



Draft Minutes – 2021 Virtual Spring Meeting  
Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 7:00 pm  
Via Zoom

*(The Minutes were endorsed by the KLCOA Board of Directors at their meeting on August 26, 2021. They are to be approved by the Membership at the 2021 AGM on Wednesday, September 22, 2021.)*

**Note: For the meeting slide deck, including detailed reports, go to [KLCOA.org](http://KLCOA.org) and click on Records – 2021 Spring Meeting Presentation Deck**

1. **Call to Order** – Deb Wratschko

KLCOA's By-laws set quorum for the Annual General Meeting as a minimum of 25 members present and entitled to vote. One hundred twenty Zoom connections were made. The following Board Members in attendance were: Deb Wratschko, Jim Prince, Grant DeMarsh, Sheelagh Lawrance, Janis Parker, Gino Ariano, Arlene Burch, Frances Duiker, Scott Durie, Brian Evans, Tina Fagg, Jacquie Geall, Joan Middleton, John Middleton, Terry O'Connor, and Natalie Wood.

President Wratschko welcomed everyone, provided an overview of how the virtual meeting would operate and instructions & protocols on how to use Zoom.

2. **Motion to Approve Agenda for the Meeting**

That the agenda for the 2021 Spring Meeting, dated Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm be approved.

**M:** Deb Wratschko

**S:** Joan Middleton

**The motion carried. None were opposed.**

3. **Motion to Approve Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting.**

That the Minutes of the 2020 KLCOA Annual General Meeting, dated September 16, 2020, be approved.

**M:** Scott Durie

**S:** Natalie Wood

**The motion carried. None were opposed.**

4. **Introduction of Board Members**

**President** Wratschko displayed the list of Board members and thanked them for their hard work and dedication to the organization and the lake.

5. **Remarks by Mayor Andrea Roberts, Dysart et al.**

Mayor Roberts covered several items in her presentation:

- Dysart has been operating under a state of emergency since March 2020 and it has been a challenge.



- All Council meetings are live-streamed and archived. A lot more people are viewing online than would normally attend in person.
- Dysart's website has been updated and is now AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) compliant. There have been several improvements such as applying for, and payments for building permits, and the ability to report a concern or make comments.
- With regard to the County's proposed Shoreline Bylaw, Hutchison Environmental has been hired to do a 3<sup>rd</sup> party review as well as guide the County through the process, including public consultation. She noted that there has been a lot of misinformation on both sides; we all want to protect our lakes. The bylaw is for the health of our lakes.
- Mayor Roberts talked about short-term rentals concerns and indicated that Dysart and other municipalities have been looking at it. Haliburton County will now be taking over the research and study and look at a licencing process. She noted that the local cottage rental agencies are in favour of a licencing process.
- Dysart recently passed an asset management plan. It looks at what they own, what it is worth and what capital spending is needed to keep it in good shape. The process has taken about 2 years to do, and the good news is that Dysart's assets are in relatively good shape.
- The 2022 municipal election will move to a fully electronic election system. Voting will be done by telephone or internet. There will be no paper ballots.
- The new Welcome Centre at Head Lake Park is now open, including its washrooms.
- A grant has been received to improve the Rotary Beach site including tennis, pickleball and off-leash area.
- Mayor Roberts noted that as a result in the significant upswing in real estate prices, Dysart must keep pace with affordable housing and services. There are housing projects coming forward including a new student residence at Fleming College.

6. **Remarks by Councillor John Smith, Dysart et al**

*Councillor Smith submitted a detailed written report in advance of the meeting and can be found at the end of the [Spring Members Report](#)*

Councillor Smith began his presentation talking about the overall Dysart budget and noted that while the 300 kms of roads are important, Dysart also supports other significant services including the police, fire department, recreation facilities and waste management. He advised that while there is a bit of catchup work to do on road maintenance, the asset management report will help in planning for the move forward.

Councillor Smith advised that about 20% of Dysart's budget goes towards waste management. New hours for the Kennisis Lake Landfill Site will be longer in the summer on Sundays and holiday Mondays, and shorter in the winter.

He concluded his presentation noting that the Pandemic has hit local businesses hard and to please support them. He thanked people for getting their vaccinations.



At this point in the meeting, questions were taken from the floor.

In response to a question about when the roads will be swept and will composting be started?

Councillor Smith responded that the road sweeping is in progress and Watts Road has already been done. Regarding composting, he advised that Dysart has been looking at this for some time but is restricted by the province as it is a separate stream. Dysart does sell composters and digesters at cost and the Environment Manager is working on it.

A question was raised about why short term rental properties are not subject to commercial zoning bylaws. Mayor Roberts responded that this will be looked at by Haliburton County along with other short-term rental issues.

Councillor Smith responded to a question on septic inspections and noted that all septic systems on the Kennisis Lakes have now been inspected, though he is unsure if all remedial work has been done.

Finally, in response to a question on whether outhouses were allowed as long as they are not located within the water setback. The Ontario Building Code does allow them.

President Wratschko thanked Mayor Roberts and Councillor Smith for their time.

**7. Remarks by Sgt David Moffatt – Provincial Marine Coordinator:**

*See slides on KLCOA.org site for details. (Go to Records –2021 Spring Meetings Presentations Deck)*

Sgt Moffatt covered a number of issues regarding marine safety. He focused on OPP- patrolled areas. He discussed marine fatalities. These must involve a vessel underway. There have been 229 fatalities in the last 10 years. Last year, 91% were not wearing life jackets. So far in 2021, there has been 4 fatalities- none were wearing life jackets. He urged members to wear life jackets all the time, noting that they do not recover people off the bottom wearing life jackets. Last year, there were over 7000 marine charges, including 45 who lost their car licence for a year as a result of boating infractions.

Next, Sgt. Moffatt offered clarification on the use of safety equipment while on a stand-up paddleboard. He advised that if it is moving (going from point A to B), or being towed, you do need to wear a life jacket and a whistle. If it is stationary (used for yoga, or kids just playing on it) you do not. The Safe Boating Guide has all the details.

Sgt Moffatt next covered “sharing the waterways and being a good neighbour”. He advised that Kennisis is not big enough for straight exhaust. The OPP were inundated with calls in 2020 in regard to wakeboard boats and PWC’s. He recommended that wakeboard boats stay in the middle of the lake, so that waves have dissipated before hitting the shoreline. Careless operation charges with PWC’s included jumping wakes, going in circles, and being too close to docks.

- Regarding invasive species, Sgt. Moffatt noted that as the OPP moves boats/PWCs from lake to lake, they have a strict protocol. The crafts are examined at least 30 metres from shore, physically remove any plant matter and drain the bilge. Where possible, they are



pressure-washed. While it is preferable to have the crafts sit for 7-10 days, it is not always possible to do so.

- Sgt. Moffatt advised members about an app called “What 3 Words” which can help to find someone, or help you determine your location (if there is cell service.) He recommended that members download it.
- In summary, Sgt. Moffatt provided his email address (david.moffatt@opp.ca and said that members were welcome to contact him with questions.

8. **Financial Review- 2020 Actuals and 2021 Budget- Grant DeMarsh, KLCOA Treasurer**  
*See slides on KLCOA.org site for details. (Go to Records –2021 Spring Meetings Presentations Deck)*

Grant began his presentation advising that 2020 was a very different year. We were able to collect our membership and advertising revenue, but many programs did not run. The year ended with a surplus of just under \$10K. The Board decided to give members a break and offered up two alternatives: either a reduction in membership fees for 2021 or putting half of the fee into the reserve fund. As a result, we will be taking in approximately \$6K less this year in membership fees. There is a projected shortfall of \$12K for this year. Grant the slides and noted which programs are expected to proceed.

In response to the question “ Knowing you are running a deficit, why give a discount and why hire a company for the survey rather than ask for volunteers” Grant responded that if we look at the past 3 years, it ends up being break-even. With regard to the survey, we did do a lot of it ourselves, but a 3<sup>rd</sup> party company will help us to provide an objective analysis. We are doing a lot of doing it our selves but want to be more objective.

*Note: Two questions were asked and are included at the end of the minutes.*

In conclusion, Grant asked for a motion from the floor:

**Motion: That the 2020 actuals and the 2021 budget be accepted.**

**Moved:** Grant DeMarsh

**Seconded:** Jim Prince

**The motion carried. Three were opposed.**

9. **Update – KLCOA President- Deb Wratschko**  
*See slides on KLCOA.org site for details. (Go to Records –2021 Spring Meetings Presentations Deck, as well as the detailed report)*

President Wratschko provided an overview of some key programs. The details can be found in the spring report [here](#). During the meeting, she focused on:

- Fireworks – we hope to proceed, but several key items need to be resolved.
- A tax seminar will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>.



- Art on the Dock should proceed with necessary covid restrictions in place.
- Rock Bass Fishing Derby will proceed.
- The Summer Challenge will replace the regatta.
- The Marker Buoy program is proceeding- not all hazards are marked.
- Deb advised that there had been a blue green algae bloom and a sewage spill in 2020 and several programs were focusing on protecting water quality.
  - All septics have now been inspected through the septic inspection program
  - The proposed Shoreline preservation bylaw is in draft form. KLCOA supports further public consultation on the bylaw as well as members participating in the process.
  - We will continue to do water quality monitoring (1;06)
- KLCOA has been advocating for better connectivity- cell phone and internet access.
- The land surrounding Soap Pond will be transferred from Dysart to KLCOA as one of a group of protected KLCOA properties around the lake.
- Invasive species are increasingly becoming an issue in Haliburton and boaters in particular need to be cognizant of transferring their boats in and out of surrounding lakes.
- President Wratschko thanked all the volunteers and invited members who are interested to consider running for the Board in the fall.

Next President Wratschko introduced the new owners of the Marina: Jim Dale, Chad Burdon and Gary Bowmeister. The new owners want to make the Marina a destination for social and leisure activities and cottage supplies. They are upgrading the ice cream bar, and providing speciality coffees and baked goods. In addition, they are building 4 pickleball courts. Mic Chonko will run the boat service and storage area and Wade Stamp will continue running the Saucy Pig.

#### 10. **Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve- Malcolm Cockwell- Managing Director**

Tegan Legge, General Manager of Tourism and Recreation led off the presentation. She noted that Covid has been a challenge, but most activities continued to run. While there were a few shutdowns, all full-time staff were kept on. She thanked the Kennis Lake community for their support.

She discussed their partnership with Yours Outdoors, which provides a number of unique experiences and she encouraged members to take advantage of the programs. The Cookhouse has received great support from the community and it is hoped that outdoor dining will be available in mid-June. She encouraged members to continue to purchase day and seasonal passes for walking/hiking and cycling. Outdoor tours should be able to resume shortly. It is expected that the Wolf Centre will open in Phase 3.

In conclusion she asked members to consider donating empties to the fishing society, which will be matched by the Forest.

Next, Malcolm Cockwell continued with the presentation. With regard to the Forest Products Division, Malcom advised that they have expanded significantly with the acquisition of the former Tembec sawmill in Huntsville. This makes them the largest hardwood lumber producer in Ontario



with three operating sawmills. He noted that the rise in softwood lumber prices, which have been artificially low, have seen a significant increase recently because of two factors: demographics (millennials are pushing housing start numbers) and destruction caused by the mountain pine beetle. Covid DIY projects have also added to the price increases.

Malcolm advised that the Forest is certified for sustainable products and a new partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada will be announced shortly.

In terms of logging this summer, it will be scattered, with most of the operation closer to Haliburton Lake. If members want to know exactly where the operations are on-going, they can stop by the office and look at the map. Next winter, there should not be logging off Watts Road. He noted that should anyone have issues about logging operations they can contact him directly with the details or download the

He advised that as it has been a tough spring for trees with very little rain, however the past 4-5 years have resulted in plenty of moisture, so they will be fine. Thus far, there has been no sign of Gypsy moths in the forest. Other invasive species should be top of mind for everyone. Malcolm reminded members about beech bark disease and additional threats to hemlocks. The Forest is on top of terrestrial issues, but not as well versed on aquatic invasive species. In conclusion, he did remind members not to move wood, and to wash off boats and ATVs to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

#### 11. **Launch of KENNISIS ALL of US Survey**

Deb Wratschko provided a history of the survey, noting that a committee of seven Board members began in December 2020. The purpose is to connect with the entire lake community and get feedback on priorities. The Committee developed the questions and was assisted by local consultants to ensure objectivity. It was tested by Board members as well as some members of the lake community. It will go live after this meeting. Members and their family are strongly encouraged to respond to the survey and we will be reaching out to non members as well. Prizes have been donated by the Haliburton Forest, The Cookhouse, Living Woodwork and Abbey Gardens.

Before moving on to the Question and Answer part of the meeting, President Wratschko thanked everyone for joining, and reminded members that it was an election year, and encouraged people to consider running. The virtual Annual General Meeting will be held on September 22, 2021.

#### 12. **Questions and Answers**

*Note: Some questions were submitted in advance of the meeting and were answered during the meeting. Other questions were submitted via Chat during the meeting. The responses were formulated after the meeting and posted on the KLCOA.org site. They are included in the minutes here:*

#### **QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING**

##### **From: Rod Dobson**

I would like to know, if any action or policy change might be taken going forward by the Klcoa board with respect to the support of any organization or municipal bylaw proposal in the future.



It appears to me that this has been a cause of concern for many of the members of the association that I have spoken to, with respect to the shoreline bylaw and letters of support from the lake association. Are there any plans to put any future proposals to the membership for their support prior to communicating the full support of Kloca ?

**Answer:**

**The KLCOA takes its representation of the members very seriously.**

There are two parts to this question.

The first being around the KLCOA overall advocacy for or against programs and events that directly affect the Kennessee Lake Community:

Over the last number of years some of the items we have advocated for are:

In favor of keeping our landfill sites open and viable

Supporting the Haliburton Tree Preservation bylaw

In favor of the level 4 Septic Inspection Program

In favor of a fireworks bylaw

In favor of increased connectivity for both internet and cell service

Against the use of pesticides around our lakes

In favor of protecting Open Space and Environmentally Protected lands and not allowing them to be rezoned

There are many more over the years, but these are the more current ones. In all of these cases, the KLCOA board had many robust discussions at committee and board levels. There are enough of us on the KLCOA Board, that pros and cons are truly discussed, and member views are represented. The board votes before we start down a road of advocacy and every board member has an opportunity to review and comment on any correspondence that goes out in that regard. In every case, our advocacy was guided by our Purpose and our Lake Plan or member feedback by reporting our position at meetings, in e-blasts and on our website.

The second part to the question is around the Haliburton County Draft Shoreline Preservation Bylaw specifically:

The board sent a letter of support for the objectives of the bylaw and most importantly for support of a robust public consultation process so that everyone, with their own individual concerns, would have a chance to have a say.

In this case, all of the above stands as far as board discussions, decisions and vote. In addition, we have actively promoted shoreline preservation and naturalization over many years, in connection with protecting our water quality. We have had mainly positive feedback from members for our efforts. In January we did get letters from concerned members, as well as those in support. Most of the letters were people wanting clarification on parts of the bylaw and the process.



The KennisAllOfUs survey will definitely help us get feedback and direction from the members. We look forward to sharing the results of the survey and what our plans are to use the results in the Fall. If there are changes to be made, they will come out through this process.

From: Mark Golding

BeShore is a well-funded and determined activist organization bent on attacking the private property rights of KL cottage owners. Does KLCOA support BeShore financially or otherwise?

- The recent County public consultation webinar clearly showed that the only available data on Haliburton shorelines and blue-green algae were too short term to make intelligent long term decisions. What does KLCOA plan to do protect cottage owners from eco-radicals like BeShore?
- Was the County's RFP selection process for an independent lake consultant shaped by inputs from BeShore? Is the KLCOA comfortable that there were no conflicts of interest in the selection process or in the subsequent work assignment of the consultant?
- If the County proceeds with the 30-metre shoreline control zone, what further recourse will property owners have to appeal to an appropriate Provincial authority?

Answer:

Our understanding is that the BeShore campaign has been started by a local Haliburton group to encourage public awareness around the importance of natural shorelines for lake health in all of our lakes as well as the negative impact of blue-green algae events and to provide information on how a Shoreline Preservation Bylaw in the Haliburton County can support healthy lakes and reduce the risk of blue-green algae occurrences.

The KLCOA has not made a contribution to this campaign nor is it involved in any way other than publishing the link in an eblast and on our website because we believe that the site has some valuable information on blue-green algae and shoreline protection.

The KLCOA was not involved in any way in the County RFP process, and we suggest that questions related to that and other questions around the Draft bylaw be directed to Haliburton County. We have already presented the KLCOA views on water quality protection and shoreline preservation. We will continue to keep our members informed with updates from the County as they come available.

**From: John Simpson**

What are the rules regarding changing the shoreline, i.e. Adding new rocks to existing shoreline?

**Answer:**

Any modifications done below the high water mark are under the jurisdiction of the Federal DFO and Ontario MNRF and you should consult the federal and provincial laws and regulations before doing any work on the shoreline below the high water mark.

If there is any risk of affecting fish habitat areas, you must submit a project review to the DFO. <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html>

You do not need a work permit to perform some work under the Ontario Public Lands Act, if you follow some simple rules that are available on their website:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/relocate-rocks-shore-lands>





For your example of adding new rocks to a shoreline, a permit would likely be required. FOCA has provided some good guidance here: <https://foca.on.ca/permits-for-shoreline-work-crown-land/>

Also, what are the rules around adding a road/path to the water with a potential for launching a boat? The rules for adding a path to the shoreline (above the high water mark) are in municipal and county bylaws. There are limits in terms of vegetation clearing and tree removal in the bylaws that need to be followed. There are also some requirements for protecting runoff into waterbodies during any construction.

You cannot add material that will enter the water body at the shoreline below the high water mark. i.e.- You cannot dump gravel into the lake to extend the boat launch (a permit from the MNRF would be required).

Does this have to be approved by the town/KLOCAO?

The KLCOA is a cottage association and has no authority in any of these areas.

As long as you work entirely within the requirements in the existing municipal or county bylaws, there would be no approval required from the municipality or county to complete work above the high water mark. If the bylaw requirements are exceeded a permit or variance would be required.

Am I able to see this request and approval in a public forum?

If you mean "Can you look for permits that have been granted for these kinds of work?". Yes, but it's sometimes difficult. For below the high water mark you would contact the DFO and MNRF and report that work was being performed at the address in question. They would investigate and inform you whether a permit was in place. For above the high water mark, a report would be made to the municipal building inspector (Dysart) and to the county forester (Haliburton) for tree removal to request if the work meets bylaw requirements or has a permit or variance.

Can one object to this after it has already been done?

Yes. In both cases, if work should have had a permit was performed below the high water mark was performed without a permit (MNRF) or work was performed above the high water mark that exceeded the limits in the bylaws (Municipal, County), fines could be levied and likely the areas would have to be restored to meet the regulations and bylaws.

#### **From Jake Crough**

My question revolves around the % of natural shorelines. From prior KLCOA correspondence, we had the overall % of natural shorelines for both big and little K combined but not separated out between the two. I believe that info was going to be obtained. Is that available? I believe the quality benchmark of natural shorelines is 75% and just trying to see if any difference between the two lakes.

#### **Answer:**

The LYL data was provided to the KLCOA in a single report but the data was not parsed between Keweenaw Lake and Little Keweenaw Lake by Watersheds Canada. The KLCOA recently requested the data to be reported by the two lakes as part of our work looking into the higher nutrient levels in Little



Kennisis. Since the data is confidential, we needed to provide the addresses in two groups and Watersheds then sorted the data for us. We have not done the final assessment yet but when it is completed, we will be providing it to members and posting it on the website.

**From Sara McKittrick**

Municipality of Dysart et al does not have a By-Law specific to short term rentals. The existing By-Laws on Noise and Property Standards do not seem adequate to deal with the complex issues that short term rentals raise such as; noise, parking, occupancy standards, septic capacity and environmental impact. Question: What is being done to review and amend the Municipality of Dysart et al existing by-laws to address the impact of short term rentals on our lakes?

**Answer (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

No municipality in Haliburton County currently has a bylaw specific to short term rentals although Dysart and others have been evaluating the need and considering possible approaches to better managing short term rentals.

Dysart et al has been researching options and has undertaken some limited stakeholder consultation over the past few years in the hopes to develop a system that balances the good work that is being done by local cottage rental agencies, while ensuring that there is a level playing field for all and an effective complaints mechanism to deal with typical complaints that arise due to noise, parking, perceived overuse of septic, etc. As a result of this work, Dysart's recent Service Delivery Review identified several options that could work for this area that include online licensing platforms and 24/7 complaint response systems.

Seeing opportunities for collaboration, in May County Council requested support from each local Council for a review of short term rental options to be undertaken at the County level. This review is to include consideration of the implications on local zoning bylaws and official plans.

Dysart Council supported this request and directed staff to share the findings of our past work and recommendations contained within the Dysart Service Delivery Review with the County for consideration during the review process. The final decision regarding possible bylaw content will be made by Dysart Council.

Personally, I believe some controls are overdue and needed to better control certain rental activity. I note that many of our local cottage rental agencies do a good job of managing rentals. They also support the implementation of some type of permitting process in order to ensure the high volumes of rentals promoted through various online platforms by absentee owners are controlled. I will continue to advocate for action that does not unduly limit the ability of any cottage owner to rent their property for a few weeks each year. If you rent your cottage out for a couple of weeks each summer that should be of no concern to our local municipality as long as the septic capacity is respected along with our local bylaws re noise, fireworks, etc.

**From: Andy MacDonald (to KLCOA and John Smith)**



Wanted to ask if the TROW program would support the case to have Wilkinson Road extended to connect with West Shore Drive as a public road. This access is currently blocked as it passes on private land. We consider this route an essential safety route in case of fire or other incidents that could potentially block exit in an emergency. As you may know, we had a cottage burn down this past year and this was a wakeup call on this issue.

John, it would be great to hear your thoughts on this as well.

**Answer: (from KLCOA).**

This is not something that would be addressed by the TROW program. The KLCOA TROW (Traditional Rights of Way) initiative is concerned with preserving and protecting traditional portage and hiking routes.

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

Andy and I have recently discussed this topic by telephone a couple of times. The reality is that many Dysart roads, even most lake roads, are “no exit” roads and the only way out is the way you came in. In this case not everyone would welcome creating this “short cut” and thereby adding to the volume of traffic at the bottom end of Wilkinson Road. In addition, the actual degree of improvement from a public safety perspective is uncertain.

Go forward options include:

- Do nothing leaving the road as is.
- The current owners could open up access as a private road not built to municipal standards. The caution here is that there are certain risks and potential liabilities related to any private road but especially one that is open to significant usage.
- The current property owners and their neighbours could submit a letter to Dysart Council requesting that Dysart purchase the required property and complete the road construction. Council would then have to make a decision on whether or not to direct staff to formally evaluate the potential benefits and related costs.
- The current property owners could decide to build a connecting road to municipal standards and then ask Dysart to assume responsibility for the road. This is the way many of our local roads were built, including West Shore Road.

**QUESTIONS SUBMITTED VIA CHAT DURING MEETING ON MAY 26**

**From Lenart**

When will the roads be swept?

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor)**

Most roads in the Keweenaw area have now been swept. As I write this on June 2<sup>nd</sup> there are just a few stretches remaining to be completed and almost certainly will be over the next few days.



I should note that there are tremendous demands for our roads crews to complete extensive work in the spring – sweeping, potholes, grading, dust suppressant and more. Although the snow may be gone in April load restrictions mean no heavy equipment, including sweepers, can be on our roads until later in May. Otherwise, serious damage to the roads will result.

**From Linda S**

when will the bushing start on Wilkinson rd

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

We expect the brushing on Wilkinson Road to take place in the second half of June. Brushing is performed by an outside contractor so we don't completely control the schedule.

**From Lenart**

When will Dysart start a composting program so compostable materials will not have to go into landfill?

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

The Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs) granted by the Province of Ontario for each of Dysart's five waste disposal sites do not allow Dysart to accept source separated organics at any Dysart site. Most large urban municipalities in Ontario have implemented source separated organics programs, and in recent years the province has begun encouraging local municipalities with populations greater than 20,000 (and with population densities of at least 100 persons per square km) to establish food waste composting programs. Dysart Council, supported by our environmental staff, continues to look at various options that could work for our community but in the meantime organic waste dropped off at our landfills must unfortunately be treated as garbage.

Beginning in 2019 Dysart did implement a program whereby both Digesters and Composters are available from the Haliburton landfill site at cost for use by property owners. These devices allow residents to safely dispose of organic waste at home and can even create compost for use on personal gardens around their property while reducing the amount of waste they must drop off at a landfill. More details are available at the Dysart website <https://www.dysartetal.ca/en/living-in-our-community/composting.aspx>

I know some people worry about bears and other wildlife being attracted by composting material. In my own experience here at Kennisis this has not been the case. Experts tell me that being careful with what goes in the composter/digester is essential. Backyard composters can compost fruit and vegetable scraps, and some yard waste. Digesters can process cooked foods and meats, fruits and vegetables, but not yard waste. It's possible that avoiding cooked foods and meats in a Digester could further detract bears and wildlife.

**From Lenart**

Why aren't rental properties subject to commercial zoning bylaws?

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

Like most other Ontario municipalities, Dysart does not have a bylaw related to property rentals. We don't actually know which properties in our community may be rented out and for how long. Dysart



Council though has been working to address this issue. A report on some of that work was included in my written report shared by the KLCOA with everyone prior to the recent meeting. In terms of our plan going forward, please see my comments in the question below re short term rentals.

**From dk**

Some properties on the lake have recently been redeveloped changing the shoreline in major ways that appear to exceed bylaw limitations. If this is correct, what steps are taken to remedy the situation.

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

As you may know County Council is in the process of developing and evaluating a broader shoreline protection bylaw. At this time Haliburton County does have a Shoreline Tree Preservation Bylaw. Like most other local Dysart and County Bylaws compliance is largely complaint based. Local governments do not have the staff that would be required to complete random surveys of literally thousands of properties. The Tree Preservation Bylaw protects trees with a diameter of 5 cm or more located within 30 meters of the shoreline. Diseased and hazardous trees are exempted and there are other circumstances in which tree removal is permitted. The goal is to minimize the destruction of trees in order to protect our water resources and sustain a healthy natural environment.

If you see what you believe is a violation, I encourage you to report the issue/location using the form available at the County website. <https://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/en/living-here/shoreline-preservation.aspx?mid=79446>

I know that the County's Forest Conservation Officer takes reported violations very seriously and will follow up in a timely fashion. Fines and a requirement to complete restoration activities may result.

**From Carol Leighton**

Without a main fireworks event, there will be multiple private shows. With the dry year we are experiencing, this feels like a recipe for disaster. How can we discourage private fireworks?

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

Back in 2019 Dysart approved a new Bylaw which limited the occasions on which property owners could set off consumer fireworks and required organizations (such as the KLCOA) wanting to organize a commercial display to secure a permit and meet certain other requirements. Previously there had been no restrictions on the setting off of fireworks in Dysart. The current Fireworks Bylaw is available at <https://www.dysart.ca/en/municipal-government/By-Law%20Enforcement/By-Law%202020-54%20Fireworks%20By-law.pdf>

If the lake association wishes to discourage owners from setting off fireworks, then that is an education campaign it may choose to pursue. I would note that the Redstone association recently posted a billboard which said something like, "Fireworks – pretty going up but toxic coming down".

As for the risks related to the dry weather, the Fire Chiefs from across the County continuously monitor the risks of fire. Should they decide the risks have become very high then those Fire Chiefs have the authority to implement a fire ban. During a fire ban the setting off of fireworks is prohibited.



Coincidentally on June 1, 2021 our Fire Chiefs implemented a fire ban. Effective on that date the setting off of fireworks is prohibited throughout all of Haliburton County until the fire ban is lifted.

**From Carol Leighton**

**How can we monitor fireworks outside of sanctioned days/times?**

**Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor).**

Property owners who observe the setting off of fireworks outside of the approved dates (New Year's Eve and the weekends of Victoria Day, Canada Day, Civic Holiday and Labour Day) are encouraged to file a complaint with Dysart's Bylaw Officer. The complaint will be investigated, even after the fact, and charges/fines could result.

**From Susan Marlow**

A neighbour of mine has an outhouse, are they allowed?

Answer: (from John Smith, Dysart Councillor) Yes, under the Ontario Building Code property owners are allowed to have an outhouse. In fact, outhouses are exempt from requiring approval from either our local Building Inspector or septic approving authority. However, outhouses must meet a variety of rules around how they are constructed (see section 8.3 of the OBC). The outhouse does count as one of the permitted accessory buildings under our local Dysart Zoning Bylaw.

**From Ted Parent**

Have all Septics now been inspected on Kennisis as required by the excellent initial by law?

**Answer:**

Completion of the Septic Inspection Program is good news for our Kennisis Community and for our water quality. The program was planned for 2018 and 2019 and during that period, 759 inspections were completed. A significant number of property owners did not comply with the mandatory inspection requirement and were ordered to complete the inspection in 2020. In 2020, 134 additional properties were inspected. Only 4 properties remained uninspected (Jan.2021) and legal action was being commenced by Dysart et al against the property owners for non-compliance with the By-law. We have not been able to confirm the outcome of the legal action to date.

Several of things stand out in the Dysart report:

- 893 systems have now been inspected – The Kennisis Lakes have ~950 dwellings. That represents a good portion of the properties, recognizing that some properties were exempt.
- 229 Septic Systems failed during the inspection program or 26%. That's a big number. Finding and correcting that many issues with the septic systems should be considered a success.
- There were more "major issues" than "minor issues" identified during the program. This was consistent over the three years.
- 158 Septic Systems had "Major Issue Failures" or 18% of all Systems inspected. Again, a very large number for major issues with septic systems.



- Of the major failure types 128/201 or 63% were due to under capacity septic systems. This suggests that there have been a significant number of property re-developments or additions without permits.

A full analysis of the Septic Inspection Program can be found [here](#)

**From Peter Jones**

Does a pontoon boat require a bailing container?

**Answer: (from OPP Sgt. David Moffatt)**

So when it comes to a bailing container, the regulations state “ a bailer or a manual bilge pump is not required for a boat that cannot hold enough water to make it capsize or a boat that has watertight compartment that are sealed and not readily available.” So, a pontoon boat does not need to have a bailer.

**From Tim Illman**

Is there any law which restricts the length of vessels permitted on closed lakes such as Kennisis? Boats larger than 20 feet long with large ballast tanks create huge wakes which erode shorelines. It seems like boats of this size are more suited for larger lakes and waterways such as Georgian Bay or Lake Joseph.

**Answer: (from OPP Sgt. David Moffatt)**

No, there is no law regarding the length of boats that are allowed on certain lakes. Large wakes can be created by surf boats and operators of these boat must remember that they are responsible for their wake.

**From Lenart**

The boating regulations require paperwork (Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC), Pleasure Craft Licence) to be carried in licenced vessels. Smaller vessels are ‘wet’ and not conducive to carrying the originals. Are there alternatives, like copies?

**Answer: (from OPP Sgt. David Moffatt)**

The regulations state that the actual PCOC needs to be on board the vessel for the operator but you can make copies of the ownership and leave that on the vessel – laminate a copy of the ownership and keep it on board - it should last a while.

**From Andy MacDonald**

knowing that you would run a deficit, why give a discount and why hire a 3rd party survey company without asking for volunteers?

**Answer:**



After much discussion at the end of 2020, the board decided to give members a choice of taking a \$20 COVID discount or leaving the money with the KLCOA to be put into reserve fund and for a program based on board discretion. Approx 40% of members took the discount. This decision had to be made in December before the 2021 budget was complete in order to have it in place before the membership renewal invoices went out. A not-for-profit organization is supposed to work on balanced budget basis and having the \$11,000 in surpluses over the previous two years was unusual. By giving the discount we were able to offset the large surplus with a similar deficit. If all expenses come in as planned the actual deficit for 2021 balanced against the previous 2 years surplus will be around \$1,200.

As to the 3<sup>rd</sup> party company engaged to consult with us on the survey, we felt that it was very important to get some unbiased assistance especially in the area of analysing the survey results. We also wanted to make sure that we used a company that was familiar with Lake Associations and not-for-profits. This survey is very important to everyone on the Lake and we felt that it would be too easy to unintentionally bias the analysis of the results. We have been offered some volunteer assistance moving forward and we will consider that offer for some parts of the final analysis but we believe we will get the best results by taking unbiased consultation from our 3<sup>rd</sup> party provider.

**From Athena D'Amato**

Universities and Colleges have great internship programs that could assist/do the survey and due to COVID there a lot of gov't grants to even pay for that student

**Answer:**

The KLCOA uses students on several of our projects through U-links and Watersheds Canada. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to do so. We did not feel that the survey would be an appropriate project for students given the timing of the project and the need for a comprehensive understanding of the Lake community.

**From Antonio Lepine**

When people vote, is the polling done anonymously?

**Answer:** All polls done during our Zoom meetings are anonymous.

**From Glenn Rossitter**

would be nice to promote, encourage and or restocking lake with fish. Just a thought.

**Answer:**

Kennisis is designated a lake trout lake with a self sustaining population . Given this fact no supplemental stocking of Lake trout will be done.

Speckled trout were also original to the lake and have been stocked periodically as a put and take Fishery to take pressure off the lake trout . No other species would be stocked in a lake trout lake.

**From Daryl Ball**





Would it be possible for the KLCOA to conduct a referendum to determine our position in regard to the Shoreline Preservation bylaw as it moves forward?

**Answer:**

The Kennis All of Us Survey will give the KLCOA an understanding of how the membership sees our current advocacy levels in regard to shoreline protection. At this point the KLCOA is committed to keeping the members up to date on the developments around the bylaw and when opportunities for public consultation arise. It will then be up to every member to communicate their individual concerns and support. There are no plans at this point to do a specific referendum on the Shoreline Preservation Bylaw.

**From Carol Leighton**

Has permethrin been identified as a contributor to the destruction of water quality?

**Answer:**

The simple answer is no. However, the use of permethrin (for mosquito control) may have other significant negative impacts on terrestrial and aquatic life such as pollinators, birds, amphibians, and fish.

When we talk about degradation of our water quality, we are generally referring to the increase in nutrients which are primarily phosphorus and nitrogen compounds which can lead to increased algae in our lakes and the risk of blue-green algae bloom. There are a number of contributors to the degradation of our Kennis Lakes water quality, but the primary impact from shoreline development and our use of the lakes, is from our septic systems leaching nutrients into our lakes. The use of fertilizers, which are phosphorus and nitrogen based can also be a contributor and no one on our lakes should be using fertilizers. Permethrin does not contribute to the increase in nutrients in our lakes but can negatively affect the terrestrial and aquatic life in our lakes.

The practice of spraying for mosquito control has been increasing around our Lakes. Many of the mosquito control sprays being used, contain the chemical permethrin which is a highly synthesized version of insecticides found naturally in the Chrysanthemum flower. Permethrin is showing to be highly toxic and a threat not only to mosquitos but also to pollinators, birds, and aquatic life. The product label specifies application constraints – often a 10 meter barrier is required from the shoreline but wind drift can make that barrier ineffective.

Additional information on the use of mosquito control compounds containing permethrin can be found on the KLCOA website. <https://klcoa.org/chemical-spraying-in-our-community/>

If there is a concern that permethrin is not being applied in accordance with the label directions (frequency, buffer zones, wind conditions, proper signage, etc.), please contact the Ontario Spills Hotline (1-800-268-6060) or the Environmental Staff Officer responsible for the Haliburton area (705-927-7809) or both. The KLCOA has been informed that complaints will promptly be investigated.

**From Denise**

I believe the Kennis Lake shorelines meet the 75% naturalized shoreline target. This is not the case on all lakes in Haliburton County. the north and south shores of Kennis have 67 foot setback allowances.



Is the KLCOA support for any shoreline preservation bylaw contingent on requiring renaturalization of shorelines not meeting the 75% target?

**Answer:**

Kennisis Lakes shorelines meet and the 75% naturalized target:

The Kennis Lakes shorelines were assessed during the 2016 Love Your Lakes project. The recommended target for shorelines to have a positive impact on water quality is maintaining the shorelines at greater than 75% natural for 30 metres back from the water. The Kennis Lakes assessment showed that we were in relatively good shape, where the cumulative natural and regenerative areas of our shorelines were found to be at 78%, just making the 75% grade.

Details of the LYL results are available here: <https://klcoa.org/stewardship/love-your-lake/love-your-lake-results/>

The LYL Project found that 92% of our lakes in the Haliburton region did not make the 75% minimum. We are fortunate to be in the 8% that did make the grade. That doesn't mean we should be complacent. We should be continuing to increase our portion of naturalized shoreline to protect our water quality.

The 67 foot (20m) setback for most properties on the Kennis Lakes and the 100 feet (30m) for new properties or subdivided properties is an administrative zoning set back value that developed over time as governments and communities recognized that structures and septic systems should be set back from water bodies to protect water quality. During original development of the lakes in our region, there were no setback requirements as evidenced by a few older properties on our lakes.

The KLCOA supports the Haliburton County Shoreline preservation bylaw in principle as it supports our primary stewardship objective of protecting our water quality. The KLCOA also supports the efforts of Haliburton County to engage in public consultation to develop a balanced bylaw. Haliburton County recently engaged a consultant to continue public consultation and develop the next revision of the bylaw. The latest revision of the draft by Shoreline Preservation bylaw does not require renaturalization of shorelines and any existing features and modifications to shorelines will be "grandfathered" for individual properties

To your specific question - KLCOA support for any shoreline preservation bylaw is not contingent on requiring renaturalization of shorelines not meeting the 75% target?

The KLCOA will continue to advocate for and provide education for shoreline renaturalization and its connection to protecting our water. We believe that this is the best way to encourage our community members to renaturalize their shorelines.

Is the KLCOA support contingent on preserving the economic value and development opportunity of the 67 foot setback?

The KLCOA recognizes the contribution of our good water quality to the economy in the Haliburton region. Most of us as shoreline property owners, are indeed here for the water and because of our good water quality. The primary objective of the proposed Shoreline Preservation bylaw is to maintain natural vegetation on our shorelines and protect our water quality. With respect to the draft Haliburton County bylaw, development and modifications are still permitted in the setback which is proposed to be



extended to 100 feet (30m). In other communities which have adopted protections for their shorelines through bylaws, many of the developers, landscapers and contractors have pivoted to work within the bylaw requirements. Many have been able to sustain and grow their businesses and provide shoreline property owners with features that they want and are still respect the bylaw protections.

**From Joni Kwinter to Marina Group**

How is this going to impact the local cottages? How much development will there be? Will it expand beyond the current marina property?

Further to my earlier question, my main concern is that the marina is trying to build the area into a major social hub and the area will become noisy. I would appreciate knowing if the marina will take the current peaceful local environment into consideration and maintain the status quo  
Do you know what is going to be done with the two lots that sold near the marina?

**Answer: (from new marina owners)**

Our goal as marina owners is to improve the marina experience for all cottagers. When we hear the word 'development' we all tend to think of condos and multi-unit buildings, big plans etc. That is NOT what we are about. In fact, one of the reasons we got involved in this project was to make sure that DIDN'T happen. We are cottagers on the lake (I've been here since 1988) and are very cognizant of, and sensitive to, the quality of cottage life on Kennesaw. Our goal is to create a community destination on the Lake where people can come and meet for some specialty coffee, ice cream, smoothies or a meal from the Saucy Pig. Maybe participate in a game of pickleball.

At this point we are looking to tidy up the marina lot, put in the pickleball court and fix up the store (the store upgrade is actually now complete). We also want to better organize the docking process, and improve and better define the land based parking at the marina property.

We encourage everyone to come by the marina over the next month and see what we are doing. We hope people will be as excited as we are. (Come try a cappuccino from our new coffee shop - sorry shameless promote!!) Furthermore, we want to use this season to get feedback from cottagers as to how we are doing and what they would like to see at the marina in order to fine tune our offering.

[kennisismarinaltd@gmail.com](mailto:kennisismarinaltd@gmail.com)

The marina has been the only commercial property servicing the lake for over 25 years. We simply want to improve the experience and service level. We are not involved in any of the other properties adjacent to the marina. We are not aware of any other projects involving those properties at this time.

**From Daryl Ball**



Why is lumber so expensive?

**Answer: (from Malcolm Cockwell, Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve)**

There are many factors supporting the high price of softwood lumber. The biggest is supply constraints. Sawmills have closed down or reduced capacity over the last decade for a variety of factors, including the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic in BC. The other is improving demand. New home starts in North America are back to where they were before the financial crisis, and this housing demand is being driven by a huge cohort of homebuyers (i.e. millennials) as well as aging housing stock. The uptick in demand caused by COVID-19 is just the cherry on top of the softwood lumber demand pyramid.

I would like to share some further editorial commentary on this subject. First, we have all enjoyed artificially low softwood lumber prices for a long time. While the current prices are crazy high, you should not expect the prices to drop by 400% at any point in the foreseeable future. Second, if you want to one day see softwood lumber prices normalize, be supportive of the forestry companies in northern Ontario in the future. Think twice before advocating that forest products business don't belong in a certain region or that huge swathes of forest should be "protected" from management. That kind of thinking increased costs and more importantly made it very difficult for the sawmills to justify reinvesting in their facilities over the years, which in turn meant that their capacity stagnated or even shrunk, which in turn contributed to the shortages that we are experiencing today.

Finally, please note that Haliburton Forest and its affiliated companies are in the hardwood lumber business, not the softwood lumber business - in other words, these are my honest opinions and I have no skin in the game.

A recent article quoted me on this subject, which people can read here:

<https://mindentimes.ca/news/unprecedented-lumber-situation-part-of-perfect-storm-of-factors/>

**From hvizl**

Beshore. What has KLCOA's involvement with this radio and newspaper ad campaign? Do you know where they are getting their funding?

**Answer:**

The KLCOA has no involvement with the BeShore campaign. The BeShore campaign is fundraising to support their activities as indicated on their website.

**From Athena D'Amato**

Will you publish the video of this meeting?  
since you were recording it?

**Answer:**

Yes, there will be a link shared in an eblast and on our website.



**From Rob**

Who do we send an email to regarding the deteriorating road condition on Eastview Rd? I sent an email a while back to Dysart but received no response.

**Answer:**

If you want to reach Dysart et al in regard to road conditions you can go through our Ward 4 Councillor John Smith at: [jsmith@dysartetal.ca](mailto:jsmith@dysartetal.ca)

The KLCOA roads committee would also like to hear your concerns at: [klcoainfo@gmail.com](mailto:klcoainfo@gmail.com)

President Wratschko concluded the meeting at 9 pm, thanked everyone for attending, and advised that the full slide deck would be posted on the KLCOA website in the next few days.

**Adjourn**

Minutes prepared by:

Sheelagh Lawrance  
KLCOA Secretary