

**Lake Talon Conservation Association (LTCA)
2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

MINUTES

Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

- The AGM was conducted virtually using Zoom.
- The AGM was recorded and a link will be distributed along with these Minutes.
- The meeting began at 7:05pm.
- Persons attending at some point during AGM - 25

Moderator - Paige Bennett – LTCA Secretary

1. Welcome from President Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 0:07)

- **LTCA's Mission Statement - *Our purpose is to preserve and enhance a clean and healthy natural environment, a well serviced community, and a safe and peaceful Lake Talon.***
- **LTCA's Goal - *Working Together to Ensure an Enjoyable Tomorrow***
- **LTCA's Tagline - *Taking Care of the Lake We Love***

2. Introduction of Board of Directors: Scott Ross, Vice-President; Lorraine Poisson, Treasurer; Paige Bennett, Secretary; Clinton Wilson, Summer Student Supervisor
(Start time on recording - 1:47)

3. Introduction of Virtual Zoom Meeting Moderator, LTCA Secretary Paige Bennett
(Start time on recording - 3:33)

4. Approval of Minutes of AGM of August 31, 2023 (Link below) (Start time on recording - 5:40)

- **2023 LTCA AGM Minutes - August 31, 2023 -**
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PvReQXs4B5HDsINjEF0KnlgLgL7ZtrTXOlAovxJ9MuM/edit?usp=sharing>
- Moved by Clint Wilson
- Seconded by Barry Pond
- Result of Vote - Approved

5. Financial Report for January 1 to December 31, 2023 – Report created by Treasurer Lorraine Poisson and shared by President Brian Baker
(Start time on recording - 6:34)

- **Statement of Revenue and Expense** – Cash on Hand for period ending December 31st, 2023 \$20,881.44 and previous years: \$16,981.07 for 2022; 2021: \$14,769.65; for 2020 - \$11,155.18; for 2019 - \$11,044.87; for 2018 - \$8,806.32; for 2017: \$5,699.67; for 2016: \$4,716.14

- 2023 *Net Income*: \$3,900.37 2022 Net Income: \$1,795.68, 2021 Net Income: \$3,614.47
- Each June, the LTCA files a T2 Short Return with the CRA. The Notice of Assessment for 2023 has been received and a zero balance..
- The Statement of Review for 2023 by Mike Marrs has been completed.
- This year the membership fee continues at \$35 as it has been since 2016.

6. Approval of LTCA Financial Statements for 2023 (Start time on recording - 13:47)

- Moved by Ken Davies
- Seconded by Clint Wilson
- Result of Vote - Approved

7. Approval of Auditor's Report (dated May 28, 2024) (Start time on recording - 14:35)

- Moved by Jack Jones
- Seconded by Allan Ross
- Result of Vote - Approved

8. Motion that the resignation of Michael Marrs, CPA, as our long-standing LTCA Auditor be accepted with gratitude and sincere appreciation for his many years of service to the Association. (Start time on recording - 15:33)

- Moved by Brian Baker
- Seconded by Scott Ross
- The motion was approved unanimously
- Brian Baker, and other members, shared their heartfelt thanks to Michael Marrs, who has been the longest serving Officer on the LTCA. He has served as an Officer of the LTCA since its inception in 1991, and has been the only auditor.

9. Appointment of New Auditor (Start time on recording - 17:57)

- In the last two weeks Brian has asked if someone is interested in being the new auditor. To date no one has come forward. He will continue to advertise on the LTCA Facebook page.
- ONCA requires the auditor be (re)appointed each year.
- Brian is looking into the qualifications needed for someone to be the auditor.
- If you know of someone with CPA qualifications on the lake, let them know we're looking for a new auditor.

10. Membership Report and 2024 To Date – Report created by Treasurer Lorraine Poisson and shared by President Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 10:47 and 20:06)

- As of August 10th, 149 LTCA memberships had been sold. The Summer Students have finished visiting all cottages/homes for the first time. Our goal is to have a minimum of 160 paid members.
- The emailing of QuickBooks Invoices and use of E-transfers to collect membership is very beneficial.
- Previous Members who have not yet paid their 2024 memberships will be re-invoiced.
- Final numbers of memberships for previous years were: 145 (2023), 160 (2022), 146 (2021), 132 (2020), 142 (2019), 133 (2018), 136 (2017), 156 (2016), 130 (2015), 137 (2014), and 141 (2013). There are approximately 240 cottages/homes on the waterway.

11. Ontario Parks Summer Student Grant and Canada Summer Jobs Funding – Report by Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 21:05)

- Ontario Parks has paid \$3,500 for work carried out in designated areas of Mattawa River Provincial Park. An Activity Report will be submitted to Parks Superintendent, Warren Verina
- The students have been working 30 hours per week.
- LTCA applied for 2 Canada Summer Jobs Grants for 2023 but were only approved for one after having not been approved for any Students in 2023. LTCA pays \$17.00 hourly plus 4% Vacation and daily allowance for supplying boat & motor.
- Brian thanked Clint Wilson for his dedication to the Summer Student program, and all the work he does to support the students.

12. 2024 Summer Student Report – Supervisor Clint Wilson, Students Landon Bell & Marcus Poisson (Start time on recording - 22:53)

- **Link for 2024 LTCA Summer Students' Interim Report -**
<https://1drv.ms/w/s!AiY-l9CdO3pju0FE7gGyX1CZ4mY3>
- **Link for the 2024 LTCA Summer Students' Final Report -**
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MuAGxkmIWnhWdO0-TFJ9rxQeIVPuC09SKBjO1FlxpEw/edit?usp=sharing>
- The summer students worked hard and had a very positive summer working on the lake. They were very successful getting memberships during their cottage visits. They worked hard maintaining the different campsites and other key areas on the lake.
- One time they came across park wardens. This year the MNRF prohibited camping on Blueberry and Madora Island due to environmental concerns as the islands are not large enough to have a thunderbox.
- Clint thanked supply students Calum and Adrian for helping with the program near the end of the season.

13. Blanchard's Landing Dock & Boat Ramp Status – Report by Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 28:57)

- Anyone unsatisfied with the maintenance of the dock and ramp is advised to contact the Parks Superintendent, Warren Verina, located at Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park.
- The Mattawa/North Bay Algonquin First Nations and their Madadjiwan Economic Development Corporation are presently seeking financial support from both the Federal and Provincial Governments. The initiative is operating as the Kaibuskong Bay Renewal Project (KBRP) and the LTCA has partnered in this endeavour. Don Paquette is the Chairperson of KBRP. The LTCA assisted by donating \$709.25 for the fees associated with the legal incorporation of KBRP.
- The LTCA has John Kelsall Sr., Garth Gummo and Chris Whalley as members on the KBRP Committee. Nancy Humphries is the Secretary.
- The KBRP is currently awaiting a Draft Lease Agreement being prepared by Ontario Parks.
- The project has currently paused which is unfortunate given that both a Provincial and Federal election is likely in the next 6-9 months and the current influential MP is not running for re-election.
- If Ontario Parks considers the dock unsafe they will remove it.

14. Water Level Management – Report by Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 34:20)

- The Ministries of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDMNRF) continue to manage the water levels using their historical management practices with a completely new staff than previous years.
- Nothing to report on possible transfer of Talon Chutes Dam operation to Ontario Parks.
- Water levels have been more stable this year likely due to very few major rain events.

15. Signage for the Narrows above Talon Chutes (Start time on recording - 35:46)

- If you enter the Narrows when the MNDMNRF is in the process of drawing down the water you can be caught up in the current and there can be a whirlpool-effect.
- 7-8 years ago the MNDMNRF put up a sign but it's not totally effective. Due to its positioning many people don't notice it.
- As a result of the tragic death of an LTCA member in May 2023 the LTCA was asked to approach the MNDMNRF to see if new signage can be used that is more proactive to indicate when there could be strong current expected.
- Brian spoke to a representative and requested from the MNDMNRF to provide a flashing sign that could be remotely activated, saying something to the effect of, "Beware! Strong Currents Ahead!" They didn't agree to it. They said if we have an alternative they would consider it.
- Dayle Chadbourne, a member of the LTCA, said he is willing to take it on, study it and make some recommendations. Brian Baker will do some searching with it as well.
- This summer a cottager paddled a canoe to the dam and needed to be towed out because the MNDMNRF had pulled logs out of the dam and the current was too strong for them to paddle against. The MNDMNRF should not let the water get so high that the currents become as dangerous as they do when the logs are pulled out at the dam.

16. Water Quality Testing – Report by Clint Wilson (Start time on recording - 44:14)

- The Summer Students under the supervision of Clint Wilson have been sampling Kaibuskong Bay and another agency samples the main water body of Lake Talon. The data is submitted to the Provincial database.
- The Federation of Cottagers Associations of Ontario's (FOCA) website (www.foca.on.ca) has information about the [Lake Partner Program](#) (water clarity (Secchi disc), phosphorous (encourages algae growth). It includes information about [Sampling Results & Assistance](#). The map on the website allows you to view the Secchi Disk depth and total phosphorus data from sampling sites as far back as 1990.
- Secchi - 2.3 metres on average - measure of clarity of the lake; our lake is a tea-coloured lake
- Nutrient loading - phosphates control the growth of algae
 - Kaibuskong - 14.3 mg/litre
 - Anywhere from 10-20 is in the middle range
 - This reading is a lot higher than the rest of the lake
- There have been no reports of blue-green algae in the lake this year.
- eDNA sampling at the government dock was carried out by Clint last year.

- Lake Talon tested negative for the invasive plant species Water Soldier
- There are many boats coming from other lakes into Lake Talon. This increases the risk of invasive species coming into Lake Talon.
- There are PFAs coming into Trout Lake from the North Bay Airport. The Trout Lake Conservation Association is looking into this. Brian has requested that Lake Talon also be tested for PFAs given Lake Talon is downstream from Trout Lake.

17. Algonquin Land Claim – Report by Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 49:33)

- No further news to report on the ongoing Algonquin Land Claim.

18. Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA) 2023 Report – Report by Ken Davies (Start time on recording - 50:42 and 54:38)

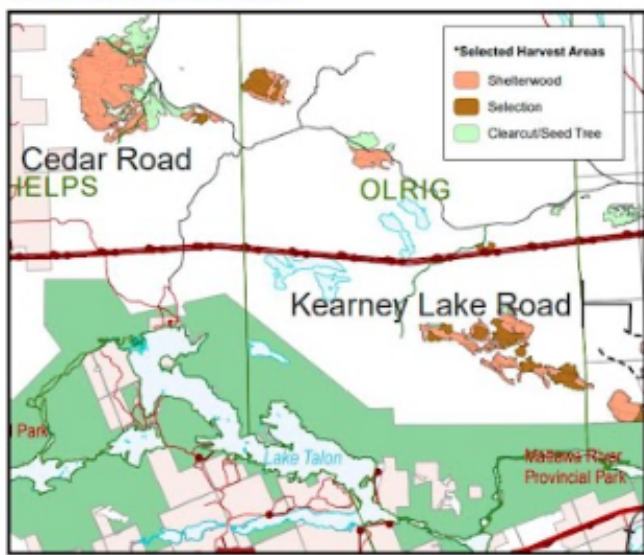
- This is a [link to the FOCA 2023 Report](#).
- Ken detailed the information in the report.
- Every member of LTCA is automatically a member of FOCA
 - They provide many services for members.
 - They give info about capital gains to set up a trust/will your property
 - You can sign up for their newsletters

19. Update on Land Use & Logging Report – Report by Marcia Pond (Start time on recording - 52:15)

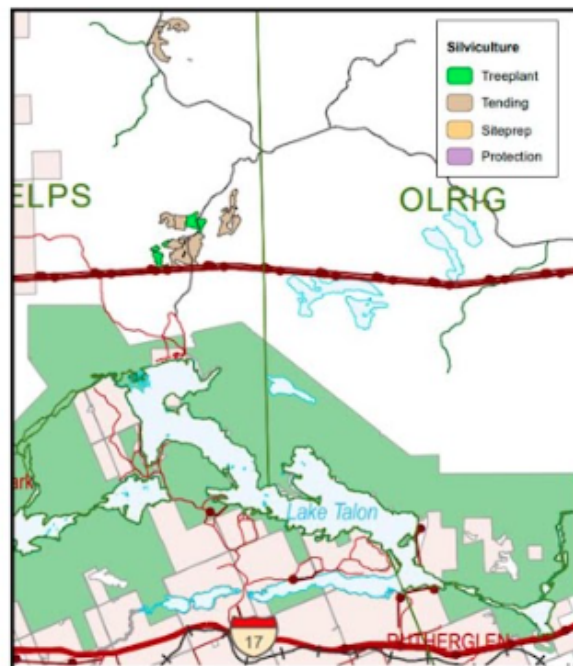
- The information in the maps below is publicly available through the Government of Ontario's [Natural Resources Information Portal](#). The map on the left is of the Nipissing Forest as this is where Lake Talon falls. The map on the right shows the areas within proximity to Lake Talon that are scheduled for silviculture.

Planned harvest blocks/tree-cutting:

Link to the whole map: [Box | Simple Online Collaboration - Preview](#)



Planned silvicultural operations map:



20. Communications Update (Facebook, Website and MailChimp emails) - Report by Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 56:58)

- Currently the [LTCA Facebook page](#), the [LTCA website](#), and Newsletters sent via “MailChimp” are being used to communicate information about the LTCA. Use of both email and Facebook has been initiated based on a previous Member Survey. Facebook is used on a daily/weekly basis as appropriate.
- Facebook seems to be the most popular way of communicating with people as it is fast and can include photos, links, etc. as well as receive comments.

21. Septic Pump Out for Water Access Properties – Report by Brian Baker (Start time on recording - 55:36)

- Muskoka Septic Services from Parry Sound will be scheduled to return in the fall of 2026, being a 5-year cycle. The last pump-out was September of 2021.
- Next fall Brian will send out information about having septic tanks pumped. He recently had an email exchange with the owner of Muskoka Septic Services and the company is committed to doing the pump-out in 2026. It usually happens in September/early October.

22. Dock – Cottage Numbers for Water Access (Start time on recording - 1:00:03)

- Brian Baker & George McLellan have finalized new dock number signs for delivery to those requesting them. This project is now concluded.

23. 2024-25 LTCA Officers (Start time on recording - 1:01:42)

At the 2015 AGM a Motion Approved: All of the current Directors and Officers have confirmed their willingness to continue serving the Association.

- **President** – Brian Baker
- **Vice President** – Scott Ross
- **Treasurer** – Lorraine Poisson
- **Secretary** – Paige Bennett
- **Summer Student Supervisor** – Clinton Wilson
- Financial Review – **Vacant**
- FOCA Representative – Ken Davies
- Website Managers – Kelly Wallace & Jason Simard
- Land Use Committee – Marcia Pond
- Water Quality Testing – Clinton Wilson
 - Additional Volunteers are needed. The Chief Lake Steward Job Description will be prepared and publicized. The position will include monitoring water levels, water hazard markers, etc.

- Motion to Approve the Reappointment of the Current Board of Directors
- Moved by Mary Marrs
- Seconded by Barry Pond
- Result of Vote - Approved

24. ONCA - Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act – New ByLaws for Review & Approval (Start time on recording - 1:08:50)

- New provincial legislation requires all Not-for-Profit Corporations, which includes the LTCA, to draft new Corporate Articles and By-Laws, etc. by October 18, 2024.
- [Link to Guidelines for ONCA](#) - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/guide-not-profit-corporations-act-2010>
- Our Board of Directors have completed this lengthy task and a Motion for Approval follows on this Agenda. See Link below: [Bylaws of the Lake Talon Conservation Association \(LTCA\) \(Draft\) - August 12, 2024](#) - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yRQ2JY8Zxfyr6h69DGgOWiQngKNwEI6NelT7MsqmL9A/edit?usp=sharing>
- Motion to Approve the New Bylaws
- Moved by Barry Pond
- Seconded by Ken Davies
- Result of Vote - Approved

25. ONCA – LTCA Articles & Special Provisions to Review & Approve – Link Below (Start time on recording - 1:20:40)

- [Purpose and Articles of the LTCA \(Draft\) - August 12, 2024](#) - https://docs.google.com/document/d/12ZPoacZU2bFQST_-2cbhRHSCKMWpibvctNMsUvXRmfc/edit?usp=sharing
- Articles of incorporation are the documents that create the not-for-profit corporation. These were originally done in 1991.
- Special Provisions deal with matters of corporate governance.
- Motion to Approve the New Purpose and Articles
- Moved by Allan Ross
- Seconded by Jack Jones
- Result of Vote - Approved

26. Hazard, Wake & Speed Markers (Start time on recording - 1:22:40)

- Insufficient Volunteers have come forward and this initiative will not proceed unless some persons come forward to take responsibility for this new project. This would be one of the projects assigned to the proposed Chief Lake Steward.
- It is in everyone's interest to have water hazard markers in place as there are many places on the lake that are very shallow and therefore hazardous.
- The people at the Narrows at Kaibuskong are very frustrated as people speed through the Narrows and cause large wakes. They have created signs that have been stolen or vandalized. Many areas require speed reductions and warnings.
- The OPP are aware and have occasionally been there, but it continues to be an area of concern.

27. Instagram (Start time on recording - 1:24:40)

- Robert Poisson relaunched the LTCA Instagram App, and our Followers are now up to 171. You can follow everyone on the Instagram App at [laketalon.ca](https://www.laketalon.ca)
- Share your photos and videos by sending to LTCAMedia5@gmail.com

28. LTCA's Social Media (Start time on recording - 1:25:04)

Email: laketaloncontact@gmail.com

Website: www.laketalonca.com

Facebook: Lake Talon Conservation Association – LTCA

Instagram: laketalon.c.a

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@laketalonconservationassoc3382>

29. Facebook Page Recommended for Buy & Sell, Lost & Found (Start time on recording - 56:58 and 1:25:42)

- Robert Poisson has created the Facebook group: “Lake Talon Community Hub - Buy & Sell + Services”. Launch date TBD.
- Looking for a co-admin volunteer, preferably someone who lives on the lake. Robert has a cottage on the lake, and lives in Bonfield. Please email Robert if you are interested: bluemarblecreative@gmail.com. (The Hub is independent of the LTCA).
- A suggestion was made during the meeting to add “Free” to the title of the Facebook page as many people just want to give away some things they no longer need. The suggestion was well-received.

30. Other Business Raised from Members (Start time on recording - 1:25:12)

Water Hazard Markers (Start time on recording - 1:25:48)

- Ken Davies brought up the long reef at the bottom of McCools Bay.
- Once it is marked, people will need to know that they keep to the left on the way in to the bay, and keep to the right on the way out of the bay. It is struck many times each summer. Due to the length of the reef it might need more than one marker.

The Possibility of a Hybrid Meeting (Start time on recording - 1:27:18)

- Mary Marrs asked about the possibility of having future meetings be hybrid so people can see others in person, and those who can't be there in person can attend online. She suggested the possibility of meeting at someone's cottage to watch the Zoom meeting together with the people who can be physically present.
 - Brian Baker welcomed the idea but cited previous issues that included weather (there isn't a place big enough for everyone to meet indoors), and parking for boats and cars. The only two options on the lake are Talon Lake Campground and Marina, and Camp Conewango. Summer is their busy season which can make it a challenge to host. The other issue is that it may be difficult to access internet in order to Zoom the AGM to those that cannot attend in person. Brian doesn't know how we can do it, but said the Directors will look at it.

Firefighting Equipment (Start time on recording - 1:32:47)

- Clint and Matthew Wilson created a video of how to start and use the fire pump that is located in James Bay. It is James Bay's equipment as it was jointly purchased by the cottagers in the bay.
- Darren Jackson also has firefighting equipment - a fire pump and 200-250 feet of

hose; Dave Humphries knows where he keeps his key and can get the key if Darren isn't there.

- Shields Bay and Green Bay have a great deal of equipment. They have 10 backpacks, 2 fire pumps, 800 feet of hose, 6 sets of bunker gear, 2 helmets.
- In the event of a major fire, we could put a fire pump on a pontoon boat and/or a barge to transport to the fire. The James Bay and Greens Bay/Shield's Point cottagers could share equipment inventory and location with Dave Humphries as well as others on the lake. Having the possibility of a community response makes people feel safer.
- If there are other people on the lake who have a fire pump, communicate with Brian - advising what they have and where it is located
- Clint suggested having a Lake Talon Fire Boat. It could have potentially helped out two years ago when there was a fire on Blueberry Island. In that situation the local cottagers put it out using a bucket brigade.
- More people want to be sure to protect our properties and our neighbours' properties.

Thank Yous (Start time on recording - 1:30:16 and 1:38:58)

- Darren Jackson is new to the LTCA and was impressed with the efficiencies of the meeting, and what we're doing to take care of the lake. He thanked everyone involved for their work. He also offered to help Clint with the summer student program if help is needed.
- Jane Bennett thanked the executive for all of the work they do throughout the year. She said the lake is better because of it.

31. Motion to Adjourn (Start time on recording - 1:40:32)

- Moved by Jane Bennett
- Seconded by Clint Wilson
- Result of Vote - Approved