



**Hudson Lakes Association**  
**Annual General Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**7:00 pm @ Hudson Hall and via WebEx**

Meeting began at 7:05 pm.

- 1) **Land Acknowledgement** – Sarah shared a Land Acknowledgement.
- 2) **Adoption of the Agenda - with one addition to Motion for non for profit**  
**Moved by:** Bill Booth                    **Seconded by:** Bill Ramsay
- 3) **Motion - Accept the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**Moved by:** Janet Carr                    **Seconded by:** Susi Johanson
- 4) **Welcome by President and introduction of our current HLA Board of Directors**  
Sarah welcomed everyone and introduced the current Board of Directors. Introduced and welcomed Larry Craig the Hudson Township Reeve. She thanked Bill Booth – Webmaster, Nicki Duke – Newsletter, and Renee Catt – Editor. We took a moment to acknowledge/honour Penny Graydon a long-time resident who was very involved in HLA and community activities who recently passed away. She thanked all those involved in the Mailbox Shelter Project and she also thanked everyone involved in the new sign at the corner. She then introduced our guest speaker Tony Juurlink (Lynx Tree Care).
- 5) **Guest Speaker – Tony Juurlink (Lynx Tree Care)**  
Tony shared with us information about some of the trends he is seeing in our area.  
*Spruce Budworm*. Spruce and balsam can be dying from this caterpillar which eats the buds then makes it cocoon and becomes a moth. The ability of the tree to survive depends on energy stores in the tree. There is not much we can do about these worms because it is so widespread. There are foliar sprays, but timing can be an issue. They have a 20-25 year cycle and our peak was 3 years ago. They do not affect pines or birch trees.  
*Bronze Birch Borer*. This has been around for a long time and every year trees are dying from this out at the lakes, and they are usually the mature trees. Starts with the top of

crown thinning, then fewer and fewer leaves and eventually the tree dies completely. The tree basically dies from the top down. Pruning out the tops does not seem to help to save the tree. Not much we can do once it starts, usually the life of the tree once it begins is 3-5 years. The sooner you remove a tree when it is declining the better (saves money too). Pinholes or swell bubbles are signs of Bronze Birch Borer. Tends to affect the older trees (50-60 year range) but sometimes affects younger trees. Deciding when to cut down these birch trees is usually based on proximity to buildings or safety. They are harder to remove and will cost more if the tree is further gone due to difficulties in removing it safely.

Sap Sucker damage. Sap suckers are little woodpeckers that feed on the sap of trees. This is not a death sentence for the tree, it will seal off but more than likely the sap sucker will return and pick another spot.

Chaga. Chaga is not a sign of a sick tree. Chaga generally affects white birch and not many yellow birch.

White Pine Blister Rust. Affects mostly white pines. It's a fungus that is airborne. Starts with a rusty coloured mildew on other plants, then it gets into the white pine tips on lower branches. The white pine then becomes infected and causes a canker on that twig. Indicator of WPBR is Red Flagging which is random branches with red needles usually near the bottom of the tree. This can be pruned out before it reaches the trunk. Once it gets into the trunk there is nothing you can do. A branch losing sap on the underside is another indicator. Rodents (squirrels) like to chew the bark of these trees that are infected and can potentially be spreading it. Affects all aged trees. There is no spray, just pruning early before it reaches the trunk.

Jack Pine. Someone asked why do we see so many jack pine trees dying? Tony said they are ageing out at the same time right now because things were forested and replanted at the same time years ago. He suggests we should underplant every 5-10 years with a variety of tree types.

Mature Cedars. Question about what is happening to cedar trees that are dying? Often these trees have been infested with carpenter ants and then pileated woodpeckers move in.

Emerald Ash Borer. Question about whether Tony sees any of this? There is indication of some here but EAB doesn't over winter well so there is no infestation yet.

Best Time to transplant a little pine? Depends on when you can keep it moist. Hottest time of the summer is not good time. Early spring or early fall recommended, but you need to make sure you water it well. Life expectancy of red pines here is 90+ years. They generally do better than jack pines, but white pines do even better.

- 6) **President's Report – Sarah Desmarais.** She provided a follow up to the official zone and planning being done by the Township. There is a report from the planner that will be shared with Hudson Township Council first and then will be shared with HLA. Larry Craig shared that the lake capacity study is not written in stone, however he shared that Upper twin, Fairy and Bartle are at capacity based on the report. The public meeting was

originally scheduled for October but will be delayed due to agricultural rezoning. Larry was asked if an online presentation for those who cannot attend in person will be made available? Larry said he will work on this. Being at capacity means no more development. That if you have an existing property, you can tear down an existing building and rebuild but that we cannot add new properties for development around the lakes.

- 7) **Treasurer's Report – Laurie McLean.** Laurie presented the report, fixed charges (bank charges, FOCA member and insurance) and reviewed other expenses for this year including new sign and mailbox shelter. We had some money left over after fundraising and the completion of the shelter and the sign. Encourage people to join the HLA and pay their fees. Talk to your neighbours!

**Motion – That the Association accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.**

**Moved by:** Laurie McLean

**Seconded by:** Carol Hearn

- 8) **Motion – Renew our F.O.C.A. membership for 2023/2024**

**Moved by:** Crystal Gauthier

**Seconded by:** Bruce McKee

- 9) **Regatta 2023 Update – Chelsie McKnight**

Renee shared Chelsie's update.

For generations, the Regatta has been bringing residents and cottagers together from Pike, Bartle, Fairy, and Twin - with many people travelling from afar to join in the weekend festivities. The Regatta has grown from the traditional lawn and swim races on Twin Lakes to include a sing-a-long on Fairy Lake, a Volleyball tournament on Pike Lake, and online presence for those who cannot make the weekend but still want to take a glimpse of the fun. We encourage all Hudson lakes residents, cottagers, and guests to come to participate in the boat parade and the Regatta on Twin August 6<sup>th</sup>. The boat ramp will be open! We are looking for volunteers the day of in the following areas:

-horseshoe tournament

-race judges

-tent set up and take down

We are currently collecting prizes from local business owners - a HUGE thank you for their continued support. In the past, we have received prizes from our lake "Makers and Crafters" like pottery, wooden signs, printed T-shirts... people LOVED these so if you have something like that you would be willing to donate please let us know!

Detailed schedule can be found online!

- 10) **Invasive Snails – Susi Johanson.** Large snails were noticed a couple of years back and noticed a large increase in the last couple of years. Susi made a report to the invasive species hotline working through the ON Federation Anglers and Hunters and the MNR. Unofficially it has been confirmed that they are the Chinese Mystery Snail. You have to have a permit to remove them. Each snail lays a minimum of 400 eggs each year. We need to start removing them and will most likely never get rid of them completely. Susi will apply for a permit to remove them and will add the names of those who would like to add their name to the application to be able to remove them. These snails eat fish

eggs, they increase algae, they carry a parasite that is not good for water fowl. They can also clog your water intake for water lines or geothermal systems. MNR is surprised to see that we have them this far north. Proper disposal?– we can freeze them, dig a hole and bury them or dispose of them at the dump. We need to do this by the end of August before they reproduce. Renewal of permit is required annually and Susi will do that. They seem to be in large quantities in shallow areas, sand bar etc... Susi cautioned us not to remove the snails until we have the permit to remove them. A Facebook post to have your name added to the permit will be posted on the Hudson Lakes Facebook Group and names must be submitted by this Sunday.

**Motion that the Hudson Lakes Association support the application of the permit to remove the Chinese Mystery Snails from our lakes.**

**Moved by:** Susi Johanson                      **Seconded by:** Crystal Gauthier

**11) Motion – To accept our current members as we are non for profit.**

**Moved by:** Bill Ramsay                      **Seconded by:** Charlotte McCullough

**12) Election of Directors for 2023-2025 – Nominations**

Sarah Desmarais – Nominated by Renee Catt

Renee Catt – Nominated by Sarah Desmarais

Mike Anderson – Nominated by Bill Ramsay

Bill Booth – Nominated by Janet Carr

Stephanie Hawkins – Nominated by Crystal Gauthier

Chelsie McKnight – Nominated by Susi Johanson

Jim Brookfield – 2023-2024 year 2 of his term

Laurie McLean – 2023-2024 year 2 of his term

Laurie Wagle – 2023-2024 year 2 of her term

Dana McLean – 2023-2024 year 2 of her term

A full slate of Directors was nominated, and no elections were required.

**13) New Business** – Rosalynn Murphy Williams shared that one large wasp was found in her cottage last year, and one again this year. She brought a sample and they look like the European Hornet. Wondering if anyone else has seen them? Larry Craig has seen them in the past. Sample was passed around for viewing.

Bill Booth asked that we discourage fireworks. They are not good for the wildlife, pets and can cause fires.

**14) Next Annual General Meeting Date – July 31, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Hudson Hall**

**15) Adjournment – Moved by:** Laurie Hartley at 8:40 pm

\*There were 29 members in attendance at the Annual General Meeting.

**After AGM Meeting the Board of Directors met and the following was decided.**

President – Sarah Desmarais

Vice-President – Chelsie McKnight

Treasurer – Laurie McLean

Secretary – Renee Catt

8 others will be Directors

Next Meeting of the Board of Directors - Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm