



CLCA NEWSLETTER — AUGUST 2020

CLCA meetings

The CLCA Board has two general meetings a year. The first on the July long weekend and the annual general meeting is held on the September long weekend. Due to Covid -19 group size restrictions, we were not able to have our July meeting - and are not able to proceed with the annual general meeting. **As a result, board elections will be suspended for this year.**

Membership

CLCA continues to collect and confirm contact information. If we missed you this summer, please send in your information via our website:

info@clearlakecabinassociation.org

CLCA discussion with the Park

On Friday, July 31st, The CLCA board met with Leanne Cooper, Acting Superintendent, Kevin Bachewich, Townsite manager and Alison Bardsley, Realty Advisor and A/Development Officer.

The meeting provided the opportunity to discuss the following topics:

Boat Cove and Boat Parking

There have been some issues brought to our attention regarding boat parking in the cove parking area. The Park is investigating these issues and will be addressing them and continuing to look at future management and improvements to the cove area and parking.

Parks will be looking to engage partners and stakeholders to help guide the management of these challenges we all face. Many comments have been collected and will be considered as the area needs to be managed for all visitors and not only the cabin area residents. Parks is requesting that empty trailers are not to be parked in that area.

5th street and 2nd street docks

There were some issues with the pathway to the kayak/canoe area washing out this summer. The Park stated that there are many areas that are rich with cultural resources including the south shoreline which require archeological intervention. It is important to remember we are in a National Park and development has many considerations that may not be the same elsewhere. We addressed the possibility of more docks in that area and the park agreed to look at options but did recognise it was not intended to be a beach area. A reminder that KAYAKs and Canoes should be removed at the end of the season. Parks may remove all remaining items at the end of the season if not collected.

National Permitting Process and compliance.

Parks Canada has been working on a permitting process. This national strategy consultations were to happen this summer, but was delayed due to COVID 19. At this point they are at the drafting phase for the regulations and interpretative guidelines – the two main documents that will make up the planning permit process. All consultation documents can still be found at <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/agence-agency/lr-ar/consultations>, as well as on Parks Canada's Forward Regulatory Plan.



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During 2018 consultations stakeholders, including those from Wasagaming, was very helpful in refining parks thinking and addressing concerns on how parks administer land use planning authorities and expressed interest in attending a second round of public meetings to discuss the text of draft regulations and interpretative guidelines. This is in the original project plan and parks look forward to future conversations to help establish an effective planning permit process. In terms of a timeline parks anticipated getting public feedback in 2020. Naturally, with the current events related to COVID 19, work on the plan to get there is also impacted. Parks are committed to modernizing the permit process as well as having further engagement before new regulations come into force. We'll provide ample notice to stakeholder groups before any event takes place.

Compliance – Parks Canada, the CLCA and many lessees have identified concerns regarding land use compliance in the cabin area. Parks Canada has been addressing many of these issues and is looking at implementing a more comprehensive compliance plan. Key considerations are adherence to the National Park regulations, Building Guidelines and the community plan. There has been a few examples of unauthorised mowing, tree removal or trimming, off lot development or landscaping, parking challenges, modifications to kitchen shelters to name a few. A reminder was to adhere to use within your lot lines with permitted development and uses. If your not sure please contact the office as non compliance may impact the standing of your lease. The regulation changes mentioned above will provide greater ability to where additional tools including additional fines can be given out for non-compliance with Parks Canada rules and regulations. Parks Canada has identified they would like work with cabin owners ensure all permits or requirements are met to avoid pursuing formal processes.

A couple reminders...

A building permit is required for all construction and changes to a leased lot. Off-lot construction or improvements are not allowed.

A plumbing permit is required for all water and sewer connection.

The Park endeavors to maintain a natural landscape – **existing** natural terrain, trees and vegetation will be retained wherever possible. A very limited amount of urban landscaping or replacement of lawn to gravel/stone is allowed **by permit only**. All plantings will adhere to park encouraged and discouraged species list.

Please contact Allison.bardsley@canada.ca for any development requests.

Washrooms

Parks Canada and the CLCA discussed the status of the Washroom Buildings. Covid19 played a factor in the number of staff available this year and additional cleaning requirements to operate all facilities.

In addition to this discussion it was recognised that a memorandum of understanding was signed on June 20, 2012 between Parks Canada and the Cabin Association regarding the phasing out of washrooms. It was agreed washrooms would be retained until October of 2019. Parks Canada has informed us that approximately 75% of cabin owners are now hooked up to water and they are still running 100% when they are fully operational. Parks Canada has been taking the opportunity to conduct an assessment of facilities and will share a strategy for future use with the CLCA in 2021.



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Emergency exits

Parks Canada continues to working on an emergency plan for the area.

It is essential that everyone has their own plan in place to know what you would do in case of an emergency. The emergency alert through cell phones is active in the area for major emergencies and Parks Canada does have access to this. A great resource to visit is getprepared.ca

AED – A reminder there is an AED at the Shower building for emergencies. Please report any use of this unit to Parks Canada so we can ensure it is ready all times.

Trees and tree replacement

Parks Canada will continue to focussing on removal of hazardous trees this winter. All tree removals in the park; whether they are hazard trees, trees removed for development and landscaping, or Dutch elm disease, require a permit. Contact Parks Canada at 204-848-7275 or the Front desk of the admin building to request a tree removal permit. Trees on leased property are the responsibility of the lessee. Parks Canada will conduct hazard assessments and issue permits where required. Parks Canada can also provide a list of licensed tree removal companies. If a tree does damage your cabin you are advised to contact your insurance company to arrange for removal. Parks Canada will continue to conduct a hazard tree assessment on an ongoing basis with additional assessments and removals in the fall. Stumps are addressed on an individual basis similar to the tree process but may not always be removed. Parks Canada is reminding lessees that no off-lot tree/brush clearing or off lot development is permitted.

Cook shacks and wood

The Park monitors and delivers wood to the cook shacks as required. Theft has been an ongoing problem. Please realize that the wood is not free for the taking and it is a privilege that parks supplies wood to the cabin area. This is not the case in the cottage area and the cost is not technically included in any land rent or billings at this time. Picking up wood to use at home or at a private cottage is theft. If you suspect someone is helping themselves, please jot down the license number and call the Park or the RCMP. Parks Canada does have security and monitoring cameras in various locations throughout the park for security purposes.

Garbage and Recycling

Just a reminder that the dumpsters in the back lanes are for household garbage only. **Please do not leave items beside the bins as the Park will not pick them up.**

We do have **Deadwood Wednesdays** - the next date is **August 26th**. Leaves and brush clippings can be left beside the wood shacks ready for pickup on that day.

Other items -old mattresses, chairs, BBQ's etc. should be taken to the landfill at Onanole. There is a small charge for this.

Fire Safety

We have had questions about the use of fire pits and fire tables. There are no open fires permitted in the cabin area. The Park discourages the use of any open flame and does not permit anything off lot. The Park is currently working on a fire policy for the entire park, including the cabin area which will also address the use of propane appliances.

CLCA board activities



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- Esther Marks tendered her resignation. This was accepted by the board.
- The constitution is under review by Gale Simpson, Brad Collett, and Sandy Kluka
- Tree and vegetation plan for the old campground is being developed by Regent Bellemare. This will be shared with the board when completed.
- John George is continuing to work on identifying boat cove and parking issues.
- The grounds committee made up of Regent Bellemare, Andy Urbanowich, Keith Vinthers, Marlene Wilson and Lyle Grobb will continue to monitor washroom closures and will be meeting with the park when they share their plan in early 2021.
- The board would like to remind you that for an enjoyable summer, please be considerate of your neighbours. If you have external lights on your cabin, perhaps, for the benefit of your neighbours, consider not leaving them on all night.

Updates on the various **park projects** can be found at <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/mb/riding/info/infra-prog>

Parks Management Plan - Any public consultations related to the park management plan have been put on hold temporarily as a result of the C19 issue. In the meantime, Parks Canada staff have been doing some of the preparatory background work necessary to launch the management planning process when concerns around meetings and gatherings have past.

Highway 19

Parks Canada would like to advise travelers that construction work will take place on the western portion of Highway 19 in Riding Mountain National Park. The highway will be resurfaced with gravel to raise the road grade, and repairs will be made to the guardrail. Trucks and grading equipment will be working throughout the area from 7:00am to 7:00pm daily until the scheduled work is completed into October.

Public safety is a priority for Parks Canada. We ask visitors to use caution when travelling on Highway 19 and to be prepared for loose rocks, as well as speed reductions that may result in occasional 5-10 minute delays to facilitate the movement of equipment and materials on the road. Travelers are reminded to respect posted construction signs and traffic controllers at the scene.

Parks Canada is completing this important work to ensure safe, high-quality experiences for visitors by improving heritage, visitor, waterway, and highway assets located within national historic sites, national parks, and national marine conservation areas.

COVID19

Parks Canada is following advice from public health experts and implementing measures to support Canada's efforts to limit the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and reduce the risks to Canadians, visitors, Parks Canada team members, and contractors working at our places. Please follow all MB Health Protocols <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html> and visit the parks website for more info <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/mb/riding/visit/covid-19-info>

Lyle Grobb

CLCA President - (with input from RMNP Townsite manager, Kevin Bachewich)