

# THE TINY COTTAGER

Issue No. 51

A GEORGIAN BAY PERSPECTIVE

Spring/Summer 2018

## President's Message

By PAUL COWLEY, CARUSOE BAY

Our members increasingly ask FoTTSA to make Tiny's many environmental issues a top priority. In this issue we have articles on water quality, water extraction, microplastics pollution, and invasive plants and fish, such as Grass Carp.

The Grass carp threat was documented in the Spring, 2017 *Tiny Cottager* and it is worsening. The Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation is now turning its expertise to this significant concern. Watch for news in *FoTTSA Flash* and on the foundation website ([www.georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com](http://www.georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com)) of an Asian Carp webinar with experts and political leaders. We all need to be there!

The Severn Sound Environmental Association has Phragmites squarely in its sights, as does Lynn Short's Phragmites research program. Other species such as garlic mustard, spotted knapweed and white sweet clover are also ongoing threats that you will learn more about from the articles inside.

FoTTSA advocates for our members on many of these important concerns, and we're heartened by the number of people who also volunteer their time and effort. There is much to be done.

With a fall election ahead of us, we provide essential information in this issue, such as key dates, how to make sure you're on the voters list, and how to register as a candidate. In the fall issue we'll provide more information, including brief candidate profiles. I encourage you to get engaged early. Informed voters can make a difference.

Tiny Council's town hall meetings continue to be well-attended conduits for residents and Council to share and understand views. Plan to attend the next meeting on May 26 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tiny Township Community Centre. That same morning at 8:30 a.m. you can attend a Tiny Recreation Master plan open house at the same location.

This year FoTTSA is proud to be Founding Sponsor of the 2018 Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament on July 13, which continues to grow in size and donations. Please register early and come out to support this wonderful effort.

If you have a passion to help improve something in Tiny, please reach out to us. We are always looking for volunteer help to continue the important work we do.

We look forward to enjoying a warmer than normal summer with you!



Please see *Grow Your Own Wildflower Magic...* on page 13

## Gravel Pit in Concession 1: Water Taking, Expansion

By JUDITH GRANT, ADDISON BEACH

*Applications to expand the Teedon gravel pit in Concession 1 and take millions of litres of water a day for aggregate washing continue to generate opposition from township residents and First Nations. As of press time, the Ministry of Natural Resources is still considering the water application and Township of Tiny Council has not passed by-law amendments needed for the expansion. Here's a status report on the situation.*

### Background to recent developments

In March 2012, Beamish Construction Co., then owner of the Teedon gravel pit, applied for Official Plan and Zoning By-law amendments to allow a substantial northward expansion of the pit. The township hired R.J. Burnside & Associates (Burnside) and the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) to peer review the application and the studies that accompanied it.

In response to points they raised, Beamish backed the excavation area away from the significant woodland on the west side of the property and agreed to plant more trees when rehabilitating the Teedon Pit, but ignored other criticisms. A public meeting about the application in January 2015 raised many concerns, including a number about the increased amount of aggregate washing and potential negative effects on the underlying aquifers. Beamish addressed none of these worries.

Beamish then applied (as the township learned in March 2015) to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) for a major site plan amendment for the Teedon Pit. In response, the township supplied

MNRF with a list of points raised by residents at the public meeting. Then, a little later, local residents lodged formal complaints with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) about silt in their wells, caused, they believed, by the washing of gravel in the Teedon Pit. In February 2016, the township provided additional comments to the MNRF prepared by Burnside, recommending that "the current condition of nearby domestic wells should be established", and that monitoring of the Teedon Pit "should be expanded to include a staff gauge in the wash pond, a nested well with screens completed at a variety of depths (to monitor change in gradients during use of the wash pond), along with a number of wells completed in the aquifer(s) that are used by domestic wells in the area". None of this was done.

Nonetheless, in November 2016, MNRF consented to the requested major site plan amendment which, among other things, increased the final depth of extraction to just a meter and a half above the water table; allowed the importation of asphalt, concrete, aggregate and topsoil/fill for transfer or processing; and permitted a wash plant and wash pond on site.

Nothing further happened that year or the next with regard to the application to expand the gravel pit northward.

### Current situation re: the permit to take water

On January 18, 2018, CRH Canada Group Inc. (now

Please see *GRAVEL...* on page 6

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# Spring/Summer Events

**MAY**

**“Calendar Girls”,** May 4-19, Midland Cultural Centre  
[www.huroniaplayers.ca](http://www.huroniaplayers.ca)

**Midland Model Train Show,** May 12-13  
North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre, Midland

**Friends of the Simcoe County Museum ‘Royal-Tea’,**  
May 19, Simcoe County Museum, Minesing  
[www.museum.simcoe.ca](http://www.museum.simcoe.ca)

**Barrie Waterfront Festival,** May 25-27, Heritage Park  
[www.barriewaterfront.ca](http://www.barriewaterfront.ca)

**Township of Tiny Town Hall Meeting,** May 26  
Community Centre Conc. 8

**Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Band,** May 26, Midland  
[www.midlandculturalcentre.com](http://www.midlandculturalcentre.com)

**The Big Pull – garlic mustard control,** May 26-27  
Tiny Marsh

**JUNE**

**National Health and Fitness Day,** June 2  
[www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca)

**Kids Fishing Derby and Bike Rodeo,** June 2  
Midland Harbour  
[www.midland.ca](http://www.midland.ca)

**Royal Newfoundland Regiment Garrison Event:  
The War of 1812,** June 2-3,  
Discovery Harbour, Penetanguishene  
[www.discoveryharbour.on.ca](http://www.discoveryharbour.on.ca)

**“Cinderella”,** June 6-30, King's Wharf Theatre,  
Penetanguishene  
[www.draytonentertainment.com](http://www.draytonentertainment.com)

**Ontario's Best Butter Tart Festival,** Butter Tart Trot,  
June 9, Midland [buttertartfestival.ca](http://buttertartfestival.ca)

**Wheels & Tracks in Motion,** June 9-10  
Simcoe County Museum, Minesing

**Party on the Dock,** June 16, Midland  
[www.midland.ca](http://www.midland.ca)

**Wasaga Waterfront Festival,** June 16-17  
[www.wasagabeach.com](http://www.wasagabeach.com)

**National Indigenous Peoples Day,** June 21  
Sainte-Marie among the Hurons  
[www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca](http://www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca)

**Wasaga Beach Cruisers Fun Run — Classic Car Event,**  
June 22-23 [www.wasagabeach.com](http://www.wasagabeach.com)

**Tiny Marsh BioBlitz,** June 23  
[www.tinymarshbioblitz.eventbrite.ca](http://www.tinymarshbioblitz.eventbrite.ca)

**Coldwater & Area Studio Tour,** June 23-24  
[www.coldwaterstudiotour.com](http://www.coldwaterstudiotour.com)

**Georgian Triangle Music Festival,** June 30  
Wasaga Beach  
[www.georgiantrianglemusicfest.com](http://www.georgiantrianglemusicfest.com)

**Midland Ribfest,** June 30-July 1  
[www.midland.ca](http://www.midland.ca)

**JULY**

**Canada Day celebrations,** July 1  
Little Lake Park, Midland; Sainte-Marie among the  
Hurons; Discovery Harbour;  
Penetanguishene Centennial Museum

**Church in the Pines (Outdoors),** July & August  
Sundays 10:30 a.m., Lefaive Rd off Conc 11

**Sainte-Marie by Candlelight,** July & August  
[www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca](http://www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca)

**“Out of Order”,** July 4-July 21, King's Wharf Theatre,  
Penetanguishene

**Ghost Tours at Discovery Harbour,** July 4-August 29,  
Penetanguishene (Wednesdays and Saturdays)

**Georgian Bay Charity Poker Run,** July 6-8, Midland  
[performanceboatclub.ca/events/](http://performanceboatclub.ca/events/)

**Mariposa Folk Festival,** July 6-8, Orillia  
[www.mariposafolk.com](http://www.mariposafolk.com)

**“Hoist the Colours”: The War of 1812,** July 7-8  
Discovery Harbour, Penetanguishene

**Evening Historical Walking Tours of Penetanguishene,**  
July 12 & 26, Centennial Museum  
[www.pencenmuseum.com](http://www.pencenmuseum.com)

**Festival du Loup,** July 12-14, Lafontaine  
[www.festivalduloup.on.ca](http://www.festivalduloup.on.ca)

**Township of Tiny Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament &  
Dinner,** July 13  
Brooklea Golf & Country Club  
[www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca)

**Georgian Bay Garden Tour,** July 14  
[www.georgianbaygardentour.ca](http://www.georgianbaygardentour.ca)

**Feast Fest and Magical Midway,** July 21-22,  
Midland Harbour [www.midland.ca](http://www.midland.ca)

**Tiny Community BBQ,** July 21, Perkinsfield Park  
[www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca)

**“Cruisin’ Classics”,** July 25-Aug 4, King's Wharf  
Theatre, Penetanguishene

**All Things Canadian Festival,** July 27-28,  
Penetanguishene Waterfront  
[penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/AllThingsCanadian.asp](http://penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/AllThingsCanadian.asp)

**Collingwood Elvis Festival,** July 27-29  
[collingwoodelvisfestival.com](http://collingwoodelvisfestival.com)

**AUGUST**

**Pirates of the Bay,** August 4, Discovery Harbour,  
Penetanguishene

**“Hairspray”,** Aug 9-Sept 1, King's Wharf Theatre,  
Penetanguishene

**Balm Beach Family Fun Day,** August 12

**Evening Historical Walking Tours of Penetanguishene,**  
August 16 & 23, Centennial Museum  
[www.pencenmuseum.com](http://www.pencenmuseum.com)

**Georgian Bay Tugfest and Harbour Fair,** August 17-18  
Midland  
[www.tugfestgeorgianbay.com](http://www.tugfestgeorgianbay.com)

**Wasaga Under Siege,** August 18-19  
[www.wasagabeachpark.com/](http://www.wasagabeachpark.com/)

**Barrie Dragon Boat Festival,** August 25  
[www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca](http://www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca)

**Wasaga Multisport Triathlon,** August 25  
[www.multisportcanada.com/wasagabeach/](http://www.multisportcanada.com/wasagabeach/)

**Cycle Camelot Ride,** August 25,  
Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre  
[cyclecamelot.com](http://cyclecamelot.com)

**SEPTEMBER**

**Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre POW WOW,**  
September 8-9, Sainte-Marie Park  
[www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca](http://www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca)

**“Kings & Queens of Country”,** Sept 13-30  
King's Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene

**Terry Fox Run,** September 16, Perkinsfield Park  
[www.terryfox.org](http://www.terryfox.org)

**Simcoe County Quilt, Rug & Craft Fair,**  
September 14-16  
[museum.simcoe.ca/programs/upcoming-events](http://museum.simcoe.ca/programs/upcoming-events)

**Doors Open Simcoe County,** September 29  
[www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/en/index.php/simcoe-county](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/en/index.php/simcoe-county)

**Fall Harvest Craft Sale & Doors Open,** September 29  
Penetanguishene Centennial Museum  
[www.pencenmuseum.com](http://www.pencenmuseum.com)

**The Bay Studio Tour,** September 29-30  
Tiny Township and Penetanguishene  
[www.thebaystudiotour.com](http://www.thebaystudiotour.com)

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## Shoulder to Shoulder at the First Nations' Water Ceremony

BY WAASEKOM (PHOTOS BY FRED CATTROLL)

On April 14, Indigenous people from all over Canada and the United States gathered at Site 41, atop what has been documented as the world's purest water, to support the growing effort to once again protect the Alliston Aquifer.

The Friends of the Waverley Uplands cohosted the All Nations Water Ceremony to draw inspiration and strength from the success of Site 41. The proposed expansion of the Teedon Pit and renewal of the permit to take up to 6.8 million litres of water a day for 10 years is the newest call to action to protect the world's purest water.

Local residents Pete and Jenny Anderson, affected by the aggregate mining on the Waverley Uplands, provided a statement on behalf of their group. "The Friends of the Waverley Uplands are committed to the protection of the Alliston Aquifer. We remind the people of Simcoe County that they are blessed with the purest water on the planet. We along with Indigenous people are the stewards of this precious life-source and we must stand shoulder to shoulder once again as we have in the past, Aquifer over aggregate."

Co-founder of the Site 41 movement Elizabeth Brass Elson welcomed area visitors, along with Anne Nahuis Ritchie, local residents who have been supporting the Friends of Waverley Uplands group.

"Protecting the water is one of the most sacred responsibilities we have as women. Being back on the land we fought so hard to save in the Dumpsite 41 peaceful protest was an emotional experience with all those memories of unity and connection with our brothers and sisters coming together again, stepping, praying, drumming, singing, and blessing the water on this sacred aquifer once again," said Elizabeth Brass Elson.

The gathering was also supported by local First Nations representative Terra Sandy Roy, Chief of the Beausoleil First Nation Youth Council who attended the event on behalf her community, "to be with people of all kinds in ceremony, all with the same goal; to protect the water, some of the purest water known to Mother Earth. The busy day began with a beautiful sunrise ceremony, it was conducted by the grandmothers. To sit in unison with everyone was incredible... Although a storm was well in the making and on its way, it didn't stop us."

She continued, "Water is a gift, it's a right, and it's our job as people of all kinds to protect the water in



Ceremonial Jingle Dance

order to ensure that life of all kinds is able to continue for the next generations to come. It is also our job as people to keep Mother Earth as healthy as can be."

The All Nations Water Ceremony celebrated the leadership that Indigenous women have taken up to ensure the protection of water. It was an opportunity built on the fellowship and mutual concern that is reflective of the Township of Tiny and local area.

Also speaking at the ceremony was Autumn Peltier, a 13-year-old from Manitoulin Island who earlier this year addressed the UN General Assembly on World Water Day. "When I said 'Warrior-Up' at the United Nations, I wanted all people to take a stand for our water and for our planet. We all need to work together, to help each other to save what we can... I'm sad because I'm starting out on my journey and I see what is happening in the world and what is happening to the water. If it's this bad now when I'm only 13, what will things look like when I'm 53?"

"It was not a protest or political rally," says organizer Edward George, "but rather a way-making for future collaboration between indigenous and non indigenous people to navigate an issue that affects everyone. Ceremony binds us to the land and water, it gives us the encouragement and inspiration we need to continue advocating for the single most unifying cause there is, water. As the changes in climate are becoming more and more pronounced, there is reason to be more and more discerning when it comes to decisions that will irreversibly impact the futurity of this land and these waterways we belong to, especially when that threatens life-source water. It was an opportunity to learn more about just how precious water really is."

**Ms. R. Bald**  
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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.  
The information contained in *The Tiny Cottager* has been provided by sources believed to be reliable. However, FoTSA makes no guarantee as to the correctness or completeness of the information.

# Report on Council

Mayor: George Cornell  
Deputy Mayor: Steffen Walma  
Councillors: Cindy Hastings, Richard Hinton, Gibb Wishart

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- March — Jackson Park Public Boat Launch Closure (Public Works is making all the necessary arrangements to clear sand from the ramp)
- May 1, 2018 to July 27, 2018 — Nomination Period for 2018 Municipal Election
- May 26, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. — Recreation Master Plan Open House, Tiny Township Community Centre, Meeting Room
- May 26, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to noon — Town Hall Meeting, Tiny Township Community Centre
- July 13, 2018 — Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament, Brooklea Golf and Country Club

**STAFF:**

Tony Mintoff, Fire Chief, retired on January 31, 2018.  
Ray Millar (Tiny's Mayor from 2010-14) was appointed Fire Chief on March 12, 2018.

**REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS:**

In October, Council directed staff to continue to operate a zero-tolerance mandate related to short-term rental properties. This empowers By-law to issue a warning to renters upon receiving and verifying a noise complaint. Subsequent noise violations by the same renter then trigger escalating fines. If a different renter is at fault, the owner will receive a written notice of the likelihood of being charged for permitting noise.

**LAFONTAINE CAMP/TRAILER PARK EXPANSION:**

The Lafontaine recreational park at 240 Rue Lafontaine Road East had a 1984 site plan that permitted 150 camp/trailer sites, a comfort station, an office/residence for the manager, a swimming pool, and a ski chalet. In 2010, the owners applied for a site plan amendment that would allow 296 camp/trailer sites, a comfort station, an office residence for the park manager, swimming pool, a ski chalet, a recreation centre/comfort station/office/store, an arcade/equipment/storage building, and three permanent rental cabins. Since 2010, the three permanent rental cabins and one street have been removed; the number of sites for seasonal recreational vehicles has been reduced to 279; setbacks from the wetland at the north of the property have been instituted; township standards have been imposed on internal roads; Lafontaine Road has been widened; and accessibility upgrades have been added.

**SENIOR SPEAKER SERIES:**

After successfully applying to the Ministry of Seniors Affairs for an \$8,000 grant to develop a Senior Speaker Series, the municipality hired Laura Condren to work with Maggie Off (of the Recreation Department) to set up seven free workshops concerning

- safe driving and transportation
- wholesome eating and active living
- self-care and healthy minds
- budgeting, banking and estate planning
- in-home services
- seniors living in Tiny; launch of the Senior Directory
- senior safety and self defence

The municipality supplied another \$1,000 and made an in-kind contribution of another \$1,000. Speakers came from the Ministries of Transportation and Finance, the OPP and Crime Stoppers, and included a dietitian, a chef, fitness and health experts, area service providers, and representatives of local volunteer groups, seniors clubs and associations. A directory of senior services is to be distributed at the Township of Tiny Senior Symposium this June. It is available as an attachment to Recreation Report REC-004-18 in the April 9, 2018 Committee of the Whole Agenda, Staff Reports to Council, Administration and Finance.

**INVENTORY TO BE DONE AS BASIS FOR A LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN:**

Council agreed to Sustainable Severn Sound's request for support for the completion of a community-wide greenhouse gas inventory.



Summer is almost here...

**BICYCLE/WALKING LANES:**

According to Tim Leitch, Director of Public Works, the Township's practice is to consider the suitability of bike/walking lanes when roads are reconstructed.  
In November Council was told that 15 share-the-road signs depicting a car, bike and pedestrian are to be installed between the Penetanguishene town line and Kettle's Beach, but no rebuilding and no lanes as yet. If this project proves to be effective, such signs will be erected elsewhere in the township. The anticipated cost for those on Champlain Road is \$1,500.

**PARKING PROGRAM:**

In November, Steven Harvey, Tiny's Chief Municipal Law Enforcement Officer, reported that a number of minor adjustments to the previous year's Pilot Parking Program had proved to be effective. Improved signage, for example, resulted in many fewer parking infractions.  
In January 2018, Council decided that the 2017 boundaries, permit parking hours (8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.), dates (May 15 to September 15), cost of resident parking permits and number allowed per household would remain the same for 2018, as would the fees for Non-Resident Parking Permits and the leeway allowed for those at garage sales and auctions. Paid and permit parking is to remain at Bluewater Beach Park. An additional accessible parking spot is to be installed at Trew Avenue as is signage indicating that tennis court parking in the Bluewater Beach Park area is for tennis court users only.  
The 20 or so streets covered by the parking program that attracted the most parking tickets in 2017 are to have improved signage, mostly to clarify existing parking regulations: in two instances the No Parking area is being extended to improve road safety.  
The streets with the greatest number of parking tickets are Nicole Blvd (43), Trew Avenue (31), Jackson Park (29), and Pennorth Drive (75). Apparently, many people bought a parking ticket from a machine on Trew Avenue then drove to Nicole Blvd to park, so some of the new signs will make it clear just where a paid parking ticket can be used. The new signs are to be installed before the end of May.

**MAJOR PARKS:**

On January 5, 2018 the Township purchased the beachfront portion of the Surf Restaurant property in Balm Beach for \$550,000.  
Thanks to the hard work of the Balm Beach Community Association, the Business Association of Balm Beach, Balm Beach residents, and township staff, plans are well advanced for a Balm Beach Family Fun Day on August 12th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It is to include vendors, displays and exhibits, entertainment, activities for all ages, refreshments, and a silent auction. Council has agreed to provide "in kind" sup-

port valued at \$3,808 and financial support of \$4,200. Monies from sponsorships and the silent auction are to be used to help fund children's recreational equipment at Balm Beach; vendor fees are to support Busk Til Dusk, and recreational equipment.  
For an update on activities of the Lafontaine Beach Park Master Plan Advisory Committee, see the article on page 13.  
On April 30, Council decided to devote half a day in May to a discuss issues concerning Major Beach Parks such as the size of Bluewater Park and encroachments.

**CLIMATE CHANGE:**

After hearing a report from Sustainable Severn Sound, Council decided that Tiny Township should join the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners for Climate Protection Program and carry out its "five-mile-stone framework" within 10 years and report on progress at least once every two years. This involves endorsing the Government of Canada's commitment to the Paris Agreement.  
Details appear in the Report from the Committee of the Whole Meeting for January 29, 2018, which appears as item H) in the Complete Regular Agenda, February 12, 2018.

**WYMBOLWOOD BEACH PHRAGMITES:**

After hearing a presentation from Lynn Short about the impact that her spading technique had on Phragmites in the period from 2016 to August 2017, Council agreed to supply in kind support for 2018. This includes:

- continued use of tools
- assistance in locating volunteers
- an updated sign to inform the public of the research
- 100 paper bags to contain cut plant debris
- collection of bagged stalks and thatch
- 2 parking passes for use at the research site

**BUILDING ACTIVITY:**

Building activity in Tiny continued to be vigorous in 2017. In 2016 the total construction value was \$46,940,000. In 2017 the total rose to \$52,799,000. Building activity continues to increase this year.

**STREETLIGHT POLICY:**

Council decided to accept the recommendation of the Public Works Manager that Dark-Sky Initiatives be incorporated with existing practices, standards and guidelines when reviewing street light requests.

**TELECOMMUNICATION TOWERS:**

Xplornet will be erecting two wireless towers, one at 4145 Crossland Road, the other at Concession Road 19 West and Sandy Bay Road. The northern one will serve 1,500 homes.



BOATING RESTRICTION:

In March, Transport Canada sent a letter reminding the Township of the general 10 km/h speed restriction within 30 m of shore for all power-driven vessels, and of the special 10 km/h restriction extending 300 m from the western shore of Tiny from Concession 1 to Concession 16.

POLICE SERVICES BOARD:

This three-member Board replaces the Community Policing Committee. On it, Councillor Hinton represents Council, Kevin Leonard the community, and Barry Godding the Province.

According to the Township’s press release, it shall:

- “participate in the selection of the detachment commander;
- generally determine the objectives and priorities for police services after consultation with the detachment commander;
- establish, after consultation with the detachment commander, any local policies with respect to police services;
- monitor the performance of and receive reports from the detachment commander;

On April 17 when the Board met for the first time, Richard Hinton was elected chair, and on April 30 Council agreed to the Board’s recommendation that it be expanded by including another member of Council and a second provincial appointee.

MUNICIPAL HERITAGE REGISTER:

Three properties have been added to the Register: S.S. #15 Campbell Schoolhouse (built 1924) at 100 Concession 3 East  
Log House (built 1910) at 110 Concession 17 West  
Two-storey Log House (built 1870) at 650 Concession Road 17 West.

LE VILLAGEOIS DE LAFONTAINE:

In March, Council sought legal advice about Le Villageois’ long-standing failure to pay its taxes and its recent request that development fees not be imposed on a proposed expansion. All five members of Council then decided that this group should not be forgiven tax arrears and development fees when everyone else in the township accepts those responsibilities or suffers the consequences. If Le Villageois doesn’t manage to get its financial house in order, presumably it will be sold for tax arrears in a year’s time.

2017 PUBLIC BEACH WATER MONITORING:

Last summer, the Health Unit monitored five beaches in Tiny: Woodland, Trew Avenue, Jackson Park, Balm, and Lafontaine Park. Beginning in 2018, it will monitor only the five major beach parks: Woodland, Bluewater, Jackson, Balm, and Lafontaine. The Health Unit has revised the limit at which it advises that a beach be posted, raising it from a geometric mean of 100 E. coli or more per 100 mL for five samples to a geometric mean of 200 E. coli or more. This brings it into line with Health Canada’s standard.

GEORGIAN BAY GREAT LAKES FOUNDATION:

In March, Mary Muter (well-known activist regarding regulation of water levels in the middle Great Lakes) and Paul Cowley (President, FoTTSA) asked for long term funding for expenses related to

- Baird Report II (which projects lake levels to 2050)
- mapping ephemeral wetland habitat
- stream water quality monitoring
- lobbying to stop Asian Carp getting farther into the Great Lakes.

Council decided to supply \$10,000 funding for 2018. The GBGLF will have to ask the next Council for future funding.

EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL (EWM) IN FARLAIN LAKE:

In a deputation on April 30, Herb Huck updated Council on the current state of invasive EWM in Farlain Lake. Every year since 2014, the Farlain Lake Community Association has attempted to rid the lake of this invasive plant, only to find that the first colony remains established, and additional patches spring up. They researched the problem, found a special removal method called DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting), set up an information kiosk, and held fundraising events. As a community they invested over 5,000 hours and over \$43,000. Uncontrolled, EWM could easily take over the whole of Farlain Lake, and that, as Huck pointed out, would have an impact on property values and thus on the township’s tax base.

This year, they are applying for a Trillium grant to construct a proper DASH unit and train community divers. They also intend to use a targeted aquatic herbicide and to lay down mats that kill the plants by stopping light from reaching them. The “ask” is \$8,000 a year for three years to fund the cost of commercial divers. Council commended the community for its work, and will decide on funding in May.

# An Update on Tiny’s Official Plan

By JUDITH GRANT, ADDISON BEACH

First draft comments

In November, Jamie Robinson of MHBC Planning provided Council with an overview of comments received in writing and orally up to November 15 regarding Draft 1 of the Official Plan (OP). Four main themes were –

- lack of building control policies
- changing the “Environment First” objective to “Environment Focused”
- secondary dwelling units in the shoreline designation
- population growth and allocation/settlement area boundaries.

Of the first theme, Robinson observed that the OP is not utilized to establish “building control” as there are other mechanisms available to the township for that purpose. MHBC recommended no changes in the next draft.

Regarding “Environment First” (see *FoTTSA’s presentation, The Tiny Cottager*, Fall 2017, page 5), MHBC again recommended no changes, arguing that provincial and county initiatives already provide significant environmental protection.

MHBC agreed that secondary dwelling units, which are meant to provide affordable housing, would probably be used in the shoreline designation for short-term rentals. They were therefore removed from that zone in the second draft, while still being permitted in rural and settlement areas.

Allocation of population growth to settlement areas (a provincial requirement) has to be delayed until the County of Simcoe completes a study of the placing of population several years hence (also a provincial requirement). In the meantime, MHBC recommended that the county’s Greenlands expansion in Tiny’s shoreline area not be implemented to allow for population growth there.

Concerned about the continuing shift from “Environment First” to “Environmentally Focused,” representatives from FoTTSA’s Board met with Kris Menzies and Jamie Robinson of MHBC Planning in January. As a result, the environment was given greater prominence at key points in the second draft Official Plan Update and the county’s Greenlands expansion in Tiny’s shoreline area was inserted. In addition, a policy was added regarding retention of natural vegetation when reviewing shoreline development applications.

Second draft

The second draft of the updated Official Plan appeared on the township’s website on March 2 for consideration at two open houses three weeks later — one in Vaughan for seasonal residents and the other in Tiny Township the next day for permanent residents.

MHBC Planning accepted comments submitted by April 20. On April 30, the planners told Council that a number of themes emerged from these submissions, notably

- **Provincial natural heritage and agricultural systems mapping.** As this mapping is not nearly as good as the Township’s own mapping, the planners decided to include two schedules showing both kinds of provincial mapping, with the provision that they would only be used when consistent with the other schedules of the Official Plan.
- **Protection of the dune system in Bluewater Beach Park by designating it EP1 and removing it from the list**

**of major beach parks.** Neither is possible since EP1 is reserved for provincially significant wetlands and coastal wetlands, and township studies designate Bluewater Beach as a major park. However, the Park can be given Greenlands designation as soon as the dimensions of the dune area have been properly ascertained. (Council is arranging that this be ascertained.)

- **Expanded Greenlands mapping in accordance with the county’s OP, the Provincial Policy Statement and its growth plan:** Although developers have lodged appeals with the OMB, there are to be no changes to this aspect of the Plan. Existing vacant lots of record are still valid and changes may still be made to buildings already in place.

- **Protection of French’s Hill and groundwater there.** Here the planners relied on the report prepared by the Southern Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Authority, which does not identify French’s Hill as a highly vulnerable aquifer nor as a significant ground water recharge area.

- **Strengthening mineral aggregate policies.** Here, as with French’s Hill, the consultants included in the second draft all the resources open to them in provincial and county policies. These policies protect the natural environment much more strongly than those in the current Official Plan. Members of Council asked how to get the Province to change its policies – to get it to value water recharge areas ahead of aggregate extraction. Here Jamie Robinson said he’d reply after MHBC Planning had time to reflect. Wilf Ruland’s Review of Teedon Pit PTTW Application was introduced and discussed as a resource that should be shared with Burnside & Associates and that might be peer reviewed.

- **Second units in the shoreline designation.** These were removed as a shoreline use in Draft 2. No change was recommended for Draft 3.

- **Septage spreading.** The spreading of septage on farmers’ fields is not a permitted use in Tiny’s current Official Plan nor in its Zoning By-law. Nonetheless, the MOECC still permits spreading in accordance with the *Environmental Protection Act*. The planners recommend that township planning documents continue not to recognize spreading of septage as a permitted use.

- **Lack of seniors housing policies.** The third draft is to include a general policy identifying the forms of housing for older persons and that they be permitted in settlement areas with a rezoning and that small scale facilities be permitted in other areas subject to an Official Plan amendment and Rezoning.

Next steps

MHBC Planning is to prepare Draft 3 integrating points raised by Council and by the public and, when complete, to make it available to the public. The statutory public meeting will then be held. After the public meeting, there may be another delay if important points are raised by the public or by Council. MHBC Planning hopes that the update will receive Council approval and be sent off to the County for approval prior to the election. Time will tell.



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...GRAVEL continued from page 1

the owner of the Teedon Pit) applied for a 10-year extension of the permit to take water for aggregate washing in the pit. The quantity of water requested is huge, a maximum of 5,237,280 litres per day from the source pond plus 1,635,840 litres per day from the supply well. In February, Council instructed Burnside to forward its comments about essential improvements to the monitoring system to the MOECC, and the deadline for comments to the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) Registry regarding the permit was extended to April 23. As we'll see below, CRH seems to have begun acting on these recommendations.

Also, in the early months of 2018, CRH set up a community committee called the Dufferin Aggregates Teedon Pit Community Liaison Committee (CLC). Six township residents serve on it — Peter Anderson, David Barkey, Jessica Campitelli, Judith Grant (FoTTSA representative), Richard Hinton (Council's representative), and Christopher Williams. Three individuals represent Dufferin Aggregates (a division of CRH), two more represent CRH, and two mediators from StrategyCorp hired by CRH manage the meetings, one as Chair writing summary comments on a blackboard and the other writing minutes. At the first meeting on March 5, the six community members explained their interest in aggregate extraction in the Teedon Pit — everything from worries about impacts on the underlying aquifer and deficiencies in the application for extension of the permit to take water, to safety, noise, vibration, and silt in wells for those living nearby. There was a general feeling among the community members that a First Nations representative should be included in the committee. While the meeting was in process, several hundred demonstrators, many representing First Nations, agitated in opposition to the renewal of the permit to take water, eager, once again, to protect the aquifer, the same aquifer that underlies Site 41.

At the April 3rd meeting, the Dufferin division of CRH noted that in the week of March 26th, drilling had begun for the installation of four more monitoring wells. They are nested, which means that there is a shallow well next to a deep well in order to measure the aquifers and the water table. Then, in the week of April 2, a survey of domestic wells within a kilometre of the water taking was conducted — some 76 homes, 19 of which had completed the survey at that point. With regard to First Nations involvement, Dufferin had learned that the Métis Nation of Ontario wanted to have its own meetings with them and meetings were being scheduled with the Beausoleil First Nation and the Rama First Nation.

Meantime, two petitions opposing the extension of the permit to take water had been launched — one on change.org and the other by the Council of Canadians. Over 6,500 concerned citizens had signed the petitions by April 21.



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And the First Nations, with the help of the Friends of the Waverley Uplands, held a Water Ceremony at Site 41 on April 14 to bring healing, encouragement, and awareness to the sacredness of water. For more on the water ceremony, see "Shoulder to Shoulder at the First Nations' Water Ceremony" on page 3.

#### Current situation re: the northward expansion of the pit

On March 29, 2018, CRH lodged an appeal with the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) regarding the township's refusal to make a decision on the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law amendments needed for the northward expansion of the pit. The appeal is to be heard under the old OMB rules.

Council decided that if the matter proceeds to a hearing, staff should take an active role, which would include retaining Barriston LLP as its solicitor, R.J. Burnside & Assoc. as its Engineering Consultant, and possibly a land use planning consultant.

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# Sign Up for the 4th Annual Tiny Township Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament



Photo by Andrew Chowmentowski

Enjoy a round of golf and help out local charities by supporting the 4th Annual Tiny Township Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament, taking place Friday July 13, 2018 at the Brooklea Golf & Country Club. The event is in support of 15 local charitable organizations with a focus on healthcare, seniors, education, and youth. Last year the tournament raised \$60,000, and the organizers are hoping to surpass that amount this year.

If you are a golfer, consider getting a team together. Don't worry if only one or two of you are interested in participating: you will be matched up to create a four-some. Non-golfers are invited to join the event for a great dinner and fun events afterwards.

Sponsorships are an integral part of charity tournaments like this and various levels of sponsorship are still

available. The organizers look forward to the community's generous participation. For information on sponsorship opportunities or to participate in the event, please visit the Township's website at [www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca) or contact Maggie Off, 705-526-4204 or at [m.off@tiny.ca](mailto:m.off@tiny.ca).

The recipients of proceeds from this year's tournament were selected from the many entities that look to the Township of Tiny throughout the year for support and funding. The organizers review applications for funding that are received by the township and make a recommendation to Council.

This year's 15 recipients are the Georgian Bay General Hospital, the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre, Hospice Huronia, Wendat Community Programs, Community Reach, the Huronia Seniors Volunteer Care Team ("Wheels 4 Wheels"), Simcoe Muskoka Crime Stoppers, the EDHS Shared Facility (Elmvale District High School), Angels with Backpacks, MTM Conservation Association, We are the Villagers, Township of Tiny Bursary Program, Boys & Girls Club of North Simcoe, Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe and Scientists in the Schools.

Save the date, Friday July 13, and let's hope for great tournament weather. The organizers look forward to seeing you at the Brooklea Golf & Country Club.

Say hello to FoTTSA representatives while you're there. FoTTSA is the Founding Sponsor, and Perkinsfield Kitchen & Bath Inc. is this year's Title Sponsor.

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## Preventing Microplastic Pollution in the Bay

By TINEASHA BRENOT



Photo: Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

Recent research estimates there are 1.7 million pieces of microplastic per square mile in Lake Erie, a density greater than in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Further upstream, preliminary research shows that Lake Huron has a significant number of plastic fragments that will eventually break down into microplastic.

To reduce plastic pollution in the Lake Huron watershed and increase public awareness of such pollution in the Great Lakes, the Lake Huron Centre For Coastal Conservation has launched the Microplastic Awareness Project. What follows is a synopsis of an article written by Tineasha Brenot, a coastal technologist with The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation.

### Where plastic pollution comes from

Disposable items, like straws, grocery bags, coffee cups and water bottles, contribute to the massive amount of plastic pollution. This pollution enters the environment through landfills or improper disposal (i.e., littering, dumping into the lake and river systems), and will persist for much longer than this generation. It can take hundreds of years for sun exposure and wave action to break down a larger piece of plastic into pieces less than 5mm in length, at which point it is considered to be microplastic.

### How it affects wildlife

When consumed by many species of fish, birds and other aquatic wildlife, plastic can become a choking hazard, damage internal organs, cause intestinal blockages, and create a number of other physical complications that could ultimately result in the animal's death.

Another hazard results from the ability of plastic to

attract toxic persistent organic pollutants (POPs), such as DDT, PCB and dioxins. These pollutants could also have adverse effects on wildlife, such as infertility and increased infant mortality.

### What's being done

Some preliminary preventive measures have already been put in place. For example:

- Canadian legislation banning microbeads in cosmetics by July 2018
- "The Last Straw" initiative, in which restaurants and organizations eliminate single-use plastic straws

These measures can help reduce plastic pollution for future generations and create a better, cleaner world.

Find out more about the project by reading the original article: [www.lakehuron.ca/microplastic-awareness-project](http://www.lakehuron.ca/microplastic-awareness-project)

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# Wicked Weeds of the West

STORY AND PHOTO BY KATE DEWEY, BLUEWATER DUNES

“Wicked Weeds of the West” is how rancher Wayne Slaght in Powell County, Montana refers to spotted knapweed (*centaurea macubsa*). Wayne owns 10,000 acres of rangeland and 800 cattle and considers spotted knapweed to be the greatest threat to ranchers, costing them millions of dollars and putting some out of business within 10 years.\*

Don't be taken in by the attractiveness of spotted knapweed's pink flower. It and another invasive plant, white sweet clover, are both now threatening Tiny beaches and farms.

Spotted knapweed was introduced to Turtle Island, an Indigenous term for North America, in ships' ballast, in 1883, via Victoria, Vancouver Island. Since then it has scattered itself across the continent and become a scourge to sensitive environments, farm and range land, and native species. It originated in Europe and parts of Asia.

The roots of spotted knapweed exude a chemical, catechin, which weakens and often destroys the roots of adjacent plants. One plant can produce 400-25,000 seeds, viable for five years, which can be spread onto beaches and dunes, farms and private property by vehicle tires, shoes and clothing, boats and other watercraft, rivers, waterways, lakes, deer and sheep manure, and contaminated animal feed, posing a threat to native plants, forage and other crops, livestock and wildlife.

There are two weevils that feast on the plant, which may be a better choice than pesticides for farmers. One weevil prefers the flowers; the other, the roots. They can be purchased online at <https://tinyurl.com/knapweed1>

The invasive species article from Severn Sound Environmental Association on page 11 refers to volunteers pulling up 30 yard-waste bags of this plant last year in the Lafontaine Beach area. In the same year, I pulled as much spotted knapweed and white sweet clover from Bluewater Dunes and neighbourhood roads and ditches and advised many residents who had stopped to ask what I was doing to check their own property for both spotted knapweed and white sweet clover, another invasive species brought into North America at a much earlier date. Since it has the same nitrogen fixing properties as its cousin, alfalfa, it continues to be used on many farms.

The seeds are often included in “wildflower” seed packages. Please check the labels and/or contact the provider to ensure they do not include any invasive species.

White sweet clover roots exude a chemical similar to

spotted knapweed and also weaken the roots of native and crop plants.

White sweet clover is a biannual plant that can grow above 12ft high and often has deep roots. I have used a saw to fell some of these stubborn plants. One plant can produce up to 35,000 seeds that can stay viable for 80 years. It spread in the same manner as spotted knapweed.

Both plants bloom between July and September. Spotted knapweed prefers dry and sterile ground, gravel, sandy and sunny locations. White sweet clover can be found in similar domains and ditches. They can deprive others of sunlight and spotted knapweed has an eerie ability to mimic and hide among adjacent plants. It changes form at different stages of growth.

These plants pose an especial threat to Tiny's beaches and dunes as the native plant species, whose roots stabilize the sand, can be crowded out.

If you find white sweet clover and/or spotted knapweed in your neighbourhood and/or on your own property before it has gone to seed, please pull it up and cram it into yard-waste bags for pickup.

If you need help in identifying and removing invasive species, contact Maggie Off at [m.off@tiny.ca](mailto:m.off@tiny.ca). There are groups of volunteers who have expertise in this task.

For more information and photos, visit the Invasive Species section on the Federation's website, [www.tinycottager.org](http://www.tinycottager.org).

\* Source: Joe Alper <https://tinyurl.com/alper1>



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# Get Ready for This Fall's Municipal Election

By DOUG KIRK, FARLAIN LAKE

The current members of Tiny Township Council — Mayor George Cornell, Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma, and Councillors Cindy Hastings, Richard Hinton and Gibb Wishart — will soon have been in office for four years, which means we'll be having an election this fall. The Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations and its newspaper, *The Tiny Cottager*, believe that voters armed with timely and comprehensive information will make the most informed choices when voting to elect their township's municipal government. Therefore, we will do our best to help you prepare for voting.

At this juncture, we are outlining the timetable for this year's election and presenting key steps for voters. In the fall issue of *The Tiny Cottager*, we will provide information on each of the nominees running for municipal council, sharing with you information on their background and experience, as well as their positions on key issues affecting Tiny Township.

## Key dates

The timeline for the 2018 municipal election is as follows:

- May 1 — the nomination period opens for municipal council and school trustees
- July 27 — nominations close (they must be filed with municipal clerk)
- September 24 — vote-by-mail kits arrive
- October 11 — last date to post completed ballots by mail\*
- October 22 — election day

Information for both electors and candidates is available at [tiny.ca/Your Government/Election](http://tiny.ca/Your Government/Election).

\* From October 12 to 22, voters may deposit their ballots at the township office.

## You must be on the voters list!

If you are a resident, owner or tenant of property in Tiny, or the spouse of such owner or tenant, a Canadian citizen, and 18 years of age or older on polling day, you are eligible to vote in the township's municipal and school board elections. Use [www.voterlookup.ca](http://www.voterlookup.ca) to check that you are on the voters list. It's easy and takes only 3-5 minutes.

In the fall issue of *The Tiny Cottager*, you'll find a full list of candidates running for office in Tiny.

## Thinking of running?

Since the last election, the Municipal Elections Act has been amended. Here are three important changes:

- nominations must now include endorsement signatures from 25 eligible electors
- donations in cash or in kind cannot be accepted from corporations or trade unions
- the individual contribution limit per candidate has been raised from \$750 to \$1200

Find out about other changes here: [www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page11112.aspx](http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page11112.aspx).

## Notice to Candidates and Potential Candidates

*The Tiny Cottager* is the only publication in Tiny Township that is delivered to every household, making it an effective vehicle for reaching voters. Space for election advertisements of up to a half page will be available at standard rates in the fall issue, which will be delivered well before voting takes place. To reserve your space for the fall issue, contact Irena Romanko, [tinycottagerads@gmail.com](mailto:tinycottagerads@gmail.com)

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# Tiny and Penetanguishene: A Major War Hero and His Pioneer Forebears, Part II

By JACK ELLIS

Part I of this two-part series, published in the Fall/Winter 2017 issue of *The Tiny Cottager*, reported on the World War II exploits of Alfred Burke Thompson, the great escaping Thompson.\*

The Penetanguishene/Tiny story of the Thompson family begins with William Thompson (1786-1860), who fought as a captain in the War of 1812 at Queenston Heights. He was captured in 1814, but was released and later settled near York (now Toronto). He entered politics and won a seat in the Upper Canada Legislature, in one election defeating William Lyon Mackenzie for a seat.

William Thompson's son, Alfred Andrew Thomson (1813-1885), came to Penetanguishene in 1830 as a teenager. At that time, the settlement consisted mainly of tents and shanties. By 1828 the main British military establishment on the Upper Lakes had moved from Drummond Island to the town, along with families of Métis fur traders allied with the British at Michilimackinac during the War of 1812.

Although the naval base closed in 1834, the military base remained until 1856. Some of the troops settled in the area after their service was complete, providing an English-speaking population.

In the 1840s, French-speaking families from Quebec (mainly from the area immediately east of Montreal), attracted by promises of cheap and fertile land, joined the French-speaking settlers already in recently surveyed Tiny Township, providing much of the population in and around what is now Lafontaine.

Later, as the logging industry began to develop, more English-speaking settlers arrived and Penetanguishene became the local market and meeting place for all these groups of settlers.

Alfred A. Thompson worked for 10 years as an assistant to Andrew Mitchell, Sr., a fur trader on Water Street,

and by 1840 he had prospered sufficiently to build a store and warehouse of his own on the corner of Water and Main Streets. It was then the only market in the area where farmers could sell produce such as butter, eggs, meat, fish, and vegetables for cash to pay their taxes. It still exists, known as the Green Block, a heritage building commemorated by a large wall mural.

Alfred also built the imposing home at 14 Water St. next to the very first solidly built house in the settlement at 12 Water St. His home is now beautifully restored, and has operated as a B&B in summer.

In April 1857, Alfred was appointed as Justice of the Peace for the Tiny area, and was charged by County Council to take a census with a view to incorporation of Penetanguishene as a Village. This was passed, showing a population of 841 within the village limits. In March 1882, the Ontario Legislature made the village a Town, and Alfred became its first mayor.

(Comparable dates for Midland are: 1878, Village; 1890, Town.)

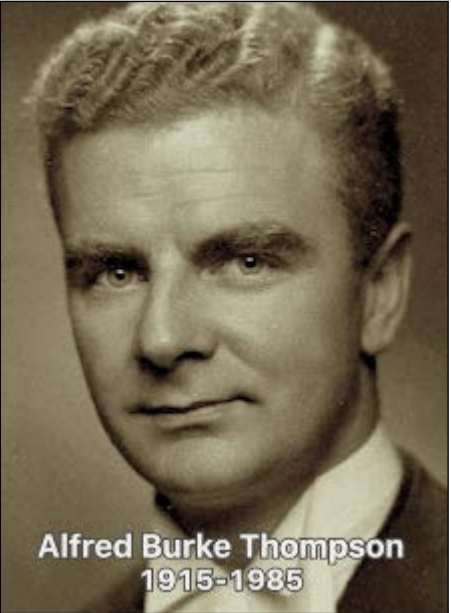
His three sons all became lawyers. Alfred Burke Thompson (1862-1942) was educated at UCC and Osgoode Hall, U of T. He served as an officer in the Queen's Own

Rifles in the Northwest Rebellion of 1885. Thereafter he also had a lengthy political career, serving as Member from Simcoe Centre in the Ontario Legislature from 1898 to 1902 and 1905 to 1919. He subsequently was elected Member from Simcoe East to the Dominion Parliament, serving from 1925 to 1935. His gravestone is in the yard of the Garrison Church on Church St.

The "great escaper" was his grandson.

You can find out lots more about the Thompsons, Penetanguishene and Tiny at the Penetanguishene Centennial Museum and Archives, 13 Burke Street, Penetanguishene.

\* Read Part I online at [tinycottager.org](http://tinycottager.org).



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# SSEA Invasive Species Program Update

By ROBYN RUMNEY AND ANNA MCCLYMONT



Invasive species are plants, animals and micro-organisms that occur outside their normal range. The problem with invasive species is that they lack natural predators and competitors to keep their populations in check, allowing them to out-compete native species. Their successful establishment can cause damage to the environment, the economy, and human health.

The Township of Tiny's natural environment is at risk from non-native species invasions. One well-known example is a plant that has become common along Tiny's shorelines, Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*). This oversized grass easily out-competes native shoreline and wetland plants, and can take over large areas of beach. Tiny residents should also be aware of lesser-known invasive species such as goutweed and periwinkle, as they can also have a negative impact.

In 2017, the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) sought support from municipalities within the Severn Sound area, including the Township of Tiny, to collaborate in the creation of a watershed-wide invasive species program. This program aims to comprehensively address invasive species at a regional level, by mapping, monitoring and controlling problematic invasive species, fostering community involvement and education, and creating a long-term invasive species strategy for the area. By applying a coordinated approach to managing invasive species, SSEA is improving efficiencies and the effectiveness of invasive species management, since invasive species are not restricted by municipal borders.

The program to date has already had an effect in Tiny. The first step was invasive species mapping, especially along roadways. These maps will be used to monitor invasive species and prioritize control efforts in years to come. Furthermore, the SSEA has collaborated with the Great Lakes Commission, a binational agency focused on improving the environmental wellbeing of the Great Lakes basin, to enrol a Phragmites stand at Wahnekewening Beach as a research site.

This research program, the Phragmites Adaptive Management Framework (PAMF), involves monitoring the long-term vigour of Phragmites stands after management efforts, such as removing the aboveground portion of the plant. This information will be used to determine the best Phragmites removal technique based on the site and growing conditions.

In August 2017, SSEA staff worked with the Township of Tiny to host a successful community Phragmites removal event at Wahnekewening Beach. This event not only removed Phragmites and assisted with PAMF research, but also engaged and informed many volunteers and community members, increased accessibility of the public beach, and restored the ecosystem.

Last fall, SSEA also collaborated with the Township of Tiny and the Lafontaine Area Shoreline Homeowners Association to remove invasive spotted knapweed and transplant native beach grasses throughout Lafontaine Beach Park. Once spotted knapweed becomes established, it can dominate native plant communities. The event resulted in removal of approximately 30 yard-waste bags of knapweed from the site thanks to volunteers.

The Invasive Species Program continues into 2018, expanding on the current invasive species mapping and managing prioritized invasive species stands. Education will also continue to be a priority, as public knowledge is instrumental in detecting invasive species before they become established and more difficult to manage. Through collaboration, invasive species in the Severn Sound water-

shed area can be successfully controlled and their negative impacts mitigated.

## How You Can Help

Community members and visitors can do their part to help with SSEA's Invasive Species Program, and in turn prevent invasive species from impacting the Township of Tiny. Report any invasive species sightings to the SSEA office at 705-527-5166. Watch for 2018 volunteer opportunities assisting with invasive species removal. More information about invasive species and how to help prevent their spread can be found on the SSEA website: [https://www.severnsound.ca/programs-projects/wildlife-habitat/invasive\\_species](https://www.severnsound.ca/programs-projects/wildlife-habitat/invasive_species).

Robyn Rumney was an invasive species intern with the Severn Sound Environmental Association; [www.severnsound.ca](http://www.severnsound.ca). Anna McClymont is the association's Invasive Species Program Coordinator.

## Invasive Phragmites Research Volunteers Needed

Professor Lynn Short is continuing her research at Wymbolwood Beach for a third season investigating non-chemical control of invasive Phragmites. Volunteers are needed for Friday mornings from May to August to record data measurements or remove Phragmites using the selective spading technique. All tools will be provided. Practical clothing, work gloves and sturdy footwear are suggested. Come out and learn about this problem plant that is taking over our beaches.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Lynn at [lynn.short@humber.ca](mailto:lynn.short@humber.ca) or 647-273-5966.

[www.tinycottager.org](http://www.tinycottager.org)

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[www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca](http://www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca)

## 2018 Township of Tiny Events



## Tiny

**May 26: Recreation Master Plan Open House**  
8:30am, Tiny Community Centre

**May 26: Town Hall Meeting - 10:00am - noon,**  
Tiny Community Centre

**June: Recreation, Parks & Seniors Month -**  
Calendar of Events!

**June 2: National Health & Fitness Day**  
[www.tinyhealthandfitnessday.com/](http://www.tinyhealthandfitnessday.com/)

**June 19 Senior Symposium**  
10:00am - 1:00pm,  
Tiny Community Centre

**July 12-15: Festival du Loup, Lafontaine**  
<http://festivalduloup.on.ca/en>

**July 13: Mayor's Charity Golf**  
Tournament & Dinner,  
Brooklea Golf & Country Club

**July 21: Tiny Community BBQ,**  
Perkinsfield Park

**Aug.12: Balm Beach Family Fun Day**

**Aug. 25: Fire & Emergency Services**  
Family Fun Day,  
Wyevalle Fire Hall

**Sept. 16: Terry Fox Run, Perkinsfield**

Visit [www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca) for more information about Township events







# The Bay Studio Tour 2018: Preview

By KATE DEWEY, BLUEWATER DUNES

This year the Bay Studio Tour, which takes place from September 29 to 30, features 32 artists primarily from the Township of Tiny and Penetanguishene.

Their work will be displayed at various locations. They create visual arts in all media. Among them: sculpture, painting, pottery, photography, textiles, jewellery, glass, and Aboriginal art.

Watch for the annual tour guide, featuring a map, artist bios, images and contact information, which will be available this summer in many locations. Alternatively, visit the studio tour website: [www.thebaystudiotour.com](http://www.thebaystudiotour.com).

Here are profiles of three artists: Christine Marshall, and Kathryn and Brian Lovelady.



## Romantic wildlife

As "Canada's First Lady of Wildlife Art," Christine Marshall defines her painting genre as romantic realism. Through her bold, vibrant, yet sensitive style we are invited to share an emotional interlude with wild flora and fauna found in locations around the world.

Her works have been displayed in solo shows throughout North America and overseas, including the Biodome in Montreal and Ontario House in London, UK. Her work and passion for nature conservation have been featured in many of publications, TV documentaries, radio programs, and films.

Her interpretation of hugging Koala Bears, inspired by a trip to Australia, invites us into their home in a eucalyptus tree. Dramatic close-ups of mushrooms and challenging gazes of owls and wolves reflect her awareness of the range of Canada's natural environment.

*The Romance of Nature*, her "volume of life," was printed in a limited edition of 300, leatherbound and housed in a cherrywood case. The introduction was written by A.J. Casson, Group of Seven artist.

Her studio gallery is close to Lafontaine Beach, at 16 Desroches Trail, and is open by appointment; 705-533-2731. Check out her website: [www.wildlifegallery.ca](http://www.wildlifegallery.ca).



## Moonstar Lodge

Moonstar Lodge is a studio and gallery displaying the artisanal works of Kathryn and Brian Lovelady. Both are of aboriginal heritage.

Kathryn's hand crafted textiles include wearable art. Quilted items and aboriginal prayer shawls in a beautiful array of fibres and varied hues are displayed.

Her sparkling and intriguing jewellery includes custom made pieces and gems with healing qualities. Her artworks include feather fans, rattles, prayers and talking sticks.

Brian focuses mainly on woodcraft. God boxes, feather and smudge kit containers, drums, urns, cutting boards, and hand-turned bowls are available.

Brian and Kathryn are both healers and shamans. She is also an Aboriginal interfaith minister. Their lodge is a healing and spiritual centre.

The studio and gallery, located at 302 Lafontaine Road West, are open by appointment: 705-533-2520. Website: [www.moonstarlodge.com](http://www.moonstarlodge.com).

# Bringing the Lafontaine Beach Park Master Plan to Life

By CHUCK STRADLING

The Lafontaine Beach Park was once one of the most popular beaches in Tiny Township, with cars lined up and down the 16th Concession on summer weekends. As water levels decreased, the park was not properly maintained, and the beach became less attractive.

In 2010, the township council of the day retained a consulting firm, Genus Locii Ecological Landscapes Inc., to develop a master beach plan, which was presented to and received by Council on March 14, 2011. Council quickly decided that, to progress with the master plan, improvements to the beach area were necessary, and retained a second consultant to assess water quality and determine what shoreline improvements were required.

That study was completed, and after an extensive review of the options and required approvals and permits, the final recommendation was presented to Tiny Council in July 2014. The recommendation was to remove and cap one of the rock groynes — low walls extending out into the water — and use the leftover material to increase the overall beach size. But then in 2015, water levels started to rise and the water quality issues went away, leaving the door open to continue with the Lafontaine Beach Park Master Plan.

The plan envisions an ecology park geared to habitat protection, passive recreation and environmental education. The plan recognizes the park's potential as a recreational community greenspace and designates a number of recreational zones, interconnected by a network of paths and trails designed to offer more services and improve the park's overall public appeal.

One of the first priorities of the Lafontaine Area Shoreline Homeowners Association (LASHA), which

was formed in November 2015, was to get the master plan off the shelf and moving. LASHA represents both beachfront and off beach homeowners between the 18th Concession and Trillium Lane, and came into being as a result of a Tiny Township Council five-year strategic plan to encourage community involvement. Before the formation of LASHA, this shoreline area had no association representing it.

In May 2016, LASHA wrote to Council requesting that implementation of the Master Plan be accelerated. In June 2016, Council established the Lafontaine Beach Park Master Plan Steering Committee (LAMP).

On January 24, 2017 the first LAMP Committee meeting was held in Tiny Council chambers, with the following members:

- Chuck Stradling, chair (LASHA President)
- Don Nowak, vice chair (LASHA Director)
- LASHA member Bruce Hain
- Councillor Richard Hinton, representing Council
- Dick Wesselo, representing the Accessibility Committee
- Councillor Cindy Hastings, representing the Parks & Recreation Committee
- Director Tim Leitch, representing Public Works
- Emma Mills, Parks & Recreation, recording secretary

In October the township, in cooperation with LASHA volunteers, carried out a beach cleanup removing non-native weeds and transplanting native grasses. This was followed by the installation of a fully accessible playground. A further \$75,000 has been approved for a shade pavilion and two bocce courts scheduled to be installed this spring.



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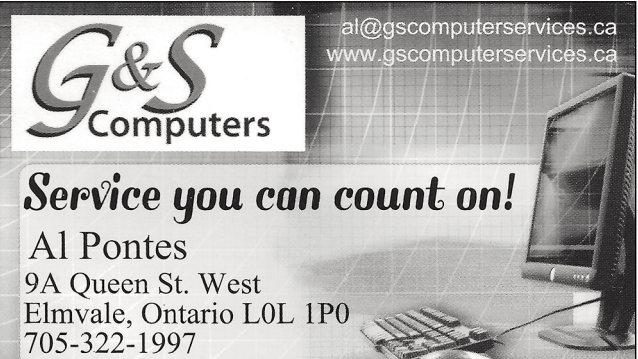
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Doug and brother Ron in the doorway of their cottage.

## The Boat

By DOUGLAS BREWSTER

As a young boy of 11, I got my first job delivering for a drug store during my lunchtime at school. I was paid 40¢ an hour, for one hour a day, five days a week. Growing up with a cottage on Georgian Bay, my goal was to purchase a boat. When I had accumulated the funds needed, I started looking at different models. My father, being involved with metal fabrication and inspection, recommended an aluminum 12-foot fishing boat with a welded construction. He commented, "That model would last a life time." I am now 71 years old and that boat is still going strong.

I continued my delivery job and worked on saving for a motor. When I had saved enough, I purchased a 6 horsepower Mercury motor. Now I could travel!

The boat cost me \$200 and the motor \$175.

My first venture, besides running along the shoreline, was travelling up the Nottawasaga River. The mouth of the river was about six miles from our cottage on Woodland Beach.

My big dream was to cross the bay to the enormous grain elevator that stared back at me on every clear day.

One morning when it was nice and calm, I went to my favourite fishing spot, near the rocky point. Before I could drop a line in the water, I hit a rock and broke the propeller. Sitting there stranded, I looked through the still, clear water and saw a very large anchor lying amongst the rocks. I tried to lay out the landmarks so that I could find the spot again. I would be back!

After getting the motor repaired, I decided it was time to fulfil my dream. With a full tank of gas, a chocolate bar, two oars, a bailing can and a life jacket, I set out on my quest.

It is quite an experience to be all by yourself, in a 12-foot open boat in the middle of Georgian Bay. It is scary! I was a determined kid and continued on my way, knowing if I made it I would have to collect some rocks to prove to my father that I had reached my goal.

With my gaze fixed on the grain elevator, I continued on, the structure getting bigger as I approached.

Finally! I reached my destination. I pulled into the harbour and gazed at the structure. Rewarding myself, I ate the chocolate bar and collected my treasure — rocks of proof. It then slowly dawned on me that I needed to return home. I hoped that the wind would not increase, and headed out of the harbour. Now where do I head? The horizon all looked the same to me. There was no GPS in those days. I thought as I got closer to the far shore, I would start to recognize the landscape.

It seemed I would never reach my return destination. There was no landmark to guide me on my way. Onwards I travelled, lifting and shaking the gas can every few minutes, trying to estimate how far it would carry me.

I then noticed the tree cut of the main road, past Quinn's store, up past Whitfield's Pharmacy and the Ship-A-Hoy in Woodland Beach. Now things were good, I had a target and the winds cooperated. Just then the motor made some strange noises — clunking and banging — and then stopped. Now it was up to the oars and a 16-year-old to make it the rest of the way home (five to seven miles).

Sitting on the beach later with open blisters and callosities, I decided maybe that dream of mine had been a bit too aggressive.

Apparently on my many trips up the Nottawasaga River I had collected fishing line around my propeller shaft that destroyed my bottom end seal, which in turn destroyed the gears and housing during my long journey. Now with no motor, worn out hands and life's many callings, I never got back to the big anchor.

Speaking with historians, the anchor could have been from the H.M.S Nancy, which had apparently tucked into this part of the bay during bad weather in 1814. When Americans fired at them from a clifftop, they left in a hurry for the Nottawasaga River and maybe left the anchor behind. To my knowledge, no one has ever retrieved it.

Due to my age, and Canada's 150th anniversary, I felt I should share my story.

*Douglas Brewster and his family spent many summers on Woodland Beach. Photo credit: Ron Brewster.*

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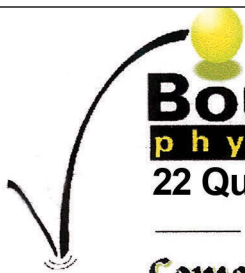
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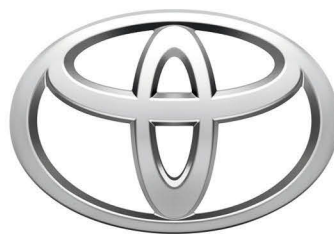
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