



# THE TINY COTTAGER

## President's Message

By PAUL COWLEY

Since the fall *Tiny Cottager* appeared we have faced many and varied issues, but none more intense than our record low lake levels. It has become everyone's focus and has far-ranging impacts for cottagers and businesses alike.

If you have not been to your cottage since last fall you will be shocked when you see the even lower lake levels that await you.

In January Lake Michigan-Huron set record lows and will recover only slightly as we approach summer. FoTTSA has consistently supported the effort of the Great Lakes Section of the Sierra Club, reaching a new level of involvement around the International Joint Commission (IJC) hearing in Midland last July.

Since then the intensity of our efforts to assist the Sierra Club has grown. We met first with Canadian politicians in Ottawa. We then headed south of the border last fall to engage with and inform our US neighbours who share our precious Lake Michigan-Huron. Several more trips to the US ultimately led to the incorporation of Restore Our Water International Inc. (ROWI). I am pleased to be one of its directors (details on page 3).

ROWI continued to work hard to persuade both Canadian and US governments to take remedial action to stem the water loss through the St. Clair River.

This difficult battle was rewarded on April 26th when the IJC commissioners officially advised both governments to proceed as expeditiously as possible to remedy the excessive water loss down the St. Clair River.

While this recent IJC recommendation is a significant step toward restoring our water levels, I would emphasize that we are a long way from being out of the woods. There are many politicians and agencies to convince. The potential to get derailed at any point is great. ROWI and the Sierra Club are keeping things on track, with FoTTSA's help.

FoTTSA together with Tiny Township have proposed a major public meeting to update the community and seek your support for their efforts:

Saturday, July 6, 2013 10am – noon  
Tiny Township Community Hall  
91 Concession 8 East

Roger Gauthier (Chairman of ROWI) will be among the guest speakers. We expect this meeting to kick off a major fund-raising effort to support the cost of professional and personal lobbying in Washington and Ottawa. Activities like these will require \$250,000 per year for the next few years so your ongoing support is critical. I look forward to seeing you on July 6.

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## Finally! IJC Recommends Measures to Restore our Water Levels

By JACK ELLIS

Just as we heard the good news that significant snowfall this winter and well above average rainfall this spring has helped raise the level of Georgian Bay by almost 11 inches (26 cm), we got another piece of very good news. The International Joint Commission (IJC) advised the governments of Canada and the United States to investigate how to increase water levels in Lake Michigan/Huron as quickly as practicable.

This is a huge step forward and strong evidence that advocacy has been effective.

All the Great Lakes were low last summer due to warm dry weather, but our lake hit an all-time record low. Lakes Erie and Ontario have since almost recovered to their long-term average, but our beloved Georgian Bay still suffers massively from the extraordinary loss of water each day due to erosion of the St. Clair River.

Finally, the breakthrough came on April 26th: the International Joint Commission issued its Advice to Governments on the Recommendations of the Upper Great Lakes Study. You can view it online at [http://ijc.org/iuglsreport/?page\\_id=1024](http://ijc.org/iuglsreport/?page_id=1024), but here are some nuggets from their report.

"The Commission heard from the public about stranded docks, struggling marinas, parched wetlands, exposed shoreline protection and empty expanses of muck, rocks and weeds where families used to swim. Current record low levels on Lake Michigan-Huron have exacerbated these concerns."

The Commission "Recommends further investigation to restore Lake Michigan-Huron water levels. The deepening and widening of the navigational channel in the St. Clair River in the early 1960s resulted in . . . lowering of Lake Michigan-Huron water levels . . . the Study Board found that limited water level restoration was technically feasible and public support for more detailed analysis of such restoration was widespread.

Therefore, the Commission recommends that the governments undertake further investigation of options to increase water levels in Lake Michigan-Huron by 13 to 25 cm (about 5 to 10 inches) and that this investigation be funded, undertaken and concluded as quickly as practicable."

The April 26th report constitutes a remarkable change in the IJC's thinking. They initiated a study of the Upper Great Lakes (IUGLS) that took five years and cost many millions of dollars. That study board initially recommended doing nothing to slow the flows in the St. Clair, but a wave of public reaction occurred, sparked largely by the Sierra Club and helped by FoTTSA. The IJC overruled the study board and asked it to evaluate a range of potential solutions.

Finally the IJC has asked governments now to do the right thing, and find ways to control the only uncontrolled outlet of any Great Lake. We applaud their wisdom and courage in coming to this decision.

But we remind everyone that continued advocacy is absolutely necessary to ensure that remedial action be implemented on the St. Clair River by the governments of Canada and the United States.

### SEPTAGE MANAGEMENT STUDY INFORMATION CENTRE

There will be a Public Information Centre (PIC) for the Septage Management Class Environmental Assessment Study project on June 1, 2013, 10 am to 12 noon, at the Township of Tiny Community Centre, 91 Concession 8 East.

The Centre is open to the public, and it is expected that treatment technology options and preliminary mapping of potential locations will be on view.

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2013 Events

For a more complete list including web addresses, please see the 2013 Events page on [www.tinycottager.org](http://www.tinycottager.org).

- MAY

24-June 8

Communicating Doors, Huronia Players, Midland Cultural Centre

25-26

Midland Model Train Show, North Simcoe Sports Centre, Midland

24-26

Waterfront Festival, Heritage Park, Barrie
- JUNE

1

Kids Fishing Derby, Midland

Bike Rodeo, Midland

1-2

Doors Open Collingwood

6

Night at the Museum, Simcoe County Museum, Minesing

8-9

Wheels & Tracks in Motion, Simcoe County Museum

13-Aug 17

Squared Off – Community Group Exhibit

Landscapes in Oil – Heather Collins

at Quest Art, Midland Cultural Centre

15

Wasaga Beach Fun Run – Classic Car Event

15 -16

Centurion Cycling, Horseshoe Valley

21

Party on the Dock, Midland

National Aboriginal Day, Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons

22

Teddy Bear Picnic, Perkinsfield Park

22

Camp Simpresca Open House 51 Simpresca Rd., Midland

22-23

Aboriginal Festival Weekend, Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons

Wasaga Beach Fest

Coldwater & Area Studio Tour
- JULY

1

Canada Day Celebrations:

Penetang Centennial Museum

Little Lake Park, Midland

Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons

Discovery Harbour

5-7

Mariposa Folk Festival, Orillia,

6-7

Huronia Triathlon Weekend

12-14

Festival du Loup, Lafontaine

13

Library Garden Tour

24-25

Tall Ships 1812 Tour

25-28

Collingwood Elvis Festival
- AUGUST

3-4

Collingwood Arts and Music Festival

9-11

Wakestock, Collingwood Wakeboarding Festival

16-18

Wasaga Under Siege, 1812 Battle Re-enactment,

Nancy Island, Wasaga

17

Steamroller Prints – Artwalk, Midland

22 – Oct 19

Narrative Dreamscapes – Travis Shilling

Works on Paper – Group Exhibit

at Quest Art, Midland Cultural Centre

24

Barrie Dragon Boat Festival

25

Savour Simcoe Food Tasting Event, Simcoe County Museum
- SEPTEMBER

7-8

Wasaga Triathlon/Duathlon and Give-It-A-Tri

Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre Pow Wow,

Sainte-Marie Park

20-22

Quilt, Rug & Craft Fair, Simcoe County Museum

25

Franco-Ontarian Day, Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons
- OCTOBER

11-14

2013 Thanksgiving Studio Tour Barrie & Orillia

12-13

Thanksgiving Harvest Festival, Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons

24-26

Haunted Harbour, Discovery Harbour, Penetanguishene

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# Restore Our Water International: ONWARD!

By MARY MUTER & JACK ELLIS

Game On! Now that the IJC has finally recommended to governments that they should fix the excessive outflow of Lake Huron/Michigan, a huge push from the public is still needed to ensure that they act on this recommendation. Earlier this year, the Sierra Club took "Restore Our Water" to the next level – an International partnership for action called Restore Our Water International (ROWI) was formed. FoTTSA fully supports this effort.

Summer information and fundraising events are now being planned by ROWI and FoTTSA in our area. Watch for details on [tinycottager.org](http://tinycottager.org) and [tiny.ca](http://tiny.ca).

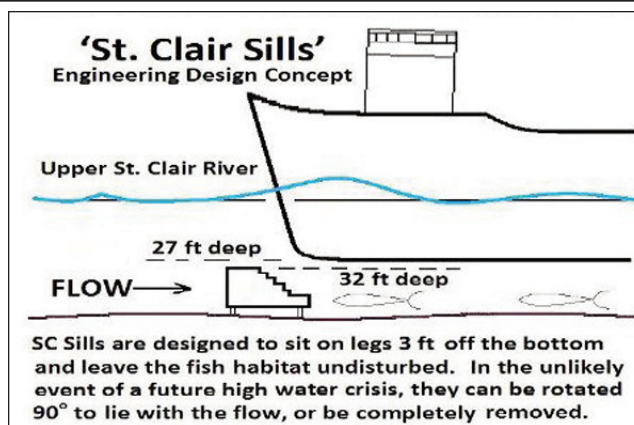
Read on to find what is needed and why.

The new organization is chaired by a retired US Army Corps of Engineers hydrologist, Roger Gauthier. Roger worked for the Detroit offices of the USACE for over 30 years, and knows how to talk to the USACE - who did the original dredging - in their own language. Mary Muter (Chair of the Great Lakes section of Sierra Club Canada) is the Vice Chair and Paul Cowley (FoTTSA President) is one of 12 directors.

The USACE staff believes they still have authorization for placing submerged sills in the St Clair River as a condition of their 1962 navigation dredging. Apparently, Canada and the USA made the placement of sills to control the riverbed a condition of what is now still an outstanding agreement for the 1962 navigation dredging.

Why were the sills not installed? Allegedly, because Canada bickered with the US for about 10 years over the hydraulic impact until finally the US Congress withdrew the funding - but not the authorization.

ROWI is now working to get political leaders to allocate \$10 million so the USACE can get started on fulfill-



ing the terms of the 50-year-old agreement. This will not happen without a significant advocacy effort that ROWI is preparing to spearhead by holding meetings and lobbying in all the States and Washington. Expert legal and lobbying help in Washington is essential to make anything happen and major fundraising efforts are underway to cover the mounting costs.

To that end FoTTSA and the Sierra Club together with Tiny Township are proposing a major public information meeting on Saturday July 6 from 10am to noon at the Tiny Township Community Hall at 91 Concession 8 East. Roger Gauthier, Chair of Restore Our Water International is scheduled to speak and answer all of your questions. He will tell it like it is!

Advocacy has paid off so far – but it must continue to ensure that this process moves forward. Let's make it a party and get everyone out who cares about saving our Bay! The beat must go on! Please consider a substantial donation to ROWI to help continue the fight. See the box on page 5.

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*The Tiny Cottager* is published each May/June and Sept./Oct.

The Federation's members are associations of property owners in those parts of the Township of Tiny designated as "Shoreline" in the Township's Official Plan.

*The Tiny Cottager* is mailed to the permanent addresses of more than 10,600 Tiny Township property owners (including 7,200 in the shoreline areas of Tiny) and to businesses in the area. It reaches some 25,000 readers. Copyright is claimed on all original articles and on advertisement layout and design created by this publication.

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# Report on Council

**Township of Tiny Council: 2010 - 2014**  
**Mayor Millar, Deputy Mayor Lawrence,**  
**Councillors Claire, Warren and Wishart**

Since our Fall 2012 issue, Council has addressed a number of matters of long term importance to the Township: septage management (see page 14), low water levels, garbage collection, official planning and wind turbines, policing, parking and effective spending of our tax dollars.

In 2013 Council agreed to implement audio recording of Council meetings, including procedures for recording in-camera meetings. If you are interested in obtaining access to such recordings, please refer to Anita Weatherall, Deputy Clerk.

### Actions to Address Low Water Levels

Elsewhere in this paper we have provided an up-to-date chronology of this issue and the many efforts to address it.

Most of the advocacy to restore the water levels in Georgian Bay have been taken by non-governmental bodies, including FoTTSA and the Sierra Club in Canada and the US.

However, Tiny has been doing its bit at the political level as well. Deputy Mayor Lawrence met with the Minister of the Environment, the Honourable Peter Kent, in Ottawa on October 2, 2012. Other attendees included Simcoe County Warden Cal Patterson, Collingwood Mayor Sandra Cooper, Tay Mayor Scott Warnock, Dr. Kellie Leitch (MP, Simcoe Grey) and Bruce Stanton (MP, North Simcoe). They urged that active measures be taken to restore the water levels in Georgian Bay and Lake Huron.

Later in October, the Mayors of Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay and Tiny also sent the federal government a letter of concern. However, Councillors Warren and Claire complained that this joint letter was neither received nor discussed by the Township of Tiny Council prior to issuance. The letter argued for short-term "symptomatic" remedial efforts such as harbour and marina dredging rather than addressing the underlying problem, the excess outflow from Lake Huron-Michigan through the St. Clair River.

### Simcoe County Waste Collection Changes

Effective April 1, 2013, the County of Simcoe has implemented new waste collection policies:

- The days of collection of household waste in most seasonal areas will remain on Mondays, but other areas may change.
- There will be nine collections of yard waste and leaves annually, dates to be announced
- Bulky waste will be collected only on a call-in pre-paid basis with a fee of \$35 for 5 items.

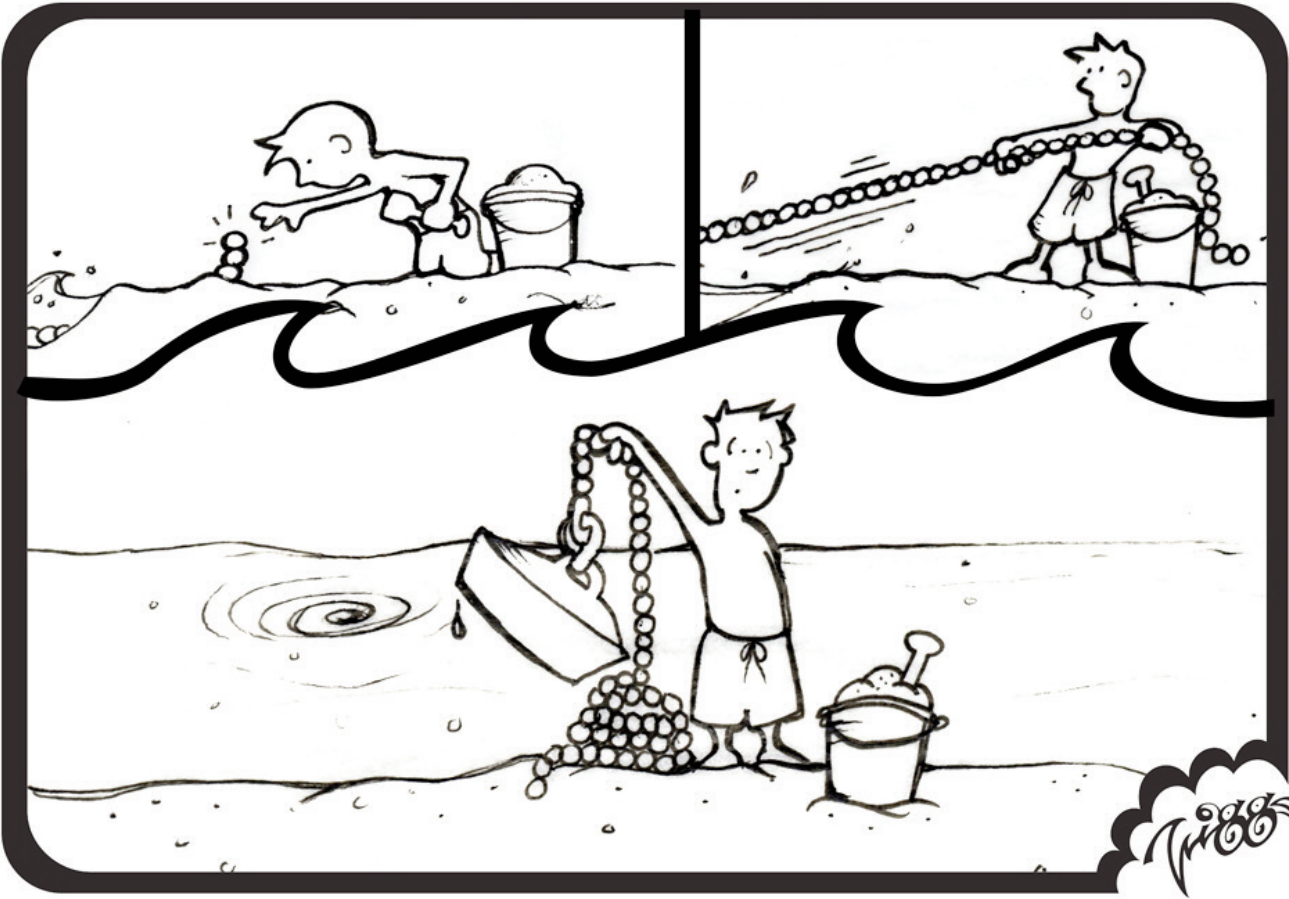
Further information can be obtained by calling Simcoe County Customer Service at (705) 735-6901 or 1 (800) 263-3199.

The new contractor is BFI Canada, and the new contracts represent an annual savings of \$2.1 million. BFI will use smaller vehicles fueled with compressed natural gas which emit fewer greenhouse gases than diesel.

### Planning and the County Official Plan

Council is concerned that Simcoe County's new Official Plan does not recognize the special status of Tiny's shoreline areas. Tiny's predominant development pattern is along the shoreline, and Council is disturbed that County has removed the Shoreline designation from Simcoe's Official Plan. There are also provisions regarding development in the hamlets that concern Council. Council has directed the Township Solicitor, Barriston LLP, to apply for party status to address shoreline property

see REPORT ON COUNCIL. . . continued on next page



SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED!?

## FoTTSA Actions on Water Levels

BY PAUL COWLEY

FoTTSA has been a big supporter and ally of the Great Lakes Section of the Sierra Club of Canada in their efforts to get our water levels restored.

This support further intensified in 2012 when it seemed apparent that the International Joint Commission (IJC) who were supposed to be responsible stewards of our Great Lakes began to give indications that after spending 17 million tax payer dollars over 5 years to study the upper Great Lakes they were going to recommend that nothing be done about the 13 year decline in Michigan-Huron-Georgian Bay lake levels.

This prompted FoTTSA to spring into action and with only two weeks' notice, we put together a program that brought over 650 people to the IJC public hearing held in Midland on July 14, 2012. The IJC had expected perhaps 50 to 100 attendees and as a result everyone had to be moved to a much larger room.

Similar experiences unfolded at the Hearings held in Manitoulin Island, Parry Sound and Collingwood. The IJC commissioners were confronted by the same unified message at all of the hearings – RESTORE OUR WATER !!!!

In spite of this clear and unmistakable message, supported by thousands of citizens' letters, the IJC seemingly held fast to their do-nothing recommendation.

**Last November** a delegation including FoTTSA and the Great Lakes section of the Sierra Club of Canada journeyed to Bay City, Michigan to meet with several Michigan based shoreline associations. We were shocked to find that they held the mistaken impression that the entire cause of the 14 year decline was climate and environmental change. None were aware of the significant role played by the dredging of the St. Clair River over many years.

With this new information in hand, the Michigan groups began educating others who collectively realized that at the root of this problem was the failure of both Canadian and American governments to recognize and act on the problem of the increased conveyance in the St. Clair River.

**In January** a new corporation, Restore Our Water International Inc. (ROWI) was formed. It continues to add members in both Canada and the US to help get governments' attention and urge them to act to remedy this critical problem in the St. Clair River.

ROWI is chaired by Roger Gauthier, a retired 30 year veteran hydrologist from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Mary Muter (Chair of the Great Lakes section of Sierra Club Canada) is the Vice Chair and Paul Cowley (FoTTSA President) is one of 12 directors – 5 Canadian and 7 American.

**In January** Paul Cowley and Mary Muter flew to Ottawa to meet with Tony Clement, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka and Chair of the Treasury Board. At that meeting Minister Clement requested proof in writing that indeed USACE still had authorization to place submerged sills in the St. Clair River as part of the 1962 navigation dredging agreement. He promised to carry this forward if produced. After researching the matter with USACE, Cowley and Muter did provide Minister Clement with a 100 page document that established that the authority was indeed still in place.

However, instead of the promised action, the document only received an "I'll take it under advisement" non-committal response from Clement. Please consider writing Minister Clement, Prime Minister Harper and your local MP expressing concern about the lack of action on this critical issue.

**In late January** of this year a number of our local mayors initiated some public input meetings intended to provide businesses and individuals with a forum to discuss issues, identify potential remedial actions and develop some consistent messaging to the federal government.

Among the issues raised by members of the public were the cost and red tape involved with dredging, the impact on tourism, the cost to shipping, lack of access to cottages, decreased property values, the cost of digging new wells, the risk of damage to boats, and the esthetics of exposed beaches and wetlands

These meetings saw record turn outs of concerned citizens, but unfortunately the messages to federal government have largely fallen on deaf ears with no actions or funding forthcoming.

**February 28**, meeting in Victoria Harbour re: marinas, low water and dredging.

**March 14**, Georgian Bay Leaders initiative; a casebook was presented at a public meeting which stated that the loss to the Georgian Bay tourism and general economy



was estimated to be over \$50 million per year and property damage costs are currently at \$500 million.

**March 21**, Mary Muter and Paul Cowley were guests on TV Ontario's *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*. Paikin did an excellent job at drawing out the key issues on this crisis and highlighting the remedies, namely controls in the St. Clair River.

**March 22**, World Water Day. Roger Gauthier and Mary Muter of ROWI held a media blitz.

**Late spring** The Sierra Club Canada Foundation renewed the research agreement with McMaster's Dr. Pat Chow-Fraser's freshwater wetlands biology lab. Her team will continue to assess the ecological impact of 14 years of low water levels. They will assess water quality at the out-flow of the Nottawasaga River, and implement a botulism watch program, and study treatment techniques for Phragmites. This work will help to answer some of the tough questions that our governments don't want to know about and the Sierra Club will continue to release the results publicly. FoTTSA has supported this project for several years.

**Late March**, Gauthier and Muter spend several days in



Washington meeting with key government representatives. They left with a clear sense that their work was cut out for them, with a long way to go before remedial action in the St. Clair River will begin.

**Late March**, they have learned that the US Army Corps of engineers (USACE) which is the only organization that can in fact carry out this work, have confirmed that they still have authority to do this work from its original authorization in 1962. However, much work and time will still be needed to determine how to reactivate this authority.

**Late March**, ROWI has retained lawyers Holland & Knight to lobby in Washington to help expedite this process. This is a very costly undertaking and will require the public to make generous contributions to ROWI to support this effort over the next two years.

Engaging governments to take action on the St. Clair River has been and remains a major commitment by FoTTSA, both financially and time-wise. That is where the final road block remains to restoration of lake levels in Michigan-Huron-Georgian Bay. Please help!

REPORT ON COUNCIL. . . from previous page

issues at Ontario Municipal Board hearings on the new Simcoe County OP.

**Industrial Wind Turbines (IWTs)**

With the assistance of CORT (Coalition of Residents – Tiny) and championed by Deputy Mayor Lawrence, Council has passed a By-law to ensure that the Township will not be burdened with environmental and financial impacts of any future IWT developments. Among other provisions, the By-law ensures that installers are held financially responsible for taking down turbines after their useful lifetime expires by requiring a Standing Letter of Credit in the amount of \$250,000 for each turbine. The By-law also sets a building permit fee of \$50,000 per megawatt to cover the costs to the Township. The text of By-law 13-008 can be viewed online at <https://docushare.tiny.ca/docushare/dsweb/View/Collecti on-39435>.

**Policing Policy and Costs for 2012 and 2013**

Doug Taylor, Treasurer, reports that the Township's OPP policing cost was \$1,765,345, but a rebate of \$125,573 based on actual services was received. This will be put into a Policing Services Reserve account. The OPP's estimated cost for 2013 is \$1,692,734 (Tiny's initial budget estimate was \$1,818,307).

**Township-Wide Parking Strategy**

Council has enacted changes to parking along the western shoreline of the Township on Concession Roads 1-18, as a result of staff concerns about on-street parking and the Fire Chief's need for sufficient road width for emergency access of vehicles. Here are the changes:

Concession 4 West: No parking both sides of road to County Rd. 29

Concession 5 West: No parking extended 200 m

Concession 9 West: No parking both sides for 600 m to base of ridge

Concession 11 West: No parking both sides to Brook Ave.

Concession 14 West: No parking

Concession 17 West: No parking to Poplar Dr.

All signage was to be placed starting April 1, 2013. Council also is addressing special resident concerns about parking at Cawaja Beach, the Bluewater Subdivision and the Pennorth Drive and Lackie Crescent areas.

**Noteworthy Additional Issues**

**Parks & Recreation Associations have new powers and limitations** since new statutory requirements for non-profit corporations, concerns about liability insurance and appropriate fiscal management have led to a new Memorandum of Understanding between these local Associations and the Township. These voluntary groups now have a uniform and transparent structure under which to work and conduct their programs and maintain their facilities.

**Severn Sound Environmental Association** has conducted healthy streams projects; tree distribution; tributary monitoring (Wye, Lafontaine, Copeland); stream temperature and benthos monitoring (Wye, Lafontaine, Copeland); Source Water Protection; Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program for source protection; Tiny bog evaluation to document the extent of the bog; and runs the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network. Tiny has significant drinking water threats and SSEA is to ensure that our water systems are safe and in compliance

# Research to Improve Beaches and Recreational Water Quality

BY ALLAN CROWE, ENVIRONMENT CANADA

During the past several years, many of the beaches of Tiny Township have experienced problems related to poor water quality and deteriorating sand conditions, including elevated levels of E. coli, algae, wet sand and invasive vegetation. Protecting and restoring the beaches requires a scientific understanding of the natural processes that affect the movement of pollutants in the groundwater and their release to the adjacent lake water and beach.

In order to address these problems and devise effective management techniques, a research team comprised of scientists from the University of Western Ontario, Environment Canada, and the University of Waterloo will be conducting a 3-year research project that will focus on gaining understanding of the factors and processes that control the health of beaches and recreational lake water of the beaches of Tiny Township. These researchers were awarded a three-year Strategic Research Grant from the Canadian National Sciences and Engineering Council to conduct this research. The study is to:

- characterize physical, biological and hydrological conditions at a wide range of beach types, including groundwater flow below the beaches;
- identify factors contributing to the persistence of elevated concentrations of E. coli and possible pathogens in groundwater and sand at beaches, and the mechanisms that move them between the lake and groundwater;
- identify nutrient sources and hydrological/chemical processes controlling nutrient levels in groundwater below beaches and their discharge to adjacent lake water;
- determine the relationship among groundwater conditions, the sand conditions, nutrients levels, and invasive vegetation, E. coli, and algae in the sand and lake water.

Starting this spring, the research team will be undertaking field work at several beaches. The selected beaches will cover a range of types, including beaches that are 'degraded' (e.g., wet sand conditions, absence of sand dunes, presence of algae, E. coli, invasive vegetation) and 'healthy' (e.g., dry sand conditions, native vegetation, little E. coli and algae). The field trips will be conducted to capture changes that occur through the year. Work to be performed includes both measuring groundwater flow at the beaches, groundwater discharge rates to the lake, beach morphology and sand water content, and collecting samples of groundwater, sand and lake water for analyses of nutrients, E. coli, oxygen levels, and chemistry. Part of the research will include the temporary installation of groundwater monitoring equipment (e.g., wells, sampling instruments, and groundwater discharge collectors) along a line across the beach. Instrumentation will remain at the sites only during a specific field study (up to 10 days).

A key goal of this study is to communicate the results of the research to interested stakeholders of Tiny Township (e.g., municipalities, NGOs, cottage associations, and residents), and ensure stakeholders have the knowledge and ability to develop and implement local management approaches to protect and restore the beaches and water quality.

For further information, please contact

Professor Clare Robinson  
University of Western Ontario  
Tel: 519-661-211 ext 80974  
email: [crobinson@eng.uwo.ca](mailto:crobinson@eng.uwo.ca)

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see REPORT ON COUNCIL. . . continued on page 19





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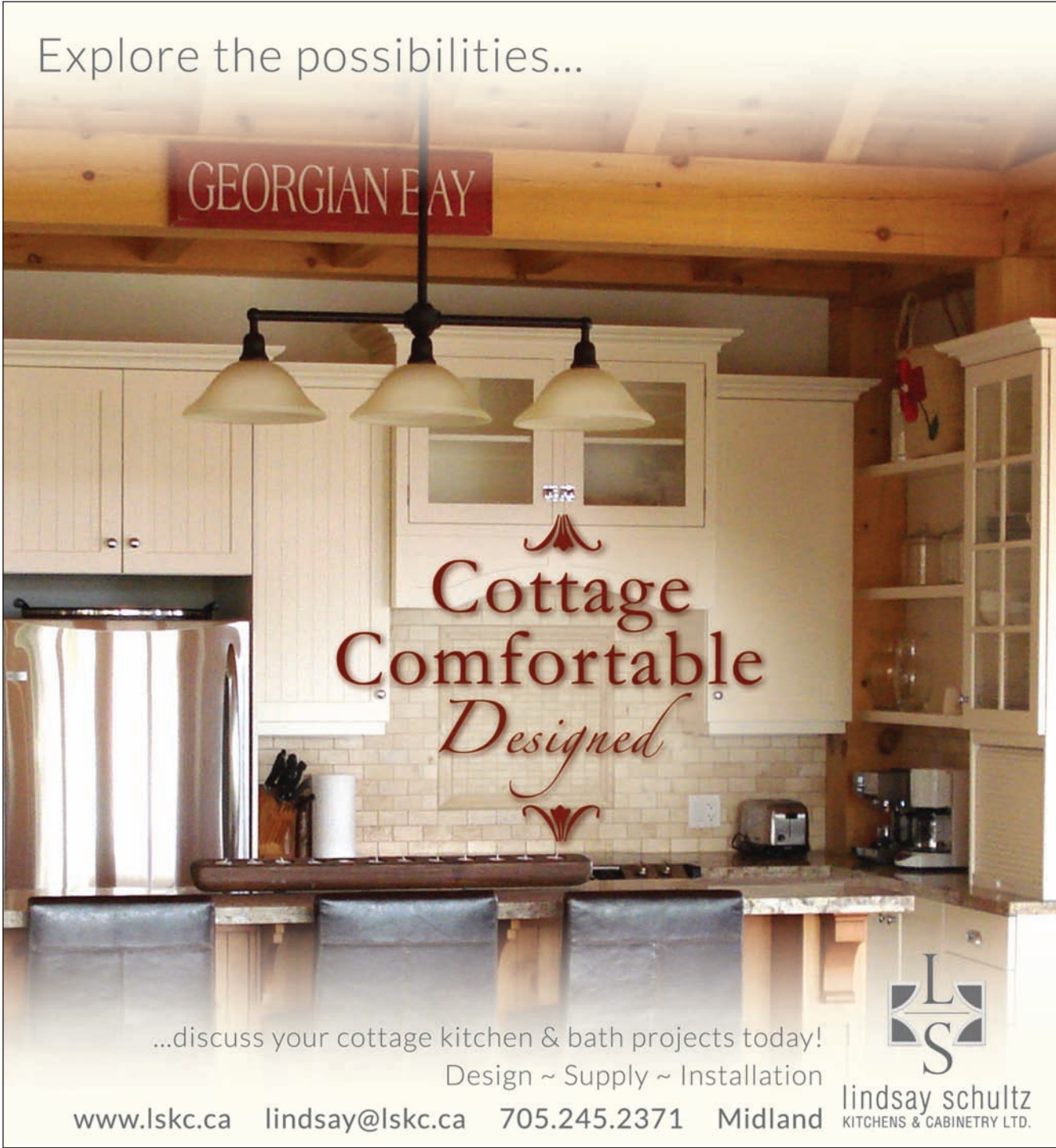
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# Recommended Summer Reading

Welcome to the 2013 edition of the *Tiny Cottager Recommended Summer Reading* column. Whether for enjoyment at the cottage under your beach umbrella on a sunny day or by the fire on a dark and stormy night -- or for packing along with other travel essentials on whatever summer expeditions you have planned: way Down East to Anne of Green Gables country, or, for the even more adventurous, the trek this year from the previously-mentioned beach umbrella way, way down to the water's edge -- these suggestions won't leave you high and dry.

And what better way to start off these recommended books of summer than with one written by one of the boys of summer...

From Joe Martin, Addison Beach  
**Wherever I Wind Up: My Quest for Truth, Authenticity and the Perfect Knuckleball**

by R.A. Dickey  
"The best way to catch a knuckleball is wait'll it stops rolling, then go pick it up."

Last year the baseball world was surprised when R.A. Dickey won the Cy Young Award for best pitcher in the National League -- not only because he was the first knuckleballer ever to win the award, but because, at 38, he was "old", an age at which most players have retired.

Dickey became of even greater interest to all Tiny Township Blue Jays fans when the Jays signed him to be their Number 1 starting pitcher. Dickey is also unusual among his peers for his literacy and his recently-published autobiography of his challenging life (so far), dysfunctional family, early sexual abuse, finding God and a marvellous wife, being a medical freak, and a near-death experience trying to swim the Missouri River.

A fascinating story, well told: all in all, a great summer read!

From Linda Andrews, Wahnekewening Beach

**The Hare with the Amber Eyes**

by Edmund De Waal

Ceramicist de Waal tells the story of his family, the Ephrussi, who were once a very wealthy European Jewish banking dynasty, peers of the Rothschilds, centred in Odessa, Vienna and Paris. The Ephrussi lost almost everything in 1938 to the Nazis. However, a hidden collection of 264 valuable *netsuke*, miniature Japanese carved sculptures, was miraculously saved. The collection was passed down as an inheritance through five generations, providing a common thread for the story of the Ephrussi fortunes from 1871 to 2009.

From Ines Colabrese, Big Sand Bay, Christian Island

**Still Alice**

by Lisa Genova

"Alice Howland, 50, happily married with three grown children and a Cape Cod house, is a celebrated Harvard professor at the height of her career when she notices a forgetfulness creeping into her life. As confusion starts to cloud her thinking and her memory begins to fail, she receives a devastating diagnosis: early onset Alzheimer's Disease."

First-time author Lisa Genova holds a Ph.D in neuroscience from Harvard.

In my opinion, this is a must-read for anyone with friends or relatives with Alzheimer's, or who may be personally experiencing the effects of this disease. But also poignant for those with other long-term illnesses. It helped me imagine what my mother was experiencing as she

passed away from us earlier this year.

**Eat, Pray, Love**

by Elizabeth Gilbert

Not the sort of book I would normally pick up, but something connected with me when I saw it on a second-hand shelf, and I'm so glad to have read it. Simple but beautiful, it's a book that inspired a movie that, unexpectedly, I now want to see. A tremendous source of comfort in the past few months, and now I really think I need to get to Bali soon. I highly recommend this quick read for a little summer soul-searching. Happy reading to all.

From Malcolm Archibald, Nottawaga Beach

**Up and Down**

by Terry Fallis

A very interesting fictional account of an advertising man who comes up with an idea for promoting NASA with a lottery to select one Canadian and one American to go on a space shuttle. The most fun is the character of the Canadian winner. Terry Fallis self-published in 2007 **The Best Laid Plans**, and it won the Leacock Award for humour. He followed this with a sequel, **The High Road**. All recommended for summer reading as funny political satire.

From Al Taylor, Kingswood Acres

**One Shot**

by Lee Child

Jack Reacher, a drifter, a loner and a fighter for justice (as he sees it), at 6 foot 5 and 250 pounds, is quite a force to be reckoned with -- if he's not on your side. A former high-ranking military policeman, he is a weapons specialist and a pit bull of an investigator.

A crazed gunman, James Barr, has killed five people in a small Indiana city, and when captured, asks for Reacher, who arrives not to help, but to convict him. Years earlier, when Barr was in the army, he was a sniper who used his skills for some free-lance killing, and got off, with the whole affair hushed up.

Reacher is about to turn around and leave because the case is airtight and doesn't need his help. Maybe a bit too airtight. Little details emerge, and Reacher's instincts tell him to poke around...

More twists, turns and dead ends than a Tiny Beaches road. You'll go through the 384 pages without being able to put it down. The talking book version is great for trips to the cottage, guaranteed.

From Marlene Schiefele, Tiny Beaches Road North

**Mrs. Kimble**

**The Condition**

**Baker Towers**

all by Jennifer Haigh

All three stories -- you don't have to read them in sequence -- have a little twist to them. I'm sorry she only wrote these three.

From Sandy Proudfoot, Copeland Creek Drive and Nottawaga Beach

**Going Clear: Scientology, Hollywood and the Prison of Belief**

by Lawrence Wright

A topic of current interest, not yet distributed in Canada, but should be in time for summer reading. and...

Everything written by Louise Penny; Robert Caro's series of four books on the life of Lyndon Johnson; everything by Dan Needles, if you enjoy the countryside and

see RECOMMENDED on the next page

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RECOMMENDED. . . continued from the previous page  
remember when there were many working farms in Tiny; everything by Debbie Macomber, for those who enjoy reading about other people's lives, with a happy ending: light reading, but pleasurable.

From Jackie Hrebicek, *Georgian Drive*  
**Bride of New France**  
by Suzanne Desrochers

I was keen to read this, as Suzanne Desrochers grew up in Lafontaine. She now lives in London, England, with her husband and son, where she is completing a Ph.D. thesis comparing the migration to colonial North America of women from Paris with those from London.

**Bride of New France** is about Laure Beausejour, who has grown up in Paris, in an institution surrounded by forgotten women: prostitutes, the insane and others of "no value". She is skilled at needlework and dreams of a better life, but in 1669 she and her friends are sent across the Atlantic to marry French soldiers. The story tells of her ordeals on the ocean crossing, trying to build a life in mostly wilderness country with harsh winters and tough people.

Her relationship with Deskaheh, an allied Iroquois, adds a different dimension to her life.

I found this particularly interesting as I live in a French-Canadian community, also close to a First Nations one.

And, at risk of confirming your suspicions about your next-door neighbours and co-workers, a recommendation with a surprising local connection...

From D.J. Austin, *Tiny Township*  
**The Psychopath Test**  
by Jon Ronson

About recognizing the signs of psychopathic behaviour, and the radical and controversial treatment methods of Dr. Elliott Barker at the former "Oak Ridge Hospital for the criminally insane" in Penetanguishene. Not for the faint of heart!

And finally, two editor's recommendations:  
Be sure to read Diane Hasley's review of Bob Whittam's **The Birds of Georgian Bay** on page 12 of this issue.

And, timely to recent and upcoming commemorative celebrations of the explorations of Samuel de Champlain, if you are interested in Canadian history and not already familiar with The Champlain Society, go to its website at [www.champlainsociety.ca](http://www.champlainsociety.ca) and consider becoming a member. The mission of The Champlain Society is "to increase public awareness of, and accessibility to, Canada's rich store of historical records."

It does this in handsome volumes each year published in association with McGill-Queen's University Press and distributed to members.

Of note this year:

**Pierre-Esprit Radisson, The Collected Writings, Volume I: The Voyages**

Edited by Germaine Warkentin, Professor Emeritus of English, University of Toronto.

If you only think of Radisson as a hotel chain, or dimly remember him from grade school Canadian history as half of the duo of "Mr. Radishes and Mr. Gooseberries", Radisson's own voice in his writings brings to life his incredible story of adventure and explorations in early French Canada: capture, torture and adoption by the Iroquois as a youth; explorer, entrepreneur and, successively, servant of warring French and English New World trade empires; his instrumental role, with his brother-in-law, the Sieur des Groseilliers, in the founding of the Hudson's Bay Company; his three wives; and his death in London, in 1710, a "decay'd gentleman" and litigious pensioner. And, most importantly, as Professor Warkentin tells us in her highly-readable and scholarly introduction, Radisson "tells a good story". Highly recommended.

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# Woodland Beach History

## Part Two: How it was in the 1920s and 1930s

BY DENISE GARDIAN

One of the pioneers of Woodland Beach was Jonathan Tripp, a farmer who owned a large parcel of land along Lawson Road. His land extended right down the 'big hill' and along the shoreline. His cows would graze in the woods and often strayed down onto the beach.

By the 1920s, Wasaga Beach was a popular destination for Torontonians. It would take many hours by horse and buggy, usually an entire day, but with the advent of the Ford Model T, people began to take the opportunity to explore other beaches beyond Wasaga. The roads were crude, but that did not stop the curious who wanted to explore the beaches around Nottawasaga Bay.

One such adventurous man was a Methodist minister, Rev. Wilfred George Aldridge. Having discovered a beach that was largely uninhabited, he approached Jonathan Tripp to sell him some of it, and in 1921 they registered a plan of subdivision with the Township of Tiny. Thus Woodland Beach was born. In 1927, Jesse Webster subdivided the beachfront further north. All these properties were in the vicinity of the bottom of the 'big hill'. The very southern end of Woodland Beach was not developed until the 1940s; before that there were just pure white dunes and dense forests, where people would ride their horses or go berry picking along the many trails that had been created by First Nations people, fur traders or loggers. Some say it was Rev. Aldridge who named this tract of land Woodland Beach; others say it was his wife, Nellie.

Rev. Aldridge sold many of the lots to his friends, many of them Methodists like himself. Church services were held at people's cottages or on the beach. In 1926 the Woodland Beach Ratepayers Association was formed, appointing a Board of Trustees (Rev. P. Bryce, Rev. C.H. Forth, R.G. Forsey, R.J. Giffen, S. Goddard, J.H. Martin, L.K. Redman, and B. Whelan) to search out property for a church. A lot was purchased from Jonathan Tripp for a dollar, and the first service in July 1929 was conducted by the Rev. Peter Bryce.

Dr. Bryce was a remarkable man. Together with Joseph Atkinson, publisher of the Toronto Star, he founded the 'Star Santa Claus Fund'. In a section of Toronto called Earls Court, a suburb known as 'Shacktown,' he built seven churches. He was instrumental in the creation of what is now the 'United Way' and was influential in organizing what is now known as Family Services and the Bolton Fresh Air Camp for impoverished mothers and children. In *Firm Foundations*, Judith St. John describes Rev. Bryce as 'tall, silver-haired, and immaculate, with a saintly countenance and kind blue eyes.' His 'old world graciousness ... never varied' whether he spoke to a 'derelict' or a person 'of wealth and prominence'.

What was life like for the Reverends Bryce and Aldridge and the other early cottagers? In her memoir, *The Beginnings of Woodland Beach*, Rev. Aldridge's daughter Gwendolyn remembers that her father bought two large government army tents that had been used in the First World War. She spent her first evening at Woodland Beach in the large tent, lit by candlelight. A little later, once their cottage was built, table-top candles in holders and wall sconces were used for light; later still came kerosene lamps and lanterns. The Aldridges' water supply was the bay. The family drank bay water, washed in it, cooked with it, and swam in it.

Cooking was done with pots hanging from a rack over a bonfire; three fires for three meals a day. Years later came wood-burning iron stoves. Pine knots, driftwood and other wood materials were used for fuel. As there were no ice-boxes yet, perishable food was stored on a ledge deep inside the well. Other families dug deep holes in the sand to keep their food cool and fresh. Early life at Woodland Beach was indeed very rustic!

Prior to the construction of outhouses, pits were used; Mrs. Aldridge remembers that it was tricky to keep your balance over a pit that was eight feet deep, two feet wide and four feet long. The pits, separate ones for men and women, were situated deep in the woods for privacy. The Eaton's Department Store Catalogue was used for toilet paper, and Gwen remembers that the rule was only one stiff page per visit!

During the 1920s food and supplies were lugged in

from Elmvale, until Rev. Aldridge persuaded the owner of a country store to open an outlet at Woodland Beach.



During the 1930s there was Ritchie's; it was a 'restaurant' that had booths where you could sit and eat, and the proprietor also sold ice cream and small confectioneries. Next door to Ritchie's was a small grocery store. These stores were located on Lawson Road, roughly where an A-frame building that houses a real estate office is today.

Mary Jean (Cowie) Whitfield, now 89, who came to Woodland Beach in the late 1920s, remembers that the local farmers would come down the road with horse and buggy to sell fresh meat from their farms to the beach residents. Fishermen from Wasaga would also come to Woodland to sell their fish to the locals. In the 1930s ice-boxes came in. Harry Tripp was known as the ice man. He would go out onto the bay with a horse and sleigh and cut ice blocks, which he would then store in a hut packed with straw. Mrs. Whitfield remembers that on a hot summer day the kids would run after Harry's truck, waiting for pieces of ice to fall off the tailgate to suck on and beat the heat. His ice hut is still standing after all these years, at the foot of the steep hill on the 2nd concession leading down to the beach.



Recreation was simple in those days. Horseshoes, playing cards, horse and pony riding were favourite diversions. Harry Tripp had a pony named Buster on his farm that kids could ride, and there were the Woodland Beach Riding Academy and Arrowheads Ranch. Mrs. Whitfield recalls renting horses in the summer when she was a young woman: no guides needed – you just rented a horse or pony and off you went.



Life was a lot different for the cottagers in the early days of Woodland Beach. This is just a small snapshot of what it was like in the 1920s and 30s, and there is a lot more that could be written. Remember your own history and set your pen to paper for future generations!

### Sources:

St. John, Judith. *Firm Foundation*. Wood Lakes Books, 1988.

Aldridge, Gwendolyn. *The Beginnings of Woodland Beach: A Personal Essay*. By permission of the Aldridge family.

*Joy of Many Generations*: 50th anniversary booklet on Woodland Beach Community Church.

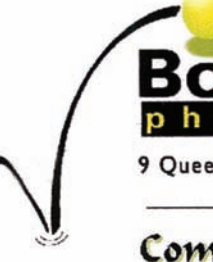
*Special thanks to: Mrs. M. Whitfield, Tracy Price, Bob Ritchie, Linda Lugowy, Elaine Stephenson, Suzanne Stoikos, John & Nora Knuff. Photos courtesy Tiny Township Archives & Metropolitan United Church.*



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# Tiny Marsh: A Little-Known Gem

## Volunteers Can Help With Biological Inventory

BY KATE HARRIES, PRESIDENT, MIDLAND PENETANGUISHENE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB

How many Tiny residents and cottagers have never been to the Tiny Marsh in Concession 1. It is a veritable wonderland, described in *Wikipedia* as follows:

*The Tiny Marsh Provincial Wildlife Area . . . is Ontario's first provincially owned and managed wetland and is one of approximately 1200 Important Bird Areas recognized in Canada . . . Open to visitors year-round, the area consists of 8.5 square kilometres of marshes, open water, bog, and upland forest. Trails, exceeding 15 kilometres in total length, take visitors to dikes, two observation towers, a marsh viewing mound, and a boardwalk. There is a nature centre, featuring displays of the marsh and its flora and fauna.*

*Around 250 species of birds have been observed at the marsh, including the provincially threatened Least Bitterns and Black Terns. Ospreys nest at the marsh, as well as 11 species of ducks.*

This year and next year a biological inventory is to be carried out at Tiny Marsh, led by environmental consultant Bob Bowles. In contrast to the last such inventories, undertaken in the 1970s when the Marsh was run by full-time Ministry of Natural Resources staff, this one will rely on volunteers for much of the legwork.

The volunteer board that operates the Provincial Wildlife Area voted last year to retain Bob who plans a more rigorous inventory than in the past. "We will include dragonflies, butterflies and other insects," he explains, "plus we will record species at risk and invasive species plus confirm each unusual species when possible with a photograph or specimen."

This is a really exciting opportunity for those who want to learn about insects, plants, birds, and all the life forms that can be found at the Marsh. Experienced amateurs or experts are all welcome! We will all be working as a team, learning on the job under Bob's supervision.

There will be 15 field days from April-October in 2013, and the same again in 2014. What dates should we set aside? I asked Bob at a meeting of a dozen volunteers who assembled at the nature interpretive centre in March.

Well, that showed how little I knew, because it does-

n't work that way. We will only go out when the weather is good, so we get a high species count. Bob will decide the day before, and an email will go out to team members to be at Tiny Marsh the next day at 8 a.m. and expect to work until around 4 p.m. And if the weather changes for the worse overnight, we will have a telephone tree to call the field day off early in the morning.

When you read this we should have done our first field day, in April, looking for salamanders. But you can join us later in the year - if you're interested, email Kate at [kateharries41@gmail.com](mailto:kateharries41@gmail.com) or call 705-322-2545.



Please also join us at **the Big Pull** – garlic mustard eradication days - at Tiny Marsh, on Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2, and June 8 and 9, 9:30 to noon (any one of these mornings, or let me know if a different time works for you, any time after May 15 to June 9.



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# Restore Our Water International

PRESS RELEASE MONDAY APRIL 29, 2013

**Restore Our Water International (ROWI) applauds the International Joint Commission (IJC's) Advice to Governments to investigate installation of flow reduction structures in the St. Clair River to respond to the ongoing low water crisis across the middle and upper Great Lakes.**

On April 15th, the IJC advised the U.S. and Canadian governments that they should investigate structural options to provide up to 25 centimeters (or 10") of relief to Lakes Michigan and Huron water levels, in a manner which would not exacerbate flooding and erosion problems if water supplies changed substantially. ROWI believes that this is a good first step, but encourages the governments to broaden this investigation two-fold (up to at least 50 centimeters or 20"), since the U.S. Congress has already authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to do this in 1957.

When Canada and the U.S. agreed to complete deepening of the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers in 1962, "compensation measures" were supposed to have been placed in both rivers to counter increased river flows and anticipated water level lowering on the upstream lakes. Compensation measures were deployed in the Detroit River at that time, but unfortunately no compensation measures were deployed in the St. Clair. Subsequent studies by the IJC have concluded that Lakes Michigan and Huron and Georgian Bay are at least 50 centimeters or 20" permanently lower today than they would be if compensating structures had been placed in the St. Clair River. ROWI supports the IJC's new call for governments to conduct a thorough cost-benefit analysis and a comprehensive environmental impact study for the full range of compensation structures options. Compensation structures proposed in the past include a series of underwater sills (or "speed bumps") on the bottom of the St. Clair River and gated structures in non-navigable areas adjacent to islands in the river.

"We hope our governments in Canada and the United States will act quickly to approve the funding to allow this critical restoration process to begin now – a restoration that should have happened 50 years ago," said Mary Muter, Chair, Great Lakes Section, Sierra Club Ontario and Vice Chair of ROWI. "Restoring Michigan Huron water levels responsibly will benefit wetlands, fish spawning and recruitment and help to reduce economic losses across the middle Great Lakes," added Muter. ROWI believes that compensation structures can be placed in the St. Clair River in an environmentally responsible manner which would improve spawning habitat for the threatened Lake Sturgeon fishery.

Installation of temporary flow reduction measures in the Niagara River, called for in the IJC's Levels Reference Study, Crisis Response Report in 1993, would eliminate any downstream lowering of Lakes Erie and St. Clair, while these lakes reach a new permanent equilibrium between reduced inflows and outflows. "This type of integrated crisis response was studied in the 1993 IJC study but was not re-assessed under the current crisis low water conditions on all of the middle Great Lakes," said Roger Gauthier, Chair of ROWI and a retired senior hydrologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "Implementation of St. Clair compensation structures could take 3-5 years at the earliest. In the meantime, other crisis response measures need to be considered by the IJC, including using its discretionary authority to immediately allow more water to flow out of Lake Superior into Lakes Michigan and Huron," Gauthier added.

ROWI is pleased that the IJC again rejected calls for full regulation of Lakes Michigan-Huron outflows. This strategy, referred to as multi-lake regulation, would require more extensive investments in locks, dams and further dredging in the St. Clair River. This strategy has been consistently rejected in the past by the U.S. and Canadian governments, since it involves massive costs for construction, would cause economic losses to commercial navigation and would create huge environmental damage in the river and upstream on Lakes Michigan and Huron.

ROWI supports the IJC call for improving climate monitoring and prediction, more comprehensive economic impact models, and three-dimensional modeling and re-charting of the St. Clair River to evaluate whether erosion of the bottom is continuing. ROWI also supports implementation of the IJC's proposed system-wide Adaptive Management Plan, in consort with St. Clair River compensation. Simultaneous implementation of these compatible responses would help coastal communities to prepare for and respond to climate change.

## About ROWI

[www.restoreourwater.com](http://www.restoreourwater.com)

ROWI is an alliance of Canadian and American organizations concerned about the dire economic and ecological impacts of the low water crisis on Lakes Michigan and Huron and Georgian Bay. ROWI represents at least 15,000 shoreline owners and commercial interests across these water bodies.



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# The Birds of Georgian Bay

By Bob Whittam

REVIEWED BY DIANE HASLEY

*The Birds of Georgian Bay* is a gem of a book. It is visually beautiful and brimming with fascinating information, not only for birders, but also for all those who love the outdoors or who appreciate being in the Georgian Bay area.

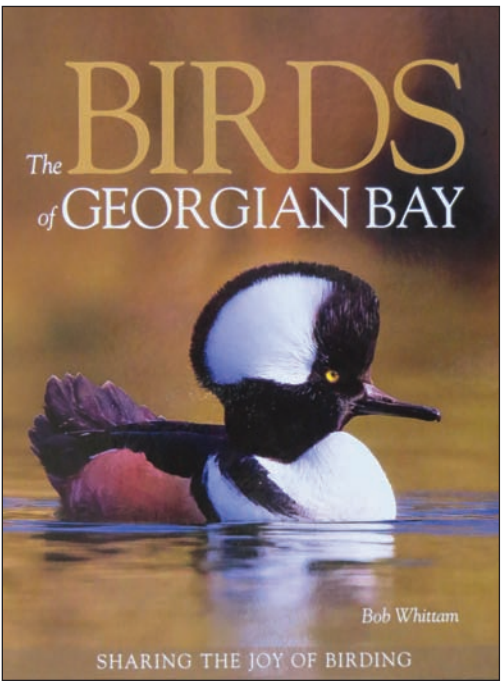
The author, Bob Whittam, became interested in birds as a young boy. His 50 years with binoculars have produced a perfect cottage book, to be browsed or read cover-to-cover, to be shared with children, or to be left in a strategic place for the enjoyment of guests.

Bob was Executive Director of the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre for 25 years. Prior to that, his career as a biologist took him to the Long Point Bird Observatory, Parks Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Royal Ontario Museum and the Canadian Wildlife Service. The subtitle of the book is *Sharing the Joy of Birding*, and the author excels at doing just that.

For beginning birders, there are sections that explain the what, where and how of looking for and at birds. There are handy lists of common cottage birds and those that can be found in the vicinity of a marina and in other familiar places. More experienced birders will find little-known details in the species descriptions. There are maps indicating the best birding spots in the Georgian Bay region and tips for improving birding skills. Of interest to all are the lively anecdotes drawn from the author's outdoor and work experiences.

In addition, there is plenty of information on the life of birds, their songs, their migration patterns, and their habitats, as well as on environmental concerns. There is a poignant section on species that are at risk and a more hopeful one on species that are on the rebound. The detailed description of the reintroduction of the trumpeter swan is of particular local appeal. It was not known if this species had actually existed in southern Ontario. "The real proof for the historical presence of Trumpeter Swans came when modern-day archaeologists excavated the Sainte-Marie site...and uncovered 178 bones from this species, representing at least 60 birds." It is likely that the swans, which were easy to capture, were used for food. The eventual recovery effort was the work of many collaborators and makes for interesting reading. This is supplemented by an account of the formation of Wye Marsh within the larger context of the natural history and geology of Georgian Bay.

On a light-hearted note, *The Birds of Georgian Bay* contains interesting bits of bird lore. If you would like to find out how a woodpecker can hammer without getting a headache, identify the bird that repeats its song about 20,000 times a day in the vicinity of your cottage, learn about the connection between Mozart and the starling, or the unusual habits of the turkey vulture, then this is the book for you.



Near the end of the book, there are plans for making a tree swallow box — a fun cottage project that would provide a nesting place for this species that is currently in decline.

That is not all. The stunning cover photo of a hooded merganser sets the stage for the remarkable works of 20 photographers. There are over 200 photographs. Many of them are skilfully captured action shots, which delight and surprise. The interspersing of photos, illustrations and text and the use of sidebars and colour enhance the masterful layouts of the book's designer, Judie Shore.

Here is the clincher — thanks to the generosity of many donors who covered the costs of producing *The Birds of Georgian Bay*, **the entire purchase price of \$34.95 will go to the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre!** The author donated the manuscript, and others performed a myriad of tasks voluntarily. This wonderful, multi-faceted book is available now at the Centre or local bookstores.

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# 10th Annual Tiny Cottager Challenge

By DENISE GARDIAN

**Amount raised in 2012: \$15,415.00**

The results of the Cup Challenge are in. Shoreline Associations who participated in the 2012 annual Tiny Cottager Challenge raised \$15,415 for the three charities FoTTSA supports: The Georgian Bay General Hospital, the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre, and Physician Recruitment.

The three shoreline associations that won the challenge are: the Addison Beach Property Owners' Association, for raising the largest average amount per household for a small association (under 50 members); the Woodland Beach Property Owners Association, for raising the largest average amount per household for a large association (50+ members); and the Nottawaga Beach Association, for the largest amount raised by any association. Thank you and congratulations to all who participated in the Tiny Cottager Cup Challenge.

### Our Fundraising Initiatives

To date our associations have raised over \$170,000 for the emergency department of **Georgian Bay General Hospital**. Over the years many of our permanent and seasonal residents have used the emergency facilities. It was originally built to handle 18,000 visits per year to its emergency department, but that number has climbed to now over 45,000 visits per year! Georgian Bay General Hospital recognized that the emergency department was not adequate to meet the needs of its community, and therefore embarked on a path of expansion with a bold new vision called Our Best Care Campaign. The first phase of this project would expand the current emergency department adding an additional 6000 sq.ft. On March 18, 2013 they broke ground to begin construction on the newly expanded emergency department.



FoTTSA has supported many environmental causes over the years, including the **Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre**. Many shoreline seasonal and permanent residents have enjoyed the natural beauty of wetlands and forest of this 3000 acre site. The Centre has an amphibian and reptile display hall, hiking, biking and skiing trails, canoeing and kayaking routes, an observation tower, and a birds of prey display walk.



FoTTSA is currently expanding its fundraising efforts, with exciting new plans and events to come. With your help and support we intend to exceed contributions made in 2012. We encourage volunteers to participate in our fundraising. If you have experience in this area, or would like to help, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our president Paul Cowley at: [paul.cowley@fottsa.org](mailto:paul.cowley@fottsa.org)



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# The Multiplier Effect of Buying Locally

By AL TAYLOR



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Coming from a small town and having worked for small local businesses it was a shock to see my local downtown shops and stores deteriorate into a ghost town. They were replaced by the big box mall stores in a scenario repeated all too often throughout small town Ontario.

Let's not have it continue here. A vibrant, thriving, downtown benefits all of us. For example, when you spend \$10.00 at a small downtown fruit & grocery store, they then pay the farmer, who pays his staff, who eats at a local restaurant, gets a haircut, and so the money moves.

The same \$10 spent at the big box store would go to the distributor, who pays the importer, who pays the wholesaler, etc., with much of the money moving out of our area.

Small businesses hire local people, often giving them their first job, with the result that their family shops there to recognize the merchant. Also, the merchants buy from each other creating even more local revenue streams. Several of the small downtown stores have been operated by people from our area for many years. We should go downtown more often to scope out the stores in Penetang, Midland, Lafontaine, Wyebridge and Elmvale to experience the flavour of what shopping was like when service was king.

So why aren't we spending more money with the small local businesses? Maybe we are just used to going to the mall for convenience, or figure the small guys are just not competitive.

My experience is that they usually are competitive and spending money with the local business gets you a genuine smile, helpful advice, and a lot more. Buying materials at the local hardware saves me a longer trip and they generally have what I need. Most small businesses can custom order what they don't have in stock.

Let's not forget the tradespeople who operate plumbing, electrical, boat repair, garages, and contracting businesses in Tiny. They are competent and I've had great service. The revenue spins around the township employing residents, and keeping the dollars local.

Two local filmmakers, Nate Lacroix and Ashley Matt, will be exploring this topic in a new 90 minute documentary called Start Local, which they are filming throughout the spring and summer in Huronia. They will be exploring the social and economic impact that shopping locally has on communities, using our area as a case study. Visit their website [www.startlocalmovie.com](http://www.startlocalmovie.com). They expect to screen it at the Midland Cultural Centre on December 7, 2013.

My suggestion is to drive around the local business area, browse around, have lunch -- you will be pleasantly surprised. And you will be helping these businesses and communities to thrive.

## Local Author shares a passion for Huronia's History

Local Franco-Ontarian author, historian, and translator, Daniel Marchildon considers himself lucky to live in Tiny Township, an area with such a fascinating history and so many people who are passionate about it.

Born and raised in Penetanguishene, Daniel graduated from the University of Ottawa in 1983 with a major in Translation and a minor in French literature. Now living in Lafontaine as a freelance writer, researcher, and translator, he recently collaborated with members of the Tiny Township Historical and Heritage Advisory Committee who are working on a new and revised edition of the book *Recollections*, first published in 1995. Marchildon translated the text of the English original to produce a French version of the book and has also contributed some historical content (as did his mother, Meranda Marchildon, in the original publication).

Daniel Marchildon will also be taking part in the upcoming 25th annual Ontario Heritage Conference as a speaker during a panel discussion on Métis and Francophone culture before and after 1814. This event is scheduled for Saturday, June 8th, from 10:30 am to noon at the Penetanguishene Centennial Museum.

In 1999, he was nominated by Tiny Township and the Club de l'âge d'or de Lafontaine to receive an award from the Ontario Heritage Foundation for his contribution to promoting local history. He has researched and written a number of reports and studies dealing with the history of Francophones in Huronia and elsewhere in Ontario, and also the Métis of Georgian Bay. Daniel writes fiction as well, and his 20 odd publications in French include: 8 young adult novels, 3 general public novels, historical fiction, a talking book, short stories, fictional texts for adult literacy, and historical works. In recent years, he has received two significant literary prizes. In 2011, his young adult historical novel, *La première guerre de Toronto*, won the Ontario Trillium award for French children's literature.



In 2009, his historical family saga novel, *L'eau de vie (Uisge beatha)* won the Émile-Ollivier prize, awarded by the Conseil supérieur de la langue française du Québec for a Canadian novel published in French outside of Québec. This intriguing novel chronicles the real 500-year history of scotch whisky by deftly linking it to the destiny of several generations of a fictitious French-Canadian family living on the eastern shore of Georgian Bay.

His work also includes film and television screenplays, notably a feature film, *La Sacrée*, (Holy Brew) released in 2011. He has articles in various publications including the bilingual on-line *Encyclopedia of French Cultural Heritage in North America* and the Lafontaine French-language newspaper, *Le Goût de vivre*.

His latest book, *Les guerriers de l'eau*, a sci-fi young adult novel, won the Françoise-Lepage kid's lit prize. His current projects include *Le sortilège de Louisbourg*, an historical romance set during the Seven Years War and the final years of the French fortress of Louisbourg (today a national historic site on Cape Breton Island). This novel is scheduled to be published in January 2014 by les éditions David.

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# Summer Activities For Children

By IRENE WILSON

Here are some activities that have been recommended for youngsters who may be spending a week or more in Tiny this summer. For more information about all Tiny Township activities contact Bonita Desroches, Community Recreation Coordinator (705 526-4204 ext. 230 or toll free 1-866-939-8469) or visit [www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca)

## Tiny Township

- Weekly day camp programs are available all summer and take place at various locations throughout Tiny including Wyevalle Park and Perkinsfield Park.

- Soccer program runs on Wednesday evenings from July 10 – August 28, 2013 at a cost of \$72.00 per child. Ages 3-15.

- Tiny in partnership with the County of Simcoe is offering an 8 week Progressive Tennis Program. Details available on [www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca)

## Elsewhere in Tiny

- Lafontaine, Toanche, Wyevalle all have excellent baseball programs that are more of a seasonal commitment.

- The Tiny Marsh on Concession 1 is a delightful place for hiking and bird-watching. Be sure to wear bug repellent.

## Midland

- Midland Public Library - Story time 10:30 am Tuesday and Wednesdays for young children includes a story, snack and craft time.

Children's movie time is Wednesday afternoons, followed by teen movies in the evening.

- The North Simcoe Recreation Centre (705-526-9395) is a large facility with 2 ice rinks, gyms and wall climbing. Summer day camps - daily or weekly through the Boys & Girls Club - include swimming and gymnastics.

- The YMCA next door (705-526-7828) offers day camps

for ages 3-15 and Leadership camps for ages 13-15. Swim programs are also available.

<http://www.ymcaofsimcoemuskoka.ca/midland-ymca/>

- Huron Museum (705 526-2844) [www.huronmuseum.com](http://www.huronmuseum.com) has summer day camps with a variety of activities that are available daily or weekly. Part of the museum is a Huron/Wendat Village.

- Huron Gymnastics Club, 427 William St. [www.huron-sgym.ca](http://www.huron-sgym.ca) has a parent and child drop-in on Tuesdays at 11:00 am.

- The recently-opened Quest Gallery 705 526-2787 or [www.questart.ca](http://www.questart.ca) offers great hands-on creative workshops of different lengths especially for children including week long summer day camps.

## Nearby

- Weekly camps at Wye Marsh (705 526-7809) [www.wyemarsh.com](http://www.wyemarsh.com) and various activities at Ste. Marie Among the Hurons (705 526-7838) [www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca](http://www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca) and Discovery Harbour (705 549-8064) [www.discoveryharbour.on.ca](http://www.discoveryharbour.on.ca). These facilities offer special one day events.

- Yoga House, 3 Thompson Rd., Penetanguishene [www.theyogahouse.com](http://www.theyogahouse.com) has classes for teens, tweens and children.

- Big Chute Marine Railway, where you can watch the boats being lifted onto a railway and transported down past



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[www.elmvalejunglezoo.com](http://www.elmvalejunglezoo.com) is an outdoor adventure featuring exotic animals and birds, interactive presentations and a petting area.

- Penetanguishene Centennial Museum (705-549-2150) [www.pencenmuseum.com](http://www.pencenmuseum.com) have various activities and events including a Summer Day Camp.

Have fun!

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REPORT ON COUNCIL. . . continued from page 5

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**Septic re-inspection program continues** this year. C.C. Tatham & Associates will concentrate on the north-east quadrant of the Township, including Toanche, Farlain Lake and Champlain Road. There will also be follow-up for 666 lot owners who have not submitted pump-out records or responded to previous deficiency orders. Ontario Regulation 315/10 has now come into force requiring all systems in well head protection zones to be inspected every 5 years.

#### New Fees Schedule for 2013

Council passed By-law 13-017 containing several increases for various Township fees. This By-law can be viewed at the Township office or online at <https://docushare.tiny.ca/docushare/dsweb/View/Collecti-on-39435>

#### Council Attendance

	2011	2012	2013
Millar	95.7%	69.6%	62.5%
Lawrence	91.3%	95.7%	100%
Claire	95.7%	91.3%	100%
Warren	100%	100%	87.5%
Wishart	100%	100%	100%

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Stunning CaWaja Beachfront Cape Cod  
Family Home.

\$485,000 - \$499,000



Cedar Ridge Exclusive Waterfront Lots  
Create your waterfront retreat!

\$779,000



MLS#20130457

36 Scott Lane  
Awesome Nottawaga Beach recreational  
waterfront wonder.

\$899,000



MLS#20130412

1002 Dead End Lane  
Delightful all season family cottage  
on 200ft of Waterfront

\$1,500,000



MLS#20130399

36-37 East Beach Road  
Thunder Beach Beauty to Enjoy the Beach and  
Sunsets - Includes back property

\$699,000



MLS#20111925

390 Silver Birch Drive  
Perfect Family 4 bed, all season cottage/  
beach,sunsets, dock, marine railway.

WWW.SHORESOFNTINY.COM

VACANT LOTS/BEACH ACCESS \$44,000 - \$59,000

\$789,000



552 Silver Birch Drive  
Wonderful Escape to Peaceful  
Waterfront Home.

\$1,350,000



MLS#20130493

2 Blue Lane  
Amazing Log Home & Ultimate in Privacy  
and Stunning Vistas

\$495,000



MLS#20130575

Lot 3 Block 18 Silver Birch Dr.  
Greatest Opportunity : Best Deal on Vacant  
Waterfront Properties (4+ Acres)

\$349,000



MLS#20101448

166-167 West Shore Drive  
One of a kind waterfront land lease with dock  
and 3 bed. home on road side.

\$669,000



MLS#20130714

1399 Champlain Rd.  
Private & Immaculate Family Retreat  
with 158ft. of Shoreline and Sunrise

\$1,200,000



MLS#20122321

Lot 7 & Block 14, Silver Birch Dr.  
YES WE HAVE GREAT WATER LEVELS IN SOME  
AREAS OF SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY!

\$569,000



MLS#20122254

406 Silver Birch Drive  
A Beach Beauty: 3 Beds, Charming  
Open Concept with Fireplace

\$454,900



MLS#20120586

2505 Champlain Rd.  
Chic and Cozy 4 Season Beachfront  
with modern flare

\$369,000



MLS#20130695

270 Hillcrest Rd.  
Treed 60+ Acreage, Walking Trails, 2+ Bed  
Farmhouse in Thunder Beach Area

\$349,000



MLS#20122196

399 Concession 15 E.  
Off the Grid on 23 Acres: Majestic Custom Home  
with Vista of Georgian Bay

\$645,000



MLS#20122254

170 West Shore Drive  
One of a kind Boathouse with Living Quarters  
and Panoramic Stunning Vista

\$329,900



MLS#20130770

46 Green Point Lane  
In the Heart of Thunder Beach: Private and  
Charming Cottage with Beach Access