

# *Talpines*

## *Property Owners Association*

### *Newsletter*

June

2014

**Finally** it is starting to look like Spring again. Most weather specialists agree the season is about 3 weeks behind normal. It was really great to see open water again in Sturgeon Bay April 24<sup>th</sup> although even Hogg Bay at Victoria Harbour was still ice bound! In fact, the Coast Guard Ice Breakers were due to clear a channel from Collingwood to Midland the next week. Until we see warmer temperatures, it will be difficult to get into the summer mode! The water does appear to be closer to near normal levels so far this year.



**Yes**, our Newsletter is early this time as we are combining the notice for our Annual General Meeting with the Newsletter. Although it is still a month away, (Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>) there are several Constitutional Amendments being presented that require our members to receive in advance, and for those still receiving our correspondence by Canada Post, this helps us keep down our expenses.

**Water Levels** on the Great Lakes have improved somewhat this winter thanks to the large over all ice cover hampering evaporation and the abundant snow fall. Environment Canada posted in their Great Lakes Level News that at the beginning of April, Georgian Bay-Lake Huron was roughly 13 inches higher than last year at that same time. They are however still some 14 inches below the overall average level for April.

**Tay Shore Trail** was opened for another year about April 20<sup>th</sup>. The winter gates were down & the sweepers were busy on the Trail when I was up April 24<sup>th</sup>. There were a number of cyclists already riding it after the long winter.

**Several Corrections** are in order from the March Newsletter. Firstly, I apologize to Santa Claus for adding an “e” to his last name! I also miss copied the subject of the guest speaker Mr. Vince Ewing from the MNR at the FOCA Annual Meeting. He spoke to the gathering concerning the values of Water Quantity Management and not “Quality” as I had mentioned.

**Election Fever** is heating up! The Province goes to the Polls June 12<sup>th</sup>. Exercise your Democratic Right and Vote! You only get to vote at your permanent residence Poll.

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**Municipal Elections** take place October 27<sup>th</sup>. As a property owner in Tay, you may also vote in the Tay Municipal Election as well as in your home residential municipality. This year, Tay has opted for the “Mail In” method rather than holding an Advance Poll and separate Election Day Polls. There will be 1 Poll Election Day at the Municipal Office for those who have trouble understanding the system or who haven’t mailed their votes in before the dead line.

Again, *Exercise your Democratic Right and Vote!* We need better returns than the past couple years when only in the 25% range cast a vote in the Tay Municipal Election.

**Road Work** has started in Tay to complete the Bridge renewal that was started last year at the Sturgeon River on Highway 12. Again, it is only 1 lane traffic in this area. As well, Bridge repair work is underway at the Hogg River on Highway 12 just past Victoria Harbour. I understand this is minor detours rather than lane closures. It also appears (by the construction signs) the Province is getting ready to possibly re-surface highway 12 this summer.

**Pine Street Beach** should benefit this year as the regulations concerning cleaning up beach areas have changed. Most significant is the ability to use machinery within reason to clear weeds and debris and the removal of requiring a permit to restore historical beaches. These changes in policy were announced this past winter as the upper levels of Government moved to reduce the work load (& possibly cut back some of the staffing) of the Oceans & Fisheries, Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Natural Resources. It would be great to see this natural & historic beach regain its original appeal for families with young children & tourists in general.

**Be Sure** to tune in to TVO June 25<sup>th</sup> as the “Giver Program” airs last years’ make-over of the “Saw Mill Play Ground” at Veterans Park in Waubaushene. Although the weather left a lot to be desired, Waubaushene parents and kids did an admirable job of revitalizing the play ground. I expect their enthusiasm went a long way in convincing the “Giver Program” to come back this summer to refurbish the “Fire Hall Playground” in Victoria Harbour!

**Water Testing** – we will begin sampling the Bay water along our Sturgeon Bay shoreline again this year in late June, July & August. We expect to do comparison sampling on the west shore again ... all for recreational purposes and have the samples analyzed at the Lab in Orillia. Again, we will forward the results to our members as soon as we receive them. Our Directors also moved a motion at our May 3<sup>rd</sup> Directors Meeting that we sample the Albin Road Spring once in June, July & August this summer.

**A reminder**, FOCA only sends their newsletter (Elert) by e-mail to its Association members. If you change your e-mail address, be sure to let us know so we can pass it on & keep you up to date. Their experience with Associations in Ontario (and the 50,000 members) has proven very helpful to us the past couple years. Don’t forget to take advantage of the product discounts offered to us by the FOCA Sponsors.

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**Memberships** are now due for our 2014 fiscal year (April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>). Remember, you must be a member in good standing to vote on the issues or make motions at the Annual General Meeting. Your \$30.00 membership provides our Quarterly Newsletters, Water Sample Analyzing & Results, occasional special notices, membership with FOCA and all General Meeting Notices with the opportunity to move motions and vote on all Talpines issues. We are also part of the Tay Residents Group and have periodic meetings with the Mayor and CAO of Tay to discuss issues pertaining to all things Tay.

**Our Lake Partnership Program** with the Ministry of Natural Resources and through the assistance of FOCA, is once again being looked after by member Peter Davis for Sturgeon Bay. It is a wee bit different from many programs in that it is more of a comparison year to year within the Lake itself. There appears to be no good or bad readings, just better or poorer readings (change) than other years concerning Phosphorus and Water Clarity.

**The Directors** of Talpines Property Owners Association are discussing holding a late August or early September Information Meeting to bring together all those candidates whom our Ward 3 residents can vote for in the Municipal Election. It appears at present, our Ward may not even get to vote as there must be 2 running for Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Ward 3 Councillor. It will be hard to practise the principles of Democracy if one does not have a choice! It was thought we could also have another presentation on “Mail-In Voting” in conjunction with this event for all our friends and neighbours in Ward 3.

**Don't Forget** to make sure you are on the 2014 Tay Voters List as it is the only way you will receive the Voting Kit for the Municipal Election. Check to find out by going to the Tay website ( [www.tay.ca](http://www.tay.ca) ) and click on the line in blue print across the top of the page then follow the instructions.

**Notice for our Annual Meeting is on Page 4.**

**Contact us:** e-mail: [talpines@sympatico.ca](mailto:talpines@sympatico.ca)

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### **Directors**

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*NOTICE OF THE*

*Talpines Property Owners Association*

*16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting*

*June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 9:30 am*

*At the*

*Branch 316 Royal Canadian Legion Hall*

*Willow Street, Waubaushene, Ontario*

(Doors open at 9:00 am for Registration & Socializing)

*Guest Speaker*

*Alison Thomas, Clerk for Tay Township*

*Discussing & Demonstrating the Vote By Mail Process  
Being used for the 2014 Municipal Election in Tay*

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*Agenda*

*Call to Order*

*Guest Speaker*

*Minutes of the 2013 AGM*

*Treasurers Report*

*Year End Report*

*Vote: Acceptance of 2013 activities*

*Old Business*

*New Business (including 2 proposed*

*Constitution Amendments from Directors)*

*Plus Other*

*Nominations & Election of Directors*

*Draw for 1 Free Membership for 2015*

*Adjourn*

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