



**Lake Talon Conservation Association (LTCA)  
2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM)  
Thursday, August 28, 2025 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.
- Online voting was conducted using Zoom polls and voting was anonymous.
- The meeting began at 7:03pm.
- Persons attending at some point during the AGM - 30

**Moderator- Paige Bennett – LTCA Secretary**

**1. Welcome from President Brian Baker (Start time - 7:03pm)**

**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 Tag Line – "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

**3. Introduction of Virtual Zoom Meeting Moderator, LTCA Secretary Paige Bennett (Start time on recording - 0:28)**

**4. Approval of Minutes of AGM of August 29, 2024 (Link below) (Start time on recording - 2:53)**

**[2024 LTCA AGM Minutes - August 29, 2024](#)**

**Motion to Approve Minutes from the 2024 AGM**

- Mover - Jane Bennett

- Secunder - Scott Ross
- Result of vote - Carried

#### **5. Financial Report for Jan. 1 to December 31, 2024 – Treasurer Lorraine Poisson** (Start time on recording - 4:46)

- *Statement of Revenue and Expenses* –
  - Cash on Hand for period ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 \$19,103.02, 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
- 2024 *Net Income* (\$1,778.42), 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 2024 has been filed and a zero balance
- This year the membership fee continues at \$35, as it has been since 2016.

#### **6. Approval of LTCA Financial Statements for 2024 and Approval of Unaudited Financial Peer Review Statement for 2024** (Start time on recording - 7:20)

With the retirement of Mike Marrs in 2023, the LTCA Board of Directors recruited Barry Pond to conduct a peer review of the LTCA financial statements for 2024. The link below provides details of the review and the signed statement by Mr. Pond, dated May 24, 2025.

#### **Peer Reviewer's Report (dated May 24, 2025, link below)**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/PjZX6Lqd3N6R4x196>

#### **Motion to Approve LTCA Financial Statements for 2024** (Start time on recording - 9:13)

- Mover - Ken Davies
- Secunder - Lynne Heaney
- Result of vote - Carried

#### **Motion to Approve Peer Reviewer's Report for 2024 (dated May 24, 2025)** (Start time on recording - 10:41)

- Mover - Dennis Chadbourne
- Secunder - Allan Ross
- Result of vote - Carried

#### **7. Extraordinary Resolution re: Process for Financial Audits / Appointment of Barry Pond as Financial Peer Reviewer for 2025** (Start time on recording - 15:26)

Per ONCA rules, the LTCA at this time would like to introduce an "Extraordinary Resolution" asking Members to waive the requirement of an audit or review by a CPA, and in its place would like to ask Members to accept a financial review completed by peers within the LTCA membership going forward. A vote of 80% of votes cast is required for the Resolution to pass.

Next Steps:

- Brian: Follow up with the potential CPA volunteer to confirm if she will conduct the financial audit for 2025.
- Lorraine: Provide financial records to the new CPA volunteer for review.
- Barry Pond: Continue as peer reviewer for 2025 financials if the CPA volunteer is not confirmed.

**Motion to Approve the Extraordinary Resolution re-Process for Financial Audits / Appointment of Barry Pond as Financial Peer Reviewer for 2025** (Start time on recording - 15:48)

- Mover - Mary Marrs
- Seconded - Yolanda Cameron
- Result of vote - Carried (100% were in agreement, which meets the requirement of needing a minimum of 80% to approve this Resolution)

**8. Membership Report and 2025 To Date – Report by Treasurer Lorraine Poisson** (Start time on recording - 17:15)

- As of August 12th, 149 LTCA memberships had been sold. As of August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Summer Students have finished visiting all cottages/homes except for McCool Bay and Rice Bay. Our goal is to get 170 members.
- The emailing of QuickBooks Invoices and use of E-transfers to collect membership has proven to be very beneficial.
- The use of the Square wireless payment system is continuing to grow in usage.
- Previous Members who have not yet paid their 2025 memberships will be re-invoiced.
- Final numbers of memberships for previous years were: 162 (2024), 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.
- Lorraine detailed where the Membership dollars go:
  - Fixed Costs Per Year
    - Liability Insurance (8%)
    - FOCA dues (6%)
    - Administrative Costs (2%)
    - Student Program Operations (84%)
  - Variable or New Costs
    - Publicity, T-shirts and Hats
    - Sponsorship - Mattawa River Canoe Race
    - Donations - Kaibuskong Bay Renewal Project (2024 & 2025)
    - LTCA Boat Insurance and Maintenance (new for 2025)
    - Hazard Buoys purchase and maintenance (to come in 2026)

**9. Ontario Parks Summer Student Grant and Canada Summer Jobs Funding – Report by Brian Baker** (Start time on recording - 21:10)

- 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 Supt.
- The students have been working 30 hours per week.
- LTCA applied for 2 Canada Summer Jobs Grants for 2025 and both were approved which is a significant savings to our Association. LTCA pays \$18.00 hourly plus 4% Vacation and daily allowance for supplying boat & motor.

**10. Donation of Boat & Motor by Mary Farmer** (Start time on recording - 24:50)

- A longtime LTCA Member, Mary Farmer has donated her 14' aluminum boat and 15 hp outboard motor for use by the LTCA Summer Students. This very much appreciated donation will enable all future summer student candidates to be eligible as they will no longer need to supply a boat &

motor as a condition of employment. Motor repairs, new oars and seats were needed at a cost of \$1,000.

- Thank you Mary!

#### **11. 2025 Summer Student Report – Supervisor Clint Wilson, Landon Bell & Hayden Stockill**

- **Link for 2025 LTCA Summer Student's Interim Report** (Start time on recording - 26:24)  
[2025 LTCA Summer Student Report](#)
- Clint and Hayden detailed the work the students did this summer. It included:
  - doing the groundwork for the hazard markers, mapping out locations where buoys will be placed next summer; replacing some of the informal markers
  - Doing Walk and Talks with the cottagers - topics brought up were challenges with the water level, amount of sediment at the government dock, boat wakes
  - Cleaning up campsites - they have been left pretty clean except for after long weekends, which is to be expected
  - Clint and the summer students met twice with the Park Wardens;
  - Camping on Lake Talon, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR):
    - As of last summer Blueberry Island and Madora Island were determined off limits by the MNR for overnight camping; there is a required setback from the water for thunderboxes, and neither island meets the setback to have one installed, which is why overnight camping isn't allowed, enforcement of this is an issue
    - There is also no overnight camping allowed at the Talon Chutes
    - The only place identified by MNRF for camping overnight on Lake Talon is at Grasswells.
- During the meeting a number of people thanked the summer students and Clint for all of their work.

#### **12. Blanchard's Landing Dock & Boat Ramp Status – Report by Brian Baker** (Start time on recording - 39:18)

- As previously advised, the Ontario Parks Superintendent Warren Verina was able to replace the floating dock at Blanchard's Landing with a longer dock. The Township of Bonfield assisted with the removal of the old dock and installation of the replacement. Some minimal dredging was done at the same time. The dock and boat ramp is 100% the responsibility of Ontario Parks as it lies within the boundary of the Mattawa River Provincial Park. No LTCA funds were required.
- Thanks were shared to Warren Verina and the Township of Bonfield.

#### **13. KBRP – Kaibuskong Bay Renewal Project** (Start time on recording - 43:30)

- The Kaibuskong Bay Renewal Project (KBRP) and the LTCA have partnered in the effort to secure funding for the dredging of accumulated silt and gravel in the area of Blanchard's Landing. Don Paquette is the Chairperson 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 retained the consulting services of Bishop Water Inc. to carry out the necessary environmental study for extensive dredging in the area of Blanchard's Landing so that the necessary permits can be requested. The KBRP received the draft report this week.
- The LTCA Board of Directors has provided a cheque to KBRP in the amount of \$6,000 to cover the cost of the Bishop Water Study and Report. The Board decided with the approval of the Kolaska Family, that their donation of \$2,000 would be utilised along with LTCA funds. Ontario

Parks have committed to pay 50% of the Bishop Water cost later this year. The final cost to the LTCA will be \$1,000.

- The Bishop Water Study is expected to be received by KBRP in August.

#### **14. Water Level Management – Report by Brian Baker** (Start time on recording - 50:12)

- The MNMNR continues to manage the water levels using their historical management practices with a completely new staff than previous years. This spring the water was very high, and the last 6 weeks it has been low but within MNRF operating targets. Some people's wells have run dry. A main part of the issue is there is an allowable one foot vertical difference between high and low water levels. One of the purposes of the KBRP is to help deal with the increasing sediment around the government dock area reducing water depth. A suggestion was made by a LTCA member to survey the membership about the possibility of tightening the operating range.
- Nothing to report on possible transfer of Talon Chutes Dam operation to Ontario Parks. Not likely to happen.
- The North Bay MNRF District has recently established a dedicated email address for water management inquiries.
- Going forward, please direct all communications regarding water levels or dams to: [watermanagement.nbdistrict@ontario.ca](mailto:watermanagement.nbdistrict@ontario.ca). This will help ensure timely and coordinated responses according to the Ministry representative.
  - Members reported they are getting auto responses back to their emails saying the water is within the approved levels.
  - The MNRF hasn't given specific feedback other than they were going to try a different procedure (the way they tighten it); the current logs are about 5 years old
  - The LTCA has been in touch with Vic Fedeli

#### **15. Water Quality Testing – Report by Clint Wilson** (Start time on recording - 1:04:38)

- 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. Clint tests the water in May and June, the students test it in July and August, and Clint tests the water in September and October.
  - Kaibuskong has elevated phosphates coming in from Lake Nosbonsing
- The Federation of Cottagers Associations of Ontario's (FOCA) website ([www.foca.on.ca](http://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.

#### **16. Algonquin Land Claim – Report by Brian Baker** (Start time on recording - 1:08:54)

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

#### **17. Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA) Report – Report by Ken Davies** (Start time on recording - 1:09:19)

- All Paid LTCA Members are automatically FOCA Members. Members are encouraged to login to the FOCA website at [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca) to review the various benefits and items of interest that are published monthly. Sign up for the FOCA Newsletters if you are interested.
- [FOCA 2025 Report by Ken Davies.docx](#)

- If you have a short-term rental, make sure you check Bonfield Township for information you need to be aware of and follow.

**18. Update on Land Use & Logging Report – Report by Marcia Pond** (Start time on recording - 1:15:30)

- Marcia reached out to the MNR re-land use in the Lake Talon area and did not receive a reply
- The government dock boat launch, and Grasswells have been very busy all summer
- Samuel de Champlain Park is still closed and is hoping to reopen next spring.

**19. Communications Update (Facebook, Website and MailChimp emails) - Report by Brian Baker** (Start time on recording - 1:16:48)

- 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.
- Members shared their appreciation for the excellent communication provided by the LTCA on these platforms.

**20. Septic Pump Out for Water Access Properties – Report by Brian Baker** (Start time on recording - 1:17:37)

- 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 in September of 2021. The company will share the cost of the service before they come. It will likely be \$1300/\$1400, plus HST for a 1,000 gallon tank.
- Email [LakeTalonContact@gmail.com](mailto:LakeTalonContact@gmail.com) to be placed on the 2026 Pump Out List.

**21. 2025-26 LTCA Officers** (Start time on recording - 1:19:04)

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 – Barry Pond
- FOCA Representative – Ken Davies
- Website Managers – Kelly Wallace & Jason Simard
- Land Use Committee – Marcia Pond
- Water Quality Testing – Clinton Wilson
- Additional Volunteers are needed for Water Hazard Buoys

**Motion to Reappoint the Current Board of Directors** (Start time on recording - 1:19:34)

- Mover - Jane Bennett
- Seconder - Allan Ross
- Result - Carried

**22. ONCA - Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act – New ByLaws Approved** (Start time on recording - 1:20:45)

- As required by the Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act, the LTCA submitted our revised Articles and By-Laws which were approved at the August 29, 2024 Annual General Meeting. The Ontario government has approved our filing and we are now compliant with the ONCA Regulations.

**23. Signage at The Narrows** (Start time on recording - 1:21:14)

- The issue of improved and possibly real time advance warning signs of strong and dangerous currents at the entrance to The Narrows above the Talon Chutes Dam was made to the MNRF by the LTCA. The Ministry was not agreeable to our proposal and the matter is now closed.
- You can access information about flooding and high water on our website at [www.ontario.ca/floods](http://www.ontario.ca/floods) and within that website, you can access local watershed bulletins within the Flood Forecasting and Warning Program section here: <https://www.liaapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/webapps/swmc/flood-forecasting-and-warning-program/>.

**24. Hazard, Wake & Speed Markers** (Start time on recording - 1:22:16)

- Several Volunteers have recently come forward and this initiative will proceed at an estimated cost of \$1,500. The initial installation will be for Hazard Buoys only. They will have “PRIV” marked on them indicating the buoys are “Private” and not owned by the Ministry. The buoys will also have the LTCA contact info on them. The buoys are being ordered this week.
- The following people have volunteered to install buoys in their areas of the lake: Brian Bellefeuille, Dave Humphries, Allan Ross and Clint Wilson. Thank you!
- Email Brian at [LakeTalonContact@gmail.com](mailto:LakeTalonContact@gmail.com) if there are any places that should be marked that currently are not marked.
- Brian has looked into liability insurance and was estimated the increase should be approximately \$125/year.
- Clint said it would be helpful to have them all be installed on the same day in the spring, and taken out on the same day in the fall.

**25. LTCA's Social Media** (Start time on recording - 1:29:49)

email: [laketaloncontact@gmail.com](mailto:laketaloncontact@gmail.com)

website: [www.laketalonca.com](http://www.laketalonca.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/LakeTalonCA](https://www.facebook.com/LakeTalonCA)

Instagram: [laketalon.c.a](https://www.instagram.com/laketalon.ca)

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

- Facebook is the LTCA's main communication tool
- There are currently 306 people on our email list, and no one has unsubscribed.

**26. Facebook Page Recommended for Buy & Sell, Lost & Found** (Start time on recording - 1:32:22)

- Robert Poisson has created the Facebook group: “Lake Talon Community Hub”. The new Facebook Group has been successfully operating for 3 months and already has 155 Members. This is a private Facebook Group which requires anyone interested to join and be approved by Paige Bennett who is the volunteer Administrator. The Hub is independent of the LTCA. <https://m.facebook.com/groups/701010112066260/?ref=share>
- If you have requested to join but have not been approved, please check your Facebook “Messenger” app as you may not have answered the required questions, or agreed to the Group



Rules. Once you do, your membership will be approved. This mainly happens with people who have been invited to the group by others.

**27. LTCA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Next Year** (Start time on recording - 1:35:05)

- How should we celebrate our upcoming 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary?
- Ideas - In-Person AGM, Host an Open House or two, sell LTCA t-shirts and hats, major LTCA website revamp?
- Please contact Brian at [LakeTalonContact@gmail.com](mailto:LakeTalonContact@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions.

**28. Other Business Raised from Members** (Start time on recording - 1:37:02)

- Clint Wilson
  - The suggestion was made to have the LTCA send a message of support to the Samuel de Champlain Park Superintendent and staff after the destruction they experienced from the downburst in June.
- Darren Jackson and Others
  - Preparing for the Possibility of Fires
    - Darren has a water pump by the lake in James Bay with 150-200 feet of hose. He would like people to use it if they need to. Clint shared that there is also a fire pump in their boathouse right by the water; and Barry Theirron also has a fire pump.
    - A suggestion was made to have a formal contact list of who has pumps and other fire equipment, and to include a map too
    - Brian shared that there are now 5 fire pumps in the Shields Bay area.
    - Concerns were expressed about some of the fires campers build on Grasswells. A suggestion was made to make a firebreak to stop the potential spreading of a fire.
    - A suggestion was made to put 5 buckets, 1 at each campsite at Grasswell, labelled with "LTCA" (we could get decals to put on the buckets). Clint offered to label and monitor them.
    - A suggestion was made to publish notice of fire bans when they are affecting our area.
  - Map of Lake Talon with key information
    - A suggestion was made to have a detailed map made of Lake Talon that includes locations of hazard buoys, marinas, fire equipment, and docking areas.
- Marsha Pond
  - shared that it has been nice to see a family of loons near their cottage this summer

**30. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting** (Start time on recording - 1:48:03)

- Mover - Clint Wilson
- Seconder - Diane Wallace
- Result of vote - Carried