



MPOA Spring Newsletter

April 2023

President's Message

By Amy Fraser

Welcome to the start of another season on the Maz! After a long but not so cold winter at the lake, we are all getting ready for the summer cottage season. Last year brought some challenges for many with the May 21st storm causing extensive damage to many properties on the lake. The storm also highlighted the strong sense of community on the lake with cottagers coming together to help out neighbours and fellow cottagers, whether it was clearing debris or sending photos of properties to owners unable to make it to the lake to assess any potential damage. Hopefully for most the clean-up is behind us and this year can be focused more on relaxing and spending time with family, friends and neighbours on the lake.

The one bright note from last summer was that the spongy (LDD) moth outbreak that had plagued us the previous two summers on the lake gave us, and our trees, a reprieve. With the spongy moth now going into a period of dormancy, this is the time to get the traps out to delay/weaken the next outbreak.

There are a few key initiatives taking place on the lake this summer that are focused on addressing a critical concern to the overall health of our lake - Eurasian Milfoil, an invasive weed species. Many of you will have seen the very informative and detailed information shared by our Lake Steward who has been working tirelessly all winter to gather extensive information on the topic and engage with some key external collaborators. Please read on for additional information including how you can support these efforts.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

By Amy Fraser

2023 sees the return of an in-person format for the AGM (Annual General Meeting). The meeting is scheduled for the morning of July 8, 2023. The exact time and location of the meeting will be shared shortly. Depending on the location, the board will try to support a hybrid format for those who wish to attend, but are unable to attend in person.

What's Your MPOA Been Up To?

By Amy Fraser

Our volunteer Board of Directors has been busy over the last year working on several initiatives:

- Lake Tree Day by the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA)
- Promoting the Shoreline Planting Project also in partnership with the MVCA
- Published the new Lake Directory
- Acted as an information hub after the May 2022 Derecho storm
- Informed cottagers on the municipal elections process
- Identified, located, and began planning the response to Mazinaw's invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil.

Lake Tree Day - Last year Mazinaw was able to participate in this program offered by the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority during their Lake Tree Day. Cottagers were able to request trees and/or shrubs to plant around the shoreline to support shoreline health. Unfortunately this program is not offered every year, but keep an eye out in future years.

Lake Directory - a new version was published in 2022. The new directory includes some great new maps of the lake. Many thanks to our Membership Director, Ian Philips, for his efforts pulling it together. If you were unable to pick-up your directory last year, there are still some left and they will be available at the AGM in July, or you can arrange an alternative pick-up option.



2022 May Derecho Storm - the MPOA kept busy trying to keep cottagers updated on potential damage to properties, utilities restoration, and the status of the damaged trails. A huge thanks to all the volunteers who spent many hours cutting logs, clearing brush, and otherwise reopening trails in the area behind Hungry Bay, Clay Bay, and Barber's Bay, and even beyond toward Campbell's Bay.



Municipal Elections - Information was shared with MPOA members in the fall about the municipal elections and that cottage owners could vote either in-person or electronically, not something I am sure we were all aware we could do.

Eurasian Watermilfoil - Over the winter, much of the focus has been on developing an action plan for Eurasian Milfoil that was discovered in the lower lake near the end of the season. Despite all of the work that has already gone into the Eurasian Milfoil issue, the efforts have only really just started due to the nature of the invasive species. The efforts by the Board, and especially the Lake Steward, Hilary Vaillancourt, will continue as long as needed on this important issue.

A very good primer video on this invasive weed and how one lake is attempting to deal with it can be found at the following link:

[Eurasian Watermilfoil - One Lake's Experience](#)

Underused Housing Tax - It Can Affect Cottagers Too!

By Joanne McRae

The Underused Housing Tax (UHT) is a new, annual 1% tax on the ownership of vacant or underused housing in Canada that took effect on January 1, 2022. Only some cottage property owners must file form UHT-2900 by October 31st (extended from the April 30th tax filing date). This does not mean they will have to pay the tax.

There are 2 categories of property ownership in Canada relative to the UHT: 'Affected', and 'Exempt'. Most cottage owners are 'Exempt' from even having to file the form, (and from having to pay the tax), because they are either Canadian citizens (or are permanent residents), AND solely own the property outright with no complicating circumstances.

However, if your cottage falls into one of the following categories, you will need to contact your accountant or tax expert to determine your liability to file the tax form UHT-2900, and/or to pay the actual tax. Note there are stiff penalties in the thousands for failing to file the form, if you are required to and don't. Best not to take a chance, reach out to a professional for advice.

You may be required to file the UHT-2900 form if:

- You are neither a citizen nor a permanent resident of Canada.
- Your cottage is held in trust
- Your cottage is somehow part of a corporation
- Your cottage is held in a partnership (except a married couple)
- And MAYBE - your cottage is held jointly with others as 'Tenants in Common'. This is pretty common with cottage properties including my own!

But don't panic, you will not likely actually owe the tax. There are exclusions that most of us cottagers fall into including any of these:

- The property is not suitable for year-round use as a place of residence
- The property is seasonally inaccessible
- The property was uninhabitable for at least 60 consecutive days of 2022 due to a disaster or other hazardous condition outside the owners control
- The property is located in an eligible area, and the owner (or spouse) resides in the property for at least 28 days in the year. This is referred to as the 'vacation property exemption'. You can check your Mazinaw location using Brown's Camp postal code, K0H1K0 (those are zeros not 'Oh's), and the following tool: (hint, it shows we are in an eligible area)
 - https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/sres/ext/pub/ntrUhtExpnTl?request_locale=en_CA

This is a good time to disclaim responsibility for tax advice, we at the MPOA are not tax professionals and are not to be trusted with the final word on this new tax, or any tax. At best, this is a tip-off for some of us that we need to look into it.

Final note: The federal Underused Housing Tax Act is new and still open to interpretation, even by tax professionals. E.g. whether 'tenants in common' have to file. The deadline for filing has already been extended to October 31st, and word on the street is that a method to file electronically has either just been released (I couldn't find it) or will be released shortly.

Your best path forward is to **contact a professional** if you are in any doubt about your requirement to file the form UHT-2900. If you need further evidence to convince you to contact a professional, take a look at the form itself. Not simple. [Form UHT-2900](#)

More resources for your reading pleasure:

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Q&A about the UHT published March 2023: [Q&A](#)

CRA filing extension announcement: [Deadline Extension](#)

News and exemptions about the UHT: [CRA UHT Notices](#)

Main government of Canada site: [Underused Housing Website](#)

Finally, for Cottage Life magazine's take, read this article asserting that most cottagers do not need to pay tax, even cottages owned by Americans: [Cottage Life UHT Tax Article](#)

Bottom line:

- You probably won't owe the tax for your cottage
- You may or may not have to file the UHT-2900 for your cottage as part of your tax filing for 2022
- More clarification will likely be available in the coming weeks and months
- Don't let the deadline of Oct 31st pass without confirming your filing requirements and filing if you need to
- For all that is dear and sacred to you, do not rely on our advice, hire a pro if you think you might need it

Thanks for reading, hopefully few of us will even have to file the form!

Lake Health

By Hilary Vaillancourt

1.0 Blue Lakes Ecolabel and Program

Last summer, the Blue Lakes ecolabel and program for Lake Mazinaw was initiated which is delivered by Watersheds Canada and The Land Between organizations. It's explained as follows:

- **Blue Lakes Ecolabel:** The ecolabel is a free, voluntary method of environmental certification that recognizes the adoption of lake stewardship principles or practices. Ecolabels are found around the world. A similar label is the Blue Flag program that certifies beaches and marinas across the globe (www.blueflag.global).
- **Blue Lakes Program:** The Blue Lakes Program provides a suite of tools, resources, and activities to help participants advance lake health in Southern Ontario, which can be tailored to your lake's needs. To participate in the program, the following sequence of steps are taken:
 - ❖ **Step 1 - form a Blue Lakes Committee (completed):** This step was completed last fall. The Committee is made up of 3 Lake Stewards (past and present), the President of the MPOA, a Senior biologist with the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, and attended by the Superintendent of the Bon Echo Provincial Park. The benefits of working with said organizations and past Lake Stewards are immeasurable and have been instrumental to formulating the Eurasian Milfoil Action Plan and understanding potential sources of funding, detailed in S.2.0 below.
 - ❖ **Step 2 - Goal Setting (in progress):** Within the Blue Flag Program [Dream Board](#), the Committee identifies their goals under each performance area 1-8 (pictured on next page.) With the assistance of the Blue Lakes program manager, the committee can work towards promoting the health and integrity of the lake, and report on the success of their efforts at year's end. Those who reach their goals are awarded the Blue Flag, which they can fly to signify their successful participation in the program. Participants can select new goals each year, if they wish, and earn the right to keep flying their Blue Flag with the continued achievement of their goals.
 - ❖ **Step 3 - Execution (in progress):** Throughout the year, the Committee will work towards the goals by completing the actions prescribed on their Dream Board.
 - ❖ **Step 4 - Assessment (not applicable yet):** Following Step 2, each year a self assessment Scorecard will then be used to track all accomplishments and successes each year against their goals. This is submitted annually to maintain the ecolabel. Success will be measured by a group's or individual's ability to improve and advance each year. For more information on the Blue Lakes Program click [here](#).



DREAM BOARD

Complete fillable sections with your SMART Goals. Save and submit to bluelakes@thelandbetween.ca

Lake Name

Team:

Date:

Performance Area #1: Habitat Conservation and Biodiversity



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #2: Shoreland Health



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #3: Herbicides, pesticides, septics, and nutrient management



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #4: Community Science Monitoring and Nature-Connectedness



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #5: Invasive Species Management



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #7: Reconciliation, Humility, and Kindness



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #6: Social Outreach and Education



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline

Performance Area #8: Blue Lakes database



Goal 1

Timeline

Goal 2

Timeline



2.0 Eurasian Milfoil draft Action Plan Update:

Last summer, a highly invasive aquatic species called Eurasian Watermilfoil was discovered on the Lake. Click this link to learn more details about this weed: [Eurasian Milfoil](#)



Three separate stand alone MPOA communications have since been released to MPOA members with respect to this issue (Sept 2022, Dec 2023, and Feb 2023) explaining what the invasive species is, why it's a problem, what you should do when you see it, where it's located on Lake Mazinaw, how it spreads, how you can help, and what the MPOA Board is doing about it.

Furthermore, the draft Action Plan for addressing Eurasian Milfoil was created under the expert guidance of the above detailed Blue Lakes Committee and shared with the Board and MPOA members in the February 23rd e-blast. The following updates to the draft Action Plan have since occurred (updates in red text):

DRAFT ACTION PLAN (subject to refinement as we move forward):

March-April 2023: Recommendations will be made to the MPOA Board seeking approval for the following:

- Purchase Transport Canada markers to delineate patches and stop various forms of water traffic over patches, as it spreads the weeds by creating new cuttings that quickly colonize.
 - **Update: given the urgency to delineate the invasive weed patches so that it doesn't continue to spread exponentially, the markers have been Board approved on a**

tentative basis for a nominal cost of \$2,000, which will be cost shared with the BonECHO Provincial Park. The details on the cost sharing split with the Park will be secured once the Milfoil area has been mapped so that we know what proportional share of Milfoil is within the Park Boundaries. The specific options for advancing this spend will be taken up in a forthcoming AGM meeting.

- Retain a professional drone operator to generate orthomosaic mapping (mapping is a requirement for the submission of grant and permit applications. Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry permits are required for nearly all types of mitigation measures)
 - Update: the quotes for this required work were \$23,000 (+/-). However, our Blue Lakes Committee member, Vern Haggerty, is exploring more cost effective options. We expect visibility on said options at the end of April.

April 2023: Launch the new (forthcoming) Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) Eurasian Milfoil property owner Best Practice manual and MPOA education campaign through mixed platforms (e-distribution, our AGM, social media, etc.)

- Update: In our 4th blue Lakes Committee meeting on April 5th, the MVCA advised that their new Best Practices manual will be ready for distribution mid-April. We will send it to the MPOA members upon receipt.

May/June 2023: Distribute said Transport Canada approved caution markers throughout the affected areas on the Lake. Currently we need fisher persons or other cottagers who know where the weed beds are. If you can help, please reach out to Vern Haggerty by phone at 613-661-4711 or email Vern.Haggerty@gmail.com.

Aug 2023: Launch Drone Mapping to establish orthomosaic mapping discussed above no update

Aug 2023 - Dec 2023: Prepare and submit Grant applications, once the mapping is completed no update

Aug 2023 - March 2024: Prepare and submit Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Permit applications once the mapping is completed no update

July/Aug - Sept 2024: Deploy mitigation measures (must be outside of fish spawning season - more info to follow) no update - more information is still to follow as the mitigation measures are an evolving topic, given:

1. that the US Environmental Protection Agency approved products for eradicating Milfoil are currently subject to Health Canada approval (expected this Spring); and
2. that we do not have the mapping yet to fully quantify the area requiring treatment; to in turn inform the most feasible approach for Lake Mazinaw

We will continue to update MPOA members about the Eurasian Milfoil issue as our Action Plan continues to evolve over the coming season. Volunteers are welcome, in particular, to go through our current known grant list and create a schedule of grant application deadlines and the expected funds.

3.0 Lake Water Monitoring Status

There are 3 Lake Monitoring streams for Lake Mazinaw as follows:

1. Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) Monitoring (phosphorus, oxygen levels, temperature):
 - a. The MVCA 2021 Integrated Monitoring Report is available for public review and may be accessed [here](#). They will continue with their long term Lake Monitoring program this year, which includes:
 - i. Phosphorus levels in all zones
 - ii. Dissolved Oxygen levels; and
 - iii. temp profiles which affect lake trout habitat
 - b. Results will be shared when available.

2. MPOA Monitoring (zebra mussels):
 - a. Our Lake Steward enrolled Lake Mazinaw into the IsampleON Invasive Species Awareness and Monitoring Program for Lakes Education Ontario; (brought to us by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations and the Invasive Species Centre). The results were negative, however, it cannot be overemphasized that a negative result is NOT a guarantee that zebra mussels, spiny waterflea and other invading species do not exist in the lake. Proper precautions should always be taken in order to prevent the potential spread of invading aquatic species.

3. Community Science Monitoring (phosphorus):
 - a. Our Blue Lakes Committee Member and former Lake Steward of 10 years, Vern Haggerty, has been monitoring the Phosphorus levels in the lake and raising concerns about his findings and its potential correlation with the Eurasian Milfoil, with various levels of government and the MVCA, throughout the last year. Read more on the following pages to learn more about Vern's efforts, and how you can help.

4.0 Shoreline Health, Habitat Conservation and Biodiversity

The following free programs are available for property owners:

- 1) The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) Shoreline Naturalization Program
 - a) Provides FREE planting advice and recommendations for a healthy shoreline. Example shoreline planting plan [here](#). Shoreline naturalization has many benefits including; erosion protection, habitat and water quality enhancement. To get started, click [here](#)
- 2) Watershed Canada Natural Edge Program

- a) Provides a FREE custom plan suited to your shoreline and your aesthetics. Watershed Canada visits your site and works with you to create a custom plan suited to your shoreline and your aesthetics. Plants go in the ground in the Spring or Fall. They work with sponsors to subsidize the costs! Their shoreline plans are designed to need minimal maintenance. Over the next few years, you'll see your shoreline transform! Click [here](#) to get started!
- 3) The MPOA 'Monarch Butterfly Milkweed Way' Program (new initiative - in progress)
 - a) The Board is exploring a FREE Monarch Habitat program, which seeks to secure free Milkweed seeds for property owners to plant either roadside or anywhere sunny on their property! Milkweed is the only source of food and sustenance for monarch caterpillars; and is a rest stop and nectar for butterflies. This is the only plant monarchs will lay their eggs on. Monarchs have been declining by alarming rates since the 90's. but they're critical pollinators, just like bees, and play a major role in preserving the Lake's ecosystem and biodiversity by virtue of their role in the eco-chain. Providing seeds to property owners is a 'SMART' goal for our lake, as defined by the Blue Lakes Program (write up above) and meets our Board mandate to promote and protect the health of the Lake. More on this to come, standby!

Eurasian Milfoil & Phosphorus... A Bad Combination!

By Vern Haggerty

As a past board member and Lake Steward for 10+ years, Vern continues to monitor the phosphorus levels in Mazinaw. Phosphorus is introduced naturally in our water from Mother Nature. Decaying leaves and weeds are an example. However, human activity such as the use of fertilizers and deficient septic systems are other ways phosphorus is introduced into our lake. Increased phosphorus levels increase weed growth. As the weeds die off and decompose each fall, they increase phosphorus and deplete dissolved oxygen ... a deadly combination.

Target levels for oligotrophic or lake trout lakes, like ours, is 10 ug/l phosphorus. Upon receipt of the Mississippi Conservation Authority (MVCA) 2019 sampling report, Vern was told by the authors of the report that the high levels were not yet a trend. Upon receipt of the MVCA 2021 sampling report; which demonstrated (for the first time) the larger upper basin exceeding the target of 10 ug/l, Vern was told that these results were just an outlier. His response... *THEN WHERE THE H...E... (DOUBLE HOCKEY STICKS) ARE ALL THE WEEDS COMING FROM!*

It was from this discussion that photos were taken and significant outbreaks of the invasive species Eurasian Milfoil were discovered. The link below is a copy of Vern's letter of August 15th 2022 to the Mississippi Conservation Authority (MVCA) and local municipal officials:

[Letter to the MVCA](#)

For convenience, here are the actual phosphorus readings referenced in the above letter:

Year	Euphotic Zone			Bottom Samples		
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall
2021	5	29	15	2	10	6
2019	5	8	14	4	14	16
2017	7	17	8	15	15	11
2016	36	2	5	20.5	4	4
2013			9.32			20.5
2008			9			14.05
2003			4.09			4.09
1998			7.7			10.95
1971			9			n/a

This correspondence evolved into Vern joining the Board's newly formed Blue Lakes Committee; a sub-committee of the MPOA (detailed above); which, among other things, is responsible for the draft Action Plan as to how to tackle this invasive species (detailed in S.2.0 above). Members include Kelly Stiles

of the MVCA, Clark Richards the Bon Echo Park Superintendent, the MPOA President, and two Board members who are past and/or current Lake Stewards.

Currently, the largest known outbreak of Eurasian Milfoil is located in front of the Bon Echo beaches on the south lake. The Milfoil extends from the southerly most end of the south beach north to Bon Echo Creek. It then turns east towards the narrows. Unless something is done it won't be long before the community has to find another area to host swimming lessons. Eurasian Milfoil can become so thick that not even fish can swim through it.

As boat traffic can cause the weeds to fragment and spread, the current plan is to mark them with yellow cautionary markers. As the weeds are at their peak in August and September, the next phase will be establishing a baseline mapping of where the Eurasian Milfoil is located. Mapping will allow us to show where the weeds are and assist us in applying for grants to reverse this unhealthy trend.

What can you do?

A) Learn how to identify Eurasian Milfoil.



- B) If you have Eurasian Milfoil in front of your property, try having a 'Rake the Lake' day. **You must remove the weeds by their roots** and **capture all plant fragments**, disposing of them on shore above the high-water mark. Breaking them off above the roots and/or leaving them to float to the bottom of the lake bed will only exacerbate the problem as they can segregate and re-establish themselves in another location.
- C) **Volunteer.** Currently we need fisherpersons or other cottagers who know where the weed beds are. If you can help, reach out to Vern by phone at **613-661-4711** or email **Vern.Haggerty@gmail.com**.
- D) We are also in need of persons with an interest or background in GIS (Global Information Systems) Environmental Studies and Grant Applications. If interested please send a note to

communications@lakemazinaw.ca. This management plan may be an excellent project for a Student Thesis or Technical Report.

- E) **Lobby your municipal politicians.** Request that they support mandatory septic inspections. Deficient septic systems are known to increase water phosphorus. Ask them to explain what best practices they recommend to reverse this unhealthy trend. Our neighbor to the south, Central Frontenac, has a mandatory septic system inspection program. They are starting with Lake Trout Lakes first and then expanding it to include villages and hamlets as well. The concern in villages and hamlets is that deficient septic systems can pollute neighborhood well water.

Remember, No one has the right to pollute everyone's water.

Membership Update

By Ian Philips

Membership and the Lake Directory

Coming out of the 2022-23 winter, things on the membership front have been much quieter compared to the winter of 2021-22. The winter of 2021-22 was when the 2022 lake directory was being produced. This entailed an all-new layout of the membership data and totally new maps all enclosed in beautiful front and back cover art. It was a lot of work, but the end result was worth it.

Summer 2022 was a challenge to distribute the lake directories. Your President, Amy Fraser, and I tried handing them out from our respective properties on the upper and lower lake. Our Past-President, Bob Reid, hand delivered many on the lower lake east shore. Fortunately, both Smart's Marina and Brown's handed out lots of directories to paid-up members.

Last summer, we were contacted by the OPP, who told us about one time when they had been working with the EMTs. The EMTs had a paper copy of the lake directory, and it had proved invaluable to the OPP, so they asked for their own copies. Therefore I created watermarked PDF copies of the Lake Directory and emailed them to the EMTs, the OPP and the townships. I continued to email newer versions to them as updates were made.

I am keeping the lake directory up-to-date with the membership database. This means that the next time we decide to issue a new version, it will be a simple task of getting them printed.

With respect to our membership numbers, they really don't change much year to year. We did however grow it by almost 10% in 2021, in no small part due to the personal soliciting done by volunteers. The total number of properties in the lake directory is 374, including 18 properties north of Addington Road 5 on the Mississippi River and Highway 41. Our membership number for last year was 216, which represents 58% of the lake properties. I consider that pretty good representation. With respect to turnover, about a dozen or so properties change hands annually.

Membership Numbers:

2022	216	<- lake directory year
2021	234	
2020	202	
2019	203	
2018	215	<- lake directory year

Payment Methods

Our preferred payment method is e-transfer. Almost 70% of our dues payments are paid this way. The rest is made up by cash payments, usually at Smart's. (There are still a few who pay using cheques.)

Property Distribution

Of the 374 properties in the directory, the split between the upper and lower lake is:

Upper Mazinaw	257
Lower Mazinaw	117

The split of road access vs water-only-access (WOA) is:

Road access	271
Water only access	103

The counties split the properties as follows:

Addington Highlands	205
North Frontenac	169

The numbers for the Upper Mazinaw and Addington Highlands include 18 properties on the Mississippi River and Hwy 41 north of Addington Road 5 as seen on Map A of the directory.

Mazinaw Memories

Video created by the Cloyne and District Historical Society



In the video at the link below, released in March of this year, Jim Smart shares his experiences and reflects on his time with Camp Mazinaw, which was a camp for boys operating just south of Bon Echo Park from 1940 to 1986. It's also a rich first-person history of the lake starting in 1939. Enjoy!

[Memories of Camp Mazinaw - And Interview with Jim Smart](#)

And here is a bonus video purporting to show Camp Mazinaw in 1931. It's also brought to you by the Cloyne and District Historical Society. This video has been on our MPOA website, but if you haven't seen it it's fun to watch. Since we believe the Boy's camp referenced above wasn't operating at that time, this may or may not have been a different camp, but it's 100% for certain on Lake Mazinaw.

If you look closely, you'll realize some of the participants in this video are using nothing but the bathing suit they were born with. Don't worry, the video quality is typical of the time period and would pass with a PG rating.

[Camp Mazinaw - 1931](#)

Volunteer Corner

By Amy Fraser

The MPOA is always seeking volunteers. Right now there are several initiatives related to the Eurasian Milfoil work that require a team of volunteers at different points of time during the season with various skill sets.

Want to help out? Add your name to our brand-new Volunteer List! This is not a commitment; adding your name simply means you may be approached as needs arise, and if you have the time and inclination, great! Areas where volunteers are needed may include aerial drone work, grant writing, weed-pulling, and seed-planting.

[Join our Volunteer List](#)

In addition, there are several vacancies coming up on the MPOA board. Please reach out for additional information if you may be interested in the vacant Board roles, or in volunteering in general. Email communications@lakemazinaw.ca to learn more about each role.

This is the right time to say THANK YOU to Ian Philips, Director of Membership, for his years spent managing memberships, dues fees, and for creating and publishing our updated directory.

Also THANK YOU to John Campbell, currently our FOCA representative, who has been involved in many initiatives over his long years of service to the Lake. Both the Director of Membership, and FOCA Representative positions will be open in spring.

Facebook

Finally, no newsletter via email would be complete without an invitation to join the MPOA's online Facebook Group. This is where up-to-the-minute news is shared from member to member. Someone's cottage broken into? The Facebook page will break the story first!

Create a free account, and request to 'Join Group'.

Remember to ANSWER THE QUESTIONS about where your property is on Mazinaw, and if you invite someone, it's best to send a note to Joanne McRae (administrator) through Facebook Messenger stating why you invited them and their relationship to the lake. (This is a screening process to weed out businesses who just want to advertise).

[MPOA Facebook Group](#)

Board of Directors

By Amy Fraser

President.....Amy Fraser
Vice PresidentTBD
TreasurerGillian Van Kempen
Secretary.....Jeanette Wilson
Membership Director.....Ian Philips - soon to move on, so TBD
Communications DirectorJoanne McRae
WebmasterJoanne McRae
Facebook AdminAmy Fraser/Joanne McRae
Lake Steward.....Hilary Vaillancourt
FOCA Representative *1John Campbell - soon to move on, so TBD
NFLAA Representative *2 John Campbell - soon to move on, so TBD

Your input to the board and membership in the MPOA is valuable. Should you have any issues that you feel the MPOA should address, please communicate these to communications@lakemazinaw.ca.

Stay safe and enjoy the coming of spring.

Sincerely,

Amy Fraser

Amy Fraser

President, MPOA