



**Sand Lake Area Property Owners Association**  
**December 24, 2020 E-Bulletin Update**



This picture has been provided by Al Byrnel and reminds us of the beauty of our Sand Lake surroundings and our continuing efforts to protect it.

Greetings from you SLAPOA Board. Wishing you and your families good health, Happy Holidays and a great New Year. Below are listed a number of issues your Board is working on. Please review and let us know of any questions you may have.

1. Cashman's Creek Bridge Construction.

During the December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Council Meeting the Town's Engineer of Record, Mr. Palmay commented that the bridge completion date is a little behind schedule as further drilling and piles will be required. Additional crew are being added to gain the time lost with the estimated date to open one lane being January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Status updates are available at: <https://townofkearney.ca/news/>. Sharon McKenzie shared the following photograph.



Cashman Creek  
Construction

2. Blueberry Island LPAT Hearing.

The virtual hearing scheduled for November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 has been put on hold pending a reschedule. The Heise have requested an in-person hearing as they do not have the resources and/or knowledge to proceed with a video based hearing. The lawyer for the Town of Kearney, Edward B. Veldboom is following up with the LPAT Case Coordinator.



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### 3. Buckley's Road Survey results.

For this survey we had almost a 50% return rate based on paid membership for the 2020 Membership year. Geoff Hall has put together a superb graphical presentation of the results which speak for themselves. Please see attached.



Membership Survey  
2020.pdf

### 4. New Logo.



After the presentation of some designs and much discussion your SLAPOA Board commissioned Andrew Lawrence, Board Member Wilson Boynton's Son-in-Law to prepare a sample logo. His design was approved at our October meeting. This is the official roll-out of the design. See header of this Bulletin for a colour version. The hills in the background represent the Almaguin Highland Hills, the little island represents Emerald Island and the canoeist represents water sports and recreation.

### 5. New Signs on Emerald Island.

Issues arose last Summer over ownership of the Island and overnight camping. Our local tourist businesses thought that the Island was public property. To avoid any further confusion the Board has approved new signage for Emerald Island. Click on the images below to view.



New Emerald Island  
Signage



Old Emerald Island  
Signage



Skelton  
Commerative Plaque

### 6. Dissolution of POWR MAG.

The Protectors of Wetlands and River Magnetewan Inc. have announced dissolution of their association due to lack of volunteer support. Negotiations are under way to merge their water quality monitoring process into a KWEF program/process. POWR MAG was supported in part by an annual donation from SLAPOA.

### 7. SLAPOA Representative on KWEF Board.

Given the increased responsibilities moving to the Kearney Watershed Environmental Foundation from POWR MAG the KWEF Board is considering reaching out to the Town of Kearney Lake associations for assistance on their Board and programs/processes. Your SLAPOA Board has offered to support KWEF any way we can including a SLAPOA Board Representative to their Board. This would be our current ex-officio member. KWEF is supported in part by an annual donation from SLAPOA.



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8. Invasive Phragmites

Phragmites australis, an invasive non-native reed grass, has established itself in and around the shores of Lake Bernard. There is a concern that it may be on other lakes in the Almaguin area and if so, the stands need to be identified as soon as possible and removed quickly. KWEF has issued a special bulletin to alert the Town of Kearney Lake Associations of the threat and actions that need to be taken to remove this invasive species. At this point there is suspicion the Chubb and Upper Magetewan estuaries may have this reed grass but confirmation is required. If it does exist we will need volunteers to help clear it from our Lake. Please review below.



KWEF Special  
Edition Newsletter.p

9. ATV Action Plan

The SLAPOA Board is currently working on a recommendation to Kearney Council to restrict or provide limited use of ATV's on Hwy. 518 and the access roads surrounding Sand Lake. Excessive speeds, excessive noise and the use of the Lake as a washing station have necessitated this action.

Looking forward to a return to normal. Summer fun and summer sun, Regatta, Sail Boat race and our AGM.

Sincerely,

The Board