

## Draft Minutes

### **Otty Lake Association Annual General Meeting Royal Canadian Legion Perth, Ontario June 1, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

#### **Welcoming Remarks**

Kirsten Brouse (Chair) welcomed everyone, did a land acknowledgement and reviewed the agenda. Attendees received a coloured slip of paper for voting purposes upon registering. There was a quorum.

#### **Motion to Approve the Agenda**

Moved by Richard Doherty and seconded by Linda Struthers “that the agenda as presented and distributed be approved”.  
Motion Carried

#### **Motion to Approve Minutes from July 14, 2024 AGM**

Moved by Linda Struthers and seconded by Susan Murray “ that the minutes of the July 14, 2024 Otty Lake Association Annual General Meeting be approved.”  
Motion Carried

#### **OLA Business and Updates**

##### **Treasurer’s Report**

The Income Statement for 2024 and YTD Actuals as of June 1, 2025 were presented.

##### **Board of Directors**

Current Board of Directors present were asked to stand and be recognized. Chair expressed gratitude to all Board members for their work over the past year.

Linda Cuthbertson has resigned her position as secretary but has agreed to remain a director on the Board.

Kim Bolton and Charles Mojesj are newly welcomed Board approved members. Kim has agreed to be the Board treasurer.

Keith Desjardin has resigned from the Board. All of the other current Board members have agreed to serve again but there are some role changes. At this time there is no one in the secretary role.

### **Election of Directors**

Chair asked for nominations from the floor for any board roles or director positions, hearing none the election process was declared closed.

### **Motion to Approve Appointment of Directors**

Moved by David Murray and seconded by Reid Kilburn “ that the Board of Directors as presented be appointed”.

Motion Approved

### **Board of Directors**

President — Jen O’Donoughue

Past President — Kirsten Brouse

Vice President — Barb Hicks

Treasurer — Kim Bolton

Recording Secretary —

Director — Newsletter & Webmaster — Barb Hicks

Director — Membership — Susan Murray

Director — Membership — David Murray

Director — Nancy Lynn — Communications, Lake Ambassador Coordinator

Director — Linda Cuthbertson

Director — Cathy Kari

Director — Charles Mojsej

Director — Anne Scotton

### **OLA Activity Updates**

Board members spoke about OLA activities. Slides were used to illustrate information shared and show pictures of activities in action.

#### **Shoreline Planting Program**

This program is very popular with members. Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and OLA promote and help subsidize the cost of the plants.

#### **Paddle Power Activity**

This year’s event will be on Saturday, August 9th. Rain date is August 16th. There will be an email blast with information details and time.

### Wildlife Home Building Workshops

David and Susan Murray will be holding workshops in late July to build wildlife homes. David had sample homes on display at the AGM. Most of the materials have been generously donated. Members were encouraged to sign up.

### Water Quality Monitoring Program

An university student has been hired to digitize and consolidate our historical water quality data and determine what water sampling and monitoring OLA should be doing moving forward.

Monthly from May to October samples are taken from a fixed point in the deepest part of the lake. They test for water transparency, do nutrient sampling and create a vertical profile of temperature and dissolved oxygen. RVCA also monitor water levels using a gauge they installed. Summaries of all these results and other anecdotal observations are in the yearly State of the Lake Report on the OLA website.

### Shoal Marking Program

There are 16 markers in place. We are grateful for the work of volunteers who work in the the spring and fall to make our lake safer for boating.

### Love Your Lake Program

Individual reports are very comprehensive, provide educational information and options for improvement. We are all part of the lake's ecosystem.

### Lake Ambassador Program

Nancy Lynn and Heidi McKean coordinate the program. The lake residents are divided into 11 regions and ambassadors reach out to residents in their respective area. They are looking for volunteers for some areas. The ambassadors serve as a link providing board information to everyone living on the lake.

## **Municipal Partners**

### Drummond North Elmsley Township

Reeve Steve Fournier provided information and updates from DNE. He thanked and acknowledged the beneficial partnership with the OLA. He provided information and updates on budget expenses, new official plan, 37 new builds, 64 new septic systems, invasive wild parsnip species control, and use of stone dust in winter for roads.

### Tay Valley Township

Reeve Rob Rainer thanked the board and lake residents for their active participation in the lake association and its activities. The township has created a new hiking trail near the solar farm on Narrows Lake Road. Perth Community Care will be moving into a new home next to the current PCC building. TVT are looking at the use of commercial water systems for smaller community developments as opposed to using individual systems.

### Lanark County

The County has a Natural Heritage System Map and new aggregate resources masterplan. Better Homes Lanark enables more affordable and manageable energy refits.

### Audience Questions

There was a question directed to Rob Rainer about the controversial un-permitted causeway construction on Otty Lake. He was asked about TVT's involvement and Rob confirmed they were involved but he was unable to give further details.

A second question about noise pollution and fireworks was directed to both Reeves. They both agreed that it is very difficult for municipalities to track and enforce noise pollution bylaws. DNE does not have a noise bylaw.

## **Love Your Lake Program Results**

Chloe Lajoie from Watersheds Canada provided feedback from the Value Survey as well as results from the Love Your Lake Program.

Of the 438 property owners contacted only 63 responded to the Value Survey. 89% indicated swimming was an important part of lake life, 87% value being able to kayak and canoe. Most expressed concerns were about water quality, faulty septic and shoreline development. 71% thought water quality was good.

The Love Your lake program was coordinated by the Canadian Wildlife Federation, Watersheds Canada and OLA.

Every property owner received mailed information about the program. OLA has also set up a communications plan with information in newsletters, emails, Facebook and on the website.

A Lake Summary Report was done in addition to the individual property owner reports. Information in the individual property owner reports was respectfully confidential.

They were able to compare the data collected with data collected in 2013 when Otty Lake last participated in the program. Updated procedures used in the recent program made some comparisons difficult but overall they noted an increase in natural shoreline. They feel property owners should aim for 75% natural shoreline and stressed the importance of the ribbon of life.

The chair thanked Steve Fournier, Rob Rainer and Chloe Lajoie for their informative presentations.

Light refreshments were provided.

Chair declared the meeting over at 2:34 pm.

