%
Therapy & Rehabilitation	100%	100%
Medicine	100%	98.79%
Pharmacy	98.87%	99.44%
Dentistry	98.18%	100%

JOBS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2024

TOTAL NUMBER OF JOB POSTINGS



TOP INDUSTRY WITH VACANCIES

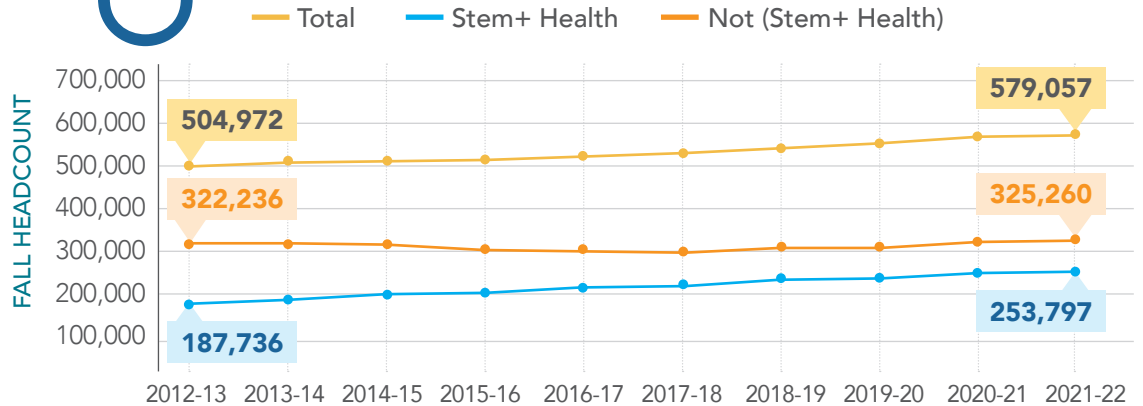
NIPISSING
Health Care & Social Assistance (25.7%)

PARRY SOUND
Health Care & Social Assistance (26.9%)

To view the full report, visit our website www.thelabourmarketgroup.ca
readysethired.ca



ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES ENROLMENT (FALL HEADCOUNT) STEM+HEALTH CARE VERSUS ALL OTHER PROGRAMS, 2012-2021



Questions or concerns? Feel free to contact us at info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca



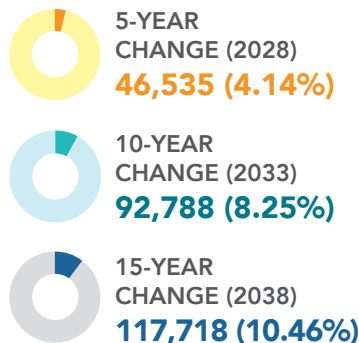
T. 705.478.9713

150 First Ave. West
Suite 103, North Bay, ON
P1B 3B9

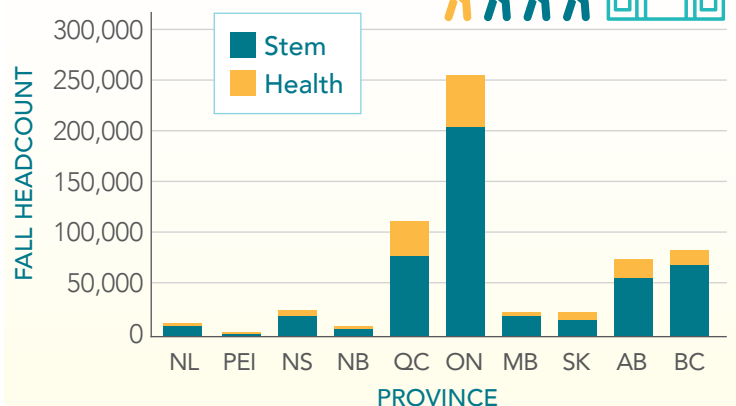
The Labour Market Group is funded by:



ONTARIO WILL SEE POPULATION GROWTH IN 18-24 YEAR-OLDS FROM 2023



ENROLMENT (FALL HEADCOUNT) FOR STEM AND HEALTH CARE BY PROVINCES, 2021-22



Source: Statistics Canada, Ontario Universities Enrolment File, CME 2024 Manufacturing Workforce Report

MORE FROM THE SEPTEMBER JOBS REPORT:

TOP OCCUPATIONS

NIPISSING

Sales & Services (28.1%)

Education, Law & Social, Community & Gov (18.4%)

Business, Finance & Administration (15.9%)

PARRY SOUND

Sales & Services (30.8%)

Education, Law & Social, Community & Gov (22.3%)

Business, Finance & Administration (14.6%)

To view the full report, visit our website www.thelabourmarketgroup.ca readysethired.ca

Questions or concerns? Feel free to contact us at info@thelabourmarketgroup.ca



T. 705.478.9713

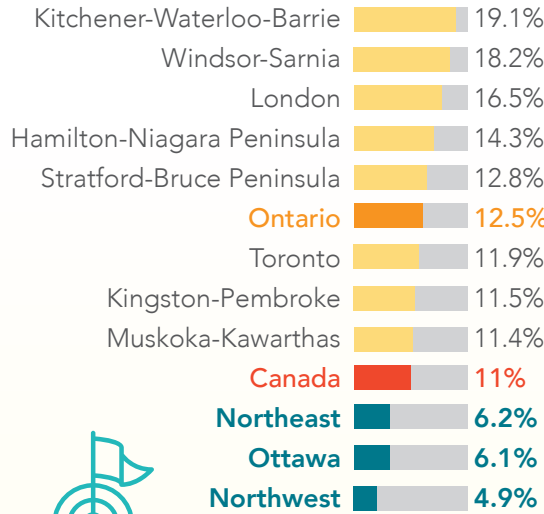
150 First Ave. West
Suite 103, North Bay, ON
P1B 3B9

The Labour Market Group is funded by:



CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS AND EXPORTERS

MANUFACTURING AS A SHARE OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT IN ONTARIO, 2023



Northern Ontario and Ottawa regions show concentrations of manufacturing well below national average, with a few notable exceptions such as the **Algoma (Sault Ste. Marie) and Sudbury districts**, where manufacturing accounted for **10.8% and 9.9%** of total employment, respectively, in 2021.

27.7%

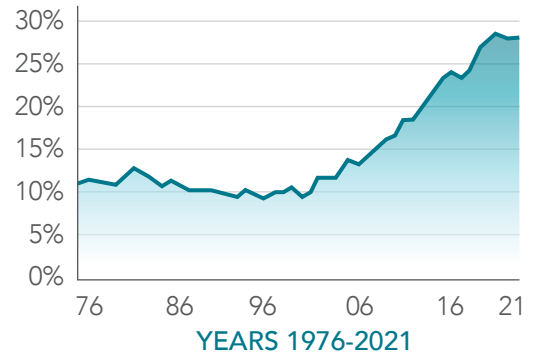
of workers were aged 55 years and over.



DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN MANUFACTURING, 2023

This workforce is aging rapidly! The demographic shift implies that companies will continue to struggle to find workers in the years ahead (between now and 2031) as those experienced manufacturing workers retire.

SHARE OF ONTARIO WORKFORCE OVER AGE 55



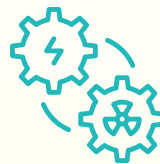
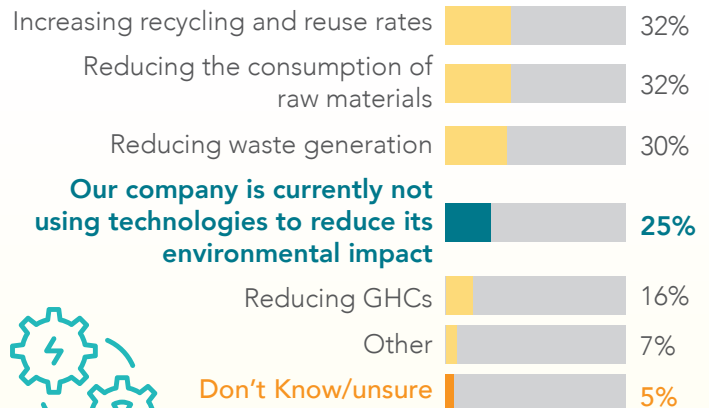
Nuclear Energy is the largest source of power generation in Ontario, accounting for 58% of the electricity produced.

Bruce Power Life Extension Program will create **22,000 jobs directly and 5,000 every year.**



It will also create between **4,000 and 5,000 direct manufacturing jobs.**

USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT IN ONTARIO MANUFACTURING



A recent Transition Accelerator workforce study also suggests the need for more specialized knowledge in **engineering, design, assembly, and quality control** for the manufacturing of products in the hydrogen economy.

Source: Statistics Canada, Ontario Universities Enrolment File, CME 2024 Manufacturing Workforce Report



TOWNSHIP OF CARLING

2 West Carling Bay Road, Nobel ON P0G 1G0

Email: mtaylor@carling.ca

Phone: 705-342-5856

Fax: 705-342-9527

November 14, 2024

RE: 2025 Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Annual Billing

At the Township of Carling's Regular Meeting of Council held on November 12, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

24-085.7a

**Moved by Councillor Doubrough
Seconded by Councillor Wing**

WHEREAS the Township of Seguin passed resolution 2024-331 requesting that the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement be reduced after receiving a 21.28% increase from 2024 to 2025;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Carling also received a 21% increase on the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement and shares the same concerns regarding the financial strain to our taxpayers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Township of Carling supports the Township of Seguin's resolution agreeing that the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement be reduced. The Township of Carling Council recommends reducing it to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is more manageable for the Township and in line with historical trends;

AND FURTHER THAT any increase above the CPI rate be absorbed by the province as the additional costs are directly the result of collective bargaining that was within the control of the OPP and should have been known to be financially unsustainable for the municipalities that now need to pay the bill;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council for the Township of Carling is recommending that the detachment commander for the West Parry Sound OPP and a member from Contract Policing make a deputation to Council regarding the validity of this increase.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this Resolution be set to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, the Honourable Graydon Smith MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation on Northern Ontario Municipalities, and the West Parry Sound Area Municipalities

Carried

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-342-5856 ext. 9181 or mtaylor@carling.ca

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mackenzie Taylor".

Mackenzie Taylor
Deputy Clerk

Encl.

cc (via email) The Honourable Doug Ford , Premier
The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General
The Honourable Graydon Smit, MPP Parry Sound Muskoka
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
West Parry Sound Area Municipalities



Seguin Township

5 Humphrey Drive,
Seguin, Ontario P2A2W8

Tel: (705) 732-4300
Toll Free: (877) 473-4846
Fax: (705) 732-6347
www.seguin.ca

SENT VIA EMAIL: Michael.Kerzner@pc.ola.org

November 6th, 2024

The Honourable Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General
Ministry of the Solicitor General

Dear Honourable Michael Kerzner;

RE: Resolution No. 2024-331 – 2025 Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Annual Billing Statement Increases

At the regular meeting of the Township of Seguin Council held November 4th, 2024, Council passed Resolution No. 2024-331 (copy attached) regarding the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement increases.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Andrea Spinney
Deputy Clerk

Encl.

cc: (via email) The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier
The Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
West Parry Sound Area Municipalities



Resolution No. 2024-331

**The Corporation of
the Township of Seguin**

Moved by GG Greg Getty

Seconded by TF Terry Fellner Date November 4th, 2024

WHEREAS current police services within the Township of Seguin (hereinafter referred to as the 'Township') are provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (hereinafter referred to as the 'OPP');

AND WHEREAS the Township and the local OPP detachment have worked in a positive, collaborative and effective manner for decades;

AND WHEREAS historical increases in OPP Annual Billing Statements have trended around 5%;

AND WHEREAS the OPP submitted their 2025 Annual Billing Statement to the Township on October 4, 2024, that identifies a \$258,155 (21.28%) increase from 2024 to 2025 that will translate to an approximate 1.675% tax rate increase, on top of what the Township was contemplating for the residents of Seguin;

AND WHEREAS the Township was not consulted nor provided any advanced notice from the Commissioner regarding the significant cost increase received for OPP services;

AND WHEREAS the Township cannot afford to absorb this unexpected and entirely preventable increase without causing undo financial strain to our taxpayers;



The Corporation of the Township of Seguin

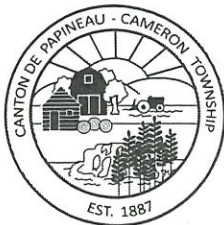
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Seguin (hereinafter referred to as the 'Council') wishes to dispute the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement;

AND FURTHER THAT Council requests that the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement be reduced to an approximate 5% increase that is more manageable for the Township and in line with historical trends;

AND FURTHER THAT any increase above 5% be absorbed by the province as the additional costs are directly the result of collective bargaining that was within the control of the OPP and should have been known to be financially unsustainable for the municipalities that now need to pay the bill;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, the Honourable Graydon Smith MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation on Northern Ontario Municipalities and the West Parry Sound Area Municipalities.

<u>DIVISION LIST</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	
Adams	—	—	—	—	CARRIED <i>ERM</i>
Buszynski	—	—	—	—	DEFEATED —
Collins	—	—	—	—	
Fellner	—	—	—	—	
Finson	—	—	—	—	
Getty	—	—	—	—	
MacDiarmid	—	—	—	—	

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON**

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
E-mail: clerk@papineaucameron.ca Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

November 13, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

RE: Ontario Building Code

The Council of Papineau-Cameron met at their regular Council meeting on November 12, 2024 and passed the attached resolution 2024-328.

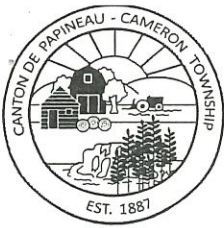
Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jason McMartin, BA, ADA
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

Encl. Council Resolution 2024-328

c.c. Hon. Paul Calandra MPP, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Michael Parsa MPP, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Hon. Victor Fedeli MPP, Chair of Cabinet, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Building Officials Association
Municipalities of Ontario



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PAPINEAU-CAMERON

4861 Highway 17, P.O. Box 630, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0
Office: (705) 744-5610 • Fax: (705) 744-0434 • Garage: (705) 744-5072
Website: www.papineaucameron.ca

DATE: November 12, 2024 **RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 2024- 328

MOVED BY: *Shelley Belanger* **SECONDED BY:** *MChenier*

WHEREAS Ontario is facing a significant affordable housing crisis, with many residents struggling to secure safe and affordable living accommodations;

AND WHEREAS the crisis of homelessness in Ontario continues to affect thousands of individuals and families, necessitating urgent and effective housing solutions;

AND WHEREAS the current Ontario Building Code contains regulations that may inadvertently hinder the development of affordable housing by imposing excessive costs and barriers on individuals and developers;

AND WHEREAS current building code regulations may restrict the development of innovative housing solutions designed to address the needs of homeless individuals and families;

AND WHEREAS an increase in affordable housing units is essential to promote economic stability, community well-being, and social equity within Ontario;

AND WHEREAS providing pre-approved affordable housing plans can streamline the construction process, reduce costs, and facilitate quicker access to housing for those in need;

THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township hereby calls on the Ontario government to amend the Ontario Building Code to include provisions for pre-approved affordable housing plans specifically aimed at supporting low income and homeless individuals, including:

1. Standardized Designs: Creating a set of pre-approved housing designs that meet safety and quality standards while being cost-effective and quick to construct.
2. Flexible Design Standards: Allowing for innovative building designs and materials that meet affordability criteria while ensuring safety and livability.
3. Community Integration: Ensuring that these housing designs can be integrated into existing neighborhoods in a way that respects community character and promotes acceptance.
4. Support for Diverse Models: Including options for various types of housing, such as tiny homes, modular units, and converted shipping containers, to cater to different needs and preferences.

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of Papineau-Cameron Township encourages the Ontario government to engage with stakeholders, including architects, housing advocates, and service providers, to develop these pre-approved plans that effectively address the needs of low income and homeless individuals;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be provided to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Hon. Victor Fedeli, Chair of Cabinet, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Association Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Building Officials Association, Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED: *Robert Corriveau*
(Mayor)

NOT CARRIED: _____
(Mayor) **COPY**

Recorded Vote (Upon Request of Councillor _____) Section 246 (1) Municipal Act

RECORDED DIVISION VOTE	YES Signature	NO Signature	ABSTAIN Signature
Mayor Robert Corriveau			
Deputy Mayor Shelley Belanger			
Councillor Keith Dillabough			
Councillor Jason Bélanger			
Councillor Mélanie Chenier			



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0

Phone: (807) 825-3315 Fax: (807) 825-9576

November 19, 2024

Minister of Health Sylvia Jones

sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Jones,

At the Township of Terrace Bay Regular Council Meeting held on Monday September 16, 2024, the following resolution was put forth by Councillor Chris Dube and was passed.

Re: Ambulance Shortages and Healthcare System Issues

Resolution 266-2024

Moved by: Councillor Johnson

Seconded by: Councillor Dube

WHEREAS, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay is gravely concerned about the ongoing shortages and staffing challenges facing Superior North EMS (SNEMS);

WHEREAS, the provincial funding for ambulance services, currently at 50%, along with the city's 50% contribution, has been falling short, leading to financial strain on municipalities and regional partners, including the City of Thunder Bay;

WHEREAS, the rolling shortages of paramedics and EMS personnel in the region present a significant risk to public safety and healthcare services in northern communities, which are disproportionately affected by the province-wide shortage of paramedics;

WHEREAS, recruitment and retention issues, including insufficient wages and benefits, lack of mental health supports, frequent exposure to traumatic experiences, and inadequate recovery time between work periods, are causing high turnover rates and burnout among EMS workers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Honorable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, be requested to take immediate action to address the funding shortfalls and structural challenges in the delivery of EMS services in northern communities, including:

1. Increasing provincial funding to support EMS services and reduce the financial burden on municipalities;
2. Implementing incentives such as "learn and stay" grants to encourage paramedics to live and work in northern Ontario;
3. Enhancing support systems for EMS workers, including improved wages, benefits, and mental health resources.



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 **Fax:** (807) 825-9576

AND THAT, this resolution be forwarded to Minister Sylvia Jones, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

J. Hall
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:
AMO
All Ontario Municipalities



Representing the Districts of Kenora, Rainy River and Thunder Bay
 P.O. Box 10308, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T8
 www.noma.on.ca
 p. 807.683.6662 e. admin@noma.on.ca

October 7, 2024

Honourable Anita Anand
 President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transport
 House of Commons
 Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6
 Via Email: Anita.Anand@parl.gc.ca

Her Worship Mayor Olivia Chow
 Office of the Mayor
 City Hall, 2nd Floor
 100 Queen St. W.
 Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
 Via Email: mayor_chow@toronto.ca

Re: The Future for Billy Bishop Airport Requires Urgent Action and a Modern Governing Agreement

Dear Minister Anand and Mayor Chow,

I am writing to you to express my support for the sustained operation and development of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport. As the President of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, I am extremely concerned to learn that the Tripartite Agreement that governs operations at the Airport expires in 2033 – less than 9 years from now.

Billy Bishop Airport provides a critical service and point of connection for the North. Many of my community members rely on Billy Bishop airport to visit family, connect through to other destinations for work, travel and tourism or to access critical medical services, the convenience and ease of Billy Bishop Airport cannot be matched. It has been reported widely that Northern Ontario communities have experience drastic reductions in air service coming out of the COVID pandemic. Reliable air connectivity available through Billy Bishop Airport is an important economic and social lifeline for my community.

We were pleased to see the Federal Government's investment in a US Customs and Border Patrol preclearance facility, which is expected to open in 2025. This is welcomed news for communities in Northwestern Ontario as it will enable more and better connections through Billy Bishop Airport and amplify the airport's already strong economic contribution. We viewed this investment in the airports long term future as recognition of the very important role the airport has come to play for the communities it connects including Northwestern Ontario – very much at odds with an agreement that expires in a matter of years.

To that end, we would implore you, as signatories to the Tripartite Agreement, to commence a process to modernize the Tripartite Agreement and secure the long-term future of Canada's 9th-busiest airport and 3rd-busiest in Ontario. My community members rely on this service, and we

want to see even more connections and expanded services to the North. As elected leaders, we have a responsibility to think past our own front doors, reflect the needs of all of our constituents and those beyond our communities who are impacted by our decisions. Certainty about the airport's long-term future should not be something we as leaders should need to think long about. **The time is now for the parties of the agreement to move forward with urgency to ensure this vital piece of transportation infrastructure and the important connections it facilitates are sustained.**

Sincerely,



Wendy Landry
President, Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association
Mayor, Municipality of Shuniah

Cc:

Hon. Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Minister of Tourism, Government of Canada
Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Government of Canada
Hon. Arun Thangaraj, Deputy Minister of Transport Canada, Government of Canada
John D. Elvidge, City of Toronto, Clerk
Paul Johnson, City of Toronto, City Manager
Jag Sharma, City of Toronto, Deputy City Manager
RJ Steenstra, President and CEO, Ports Toronto
Sandra Papatello, Chair, Board of Directors, Ports Toronto
Neil Pakey, President and CEO, Nieuport Aviation
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Government of Ontario
Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Government of Ontario
MP Patty Hajdu (Thunder Bay - Superior North)
MP Marcus Powlowski – Thunder Bay-Rainy River
MP Eric Melillo – Kenora
MPP Greg Rickford, (Kenora – Rainy River)
MPP Kevin Holland, (Thunder Bay - Atikokan)
MPP Lise Vaugeois, (Thunder Bay - Superior North)
All member municipalities - CAOs and Clerks

Head Office

P.O. Box 3110
963 Airport Road.
North Bay, ON
P1B 8H1
Fax: 705.472.9927

Main switchboard
for all offices:
705.472.8170

Toll free:
1.800.278.4922

Web site:
www.nearnorthschools.ca

VIA EMAIL and MAIL

October 21, 2024

Honourable Jill Dunlop
Minister of Education
438 University Avenue
Toronto, ON

Dear Minister Dunlop:

Re: Closure of McDougall Public School – Near North DSB

This letter is on behalf of the Near North Board of Trustees.

There is support from affected and surrounding municipalities, staff and stakeholder support as well as endorsed by our local MPP Graydon Smith, we respectfully request that the Ministry of Education permit the Near North District School Board to continue operating McDougall Public School K- 6.

This decision supports student success and well-being and aligns with our strategic priorities, including the following:

Fostering Positive Relationships and an Engaged, Inclusive Board Culture. Our current chair welcomed McDougall Mayor Dale Robinson the opportunity to address our board during a board meeting in June 2024. Trustee Fuscaldo and Trustee Wesley participated in a community Town Hall in McDougall Township, where the overwhelming message was clear: the desire to keep McDougall Public School open to house elementary students.

Promoting Innovative 21st-Century Learning and Integrated Solutions We value our rural schools and consulted experts to inform our needs for the new Parry Sound build, which includes 238 elementary spaces with two short-term portable edupods. Original forecasts anticipated a total of 408 kindergarten to grade 8 students across affected schools in 2024-2025 as indicated in the included Dalip report on page 20 on our website, however actual current board enrolment numbers as noted on October 8, 2024, is **473** students. This increase in enrolment challenges the Ministry's decision to reduce the planned capacity from 1085 students in 2015 to 815 students in 2020. The continued operation of McDougall Public school will help in this matter.

Supporting Inclusive, Responsive, Experiential Learning for All Learners

McDougall Public School offers a unique outdoor learning environment, including a large, forested area, a baseball diamond, spacious indoor and outdoor play areas and classrooms for elementary students, and an exceptional kindergarten learning and play yard, and has the ability to hold a regional elementary track meet and other regional events

Ensuring Effective Communication and Clarity of Goals

During the moratorium on new Accommodation Reviews, our board and your Ministry received numerous requests to address concerns about the new Parry Sound build. Now that construction is underway, we continue to receive appeals from the same communities to save McDougall Public School.

Our Executive Staff have consistently provided information updates to the Ministry regarding our new school build and the community's interest in preserving McDougall Public School.

We urge the Ministry of Education to initiate a swift process in their decision towards our goal for the new Parry Sound build 7-12 and allowing McDougall Public School to serve as a K-6 for elementary students.

As these moves are scheduled to take place in September 2025, and time is of the essence, we respectfully ask that a decision be rendered to us no later than February 2025 so that we have adequate time to communicate with affected families and ensure a successful transition.

Yours truly,



Jeanie Fuscaldo
NNSB Trustee Area 3

cc: NNSB Trustees
NNSB Executive Council

enclosure (1)

Ministry of Natural Resources

Development and Hazard Policy Branch
Policy Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Direction de la politique d'exploitation des
ressources et des risques naturels.
Division de l'élaboration des politiques
300, rue Water
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

November 25, 2024

Subject: *Decision on Discussion Paper: Regulating Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage Projects in Ontario, and Proposal on Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geologic Carbon Storage Act*

Hello,

Over the past two years, the Ministry of Natural Resources has been taking a measured and phased approach to enabling and regulating geologic carbon storage in Ontario. Carbon storage is new to the province, and developing a comprehensive framework to regulate this activity would help ensure that it is done responsibly, with measures in place to safeguard people and the environment.

Geologic carbon storage (further referred to as carbon storage) involves injecting captured carbon dioxide (CO₂) into deep geological formations for permanent storage. This technology could provide industries in Ontario with a critical tool for managing their emissions and contributing to the achievement of Ontario's emissions reduction targets.

Today, we are writing to notify you that 1) a decision has been made to proceed with the development of a framework for enabling commercial-scale geologic carbon storage (Environmental Registry of Ontario posting # 019-8767), and 2) that a new *Geologic Carbon Storage Act* is being proposed (Environmental Registry of Ontario posting # 019-9299).

These developments represent significant steps towards Phase 3 of Ontario's [approach to enabling and regulating geologic carbon storage](#). Ontario aims to have a framework in place by summer 2025. Initially, the ministry anticipates that commercial-scale projects would be proposed in Southwestern Ontario, where the geology is expected to be the most suitable.

- 1) In the summer of this year, we shared information about the development of a legislative and regulatory framework for commercial-scale geologic carbon storage. This information included a discussion paper that provided an overview of how various components of the framework could function. Based on feedback received, a decision was made to move forward with the development of the framework.

More details on the decision, the feedback received, and the original discussion paper can be viewed in the decision notice on the Environmental Registry of Ontario: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-8767>.

- 2) Based on comments received in response to the discussion paper, as well as feedback received in previous phases of framework development, a *Geologic Carbon Storage Act* (the “Act”) is being proposed. The proposed Act would enable the regulation of research and evaluation activities, and carbon storage activities associated with the permanent storage of carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations in Ontario.

We encourage you to review, and submit feedback on, the legislative proposal on the [Environmental Registry of Ontario posting # 019-9299](#).

If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Andrew Ogilvie, Manager of Resources Development Section, at 705-761-5815 or through email: Resources.Development@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Keyes
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch