



THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Monday, April 10, 2017
6:30 PM
The LINK

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF
6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Pages 1 - 4

- (1) Minutes of the GWAC meeting held on March 13, 2017.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS
8. PRESENTATIONS

Pages 5 - 37

- (1) John Barker, Suction Dredging presentation

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA
10. COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Council resolution regarding recommendation for joint resolution to discuss with Parks Canada and the Ministry of Natural Resources the control of lake levels (from the March 22nd Council meeting).

RESOLUTION NO. C-2017-0144

That correspondence from the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee recommending Town Council, the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority submit a joint resolution to Parks Canada and the Ministry of Natural Resources to discuss the control of lake levels be received and referred to the Chief Administrative Officer's office for a draft resolution to be submitted to Council for consideration for dissemination to Parks Canada and to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Page 38

- (1) Save the Maskinonge presentation request

Page 39

- (2) Jackson's Point redevelopment article, published by the Toronto Star.

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

- (1) Motion to Adjourn

Next meeting: April 10, 6:30 PM, the LINK



THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, March 13, 2017
6:30 PM
The LINK

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair
David Goldstein, Vice Chair
Mayor Margaret Quirk (Ex-Officio)
Councillor Dan Fellini
Jerry Kucharchuk
Michele Potter
Natasha Charles
Scott Davidson

The following presenter was in attendance

Zach Goldman, York Regional Police
Joe Willmets, York Regional Police

The following staff members were present:

Sarah Brislin, Committee Services Coordinator

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

(1) Ports and Cruising Guide review of Michele Potter's suggestions

(1) Permits for Suction Dredging

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Michele Potter, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0013

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee approve the March 13, 2017, agenda with the following addendum items

1. Ports and Cruising Guide review of Michele Potter's suggestions
2. Permits for Suction Dredging

Carried.

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF – *None*.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

(1) Minutes of the GWAC meeting held on February 13, 2017.

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Michele Potter

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0014

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee adopt the meeting minutes of February 13, 2017.

Carried.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS - *None*

8. PRESENTATIONS

(1) Zach Goldman and Joe Willmets York Region Police, Marine Unit

The officers from the Marine unit, Zach Goldman and Joe Willmets, presented regarding the role of the Marine unit, the water bodies they cover and the vessels they use.

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA - *None*

10. COMMUNICATIONS - *None*

11. OTHER BUSINESS

(2) Permits for Suction Dredging

The Mayor advised a group of citizens has acquired 3 permits for suction dredging test sites in the Virginia Beach area in July. They would be able to attend the next meeting to present regarding this project.

Moved by Mayor Margaret Quirk, seconded by Councillor Dan Fellini

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0015

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee invite resident John Barker present at the next meeting regarding the permits for suction dredging at the next Committee meeting.

Carried.

(3) Ports and Cruising guide

The committee reviewed the Ports and Cruising guides the following suggestions were discussed:

- Pepperlaw Brook should be referred to as the Pepperlaw River.
- Add De La Salle Beach and Franklin Beach
- Suggestions – send to the BIA, Chamber of Commerce and Georgina Chippewas for input

Moved by Councillor Dan Fellini, Seconded by Natasha Charles

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0016

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the Ports and Cruising guide and send to the BIAs, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation and chamber for further input as to the content that should be included and removed in the Ports and Cruising Guide

Carried.

Pages

(4) Brainstorming Session

- A. Speaker(s) to invite to next meeting
- B. Public Information Session

The Committee suggested inviting the following presenters:

1. Ministry of Natural Resources (May meeting)
 2. Save the Maskinonge Group (May or June).
 3. LSRCA – regarding permits (Before the summer break)
 4. Department of Fisheries and Oceans (June)
12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED
13. MOTION TO ADJOURN
- (1) Motion to Adjourn

Next meeting: April 10, 6:30 PM, the LINK

Moved by Scott Davidson, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0017

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee March 13, 2017, meeting be adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Carried.

Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair

C. Sarah A. Brislin, Committee
Services Coordinator

DIY Aquatic Weed Removal

- *Why*
- *Issues*
- *Who Else*
- *Our Thoughts*

Credits...

Google is a tremendous source of information on Lake Simcoe
And Aquatic Plant concerns in North America.
Contents of this presentation are examples of information readily available.



Why we are doing this...

2013



2016



Changes in 3 years...

2013



2016



Health of our family & pets...

2013



2016





Why in only certain areas...

- Clarity & depth of the water
- Early drawdown allows sunlight to reach plants during key growing period
- Soft lake bottom full of rich nutrients (sediment) allows plants to grab hold and flourish
- Wave action in protected regions of the lake is reduced so ideal area for plant growth
- Invasive plants that fragment with boat activity
- No removal of decaying weed matter

Sediment

Depending on the size of the particles in suspension, sedimentation may be prominent for some distance from the mouth. This sedimentation process has allowed a rich soft substrate to accumulate, thus enhancing conditions for weeds.

Each season as weeds die more organic matter is contributed to the substrate and nutrients made available for plant growth.

LSRCA states decaying weeds are landowner responsibility to remove.



The background of the slide is a solid blue color with a gradient. At the top, there are several wavy, horizontal lines in shades of light blue and cyan, creating a sense of movement or a horizon line. The word "Issues..." is written in a large, white, serif font on the left side of the slide.

Issues...

Aquatic plant management...

- **Plant harvesting:** ▫ No removal of roots ▫ Cut off at top or scoop off surface (equivalent to mowing or raking a lawn) ▫ Plants are spread by fragmentation and wind



Aquatic plant management...

- **Herbicides**: don't treat underlying problem! - Nutrients are used by toxic algae or resistant plants! - Invasive starry stonewort is resistant
- There is an upside to starry stonewort. It quickly chokes out eurasian milfoil and everything else. It also clears up the water like zebra mussels. The thing is, starry stonewort chokes out just about everything and squeezes large fish bedding areas. It is not a good weed to have in your lake...not at all.



An Aggressive Invasive Species:

Starry Stonewort

"There's a problem there, and it's just not the people that live on the lake — it's not just their problem. It's everybody's problem. I would say that 50 percent of the people or more that use the lake don't actually live on the lake. And if it comes to the point where we can't boat, we can't do recreational things out on the lake, we're all going to suffer."

<https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/starry-stonewort>

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/08/31/dnr-aggressive-approach-on-invasive-starry-stonewort>

<http://fox6now.com/2015/07/05/starry-stonewort-algae-an-invasive-species-that-spreads-fast-its-the-start-of-the-death-of-a-lake/>

<http://minnesotawaters.org/whitefishareapropertyowners/starry-stonewort/>

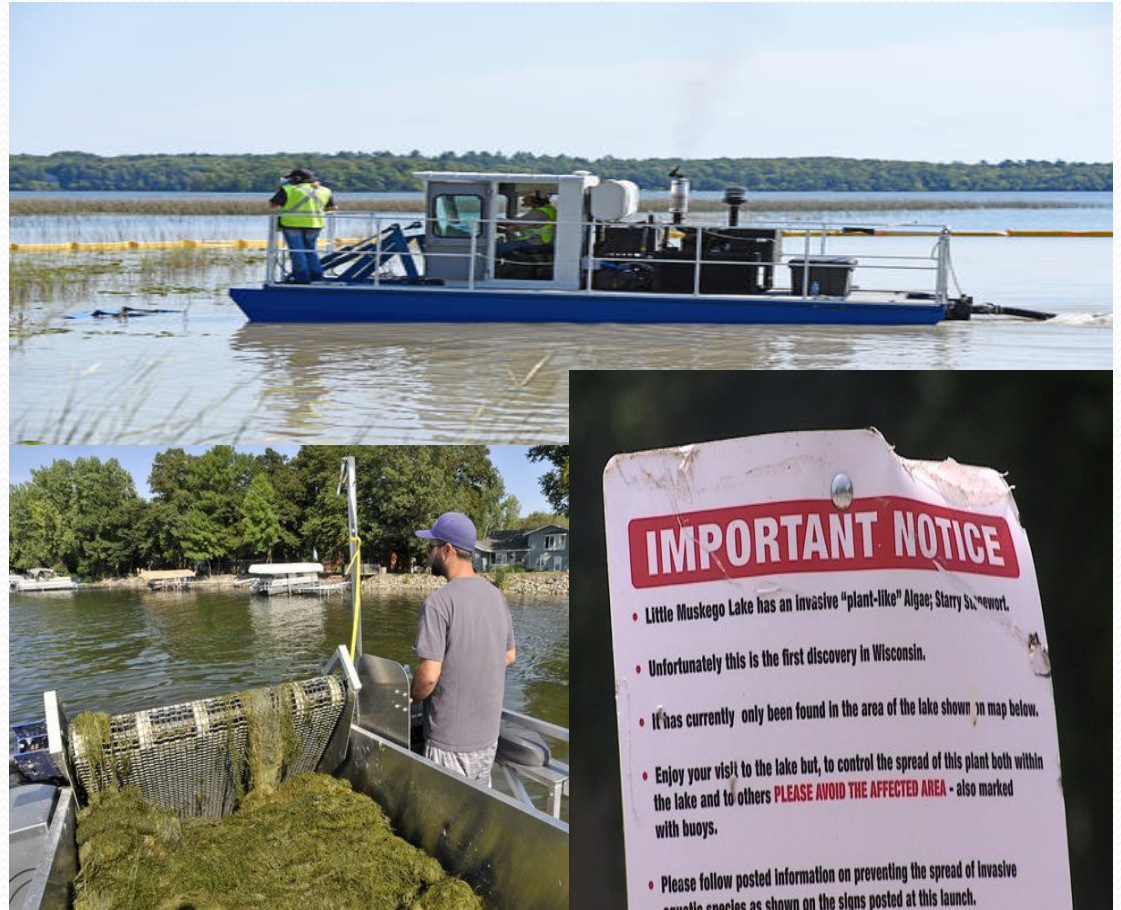


Starry Stonewort Facts...

- Starry stonewort is actually an algae and not a type of rooted vegetation. It forms a dense “carpet” that grows from the bottom up. Most forms of vegetation in a lake provide vertical structure and habitat for many species of fish. Starry stonewort, however, grows so dense that it doesn’t allow fish to swim, hunt or seek refuge in it. It restricts spawning habitat for many species and doesn’t provide any habitat for young-of-year fish to avoid predators.
- It’s capable of growing 7 feet tall and all the way to the surface in some areas, completely crowding out the water column. In lakes where it has really taken hold, you will find nothing but acres and acres of bottom covered in stonewort. This is not really the monoculture of vegetation that makes a healthy ecosystem.
- From what has been observed, the overuse of chemicals is the main factor that gave the starry stonewort its opportunity to take such a strong hold in so many lakes. It seems it is a lot easier to outcompete other forms of vegetation when there is no vegetation to compete with. Harvesting starry stonewort is another possible method. But since it can be so prevalent and also spreads via fragmentation, it has not proven to be a good form of control.
- Preventing the spread of this plant is something that needs to be of high priority to every fisherman or boater. If you don’t have it, you definitely don’t want it.

Starry Stonewort Management...

- Vacuuming' Turtle Lake: DNR begins operation to suck out starry stonewort infestation
- The rootless, grasslike aquatic invasive starry stonewort piles up in the back of the Eco Harvester.
- Buoys mark a net that keeps broken bits of the macro alga from floating away and potentially starting another growth.
- Signs posted to warn boaters to stay away from infected areas.
- Some lakes have actually closed ramps to try to stop the spread to other lakes or installed wash stations to clean boats and trailers



IMPORTANT NOTICE

- Little Muskego Lake has an invasive "plant-like" Algae; Starry Stonewort.
- Unfortunately this is the first discovery in Wisconsin.
- It has currently only been found in the area of the lake shown on map below.
- Enjoy your visit to the lake but, to control the spread of this plant both within the lake and to others **PLEASE AVOID THE AFFECTED AREA** - also marked with buoys.
- Please follow posted information on preventing the spread of invasive aquatic species as shown on the signs posted at this launch.

Lagoon City

He explained that in order to manage aquatic plants, the underlying issues must be managed as well.

Harvesting or removing plants is restricted by DFO and MNRF as the plants provide habitat for fish. Harvesting aquatic plants usually causes them to spread, and using herbicides to kill the plants can allow other plants such as algae to fill the void. In Ramara, treatment of the Lagoon City canals to kill all the aquatic plants resulted in a massive bloom of Cyanobacteria (blue green algae), which is toxic.



Who Else is Doing What...

Kawartha's (37 pages)



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority



The Canal and Mitchell Lakes, Talbot River, and Whites Creek Subwatershed Plan

Implementation Plan: 2016 - 2021



Kawartha's...

Points of Interest...

- Address local shoreline residents concerns that prolific aquatic plants are deteriorating the quality of their lakes with respect to lake recreation, personal enjoyment, and other key values
- Pilot several small-scale techniques for aquatic plant control
- Remove accumulated aquatic vegetation that has washed-up along shoreline and dispose of as compost either on private properties or at municipal landfills free of charge
- Consider the feasibility of undertaking a coordinated approach to reducing aquatic vegetation to improve access for shoreline residents, which may include dredging
- Host workshop for conservation authority staff, farm community, drainage superintendents, and drainage contractors on managing ecosystem function in municipal drains

Georgina, Fox & Snake Islands (206 pages)

The Georgina, Fox and Snake Islands Subwatershed Plan

2017



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority



Georgina, Fox & Snake Islands...

Points of Interest

- LSRCA reported Three submerged aquatic plant species in Lake Simcoe are invasive: Eurasian watermilfoil first reported in 1984; curly-leafed pondweed also reported in 1984, and starry stonewort first recorded in 2009.
- In addition, the plant community, and ecological benefits to the warmwater fish community, may be threatened by the spread of more resilient invasive species, such as starry stonewort.
- Recommendations include developing and enforcing bylaws around site clearing and sediment and erosion control measures; Creating and Implementing a Management and Removal Plan for invasive species
- Aquatic plant surveys undertaken by LSRCA in 2008 and 2013 showed a doubling in plant biomass off of Georgina Island
- The lake nearshore community around the Georgina, Fox and Snake Islands subwatershed have been identified as an area with some of the highest plant biomass in Lake Simcoe. Sediment phosphorus concentrations are approximately 0.9 mg/g, with the highest concentrations being found southwest of Georgina Island.

Farlain Lake (2014)

TINY TOWNSHIP – Green, feather-like plants have invaded north Simcoe, threading their way through part of Farlain Lake in Tiny Township.

Before they grow big enough to destroy the lake's ecology or hamper residents' water recreation, the Farlain Lake Community Association is stepping in to stop the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil.

Volunteers and contracted commercial divers will hand harvest the aquatic plant this weekend on the west side of the lake off Awenda Park Road.

They will carefully pick out the plants' root balls so they do not break apart and spread throughout the lake, said association president Doug Kirk. The plants will be dried on land and later burned.

"If left unchecked, over the years it will spread," he said. "It's serious and it's more widespread than generally known."

According to the Ministry of Natural Resources, the plant can essentially choke out other aquatic life by reducing oxygen levels in the water, yet make an ideal habitat for mosquitoes in stagnant water. Thick strands can also hinder swimming, boating and fishing.

He said the provincial government is "behind the 8-ball" on managing invasive aquatic plant life, and this will be the first time in Ontario that Eurasian watermilfoil will be harvested in an organized fashion.

Members of the community donated nearly \$5,000 for the cost of the plant's removal this weekend. The Township of Tiny contributed \$5,000 for the hand harvesting and for follow-up monitoring during the next three years.

<http://www.simcoe.com/news-story/4620875-divers-to-weed-out-invasive-plant-in-farlain-lake/>



MNRF Meeting...

It was time to see what we could do

Test Site

Time was spent with the MNRF showing photographic evidence of the rapid change to Pefferlaw lakefront communities.

Also shown to the MNRF was a means we believe will assist, be it in a small way, to help restore resident usage, navigation, tourism and the health of the lake.

They have granted permits for tests to 2 private residences and a community park in the middle.





Objectives...

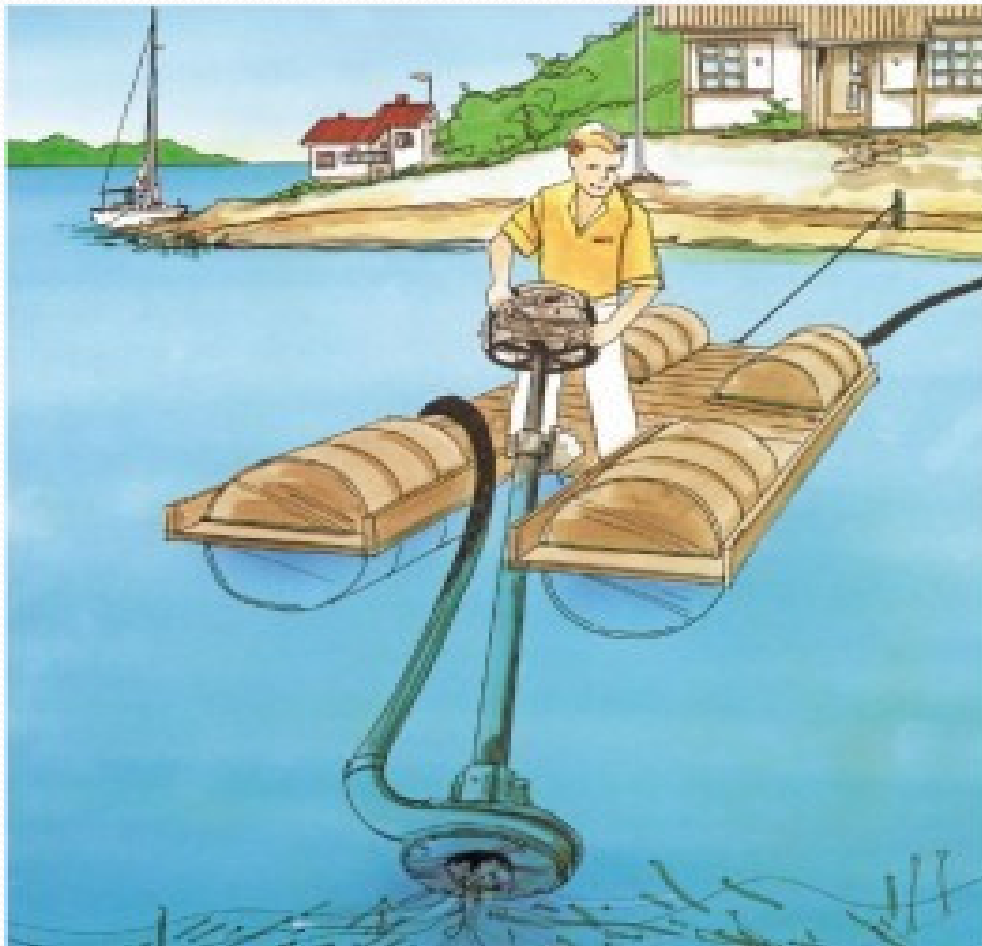
- Show the MNRF this method has little environmental impact
- Allow lakefront homeowners a chance to use their waterfront again
- Improve navigation in rivers and creeks
- Assist with removal of Invasive Plants when called upon by government bodies if required



Target...

- Remove aquatic vegetation using a pin point method vs a strip mining method
- Remove loose nutrient rich sediment
- Remove decaying organic matter
- Remove shoreline build up of weeds at end of season
- Recycle materials collected

Portable Boat Mounted Dredge System



Equipment



The Unit...





Theory...

- Our idea of a portable boat mounted suction dredger is particularly effective in removing silt, and weed growth that ruins the waterfront and prevents one from enjoying the waterfront and costs thousands to hire 3rd party companies to remove.
- The unique design of the Dredge allows you to hover the pump over the bottom which makes it very efficient. The centrifugal pump is equipped with a mill that effectively grinds down the roots of reeds and other seaweeds. The mixture can be pumped up to 450 feet and is excellent for your garden.
- If you are cleaning a modest area, such as lakefront beach area, a dock or boat slip, you can expect to get the job done relatively quickly.
- Shaft length options include: 4' - 5' - 6' - 10' and are easily interchangeable so various water depths can be managed.

Collection...

- Waste Bin in the park at the top of a slight declining 20 foot slope down to lake
- Discharge hose secured into waste bin
- Doors slightly ajar to allow water to flow back to the lake
- Doors and opening covered in layers of filter cloth
- Two additional filter cloth barriers on 20 foot slope to waters edge
- Final barrier a containment berm to collect any petroleum by-product that may be present



Disposal...

- Local Peat Moss supplier is anxiously waiting for the first load to assess the material.
- His thoughts are the organic matter and rich sediment mixed with current inventory would be a marketable by-product once stored and inert.
- If all works out well he will take all we can deliver.

No landfill...



Invasive Aquatic Plants

Shown to the right are just 4 examples of invasive plants in lake Simcoe.

- Eurasian water-milfoil
- Water Soldier
- European Frog-bit
- Invasive starry stonewort

<http://www.invadingspecies.com/>





Summary...

- We are not making the lake a swimming pool
- We hope others take notice of the effort by residents and what can be achieved
- We stopped complaining and are doing something
- We hope the MNRF approves the method at this scale for other applications

The background is a solid blue gradient. At the top, there are several wavy, horizontal lines in shades of light blue and cyan, creating a sense of movement or a horizon line.

It's not another study or report

We believe it's a solution...

Sarah Brislin

From: Brittany Ballagh <B.Ballagh@lsrca.on.ca>
Sent: March-20-17 11:01 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: RE: Save the Maskinonge request

Hi Sarah,

Thank you for your email and interest in having someone speak about MRRP. Unfortunately my contract as the lead for MRRP will be ending with the wrap-up of the Lake Simcoe South Eastern Georgian Bay Clean-up Fund funding we had to support the program. This funding ends as of March 31st 2017, and my contract with LSRCA is ending at the end of April, so I will not be able to commit to being the one to give the presentation. I will put this invitation out to my MRRP committee members to see if anyone would be willing to speak and I'll also advise my supervisor of this request to see if someone else here may be able to speak if my committee members are unavailable.

I'll be in touch again asap.

Kind Regards,

Brittany

Brittany Ballagh, B.A. Hon.

Maskinonge River Recovery Project, Stewardship Technician

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

120 Bayview Parkway,

Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 3W3

905-895-1281, ext. 326 | 1-800-465-0437

b.ballagh@LSRCA.on.ca | www.LSRCA.on.ca

Twitter: @LSRCA

Facebook: LakeSimcoeConservation

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From: Sarah Brislin [mailto:sbrislin@georgina.ca]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 9:53 AM
To: Brittany Ballagh
Subject: Save the Maskinonge request

Good morning,

The Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee is interested in having someone present regarding the efforts towards the Save the Maskinonge project. I was wondering if you or someone in the group would be able to present at either the May 8 or June 12 meeting.

Thank you.

C. Sarah A. Brislin, BA
Committee Services Coordinator

Sale of Jackson's Point marina prompts public concerns, \$90K harbour study

Heidi Riedner

Georgina Advocate | 19 hours ago

A \$90,000 Jackson's Point harbourfront redevelopment study commissioned by the town should address a number of concerns raised by area residents after the sale of Bonnie Boats to a commercial real estate holding company earlier this month.

"I feel like a mosquito in a nudist colony. I know what to do, but I don't know where to begin," Wayne Phillips told council last week on behalf of the Malone Road Residents Association.

He raised a number of concerns, including the fact the property would no longer operate as a marina and public boat launch site, the potential loss of Bonnie Park as a public park, unauthorized soil testing undertaken by the investment company on the town owned park and the likelihood the former marine property would remain fenced off like other "stalled" developments in the area.

"It seems there is a big disconnect when it comes to communication," he added. "This is a big deal for all of us here in this room and all the residents of Georgina. Moving forward, I encourage you to be open and honest and fully disclose."

Jackson's Point resident Larry Rudd agreed, saying he's "angry" regarding what he perceives to be a lack of full disclosure to date.

"You can't do things without talking to the people."

Town recreation and culture director Robin McDougall, however, said the town has full intent of engaging all stakeholders in the process and that soil testing performed at Bonnie Park three weeks ago by a company contracted by MSR Lalu Jackson's Point Inc. was unauthorized.

To prepare the town to be an informed approval authority with respect to future development applications, the town will retain The Planning Partnership to complete the technical component of the redevelopment plan.

In conjunction with the Ontario Water Centre, it will facilitate a public consultation process.

"We want to retain public access to the park and enjoyment of waterfront opportunities. That would be our goal throughout this process," McDougall said.

The plan will look at all aspects, including public interests, boating community, marine operations and park and waterfront improvements.

Heidi Riedner is a Reporter for the Georgina Advocate. She can be reached at HRiedner@yrmg.com . Follow her on [Twitter](#) and the [Georgina Advocate](#) on [Facebook](#)



Area residents have raised concerns after the sale of Bonnie Boats to a commercial real estate holding company earlier this month.