

# Acton Island Association

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## Report to Members Spring, 2008

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While the winter is a distant memory, it has gone down in the history books as being the second snowiest on record with a total of 559.4 centimeters. As the snow pack melted, the water levels rose to extreme heights and 90% of Acton Island's docks and boathouses were under water. For those who missed it, many large items were seen traveling solo under the bridge or out in the lake. Be warned that there are still a number of hazards in places we are not used to finding them. Take care on your first boat tour this year.

### **Annual General Meeting**

This year's AGM will be held on Sunday July 13, 2008 at 1pm at the Bala Community Centre. Please plan to attend.

#### Jacki Hart- Water's Edge Landscaping

Ms. Hart has agreed to bring a slide presentation of gardens and suggestions for plantings in Muskoka. If you need help in a landscape design or just suggestions on what to plant in Muskoka, this year's speaker will be happy to assist you.

#### AIA Clothing

We have had many requests for information on where to get the AIA logo- shirts and sweat shirts. Examples of items and their cost will be available to order at this meeting, plus soon information will be found on our website [www.actonisland.com](http://www.actonisland.com)

#### 2008 Membership Roster

The latest additional will be mailed out on June 9 to all paid up members. If you don't receive yours please contact Gordon Richards at [g-richards@sympatico.ca](mailto:g-richards@sympatico.ca) or at 705 762 5394. Copies will also be available the AGM.

## **Taxes**

The news this year is that the Township of Muskoka Lakes will have the lowest tax rate compared to other Muskoka municipalities. Residents here will see their rates increase by \$6.04 per \$100,000.00 of assessment. The township has approximately 14,000 properties on the tax assessment roll, 7,200 properties have an assessment of \$250,000.00 or less.

The District of Muskoka receives the majority of your tax dollar, about 49%, Education 37% and the Township of Muskoka Lakes 14%.

## **Bala Official Plan Review**

It has come to the attention of the association that the Draft Township of Muskoka Lakes official plan proposes the establishment of an INDUSTRIAL zone along both sides of HWY 169 just north of Bala. The critical element here is that Industrial is not the same as commercial. This could permit chemical processing, industrial waste, equipment and machinery manufacturers to name a few.

We have issued a letter to council in serious objection to this proposal and will monitor the situation as required.

## **Annual Meet and Greet**

Sunday July 27, 2008 - 2pm to 4 pm.

Gary and Marg Miron- 1051 Innisfree Rd

This is an excellent opportunity for the membership to get to know their neighbours.

Last year we had over 50 people come out and enjoy the afternoon on the deck.

Please bring your own hors d'oeuvres /snacks for just 6.

Refreshments will be provided by the AIA.

## **Muskoka Coming Events**

Cottage tours-Doors Open Muskoka- June 14

Spring/Summer Art Show- June 14-15

Flavours of Muskoka- June 21

Bala Summer Market- every Monday

Boat shows-July 5 in Gravenhurst (Antique and Classic Boat Society)

- August 9 in Port Carling (MLA)

Craft show- Bala- July 12-13 Gravenhurst- August 15-17

Muskoka Music Festival- July- August

Check the Muskoka Lakes Chamber Business Directory or their website for more information. [www.muskokalakeschamber.com](http://www.muskokalakeschamber.com)

## **Other Matters**

The Gordon Sinclair bridge was struck by the snowplow this past winter on the left side as you cross on to the Island. Repairs are to be completed shortly.

We have noticed that many people walk on the main roads each day, please remember to always face traffic so you can clearly see the car as they approach you.

A report has been received notifying us that a BBQ has stolen from a property this spring. Be mindful that it is hard to monitor all your things while you are in the city. As neighbours we should all be aware of what is going on around us and any suspicious activities should be reported to the police.

### **Your Township Mayor and Ward C Councilors**

Mayor – Susan Pryke, [spryke@muskokalakes.ca](mailto:spryke@muskokalakes.ca), 705-765-5412,  
office 705-765-3156

Deputy Mayor/District Councilor – Stewart Martin, [smartin@muskokalakes.ca](mailto:smartin@muskokalakes.ca)  
705-765-3370

Township Councilors – Karen Ellis, [kellies@muskokalakes.ca](mailto:kellies@muskokalakes.ca) 705-765-6337, Brian  
Hare, [bhare@muskokalakes.ca](mailto:bhare@muskokalakes.ca) 705-765-5527

### **Your Acton Island Association Board of Directors**

President: Leslie McCann, 1133 Innisfree Rd., 705-762-5784 or 705-645-8645  
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Immediate Past President and Membership Director: Gord Richards, 1153 Acton Island  
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Secretary: Brian Atkinson, 1153 Acton Island Rd., 705-762-5394  
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Treasurer: Bruce Patterson, 1250 Acton Island Rd., 705-762-5270  
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[tadico@aol.com](mailto:tadico@aol.com)

Your board is here to serve the needs of its members. If you have ideas or topics to discuss please let us know.

Leslie J. McCann  
President