

# WELCOME TO THE 107<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE GEORGIAN BAY ASSOCIATION



Your Voice on the Bay

d)

## Motion to approve the appointment of:

Association	Director		Association	Director
Bay of Islands	Liz Phillips		McGregor Bay	Doug Whitton
Blackstone Lake	Andy Metelka		Northern Georgian Bay	Freda Klassen
BNIA	TBD		PaBIA	Seymour Hadwen
BNIA	Doug Ferguson		PaBIA	TBD
Cognashene	David Matthews		Sans Souci & Copperhead	Katherine Denune
Cognashene	Rolfe Jones		Sans Souci & Copperhead	Al Stratton
Honey Harbour	Armin Grigaitis		South Channel	Steven Sprague
Honey Harbour	Dan Busse		Twelve Mile Bay	Brett Harris
Key River	Andrew Hurlbut		Wah Wah Taysee	Gord Forstner
Madawaska Club	Lewis Reis		West Carling	Allison Needham
Manitou	Dawn Drayton		West Carling	Richard Wilson
			Woods Bay	Heather Sargeant

**as Directors of the Georgian Bay Association**

**e) Confirmation that the following will be Officers:**

President	Liz Phillips
Vice President	TBD
Treasurer	Al Stratton
Secretary	Steve Sprague
<b>of the Georgian Bay Association for 2023/4</b>	

## AGENDA – COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 5. Introductory remarks from Liz Phillips and Rupert Kindersley

	Committee	Who
a)	Coastal Protection	Rolfe Jones
b)	Water	Rolfe Jones & Liz Phillips
	<b>--Short Break--</b>	
c)	Boating, Safety & Emergencies	Andrew Hurlbut
d)	Communications	Rolfe Jones
e)	Fisheries	Rupert Kindersley
f)	Aquaculture	Claudette Young
g)	Lands & Forests	Richard Wilson
h)	Guardians of the Bay	Liz Phillips
i)	First Nation Liaison	Doug Whitton
j)	Membership	Steve Sprague

# Coastal Protection Committee

**PROTECTING YOUR COAST**

**YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY**



# Achieving More Together

## The “Coastal Municipalities”



TOA



TGB



TOC



MOK



NEMI

- GBA works with the five municipalities where GBA members reside on the eastern and northern coasts of Georgian Bay (“GBA Area”)
- The municipalities help guide the work of the Coastal Protection Committee
- There is an increasing dialogue and exchanges of ideas and information

# Committee Members



- o John Carson Co-chair - Wah Wah Taysee
- o Rolfe Jones Co-chair - Cognashene
- o Al MacNevin NEMI
- o Allan Hazelton TGB
- o Andrew Hurlbut Key River - Killarney
- o Daryle Moffatt West Carling
- o Doug Carr Cognashene
- o Eric Armour SSCA

# Committee Members cont'd



- o Gordon Forstner Wah Wah Taysee
- o John Woodroffe McGregor Bay
- o Katie Findlay PaBIA
- o Liz Phillips Bay of Islands (GBA President)
- o Michael Reider Killarney
- o Mike Virley Unorganized Townships\*
- o Pam Wing West Carling
- o Peter Frost ToA

\* Harrison, Wallbridge, Henvey and Mowat

# What Is Coastal Protection?

## Protecting Georgian Bay's...



**...to benefit the  
Environment/Public**

# Advocating For You



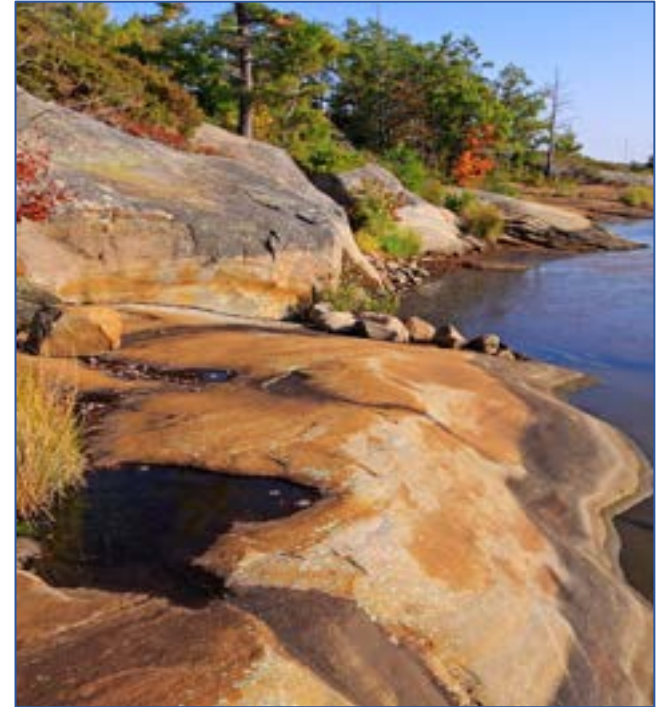
Floating Cottages



Bill 23 and Bill 109



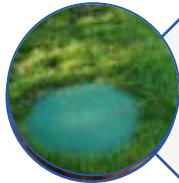
Fighting Negative Precedent  
Setting Developments



# Current Projects



## Planning Regulations Guide



## Septic Systems Guide

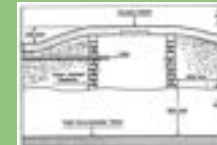


## Municipal Planning Comparison Project (MPCP)

### Septic System Guide

Georgian Bay Association

*Reviewed by Anne Egan, P.Eng. Manager of  
Onsite Wastewater at R.J. Burnside &  
Associates*



### Municipal Planning Comparison Project



Georgian Bay Association  
April 2023



# Upcoming Projects



Septics Guide & Municipal  
Inspections Rollout



MPCP Follow Up Projects



Planning Report



# Coastal Protection Fund



- GBA to raise money for targeted coastal protection projects
- Discussions with GBF in 2022 - goal was to issue charitable receipts
- Outcome: GBA would not have the required autonomy over the funds
- We continue to investigate the best way to initiate a Coastal Protection Fund

# Conclusion / Summary / Takeaways



Coastal Protection #1 Priority



Issues are Increasing and  
Becoming More Challenging



Development Pressures vs.  
Housing Needs



GBA Needs to be Vigilant,  
Responsive & Well Resourced

# GBA Water Committee Report

Working to Protect Your Water

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



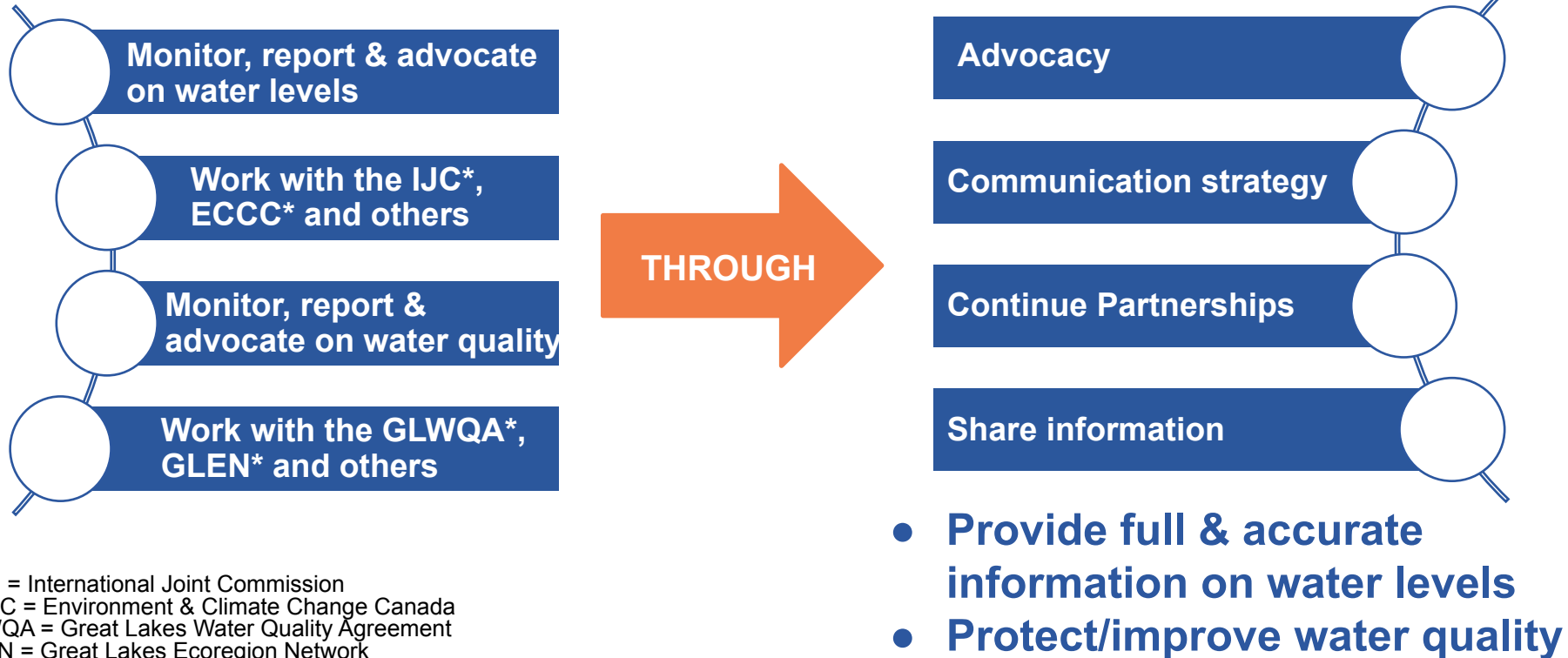
# Committee Members



- Andy Metelka Blackstone Lake
- Alan Waffle Honey Harbour
- Gordon Forstner Wah Wah Taysee
- Heather Sargeant Woods Bay
- Richard Wilson West Carling
- Jim Carson Wah Wah Taysee
- Katherine Denune SSCA

# Committee Mission

## Address Water Levels & Quality issues



\* IJC = International Joint Commission  
ECCC = Environment & Climate Change Canada  
GLWQA = Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement  
GLEN = Great Lakes Ecoregion Network

# Water Levels Activity Since the 2022 AMM



ECCC Climate Change Report  
Communications\*



Communication Strategy -  
Short/Long term plans



GBA/GBF Joint Delegations to  
Municipalities

Aerial photo provided by Andy Metelka

\*UPDATE article exaggerated the potential ranges of the extreme future water levels published by ECCC. This resulted in an overstatement of the potential ranges of extreme future water levels. Revised article to appear in next issue of UPDATE



# Water Quality Activity since the 2022 AMM



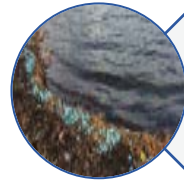
Clothes washing machines filters  
Bill & Dock Foam Regulations



Engaged in ECCC wetlands  
assessment and habitat survey



Participated in GLEN & 50th GLWQA



Other advocacy and Coastal  
Protection work



# Plans for 2023

## Water Levels



Communication  
Strategy



Delegations to  
Municipalities

## Water Quality



GLEN and GLWQA



Plastics Pollution &  
Other Issues

# Conclusion / Summary / Takeaways



**Water levels and water quality are top priorities for members and GBA**



**Continued advocacy and participation with organizations**



**Develop and disseminate content for our members**



**Monitor and report on latest news and research**

# GBA Boating, Safety & Emergencies Committee Report

KEEPING YOU SAFE

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



# Committee Members



- Andrew Hurlbut, Chair
- **Dan Busse**
- Doug Ferguson
- **Peter Frost**
- Freda Klassen
- **Stephen Sprague**
- Key River
- **Honey Harbour**
- Bayfield Nares
- **Bayfield Nares**
- Northern GB
- **South Channel**

# The State of Boating

	2019	2020	2021	2022
PCL	111755	141798	155731	133289
PCOC	145254	251992	198292	144795
Inquiries	2077	3692	4799	3585

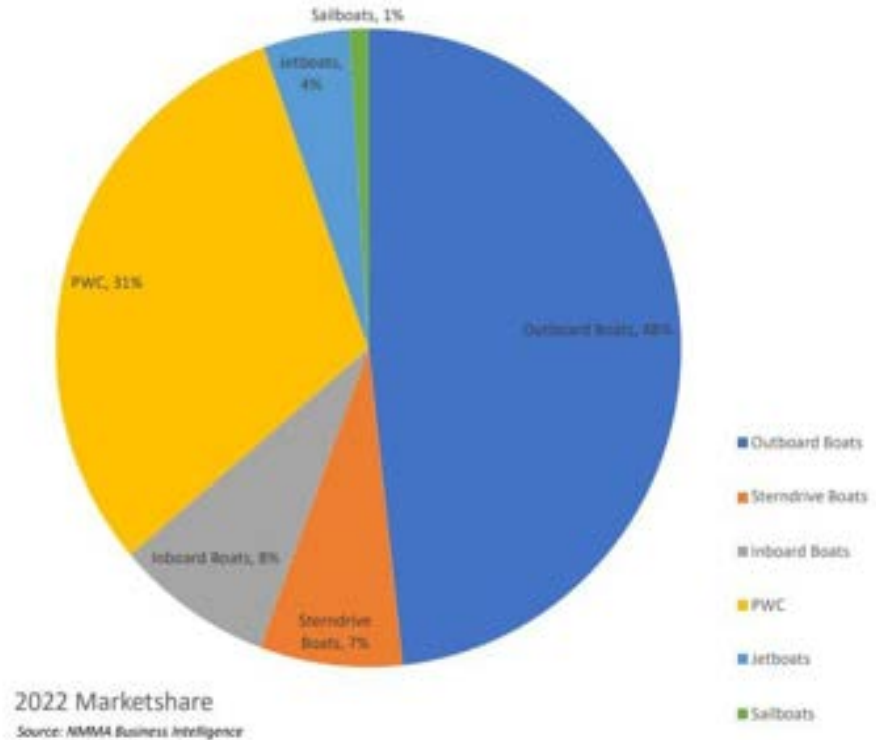


**In 2022 we finally saw some moderation in the growing interest in boating. Transport Canada saw a huge surge in applications for Pleasure Craft Licenses and Pleasure Craft Operator Competency cards that began in 2020 and continued into 2021. 86% of the Office of Boating Safety inquiries were about Pleasure Craft Licensing.**

# New Boat Sales

## Canada Retail New Boat Sales Units

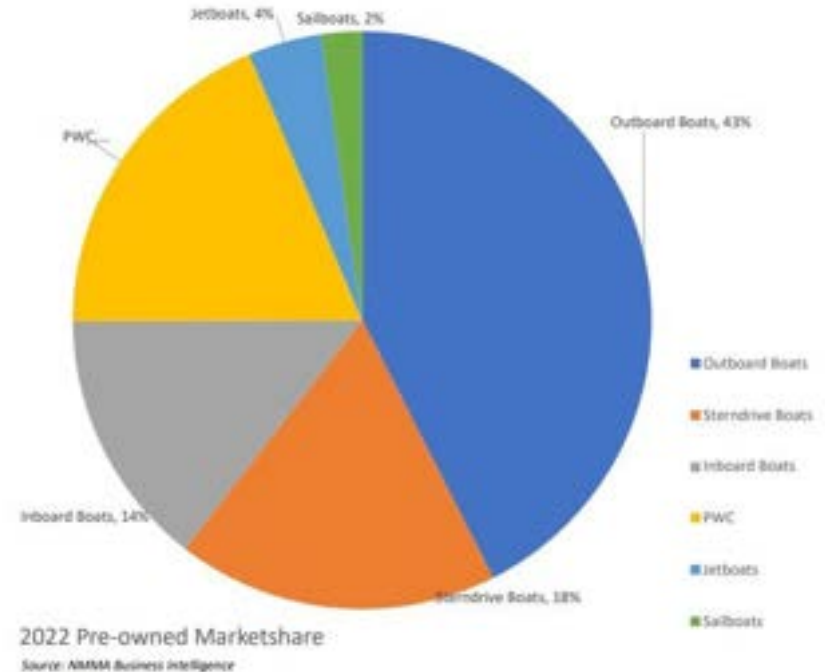
- sales were down 12% to ~41,000
- Outboard boats made up 48% of all new retail boat sales units
- Personal Watercraft unit sales made up 31%
- Sales across all segments were down except for Jetboats which were up 5%



# Used Boat Sales

## Canada Pre-owned Boat Sales Units - Market share

- Sales were down 20% to ~60,000 with sterndrives down 29%
- Outboard boats accounted for 43% of all pre-owned boat sales units
- PWC accounted for 19% of all pre-owned boat sales units and were -11%



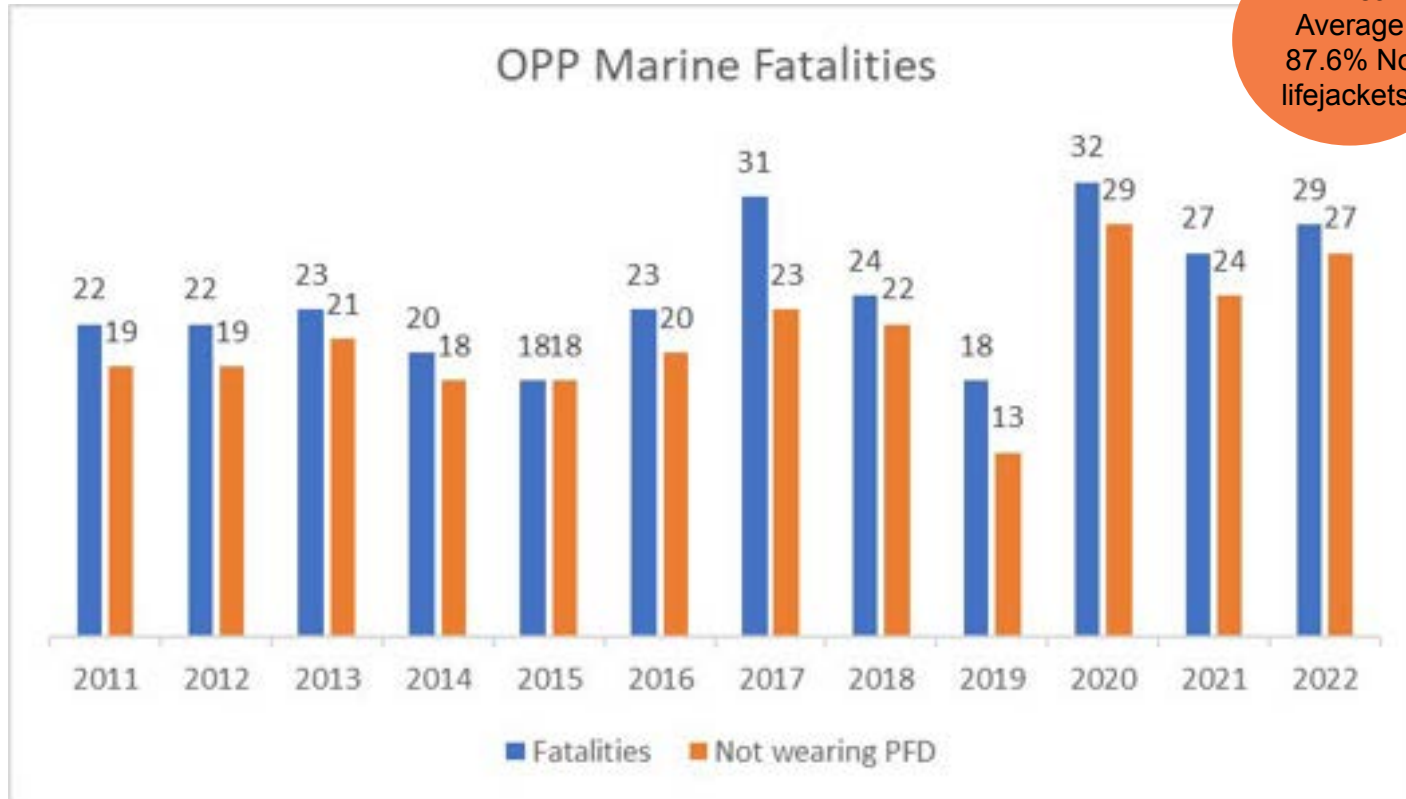
# What Happened on the Water - 2022 OPP Statistics

## 2022 saw 29 fatalities

- 3rd worst in the last 12 years
- 27 of the 29 (or 93%) were not wearing a PFD
- 28 of the 29 were male



# What Happened on the Water - 2022 OPP Statistics



12 Year  
Average  
87.6% No  
lifejackets!

# What Happened on the Water - 2022 OPP Statistics

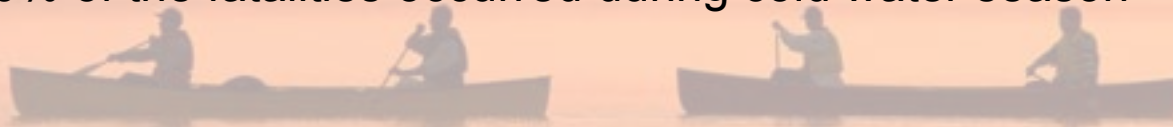
## Cause of Fatalities

- Capsizing - 13
- Collision with Fixed object - 2
- Collision with Floating object - 1
- Collision with a vessel - 2
- Fall overboard - 9
- Other - 2

## Vessel Types in the Fatalities

- Canoe - 7
- Fishing Boat (under 6m) - 7
- Kayak - 5
- PWC - 3
- Power Boat (over 6m) - 3
- Swimmer hit by boat - 1

- Vessels under 6m account for over 80% of total fatalities
- Unmotorized vessels were involved in 45% of total fatalities
- Over 50% of the fatalities occurred during cold water season



# Regulatory Consultations Coming in 2023

## **Mandatory Life-jacket Wear**

Transport Canada is expected to launch a Let's Talk Transportation consultation on mandatory life jacket wear this year. The factors that will be considered include age and vessel type and length.

## **Engine Cut off Switches**

Transport Canada is currently seeking comments (until May 19) on their Let's Talk Transportation portal on introducing new requirements on installing and using engine cut off switches. This would apply to vessels that are less than 8m with 3Hp and up and a primary helm that isn't in an enclosed cabin. Currently only PWCs are required to use the "kill switch".

# Regulatory Consultations Coming in 2023 (cont)

## **Pleasure Craft Licensing Regulation Modernization**

Will be going to Gazette 1 this spring for the final consultation on the proposed changes. The proposed changes are limiting the PCL to a 5-year term and subject to a \$15 renewal fee.

## **New Vessel Operation Restriction Regulation Schedule - Wakeboarding**

This spring TC will also be publishing in Gazette 1 their intention to create a new VORR schedule (7.1) for wakeboarding activities. This will potentially allow municipalities to implement restrictions on wakeboarding such as limiting it to specific areas in a lake and/or certain times.

# Regulatory Consultations Coming in 2024

## Decibel Coalition

The 2021 SQL survey showed 95% of respondents ranked relaxing by the water as very important. Loud boats were a major obstacle to this basic enjoyment. 67% of respondents were in favour of decibel limits.

TC has moved forward on boat noise emissions and will likely bring the proposed regulations for new and existing vessels to Gazette 1 for the final consultation towards the end of 2024.

Big thanks to the GBA membership for commenting on the **Let's Talk** proposal and writing to their MPs in support of decibel limits. Also a big thanks to the 9 Associations that joined the Decibel Coalition and made their voices heard.

# Regulatory Consultations Coming in 2024 (cont)

## **Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Regulation Modernization**

Scheduled to go to Gazette 1 in 2024. no direct effect on our membership

## **Powered Surfboards**

Lifting the prohibition on powered surfboards is scheduled to go to Gazette 1 in 2024.

# Coast Guard



The Coast Guard may be able to attend your AMM. Contact Andrew Hurlbut for details: [andrew@hurly.ca](mailto:andrew@hurly.ca)

# 2022 Ontario Forest Fire Stats

**2022**



**2021**



- 2022 was a very quiet fire season with 2,560 hectares burned in Ontario compared to over 793,000 hectares burned in 2021.
- In 2022 a cyclical pattern of warm weather followed by periods of significant widespread precipitation kept the fire hazard in check.

## Fire Resources for Your Members

- MNRF will be doing *FireSmart* presentations - Great for your own AMMs! Contact Andrew for details
- GBA has some great shareable resources on fire prevention and safety: <https://georgianbay.ca/boating/fire/>
  - "Fire Proof your Life" - the basics are available at: <https://georgianbay.ca/news/fireproof-your-life-the-basic>
  - Fire Won't Wait, Plan Your Escape - published in Spring UPDATE: <https://georgianbay.ca/flipbook/GBA-Spring-2023/6/>
- GBA posts our popular [Weekly Fire Danger Ratings for Georgian Bay](#) every Thursday from mid-May through mid-October.



# Ongoing BS&E Messaging



Lifejackets & PFDs



what3words



Georgian Bay for Everyone



FireSmart



Cold Water Awareness



No Ice is Safe Ice



eFlares



Messaging for OPP, MNRF,  
TC, CCG and other partners

# Takeaways

hydrofoils Unsafe Boating Behaviour  
How Safe Are Canoes?  
First Aid kits PWC  
Transport Canada Flare Disposal  
boat noise  
fatalities Coast Guard drones  
paddleboards Snowmobiling  
woodstoves Gazette 1 Cold Water Kills  
immersion VORRs Wildfire Prevention PFDs Let's Talk Transportation  
bubblers Be Bear-wise  
Safe Boating No Ice is Safe Ice OPP  
licencing Winter Driving  
insurance Water bombers  
winter survival kit Georgian Bay is for Everyone

# Takeaways



The BS&E committee published ~ 60 news items last year

GBA has lots of great content on all of these important topics and many more

Please repost, forward, retweet and share this content with your members, family & friends!!

# GBA Communications Committee Report

Building Stronger Communications

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY

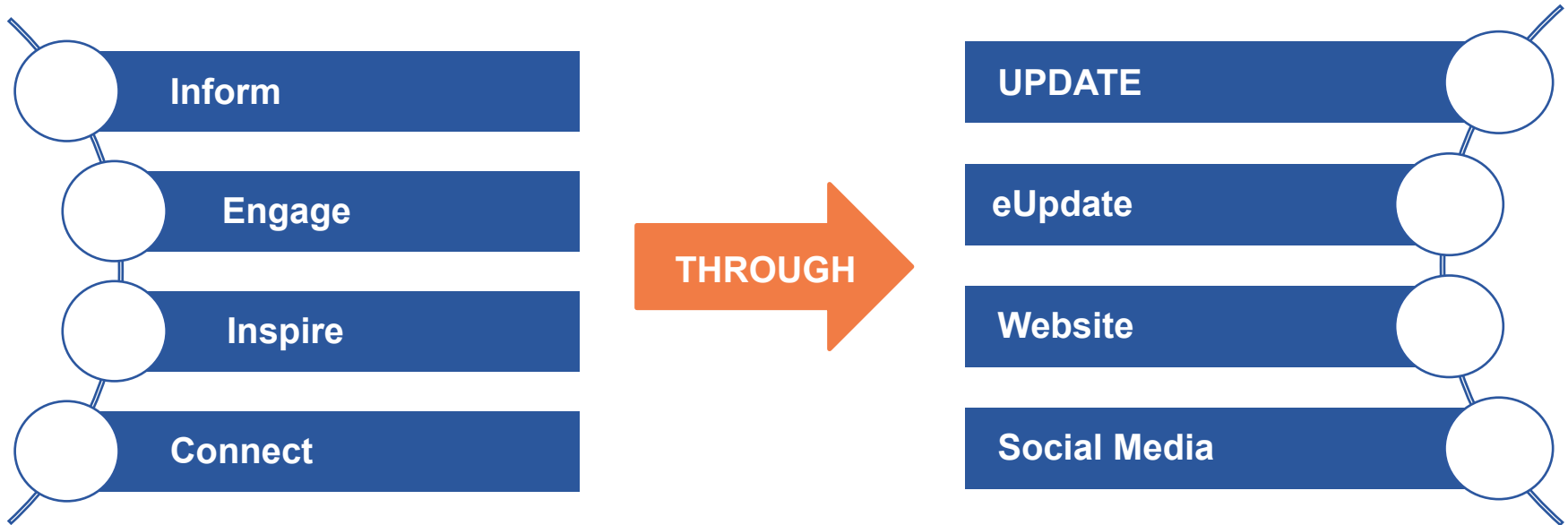


# Committee Members



- Rolfe Jones, Acting Chair - Cognashene
- Liz Phillips - BICA
- Allison Needham - West Carling
- Gord Forstner - Wah Wah Taysee
- Doug Whitton - McGregor Bay
- Stephen Sprague - South Channel
- Shannon Farquharson, (GBA, Communications & Executive Services Coordinator) – Sans Souci Copperhead

## Informing Stakeholders on Important Matters



# UPDATE, eUpdate & GBA Website

## UPDATE:

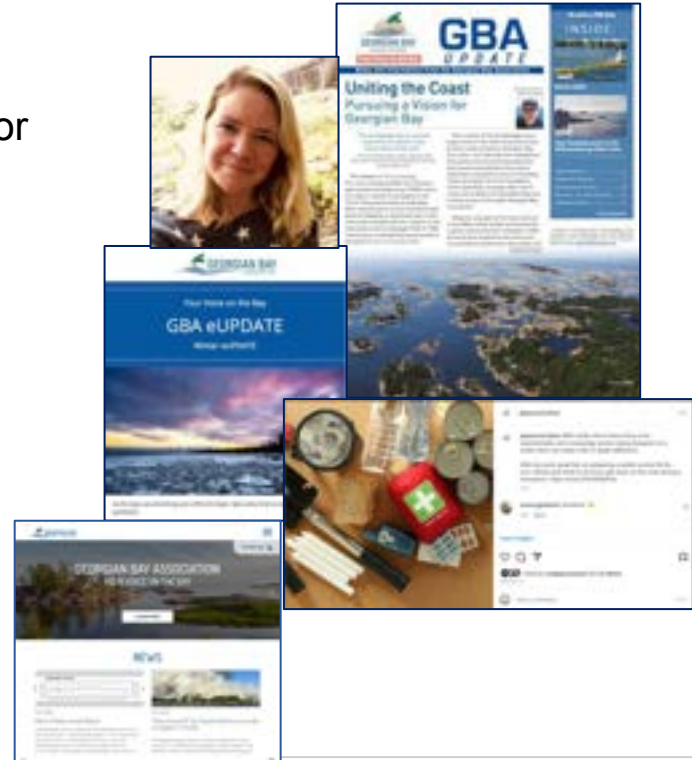
- Average circulation in 2022 ~3,300 copies
- Delivers approx. \$45,000 of advertising revenue
- Allison Needham will become our new UPDATE Editor

## eUpdate:

- 12 issues
- 32,640 emails sent
- Delivery rate 99%
- Open rate 70.8%
- Click rate 24.8%

## GBA Website:

- Pageviews: 87,828 (+1.2%)
- Returning Visitors: 11,284 (-1.4%)
- New Visitors: 38,714 (17.5%)



# Build New Membership Benefits/Advertising Programs

## Delivering Value to Members & Shareholders

- What Membership benefits do your members need/want (fire pumps, fire extinguishers, First Aid Kits...other “stuff”?)
- New benefits should help association membership drives
- These programs drive incremental advertising dollars which help offset costs



# We Need to Strengthen GBA's Value Proposition

## Working Better Together

- *“What do I get for my \$50 bucks?!”* is a constant refrain we all hear
- Overall members need to better understand what GBA does for them
- Need better two-way communications between GBA and our associations
- We need to hear more about what issues keep your members up at night
- GBA directors suggest they need more time to brief their boards/members
- Please don't consider GBA as an “add on” to your regular board meetings

# Takeaways



- Grow our advertising/revenue base
- Work together to build Membership Programs
- Better two-way communication
- Create a stronger GBA Value Proposition
- Support the President/Committee Chairs with stakeholder communications

# Fisheries Committee Report

Fish are our Friends

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



# Fisheries Committee Objectives



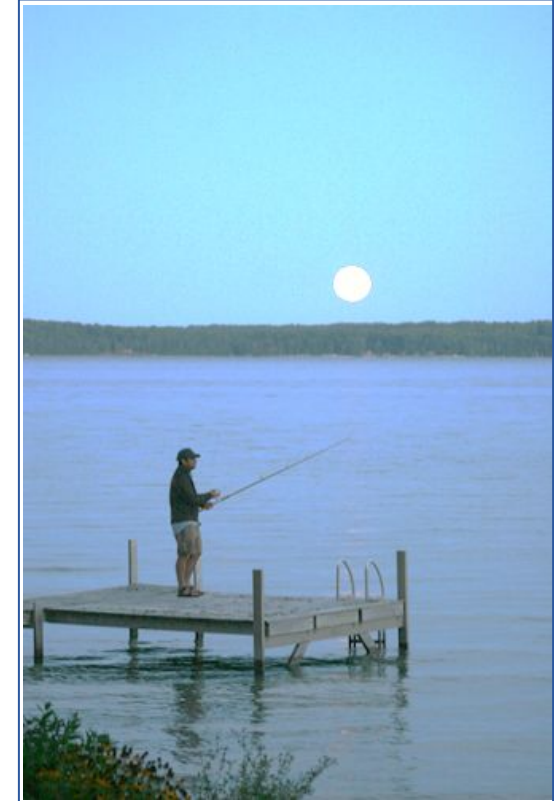
Promoting fisheries (commercial/recreational) value to northern and eastern Georgian Bay.



Identifying issues challenging fisheries and proposing steps to mitigate threats.



Building communication links with public and private partners.

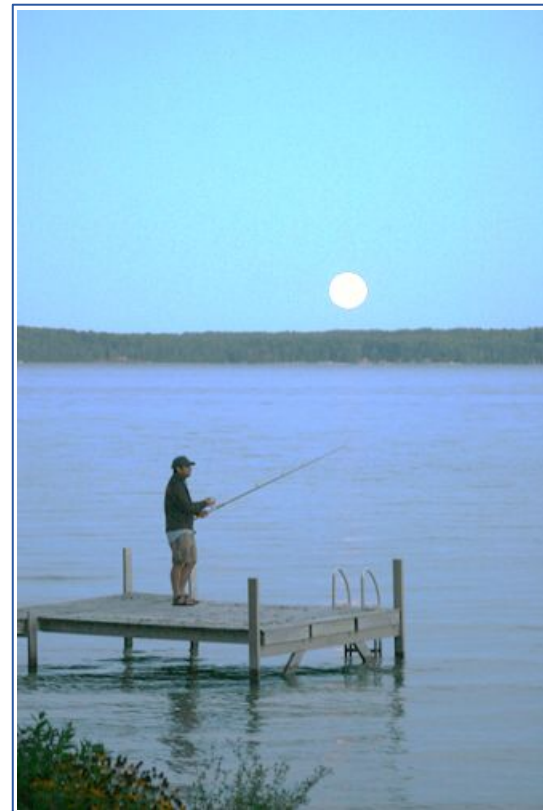


# Promoting Fisheries Value of Georgian Bay

Georgian Bay's recreational fisheries play a major role in Ontario's recreational fisheries valued at over \$1.75 billion a year.

GBA fisheries report "*New Recreational Fishing Regulations for FMZ 14*" identified key topics:

- Protection of the fishery is vital to local towns
- Opportunities for kids and new anglers
- Methods for building fisheries for future anglers
- New rules affecting walleye and lake trout fishing, using live bait, and proposals for catch and release



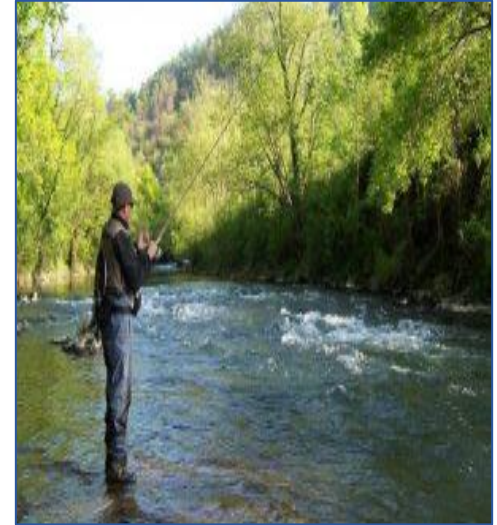
# Promoting Fisheries Value of Georgian Bay (con't)



Georgian Bay and North Channel's commercial fishery is part of Ontario's commercial fisheries valued at over \$377\* m in revenue and 1,100 jobs mostly in smaller communities



GBA promotes ways to assist local fisheries:  
(see GBA report *State of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay's Commercial Fisheries* (fall 2020))



# Issues Facing Fisheries and Steps to Mitigate Threats



- Slow recovery following Covid restrictions – commercial harvest declines 20/21 – the lowest over a 10-year period.
- Jump in sea lamprey numbers in year 22/23 caused by Covid restrictions affecting lamprey controls
- Invasives continue to upset local food chains/spawning grounds/movements of fish.
- Improper use/movement of live bait spreading invasives

# Issues Facing Fisheries and Steps to Mitigate Threats (con't)



- Walleye population recovery in certain areas while others continue to decline - new regulations regarding walleye stocking are expected in 2023-24
- Outdated fishing regulations affecting both the recreational and commercial fishery – need for new revisions on commercial and recreational fish quotas, catch, size and seasons, including designated fish sanctuaries and restricted fishing zones.

# Reports and Updates to Mitigate Threats to the Fishery



- Regulating Watercraft - Ontario's Invasive Species Act (02/20/22)
- Anglers May be Vulnerable to Tick Bites (02/19/22)
- New: Ontario's Live Bait Regulations (03/10/22)
- Sea Lampreys in Lake Huron – They Just Won't Go Away (01/25/23)
- Catch a Lake Trout in Deep Water? Think Twice About Releasing it (02/21/23)

# Reports and Updates to Mitigate Threats to the Fishery (con't)



- A Major Step – Tackling the Invasive Sea Lamprey Adult Population (03/05/23)
- Proposed Catch and Release Regulations (03/08/23)
- Brandon Road Lock and Dam Carp Protection-Project Update (Spring 2023)
- Lake Huron Walleye Stocking Program-a Fresh Approach (Winter/Spring 2023)

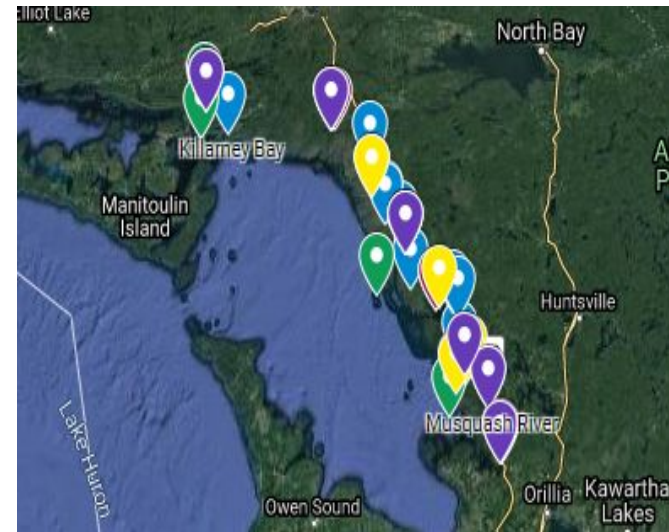
# Building Communication Links - Public and Private Partners

## 1. Fisheries Stewardship Framework – led by GBB

- Still in exploratory stage with objective to coordinate fisheries work along the Georgian Bay coast and North Channel

## 2. Building Communication links:

- Upper Great Lakes Management Unit and Council for Zones 13/14 –Walleye stocking review –proposed changes Spring '23
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Ontario Commercial Fisheries Co-operative
- Great Lakes Fisheries Commission
- 60 local commercial fisheries and 5 Aboriginal commercial fishing agreements



Long-term research and monitoring sites.

# GBA Aquaculture Committee Report

PROTECTING YOUR  
WATER QUALITY

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



# Committee Members



- o Claudette Young (Chair)
- o Bruce Barton
- o Jim Bolton
- o Jim Rusak
- o Dawn Drayton

# Committee Mission

## Aquaculture operations advance to environmentally sustainable systems



**THROUGH**



A vertical flow diagram with four white circles connected by lines, each containing a blue box with white text.

Advocacy to government and stakeholders

Promoting land-based systems

Keeping informed

Working with all stakeholders to get support for GBA position

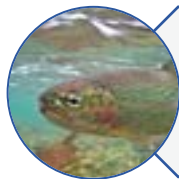
## Protect Georgian Bay water quality

# Activity Since the 2022 AMM

## Advocacy



MNRF - 20 year licenses



DFO, GLFC & Indigenous



Ontario Aquaculture Assoc.



## Engagement



Interact with Ontario  
Aquaculture Association (OAA)



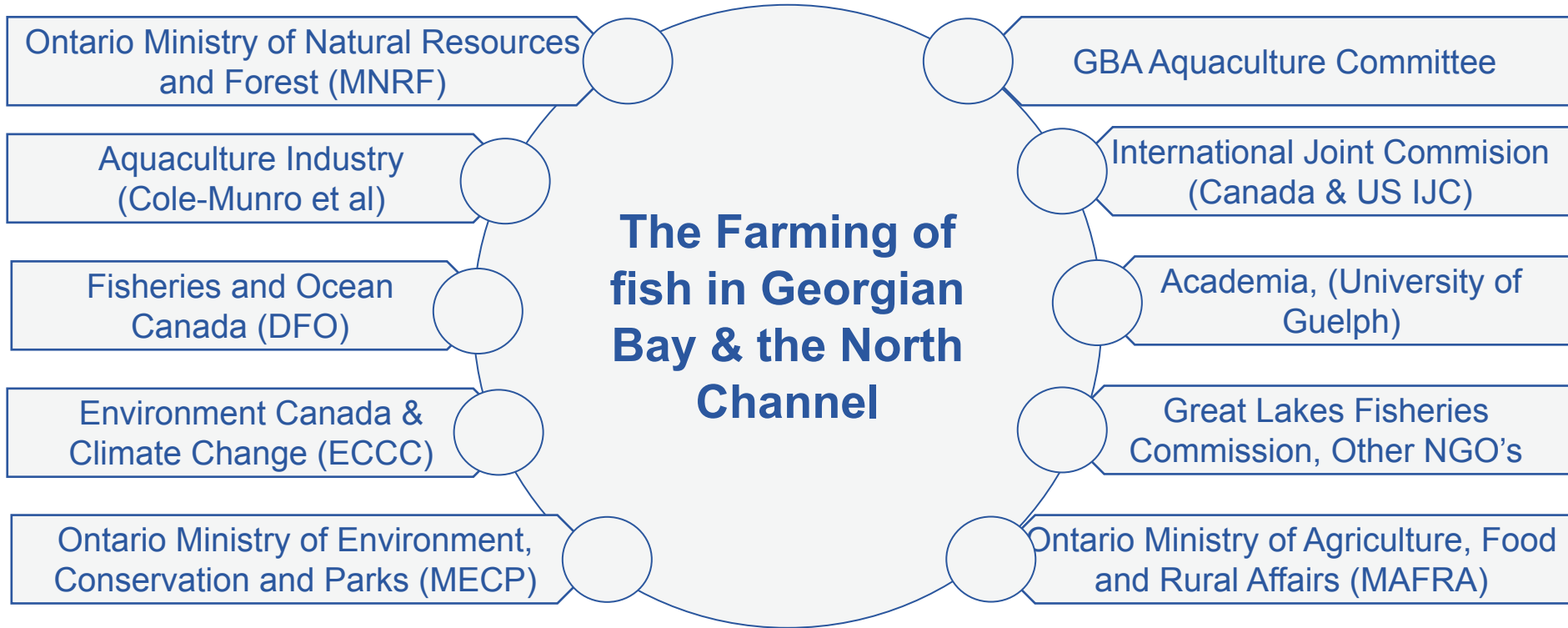
Follow up on meeting with  
MNRF, DFO and MECP



Advocate for an environmental  
forum for all stakeholders



# The Stakeholders Table of Collegial Participants



## Engagement



Consult with First Nations,  
and work towards alliance



Gain updates on Lake  
Wolsey Operation



Develop social media  
communication strategy



## Advocacy



Stop the 20-year licencing



Get Lake Wolsey Operation  
closed down



Advocate for review of the 2011  
DFO/MNRF MoU



Wabuno Channel Fish Farms

## Advocacy



Promote the BC transition plan for Great Lakes Aquaculture



Learn more of and contemplate support for the Waubetek Plan



## Conclusion: Push for improved transparency



- Insist on GBA being at the table
- Inform other stakeholders
- Connect with all levels of Government (IJC, federal, provincial, municipal)
- Slow down the growth of cage farms

# From Open Net Pens - With No Biosecurity



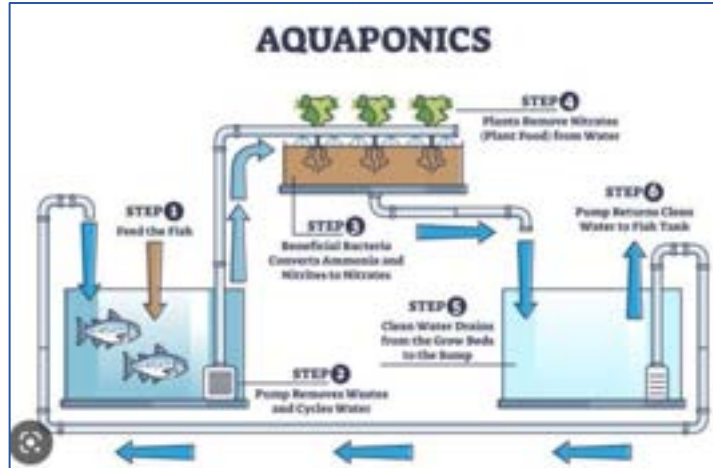
*Wabuno Channel Fish Farms*



*Aqua-Cage  
Fisheries*



# To Sustainable, Safe, Secure Onshore Sites



# GBA Lands & Forest Committee Report

Working to maintain  
healthy forests and habitat

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



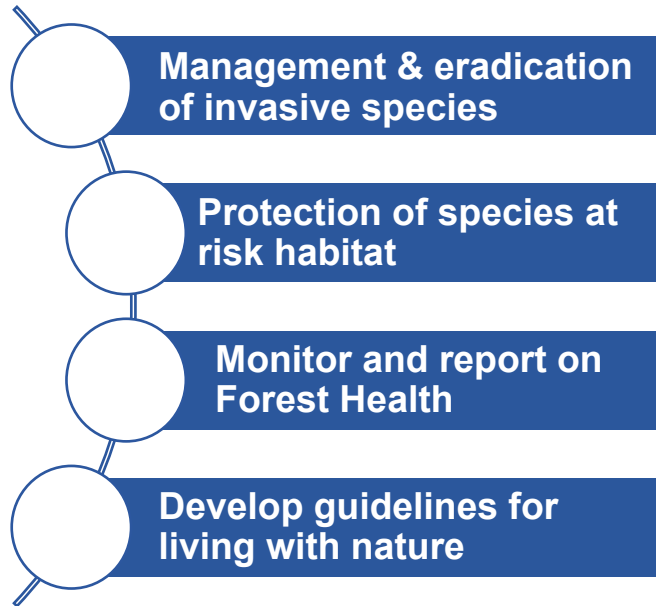
# Committee Members



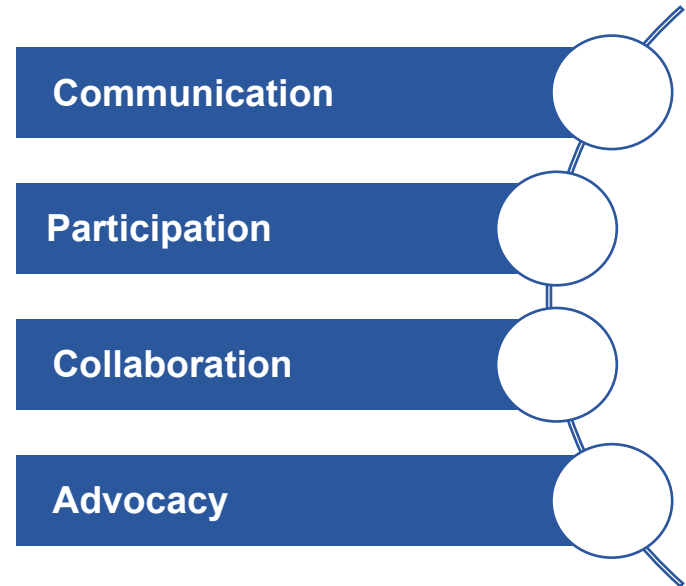
- Richard Wilson (chair) West Carling
- Freda Klassen Northern GB
- Heather Sargeant Woods Bay
- Katherine Denune SSCA

# Committee Mission

**Inform, educate and advocate on forest health and stewardship**



**THROUGH**



**Maintain a healthy habitat for all flora and fauna in Georgian Bay lands & forests**

# Activity in 2022

## Invasive Species



Phragmites Working Group



Forest Health



Invasive Species Centre



# Activity in 2022

## Stewardship



Species at Risk



Property Dos and Don'ts



Living with Nature



## Health Risks



Hazardous Plants



Ticks and Lyme Disease



Harmful Fungus and Bacteria



# Plans for 2023: Forest Health

## Forest Health



Attend Forest Health Seminars



Monitor and report on current and new diseases



Provide support and advocacy as issues come up



# Plans for 2023: Species at Risk

## Species at Risk Act



Review Annual Species at Risk Act Report & submit executive summary to GBA



Subscribe to COSEWIC distribution list and review proceedings of bi-annual COSEWIC meetings



Advocacy to Government as required



# Plans for 2023: Species at Risk

## Content for Members



Status of the Species at Risk in Georgian Bay



Work being done by GBA & other GB organizations



Annual report on changes in classification of GB native species



# Plans for 2023: Invasive Species

## Invasive Species



Make connection with Invasive Species Centre & become a collaborator



Advocacy to Government as required



Phragmites



# Conclusion / Summary / Takeaways



- Continue monitoring forest disease
- Provide advocacy as needed
- Participate in working groups and seminars
- Provide informed and timely updates to our members

# GBA Guardians of the Bay Committee Report

Celebrating Difference Makers

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



# Committee Members



- Katherine Denune, Chair - SSCA
- Dawn Drayton - Manitou

# Committee Mission

Actively encourage community associations and individuals to adopt and model the “Guardians Ethic” to preserve and protect Georgian Bay for future generations.



# What does being a Guardian of the Bay mean?

- That you have a deep appreciation and respect for Georgian Bay and recognize that it is a special and fragile place.
- That you understand human actions, attitudes and decisions have a significant effect on the state of the Georgian Bay ecosystem.
- That you care enough about the Bay to model your actions, decisions and behaviors in favor of the long term health and sustainability of the Georgian Bay ecosystem.



## Activity in 2022



### SSCA and South Channel Association Video Project

In the summer of 2022 Katherine Denune, GBA's Guardians Chair, took her iPhone out to capture some of the ways members of the Sans Souci and Copperhead Association and the South Channel Association are actively working to preserve and protect the unique habitats of Georgian Bay. Check out what she discovered!



# Activity in 2022



## SSCA and South Channel Association Video Project

The videos feature over 40 community members on topics including:

- shoreline cleanups
- invasive species mitigation
- naturalized shorelines
- water monitoring
- native plants
- animal, bird, reptile and fish habitats



# Activity in 2022



## SSCA and South Channel Association Video Project



# Plans for 2023



## Guardians Stewardship Recognition Award

Development of a community stewardship recognition program to honour community members who are actively involved in protecting Georgian Bay.



# GBA First Nations Liaison Committee Report

Evolving Perspectives

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



# Committee Members



Doug Whitton, Chair

**Dan Busse**

Bob Duncanson

**Doug Ferguson**

Freda Klassen

**John McMullen**

Liz Phillips

McGregor Bay

**Honey Harbour**

Mad Club

**Bayfield Nares**

Northern GB

**Bayfield Nares**

Bay of Islands

# Committee Mission

- **Seek awareness and understanding of First Nations' perspectives on land, forest, fisheries and water issues.**
- **Work to improve communications between GBA and its member associations, on the one hand, and with First Nations bands, on the other.**
- **Nurture collaborative guardianship efforts on facets of Georgian Bay which are of common concern.**



# Networking and Educational Activity

## 8th Annual Indigenous Lands, Resources and Environment Management event

- March 1 & 2 in Sudbury
- Hosted by Magnetewan First Nation
- Numerous First Nations, Environmental Organizations, Government



# Networking and Educational Activity

## 8th Annual Indigenous Lands, Resources and Environment Management event



Shilah LeFeuvre  
Chippewas of Rama First Nation  
[shilahlefeuvre@trentu.ca](mailto:shilahlefeuvre@trentu.ca)  
MSc Candidate at Trent University

# Networking and Educational Activity

## 8th Annual Indigenous Lands, Resources and Environment Management event

- Using Indigenous Knowledge and Genetics to Study **Eastern Wolves** (*Canis lycaon*) in partnership with Magnetawan & Shawanaga First Nations, and Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory.
- Indigenous led collaborative project.



# Networking and Educational Activity

## 8th Annual Indigenous Lands, Resources and Environment Management event

***“To truly decolonize  
science, research must  
prioritize Indigenous  
Knowledge”***



# Networking and Educational Activity

## 8th Annual Indigenous Lands, Resources and Environment Management event

***“Braiding knowledge  
systems have their  
strengths and they can  
work together for the  
benefit of all ”***



# Update - Wiikwemkoong Interim Land Claim



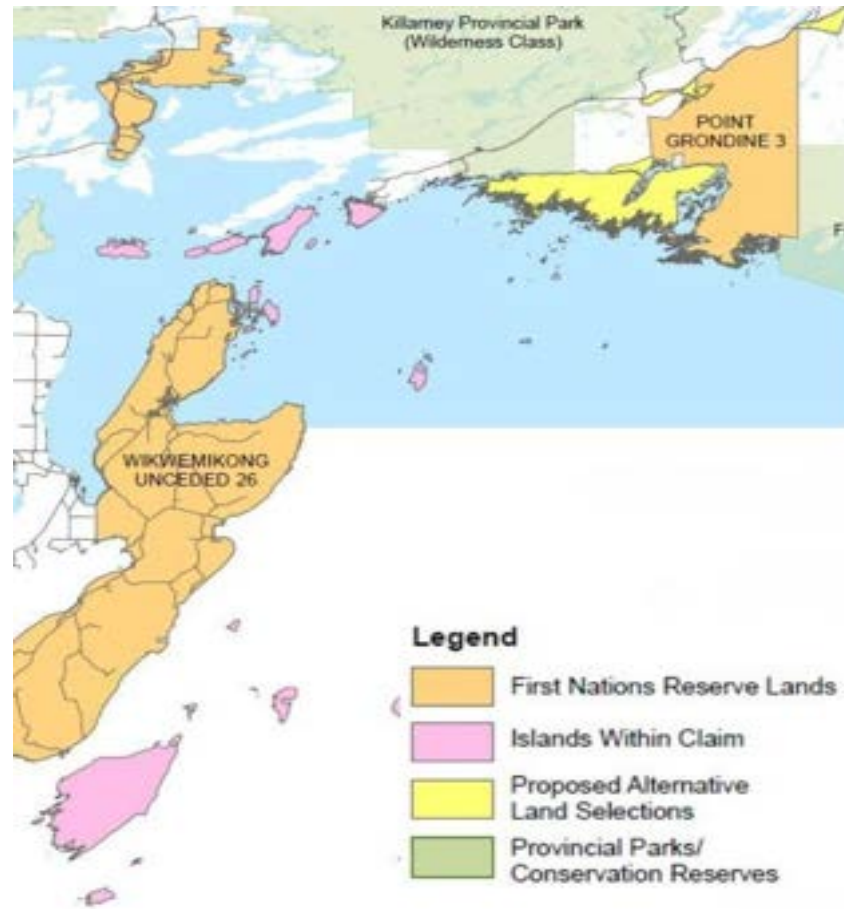
**Environmental Study  
Report completed**



**Wiiky/NGBA/GBA  
Agreement**



**Federal Environmental  
Site Assessment**



# Shawanaga Island IPCA - Update



**IPCA approval of the Management Plan - pending**



**Shawanaga First Nation Council must approve management plan**



**Provincial government will consider the plan**



**Province has not yet developed a process or policy to consider IPCA's**



**Federal funding ended Apr 1**

# Shawanaga Island IPCA - Update

***“We also want to work with marine organizations, cottagers’ associations, and local businesses to minimize the negative impacts of recreational boaters on the lands and waters.”***

<https://shawanagaislandipca.ca/about/story-of-the-island/>



**SHAWANAGA ISLAND**  
INDIGENOUS PROTECTED & CONSERVED AREA

# Areas of Focus



## GBA Land & Water Acknowledgement

- **Acknowledgements will be given at annual meetings and public events**



# Areas of Focus



## Identifying synergies within GBA committees

- **Continue to explore how GBA committees can embrace and integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)**
  - Avoid cultural appropriation (Ownership of knowledge)
  - Appropriately bridge knowledge systems

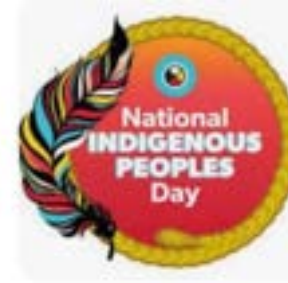


# Areas of Focus



## Member Education

- Continue to promote Indigenous commemorative and awareness days as well as First Nations events along the eastern and northern shore of Georgian Bay.
- Work to increase the sharing of First Nations cultural knowledge and information, including TEK with GBA members.



# Takeaways



- Indigenous approaches to protecting biodiversity are most effective.
- IPCA policy/procedure - more leadership needed.
- First Nations have an increasing role in protecting ecosystems and species in Georgian Bay.

# GBA Membership Committee Report

Membership Matters

YOUR VOICE ON THE BAY



# Committee Members



- Stephen Sprague, Acting Chair - South Channel
- Dawn Drayton - Manitou
- Alan Stratton - SSCA

## GBA Associations Membership Numbers Full Members (as at Dec 31)

Year	1995	2009	2021	2022
	2,850	3,179	2,802	2,903

Increase from Dec 31 2021:	3.6%	101
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Other Membership Categories:	705	726
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Increase from Dec 31 2021:	2.9%	21
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# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Economic Impact Survey

Why did we do it?

To commodify the economic impacts of our GBA members in an effort to strengthen our advocacy work.



# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Economic Impact Survey



### Key results

- GBA represents around 34,000 people based on the survey result of 11.78 people per household (average)
  - Our previous estimate was 6 people per household
  - We use a conservative 30,000 people to describe the GBA reach in communications

# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Economic Impact Survey

### Key results

- GBA members contribute around \$144 million annually to the Ontario economy

# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Strategic Initiatives and Membership Survey

Why did we do it?

To help steer our strategic priorities to make sure we are tackling the issues important to you and your members.

# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Strategic Initiatives Results (% are Strongly Agree or Agree)

- Communications (100%)
- Water (100%)
- Wetland, Fisheries, Lands & Forests (100%)
- Boating, Safety and Emergencies (88%)
- Coastal Protection (88%)
- Aquaculture (81%)
- Indigenous Relations (75%)



# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Strategic Initiatives Results (other areas)

- Marina ownership concentration
- Coastal Protection
- Offshore wind farms
- Light Pollution
- Fire Safety



# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Strategic Initiatives Takeaways

- Most associations are in alignment with GBA's Strategic Initiatives
- Continue to expand our Coastal Protection Committee
  - Planning
  - Development
  - Protecting the Environment



# Activity since the 2022 AMM



## GBA Membership Survey

***GBA must do a better job of positioning our value to cottagers and assist the associations with consistent messaging***

## Activity in 2022



Rice Insurance is now BrokerLink



BrokerLink works with more insurance providers and is able to get bundling discounts of up to 17%

- GBA and BrokerLink are finalizing details

# Plans for 2023



*Assist our associations with consistent messaging of GBA's value proposition*



Continue to grow and improve upon GBA member benefits



Continue to produce GBA member guides (Cell tower map, Planning Guide, Septic Guide, etc.)

