

# West Carling Association

SINCE 1921

• GEORGIAN BAY SHORELINE CONCERNS •



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NO DATE GUESS

FEB 1983 SPRING

## NEWSLETTER

New Year's greetings to you all! The following is an up-date on various matters of concern to the Association and its members:

### Township Elections

As anticipated, the November election resulted in little change in Carling Township. A. W. "Bert" Reekie defeated Ron Ramsay for the office of reeve. Three incumbent councillors, Helen Crawford, Jack Lawson and Jack Plowman were returned to office, with the only newcomer being Terry Little, who defeated incumbent Bryan Perks by four votes. Alice McIntyre was elected to the Board of Education, defeating Mike Konoval.

### Sport Fishery Campaign

The letter-writing campaign regarding the state of the sport fishery is off to a good start. By the end of December, 14 members had reported that they had written letters to the Minister of Natural Resources. Sincere thanks to all who have thus far taken the trouble to write. Several of you were good enough to send to the Association copies of your letters. These both Dick Jolliffe and I have read, and we have been impressed with the care and independent effort that has gone into your appeals.

In his response to my own letter on behalf of the Association, Alan Pope referred to various programs launched by the Ministry of Natural Resources since 1979 to deal with the declining fishery, and indicated that the Government is presently reviewing proposals pertaining to more effective management of the commercial fishery on the Great Lakes. I responded in a second letter that the measures taken to date have been totally inadequate. For instance, the controlled harvest system for the commercial yellow pickerel fishery, to which the Minister had referred, is ineffective because the quotas set (though apparently not enforced) have been excessive relative to the dwindling size of the pickerel stock. What we want, I indicated, are measures honestly designed to restore the sport fishery rather than to give merely the appearance of action. Those of you similarly dissatisfied with the responses you received from the Minister may want to consider writing follow-up letters to keep the heat on, and let the Government know that we will not be easily placated.

Our letter to members launching this campaign found its way into the hands of the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries and was the subject of a letter-to-the-editor in the Parry Sound Beacon and the North



Star by the Manager of the Council, who attempted to discredit our campaign on the grounds that it was organized and that letters to the Minister would not, therefore, be spontaneous. Bill Davis and I wrote letters-to-the-editor answering the Council's criticisms. However, the Council's letter has added to the importance of all our Association members joining in the letter-writing campaign. Indeed, in responding to the Council of Commercial Fisheries' charge that ours is an orchestrated campaign, I said that proof of the genuine concern of our members would rest in the number of letters, independently composed, that are sent to the Government. The onus is thus on all members (and prospective members) to bear out this contention by taking the trouble to write. Please if you haven't done so yet act today, and then return the tear sheet below so that we will know that you have written and can include you in the number reported in the next newsletter.

A new potential threat to sport fishing has arisen in recent weeks with disclosure of a government scheme to give native Indian groups unrestricted rights to harvest fish in any area of Ontario not specifically designated as a fish sanctuary, and to establish zones in the province in which all fishing would be reserved for the exclusive use of native Indians. What effect this plan (which still requires federal approval) might have on our area is unclear at the moment, but the Association is watching this matter and will keep you informed.

#### Shoreline Allowance

Carling Township is now prepared to consider applications for the sale of the shore allowance on which many Association members' properties front. This is the land extending a distance of 66 feet or 20 metres back from the high water level of mainland shore as well as of islands (in those instances where in the deed the island shoreline was reserved as public domain for certain purposes).

In the past, there has been political opposition to the sale of the shore allowance (on the grounds, amongst others, that it should be protected for the use of the public). In light of this fact, and given that many property owners have docks, boathouses, etc. on shore allowance which they do not currently legally own, association members may want to give serious consideration to purchasing (i.e. closing) their shore allowance while the opportunity exists.

It is difficult to estimate in advance the costs of an individual closing of the shoreline, particularly since the expenses will vary depending on the complexity of each case. However, the following are some actual and in other cases estimated costs provided by the township:

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| a) Deposit to the Municipality along with initial application for consideration of closure                      | \$35.00  |
| b) Deposit to the Municipality against township legal fees, cost of advertising, and other expenses (estimated) | \$700.00 |
| c) Payment to the Municipality per lot (i.e. actual sale price)   | \$100.00 |



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d) Survey and registration (estimated)

\$600.00

We anticipate that savings can be made, especially in survey fees, by a group application. Accordingly, as a service to its members, the Association would like, if there is sufficient interest and it proves administratively feasible, to make a group application for the purchase of allowances. Should you be interested in participating in such an application, would you be good enough to complete and return the tear sheet at the end of this letter so that we can establish the feasibility of such an application, and subsequently advise you of detailed requirements for the purchase.

Those wishing to proceed on their own may obtain the necessary application form by writing to the Clerk's Office, Township of Carling, R. R. 1, Nobel, Ontario P0G 1G0. In the case of islands and parts of islands, individual applicants should write to the Ministry of Natural Resources, 4 Miller Street, Parry Sound. (According to the township, many different and curious arrangements exist with respect to island shoreline reserves which affect whether or not they are subject to this closing procedure.)

At the first step in an application (group or individual), one must submit full details of the manner and names in which the land concerned is registered, a copy of the deed, and a description of the Lot and Plan, including a rough diagram showing the locations of buildings and the boundaries of the shoreline allowance that would be in effect after the sale, and the boundaries of adjacent properties. In order to meet this last requirement, applicants will need to contact their neighbours on each side to ensure that there is agreement as to where the shore allowance side lot lines should be. (In most cases, straight-line projection of existing lot lines to the high water level should be agreeable, since most side lot lines are reasonably close to perpendicular to the shoreline and since most property owners have installed docks, etc. on the assumption that eventual ownership would be on the basis of straight-line projections.) Those interested in a group application should start to assemble the above information in preparation for the application.

#### Acid Rain

Acid rain is not the immediate threat to the Georgian Bay that it is to other Ontario bodies of water, but it is endangering our inland ponds and swamps. The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations has been urging all who enjoy and want to protect our natural heritage to support the campaign against acid rain. One way of helping is by purchasing for \$10 the colourful, creative poster designed by Heather Cooper, entitled "Who'll Stop the Rain." To order one, send a cheque or money order to: The Canadian Coalition on Acid Rain, 105 Davenport Road, Suite 201, Toronto, Ontario M5R 1H6.

#### Three-In-One-Offer

Why not take advantage of our unique stamp-saving offer, and return at the same time all the tear sheets on the next page that apply to you?!

Best wishes,

*Terry Kenleyside (Pres.)*