



# MACA NEWS

Serving property owners on Long, Negaunee, Wenona and Miskwabi Lakes

## YOUR MACA EXECUTIVE

- President:** Peter Dilworth
- Vice President:** Andy Mosher
- Treasurer:** Virginia Vranckx
- Secretary:** Manny Lawson
  
- Directors:**
- Katarina Bassan (Webmaster)
- Steve Dyce (Fish Community)
- Dave Ewart (IT)
- John Ewing (Roads)
- Stephen Foster
- Tim Hagarty (Lake Steward)
- Bill Lester
- Phyllis McCulloch (Membership)
- MaryAnn McFeeters

[www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net)



Photo: Waiting for the Poker Run Prizes, by K. Bassan

## President's Message



After a long shut down due to Covid, we are very excited to have completed three events. In May we held our Annual Cleanup Day, we did the MACA AGM as a face-to-face meeting in July and then just a couple of weeks ago we held our inaugural Canoe/Kayak Poker Run. Check out our blog <https://www.mymaca.net/blog> to find pictures and stories of these events. I think everyone would agree that it was really nice to be able to get together again to see cottage neighbours and friends. Please don't miss our final event, the MACA Wine and Cheese [logistics are provided on the next page].

In this edition of the newsletter you will find a summary of the MACA AGM held on July 9th. We are happy to welcome Manny Lawson to our board.

Earlier this month we spent significant time on our lakes conducting advanced water quality testing in connection with the pilot program that WWEW (i.e., Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch) is coordinating. We are now testing for many more variables and testing more often with the goal of better understanding the health of our lakes. Water quality is our number one priority and as such, we're looking forward to receiving the results later this year.

And finally it is with a heavy heart that I communicate the passing of long time MACA board member, Haden Heathcock. Haden was a true friend to MACA and a faithful water quality tester on Miskwabi Lake. He will be missed by all.

*Peter Dilworth, MACA President*

## Remaining 2022 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### Wine and Cheese:

August 27th from 2-5PM  
At the Harrison's Cottage  
1039 Strickland Rd.

### Photo Contest:

Theme: "Getting Back Together Again"

### Spring Clean-Up Day

On May 22nd MACA held its first face-to-face event in more than two years. Approximately 40 participants came out - a good size crowd, especially given the inclement weather. We picked up litter along our roads and it was fantastic to catch up with our neighbours.

It is surprising how many paper cups, cans, plastic bottles and take-out containers we pick up each year. Please be respectful of our environment and don't litter. And if you rent or lend your cottage, please communicate to your renters where the landfill sites are in Haliburton. Far too often we find full garbage bags just tossed into the ditches off our roads.



### MACA's First Canoe/ Kayak Poker Run

On August 6th MACA held our inaugural Canoe/Kayak Poker Run. We had close to 40 participants, including several children. All participants paddled the entire route that stretched from the Miskwabi Lake boat launch into Finno Bay on Long Lake. The winning hand was a 'four of a kind'. It was a beautiful day to be on the lake. The weather was hot. Everyone enjoyed an ice cream

sandwich at the end of the event. Fun for all. Go to <https://www.mymaca.net/blog> to see more pictures and stories of this event. Based on the feedback we received, we will have to try to make this an annual event.

### Boater Safety

We continue to see far too many incidents of boats/sea-doo's towing a skier/tuber with only the driver on board. This is extremely dangerous - it's dangerous to the driver, it's dangerous to the person being towed and it's also dangerous to anyone else out on the water. A reminder to all those enjoying water-sports on our lakes - you are required by law to have a lookout on board when towing anyone behind your boat or PWC. If you see this or any other dangerous boating behaviour on your lake, one option is to report it to the OPP using the non-emergency toll-free number at 1-888-310-1122.



### Don't Miss the MACA Wine and Cheese

**August 27th, from 2-5PM**

**At the Harrison's Cottage  
1039 Strickland Rd.**

**Please bring canned goods or other non-perishables as we are collecting donations for the Haliburton Food Bank.**

**[There is limited parking so please consider car pooling]**



**HIGHLIGHTS from MACA's AGM****Saturday, July 9, 2022 11:00AM**

There were 75 members in attendance.

MACA President, Peter Dilworth, welcomed everyone to the meeting, our first in-person AGM in two years. Peter confirmed quorum. He recited our land acknowledgement and then introduced our board members.

**Election of Directors**

Andy Mosher, Tim Hagarty, Steve Dyce, Haden Heathcock, Jeannette Brumell, Katarina Bassan and Peter Dilworth were all elected to two-year terms in 2021. In the fall, MaryAnne McFeeters was appointed to the board to replace a vacancy relating to the Roads 636 (as per our by-laws). Jeannette resigned in January.

This year, Virginia Vranckx, John Ewing, Dave Ewart, Phyllis McCulloch, Stephen Foster and Bill Lester all agreed to stand for another two-year term. Manny Lawson, from Long Lake, will also stand for election.

**MOTION (Bradley/Heathcock): The MACA membership appoints Virginia Vranckx, John Ewing, Dave Ewart, Phyllis McCulloch, Stephen Foster, Bill Lester and Manny Lawson to the MACA Board for**



**two-year terms. Motion carried.**

**President's Report (Peter Dilworth)**

In January MACA launched our new website which has been well received. We had a successful clean-up day back in May with a least 40 people participated.

There are still challenges with BGA on one of our lakes. This reinforces the need to do everything we can to stop phosphorous from entering our lakes.

Dysart's septic inspection program is scheduled for our area in 2023.

MACA will participate in an expanded water quality testing program this year. At a water quality testing summit (June 14th), experts made recommendations on what tests we might perform. A small group of associations, including MACA, will run a pilot to figure out protocols, effort, and to be at the forefront of this initiative. Test results should be available by year end.

New boating and invasive species regulations are giving teeth to authorities to enforce police behaviours. MACA put up some new signs at our boat launches.

MACA has received inquiries about the rules for rafts and other things in the water. Our Boating Committee is researching this. Abandoned docks is something we are also looking at. It was noted the best answer might be to make an example of a culprit by reporting them to the authorities.

At our April 30th board meeting we confirmed that priorities are to get back to a normal set of activities and to step up focus on water quality and on water testing.

**Membership Update (Phyllis McCulloch)**

There are 149 members eligible for the Early Bird draw. Membership is strong. We currently have 253 members, with 3 new members today.

MACA hats and shirts will be available for purchase soon. Information will be on the web site.

If your contact information changes, let Phyllis know.

**Financial Report (Virginia Vranckx)**

Credit card payment processing for annual dues was changed from FOCA to Square Space. It is working well.

Financial Report for 2021 (Nov Year End) - income tax has been filed and accepted. Started the year with \$5785 in cash. Great membership numbers. At end of November 2020, we had \$6610 in cash.

Financial report 2022 - at the end of June 2022 MACA had just over \$12000. Most expense items, including FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations), CEWF (Coalition for Equitable Water Flow), CHA (Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations), Insurance, etc. are expected to be similar to past year expenses. However, this year we are planning to spend more on water testing.

**MOTION (Misner/Brown): The MACA membership receive the Financial Report. Motion carried.**

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**HIGHLIGHTS from MACA’s AGM**

**(Cont’d)**

**Lake Steward’s Update - Tim Hagarty**



Lake Partners water testing was completed in the spring for Phosphates and Calcium. No results yet.

As reported in the President’s Report, MACA will be doing more types of testing and we are now associated with other groups that are doing the same testing on their lakes. This will allow us to compare the results.

We did a number of phosphorus tests last year. It was interesting because the numbers were all over the map and were inconclusive.

We have had a number of questions about conditions on lakes. Note that pollen on the water is normal, green blobs floating in the water (algae) is normal, and specks in water are also normal and good for fish.

Keeping shorelines natural will help reduce phosphorus levels.

The Blue Green Algae blooms on Wenona - in 2020 it lasted 3 weeks; in 2021 it only lasted 1 day.

**Roads (Andy Mosher)**

The open issue with the sharp right-turn westbound on Highway 118 onto Trapper’s Trail appears to have been fixed with the completion of the new paving of Highway 118. No new markers have been installed on the guard rail to delineate Trappers Trail when travelling eastbound on Highway 118, however the westbound guard rail has been extended onto Trapper’s Trail.

In early July Wenona Lake Road was graded to remove washboard.

Ruts at the Wenona Lake boat launch were filled in and the ramp surface was levelled out in July.

There is an ongoing problem with the location of the road signs for Wenona Lake Road and Hasley Pass Road which we have reported to the Roads department.

In addition, we have reported that the pavement is crumbling on Trappers Trail, between Wenona Lake Road and Hwy. 118.

We have also reported that there is water pooling at the intersection of Wenona Lake Road and Argilite Road.

**Guest Speaker (OPP Constable Timothy Negas)**



Constable Negas noted that only 5 officers patrol the Haliburton area roads per day. Although he will recommend more time be spent on our roads.

Speeding should be reported to the OPP, either by phone or on-line. It can be done anonymously, but it is better if a name is attached to the complaint so that officers can follow up better.

Regarding theft it was suggested that everything should be locked or “nailed down” to make it harder to take away. Be nice to your neighbours so they will watch your place. Also, don’t plant trees or bushes in front of your doors and windows as these offer thieves a place to hide while breaking in.

Insurance rates go up with more crime. To help prevent crime, install cameras, more lighting and locks. Take valuables home with you.

Regarding reckless boating, please make complaints to the OPP (non-emergency: 1-888-310-1122), but recognize that speed limits on water only apply within 30 meters (100 ft), maximum 10 KPH or 6 MPH.

Drivers of ATV’s and dirt bikes must be licensed and at least 16 to operate on roads.

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**HIGHLIGHTS from MACA’s AGM**  
**(Cont’d)**

If the OPP come onto our lakes, please don’t spread the news that the OPP are here. They are there to catch the people we are complaining about. Let them do their job. The OPP have zero tolerance for all Alcohol/Drug or Child Safety incidences.

All watercraft must have a proper boating safety kit on board. This includes Canoes and Kayaks. There is a \$275 fine for not have the proper equipment. If you are renting your cottage, boat, etc. you must supply the proper equipment.

Jet Skis must be a 3 seater if you are pulling skiers or tubes. There must be seating for the driver, spotter and rider.

PFD’s - if you have PFD’s with a gas cylinder it must be worn at all times in the boat.

Beware of telephone fraud. Warning flags should be someone asking for your personal information, asking

for bail funds on behalf of a relative, etc. Never offer information that they should already know (e.g., a family members name, a card number, etc).

**Upcoming Events**

Photo Contest - Theme “Getting Back Together Again”. Go to our website under ‘gallery’ to find out all the rules and how to enter. Get your photos in by August 21.

Canoe/Kayak Poker Run - August 6th. This is a new event.

MACA Wine and Cheese - August 27th. We are so happy to announce that Kim Wilkinson and Michael Harrison have volunteered to host our wine and cheese get together this year. Kim and Mike’s address is 1039 Strickland Rd.

**Early bird draw winners**

There are two prizes again this year: Dean Wilmot and Ian Burgess.

**MOTION (Hagarty/Ewart): To adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

***Are You Prepared for a Medical Emergency at the Cottage?***

- Learn the most classic indicators of a medical emergency, including difficulty breathing, confusion, or an alteration in mental status, uncontrolled bleeding, dizziness, sudden vision changes, chest or abdominal pain for over two minutes, slurred speech, severe diarrhea or vomiting, coughing up blood, and suicidal thoughts.
- Have an up-to-date robust first aid kit
- Learn CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation)
- Make a list of phone numbers of your neighbours
- Make sure your 911 sign is visible
- Know your GPS coordinates (go to <https://getlatlong.net> to find any GPS coordinates).
- Keep an up-to-date list of your prescription medications.
- Know the quickest route to the hospital and check if the Emergency Department you want to visit is open.

**Is it an Emergency?**

**If you are in need of serious medical attention, always CALL 911.**

*If not, before visiting a HHHS Emergency Department:*



**Stop:** could self-care or a doctor's visit take care of it?

**Check:** if the ED you want to visit is open  
visit [hhhs.ca](http://hhhs.ca) or call 705-457-1392

**Go:** proceed to the nearest open ED

*Thank you for your assistance.*



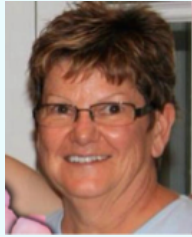
## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

**By Phyllis McCulloch, Membership Director**

Our membership numbers are strong and it makes it possible to reach out to so many of you to share important information.

If at any time your contact information changes, do not hesitate to contact me at [phyllismcculloch2@gmail.com](mailto:phyllismcculloch2@gmail.com).

Our annual renewal process will begin in January and of course we will have our "Early Bird Draw". Be sure to watch for details in our Winter Newsletter.



## Lake Steward's Corner

**by Tim Hagarty, MACA Lake Steward**



Earlier this month we spent a full day out on all of our lakes to undertake advanced water quality testing in connection with the pilot program that WVEW (i.e., Woodlands & Waterways EcoWatch) is spearheading. A small group of associations from the Haliburton area are involved in this pilot program. The tests included measuring dissolved oxygen levels and temperature profiles at various depths in our waters, testing for ammonia, water clarity, phosphorus, calcium, pH/ conductivity, nitrogen and micro-plastics. We will now be testing the lakes 3 times per year with the next set of tests scheduled for the fall. An earlier phase of this WVEW project included a Water Quality Testing Summit, held on June 14th, where scientists provided comment on what we ought to test and monitor to better understand the health of our lakes.

Of interest is the fact that the program is also establishing a control sample lake in the Haliburton area that doesn't have any cottages so we can contrast our findings to that of an undeveloped lake. We're looking forward to receiving the results, which should come in later this year.

In addition, we will continue the Lake Partners spring testing of phosphorous and water clarity testing will continue as well throughout the summer and fall.

And finally, we will undertake the benthos invertebrates testing again this fall. This will give us three years of results which should provide a solid baseline.

In the meantime, please continue to help us keep our lakes healthy!

## Rafts and Other Items in the Water

We have received a number of inquiries about the rules and regulations for placing things in the water (e.g., swimming rafts, slalom ski courses, etc).

Based on our research, we have learned that the Municipality has rules governing the placement of rafts in terms of positioning relative to neighbouring lots, and the size



of the raft. These by-laws also state that a raft shall not restrict the navigation of the waterway or access to other properties. See <https://www.dysartetal.ca/en/build-and-invest/Planning%20Resources/Zoning%20By-law%202005-120.pdf>.

The Canadian Navigable Waters Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/n-22/FullText.html>) managed by Transport Canada requires that if someone chooses to install a swim raft, slalom ski course or other objects in the waters off shore it cannot interfere with navigation. In some cases the property owner may be required to seek approval of the works under the Canadian Navigable Waters Act (CNWA section 10(1) (a)).

If there are items in our waters that anyone would like Transport Canada to investigate, you can send a complaint to Transport Canada identifying the location of the item(s) in the water, a description of your navigation related concern, photos of the concern and contact information for the persons who placed the object(s) that is the cause of your concern. Upon receipt of the above, Transport Canada will assess the concern.

**Stay Safe!**

**Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Wine and Cheese**