

## The Buck Lake Association Inc.

Box 36, INVERARY, ON KOH 1XO

www.bucklake.ca

email: Buck Lake Information

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

## Buck Lake News - December 2022

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#### Do you want to get more involved in your Lake Association?

We Currently Have the Following Committees Active & Would Always Welcome Volunteers

#### Friends of the Lake

Martha Scheinman (co-lead) Gillian Lash (co-lead)

#### **New Board Members**

Annie Preston Kasia Kindrat Lorelei Rosa Scott Lillis



**Member Services** Don Young(lead)

#### **Government Relations**

Randy Ruttan (lead)

#### Communications

Martha Scheinman (lead) Kathy McDonald

If you are interested, please email The Board for more details about how to attend/access any forthcoming meeting.

Nominating

Gilian Lash (lead) Don Young

## President's Message

Incredible as it may seem, it has been over a year since I last wrote. However, that does not mean that the Buck Lake Association has not been busy.

We lent our support to Opinicon Lake's concern about a dramatic increase in RV campground capacity, are following the increase in short-term rentals and the Township's response to ensure adherence to relevant existing by-laws and the potential need for new by-laws. These are on-going processes which we will continue to monitor closely.



Fortunately, this spring, the cases of COVID decreased enough for us to finally be able to hold several inperson events. Community is of importance to our Buck Lake residents, so it was great to see a large number of you attend our two "Happy Hour" events, followed by another successful "Buckstock" music festival in June, where you helped raise money for our local Southern Frontenac Community Services while again enjoying the music of R-BANNED and a fabulous BBQ!

For the first time, we held a delicious pancake breakfast Annual General Meeting supported by the team at

the Perth Road Village Church Hall. This format was well-received, so we expect to do the same next year.

This year also brought us four new additions to the Board of Directors which we are thrilled to have as they are already making great contributions. Those new members are Lorelei Rosa, Scott Lillis, Annie Preston and Kasia Kindrat. Look forward to seeing more from them early next year.

In case you are thinking about joining the Board, there will be openings in August 2023, as four of us will have reached the maximum amount of time allowed on the Board.

In the meantime, I wish everyone a very happy and healthy holiday season!

Gillian Lash



## Membership Renewal

December is a good month to renew your Buck Lake Association membership for 2023. Information on how to join is on our website at http://bucklake.ca and below.

Membership in the Buck Lake Association is open to anyone owning or residing on property bordering Buck Lake. In practice, the family members of any cottage or residence on the lake may hold a common membership, but only one of those members is entitled to vote at a general meeting.

The current annual membership fee is still \$25 for one year or \$50 for a 2 year renewal.. You can renew your membership by etransfer or by downloading the membership form and mailing it.

#### Join or Renew Online

You can now send an e-transfer to bucklakeassoc@gmail.com to become a member or to renew your membership online (no password required). Please include your lake address in the e-transfer comments.

#### Your Buck Lake Association Board of Directors

President: Gillian Lash

Vice-President: Don Young

Treasurer:

#### Recording Secretary:

Cheryl Dawson

Archivist: Kathy McDonald

#### Directors at Large:

Randy Ruttan Martha Scheinman Annie Preston Kasia Kindrat Lorelei Rosa Scott Lillis

#### By Mail

Download [this Membership Form] (an [Adobe Reader] document) and print it to send it by post with your cheque to Buck Lake Association, Box 36, INVERARY, ON K0H 1X0.

For more information regarding membership, please write to <u>bucklakeassoc@gmail.com</u>.

## Consider attending a BLA Board meeting

BLA members are always welcome and it is a good way to find out about the roles of the directors. We are always looking for new people to bring their enthusiasm for Buck Lake to the Board.

Contact Gillian Lash at gil paris@yahoo.com if you would like to attend our next **Zoom** Board meeting on Sunday, January 15 at 9 a.m.



## Save the Date! Winterfest 2023

#### Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

(Backup Ice/weather date Sunday, January 29, 2023)

#### **Hidden Valley Campground**

Watch for more information on the BLA Facebook page, website and calendar.

Hope to see you there!



## The 2022 Buck Lake Loon Survey Report

Our citizen scientists were out on the lake all summer monitoring the growth and health of our loon population. Once again, this year, eight breeding pairs were observed in the late spring. Of these eight pairs, four had successful nests, hatching a total of seven chicks. Unfortunately, one of the chicks did not survive beyond two weeks. We did have six chicks reach full size by the fall. Of note, after three unsuccessful years, the loons using platform in the south bay had two healthy chicks. By comparison, in 2021 we had only five chicks reach full size. There are plans underway to deploy one or two more nesting platforms next year to try to help our nesting pairs of loons. A special thank you to our volunteer citizen scientists!

#### Are the loons talking to you?

It is really special to see a loon family with young chicks and very tempting to quietly approach them in your boat, kayak or canoe. You should be aware of how loons communicate with you when you do this. As you approach, you will likely see one of the loons (usually the male) separate from the family and swim in your direction. This should tell you that you are starting to encroach on their safety distance and that you have already disturbed the family from caring for and feeding the chicks. The other loon with the chicks will likely start swimming away from you to protect the chicks. If you continue toward the loons, the loon approaching you will begin to call out in a relatively quiet yodel. Yes, **he is talking to you** and asking you to move further away. Should you continue the yodel call will get much louder and if you continue even further, the male loon will rise up and spread his wings as he is loudly calling. He is showing this aggressive behaviour because you are acting in a way that is a serious threat to the chicks. This is a situation that causes the loon family significant stress and should be avoided. Let's give our loon families lots of space and the freedom to care for and feed their chicks.

You may also see loons rising up and spreading their wings from time to time. Without the strong verbal calls, this behaviour is just a wing stretch and is not aggression.



As always, remember to be very vigilant in your boats or jet skis in May and June when the chicks are very tiny and are not able to dive to avoid you. Please avoid creating large wakes on the unpopulated islands and shorelines where the loons nest, so that you do not wash out their nests and eggs.



Don Young

# The "Great Acceleration": Challenges and Solutions to Lake and River Health

#### Submitted by Gillian Lash

For the last twenty-two years, Watersheds Canada has organized a collaborative one-day workshop in October, called Lake Links which attracts citizens and scientists to share ways in which we can help sustain our lakes and rivers. This year's theme addressed the challenges and solutions around lake and river health. Not only did I attend this event, but I had the honour to present, along with Christine Woods from the Township of South Frontenac, on the creation and results of the Township's Lake Ecosystem Advisory Committee.

Topics of this year's workshop included Eurasian Milfoil programs, working with the municipal government to engender positive outcomes and how to fortify lake ecosystems in the face of environmental change. The presentations from the Geography and Environmental Science Program at Carleton University, the Wollaston Lake Property Owners Association, the Big Rideau Lakes and Upper Rideau Lake Associations and the Township of South Frontenac Lake Ecosystem Advisory Committee can be found here. This link includes the audio portion of the presentations as well.

One of the major points that came across loud and clear for me during the workshop was the dramatic change that has taken place in the world during the course of a person's lifespan.

Some examples:

	1913	2013
World population	1.8 billion	7.2 billion
Motor vehicles	1.1 million	1.1 billion
Commercial air travel	None (began in 1914)	32 million flights per year

1013

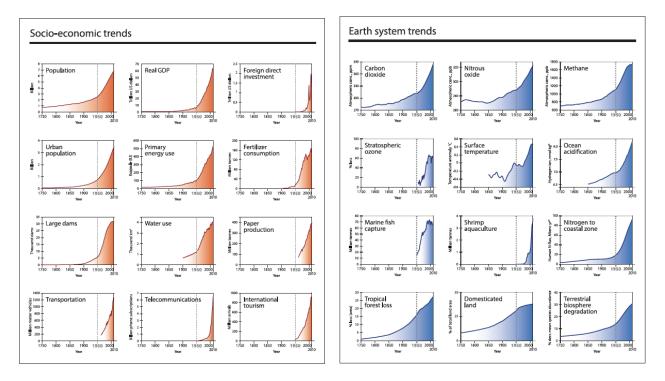
2012

With the incredible change in these three data points alone, it is safe to assume that our planet would be impacted.

During his engaging presentation, Professor Vermaire from Carleton University also spoke to the accelerated growth during the last 70 years in both Earth systems (surface temperature, carbon dioxide, methane gas, marine fish capture, etc.) and socio-economic (urban population, water use, gross domestic product, transportation, international tourism, etc.) trends. Vermaire and others liken the increase in some of the socio-economic trends to an increase in human well-being.



The charts below summarize these findings.



The Great Acceleration, Steffen et al. 2015

The beginning of this period of "Great Acceleration" occured in the 1950's just after the Second World War. According to Professor Vermaire, this is when we begin to clearly see the impact of human activity/well-being on the Earth's systems in an accelerated fashion. The challenge moving forward of course, is to continue to improve our well-being without it being a detriment to the Earth's systems.

At this point in the workshop, it was a great segue to bring the meaning of these high level observations to a local level. Professor Vermaire described research projects that his team is doing to better understand the link between human activity and lake ecosystem changes at some of our local lake ecosystems. The presentations which followed then provided examples of how our neighbouring lake and river associations are turning some of that research into solutions for their lakes' health.

I know that there are some Buck Lake residents who are concerned about the proliferation of the aquatic invasive species, Eurasian Milfoil, in our lake. They may find the information contained in the second half of Professor Vermaire's presentation and that of Wollaston Lake Property Owners Association of interest!

I also highly recommend your participation at an upcoming Lake Links Workshop. I have attended several over the last 6 years, and I am never disappointed. It is a great way to network, learn and share information. It is free, but donations are always appreciated. The next workshop is scheduled for October 21, 2023. The better informed that we are as a community, the better prepared we will be.

Presentations from all of the Lake Links Workshops since 2000, can be found here.

Let's try to do our part so that the next 70 years of accelerated change in our well-being will also correspond to the improved well-being of Buck Lake!

## A Season of Sharing

Thinking about making a donation during this holiday season?

Through Southern Frontenac Community
Services, cash and food donations can be made between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the SFCS office



at 4295 Stagecoach Road. You can also make an e-transfer to the finance manager at ally.dickson@sfcsc.ca and receive an Income Tax receipt or use the <a href="Donate Now">Donate Now</a> button on their website. Food donations are also being accepted currently at the South Frontenac Township offices in Sydenham, and there are donation bins at Foodland in Verona and Sydenham.

#### 2023 Buck Lake Calendars

Once again, our Buck Lake Calendars were a great success! A special thank you to Cheryl Dawson and her team including Kathy McDonald, Cheryl Savery, Lorelei Rosa and Scott Lillis.

Thank you to our talented local photographers!

Please remember to keep sending photos to dawson.cheryl13@gmail.com for our next edition.

#### Gord McDiarmid

Barrister, Solicitor, Since 1979 (and a happy year-round resident on

Buck Lake since June 2006)

Real Estate, Mortgages, Family Law Wills, Estates, Powers of Attorney

Home: 1097 Tober Lane, Buck Lake Phone: 613-353-6912

Office: 3 Rideau Street, Kingston Phone: 613-546-3274 Fax: 613-546-1493

## Join the Buck Lake Association Today

It's only \$25 a Year!

To sign up today online, paddle on over to http://bucklake.ca/membership/

By signing up or renewing that way, you'll also become a member of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations for free. As a member you get lots of perks: Information on rural property issues; Environmental programs; and, Discounts from merchants.



In order to promote the spirit of Buck Lake, we invite your comments and suggestions for newsletter articles or announcements. Mail to: <a href="mailto:BuckLakeAssoc@gmail.com">BuckLakeAssoc@gmail.com</a></a>