

Dear fellow MLCA Members:

Please find below a link to the final Lake Plan, recently completed by the Lake Plan Committee under the guidance of the MLCA Board of Directors.

After 6+ years of hard work with over 35 communications to members in a variety of formats including dock drops, Town-hall meetings, online surveys, and many emails, we now have a finished document. The 2024 Lake Plan captures the essence of what was originally intended, which was to update our original 2009 Lake Plan with new development guidelines that will preserve the health, beauty and sustainability of Muldrew Lakes for current and future generations.

Along the way, a great deal has been said and done as we collectively negotiated all the ins and outs of updating the Lake Plan. Most notably, the Board of Directors was charged with arranging a final voting opportunity for all the MLCA members to indicate their support on various provisions of the document. As originally planned, the vote sought to obtain yes/no answers to supporting each of the components of the Lake Plan using a proxy form that would allow the maximum number of members to vote. Initially this seemed very straightforward, but upon closer scrutiny, we found many issues within our Constitution, including the inability to allow non-members to vote; one of the oft-heard requests from some members.

To ensure compliance with our Constitution, the Board sought the opinion of a parliamentary expert specializing in not-for-profit associations. After consultation with this expert, it was concluded that the proxies (as circulated in the notice of meeting) were not in the correct constitutional form and concluded that there was no realistic way (in person or on-line) to hold a membership vote as planned, while still enabling any voting by proxy; any proposed amendments would have been difficult to accommodate using the required proxy and meeting format. This determination occurred just before the proposed vote was to be held last August, which necessitated postponing the vote. This was announced at the time of the Annual General Meeting.

To further this, it was advised that the Board obtain a legal opinion about the necessity or requirement of a vote. We consulted with a not-for-profit legal expert shortly after the AGM. After an in-depth review of the Constitution, the lawyer concluded that there was no requirement to obtain member approval of the Lake Plan prior to submitting it to the Town of Gravenhurst. The lawyer also confirmed that the request from the Town for a Lake Plan was not based on any legislative requirement and consisted of non-binding recommendations only. The Board was also advised that it was the responsibility of the Board of Directors to approve a motion to forward the Lake Plan to the Town.

As such, at a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors held on March 27, 2024, the Lake Plan Committee presented their final Lake Plan. At this meeting, the Board approved submitting it directly to the Town of Gravenhurst. Included in the submission to the Town will be all the necessary application forms, survey results and materials supporting their report.

Once the Town planners have had time to review and ensure the submission is complete, all Muldrew Lake property owners (MLCA members and non-members alike) will have their opportunity to be heard. The Town has clearly stated that “after the application is submitted, the Town will undertake its own review of the application and conduct an independent community consultation process before council will vote on which amendments to make to the Gravenhurst official plan and Gravenhurst zoning bylaws”. This consultation process will provide an excellent opportunity for all Muldrew Lake property owners to have their say.

On behalf of the Board, I want to extend a special thanks to the members of the Lake Plan Committee, which is comprised of the following individuals, both past and present:

Tim Luke	Ted Alley	Barb Vandevalk	Deb Marcellus
Sarah Bale	Jessica Roher	Janet Kincaid	

We truly appreciate your dedication, commitment, and hard work in seeing this project through to completion.

We also must thank all our members for your input, collaboration, and cooperation throughout the Lake Plan process. We value the support you have given to the Lake Plan Committee over the past 6+ years.

We all look forward to the next steps from the Town in the coming months.

John Goshulak  
President, MLCA