

Executive Summary

Five Year Review Report - Otty Lake Management Plan

“To protect and sustain the health of Otty Lake through the combined efforts of residents and users of the lake and its watershed, and of concerned community partners in government and non-government organizations.”

Vision Statement for Otty Lake Management Planning Process

Last year, the Otty Lake Association initiated a review of a long-term action plan it published in 2008, the *Otty Lake Management Plan*. The goal of this five year review was to take a fresh look at what had been accomplished to preserve and improve the lake and to identify areas which still need work. A key input for the review was an opinion survey conducted in 2013 among lake property owners about lake issues.

This summary presents a synopsis of the *Five Year Review Report - Otty Lake Management Plan*.

The purpose of the *Review Report* is to inform property owners and to encourage them to engage in practices that will improve the health of the lake and the surrounding area for both humans and wildlife.

The *Review Report* looks into eleven issues: aquatic vegetation and algae; boating; climate change; development pressure; fish and wildlife habitat; groundwater; partnerships; responsibility of land owners; shoreline protection; water levels; and water quality. For each issue, it includes accomplishments and recommendations.

In fall 2013, the Association surveyed the local community about its perspectives on those issues. It distributed approximately 500 surveys. 206 were returned. Property owners rank **water quality**, **aquatic vegetation and algae**, and **fish and wildlife habitat** as their top three concerns. The results of the survey clearly show that people on the lake understand that the issues are inter-related. For example, development pressure and the health of the shoreline have an impact on water quality. Many said that everyone in the community is responsible for ensuring Otty Lake is a healthy lake.

This is a forward-looking document. Like the original *Otty Lake Management Plan*, it is community-driven and identifies the shared role of lake property owners and community partners in protecting Otty Lake. Property owner education is a key priority for the Association. It works with provincial and local organizations in order to stay current and develops programs and events to educate residents about ways they can take lake-friendly action on their properties and on the water.

The *Review Report* contains a wealth of information and provides opportunities for everyone to contribute to making Otty Lake healthy and beautiful.

What you can do:

Read the Review Report at www.ottylakeassociation.ca Look under OL Mgmt Plan.

Volunteer with the Association by emailing ola@ottylakeassociation.ca

Protect your shoreline using the information in the “Love Your Lake” shoreline report for your specific property.