



Your CCA Board

Bob Snider, President
Ian Davis, Past President
Andrew Carr, Treasurer
Laura Jarvis, Secretary
Laura Adams, Communications
Sue Carter, Membership
Robyn Corbiere, Rec Program
Catherine Gillespie,
 Community Events
Tom Halpenny, Services
Stephen Jarvis, Municipal
 Affairs
Rolfe Jones, GBA
 Representative
James Maynard, Web Master
Bill Sayers, Planning
Sandy Thompson,
 Environment

Next edition will follow mid-winter.

President's Message: *Bob Snider*

Over this fall you have undoubtedly received many emails regarding the October 22 Municipal Election from the CCA and several organizations and groups of concerned residents. The mantras "have you checked the voter list" and "vote, vote, vote" seemed to come from everywhere and for many good reasons. I won't get on my soap box here other than to say voting is the life blood of democracy. The outcome of the election in Georgian Bay Township was a swing towards a Council that reflects the demographics of the residents more closely. You will find the full results of the election along with some 2014/2018 comparisons later in the newsletter.

This past July, I had the honour of hosting 12 Past Presidents of the CCA for a morning meeting to receive input on how prior Boards managed recruiting, the use of committees, and attracting nonmembers among other things. I found the experience to be quite enlightening as many of the hurdles of today are the same as the past. Two outcomes are the inclusion of a group of Past Presidents as part of the nomination process and the push to enhance the committee structure that supports the Board. See more in the "help wanted ad" further on in this newsletter.

One of the past Presidents present was Pat Edwards (CCA President 92-94). Pat carried on his service to the community as Area Councillor on the Township of Georgian Bay Council for eight years (2012-18) and will now step down in December. Pat has always impressed me with his drive,¹

ability to hone in on the issues and continuous flow of ideas. While Pat deserves a break from public service I won't be surprised if our new Councillors receive a few thoughtful emails from him periodically. If you see Pat, thank him for his years of service.

This past summer marked the fourth summer that invasive phragmites has been on the CCA's radar. As was done last year the CCA supported the efforts of the GBF along with HHA to identify, map and remove stands of Phrag in our community as well as in communities to the north to the south. This is an issue that will be with us indefinitely but is seeing some improvement. Please read Sandy Thompson's report on this summer's Phrag Buster activities.

The winter patrol will start up again soon with Dennis Robitaille making the rounds as he is able. Some small tweaks to the phone app will hopefully improve reliability of the technology this winter. If you have not seen a report by mid-December please let Tom Halpenny know at service@cognashene.com. See Tom's full report in this newsletter.

I would be remiss not to highlight that included with the November newsletter is the 2019 renewal letter and mail in form. Logging-in as a member at cognashene.com is still the easiest way to renew but for those that prefer, the snail mail option is still available. Fees have not changed again this year with early bird pricing in place until January 1, 2019. Your support both as a volunteer and member is what keeps our association going.

Because of commitments here in Toronto this fall we closed the cottage early but not before the big winds and high water on September 21. Our front dock's shore structure floated off its pins after dark and required several hours of effort to retrieve the deck the next day. From the stories and posts on Facebook our dock was not the only dock to escape and become an island of its own. Water levels are forecasted by the US Corp of Engineers to follow the same trend and levels as the past twelve months. Hopefully your dock will be where you left it when you next return to the Bay.

Have a great winter and play safe at your favourite winter sport whether that be skiing, snowmobiling or golf.

president@cognashene.com

Cognashene Cottager: *Hayley Thomas*

If you have any photos or stories that you'd like to contribute to the Cottager, please send them to cottager@cognashene.com. How fun would it be if each member sent in at least one photo or story for everyone to enjoy?! We look forward to hearing from all of you! **Deadline is Feb 28th.**

Winter Patrol Report: *Tom Halpenny*

After some issues with the application software, on October 25 we were finally ready to hand over the hardware to Dennis Robitaille to use for this year's patrol.

Last year there were several members that did not get their reports because the reports were not being sent to their email address from our website. This has been fixed based on some testing I did earlier this fall.

We have also upgraded the photo size and hopefully the picture you get will be better.

Dennis will do his first patrol in November. His routine is to do the patrol as he passes by areas in Cognashene for other errands so it is a more effective use of his time. He will walk around each cottage he visits to see if there are any issues, take a picture and his report will be "OK" if there are no issues.

Dennis has pointed out to me that some members remove the bar code he uses to scan from their cottages. We do provide him a new set of bar codes but it would be better if you can leave the bar code year over year unless construction results in a change.

I have been given the updated member list for 2018 as of October 15, 2018. This is the list that we will follow for the patrol. If you do not want Dennis to visit your cottage please contact me through the email address below.

If you have not received a patrol report by early December please let me know through an email to services@cognashene.com or thalpenny1@rogers.com.

As a reminder safety will be the first priority as Dennis does the patrol so if some cottages are missed it maybe because of the weather conditions or access issues.

services@cognashene.com

Communications: *Laura Adams*

Graphic Designer/Layout Artist needed for the Cognashene Cottager:

After several years of doing layout for the wonderful little book that you receive every spring, Susanna Ferguson is stepping down from that post and we are looking for somebody to fill her shoes. This is a paid position under the Communications portfolio, and if you have the skill-set for this position, we would love to talk to you! Please contact Laura Adams at communications@cognashene.com or Hayley Thomas at cottager@cognashene.com for further information.

And as always, if you have anything you would like to share with your cottage community, please let us know and we will do our best to get it out there.

communications@cognashene.com

Recreation Report: *Robyn Corbiere & Cheri Wilson*

As the leaves begin to fall, we can reflect back on another fun filled summer on Arthur Island. It was nice to begin the season off with some of the clearing that took place. Summer of 2017 brought high water and as a result left the kids of Cognashene with very little beach to be on. Before we kick started the season, a few trees and overgrown areas were trimmed away to make room for the boats and beach families. We were happy to also have purchased a few new picnic tables that were a great spot for kids to eat lunch and use for craft sessions. All of our participants were ready to go after Canada Day.



Our instructors; Molly Giroux, Kirsten Duguay, Nikki Cutler, Lauren Cutler, Rebecca Heisey, Jacob Heisey, Will Yeigh, Ella Yeigh, Anna Limoges and Lily Chubaty all had an amazing summer and were well loved by the kids they taught. The swim lessons were excellent and everyone had a lot of fun. As usual, the themed Camp Cognashene days were well embraced and the little ones loved Kognashene

Kinders. The scavenger hunt around the bay was the favourite activity of the summer. This year, the Junior canoe trip took place in July and the Senior trip in August. As always, YPOC was a huge hit with some of our older kids. A big thank you to all of our volunteers who helped make everything run a bit smoother.



The CCA Recreation program was pleased with the enrollment this year. Along with our returning families we had a few new young families on the beach this year. The Rystone cup was once again a hit with our younger members. A big thank you to John Limoges

for organizing and Geoff / Katherine Moran for hosting such a fun event. We can't wait for next year's race! The end of the year party theme was "Under the Sea" and as usual the staff and campers were very creative with all of their costumes. What a great finish to another fabulous season!

A big thank you to all of the beach parents for all of your help and input this summer. Information about applications for Summer 2019 will be out towards the end of the calendar year. We would like to continue to involve the community more; this may be as a guest speaker or sharing unique cottage type skills in a workshop setting. More information will be provided in the next newsletter. I would like to thank Cheri Wilson for volunteering to write our newsletters and Kelly Reade for offering to help with the website. Your help is very much appreciated!

That's a wrap for summer 2018 PhragBusters: *Sandy Thompson*

Once again, we heard from our summer PhragBuster students "The Cognashene community does such a great job monitoring and managing Phrag, we don't have to do a lot of work!" ...although I think they were pretty busy!

This summer, along with the HHA and GBF, the CCA supported the hiring of students to continue with the mapping and management of Phragmites in Georgian Bay. Jack Giroux and Patrick Mahon focused on Cognashene along with four other students working in Tay Township and Honey Harbour. Jack and Patrick mapped 150km of shoreline in Cognashene and up to Go Home Bay. They identified 8 new stands in Cognashene that were added to the map that is maintained by GBF for the region for a total of 24 stands in Cognashene that are being monitored and they estimated that a



total of 150-200kg of Phrag was cut in Cognashene. Jack and Patrick assisted in seven larger cuts (or ones that are not owner occupied) on Bone Island, MacKay Island, Anderson Island, Weber Island, Longuissa Bay, Champlain's Rock and Portage Island and responded to several cottagers with questions about possible Phrag on their property. The photos (next page) are some representative stands in Cognashene right now.

As in past years, the students focused on mapping stands, evaluating the changes and the effectiveness of our approach. We started the mapping and cutting in 2014 and after 5 summers, I am pleased to report that the community is still doing a fabulous job! Jack and Patrick found that the majority of the Phrag identified was known to the property owners and that you are all keeping it well in check! Thank you again for your efforts! Jack and Patrick handed out more than 40 information packages to cottagers, ensuring that all new cottagers (members and non-members) are up to date on our efforts to control the invasive Phrag. This year, they also endeavored to take photos of most of our shoreline so that we could use them for comparisons in the future (I have a LOT of photos from them!)

It is apparent to anyone that was involved in some of the first cuts we did that the approach we have been using is working. In some of our biggest original stands, there are very few to no Phrag plants left. This makes the monitoring and mapping that much more important as we know that early detection and cutting is the easiest way to control this invasive species. Some of the 'seed banks' to the south of us have yet to be addressed or fully controlled, and because Honey Harbour and other regions still have much larger stands of Phragmites, the seeds from there will always have the potential to establish new stands in Cognashene if we do not continue to be vigilant. To help reduce the inbound seeds, Jack and Patrick also



helped the community and students in Honey Harbour this year with some of their larger cuts and with the new efforts in Tay Township along the shoreline.

A huge thank you from everyone in Cognashene and Honey Harbour to Denis Robitaille for providing a dumpster to collect and dispose of the Phrag stalks for one of the larger Honey Harbour cuts this summer!

Also, thank you to everyone that keeps a look out for Phrag wherever they go and sends us notes about it, thank you to Jack and Patrick for their hard work this summer, thank you to Kathryn Davis and David Sweetnam, the GBF team and the other PhragBuster students for your work on the Bay, and thank you to every cottager and guest that spent time cutting and controlling Phrag to protect our wetlands and our shoreline biodiversity!

environment@cognashene.com



CCA Water Bottles for Sale!

Did you know that the CCA has aluminum water bottles? For just \$10 per bottle, you can help reduce the use of plastic water bottles and show your pride in caring for one of the most beautiful places in the world.

We will have them available on the Bay next year!

Contact Sandy Thompson or Laura Adams for further details.



Membership News: *Susan Carter*

As I write this newsletter submission, I am looking out at the cold and rain and longing for the hot summer days we all enjoyed so much this past summer.

So, as you begin dreaming of those wonderful summer days at the cottage next year, please keep in mind that membership renewal time is just around the corner and we are pleased to announce that there will be no increases in membership fees for 2019! The Full Member rate continues at \$155 (\$145 if paid by Jan 1st 2019); and the Associate Member rate stays at \$135 (\$125 if paid by Jan 1st 2019).

We will be mailing hard copies of the 2019 renewal form this year but you can also look for an e-blast for your renewal reminder in December and renew online, **and remember - if you have any updates to make to your CCA account, please login and make the necessary changes.** If you experience any difficulties logging into your account please feel free to contact me at membership@cognashene.com.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome eleven new full and associate members to the Cognashene Cottagers Association;

James & Margaret Bosserd, Robyn Corbiere, John and Ruth Halpenny, Doug Kirby, Drew and Jennifer Koivu, Jill & Russ Matthews, Maria McGibbon and Chad Tranter, Jim Norton, Colin & Leah Penny, Janet and Brian Reesor, Brian and Pam Smith

I would also like to thank every one of our members for their continued support. I hope everyone enjoys a safe and healthy winter.

membership@cognashene.com

CCA Board and Committee Recruitment

The Cognashene Cottagers' Association Board is comprised of 13 dedicated and fun individuals that have a concern or interest in a particular area or activity of our lives on Georgian Bay. From the Summer Rec Program to the Winter Patrol, to the behind the scenes activities of the Treasurer or Services, each of the Board's Directors deal with challenges and are rewarded through their service to the membership. As we enter a new year the Board is looking to fill two Board positions Director of Municipal Affairs and Director of Planning and recruit members for the new Planning Committee.

The Board welcomes interest from everyone regardless of age, experience or length of tenure in Cognashene. Joining the Board or a Committee is a great way to meet people and become more

integrated into life on the Bay. If you are interested in being involved on the CCA Board I would encourage you to contact our Past President, Ian Davis at pastpresident@cognashene.com or President, Bob Snider at president@cognashene.com.

Position	Director of Municipal Affairs	Director of Planning	Planning Committee Member
Description	Monitors and keeps CCA membership informed of relevant plans and activities at Township of Georgian Bay and District of Muskoka Council	Primary contact with the Township Planning staff and applicants applying for a Variance or Consent before the Committee of Adjustment or Zoning Bylaw Amendment before Council	Review and comment on planning applications going before the Committee of Adjustment for a Variance or Consent or Official Plan or Zoning Bylaw Amendment before Council
Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review agendas prior to Council meetings • Monitor and where necessary attend Township meetings • Raise issues, concerns and positions with Councillors • Communicate with the CCA membership • Municipal elections voting champion within Cognashene • Work cooperatively with CCA Director of Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead a small group of committee member's review planning applications • Make a recommendation to the CCA Board • Comment at public meetings • Draft letters of support or opposition to TGB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review, research and discuss with the committee, planning applications identified by the Director of Planning • Undertake sites visits where appropriate with the applicant • Support the Director of Planning with attendance at public meetings as appropriate
Time Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly attendance or on line viewing of TGB Council meetings • Attendance at 2 in person and 4 telephone CCA Board meetings plus AGM • Draft quarterly update for CCA Newsletter and annual report for "Cottager" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varies with the number of applications in the Cognashene area • Attendance at 2 in person and 4 telephone CCA Board meetings plus AGM • Draft quarterly update for CCA Newsletter and annual report for "Cottager" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varies with the number of applications in the Cognashene area

2018 Municipal Election Results

The results of the Municipal Election for the Township of Georgian Bay are as follows. We would like to congratulate the successful candidates and thank the other candidates for their prior service and/or desire to serve. The new Council will be made up of 4 incumbent candidates and three first timers. A special note should be made of the eight years of service by Pat Edwards who will be retiring from his Council position and the 18 years of service Mayor Braid has given the Township.

Peter Koetsier who many of you will know from his time as President of the Honey Harbour Association, will be the new Mayor of Georgian Bay Township. Peter's open-minded and calm demeanor along with his concern for the environment and forward looking decision making will hopefully translate into a Council up to the challenges that the Township faces.

Voter turnout across the Township was 38%, four percentage points below the Provincial average of 42%. This translated into only 3576 votes cast for Mayor versus 4003 votes in 2014. Ward 2 (Georgian Bay) had slightly better turnout with 43% of registered voters voting. So while electronic voting is simpler it has not translated into more votes being cast and so there remains room for improvement. The support each successful candidate received as measured by percentage of votes cast in their ward was strong ranging from 56% to 73%.

The inaugural Council meeting is December 3, 2018. All are welcome to attend.

Mayor		
Peter Koetsier	2268	63%
Larry Braid	1308	
District Councillor, Ward 1 & 3		
Paul Wiancko *	1189	58%
Kristian Graziano	877	
District Councillor, Ward 2 & 4		
Peter Cooper *	1010	69%
Allan Waffle	449	
Councillor, Ward 1 (MacTier)		
Cynthia Douglas *	638	73%
Louise Rivett	235	
Councillor, Ward 2 (Georgian Bay)		
Steve Jarvis	Acclaimed	
Councillor, Ward 3 (Port Severn)		
Brian Bochek *	747	62%
Susan Stokes	464	
Councillor, Ward 4 (Honey Harbour)		
Allan Hazelton	451	56%
Kathy Kay	359	
		*incumbent

Your GBGH has a brand new Emergency Department...Jennifer Russell

On September 28, 2018, Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) officially opened the final two phases of its Emergency department (ED) redevelopment. The entire project – spanning more than five years of construction – concluded this fall and nearly doubled the previous department's size.

The entire ED redevelopment included adding approximately 8,000 square feet, a new entrance, triage area, trauma rooms, mental health safe rooms, specialized treatment rooms, exam rooms, an indoor ambulance bay, new waiting rooms, See & Treat area and administration/staff area.



“The hospital’s focus when planning this redevelopment – even from the earliest days – was to re-build the ED in a way that best serves our patients,” says Gail Hunt, president and CEO, GBGH. “Our focus of providing our community with exceptional care meant our ED needed to expand and modernize to meet the growing demand for services. When the original ED was completed in 1976, it was built to serve 17,000 patient visits and was a single room with curtains. Now we see 47,000 ED visits each year. It was time GBGH developed a department to match our volumes.”

The steady increase in annual visits to the Emergency Department is a result of the population growth in North Simcoe, both in permanent and seasonal residents. In addition to caring for 55,000 year-round citizens, the Emergency Department at Georgian Bay General Hospital also serves nearly 150,000 cottagers and seasonal visitors who arrive in our community each year between May and September.

The ED redevelopment has been one of the largest projects in the hospital’s history. Phase 1, completed in 2014, was entirely funded through community support. With a price of \$5 million, this 6,000 square foot addition included a new ED entrance, triage area and trauma rooms.

“The community believed in the need for a new ED and without their support, the project would have never happened,” says Kathy Elsdon-Befort, interim executive director, GBGH Foundation.

“GBGH’s loyal supporters have a history of being very generous when the hospital needs them the most. We needed a bigger, modern ED and they were there for us the whole way, also funding 10 per cent of Phases 2 and 3. They’ve never let GBGH down.”

To see your completed Emergency Department at GBGH, please click [HERE](#) to check out our virtual tour. If you are interested in learning more about your Georgian Bay General Hospital, or to book a tour to see the new Emergency Department for yourself, please contact Jen Russell at the GBGH Foundation (russellj@gbgh.on.ca, 705-526-1300 x5339).

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season, and all the very best in 2019! Cheers