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CCA Spring Update from Tom Halpenny

May 22, 2021

Hello all.

We decided recently that we would skip the Spring Newsletter paper copy and provide an update through our eblast platform.

At our last meeting in early May your Board of Directors made some decisions related to summer activities based on the best available information we had at the time. The BOD had hoped by May there would better clarity of what the public health officials would allow and when things might open up. As of today writing this update we know that Ontario Government is planning to open things up based on the vaccine roll out and trends of the spread of COVID 19. As we will still be in the emergency order until early June it certainly looks like it will take most of the summer before we see gatherings of people in any big numbers. So I will touch on each activity and give you our plan or decision we have made.

Recreation Program

The running of the rec program for swimming and fun activities takes a lot of planning and hiring of staff which would normally be organized by now. With the uncertainty of the timing for people to be allowed to gather and the fact that staff have not been hired, we have decided to cancel the rec program for 2021. There was a discussion amongst the board speculating that

even if the program was to go ahead there may be very few who would want to sign up their family if there were still risks to their safety.

Regatta

The regatta organizing team is very positive that there could be a regatta held with some restrictions. The possibility of having restrictions lifted to allow us to gather in one spot are not known but the BOD agreed that it was not likely. So the regatta is on hold and will only come off hold if it is practical. I'm sure that the team will organize the regatta draw which was so successful raising money last year.

Boat Parade

Last year we had 1st boat parade which was very successful and allowed members to gather at distance and get out. The event is planned again this year on July 3 at 2 pm starting at Kindersley with a end still to be determined. See you there.

Long Distance Swim

We did not discuss the LDS at our board meeting but I suspect that it will happen in similar fashion to last year.

Art on the Rocks

There are several artists that are anxious to participate in this event this year. The possibility will be reconsidered in July. If it is to held there will many limitations as artists will have to get there on their own and a few other logistics with would have to be worked out. Stay tuned.

Annual Meeting

The BOD is hoping that we can have an in person annual meeting this year. The BOD resolved to move the date from July to tentatively Saturday, August 21. If the government restrictions and protocols allow us the have an in person meeting on August 21 then we will proceed with arrangements to get material out in early August to members. If for some reason it is not possible we will postpone until September on a week night to facilitate as many as possible on a Zoom meeting. Watch for updates in late July.

Cottager

Unfortunately we had a bit of a delay getting the cottager finished this year. Our editor Hayley Thomas had to drop everything and take care of her mother. We are sad to report that her mom did pass away. We all send or condolences to you Hayley. Laura Adams and Sue Carter picked up the ball and you should see the cottager soon. Thanks Ladies.

Other News

I want to recognize that our own Rolfe Jones has just been appointed the President of the Georgian Bay Association. Congratulations Rolfe. He is very excited about all the great work GBA is doing and the good results they are getting from their efforts. There is mounds of great information on the GBA website so as we sit and wait to be allowed to party, visit the web site. (https://georgianbay.ca/)

Related to the appointment of Rolfe is the fact that the CCA is need of volunteers to succeed current members of the board of directors and other program organizers. Many of the board members have been working on the board close to ten years. All of you, please consider seriously if you or your young adult family members are willing to join the board at some point. It's a fun bunch of people and diversity of young and old helps bring new perspectives. Please reach out to myself or Bob Snider if you are willing to put your hand up to help.

president@cognashene.com

pastpresident@cognashene.com

Hope to see you all soon

Tom



SERVICES - MAY 2021

TRASH

Large Item Disposal

Due to Plague, unless things should change, there will not be any Large Item Pick-up this summer. The good news is that large items including furniture and appliances can be dropped off free of charge at the Baxter Transfer Station off the South Bay Road. Be sure to take with you a copy of your tax bill or some other sort of proof of residence. Hours of operation between now and the end of October will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day except Sunday; Sunday hours are 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Hazardous Waste Drop-off Days at the Transfer Station are scheduled for the following Saturdays: June 19*, July 17* and August 7 and for the following Wednesdays: May 12, June 9, July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25, September 15 and October 6. It is possible the June 19 and July 17 dates will be relocated; one can check this at www.muskokarecycles.ca

Marina Bin Sites

These will continue to be available for everyday bagged garbage and recycling at least this summer and next. The District has overall been doing a better job of staying ahead of the demand but there are exceptions. Should the bins at one's marina be full, people are asked to take their garbage to the site beside the fire hall, where there are a number of bins.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Planning Ahead

Anyone who has ever had to deal with an emergency from out here in Cognashene will appreciate how important it is to have an Emergency Plan thought out in advance. I won't preach, other than to say I know from first hand experience what a difference it can make.

Location, Location. Location

As many will already be aware, there is more than one way to identify your location when dialling 911.

<u>Cell Phones</u>, at least by and large, have built-in latitude and longitude (GPS) capability: Dial 911 on your cell phone and the emergency crew should be able to find find you.

<u>What3Words: This</u> is a free app. It divides the world up into VERY small squares; Just find out what 3 words identify your cottage and have those 3 words ready for when you might call 911. Maybe tape your particular 3 words to the back of your cell phone?

<u>Township tax address</u> or having your <u>GPS co-ordinates</u> at the ready would also do the trick, but the Cell phone GPS - particularly if combined with the What3words system - is probably best at this point.



2021



Raffle



Regatta



Get involved in another Cognashene 'Remote Regatta' this summer! Community members and friends are encouraged to create or participate in weird and wonderful events that might include paddling, swimming, diving, novelty races with a twist, or anything else that you can come up with! Regatta activities must be human powered (no motors), and take place during the month of July. Everyone who participates will receive a ribbon and the Regatta is open to the entire Cognashene community. No need to worry about a rain date! Keep your eye out for the video footage of the 2020 Remote Regatta coming soon.

Regatta pictures should be sent in along with the names of participants and a brief description of the activity to catriona.boyd8@gmail.com by August 1, 2021. We will stitch them together to make a 96th Regatta Video!







Want to show your community spirit and see some familiar faces to kick off this summer? There will be another community boat parade for anyone interested in joining on **Saturday**, **July 3rd**. Boats will gather at **1:00pm** near Kindersley and Maxwell island, then drive up the main channel (Muskoka Landing) in front of Townsend Island together. The turn around point will be in front of GoHome Bay channel. Please exercise caution as there could be many boaters out on the water. Participants are encouraged to decorate their boats any way they choose! Display your Cognashene spirit!



To go along with our remote regatta, we are once-again planning to hold our famous - at least in Cognashene! - Regatta Raffle to raise money for our recreation program and other community organizations. Our prizes will consist of different baskets put together by community members. We are asking families/islands/friends to put together a basket to be raffled. Baskets could have a theme such as water activities or cottage crafts, gardening or wine, or they need not have a theme at all! Baskets should be put together and ready for pickup/drop off by July 25th, 2021. Once we receive the baskets, photos of what is inside each one will be displayed through a Google Slideshow. YOU will then be able to buy raffle tickets at \$20 for 5 tickets (details on how to purchase and view slideshow will follow closer to the event), and then we will select the winners at random. Winners will be notified of which basket they have won and will be able to collect their winnings in Cognashene (details to be organized and communicated closer to event).

If you are interested in assembling a basket for us, or have questions, please contact Nancy Bennett at nancylbennett28@gmail.com.



Long Distance Swim

Sat, July 25th at 12:00 AND 1:30 PM

This is a rain or shine event! It will only be rescheduled if there is lightning. Participants can take turns using the Thompson's dock to get dropped off at and set up in their non-motorized watercraft to safely begin their swim. There will be a boat anchored about 0.5km out from the dock to swim around as a turn around point, then swim back to the Thompson's dock to either finish and get picked up, or to switch swimmers. There will be a volunteer around the dock to help with social distancing. Participants with cottages on the CAA map in A-J are still asked to start at 12:00pm, and those in K-Z at 1:30pm. Please no parking of tin boats etc. on the shoreline. Participants may choose to anchor their boat nearby (make sure to bring your own anchor and be mindful of the water lines as usual).

Please practice social distancing.



Fire - and Fire Pumps

The Township maintains a number of fire pumps in Cognashene. Locations are shown on the members' maps. These pumps are available for preventative measures - so, OK to water down forest in times of drought. Also great to help start put out a brush fire before it gets too big to handle. But in the event of a fire, call 911 first - and if you do use a pump, please make sure everything is put back straight away and fuel replaced. Also, there isn't a snowball's chance of getting fire pumps to any cottage in time to save it, and the Fire Department reminds us that fighting cottage fires can be dangerous work and should be left to trained firefighters.

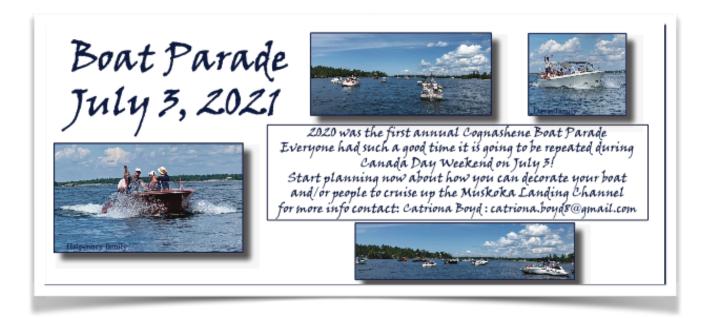
DANGEROUS BOATING - AND SPEED ZONES

Last summer we witnessed some fast - really fast - PWC's racing through some of our narrow channels last summer. The speed limit of course is 10 kms per hour anywhere within 30 metres of shore except on the buoyed channels. In at least one circumstance, at the request of some of our cottagers, the Township was able to help by installing speed zone buoys; so, that might be an option for some situations for anyone who might be experiencing real problems.

WINTER PATROL

Dennis saw no serious damage to anyone's cottage over the course of the winter, and everyone whose place did have any sort of problem was notified. We appreciate that a few people did not get pictures or reports of all three patrols, but we had great success with the final round. If however you did not receive a report from the third patrol, we would appreciate hearing from you. Just e-mail us at support@cognashene.com.

Jim Bowden May 4, 2021



LOST & FOUND

We are missing a white mooring ball with a royal blue stripe. Barb & Fred Hacker, Portage Island



DISAPPEARED

Our 8 by 20 foot dock disappeared sometime between November 2020 and early April 2021.

It was anchored and tied to land in Long Bay.

The decking has a unique diagonal pattern with collapsible cleats on one side and permanent

cleats on the other. The metal ramping framework was also attached. Should anyone see this dock please contact Bruce at 519-993-8022. Thanks.

Lost: two wooden platforms 12'x6' one has a winch attached. Floated off the south shore of Minnicog island. contact Barb Russell 705-740-7726

Not lost, but I have a free paddle boat for anyone willing to come and collect it at V5, on the Cognashene map. It comes complete with back rests and a canopy top. 705 756-2757.

Dorothy Brace

A dock floated up on our shore in December and it's still there. Could you post this picture and ask if anyone is missing a dock? It's on the north west side of Webber Island.

Courtney Mergatroyd



We have this little dock that floated in late last summer. Would be very happy if you could find the owner. Meg Davis





Lost item;

Neon green Perception Sit Upon Kayak lost from south end of Minnicog. If found please contact Steve Jarvis 416-795-5527

20x6 foot dock Styrofoam floatation
It is in good shape \$1300 Wood is not cheap
Contact gillespie.cath@gmail.com

FOR SALE

NOTICE

Village Marina is under new ownership and will no longer operate the beer/alcohol bottle return. Here are the two nearest options;

Cash--Coldwater Beer Store on Sturgeon Bay Road. Open weekdays 10:00-19:00, Saturday 10:00-18:00 and Sunday 12:00 to 17:00 Donations to support Baxter Ward Lions Club can be dropped off at Jim Moreau Haulage yard, 1241 Honey Harbour Road. All proceeds go back into community projects for the Honey Harbour/Port Severn areas.

TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY



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