

2023 President's Message

As I look out onto our beautiful lake looking at the trees that capture the snowflakes falling while writing what will be my last President's Report, I can't help but think of the many things I have learned serving our members in this position. I wonder how Roy Parsons our initial president in 1947 envisioned how we would support our members today. I can't imagine he would think a Boating Cleaning Station would be required to help our lake fight against potential invasive species. Did he foresee all the social events that are a part of our annual family schedule or the of hundreds of boats congregating around the main body of the lake waiting to watch 15-minutes of spectacular fireworks? We really have come a long way. The one thing I do appreciate is all the work that previous board members and volunteers have put in to keeping our little piece of heaven safe, clean and enjoyable for everyone year in and year out.

One of the lessons I've learned is the challenge the association must balance to ensure we support everyone's lifestyle at the lake. Whether it's an early morning attempt to catch "the big one", a quiet canoe ride, an afternoon ski, waterboard, Seadoo ride, an early evening cruise or a simple zip down the lake while hardly creating a wake. It's not our place to promote one over the other but to see how we can all maintain our favourite activities while respecting our neighbors and keeping the lake safe. If I can ask one thing from our members and lake residents alike as I step down, it's to understand while our activities might be different the respect we need for each other, remains the same.

This message also allows me to THANK the many board members, activity chairs and volunteers that are so vital to maintaining the high level of work provided by the CLPOA. The selfless gift of their time is to be admired. Whether it's the continued important work our Environmental Committee headed up by chair Debra Anthony has accomplished in the last several years, the work Membership Co- Chairs Lyn and Duncan Turnbull have done for years reaching out to potential new members or the unbelievable work Dave Taillefer puts in every year as the CLPOA Secretary, Chair of the Planning Committee and Chair of the team that keeps us all safe by installing and removing our lake markers every year. We really are lucky for the time and effort they commit to annually. I can also never stop thanking our 1-man communication team. Craig Morrison you are a godsend and thanks isn't enough for all you do for us!

Like other years, we have had several challenges we have had to contend with. Launching our new Boat Cleaning Station has had several challenges including identifying the best location at the Hwy 620 boat launch and whether it would be put in and removed every year or on a permanent platform. Based on CVCA's current float plain we have decided at this point to install and remove it every year. That may change if more information ensures it is safe from flooding.

On a more positive note, 4 of our treasured lake events have completed a leadership transition. Our annual Regatta held at Lakeview Marina had a fresh new restart after several years off under the guidance of UE Kosar and team. They recognized a new set of lake champions in many events and created new friendship that will be cherished for years to come. Our night of lights and fireworks has become a must for hundreds of Chandosers. Derek Hull took on the massive challenge of meeting the high standards set by Eugene Telka on the first Saturday night of August. The gathering of boats as the night turns dark is incredible and a highlight of every summer. Finally, Jim Franks passed the baton to Lynne Moore to Chair the very popular Kid's Fishing Derby. It's a day so many new, young and future

fishermen get to show their stuff with great prizes for everyone. Many great exhibits make the day a must for many of our members.

The Labour Day Corn and Weiner Roast has a new location this year with many fun events for young and old. Shantilly's Marina and owner Shantelle Bisson hosted and organized a full day of great food and activities. It was very well attended and received high marks from all participants and will only grow this year with one year of experience under their belt. Thank you UE, Derek, Lynne and Shantelle for stepping up and leading these top tier events we all so enjoy! Without all of you they wouldn't have happened.

Our Education Committee, lead by Chair Kathy Verduyn took educating our members to a new level. Webinars on Cottage Succession and Targeting Tax were very well attended with over 225 members learning and planning for future generations. You can also now find updated information on Notice Boards at all of our marinas on the lake. Current news, how to join the association and a list of updated events is just a sample of what you will see on these new boards. Two new initiatives highlighted the great work this team has accomplished since its inception in 2021. Our Lake Protection Challenge offers workbooks containing critical information on maintaining our shorelines and protecting our lakes and finally our "Be Wake Aware" campaign launched last summer with new buoys installed at either end of the narrows to remind boaters to be conscious of their wake and limit the damage and safety concerns to docks, boats and swimmers in high traffic areas.

To our finance team, made up of Debbie Kirton, Treasurer and bookkeeper Julie Smith continue to ensure our books are balanced and budgets are created and maintained each year. Thank you both for your effort, commitment and dedication.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Barry McMillian who is also stepping down this year. The Boat Cleaning Station initiative was championed by Barry with a tremendous amount of heavy lifting between our vendor, the township and CVCA. Barry, your commitment and hard work will support the fight against invasive species for years to come and I don't know where we would be without your leadership. Please enjoy your extra time at the cottage, you deserve it!

There are way too many events and volunteers to acknowledge each and every one you in this message but please accept a very sincere Thank You to each and everyone of you for your ongoing help and support. Year in and year out your commitment to our lake to remarkable.

All of these events wouldn't be possible without the support of our great local businesses and 3 marinas that commit their sponsorship and advertising dollars for multiple events every year. We appreciate everything you do for us. With the support of John Lovatsis our new Advertising and Fundraising Chair we are exploring ways to provide as much exposure as we can and allow a single contact for your convenience. For businesses looking for more information regarding the opportunities that exist please feel free to reach out to John at johnlovatsis@bell.net and he would be happy to help you work with the CLPOA.

Once again, you will be reading this in our most recent CLPOA Yearbook. This annual keepsake, that just keeps getting better and better every year is thanks to a host of individuals that put in an enormous amount of effort. Lead by Committee Captain/Publisher Edith Gorman along with the very talented design & layout expert Norma Nelson-Lomaro this group of individuals provide us all with a cherished

book to keep and review with family and friends for years and generations to come. A special thank you needs to be given to David Shaw for all of his years of raising funds to support this team. He stepped down last year but has given years of his time and effort raising the funds need to produce a product of such high quality. Thank you, David!!

I feel very strongly that the role of President of our association needs to be continually rotated to bring in a new, fresh and different point of view. Prior to the last 23 years (if you look at our website) this position was always changed every 2 years. It's really what creates and sustains a healthy board. While I will stay on for a year as Past President, I will miss the opportunity to continue this journey and improve the lake in all the ways the association does today. I will miss all of the board members and volunteers that I have had a chance to meet on a regular basis. That said, in leaving I have one ask for each and every one of you. If you don't have time to get involved and I understand that can be tough for a lot of people, please reach out to a neighbor or new resident on the lake that isn't a current member and ask them to join. It's quite frankly a shame to have only 55%-60% of the current property owners as members. If you're reading this in the yearbook, I know you have supported us and will keep supporting us and for that I THANK YOU. We need to find ways to reach out to the other 40%-45% and get them to see the great work being accomplished by your association. I've heard some people say it's because the association is fighting against cottagers for minor variances or zoning amendments. That may have been the case in the past but it's not anymore. I can tell you 100% we are here to support our members, in some cases that might mean educating them as it has done for me over the past 3 years but all of us want the same outcome. To enjoy this precious place, to keep it clean, safe and a great place to spend time with family and friends for years to come. So please help us increase the membership by adding one or two new members. That's all I ask! For the many friends of mine I see every year on the lake if you aren't a member give me 10 minutes of your time and I will show the great work being done by all of the board members, committee chairs and volunteers. I know I will change your mind. It will be the best investment you make every year!

Please stay well and I hope to see all of you on the lake soon!!!

Alan