

## Love Chandos Lake Report 2020

Submitted by: Alex Haney, Love Chandos Lake, Director

**Milfoil Management Project** – In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Eurasian watermilfoil management program will be postponed until 2021. When it safe to do so, the mat program will resume. The plan is to install the 32 remaining benthic mats from 2019, as well as 38 benthic mats from new locations, for a total of 70. In addition, mats installed in 2018 and 2019 will be monitored to track progress and effectiveness in milfoil control. The association is exploring if other control methods such as floating tarps are effective and could be adopted in the management project. Those who have signed up for mats or have already paid, will be contacted with further details.

**MITACS Research Project** – The CLPOA initiated a research project with Western University to analyze current environmental conditions in Gilmour Bay and compare them with historical data found in sediment core samples. Different water quality parameters, such as dissolved oxygen and phosphorous levels, as well aquatic plant species are being sampled and assessed. The results will help indicate what is driving future changes and what steps may be taken to mitigate changes, such as increase in nutrient levels. This work is being subsidized by the non-profit organization MITACS, which supports undergraduate research through their accelerate program. Work for this project began in the summer of 2019. The project was set to continue this summer; however, this may be delayed given the current situation. Please stay tuned for updates.

**Invasive Species Testing** – Myself and King Baker participated in regional invasive species testing last summer. We took several water samples from marinas and boat launches in Chandos Lake and submitted them to a lab for analysis. The tests were used to detect the presence of invasive zebra mussels, as well as spiny and fishhook water fleas. We received the test results this past fall. They came back negative! Which means, there are no invasive invertebrates present in Chandos Lake. Which is great news. However, the risk for invasive spread and introduction is still present. Many of the surrounding lakes have large populations of zebra mussels and spiny and fishhook water fleas which could be unknowingly transported to Chandos Lake. As such, it is essential to clean, drain and dry all equipment and boats entering from other bodies of water.

**New Program Name** – The CLPOA environmental program has a new name. As chosen by the members of the CLPOA, we are now “Love Chandos Lake”. This unique name reflects our ongoing commitment to protect and restore Chandos Lake and surrounding areas. We also have a new program logo, which will be revealed in the 2020 yearbook. Love Chandos Lake will have new t-shirts and posters for our display tents at 2021 association events.

If you have any questions or comments, please email Alex Haney, Love Chandos Lake, Director at [lovechandoslake.clpoa@gmail.com](mailto:lovechandoslake.clpoa@gmail.com).