

LAKE STEWARDSHIP AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF MCKELLAR TOWNSHIP

**Draft Minutes**

Thursday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 7:00 PM

† 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>

Our Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565497380905&mibextid=ZbWKwL>

Item	Time	Please note: These are ongoing agenda items. Only items marked with an * will be discussed at the next meeting.
1.		<p><b>Land Acknowledgement:</b>                      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 (X); Peter Duffey (no); Jennifer Ghent-Fuller (X) ; Carl Mitchell (X); Nick Ryeland (no); Rick Speers (X); Rob Gibson (X )</p> <p>We need 5 committee members to have a quorum (X)</p> <p>Does anyone have a declaration of pecuniary and/or personal interest and general nature thereof? no</p>
3.1		<p>Motion to accept the minutes of December 12, 2024. (attached)                      Moved: Ross Seconded: Rick Approved:                      Amendment: remove one item that is not part of LSEC actions                      Approved with Amendment : (yes - all)</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)                      Moved: Seconded:                      Approved: ( )</p>
3.3		<p>Strategic Planning                      - See October 2024 minutes</p>
4. Goals		<p>General Updates on Current Issues.</p>
4.1	A,B,C and D	<p>Waterfront/ Shoreline protection –  <b>A.</b> Jan 9 2025 Moved that we approve the expenditure of approximately \$1300 to print the Healthy Shorelands flyer Moved: Ross Seconded: Tony Approved (Yes - all): Tony will discuss with Roshan.  <b>Resolution 2025 – 01</b>                      Dec 12<sup>th</sup> -                      The 4<sup>th</sup> draft of the shoreline protection leaflet was submitted for approval and was accepted.  <b>Moved</b> that the leaflet be printed (2000 copies) and submitted to Council for approval to distribute to all households by mail or email with the February tax mailing. Moved: Tony, Seconded: Peter. Approved.                      This brochure is being presented to Council by Jennifer on Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. It has been prepared in 6 column form for printing and also in portrait form for emailing.</p>

	<p><b>B.</b> Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Council requested a number of changes to the draft of the revision of Bylaw 2019 – 12. Tree Canopy and Natural Vegetation during Jennifer’s presentation on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. To be discussed at a later time.</p> <p><b>C.</b> Jan 9 2025 – The first 5 pages and the draft table of contents of the proposed <b>Welcome Package</b> were sent out for discussion and evaluation, as well as the draft table of contents. Committee members were asked to provide feedback by email. Introduction needs to include how to use/access the app for QR codes.</p> <p>Dec. 12 – Ross and Jennifer have completed some of the pages for the welcome package, and other pages are in development. The first draft is about halfway done. Ross will write an introduction. Ross asked about a copy of McKellar Memories. There is some history in the document Jennifer wrote in 2017 about the history of Water Levels in the Township. Bracebridge Power lowers the water levels in anticipation of the spring melt.  <a href="https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/resources/Water-Levels-on-Lake-Manitouwabing-JGF-Amended-July-2022.pdf">https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/resources/Water-Levels-on-Lake-Manitouwabing-JGF-Amended-July-2022.pdf</a></p> <p>Council asked if only environmental items were going to be in the Welcome Package. Jennifer suggested that we not consider mailing it due to the high cost. Ross asked if we should consider asking Realtor what they think of distributing the welcome package. Rob will talk to Greg Antuchiewicz.</p> <p><b>Cost estimate:</b> Welcome package –  Proposed Table of Contents (attached)  Cost:  WELCOME BOOKLETS  QTY: 200  NUMBER OF PAGES: 12 including Covers  FINISHED SIZE: 8.5" x 11"  STOCK: 60lb text white / Covers on 10pt Gloss White  INK: CMYK  FINISHED: Coil Bound</p> <p>\$5.95 each + tax; 200 copies would be ~ \$1350 plus envelopes (~\$100) and postage to send out the welcome page and the Lake Protection Workbook together.</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> <p><b>D.</b> Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Nick not aware of date for another public meeting on the official plan.  October 17<sup>th</sup> – 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"> <li>- 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</li> </ul> <p>As of Nov 14, No public meeting has been called as of yet to discuss the Official Plan. The clerk indicated that the Township is waiting for comments by the Province.</p>
4.2	<p>Water Sampling</p> <p>November 14<sup>th</sup> – the water sampling is complete. The lake had not yet turned over in the Great Bay as of October 17<sup>th</sup>. Implications for sampling were discussed. Carl said it is important to sample the lake in the spring before stratification has taken place. In 2023-2024, the lake froze (“ice in”) for the first in the winter on January 11<sup>th</sup> 2024 and was melted (“ice out”) by April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sampling was done in the</p>

	latter part of May, as it has been done by LPP and previously by MLCA. Jennifer will plan to do the sampling earlier in the spring of 2025. The E.coli sampling is not affected by the stratification of the lake, and will be done with the usual schedule – end of June, end of July, end of August. The E. coli sampling found high numbers in some areas following a rain deluge near the end of June. As a consequence of the publicity we found that not all waterfront residents realized they have to treat lake water before consuming it and using it for dishes and tooth brushing etc.
4.3	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)
4.4	Publicity Jan 9 <sup>th</sup> – most recent FB postings were on fireworks and ice in/out and lake turnover <b>Link to the LSEC Facebook Page</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565497380905&amp;mibextid=ZbWKwL">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565497380905&amp;mibextid=ZbWKwL</a>  Presentations - YouTube videos from this committee are posted here: <a href="https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf">https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf</a> along with other videos  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. <a href="https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/environment.aspx">https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/environment.aspx</a>
4.5	Microplastics/Microfibres/ Washing Machine Filters – video on our YouTube channel posted
4.6	Earth Day / Clean Up Our Lakes / <b>Recycling</b> Dec 12 – report from Peter on his correspondence. Peter has been inquiring on whether we can recycle gable tops and other items since the company sorting our recycling has changed. Peter is waiting for Karlee to let us know who we can contact. Nov 14 – Karlee gave permission for us to contact Enterra to question the range of our recycling. Peter will follow up on contacting the companies in Vaughn and Brampton (Burlington?) in December; someone else could proceed with that work before then. - many residents are still putting their recycling into bags; Nick has not received an answer on the feasibility of having blue boxes for residents to purchase 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 - Some people are still putting in plastic bags  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 Nick is looking into what can be done about getting blue bins that people can use to take their recycling into the Transfer Station
4.7	Fishing / Wildlife – Jan 9 2025 Jennifer will send Ross a copy of the file of the Catch and release sign which is up at launch sites to Ross for editing for the Welcome package. Carl forwarded an MNR notice of changes in Fishing regulations
4.8	Fish Catch reporting signs for Armstrong Lake - are up at Armstrong Lake beach. Catch and Release best practices signs were put up at all launch sites by Al Last and Jeremy Sintzel.
4.9	Benthic Study – July 2024 – Sampling took place in 3 sites
4.10	Pesticides/Fertilizers – March 7 <sup>th</sup> 2024 – The new brochure was distributed to residents at the end of Feb.
4.11	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.												
4.12		Dark Skies – We have a brochure that was made in about 2021. Rewritten for welcome package.												
4.13		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. <a href="#">Water-Levels-on-Lake-Manitouwabing-JGF-Amended-July-2022.pdf (mckellar.ca)</a> Reposted in April 2024												
4.14		Pollinator Patches / Gardens– <b>Jan 9</b> – need to contact Sue re: work that needs to be done and GBB to enter negotiations. Dec 12 – We will wait to see if Chris Clayton wants help with planting the area behind the ball diamond. Jennifer asked if anyone wants to take on the pollinator patch garden that Sue had planned to offer to plant and care for. We discussed the pollinator garden at the community centre, which is in need of work. Perhaps Georgian Bay Biosphere will help with it.												
		ICECAP – This item removed. Council will communicate directly with GBB about this.												
4.15		EV Chargers –												
4.16		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 Cyler Program												
4.17		Drinking Water Source Protection <b>Nov 14</b> FOCA has developed a Guideline to implement the Best Practices Guidelines suggested by the Ontario Government for municipalities that are not covered under the Clean Water Act, such as McKellar Township. Former FOCA Executive Director, Terry Rees, who has worked on this issue for many years, has completed a pilot project of implementing these guidelines without major expenditures. Jennifer will follow up and request a copy of the guidelines when they are available.												
5.	*	Budget – <b>Jan 9<sup>th</sup></b> - Adjustments needed to the budget. Attached. Moved:Tony; Seconded:Ross. Approved. Dec 12 – Moved to accept the budget approved as presented. Moved: Ross, Seconded: Peter. Approved.												
6.		LSEC will continue to meet on the <b>second Thursday evening</b> of each month at 7 pm. LSEC Meeting Dates in <b>2025</b> :  <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><del>January 9<sup>th</sup></del></td> <td style="width: 50%;">July 10<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>February 13<sup>th</sup></td> <td>August 14<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 13<sup>th</sup></td> <td>September 11<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 10<sup>th</sup></td> <td>October 9<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 8<sup>th</sup></td> <td>November 13<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 12<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Dec 11<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> </table> 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.	<del>January 9<sup>th</sup></del>	July 10 <sup>th</sup>	February 13 <sup>th</sup>	August 14 <sup>th</sup>	March 13 <sup>th</sup>	September 11 <sup>th</sup>	April 10 <sup>th</sup>	October 9 <sup>th</sup>	May 8 <sup>th</sup>	November 13 <sup>th</sup>	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>
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7.	*	Motion to adjourn. Moved: Ross Seconded: Carl Approved: All Time: 7:39 pm												