



# MACA NEWS

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

## YOUR MACA BOARD EXECUTIVE

President: Peter Dilworth  
A/Vice President: Steve Dyce  
Treasurer: Virginia Vranckx  
Secretary: Stephen Foster

## DIRECTORS

Katarina Bassan (*Webmaster*)  
Dave Ewart (*IT*)  
John Ewing (*Roads*)  
Tim Hagarty (*Lake Steward*)  
Manny Lawson (*Community Research*)  
Bill Lester (*Long*)  
Phyllis McCulloch (*Membership*)  
MaryAnn McFeeters (*Roads 636*)  
Andy Mosher (*Past President*)

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



The Canoe/Kayak Poker Run Begins, Photo by Steve Dyce

## 2024 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### **Spring Cleanup Day:**

May 19th

### **50th AGM and Celebration:**

Saturday, July 6th  
(Followed by Pizza Lunch)

### **Canoe/Kayak Poker Run:**

Aug 10th

### **Wine and Cheese:**

Aug 17th

## President's Message

Spring is finally here and I gather the black flies and mosquitoes are here too!

MACA is excited to be celebrating our 50th Anniversary this year. We plan to publish a special edition MACA newsletter later this summer reflecting back on these 50 years. We will have 50th Anniversary T-shirts and hats available for you to order on-line as well as 50 year celebrations at some of our events.

Later this month we will be sending out a members survey. Your feedback will help us establish priorities for the next few years.

If you have not already renewed your MACA membership, please consider doing so ASAP. You can renew online by visiting [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net) and clicking on the "Membership" link.

Also, if you are interested in volunteering with MACA, please connect with me.

I hope you find this newsletter informative.

*Peter Dilworth, MACA President*



# MACA Needs Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering with MACA as a board member or to help out with one of our events, please send us an email to [peter.dilworth@sympatico.ca](mailto:peter.dilworth@sympatico.ca).



## Lake Steward's Corner

by **Tim Hagarty, MACA Lake Steward**

Spring is here, (I think!) and thoughts turn to being at and on the lake. The winter, that wasn't,

resulted in a smaller than normal run off and lake levels were below normal until the April rains brought them back to normal.

We were not able to do our winter tests on Wenona Lake due to unsafe ice conditions in March. However, we will be doing our usual Love Your Lake water testing in May, coupled with the more extensive testing in late Spring and early Fall. The testing to date has not been successful in coming up with a culprit for Blue Green Algae. We will continue testing for this year to see if anything comes to the forefront.

We continue to ask all shoreline owners to naturalize the shorelines to ensure that we keep phosphorous and other nutrients (from septic beds) from entering the lake. The output from your septic beds does not magically dissipate, it can run towards and into the lake underground. Please do not cut your grass close to the shoreline, in fact, let it grow naturally. Your lake will thank you with healthy water.

If you have had a septic inspection, please ensure that you follow up on any issues that were noted.

With everyone pitching in, we can keep our lakes healthy, please do your part with a great deal of our thanks.

Help us pick up litter and debris from our roadways



**Sunday, May 19th 11AM**

**Two starting points \*\*\* NEW \*\*\***

**1. Jerry Strickland Boat Ramp,  
Miskwabi Lake**

**OR**

**2. Corner of Kennaway and Long  
Lake Roads (i.e., at the MACA map)**

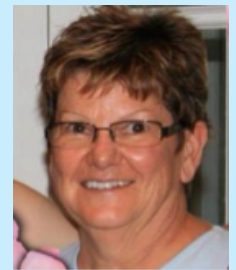
*Subs, drinks and a 50th Anniversary cake will be served at the Miskwabi Boat Launch when we are all done.*

*Don't forget your sunscreen, bug spray and gloves.*

*All year - To help keep our lakes, forests and roadsides clean. Encourage everyone not to pitch bottles, bags, cups and butts. We continue to find bags of household trash tossed from vehicles on the "going-out" side of the road. Please use the landfill.*

## MEMBERSHIP Update

By **Phyllis McCulloch, Membership Director**



We started our Annual Membership Renewal at the beginning of January, 2024 and by the end of February we received 176 renewals. Two of those early renewals will be the lucky winners of our Early Bird Draw prizes. Thank you for your support!

If you haven't renewed yet, you can easily do it on our web-site, [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net). Click on "Membership" and enter your cottage and home information. The on-line process is safe, secure and quick.

## Treasurer's Report

by Virginia Vranckx, MACA Treasurer



As reported in the last newsletter, MACA began the 2024 year with a bank balance of \$4826.

Expenses so far this year (\$1047.34) are:

- Bank Charges \$30.75
- Credit card fees \$191.88
- Website renewal \$484.71
- Membership dues for Coalition of Haliburton Cottagers' Association \$240.00
- Membership for Coalition for Equitable Water Flow \$100.00

Revenues from Memberships are \$6990 as of writing and still coming in.

This gives us a current bank balance over \$10,700 to continue with our priorities and celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

## Angler's Corner

By Steve Dyce, Fish Community Director



In our last newsletter there was an error in the information provided regarding Fishing Licences and Outdoors cards for those under 18 or 65 and older - the catch limits that apply are the more generous Sport Fishing limits - NOT the Conservation limits - Sorry about that! Always check the official regulations for accurate and current information <https://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-fishing-regulations-summary/fisheries-management-zone-15>

If you don't fish, but want to give it a try, Ontario provides 4 times a year where any Canadian Resident can fish without a Licence. Two opportunities have already passed (Family Day Weekend and Mothers Day weekend) but there are still two left in 2024 - Father's Day Weekend (June 15-16, 2024) and Family Fishing Week (June 29-July 7, 2024). Conservation catch limits apply (<https://www.ontariofamilyfishing.com/>)

As you get ready to start the spring/summer fishing season, consider the following good fishing practices:

- Retrieve snagged tackle including hooks, sinkers, and tangled lines from underwater obstacles. Lines left in the water pose a tangle and snare hazard to aquatic birds, turtles and amphibians. Lures with hooks left near docks or shallow logs can also pose a hazard to people who swim or play nearby. Snags left in shoreline trees are a significant snare hazard to many birds including Kingfisher.
- Avoid using lead sinkers and other lead tackle. Lost or discarded sinkers can be mistaken for pebbles or food and ingested by diving loons and ducks. Just one ingested lead sinker can cause sickness and death in a loon or duck. Although more expensive, alternatives to lead are available and should be used. Dispose of old lead tackle as hazardous waste - not in the water.
- When changing lures or hooks NEVER toss cut off pieces of fishing line into the water. Keep a small container onboard your boat and take it back with you. Many tackle stores will recycle used line.
- Be courteous and considerate when fishing along the shoreline and avoid casting towards others including swimmers or other boaters. Come back to your favourite spot after it's vacant.

Let's have a great angling season!



## 7th Annual MACA Photo Contest

**The theme this year is anything to do with our MACA's 50th Anniversary**

- To enter go to <https://www.mymaca.net/events>, complete the application form, including a short description of the picture or a title, your name and local property address.
- Email your entry with the attached JPEG to [MACAPhotoContest@outlook.com](mailto:MACAPhotoContest@outlook.com) by Aug 12th.
- We will accept all jpg or pdf files
- Winners will be announced in the Fall Newsletter
- Prizes: 1st \$50; 2nd \$25; 3rd \$10

• By submitting a photo you give us permission to use it in MACA's newsletters and/or website.

## MACA T-Shirts and Hats

MACA will soon have 50th Anniversary T-Shirts and Hats available for purchase. We will have T-shirts in Women's, Adult and Youth Sizes with great colours for you to choose from. The shirts are ChromaSoft or Gildan and are 100% polyester combining soft cotton-feel and moisture-wicking properties. The "Hats" are "Bucket" hats made from 100% cotton with several colours available to choose from. All of these items will proudly display MACA's 50th Anniversary logo.

T-shirts and Hats are just \$23.00.



Note that the "Ordering Timeline" will be DATE SPECIFIC within a 2 to 3 week time frame. Our process will involve purchasing items from our soon to be launched STORE on MACA's website.

**Watch for an e-mail coming to you soon with all the details!**



Welcome to the MACA Store!

COMING SOON

MACA is excited to offer merchandise sporting the limited edition 50th Anniversary logo. For a short time only.

Please ensure that colour and size selections are correct before proceeding to check out, as we cannot offer any refunds or exchanges on the merchandise. Secure checkout is facilitated through Stripe.

Orders will be batch-delivered to our lake area and pickup times and locations will be communicated via email.

Happy shopping!

## MACA is proud to be celebrating 50 years of service to property owners of Long, Miskwabi, Negaunee, Wenona Lakes.



## After keeping our fees at just \$30 for more than two decades, inflation has finally caught up with us! Your MACA Executive will be putting forward a motion at our AGM to increase fees.

As noted in our Winter newsletter, last year MACA spent almost \$2,000 more than it earned from membership fees, reducing our reserves considerably. At our fall MACA board meeting, board members "unanimously agreed that the MACA annual membership fee for all members be increased to Forty Dollars (\$40) as of January 1, 2025 and that this resolution be submitted to the next annual general meeting of the members." Note that \$40 is approximately the average fee charged by cottage associations across Haliburton county.

## There are Still Unresolved Issues re the Septic Inspection Program from Last Year

As noted in MACA's Winter newsletter two thirds of septic systems tested on Long, Miskwabi and Negaunee Lake had medium or high risk issues. The Municipality is reporting there are still a number of properties that have not rectified their issues. Note that failure to resolve issues to the Municipality's satisfaction could result in a Building Code Order being placed on the property with a \$500 per month penalty.

MACA encourages everyone to ensure that their septic system is working properly. A properly functioning septic system is extremely important to the health of our lakes. Phosphorus and other nutrients leaching from improperly functioning septic systems is one of the leading causes of Blue Green Algae. If you suspect your septic system is not working correctly, we urge you to get it fixed as quickly as possible.

## Local Government Updates

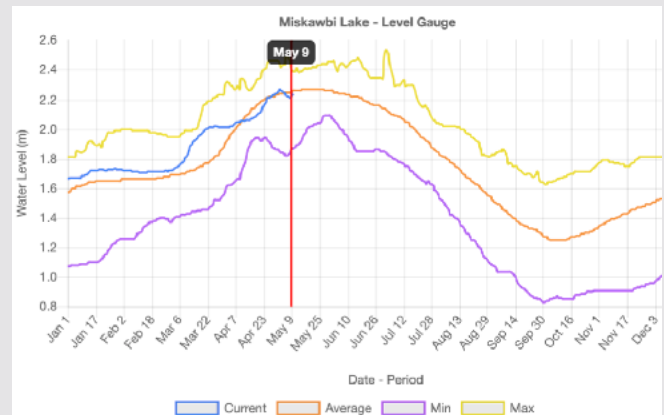
### Short Term Rentals

The new Short-Term Rental (STR) By-Law comes into effect October 1st, 2024 for Dysart et al. See [STR By-law](#). The by-law includes provisions for addressing noise, overcrowding/septic capacity, parking, as well as licensing, enforcement, penalties/fines etc. Annual licence fee per short-term rental premises is \$500. We understand that Dysart et al Council is still debating whether the MAT (municipal accommodation tax) will be 2% or 4%.

### Site Alterations

Dysart et al Council has a new Site Alteration By-Law. Dysart has a sample site plan that explains where natural vegetation and trees are required to be retained and where they may be removed. It also includes the scoring criteria for the Shoreline Lake Health Assessment being implemented in 2024. See [Site Alteration Example Site Plan - Developed Lot](#)

## Water Levels



On May 13th the water levels on Long and Miskwabi Lakes were slightly below historical norms.

While it is estimated that the snow pack in our water shed area this past winter was less than 60% of normal, fortunately Parks Canada recognized the situation early on and proactively added extra logs to our Reservoir Dam on Long Lake in late winter thereby alleviating short term concerns about unusually low spring runoff. Of course all the rain we've had in May has helped the water levels too.

## Dockside Stories

*Surely you heard about the one that got away...*



But have you heard about the ghost on Charlie Brown Island on Koshlong Lake? Or about the "goings on" at the Golden Slipper on Lake Kashagawigamog? Or about Harold Heaven's disappearance from Horseshoe Lake? And don't forget the one about...

CANOE FM wants to hear your lake stories! Whether it is history, folklore or just a tale about an interesting person or an event experienced on your lake, we want you to share it!

Not only will we help share the tale, but you will be entered into a draw to win! Draw date is August 5, 2024.

Share your story with us at [contest@canoefm.com](mailto:contest@canoefm.com).

Yep! The draw will have PRIZES, but pride in sharing the story about your lake is priceless!

Grab a dockside seat, and listen in. Stories will be aired until September 2.

Entries will be accepted starting June 1, 2024



## Haliburton Highlands Health Services Expanding Services - We Need Your Support!

Whether we're at the lake on a full-time or part-time basis, access to quality health care services is crucial for all of us.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) is expanding diagnostic imaging technology and services in the County to include: a CT scanner, digital mammography, updated ultrasound equipment and a picture archiving communication system that allows rapid sharing of images with specialists in larger centres in Ontario. Bone density testing will also be available adjacent to the mammography equipment.

The good news is that construction is underway, and the equipment should be operational by the Fall. However, while the province provides health care operating funds such as staffing and maintenance, it puts the onus on the community to raise the capital funds for new and replacement equipment. That is why we need everyone's help to raise \$4.3 million to bring this technology to the County.

Haliburton is now the only county in Southern Ontario without a CT scanner. As a critical diagnostic tool for both emergencies and for regular diagnoses, County patients are currently transported to Peterborough, Lindsay or Bracebridge, meaning a delay of three to five hours. This is critical time lost in determining the location of a blood clot in a stroke; a brain bleed in a concussion; an appendix that is about to rupture; or the extent of damage in a bad bone break. The list of life changing risks goes on.

Not having a CT scanner in the County costs all of us. In 2021 there were 357 ambulance trips for CT scans

outside the County. This means that while the ambulance and at least two EMS professionals are taking patients to/from CT scans, they are not available to serve others in Haliburton. This results in considerable costs, wear and tear on ambulances, greenhouse gas emissions, risk to patients and to residents who may not have access to EMS in their time of need.

Cancer Care Ontario supported the HHHS application to install mammography equipment due to concerns about over 6000 underserved women in the County. One in 38 women in Canada will die from breast cancer and one in ten breast cancer patients is male. Early detection offers the greatest chance of survival, yet many County residents are unable to make the five-hour round trip to Lindsay or Peterborough for a 15-minute check. Bringing Diagnostic Imaging close to home means that everyone will have access to life-saving imaging on a timely basis.

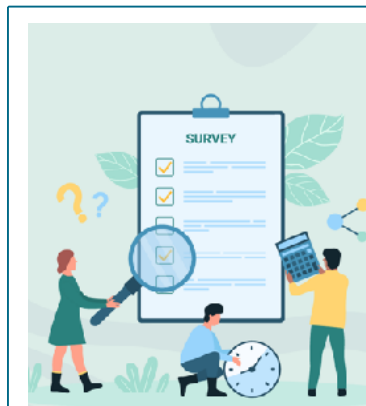
The new HHHS President & CEO, Veronica Nelson, is working hard to improve operations, (including supporting the addition of the urgent care facility now operating in Minden). In consultation with community partners, she is embarking on a long-term planning process to determine capacity to meet the County's needs for health care programs and services in the next twenty-five years. This Diagnostic Imaging Campaign is an important step forward to having more and better critical health care services available locally, which will help build healthier, more prosperous communities throughout the Highlands.

For so many of us, our hearts are in the Highlands.

**Please consider donating to help raise the necessary money. Please go to [hhhs.ca/foundation/give](https://hhhs.ca/foundation/give) to make a gift today. We thank you for your support!**

## Haliburton Home and Cottage Show, May 31st - June 2

The show brings together over 100 vendors at the Haliburton Curling Club and A. J. LaRue Arena. See <https://www.haliburtonhomeandcottageshow.com/>



## The MACA Member Survey

*Watch for it in late May!*

# WHEN TO GO WHERE TO GET THE BEST CARE

This table is a guideline, for emergencies please call 911.



## DOCTORS OFFICE

**A family doctor or nurse practitioner is your primary health care provider.** They are the person you make an appointment with when you have a new, non-emergency health concern.

You must be registered as a patient to **make an appointment** with a family doctor or nurse practitioner. If you do not have a family doctor or nurse practitioner, you can **register through Health Care Connect** at 1-800-445-1822. Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm.



Check-ups and regular screenings



General medical and behaviour health questions



Questions or concerns about medications



Cold and flu symptoms



Cold and fevers



Mild to moderate pain or discomfort



Management of a chronic condition



## URGENT CARE

Medical care for **people who do not have a family doctor** or have one and are **unable to reach them.**

You can see a nurse or doctor, often **without an appointment** at Urgent Care, and get advice, assessment and treatment for non-urgent minor illnesses and injuries such as cuts, bruises, minor infections, sprains, animal or insect bites and skin complaints.



Sprains and strains



Mild allergic reactions



Mild or moderate asthma symptoms



Minor cuts or wounds requiring prompt attention



Moderate pain or discomfort



Mild burns



Animal or insect bites



## EMERGENCY ROOM

Emergency rooms provide treatment of **severe illnesses and life-threatening injuries** 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

If you need **urgent medical attention** for serious illness or injury, visit an ER. A doctor or nurse will assess your condition and decide on a course of treatment.



Babies needing immediate care



Significant difficulty breathing



Broken bones



Severe pain especially in chest or stomach



Severe burns



Possible drug overdose or poisoning



Thoughts of suicide or self harm

NEED A DOCTOR  
**Health Care Connect**  
1-800-445-1822

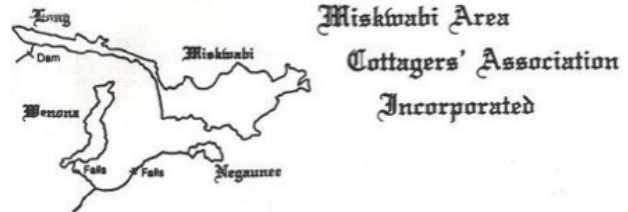
HAVE A HEALTH QUESTION  
**Telehealth Ontario**  
1-866-797-0000



FOR OTHER AREA HEALTH CARE RESOURCES: <http://centraleasthealthline.ca>



**MACA FLASHBACK! 48 YEARS AGO**



Our look back on the goings on is from the March 1976 newsletter ....

*This issue of our "look back" is from one of the oldest documented newsletters we have on file.*

*At the time, newsletters were circulated via regular mail and this particular version was distributed by the then named Lake Miskwabi Executive (L.M.C.A).*

*The newsletter summary mentioned the 'Lake Miskwabi Report' which was distributed to interested parties about the "Water Quality of Miskwabi Lake in Relation to Shoreline Development" (by the Ministry of the Environment). It's interesting how long water quality has been important to our members. It's great that it still stands as something of significance to our community.*

*Another item covered in the newsletter was a piece in the Haliburton County Echo called "About the Weather" that contained a caution to the community that if they hadn't been to their cottages over the course of the 1976 winter that they might want to make the trip. It snowed pretty much every day starting January 1st and continued right thru early March. Seems that year had one of the heaviest snowfalls on record. Combined with the spring rains the heavy snowfall put a lot of extra weight on local homes and cottages and there were a few collapsed roofs as a result.*

*LMCA (MACA) membership was still \$5.00, payable by cheque and delivered via mail... seems like such a long time ago and as we look back it's incredible how much has changed since then.*

*There was a small piece on the LMCA Executive which probably contains a few names that folks might remember: President was Jerry Strickland, VP was Tom McGovern, Secretary was Pat McGovern, Treasurer was John Gottschalk and the Directors were Steve Westbrook, Frank Crawford, and Lorne Atkinson.*

*There wasn't a lot of content to speak of in our oldest newsletter, and our next documented one on file was from May of 1977. That particular one contained quite a few more topics, which was covered in a prior "Look Back".*

*Thanks for taking the time to read this, and we look forward to seeing you all at the various 50th anniversary events.*

**Cottage Cook's Corner**

**Favourite Recipes Shared by MACA Members**

Contributed by: Kathryn Hunsberger



**Greek Tomato and Cucumber Salad with Farro**

*Whole-grain farro bulks up this hearty Mediterranean salad. If you like the crunch of fresh red onion but not the full pungency, give the slices a 30-second dip in ice water to tame the flavor; drain and toss in the salad. Serves 4.*

**INGREDIENTS**

- ½ teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 2 teaspoons finely chopped fresh oregano
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 cups cooked farro
- ⅓ cup kalamata olives, pitted and halved lengthwise
- ⅓ cup thinly sliced red onion
- 1 ½ pounds cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 ½ pounds small pickling (or English) cucumbers, halved lengthwise and cut into 1/2-inch-thick slices
- 4 ounces feta cheese, crumbled (about 1/2 cup)

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Combine the first 7 ingredients in a large bowl, stirring well with a whisk. Stir in farro and the next 4 ingredients (through cucumbers), and toss gently to combine. Top with feta cheese.