

Dear Members of the Chandos Lake Property Owners' Association,

This year marked my first year as President of the CLPOA, and it has been both a challenge and a privilege to contribute to the Chandos community that cares so deeply about this special lake we all share.

Chandos Lake thrives because of its people—and because of our shared love for the lake and commitment to preserving it for years to come. Along with protecting our lake and the safety of all who use it, one of our goals is to foster a strong, welcoming community that honours our long-time cottagers, embraces new property owners, and encourages the next generation to stay connected and involved.

This year we launched an early season Chandos Lake Summer Social, an event designed specifically to bring together new and long-time cottagers. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we plan to build on this event and its spirit of connection in the years ahead.

We are very fortunate to have an active and engaged CLPOA Board and volunteer community. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to each board member for the time, energy, and leadership you bring to the CLPOA. Your behind-the-scenes work makes a very visible difference to the lake community. This past year, Dave Taillefer retired as past president and Ed Legzdins and EU Kosar stepped down from the board, we thank them for their dedication and service over the past several years.

The CLPOA volunteers deserve highlighted recognition. They are the driving force organizing lakeside events, publishing our CLPOA Yearbook, installing and removing lake hazard buoys, promoting fire safety awareness, and overseeing the Boat Cleaning Station to protect our waters from invasive species— all this work is invaluable. The efforts of our Environmental Committee merit special thanks for their ongoing commitment to protecting the health and quality of our lake. We are always open to those who wish to join our dedicated group of volunteers.

Our Boat Cleaning Station at the Chandos Beach boat launch has now been in operation for three summers. Overseeing this station is one of our initiatives to protect Chandos Lake from invasive species. For any boat that has been in any other body of water, that boat must use the Boat Cleaning equipment, to Clean, Drain and Dry. We are seeing steady use and will be working this year to increase awareness and usage.

The Yearbook Committee, led by Kathy Verduyn with design and layout by Norma Nelson-Lomaro, did excellent work assembling the 2025 Yearbook, especially in a transition year following the retirement of long-time Yearbook Coordinator Edith Gorman.

In recognition of Edith's significant contributions, the Association awarded her the Chandos Lake Outstanding Contributor Award for her long-term leadership and commitment to the Yearbook. This award recognizes exceptional, sustained volunteer leadership in support of CLPOA's core priorities.

This past summer included several well-attended events that strengthened our sense of community. We hosted a highly successful Regatta with more than 200 participants of all ages, thanks to the leadership and hard work of Erin Walkovich and her team. The Fireworks Display once again lit up the night sky, and the Kids' Fishing Derby remained a highlight of the season for many families. These events were supported by our three local marinas, along with advertising and sponsorship secured by John Lovatsis.

Beyond the lake, our community spirit extended to Apsley, where the CLPOA contributed support to those affected by the ice storm. This generosity reflects the values that make Chandos Lake such a special place to belong.

Looking ahead, one of our priorities is to encourage broader participation—especially from younger families and newer owners—by creating more opportunities for small, flexible volunteer contributions and inclusive, family-friendly events. Every hour volunteered, every event attended, and every conversation with a neighbour helps strengthen our lake community.

Finally, thank you to all our CLPOA Members. Representing over 50% of the properties on the lake, your engagement gives the CLPOA its strength and voice. I encourage you to speak with your neighbours, invite them to join, and help us continue building a vibrant, caring, and connected community.

Thank you for your trust, your involvement, and your shared stewardship of Chandos Lake.

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