

Mississippi Lakes Association President's Update: 2018

Rob Bell



During my time serving as a director of the MLA I have been eager for the association to become a credible and respected voice in the community, particularly with respect to the environment. With the creation and adoption of the Lake Plan in 2015, then the Love Your Lake initiative and our first invasive species survey in 2016, followed by the initiation and kick-off of the Mississippi Lake Ecological Modelling Project and expansion of our volunteer water sampling programs in 2017, I feel confident that we're getting there!

Now that we've gained momentum, I would like to turn our attention back to our base: the many road associations around Mississippi Lake. Here's why:

- They are the backbone of the MLA, frequently in direct contact with the members;
- Our road associations have a wealth of experience to share regarding any 'road' topic or issue... from chip and tar to small claims court they have seen and done it all;
- By working to help them all succeed, the lake association will be strengthened immeasurably; and
- The ultimate payoff: a united community that can stand up to any future challenge.

In support of this effort I have great news: The creation of an MLA Roads Committee has happened!

- On 12 April 2018, an MLA Town Hall meeting regarding Road Associations was held with 47 participants. The Report of Proceedings is available on our website.
- Eight attendees volunteered to sit on the committee.

May 3, 2018

- The first committee meeting was held 26 April, with Richard Teahan and Bonnie Robertson agreeing to serve as chairperson and secretary. Richard will also stand for election to the MLA Board.
- A committee 'issues' list has been drafted including topics such as road insurance, the pros and cons of incorporation and road maintenance.

I hope all the residents around our wonderful lake share my excitement regarding this initiative. I am extremely optimistic at the prospect of our success!

Remember to join the MLA and come to our AGM Thursday 24 May, to be held at Brunton Community Hall, 1702 9th Line, Beckwith, from 7pm to 9pm. Doors will open at 6:30 for membership registration and renewal. We will have a guest speaker from the OPP. We would love to see you! We need to hear your voice.

Drop me a line at president@mississippilakesassociation.org if you need any more information about the MLA.