

Newsletter

P.O.Box 183, Pointe au Baril, Ontario P0G 1K0
Volume 2, Fall, 2002

From the President

This year was a banner year for our Association! We increased our membership by 300%, we conducted shoreline seminars throughout the summer, water testing as sponsored by the Township was performed at an unprecedented level, we launched our Lake Plan (again with the help of the Township) and last, but not least, we participated in the Canada Day boat parade. No, we didn't win a prize.....but we were there. The executive attended water quality meetings, the Deerhorn Conference and The F.O.C.A. annual general meeting, all of which were very informative and are detailed in this newsletter.

Both the water testing programme and the septic system study should help give us a much clearer sense of why the water goes green, our sense of alarm goes up and our property value goes down. We, as a community of shoreline residents, have a lot of attitude and value adjustments to make if this water quality condition is to be rectified. Articles within this newsletter will make you think, hopefully. We are only now beginning to understand the context of the problem but it is certain that most of the solution will come from within i.e. ourselves.

A key mission of the Association is to help educate and create a forum for improvement. We are working hard to identify the contributing factors through water testing and septic surveys. The questionnaire everyone received is another critical step towards working for what we all believe in for this area and for the new edition of the Township Official Plan. We need your input! If you didn't complete a survey, please do so before the end of the year. Your opinion matters, especially those who live here full-time!

Volunteers make the Association work! While I'm proud of all that we accomplished this year it was the hard work of too few people for the overall good of the many. And while I know that's usually the way, please consider signing up with us for next years agenda. A little of your time will go a long way towards helping us define our future for everyone that loves this place. We have more boating surveys, shoreline mapping, wetland identification and vegetation mapping to do. We need your hands-on help even if it's only short term next summer.

In closing, it has been a very exciting year for us and we have accomplished a lot. I take heart that our membership has grown significantly. However the full time residents are still in the minority and this concerns me. We want to have representation that truly reflects the values and concerns of everyone connected to this beautiful and fragile place. We will need everyone to "buy-in" if the solutions to the problems are to be as successful as possible and for that we'll need strong local representation through additional local members.

Your President, Bob Causton

OUR STURGEON BAY POINTE AU BARIL ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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	Tom Lundy.....(home) 905-875-3760.....(cottage) 705-366-5617

a a a **Thanks, Thanks** a a a

The Association worked very hard this year. From fun events like the Canada Day Parade, to more official events like the Deerhorn and Federation of Ontario Cottagers meetings, to the 'roll-up-your sleeves and dig in' work we had to do.....volunteered time was the only way to get it done.....and we're proud to say..... we did it !!!!!!!

1) We launched our Seminar Programme focussing on the important topics of boating safety and ecologically friendly methods of developing your shoreline. Not only were these well received each time, we also gained new members as an added benefit. Special thanks to Andrea Bradford (who designed and conducted these sessions) her husband Steve and to the entire Bradford family for their ongoing support all summer. Thanks too, goes to Shane Evoy for his contribution to the marine safety training.

2) Water Testing was diligently performed throughout our areas waters and a high level of consistency was achieved by the samplers. This will translate into much better data for the scientific analysis that will follow. Our water quality is a key issue with everyone so the responsibility to do this properly every time is a critical. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Keith Gardner, Phil Kidston and Bill Tedford.

3) The Lake Plan Survey was distributed on a dock-to-dock, business-by-business basis by several members that took, literally, days from their holidays to distribute the forms you all received. This survey is an important step in developing a mutual definition for the future of this area as well as our role in that future. If we are to represent the consensus of the majority with any degree of accuracy then the survey must reach out to everyone for input. Special thanks for this goes to Phil and Cathy Kidston, Ernie and Gloria Bradford, Helen Tedford, Steve Bradford, and Hugh Bracken.

4) The Boating Survey was a massive task that required tons of planning and co-ordination. We desperately need this information to understand the "loading factors" associated with the boat traffic that our waters are required to sustain. Boating, after all, is a primary feature to our area for residents, cottagers and tourists. Boating is a huge factor to most of our local industry. This first survey, done on Labour Day weekend, was quite revealing. The singular management efforts of Jim Dodgson and his family ensured the success of our first event (next one on the August Civic Holiday, 2003). And thanks goes to those many volunteers who helped. We would have been lost without them - Joe Pugliese, Ernie Bradford, Gloria Bradford, Len Bennett, Sally Slumskie, Kelsey Slumskie, Cody Slumskie, Phil Kidston, John Cochrane, Kim Montgomery, Derrick Dodgson, Linda Dodgson, Rachael Dodgson, Bob Causton, Tom Banton, Terry Carr, Andrea Bradford, Steve Holysh, Larry Young, Paul Adamson, John Sirling, Barb and John Hodgson, Steve Bradford, Keith Gardener, Bill Tedford, Linda Wagler, S Rourke, Wes and Karen Hodgson, and Russ Lee.

Our Pointe au Baril Sturgeon Bay Plan

By Andrea Bradford, Chair, Pointe au Baril Sturgeon Bay Plan Steering Committee

We have assembled an energetic group of individuals to oversee the Bay Plan. The Steering Committee includes Bob Causton; Hugh Bracken; John Cochrane; Gordon Froggatt; Jim Dodgson; and Terry Carr. Randy French (French Planning Services) is providing support and direction.

Workshops and Surveys

A Residents Workshop was held on August 17, 2002, at the Pointe au Baril Community Centre. The purpose of the workshop was to promote discussion among the residents of Pointe au Baril and Sturgeon Bay to identify:

- values and special features that support the high quality of life in the area
- issues which may affect this quality of life
- and potential solutions for protecting the quality of life

A draft proceedings summarizing the lively workshop discussion has been produced.

Another similar workshop has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, December 6 to ensure that commercial stakeholders have an opportunity to participate in the Bay Plan.

Local businesses also had an opportunity to complete commercial surveys which were hand delivered in the early fall. Several hundred residential surveys were distributed in August. Many of these were delivered by hand (by eight teams of volunteers). More than seventy of these 5 page surveys have been returned to date. Information provided on use of properties, buildings and structures, water use and wastewater disposal, and personal values and observations is now being collated by volunteers. Shorter surveys were left at several businesses to allow visitors to participate in the Bay Plan. Respondents have been coming to the area for many, many years (from 6 to 63 years). These individuals are clearly as concerned about the state of the Bay as the residents.

Boating Survey

Jim Dodgson mobilized a crew of more than 30 volunteers to document boat traffic and incidents of unsafe boating at four locations in Sturgeon Bay on the Labour Day weekend (9 am to 7 pm on Saturday and Sunday). Jim has analyzed the results in detail. The same procedure will be followed next summer on the Civic weekend in August.

Shoreline Infrastructure and Vegetation Surveys

Global Positioning System (GPS) technology is being used to inventory shoreline vegetation and infrastructure (docks, boathouses). Terry Carr and I will begin the shoreline vegetation survey in the spring. Jim Dodgson and Bob Causton have begun the effort on infrastructure. They also plan to document architectural styles and do a photographic survey of night lighting.

Collection of Background Information

Collection of information on the land use, physical and natural elements, and social elements of the Pointe au Baril Sturgeon Bay area is ongoing. Randy French is reviewing the municipal planning documents and Gordon Froggatt is undertaking a review of the history and culture of the area.

The success of the Pointe au Baril Sturgeon Bay Plan is dependent on participation and input from those who will be affected by future human activities in the Pointe au Baril and Sturgeon Bay areas. If you want to have your SAY, or if you can help in some WAY, please contact me:

Phone (Home): 905-469-3359; Phone (Cottage): 705-366-2227; Email: abradfor@uoguelph.ca

THANKS TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE HELPED OUT TO DATE!!

Our Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Association Mission Statement

The Our Sturgeon Bay/Pointe au Baril Association is a non-profit, non-political group of area citizens committed to the protection of the natural ecological health and beauty of our Sturgeon Bay. Recognizing the natural uniqueness of our area we, working together, are dedicated to ensure the ongoing quality of life for every thing and for everyone makes this treasure a natural heritage.

Septic System Project Update

The Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre at the University of Guelph completed sampling of 40 septic systems in Sturgeon Bay over the summer. Doug Joy reports that the results were highly variable from system to system. If you volunteered for this study and would like to know the results for your own system you may contact Doug Joy by email: djoy@uoguelph.ca or by phone: 519-824-4120 (extension 3048). A report to the Township of the Archipelago will be completed soon and we hope to include a brief summary of overall results in the next newsletter.

FOCA Road Insurance Update

As members of The Federation Of Ontario Cottagers Association we can insure our unassumed roads for minimal cost. While road access is indeed a wonderful thing, it will only take one tragedy to turn this convenience into a nightmare for all those whose residence/cottage/lot are along this road.

If you're a snowmobiler you already know about the problem that has befallen the O.F.S.C. It is now so extreme that important trail hazard signs are being removed by all the snowmobile clubs to avoid implied liability.

What about A.T.V.s? Understand that this is the largest recreational growth market in North America. Whether you advocate ATVs or snowmobiles or dirt bikes or not, this is not the issue, Protecting yourself and your families' cottage dream should be.

Consider it as expensive as a couple of cases of beer for the long weekend, or a boat winterization, and it all should come into perspective as just another annual cottage maintenance item. When you think of Ontario court settlements already on the books, it could mean the difference between having a cottage **or** having to sell it to pay for the lawsuit.

Speak to the person in charge of your road's maintenance, and/or contact us for more details.

Annual Meeting

Mark you calendar for
Sunday, August 3, 2003
At 10:00 a.m.
(registration at 9:30 a.m.)
At the Pointe Au Baril Community Center
For our 3rd Annual Meeting

F.O.C.A. Annual General Meeting

On Saturday November 2nd, 2002 Bob Causton (President), Cathy Kidston (Vice President) and Tom Lundy (Director) attended the Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) in Willowdale Ontario. Our Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Association was recognized for the first time as voting members of F.O.C.A.

Besides the Business Agenda issues of the Annual General Meeting, there were interesting and informative seminars on Tax Matters, Personal Watercraft, Volunteerism, Insurance and the announcement of a new program called Ice Watch. Updates on these issues and all other important F.O.C.A initiatives are available on their website www.foca.on.ca.

After hearing the presentation from the Tax Matters panel, your Board has endorsed the initiatives of the Fair Tax Coalition and offered our support to this cause via the Muskoka Lakes Association. To review their report in its entirety please refer to their website www.mla.on.ca and refer to Announcements, then click on Muskoka Municipal Taxation Task Force – Final Report.

FALL 2002 DEER HORN CONFERENCE

On Saturday November 9th, 2002 Bob Causton (President), Cathy Kidston (Vice President), Helen Tedford (Treasurer) and Tom Lundy (Director) attended the Deer Horn Conference hosted by the Georgian Bay Association in conjunction with the Township of the Archipelago. This was a public meeting to conduct a five year review of the Township's Official Plan with the theme of the meeting being "Official Plan Consultation – Looking For Ideas".

The village of Pointe au Baril was extremely well represented with Laura Lee Kennedy & Peter Weber from the Pointe au Baril Chamber of Commerce and Tania Blenkarn, John Christie, Norm Goodwin & Mark Payne representing the Pointe au Baril Strategic Development Committee and Councillors Hugh Bracken & John Cochrane in attendance.

The Township of the Archipelago has established a timetable for the Official Plan Review Process which is to be completed by the Summer of 2003. Throughout that process Public Input is critical to ensuring that the needs of all stakeholders are considered. In the near future all constituents will receive a questionnaire from the Township. We encourage all members to take the time to complete this document and return it to the Township. For more information please visit www.thearchipelago.on.ca. To review the current Official Plan click on Municipal Departments and then 2002 Official Plan Sections 1-12 and 13-18.

What is the Green?

Well folks, now we know. The green on the surface of our water in mid/late summer is not pine pollen, as many had thought, but just plain old algae.

"Pine pollen (and other tree pollens), that yellowy green stuff seen on our water, is **only** found in May and early June" says Joe Johnson area forester from the MNR in Parry Sound.

The water testing results show that we have **four times more** phosphorus in our water than outside Brignall Banks, and an overabundance of phosphorus promotes algae growth. Algae shows up in mid/late summer and early fall as a pea-green scum. The clarity of our water this past summer was one-half of that of the previous year.

What can we do about it? Read the article from the Summer 2002 FOCA Newsletter "How Phosphorus Affects Your Lake", below, for some good ideas.

The detailed results of the water testing done in the summer will be reported in the next newsletter.

How Phosphorus Affects Your Lake

by Gus Janca

All lakes undergo a natural aging process. Barring the effects of human activity, this aging process can take hundreds or even thousands of years. Nutrients, which include phosphorus, nitrogen and other elements, are necessary for the growth of plant and animal life in a healthy lake. Concentrations are low in the waters of young lakes. As a lake ages, nutrient levels increase as they are washed into the water from natural soil erosion and decaying vegetation. This is a natural progression, but it can be hastened by man-made changes to the environment.

In many instances, human activities have tremendously increased the nutrient levels in lakes. These activities include: outpourings of sewage and industrial wastes, as well as runoff from farm fertilizers and barnyards. Excavation for construction and extraction of aggregates (sand and gravel) can cause erosion of nutrient-laden soil, putting more nutrients into the water.

A compelling example is the history of pollution in Lake Erie, which climaxed in the early 1960's. Nutrients added to a body of water have the same effect on its plant life as fertilizer has on a garden, except here the increased growth is highly undesirable. Algae can grow at prolific rates in waters rich in nutrients. Algae refers to several genera of microscopic plants which tend to grow in large groups. Algae is often called "pond scum" or "blooms". Prolific growth of algae causes problems in a number of ways - algae can smell bad and give water an unpleasant taste, the water can become murky, and large masses of algae shade the water body from the sun, preventing light from penetrating deeper water. The worst effect is when algae masses die off in the fall. They sink to the bottom and decompose. This chemical reaction takes dissolved oxygen out of the water, upsetting the natural balance of aquatic life. When fish cannot get enough oxygen, they smother to death. As well, studies have shown that the quality of lake water directly affects the value of cottage property.

Phosphorus, often in the form of phosphates, has always been present, dissolved in lake and river water. It is a widely distributed chemical element, occurring naturally in rocks and soils, and it is one of life's essential

components. In lake water, when phosphorus levels increase, so does the growth of algae. Chemical analysis to measure the concentration of this one nutrient, is a cost-effective way to determine overall nutrient levels, and thus the health of your lake.

The natural concentrations of phosphorus, and of other nutrients, vary from lake to lake, since the environment and history of each lake is unique. Therefore, meaningful information is gained through monitoring of long term changes in phosphorus levels in a particular lake, rather than comparing one lake with another. This requires the collection of data over a number of years. This information can help determine if nutrient loading from human activities is becoming a problem. Remedial action for these man-made problems may then be undertaken.

For environmental reasons, as well as for good financial sense, anyone owning shore-line property should develop "water-wise" attitudes and habits, We should be using phosphate-free soaps, should **not** bath or wash hair directly in the lake, and we should ensure proper maintenance of our septic systems. We should avoid clearing land near shorelines. We should also avoid fertilizing any shoreline property (phosphates are a major component of fertilizers!), or cutting grass right down to the water. Each of us has a part to play in maintaining water quality.

Where would you fit in here?

COTTAGE LIFESTYLE MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO PHOSPHORUS LOADING (expressed in grams)		
RUSTIC	MODERATE	MANICURED
Human Waste = 534 g	Human Waste = 534 g	Human Waste = 534 g
No Dishwasher = 0 g	Dishwasher, liquid detergent = 260 g	Dishwasher, powdered detergent = 651 g
No fertilizer = 0 g	Fertilizer, once per year = 981 g	Fertilizer, twice per year = 1962g
Treed Lot = 17g	Cleared Lot = 29 g	Cleared Lot = 29 g
Phosphate – free Household products = 0 g	Phosphate -containing Household products = 180 g	Phosphate –containing Household products = 180 g
Total = 551 g	Total = 1984 g	Total = 3356 g

These phosphorus loads were calculated assuming that 3.7 people used the cottage for 89 days out of the year. The dishwasher did one load daily while they were there. It was assumed that the powdered detergent was 23% phosphate and the liquid detergent was 8% phosphate. The lawn (15 x 30 m) was fertilized with 10-10-10 fertilizer at the recommended application rate of 0.05 kg per square metre.

Source; Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Dorset Research Centre



Environmental Tips From Archie



Cleaning Without Chemicals

from the An Action Guide to Improving the Waters of Lake Simcoe

Fertilizers are not the only household chemicals that threaten the health of our rivers and lakes. Around your kitchen, basement and garage, you'll find oven cleaners, paint removers, insecticides, solvents, drain cleaners and other potentially hazardous products. Many of these products, as well as personal hygiene products, contain phosphorus. Phosphorus is one of the nutrients that is responsible for the premature aging of a lake.

It is up to each of us to select household products carefully and dispose of them responsibly. By substituting chemical cleaners with non-toxic alternatives, we ensure that harmful chemicals do not travel from our sinks and drains into sensitive groundwater supplies and other aquatic resources.

What You Can Do

Purchase the least toxic product you can find and never buy more than you need -- the non-toxic cleaning kit (see next page) will give you ideas on how to clean without harmful chemicals.

Read the label of all household products -- know the potential hazards and the appropriate means of disposal. Store toxins in their original containers so the label can be referred to whenever the product is used. If directions are unclear, contact the manufacturer. Many products have a toll-free phone number listed for the manufacturer.

Never dispose of paints, preservatives, strippers, brush cleaners or solvents down drains or into gutters or on the ground. These products contain many chemicals that can contaminate groundwater and septic systems and kill beneficial microorganisms in sewage treatment plants. Many toxic substances are not broken down in treatment systems, so they pass directly into aquatic environments and can harm organisms.

THE NON-TOXIC CLEANING KIT

- To clean your windows use a mixture of two teaspoons of vinegar and one litre water.
- Clean fresh grease spots on the stove by pouring table salt on them, leaving for a few minutes, and wiping clean.
- Clean sinks, counter areas or bathtubs with a paste of baking soda and water.
- Clean the toilet with baking soda and mild detergent. Swish inside the bowl using a toilet brush. Or you can just add 1000 mg. of Vitamin C and let it sit overnight.
- Clean tarnished brass by rubbing it with lemon peel dipped in salt. Follow up by polishing with olive oil.
- Clean scuff marks on vinyl floors by using a damp cloth and baking soda.
- Watermarks on wood furniture can be removed by rubbing essence of peppermint into the mark, then polishing with a soft cloth.
- Make spot remover for fabrics by mixing two parts water with one part rubbing alcohol.
- Clear plugged drains by pouring a mixture of 250 ml. of baking soda, 250 ml. of salt and 125 ml. of vinegar down the drain. Let stand for 15 minutes, then pour a kettle of boiling water down the drain. Don't forget about your trusty old plunger -- it works very well also.
- All you need to use for furniture polish is one teaspoon of lemon oil mixed with one-half litre of mineral oil.
- Replace all your mothballs with cedar chips, lavender flowers or herbs.
- A good all-purpose cleaner to use on floors, counters and painted walls contains 50 ml. of baking soda, 125 ml. of vinegar and 4 litres of warm water.
- Don't forget -- a little elbow grease goes a long way.



Tips on Living by Water

by the Canadian Nature Foundation

The greatest biological diversity — the so-called “ribbon of life” — is found at the shoreline of a lake. By following the steps below, you can minimize your impact on your lake environment.

n Limit the amount of developed shoreline. Use only 10 per cent of your lakefront property, and allow the rest to naturalize. This compromise allows you to enjoy your waterfront, yet still leave habitat for the many organisms that make their home at the shoreline.

n Keep your path to the waterfront small and natural. A meandering path at an angle to the lake prevents channeling run-off into the water. Use natural materials (such as gravel) to cover the path rather than pavement or interlocking stone.

n Trim trees rather than removing them. Maintain your view by pruning bottom branches. Trees provide shade next to your cottage and stabilize soil near the water.

n Leave a shoreline vegetation buffer strip. Close-cut lawns allow a free path for silt deposition and chemical run-off to enter the lake. A vegetation buffer strip will suck up fertilizers and pesticides and slow overland water flow, limiting silt deposition and soil loss.

n Avoid using pesticides and fertilizers. Herbicides and insecticides may harm fish or destroy plants and insects upon entering the aquatic ecosystem. Phosphates in fertilizers and detergents contribute to algae blooms.

n Use phosphate-free detergents and soaps. Many manufacturers offer phosphate-free alternatives. Limit the amount of soap entering the water. Don't wash your hair or clothes in the lake.

n Conserve water. Take shorter showers or use a water-saving showerhead. Use a low flush volume toilet. Maintain your septic system. Have your tank pumped out every three to five years. If building a new septic system, keep it at least 30 metres away from the water.

n Be mindful of what enters your septic system. Septic systems are much more sensitive than city sewage systems. Items such as female sanitary products, cigarette butts, fats and paper towels can clog drains and pumps. Strong chemicals can interfere with the biological action in septic tanks and are otherwise toxic to the groundwater system. Avoid putting bleach, drain cleaner, paint thinner, gasoline, antifreeze and other such chemicals down the drain.

n Be very careful refuelling near the lake. Oil and gasoline spills are very toxic to aquatic organisms. One litre of spilled or leaked gasoline can contaminate one million litres of water!

n Use an electric or modern four-stroke boat engine. New four-stroke motors were designed by outboard motor manufacturers to meet emission reduction standards in their product lines. A four-stroke engine has dramatically reduced emissions, including a 90 per cent reduction in hydrocarbons. They are also much more fuel efficient and quieter than two-stroke engines.

n Operate a low wake near the shore when boating. This prevents disturbance to shoreline nests and habitats and limits soil erosion at exposed banks.

n Do not remove underwater plants. They add oxygen to the water, anchor soil and provide habitat and food for wildlife.

n Use a shoreline-friendly dock. A floating dock is the most ecologically friendly as it causes the least disturbance to the ribbon of life.

n Leave coarse woody debris in the water. Fallen logs provide habitat for organisms such as fish, turtles and insects.

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It is not too late to hand in your Lake Plan Surveys!!! If you can't find yours, look on the home page of our web site www.oursturgeonbay.com and print a copy. This is your way to tell us what you want.

Message from the Councillors– November, 2002

In July all Archipelago ratepayers received formal notification that the Township, in compliance with Provincial legislation, would begin the process of reviewing its Official Plan. The Province's objective in having legislated Official Plan review is to ensure that each Municipality's Official Plan reflects the current needs and desires of the majority of its residents.

We are now aware that very few of our residents know what an official plan is and that even fewer know what our Official Plan contains. This situation is a far cry from twenty years ago when hundreds of volunteer residents were the inspiration for the creation of the Township and the development of The Archipelago Official Plan. In order to help educate Sturgeon Bay/Pointe au Baril residents we asked our first Township Planner, Greg Corbett, to outline the Province's definition of an Official Plan, and of Zoning By-Laws, and to describe the relationships between them.

What is an Official Plan?

An Official Plan is a formal land use planning document which provides policy to guide physical change. It is prepared with input from the residents and helps to ensure that future planning and development will meet the specific needs of their community. Our Official Plan contains the goals and objectives for the Township and policies to reach these goals.

The Township's Official Plan provides environmental, economic, servicing, and transportation policies, as well as policy to guide the growth and development of the various neighbourhoods identified within the Township. The Official Plan is Council's tool for managing growth in the Township.

What are Zoning By-laws?

Zoning By-laws are essentially technical, regulatory and legal documents which implement Official Plan policy. They provide a legal way of managing land use and future development and they help protect residents from conflicting land uses. Zoning By-laws control the use of land in the community by stating specifically:

- How land may be used
- Where buildings and other structures may be located on a property
- The number, size, and types of buildings that are permitted and how they may be used
- The size of lots and their dimensions.

These requirements are legally enforceable. Construction or new development that does not comply with a zoning by-law is not allowed, and the municipality will refuse to issue a building permit in such cases.

How are they different?

An Official Plan is a policy document, but Zoning By-laws are legal/regulatory documents. An Official Plan sets out the municipality's general policies for future land use, while Zoning By-laws put the Plan into effect and provide for its day-to-day administration. Generally, an Official Plan deals with the entire municipality or large portions of it, while Zoning By-laws are property specific. Zoning By-laws must conform to the Official Plan.

Township's Next Steps

In order to get the official plan review process "kick started" the Township, on August 17th, held a special meeting to which all residents were invited. There was excellent representation from Sturgeon Bay/Pointe au Baril, and we heard concerns about "progress" changing the character of use and threatening the environment. There was some discussion of the escalating deterioration of the Bay and of the issue that we as residents were the probable cause. One resident proposed that all of Council read "Ecological Footprint," a book that describes how many of us destroy the environment more quickly than it is able to resuscitate itself.

The Township heard from your association on November 9th regarding Sturgeon Bay/Pointe au Baril 's key concerns with respect to our Official Plan. The Township will now use input from all associations to develop a questionnaire focused on the identified ratepayer concerns.

We expect this questionnaire to be out in January. We believe it will be quite an extensive document, and we need your input. We are at the beginning of an in depth review process, but to make it successful we must have your continued support.

The Township will analyze results by neighbourhood as well as in total. In this way we can evaluate ratepayer concern through participation rate in the study as well as through the actual responses to the questionnaire. The Township will report back to ratepayers with the results in total and by neighbourhood.

Our Sturgeon Bay Pointe-au-Baril Association Membership Form

Our membership year now runs from July 1 to June 30. Fees are \$50.00 per property, which includes one voting membership. Associate membership (non-voting) is available for \$25.00 annually. We look forward to your membership in the Association for 2003/2004.

Name:	
Home Street Address:	
City:	Postal Code:
Telephone Number: ()	
Cottage Address:	
Lot number:	
City: Pointe-au-Baril	Postal Code:
Telephone Number: ()	
Email address:	

Please complete and return with cheque or money order to:

Our Sturgeon Bay & Pointe-au-Baril Association
P.O. Box 183,
Pointe au Baril, Ontario, P0G 1K0