



THE TINY COTTAGER

A GEORGIAN BAY PERSPECTIVE

Issue No. 59 Spring/Summer 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by PAUL COWLEY, *Carusoe Bay*

This winter FoTTSA has been working hard to protect the Alliston Aquifer (the purest water in the world) from being permanently and irretrievably damaged by the ravages of gravel mining. We are currently engaged in two Ontario Land Tribunal hearings to do just that. This is a very expensive undertaking to say the least, and we would greatly appreciate everyone's support in signing two online petitions (see page 10) and donating generously (see page 13).

FoTTSA has also invested time and effort in raising awareness of the issue by organizing a Save our Water: Stop the Pits rally at Queen's Park, endorsing a groundwater research proposal that could help us conclusively understand the potential impact of gravel mining on French's Hill, and joining the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition, a coming-together of community groups facing environmental threats from gravel mining.

We've been active in other issues as well, such as monitoring Township progress in drafting

- a short-term rental regulation. With the recent dissolution of the STR task force, we hope a Council meeting scheduled for May 11 will finally lay out an achievable solution.
- a first ever Transportation Master Plan. FoTTSA has taken every opportunity available to us to ensure road safety remains a priority.

Road safety, particularly speeding, is a major concern everywhere in Tiny, and especially along pedestrian-heavy Tiny Beaches Road. The OPP continues to be both financially and staff challenged in combatting speeding with radar and more patrols in troublesome areas. Municipal governments seem reticent to spend the additional funds necessary to engage the OPP in providing radar and additional patrols that could help arrest this trend.

With both provincial and municipal elections upon us this year, candidates need to hear your voices. Now is the time to ask candidates key questions, the answers to which will reveal their resolve to improve our community. Your engagement is key to making our needs heard and acted on. Be it protecting our water, Georgian Bay water levels, short-term rentals or other issues, making our voices heard is critical.

Now that we are at last feeling cautious optimism about a weakening pandemic and greater freedom of movement, I wish you all a healthy, relaxing summer.

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Photo by Andrew Chomentowski

"Save our Water: Stop the Pits" speakers and participants in front of the provincial legislature

Queen's Park Rally Protests Gravel Mining on French's Hill

by KEVIN MULLAN

"Stop the pits" was the rallying cry at a March 22 World Water Day event organized by FoTTSA at Queen's Park to protest aggregate extraction on French's Hill in southeast Tiny Township. While the Ontario Legislature was sitting inside, concerned "Save our Water" supporters from across Simcoe County joined opposition MPPs and environmental groups outside to chastise the Doug Ford government for allowing commercial interests to endanger Tiny's pristine groundwater — scientifically tested to be the purest in the world.

Rally organizer and FoTTSA board member Tara Marshall brought together many groups and individuals committed to protecting local water sources. Officials included Tiny Township Councillor Gibb Wishart, MPPs Sandy Shaw, Sol Mamakwa and Mike Schreiner (Ontario Green Party leader), Simcoe North Liberal candidate Aaron Cayden Hiltz, Dr. Michael Powell (Adjunct Professor, Department of Renewable Resources, University of Alberta), Mark Calzavara (Council of Canadians), Mike Balkwill (Wellington Water Watchers and Reform Gravel Mining Coalition), and Beth Brass Elson (Water Walker, Women's Water Commissioner for the Union of Ontario Indians, South-West Region).

Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop did not attend.

The rally took place on a sunny and crisp day in front of the legislature. Participants waved Save Our Water: Stop the Pits signs and mingled, exchanging stories of their personal connections to the lands and water. Many present had been involved in the successful protest to stop the proposed landfill at Site 41, near the gravel mining operations that now threaten the same water. Many spoke of the need for further study to understand the impact of gravel mining on our groundwater

and the underlying Alliston aquifer.

The event began with Garry Sault, a member of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, who performed a drumming ceremony.

Rally organizer Tara Marshall underlined the main reason for the event: "We ask the government to stop the extraction of aggregates in our area so we can understand the unique environment that allows this aquifer to maintain its purity. Our hope is that the result of a scientific study of this water can be used across the world to preserve, sustain and protect the water that connects us all."

Tiny Councillor Gibb Wishart stated, "In my mind, pumping millions of gallons of water to wash gravel, plus removing the natural filters over the aquifer, is not what I would call good stewardship of our resources."

FoTTSA board member Judith Grant spoke for Dr. William Shotyk, Professor and Bocock Chair for Agriculture and the Environment at the University of Alberta, who first identified the water's purity and is one of the scientists proposing a rigorous analysis to understand why it is so pure and the possible effects of gravel mining on French's Hill. His address concluded with a quote from Benjamin Franklin: "When the well is dry, we know the worth of water."

Mark Calzavara, Council of Canadians and long-time organizer of actions in support of water issues, including Site 41, spoke of the need for people to come together to make change happen. "We will always have to come together to protect the water, and it is the best reason to come together to protect the water."

— continued on page 9

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SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS

Before attending an event, please visit the event website for possible updates.

MAY

Summer Launch (celebration), May 21, Wasaga Beach
calendar.wasagabeach.com/community/Detail/2022-05-21-1400-Summer-Launch

Barrie Waterfront Festival, May 27–29, Heritage Park, Barrie
www.barriewaterfront.ca

Midland District Railroad Club’s Annual Train & Hobby Show, May 28-29, North Simcoe Sports Centre, 527 Len Self Blvd., Midland

Hilary Slater Spring Studio Tour (5 artists), May 28-29
www.hilaryslater.com

Corvette Club Spring Fling, May 29, Wasaga Beach
corvetteclubofontario.com/events/wasaga-beach-spring-fling

JUNE

Historical Walking Tours of Penetanguishene, June 2, 16, 30, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Our Own Backyard: Art Instructor Pop-Up (exhibit), June 3-19, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie
maclarenart.com/project/our-own-backyard-art-instructor-pop-up

Wind Rose: Bearings (exhibit), June 3-Sept 11, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie
maclarenart.com/project/wind-rose-bearings

Trail Tunes (cycling event), June 4, Wasaga Beach
calendar.wasagabeach.com/community/Detail/2022-06-04-1000-Trail-Tunes

Marsh by Moonlight Paddle Series, Wye Marsh, June 4, 11, 18
www.wyemarsh.com/Marsh-By-Moonlight-Canoe

Ontario’s Best Butter Tart Festival, June 11, Midland
buttertartfestival.ca/

Rotary Champlain Wendat Walking Tours, June 14, 28, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Mayor’s Charity Golf Tournament, June 17, Orr Lake
www.tiny.ca/events/golf-2022

Waterfront Festival, June 18-19, Wasaga Beach
calendar.wasagabeach.com/community/Detail/2022-06-18-1000-Waterfront-Festival

Connecting with Our Ancestors: A Photovoice Project on Returning to Drummond Island (exhibit), June 21, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

National Indigenous People’s Day, June 21, Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons
www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca/sm/en/SpecialEvents/NationalAboriginalDay

Sorry, I’m Canadian Too 2, June 23-July 10, King’s Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene
www.draytonentertainment.com

Tay Canada Day Celebration, June 24-25, 450 Park St., Victoria Harbour
www.taycanadaday.ca

Coldwater & Area Studio Tour, June 25-26
coldwaterstudiotour.com

Without a Leg to Stand On (exhibit), June 3-19, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie
maclarenart.com/project/without-a-leg-to-stand-on-fari-hah-aliyah-shah

JULY

Canada Day at the Museum, July 1, Penetanguishene Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Midland Canada Day Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Sale 2022, Little Lake Park, July 1
www.midland.ca/Events

Art in the Park, July 2, Oakview Woods Park, Wasaga Beach
calendar.wasagabeach.com/community/Detail/2022-07-02-1000-Art-in-the-Park

Jazz in the Park, Tuesdays, July 5-Aug 30, Wasaga Beach
calendar.wasagabeach.com/community/Detail/2022-07-05-1900-Jazz-in-the-Park

Mariposa Folk Festival, July 8-10, Orillia
www.mariposafolk.com

Summer on the Lake (exhibit), July 10-September 30, Orillia Museum of Art & History
www.orilliamuseum.org/event/summer-on-the-lake/

Rotary Champlain Wendat Walking Tours, July 12, 26, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Historical Walking Tours of Penetanguishene, July 14, 28, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Festival du loup, July 16, Lafontaine
www.festivalduloup.on.ca

Buying the Farm, July 21-Aug 6, King’s Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene
www.draytonentertainment.com

Kempenfest, July 29-August 1, Barrie waterfront
kempenfest.com/

AUGUST

Rotary Champlain Wendat Walking Tours, August 9, 23, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Historical Walking Tours of Penetanguishene, August 11, 25, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

On Golden Pond, August 11-28, King’s Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene
www.draytonentertainment.com

Wasaga Beach Poutine Fest, August 18-21
www.showpass.com/wasagabeach2022

Barrie Dragon Boat Festival, August 20
www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca

Georgian Bay Cycle for Hope, August 20, with routes in Midland, Penetanguishene and Tiny Township
gbcancersupportcentre.ca

Wasaga Multisport Triathlon, August 27, Lot 3, 154 Mosley St.
www.multisportcanada.com/wasagabeach

SEPTEMBER

Memories of Summer Fireworks, September 4, Wasaga Beach
calendar.wasagabeach.com/community/Detail/2022-09-04-1700-Memories-of-Summer

Rotary Champlain Wendat Walking Tours, September 6, 20, Centennial Museum
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Historical Walking Tours of Penetanguishene, September 8, 22, Centennial Museum,
www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/Exhibits.asp

Georgian Bay Festival, September 10, 4230 Crossland Road, Tiny
georgianbayfestival.com

2022 Helicopter Golf Ball Drop (charity fundraiser), September 10, Midland Golf and Country Club
www.familyandfriendscharity.ca

Wasaga Beach Blues Festival, September 16-18
www.wasagabeachblues.com

Terry Fox Run, September 18 (check the website for local runs)
www.terryfox.org

Home Children Canada: Breaking the Silence (virtual history speaker series), September 21, Orillia Museum of Art & History
www.orilliamuseum.org/project/lori-oschefski

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OCTOBER

The Bay Studio Tour, October 1-2, Tiny Township and Penetanguishene
www.thebaystudiotour.com

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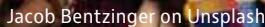


Photo: by William Moreland on Unsplash

by THOMAS GOLDIE, Woodland Beach

The Tiny Cottager 3



THE TINY COTTAGER

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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, FoTTSa does not endorse or evaluate advertised products, services or companies, nor any claims made by advertisements.

The Tiny Cottager acknowledges that Tiny Township is situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture, and committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation, respect and partnership with all First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.

REPORT ON COUNCIL

Mayor: George Cornell
Deputy Mayor: Steffen Walma
Councillors: John Bryant, Cindy Hastings, Gibb Wishart

TONY MINTOFF'S POSITION FILLED: At the Special Meeting on November 2, the clerk explained the Council Vacancy Policy, then placed the names of the applicants in a container and drew names for the order of the interviews. After the interviews, each member of Council cast a vote, John Bryant and Dave Evans receiving two votes each, while Ema Canadic, Janet MacDougall and Stephen McNamara received none. According to the policy, in the event of a tie, the winner was to be selected by lot. John Bryant won the lottery.

Bryant had served on two Council advisory committees. An expert in garden design, he had extensive experience making presentations to Councils. He understood the way staff and Council function and was interested to see what it was like serving on the body that made decisions about reports and applications like the ones he had prepared for many years.

FIREWORKS BY-LAW: In November, a new fireworks by-law was passed that limits setting off fireworks in Tiny Township to New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Victoria Day, and Canada Day. According to the by-law, fireworks may be sold on those days and for the 7 days prior to those days. To set off "display fireworks" and "special effect pyrotechnics" one must obtain a permit from the Fire Chief. Fines for setting off fireworks at inappropriate times have been increased.

2021 PUBLIC BEACH MONITORING SUMMARY REPORT: This report appeared in correspondence in the Committee of the Whole Agenda for November 3, 2021. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit reported the sample results and swimming advisories for the five public beaches in Tiny for 24 June, 30 June, 8 July, 15 July, 22 July, 29 July, 5 August, 12 August, 19 August, and 2 September.

Lafontaine Beach had no advisories. Woodland Beach, Bluewater Beach, Jackson Park, and Balm Beach all had advisories on 12 August. Jackson Park had an additional advisory on 26 August, and Balm Beach had two additional advisories on 15 and 22 July.

VOTING METHOD FOR FALL 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION: Council had decided to have residents of Tiny Township vote by mail in this year's municipal election. Subsequently, Deputy Mayor Walma, a keen supporter of electronic voting, asked that this issue be revisited. He argued that electronic voting saves paper and is less expensive than voting by mail, noting that neighbouring municipalities have all moved to electronic voting. The deciding factor was connectivity since many households in Tiny are still not connected to the internet. The vote was 4 to 1 in favour of Vote by Mail, Deputy Mayor Walma the sole opponent. Mayor Cornell observed that the connectivity issue should be resolved in time for the 2026 municipal election.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: In November, the Public Works Department prepared, and Council approved, a Single-use Plastics Policy. This applies to all Township employees, consultants, contractors, volunteers, and students, focusses on eliminating the purchase and use of single-use plastics at all municipally owned facilities and township events, and is to act as a guideline for organizations and individuals who rent municipal facilities for private functions. The plastics in question are grocery bags, water bottles, straws, coffee cups and lids, take-out containers, utensils, stir sticks, milk, and creamer packets.

MOVEMBER CAMPAIGN RESULTS: In November, Tiny's firefighters raised \$65,660 for men's health. Tiny's was the top team in Canada and globally. Samantha (Sam) Barnett, the Team Captain, was the top individual Canadian Female and Canadian Firefighter.

REPORT RE: SARJEANT WAVERLEY PIT NO. 2 OWRA S53 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE APPLICATION: In December, Council reviewed R.J. Burnside's peer review of the Sarjeant Company's Environmental Compliance Application to the Ministry of the Environment which concerns Sarjeant's closed loop aggregate wash plant, two source ponds and a series of lined sedimentation ponds. Sarjeant had applied for a Permit to Take Water (1,641,600 liters per day for up to



"Get it while it lasts."

180 days per year) in February 2021 for Pit 2 and for a similar second Permit for Pit 1. Burnside raised many concerns about the application, including lack of information about: "future locations of the wash plant and associated ponds," frequency of excavation of settled material from the silt ponds, a water quality sampling program. In addition to these broad issues, Burnside listed 12 items that should be provided.

In the ensuing discussion, Councillor Hastings emphasized that the township is a commenting agency only: power resides with the Ontario government. Members of Council asked Burnside to strengthen its statements of concern about initial leakage from the settlement ponds, to include a recommendation that geo-synthetic liners be used, and that the integrity of the liners be monitored regularly.

BUSK TILL DUSK: Council agreed that this popular Balm Beach program would receive the usual financial support.

ACQUIRING GRANT MONEY: At a special December budget meeting Councillor Bryant asked how staff went about attracting grants. He was told that all members of staff keep an eye out for potential grants, senior staff looking for significant grants. Bonita Desroches (Director of Recreation) was mentioned as being particularly assiduous in tracking down grant programs and applying for them effectively. Mayor Cornell noted that in the period he has served on Council (2014 to the present) there has been a steady increase in grant money attracted by the township.

REJECTION OF DEPUTATION BY MARK VANDERHEYDEN OF PLAN 763, WAHNEKEWENING BEACH: In February, Vanderheyden told Council that the easements in Plan 763 deeds regarding beach Block A grant broad rights of use including the installation of wells. He said the Township had violated these rights by removing owners' property and fire pits and by delineating municipal land with posts on Block A. In February, Council decided delineation would continue. Council did not seek legal advice in coming to this decision.

PROCEDURAL BY-LAW CHANGES: Staff prepared a draft procedural by-law for discussion. This document, showing proposed changes in red, is included in the CoW Agenda for February 2. The changes consolidate previous amendments and changes to create efficiencies in the conduct of meetings. The changes were adopted on February 23.

We note that many items are no longer to be discussed, but simply received as information, including items throughout the agenda and especially in the correspondence section.

We also note that regular meetings of Council are to be held every third Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. followed by a Committee of the Whole Meeting. Public meetings under the provisions of the Planning Act are to commence at 6:00 p.m. on Council meeting Wednesdays.

REMUNERATION FOR COUNCIL AND TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES INCREASED: Effective January 1, 2022: Mayor \$41,200.80; Deputy Mayor \$30,901.02; Councillor \$26,780.24.

In addition, members of Council are paid per diems for attending many committees and special meetings. They can also claim various expenses.

For staff, a COLA of 1.5% was applied to all wages. Adjustments were made to summer student wage grids.

TAX INCREASE: After reviewing a series of adjustments to the budget in January, Council supported a 5% municipal tax increase. This resulted in an overall 2.85% increase when blended with the County and the Education portions of the tax rate. Note that when the budget was given formal approval in February, the increase in the "preliminary blended tax rate" was 2.92%.

Large investments were made in roads infrastructure (more than \$4 million) and roughly a million each in major fleet equipment, water system infrastructure, and recreation.

CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE ON COUNCIL REMUNERATION: In a report to Council in February, CAO Robert Lamb recommended that a Citizens' Committee on Council Remuneration comprising three voting members of the general public be struck, that two non-voting members (a member of Council and the CAO) be appointed to assist them, and that the Committee report its recommendations to the July 20, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting, then formally dissolve. The citizen members would be selected through a recruitment process. Council supported the recommendation.

In April, Lamb reported that only one person applied for membership in the Committee. The matter was deferred to the next Council.

SPONGY MOTH SPECIAL MEETING: Dan Rowlinson of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry supplied province-wide information about the infestation of spongy (gypsy) moths, an invasive species. The moths overwinter as egg masses, emerge as caterpillars in late May and June, eat broadleaf tree leaves in June and July, and lay their eggs in July and August. A large outbreak in Ontario began in 2019, expanded in 2020, peaked in 2021, and began to wane under the impact of a virus that kills the caterpillars and reduces the size of egg masses. Recurrent winter temperatures below minus 20 also reduce the risk of an outbreak. Deciduous trees usually survive such infestations. Evergreen trees (spruce, pine) don't survive if their foliage is stripped.

Graeme Davis, Forestry, County of Simcoe, reported a similar cycle in Simcoe's County Forests and expects the population to collapse this year.

Tamara Brincat and Michelle Hudolin of the Severn Sound Environmental Association reported that SSEA did a survey in late fall 2021 in the Dubeau Forest in Concession 9 of Tiny. This forest (a mixture of pine, oak, and beech) showed little or moderate spongy moth infestation due to the impact of an egg parasite, a fungus, and a virus.

All experts were of the opinion that there is no need for the Township to spray this year.

DELINEATION OF PUBLIC BEACHES/ACCESSES: In March, Council authorized Phase 2 of the delineation process. This would clearly define public/private boundaries at each park using posts and signage and would have staff subsequently work with landowners to resolve encroachments. Cost

— continued on page 12

LETTERS *to the* EDITOR

Invasive Phragmites Threatens Municipal Budgets



Municipal budgets can expect to take a hit in coming years from an unexpected direction. The cost of controlling the rapidly expanding and fast-growing tall species called Invasive Phragmites (Phrag) can be expected to add red ink at the lower-tier level across the province.

As Phrag spreads rapidly along rural roadsides, it has become a significant safety hazard at intersections by obstructing driver sightlines. The dense roots impact municipal infrastructure by clogging drains, ditches and culverts, causing road flooding and related damage.

Already Phrag is growing along over 1,000 kilometres of roadside in Ontario. The current cost to treat a single kilometre of Phrag-infested roadside is estimated at \$6,000. When municipalities work closely with local partners and budget proactively for Phrag control, they can limit the spread, protect biodiversity and manage their liability.

Phrag also impacts recreational opportunities such as swimming, boating, fishing, birdwatching and hunting, costing local economies an estimated \$42.7 million a year, according to a cost/benefit analysis carried out for the Green Shovels Collaborative. Waterfront landowners take a double hit, seeing their property values reduced by \$357 million due to Phrag encroachment, the study indicates. (To access the study, search online for Green Shovels Phragmites summary report.)

The Marl-Tiny-Matchedash (M-T-M) Conservation Association has undertaken a three-year project to control Invasive Phragmites at Tiny Marsh. We wish to express our appreciation for funding support to our local municipality, the Township of Tiny, that allowed us to secure funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada and other organizations.

Municipalities alone will not be able to eliminate this economic and environmental burden and become Phrag-free. We join with the Ontario Phragmites Working Group and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council in calling for a substantial investment by governments to support municipalities and their partners' efforts in Invasive Phragmites control.

Kate Harries
Chair, invasive species committee
M-T-M Conservation Association

Short-Term Rentals

I have been a resident of Tiny for the past 12 years. Last spring/early summer my wife and I, as well as our next-door neighbour, met the new owner of a property on Tiny Beaches Road. He informed us at the time how happy he was to have bought the house that abuts my back property line. He advised that he was going to be able to rent it out for up to 10 occupants at a time. I immediately got an ache in the pit of my stomach.

Well, true to his statement, on a number of occasions I have seen in excess of eight cars parked in the yard. The majority age range of the renters appeared to be between 20 and 35. They pool their money so individual costs are low. For most of that summer, myself and the surrounding neighbours were subjected to partying well into the early morning hours, loud music, continuous bonfires (day and night), and lights (on the deck and referred to by the owner as ambience) in some cases on for 24 hours.

Basically, this cycle was repeated every three to five days. Instantly, our quiet, peaceful life was changed. Our "ambience" is gone. No longer can I sit in my backyard enjoying the quiet while looking at the stars. We can no longer leave our bedroom window open to enjoy the fresh air due to the noise and the constant smell of wood smoke that still exists in the morning and sometimes all day.

We are forced to close our curtains at night due to the excessive lights emanating from the party/frat house behind us. The renters (transients) do what they do here, because they can't carry on like that in or around where they live. They believe they have the freedom to do whatever they want to do. The majority of them have absolutely no respect for the environment nor do they contribute to the community at large.

Although several calls were made to Bylaw, apparently only warnings were issued, no fines that I am aware of. These transient renters don't care because for them it's a one-off.

After watching the streaming of the last Short Term Rental Task Force meeting, it appears to me that the majority of the members are just pandering to the proponents of STR and not addressing the degradation of the community and the

STR impact on the full-time and seasonal residents.

I also believe that when the day comes that I have to sell my house that its value will be seriously affected. Who would want to buy a house that borders a STR and suffer the same conditions that exist as outlined above. If you live anywhere in the Tiny Beaches Road area and a house goes up for sale next to you, hold your breath, because what I have stated above can become 'your' nightmare!

We personally want that to see change. It has to change!

Our first option would be to ban them outright but as a compromise, make the minimum rental term one month.

John Dangerfield

Editor's note: a virtual Special Committee of the Whole Meeting was scheduled for May 11, after The Tiny Cottager had gone to print. Watch for any developments arising from the meeting in an upcoming issue of FoTTSA Flash.

Update on "Glyphosate Use a Danger to Tiny Cottagers and Residents"

In fall 2021, *The Tiny Cottager* published a letter to the editor from resident Oleh Replansky urging that the herbicide glyphosate be banned from use in the residential and cottage areas of Tiny Township.

"Different studies have suggested that there is a link between its application and cancer, endocrine disruptions and fertility and reproductive concerns, liver disease, and microbiome disruption," wrote Oleh. He added that "there is also evidence that it is harmful to bees and monarch butterflies."

Since then, a recent court decision has required Health Canada to be more open about its decision-making regarding safe use of the herbicide.

Glyphosate is the most widely used herbicide in Canada, often marketed under brand names such as Roundup and Vision. It is used in agriculture and to control invasive and toxic plants, such as poison ivy.

Health Canada first approved its use in 1976. In 2009, Health Canada began a re-evaluation, and permitted glyphosate's continued use in 2017.

Several environmental groups appealed this decision, claiming the evaluation process was flawed. In February 2022, the Federal Court of Appeal concluded Health Canada had not properly explained why it rejected the environmental groups' concerns, and ordered it to reconsider them.

Environmentalists now hope Health Canada will appoint scientists to independently assess glyphosate's safety.

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Planting a Pollinator Garden

by KATE HARRIES



About 10% of flowering plants are wind-pollinated but the overwhelming majority rely on insects for the process that results in fertilization, seed production and future generations. Bees are the essential pollinators, designed for the efficient transfer of pollen grains from one flower to another.

There are more than 400 species of native bees in Ontario. Of these, only 16 species of bumble bees live in colonies. The rest are solitary, the female nesting in sparsely vegetated soil, hollow stems, twigs or wood cavities. Not being territorial, solitary bees are unlikely or not equipped to sting.

The European honey bee was introduced and competes with native bees for floral resources. It can sting, but won't unless provoked.

Recent research indicates that the pollination role of moths, with their hairy underbellies, has been underestimated. Most

moths are nocturnal. Artificial light at night adversely affects all insect populations, but especially moths. Butterflies tend to be incidental pollinators, only lightly contacting pollen when they sip nectar.

Other pollinators are flies, beetles and wasps. The latter are docile while nectaring, aggressive if the nest is threatened. If an unwanted paper nest is being built, hang a fake nest nearby and this territorial insect will move on.

We have one pollinating bird in this province, the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. If you have moist soil, plant cardinal flower. It's a short-lived perennial much loved by hummers.

How to make your yard pollinator friendly

All pollinators will benefit if you avoid these and other destructive behaviours:

- removing all leaves from the landscape
- removing dropped branches and dead trees
- removing plant stems in the fall
- covering all bare soil where nesting can occur with mulch, rock or groundcover plants
- applying pesticides
- including plants treated with systemic insecticides during nursery production. Systemic insecticides are absorbed into the whole plant, from root to fruit, and may be present in pollen and nectar. The most commonly used insecticides are neo-nicotinoids.

What pollinators need

First, native plants, those with which our pollinators share an evolutionary history. Bees will often ignore non-natives and

zero in on natives. For reproduction, Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies) need 'host' plants with foliage their caterpillars are able to digest — 90% of insects that eat plants can reproduce only on those with which they have co-evolved.

Second, a succession of blooms, so there's food from early spring to late fall. And not just one of each plant — make a clump or a drift. If you see a milkweed with a lot of Monarch eggs on it, that's because the butterfly was desperate. She prefers to distribute her eggs, in the knowledge that one plant can't support many hungry caterpillars.

The accompanying table offers suggestions for season-long coverage by perennials that will attract many pollinators. Not included are woody species — shrubs and trees — which are important to pollinators as many flower much earlier than most perennials, and are also hosts. The oak genus is the champion among trees, hosting more than 400 species of Lepidoptera, according to University of Delaware entomologist and author Doug Tallamy. Here in the Great Lakes region, my favourite is the Red Oak.

Also not included are grasses that, along with sedges, host many Lepidoptera and provide habitat for ground-nesting bees. These can nest in the exposed soil between clumps of native warm-season grasses like switchgrass, Indian grass and bottlebrush grass. They can't do that in areas of cool-season, mat-forming grasses such as lawns or hayfields.

Last but not least, provide water, in a shallow dish with pebbles added, so insects can get a drink without drowning. Change the water daily.

Kate Harries owns the Return of the Native plant nursery, near Elmvale; www.returnofthenative.ca.

PERENNIALS	COLOUR	BLOOMING MONTH	LIGHT	MOISTURE	SOIL	HEIGHT (CM)
Wild Strawberry Fragaria virginiana	white	4,5,6	sun/shade	dry	average	5-10
Field Pussytoes Antennaria neglecta	white	4,5	sun	dry	sand	5-10
Virginia Waterleaf Hydrophyllum virginianum	blue	4,5	shade	moist to dry	sand/loam/clay	20-50
White Baneberry Actaea pachypoda	white	5,6	shade	moist to dry	average	45-70
Golden Alexanders Zizia aurea	yellow	5,6,7	sun to part shade	moist to dry	average	50-100
Foxglove Beardtongue Penstemon digitalis	white	6,7	sun to part sun	moist to dry	sand to loam	60-80
Purple Coneflower Echinacea purpurea	pink	7,8,9	sun or shade	moist to dry	sand to loam	60-80
Butterfly Weed Asclepias tuberosa	orange	7,8	sun	moist	sand/loam/clay	30-90
Swamp Milkweed Asclepias incarnata	pink	6,7,8	sun	moist to dry	average	90-120
Obedient Plant Physostegia virginiana	pink or white	7,8,9	sun to part sun	dry to moist	sand/loam/clay	100-130
New England Aster Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	purple	9,10	sun	moist to dry	loam/clay	90-150
Stiff Goldenrod Solidago rigida	yellow	8,9,10	sun	moist to dry	sand to loam	70-150

Tiny's Now a Bee City

In 2021 the Township of Tiny became one of 61 designated “bee cities” across the country. Bee cities encourage healthy habitats for pollinators and promote conversations about biodiversity, growing local healthy food, and reducing or eliminating chemical use that is harmful to pollinators and our food system.

Tiny earned its designation after developing initiatives to protect pollinators, including public awareness and education programs, educational signage, a volunteer program and pollinator meadows. Explore Tiny's eight pollinator meadows in these six locations:

- Bernie LeClair Parkette
- Lafontaine Park
- Perkinsfield Park
- Tiny Trail (Concessions 4 and 6)
- Toanche Fire Station 3
- Wyevale Park

Soon a ninth meadow will be available for viewing. This spring the Township seeded a new wildflower meadow in Cawaja Balm Ossossane Park.

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SPECIAL REPORT

TINY'S PRISTINE GROUNDWATER AT RISK

This update on the threat to Tiny's pristine groundwater begins on page one and continues on page 9, with a report on a rally held at Queen's Park on March 22, World Water Day. Organized by FoTTSA, the rally brought together community groups, political leaders, First Nations representatives and individuals, all committed to protecting what has been scientifically tested to be the purest water in the world.

The threat comes from two gravel mining operations on French's Hill, in Tiny's southeast corner near Waverley. These operations could cause irreparable damage to a deep aquifer and groundwater that supplies local wells, irrigates crops, and sustains Orr Lake, the Wye River and the Wye and Tiny Marshes.

One operation is a working gravel mine; the other has begun "site preparation," which involves clearcutting an old growth sugar maple forest and scraping away all vegetation, topsoil and subsoil — a natural filtration system for rain and the abundant shallow aquifers above a vast clay plain. The deep aquifer draws a steady stream of residents year round to the Elmvale kiosk, where they fill containers for free with

this precious resource.

No one knows how these gravel mining operations will affect groundwater because the potential effects have not been properly studied. Could damage to natural water filtration systems and drawing up to 3.2 million litres of well water daily — just to wash gravel — affect Orr Lake, the Wye River and area marshes? Could the water table change enough to affect local farms? A proposed research project could answer these questions and more. See the article, below.

FoTTSA is not opposed to gravel mining. We just want the province to temporarily suspend the permits to take water and any expansion plans until we understand how gravel mining could affect the world's purest water.

To this end, FoTTSA has taken many steps. Here's a sampling:

- reporting on developments in *The Tiny Cottager* and *FoTTSA Flash*
- making depositions to Tiny and Springwater Councils
- launching legal appeals of CRH's permit to take water and proposed expansion, with support from the

Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA)

- supporting two initiatives: the proposed research project and the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition's call for a moratorium on all new gravel mining applications in Ontario. The coalition represents environmental and community groups across the province seeking greater oversight of gravel mining operations.

Visit saveourwatertiny.wordpress.com to find out more about efforts undertaken by FoTTSA and other organizations here in Tiny Township.

- Also in this report:
- more on the proposed research project
 - provincial election candidates' responses to two key questions
 - how local artists are helping raise funds towards FoTTSA's legal costs, and political candidates are raising awareness of what's at stake
 - two petitions we encourage you to sign
 - how you can help.

Provincial Election 2022: Simcoe North Candidates Respond to Our Questions

FoTTSA believes the defining issue for Tiny Township in this election is a potential threat to groundwater scientifically tested to be the world's purest. The threat comes from two gravel mining operations on French's Hill, in Tiny's southeast corner near Waverley. We don't know how impactful these operations will be on groundwater because the potential effects have not been studied.

We asked the five candidates for Simcoe North to answer two questions about initiatives that could protect the world's purest water from irreversible contamination:

1. *Do you support the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition petition asking the provincial government to implement a 5-year moratorium on new gravel mining permits?*
2. *Do you support the proposed 5-year Simcoe Uplands groundwater study, conducted by internationally recognized Canadian scientists?*

Here's what they told us.



AARON CAYDEN HILTZ, Liberal Party

1. As it pertains to Tiny Township and the quality of the Alliston Aquifer, I am aggressively in support of a 5-year moratorium. After touring the region, hearing from residents, and seeing first hand the impact of silt seeping through the natural springs in the region, it would be incredibly irresponsible for myself or the other candidates to support the proposed expansion of gravel mining. I was fortunate enough to speak at Queen's Park on World Water Day about this issue, and to speak with local scientists about the nature of this disruption to the environment. The quality of the groundwater in our communities is essential to environmental health and I plan on highlighting these important issues throughout the campaign period.

2. To fully understand the nature of the issues surrounding possible contamination, intentional scientific reviews are integral. It is imperative that we understand the effects that mining and other resource extraction projects have on our collective environment. For this reason, I am in support of the study. Our environments are changing, and are often put in jeopardy at the expense of economic gain. The water in the Alliston Aquifer must be protected. For clarity, neither myself nor the Ontario Liberal Party are against mining aggregates and other resources to build our infrastructure or grow the economy. I am, however, very against mining and resource extraction projects that put our pristine environments at risk. The protection of the Alliston Aquifer is an example of this. For a long time, people have been the driving force behind local environmental protection. It's about time the government of Ontario alleviated some of that burden.



AARON MACDONALD, Ontario Party

1. Based on reading the related literature on the French's Hill mining application, it does not appear as if Ontario requires any more gravel pits to support economic growth at this time. If Ontario produces

13 times more gravel than required per year, and active but dormant gravel mining operations are already in existence, then adding another that has the potential to create an environmental crisis within Simcoe North is unacceptable. As MPP for Simcoe North, I would support a 5-year moratorium on any new gravel mining permits within our region.

2. As MPP for Simcoe North, I would support a 5-year Simcoe Uplands Groundwater study. If the water supply in Simcoe North is indeed the purest in the world, I believe we should understand why. In understanding, we may be able to create similar natural filtration systems that could improve the water supplies in communities around Ontario, Canada and the world, that need it the most.



ELIZABETH VAN HOUTTE, New Democratic Party

At minimum I support the call to sign the petition which would call upon the Canada Water Act to ensure that no groundwater becomes contaminated due to reckless government action which flies in the face of sound scientific and traditional knowledge. As the Ford government has been unwilling to share important details regarding their policies it is difficult to ascertain exactly what the situation is, or how exactly an NDP government could respond. Certainly, however, citizens and their concerns will play a much more important role in our day-to-day decisions than Ford and his friends.

I am dedicated to the protection and the preservation of clean water in and around Ontario. The development of gravel pits on these pristine wetlands could be a threat to the ancient deposits under the Simcoe Uplands. Preventing the threat to these "gold standard" wetlands is an initiative I fully support.



JILL DUNLOP, Conservative Party

I support the Ministry of the Environment in their process of determining outcomes as they consider the cumulative impacts of water takings. The Ministry will only issue a permit if the comprehensive and scientific-technical review demonstrates that the water taking will not have adverse

effects on the environment or other water users in the area.

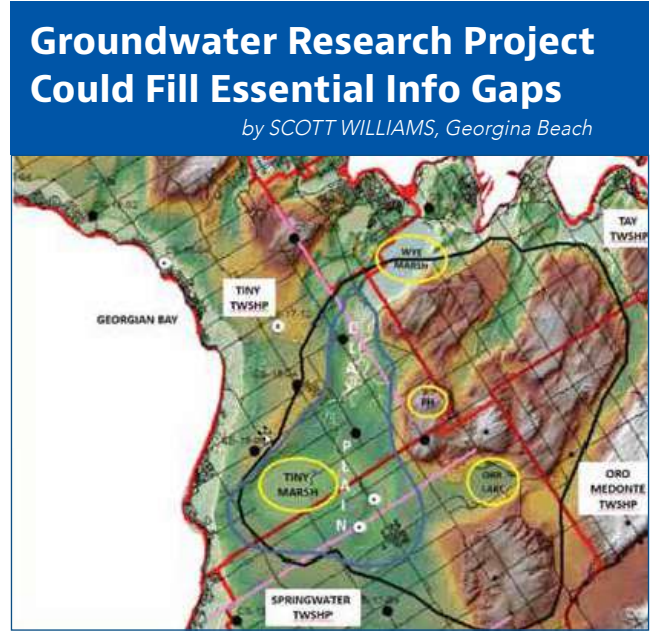


KRYSTAL BROOKS, Green Party

1. Yes. I absolutely, wholeheartedly support the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition petition. I am asking the provincial government for this as well, alongside many dedicated, concerned individuals and their families.

2. Most definitely. I fully support a proposed 5-year Simcoe Uplands groundwater study. I'm familiar with the research already available and know that so much more is required for us to really begin to understand this pristine re-

source our community has. My relationship with Nibi (Water), however, is far from scientific. I am a water carrier. My name in Anishnaabemowin is Biwaabik Nibi Kwe (Still Water Woman). I come from the Turtle Clan. When I need healing for myself or my children, we find much of that healing with the water. My love and dedication to the water runs just as deep as any still waters do. This water deserves the care and respect that a groundwater study would offer. Those who stand in solidarity for the water simply won't rest until this happens and, quite frankly, neither will I.



The world's purest water, located here, could be at great risk. A proposed 5-year groundwater research project could help determine the environmental impact of two gravel mining operations on French's Hill that threaten a recharge area of Tiny's pristine groundwater, scientifically tested to be the world's purest water. The results could also have province-wide and even world-wide application, helping governments everywhere to identify, protect and conserve exceptional examples of groundwater resources.

Project director Michael Powell anticipates submitting the research proposal, already several years in the planning, to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada sometime this year.

The gravel mining operations, in Tiny's southeast corner near Waverley, pose potentially catastrophic threats to the water. One threat comes from the removal of vegetation, topsoil, subsoil and glacial till, which serve as a natural water filtration system. Another threat comes from drawing vast quantities of groundwater to wash the mined gravel.

CRH Canada Group Inc. already has a permit to draw 1.6 million litres of well water per day, plus 5.2 million litres per day from a washing pond, for up to 210 days a year. The Sarjeant Company is also seeking a permit to take groundwater: 1.6 million litres every day for 180 days of the year.

Why this research is needed
According to Michael Powell, who spoke during the March 22 "Save our Water, Stop the Pits" rally at Queen's Park, provincial authorities lack the scientific information to determine whether these pits will affect water quality. Powell is an adjunct professor in the University of Alberta's Department of Renewable Resources.

"None of the studies that have been done can tell us whether or not gravel taking on French's Hill is going to impact the actual quality or quantity of the water," said Powell. "There is so much going on under the soil. It's hard to understand even for professionals."

— continued on page 10

Queen’s Park Rally — continued from page 1



Dr. Michael Powell

Dr. Michael Powell, a research colleague of Dr. Shotyk, spoke of the need for more research before moving forward with new gravel mining operations anywhere. “There is no ministry in Ontario, there is no municipal government in Ontario, there is no aggregate taking company in Ontario that has done the science that you need to do in order to make the claims that

they will not impact the quality or quantity of the water based on aggregate mining. That work has not been done.” He noted that groundwater, though not necessarily seen, is the most important source of water for humans the world over and yet has the least amount of regulation on its extraction.

Sandy Shaw, MPP for Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas, had that morning presented three private member motions in the Provincial Legislature, with her colleague, Sol Mamakwa, MPP for Kiiwetinoong, the most northerly riding in the province:

1. Water is a human right,
2. We need a water strategy for the province that would ensure we collaborate with Indigenous people, farmers, rural Ontarians and conservation authorities, and
3. Water is for life, not profit.

Mike Schreiner, Ontario Green Party leader, was next to the podium. He had filed a motion that morning in the legislature calling for a 5-year moratorium on new gravel mining permits. He gave a high-energy and impassioned speech, rallying participants and trumpeting his involvement in stopping many development projects, to protect the environment. “It’s a ‘DAMN!’ good campaign you’ve got going on here folks.* You’ve got my support. We’re going to keep pushing in the legislature and we’re going to make it an issue in this campaign that we’re going to stop the direct threats to our water.”



Beth Brass Elson and Danny Beaton

How You Can Help Protect Tiny’s Pristine Water



Green jug from water kiosk

FoTTSA takes the threats posed by aggregate extraction and washing in the French’s Hill area very seriously. We think these activities are harmful to what has been described by

scientists as the purest known water in the world, and to future generations of Tiny residents.

To minimize the threat and promote sound decision-making based on science, FoTTSA has launched legal appeals of applications to expand one gravel pit, and to take millions of litres of pristine groundwater for washing gravel. Expert reviews of these applications and their supporting documents indicate they contain serious errors and omissions.

The Canadian Environmental Law Association is representing FoTTSA at no cost. However, FoTTSA remains responsible for all other CELA expenses, such as travel, accommodation, photocopies, supplies, and expert witnesses. These costs are estimated to be about \$100,000.

So far we’ve raised \$82,950, which is great but we’re only partway to our goal. Here’s how you can help:

- **Inform yourself** by reading the special report in this issue and visiting “Save our Water Tiny,” saveourwatertiny.com. It keeps visitors up to date on developments and archives relevant information.
- **Help us pay our legal costs** incurred as FoTTSA opposes increased aggregate extraction and permits to take water near French’s Hill for the purpose of washing aggregate.
- **Show everyone you care about our water by putting up a lawn sign**, available with a minimum \$10 donation. Volunteers will deliver your sign to your home.
- **Tell two friends about this campaign.** If they don’t receive *The Tiny Cottager*, they could download a pdf of this issue at www.tinycottager.org.



Sandy Shaw

Beth Brass Elson of Beausoleil First Nation spoke of the healing properties of clean water. Danny Beaton, Indigenous activist and an integral player in stopping Site 41, made an emotional speech, recollecting his time living on the proposed dump site and of his observations of the fertility of flora and fauna in the surrounding lands now at risk.

Tara Marshall concluded the event with a rallying cry: “Our activities make the invisible visible. That is why we are here today, to protect our groundwater. We share one passion and that is protecting our water. Systemic changes start with grassroots organizations and the work that we do. Your presence shows your passion.”

Kevin Mullan was raised in Tiny Township, then left to explore the world. He returned five years ago after realizing the unique splendor of the area, with the goal of becoming more deeply connected to place, to the community and its issues.

* ‘DAMN’ refers to the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition’s “Demand A Moratorium Now!” campaign, which calls for a moratorium on all new gravel mining applications in Ontario. See “Reform Gravel Mining Coalition’s ‘DAMN!’ Campaign: Converting the Industry from Environmental Enemy to Ally?”



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— continued from page 8

What the researchers plan to study

The researchers aim to determine the origin of Tiny’s pristine groundwater, which geological and geochemical processes help purify the water, the volume of groundwater, flow rates and direction of movement, and how they are connected.

“We know some of it comes from 20 to 30 kilometres to the east travelling through glacial sediments,” Powell told rally participants. “We know some of it is bubbling up through the ground from bedrock that’s hundreds of millions of years old. We know some of it was trapped in there during glaciation, and we know some of it comes from precipitation that falls on the Earth in the form of rain or snow. But how much of each, the importance of each, the geochemical processes that go on once the water is in the soil and is travelling on, the role of soil as a filter (we know it’s important but not how important), the role of the glacial sediments filtering that water as it moves laterally through the ground over tens of thousands of years or only a few years, we don’t know this yet.”

Research methodology

The process begins with the installation of lysimeters, which collect subsurface water, to study changes over the 5-year research period. This year, Professor Bill Shotyk and his team from the University of Alberta will install lysimeters on French’s Hill and in the terraces and plains below the hill. In subsequent years, lysimeters will be placed in the highlands and valleys to the east. Water samples will be collected for analysis two to three times a year.

“What happens when water hits the ground, infiltrating downward until it reaches a pathway allowing it to flow to the valleys, rivers and marshes within the watershed is an extremely complicated process,” said Powell. “There is so much going on under and within the soil. It’s hard to understand, even for professionals, the effects of organic matter on mineralogy and microorganisms or solid-liquid gas phases that happen, which we call speciation, and the changes in the physical characteristics and changes in the chemical processes.”

Researchers from the University of Alberta, Guelph University, University of Ottawa and the Geological Survey of Ontario will join in this study of deep core samples to learn about water coming up from glacial sediments and bedrock in this multi-faceted project.

Understanding which factors affect the quality of this groundwater will help governments in Canada and elsewhere improve their ability to manage water resources. This water is so pure it has served as a benchmark in many provincial, national and international conferences, as well as 50 publications and peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Signing These 2 Petitions Could Make the Difference



Two online petitions now in circulation offer us a unique opportunity to communicate our views to elected representatives.

A petition in the House of Commons sponsored by Simcoe North MP Adam Chambers seeks “to protect the pristine waters of the Simcoe Uplands so that research may proceed

and these waters be preserved forever.” The research referred to is the project discussed on page 8. The petition closes on June 30. Access the petition by keying this address into your browser — petitions.ourcommons.ca — and enter “3867”

Another petition, from the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition, asks the Ontario government to implement a 5-year moratorium on new gravel mining permits until an independent panel can chart a new path forward. Access the petition by copying this address into your browser: www.reformgravelmining.ca/petition

About the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition

The coalition is a new, not-for-profit organization representing community groups across the province that are seeking a more strategic, fact-based approach to granting gravel permits.

According to the coalition, implementing a 5-year moratorium on new permits would benefit Ontarians by

- ensuring long-term supplies of a finite resource
- protecting groundwater and farmland
- increasing the weight of local perspectives in land use planning
- honouring treaties with Indigenous Nations
- preventing greater climate chaos.

Signing these petitions just takes a few minutes, but the end results could last for lifetimes.

Aaron
CAYDEN HILTZ
Liberal

Authorized by the CFO for Aaron Cayden Hiltz.

In Tiny Township there is groundwater that ranks among the purest on Earth, and it should be treasured. Yet this water is under extreme threat. Corporate interests want to use this water for capital gain, potentially exposing the underlying aquifer to possible pollution. We cannot let this happen here. If there is anything that I can do to oppose this, including banging on the doors of Queens Park, then I'm going to do it.

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Look Who's Supporting Save our Water Tiny

Tiny community efforts to protect Tiny's groundwater continue to grow. Here are four recent examples:

- supporters who joined us for the World Water Day rally at Queen's Park
- Simcoe North candidates who spoke at the Elmvale

- kiosk – the area's most potent symbol of what's at stake
- the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition, which scheduled a May 17 online rally to raise awareness and help fund FoTTSA's legal costs. On the speakers list: coalition leaders and local residents affected by the gravel mining

- operations that threaten Tiny's water.
- artist Hilary Slater, who is organizing an art show on May 28, with proceeds going towards FoTTSA legal costs in its opposition to gravel mining permits to draw water.



Photo by Kate Harries

Liberal candidates Jeff Lehman (Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte) and Aaron Cayden Hiltz (Simcoe North), right and far right respectively, stopped by the Elmvale Kiosk on May 6 to greet water protectors and party supporters. Both promised to ensure the Simcoe Uplands water will be protected.



Photo by Kate Harries

Ontario Green Party leader Mike Schreiner at the Elmvale kiosk on April 19.



Photo by Tara Marshall

Artist Hilary Slater, right, at a 2021 Tiny Art Collective fundraiser. Another fundraiser on May 28-29 will also contribute a percentage of proceeds towards FoTTSA legal costs.

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\$150,000. Areas to be delineated in 2022 are Ossossane continuation Lundy Lane to Jackson Park, Woodland Beach, 30 Waterview Concession 4 West, Asselin Park (Concession 17W to Sunrise Court), Chemin du Loup Road Allowance, Shelly Lane, 19 Huronia Court, and LA Beach North Boundary.

Phase 1 – Surveys and staking and installation of posts have been completed for Jackson Park North Boundary, 42 Lackie Crescent, and 10 Nassau Court. Areas of Phase 1 that were only partly delineated in 2021 are to be completed this year.

LAME DUCK COUNCIL: If fewer than four members of Council decide to run for the next term in the municipal election on October 24, 2022, the lame duck restrictions on Council's power and authority would apply. Such a Council may not

- appoint or remove from office any officer of the municipality
- hire or dismiss any employee of the municipality
- dispose of any real or personal property of the municipality which has a value exceeding \$50,000 at the time of disposal
- spend or incur any other liability which exceeds \$50,000.

A lame duck Council may delegate authority to maintain operations during a lame duck period.

KEY ELECTION DATES IN 2022:

- May 2 to August 18 – Nomination Period
- August 19 – Nomination Day
- September 1 – Voters' List available to Candidates
- October 1 – Last day to establish a Compliance Audit Committee
- October 24 – Election Day
- October 25 – Declaration of Official Election Results
- November 15 – New Council's term begins
- November 15 and 16 – Council orientation
- November 23 – Inaugural Meeting

DECLARATION OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY: On March 16, Council supported the Declaration prepared by the Severn Sound Environmental Association. According to this, the Township continues to put into place the actions, priorities and goals outlined in the Climate Action Plan. The Declaration is a recommitment to the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets, namely the reduction of community GHG emissions by 6% and of Tiny's corporate emissions by 30% by 2028. Currently, the Township's fleet produces the bulk of the township's GHG emissions – 74%, followed by township buildings at 18%.

No figures were given for the community's GHG emissions.

SHORT TERM RENTAL ACCOMMODATION TASK FORCE:

At a special in camera meeting on March 21, Council decided

to disband the Task Force. A special virtual Committee of the Whole meeting has been scheduled for May 11 at 7:00 p.m. to consider the Committee's work to date. The public may participate.

REFORM GRAVEL MINING COALITION: On April 6, 2022, David Jeffery of the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition asked Council to support his group's request for a provincial moratorium on new and expanded aggregate/gravel mining permits until a better process for approvals and industry oversight can be put in place. He argued that gravel mining has numerous negative impacts on surrounding communities, that gravel mining contributes to urban sprawl and greenhouse gas emissions, and that Ontario's current application process for gravel mining is flawed in several important ways. For the complete presentation, see the Committee of the Whole Agenda for April 6.

On April 27, Council passed the following motion:
THAT the deputation from David Jeffrey, Reform Gravel Mining Coalition regarding a request for support for a moratorium on new and expanding aggregate permits, be received; AND THAT Council supports a delegation request to the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks at the 2022 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference regarding this subject matter, specifically the aggregate permit and notification process and a tax assessment review of aggregate companies. (Ratification of the motion was delayed until May 18.)

We note that this puts no pressure on the provincial government prior to the June 2 provincial election.

2021 SEWAGE SYSTEM REINSPECTION PROGRAM: Bill Goodale of Tatham Engineering provided Council with a status report on last summer's reinspection program which covered Balm Beach, Thunder Beach, and Giant's Tomb Island. Of 1,427 completed inspections, 97 systems were found to be deficient. More deficiencies will be discovered as outstanding septic tank reports (998) are submitted by property owners. The most frequent problem (16) was root intrusions into the leaching bed. Also frequent were indications of vehicles parking or driving on the septic tank or leaching bed (9), fire pits dug into the surface of the leaching beds (8), old and deficient grey water systems (8), locked gates that meant a property could not be inspected (7), presence of unknown pipes leaving structures that needed confirmation of their purpose. There were lesser numbers of lots with other deficiencies.

Tatham continued to follow up on outstanding deficiencies uncovered in earlier reinspections. Where such deficiencies persist in fall 2022 from 2017, the bylaw department will pro-

ceed with charges for failing to comply with an order.

This year, reinspections will be done in the Woodland, Edmor and Deanlea Beach shoreline areas up to Concession 5.

DRAFT ZONING BY-LAW UPDATE: This is a work in progress. On April 27, 2022, Wes Crown of MHBC Planning reported that the first draft of the New Zoning By-law had been released for public review and comment in February. Two virtual Public Open Houses were held in March and written comments were received until March 17. Technical Memorandum #3 (appended to the Report) considered comments received from 100 individuals and groups and then recommended refinements to the First Draft. Many of the comments concerned short term rentals, backyard chickens, and additional residential units.

MHBC recommended that, for the time being, the issue of STRs continue to be represented by a place holder. Regarding backyard chickens, MHBC recommended that Council pass a 3-year temporary use by-law that permits the keeping of up to 4 chickens in residential zones, subject to strict licensing requirements. Re: additional residential units, the report raised the issue of adequate water supply.

The next step is to update the First Draft. A Tracked Changes version and clean version would be posted to the project's webpage. Subsequent steps: release of new Draft - May 2022; Statutory Public Meeting - June 2022; and Council approval - July/August 2022. Comments are still welcome.

WOODLAND BEACH OWNERSHIP ISSUE: In January, Council received a request from Tara Jaegar asking the Township to assist in determining the ownership of the beach just north of Wasaga Beach. Council asked staff to look into the matter. Hitherto, the Township position has been that it does not get involved in beach ownership matters where the property is not within the current Township land ownership inventory.

Three members of Council took a position on this. Mayor Cornell and Councillor Wishart voted against using taxpayers' money to pursue the issue given that the parcel of land is not within the township's current land inventory and also that every beach ownership issue is unique. Councillor Hastings felt that at some point the township should investigate out of concern for beach access for backlot owners and that money should be allocated for investigating the matter in the next budget. Deputy Mayor Walma was absent, and Councillor Bryant declared a conflict of interest. In his report on the matter, CAO Lamb recommended that no further action be taken.

The CAO's full report (CAO-004-22), which includes important documents regarding beach ownership, is available in the CoW Agenda for 27 April 2022.



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Backyard Chickens —continued from page 3

of feeding any wildlife, even squirrels, as that may lead to encounters with animals such as coyotes and is "the primary cause of human/wildlife conflict." Vaughan also asks people to reconsider bird feeders because spillage and feeders attract pigeons, rats, squirrels and raccoons. Backyard chickens would only increase the potential of attracting unwanted wildlife.

Many of these issues can be managed through proper farming methods, which is why chickens are permitted on hobby farms. However, many residents considering backyard chickens are not aware of these methods.

Permitting backyard chickens in shoreline communities could exacerbate these problems. For example:

- the issues noted above may affect water quality, both along the shoreline and in nearby streams or creeks.
- the lots in shoreline communities are relatively small, increasing the potential impact on neighbouring properties and the environment in general.
- Many residents are seasonal/part time and may not be immediately aware of issues affecting the local environment.

Learn more about what's involved in looking after backyard chickens

The federal government has a resource page with information on spotting and preventing disease, stopping the spread of disease, keeping wild birds and other animals away from backyard chickens, and much more. Copy this address into your browser: inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/diseases/backyard-flocks-and-pet-birds/eng/1323643634523/1323644740109 You'll also find information on feed and water management, cleaning and disinfecting, managing sick birds, and disposal of sick birds.

Prior to finalizing your position on allowing backyard chickens on shoreline residential properties, please consider all of the implications, and review the resources identified above.

* This condition is known as flystrike. Among chickens, flies may lay their eggs in the birds' "vent" area. Maggots can hatch within 24 hours and begin feeding on skin tissue. Flystrike can be fatal if left untreated.

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Road Safety MIA from Transportation Master Plan

by ROBERT McBRIDE, Wymbolwood Beach



Photo by Paul Cowley.

A 2021 example of why road safety must be factored into the plan Concession 8.

Since fall 2020, Tiny Township has been engaged in creating its first transportation master plan (TMP). A consulting firm was retained to assist the process, which included public consultations during the winter and spring of 2021, and two virtual public information sessions in June and September of 2021.

FoTTSA participated at every opportunity, providing input on a number of issues but primarily emphasizing a concern expressed by many shoreline residents about the real danger caused by speeding traffic along Tiny Beaches Road.

The township appeared to take these concerns into consideration:

- in response to correspondence from one beach association, Tiny Public Works stated in February 2021 that they are "looking at techniques to control speeds on all our roads including [Tiny Beaches Road South] as part of our master plan."
- in November 2021, the township released a draft plan for comment. The final point in Section 5 Summary of Existing Conditions reflects "FoTTSA's concerns and states that the study recommendations will address the need to reduce speed and enhance safety for all road users. Survey findings by Stantec and from beach associations indicate a concern for pedestrian safety. Stantec is conducting a speed reduction and traffic calming review alongside this TMP to develop recommendations that will decrease automobile speeds and improve safety for users of all transportation modes."
- the first sentence in Section 6 TMP Vision Statement reinforces the TMP's road safety commitment: "Tiny's transportation network will offer efficient travel options that prioritize safety for all road users, ages, and abilities."

Despite these assurances, the draft does not fulfill these commitments. Here are four continuing concerns.

1. Speed control. There are no recommendations in the draft that would decrease automobile speed. The draft indicates that community safety zones (CSZs) may only be considered in areas where the existing speed limit is 50kph or greater and where excessive speeding occurs. There is no explanation given as to why the TMP would not also consider CSZ designations where the posted speed is 40kph and excessive speeding regularly occurs. The draft does not support the use of automated speed enforcement (photo radar) or even "Watch Your Speed" signage except for south of Concession Road 4. Nor does the draft propose any other measures like speed bumps or stepped-up OPP enforcement activity.

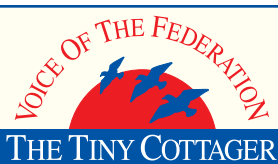
2. Pedestrian safety. While the draft proposes that TBR be widened to provide 1.2m bike lanes on both sides of the road, there are no recommendations to address the needs of pedestrians and those using mobility devices. On residential streets bike lanes are typically provided in addition to sidewalks, not instead of sidewalks. If only bike lanes were provided, pedestrians would feel excluded and unsafe. If TBR is to be widened, the recommendation in the TMP must be changed to require a sidewalk or multi-use pathway.

3. All-way stop control at major intersections. TBR is a local and mostly residential road that has inappropriately long sections with no stop control. Today one can drive a 10-kilometre stretch from Concession Road 4 to Balm Beach without ever having to stop. FoTTSA requested that Tiny implement all-way stop control at selected locations. The draft recommends only two all-way stop control intersections along TBR — at Concession Road 9 and Balm Beach Road. Although the draft suggests two other possible locations (Concession Road 4 and Concession Road 5), these timid recommendations fall well short of addressing the concerns of those who walk along and cross over TBR.

4. Recognition of its heritage character. Residents feel strongly that TBR is a special road worthy of a heritage character designation and seek a commitment from Tiny Township to respect and preserve its character. Any changes to the road — especially a widening of the road to introduce "bike lanes" — has real potential to compromise the road's heritage character. The draft makes no reference to this perspective.

Tiny staff indicated they plan to submit a final report to Council in June on the draft and comments received. FoTTSA continues to advocate for improvements to the TMP and seeks the support of Tiny Township Council on these matters.

Robert McBride is a recently retired transportation planning and engineering professional.



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Book Review: *Jackson's Wars* by HILARY SLATER

The focus of this book, *Jackson's Wars: A.Y. Jackson, the Birth of the Group of Seven, and the Great War* by Douglas Hunter, deals with Jackson as he struggled to find his direction as a painter prior to Canada's involvement in World War I.

It struck me as timely that this book has emerged on the market now, as we are once again facing a crisis of war. The emotions Jackson experienced could be felt as we watched Russia invade Ukraine. Artists are extremely sensitive to the world at large, and Jackson certainly was.

This book addresses in meticulous detail the influences and interruptions that the First World War had on Jackson's objective of creating a Canadian style of landscape painting. The book also covers his involvement in World War I, and the post war hurdles prior to the founding of the Group of Seven. His early dream, even prior to World War I, was to form a group of like-minded artists with a truly Canadian style of landscape painting, at a time when Canada's art scene was still European based. This book opens a window into the years when Jackson met the artists who later became the Group of Seven.

I read this book from an artist's perspective, but also as someone who paints in locations from Jackson's life. As a resident of Georgian Bay and Lake Superior, I have often felt the Group of Seven looking over my shoulder as I paint.

Hunter has certainly done his research. The snippets of detail, windows into conversations and personal letters — even gossip from the early group and their friends, family, neighbours, and colleagues — give the reader a feeling of being a fly on the wall, as Jackson and artists of his era went through the early stages of joining forces.

What a wonderful time it was! A new country, when artists were able to make careers depicting Canadian beauty and the magic of a wild land relatively unknown to the outer world.

There are also many wonderful anecdotes about early gatherings as Jackson and fellow Group of Seven artists explored Georgian Bay and Algonquin Park. They learned how to journey into the wild in all seasons, with Tom Thomson as their guide. The group's shared passion for exploring the northlands is described here in such detail that the reader will feel involved. I find the work to have jewels of memories, minute tidbits of research, historical relevance, and present-day parallels to those artists who continue to pursue the depiction of the Ontario landscape and a Canadian style.

I used to work at the Art Gallery of Ontario and spent much time researching details about the AGO Collection. I had many stories to share, but this 488-page book boggles the mind with the amount of new information Hunter has brought to light.

The second half of the book I found to be less relevant to me as an artist, and I admit to skimming over many of the impressive details Hunter has gathered from the First World War. Veritably every person who may have known or come into contact with A.Y. Jackson during the war years has been recorded here in detail, and for those who might be looking for anecdotes of World War I or ancestral records of lives lost during that time, this could be a gold mine of information.

Any artist or art historian interested in the Group of Seven will certainly find these unique details of the early stages intriguing. Jackson's early years, the war hurdles, and the wonderful anecdotes of his interactions with Tom Thomson are all certainly worth the read. This detailed account of Jackson's journey in search of a truly Canadian style is described so adeptly that readers will feel they were living in that era themselves.

Primarily self-taught, Hilary Slater has been painting for over 35 years. She paints predominantly on location to capture the immediacy of live experience; www.hilaryslater.com.



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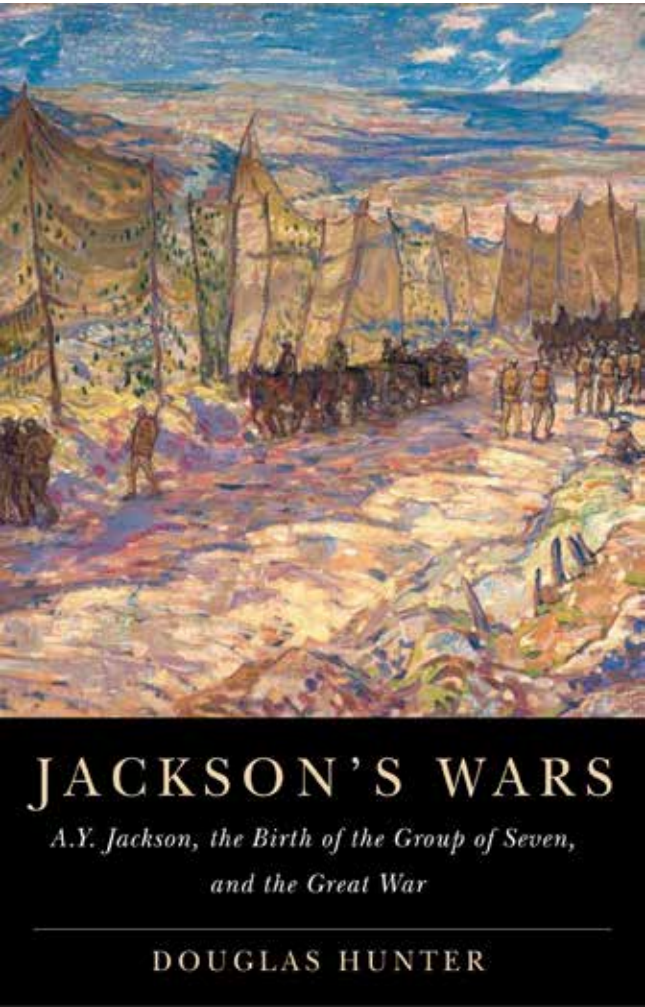
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BOOK EXCERPT

Jackson’s Wars: A.Y. Jackson, the Birth of the Group of Seven, and the Great War



Fresh off the press from award-winning North Simcoe author Douglas Hunter, *Jackson’s Wars* provides a captivating account of the formative years of one of Canada’s best-known artists. *Jackson’s Wars* follows his early education and progress as a painter and his time on Europe’s battlefields before he cast his lot in with a group of like-minded Toronto artists. In this excerpt, a young A.Y. Jackson arrives back in Canada, proceeding from Montreal to Berlin (now Kitchener), and on to North Simcoe.

When A.Y. Jackson returned to Montreal in late 1909, after more than two years in Europe, he was 27 years old and determined to become a painter. That meant finding clientele. He hung some of his European work at the framers Johnson and Copping on Saint-Catherine Street West, in the spring exhibition of the Ontario Society of Artists at the Toronto Reference Library, and at a new commercial gallery on King Street East in Toronto.

It is not clear how many, if any, sales he enjoyed at these exhibitions. With the Johnson and Copping show, at least, he found a critical admirer in Albert Laberge of *La Presse*. The unsigned review included a photograph of Jackson, hair greatly receded and sporting a considerable moustache. Laberge was dazzled by what must have been a wholly unexpected epiphany: that on the walls of a framing shop, through a virtually unknown artist’s depictions of European windmills, canals, seashores, and old houses, he had stumbled upon the future of Canadian painting. “Here we are in the presence of an artist of superior talent, an exceptionally gifted painter who has the greatest sense of colour and a poetic sentiment ... Mr. Jackson is still young, but he is already a great, very great artist. He will one day be one of art’s masters, in this country and in others.” Jackson’s moustache would not last, but Laberge’s admiration would remain unflagging...

All three of Jackson’s aunts on his father’s side were living under the same roof in Berlin, in southwestern Ontario. A.Y.’s aunts were plugged into a network of Berlin’s most prosperous families. Surely, somewhere among them, A.Y. could find customers for his works or even a wealthy patron. The Breithaupts, a family of German descent who had arrived in the mid-nineteenth century from Buffalo, New York, were one well-off family, close at hand, to whom A.Y.’s Aunt Bella could make the proper introductions. He was also embraced by the Clements, to whom he was related through his paternal grandmother’s family, the Murphies.

After about three weeks in Berlin society, A.Y. considered hopeless the cause of furthering his artistic career through local patronage. In June, the leading households of Berlin began to decamp for summer quarters. A.Y. chose to go north with the Clements to their cottage on Georgian Bay — “a place I had never heard of,” as he would recall in 1967. Seeing Georgian Bay for the first time had not been an objective of A.Y.’s Berlin visit, but it proved to be the most consequential experience.

The Cognashene is an island-studded indentation on the Thirty Thousand Islands coast of eastern Georgian Bay

about 15 miles north of the well-protected harbour town of Penetanguishene. The Williams cottage at Wabec Island was part of a cluster of pioneering summer homes in the Cognashene’s northwest corner. The family probably had been led to the area by the Breithaupts, as Louis J. Breithaupt operated a tannery at Penetanguishene harbour and had a large summer home on the nearby shore. Moored at the Breithaupts’ summer home was an enormous houseboat, the *Vancrofter*, which could sleep 25 and featured plumbing as well as electrical service that could be hooked up to a shore outlet.¹

A.Y. would stay on the *Vancrofter* at least once while in Penetanguishene, painting two known scenes of the harbour and the Breithaupt tannery during one of his early visits. The Breithaupts would visit the Cognashene in the *Vancrofter* before buying an island near the Williams and Clement retreats.

The Clements owned a neck of land called Portage Point at the south end of Portage Island, which was separated from the Williams’s Wabec Island by a narrow channel. A.Y. was joining the Clements for their third summer at the Cognashene property. Portage and Wabec were part of a tight cluster of islands that were separated from the mainland to the north by a narrow passage called Freddy Channel. Jackson’s holiday proved to be the first of many painting visits to the Cognashene and a long relationship with its families.

The Cognashene, like much of the Thirty Thousand Islands, remained an essentially wild place, but the wildness was being gentrified. In addition to cottages, houseboats, and occasional cruising yachts, the region was spawning fishing lodges and hotels. With no road access to any point along the east shore up to Parry Sound, Penetanguishene was the main staging point for vacation destinations. To reach Portage Point, the Clements and A.Y. would have boarded the John Lee, which met the daily train in Penetanguishene in the early afternoon and made a milk run through the islands and channels.

Beyond Portage Point and Wabec Island, the Muskoka Landing Channel opened onto a northerly run through shoal-studded waters, skirting a lee shore exposed to the prevailing westerlies. The southwestward view, taking in Giant’s Tomb, Christian, Beckwith, and Hope Islands, as well as the high ground of the mainland around Penetanguishene, would soon be featured in paintings by colleagues of A.Y. whom he did not yet know — or were even yet in Canada. After about three miles of this northward run, a vessel could bear right into the shelter of Bushby Inlet and, behind it, Go Home Bay, which was the exclusive summer preserve of the Madawaska Club, a joint-stock company formed in 1898, whose members generally were affiliated with the University of Toronto. Just north of Go Home, at the entrance to Monument Channel, was another sheltered bay, North Go Home; on its northwest side was an island, as yet uninhabited, that was only a year away from becoming a locus of the development of the new movement in Canadian landscape painting. But for now, A.Y. Jackson was the only artist on the scene, and he was not venturing beyond the Cognashene. West Wind Island in North Go Home Bay might as well have been on the dark side of the moon.

A.Y. Jackson remained at the Clement cottage with his hosts until the end of their summer vacation in early August. It was a large, comfortable, busy place, he reported to his mother. Ten to fifteen mouths routinely gathered at the dinner table, and he guessed that the Clements entertained thirty to forty guests over the course of the summer. “There is no stint about them at all. It must cost them a small fortune to run the place.” There was plenty of fishing, swimming, and boating, in canoes, rowboats, and sailboats, but as someone accus-

tomed to weeks of relative solitude and walking or snowshoeing for many miles a day, A.Y. must have found Portage Point and Wabec Island claustrophobic at times.

“I am not much of a success in a social way, and don’t care to be,” he informed his mother. All defiant brooding aside, A.Y. got along much better than he was prepared to admit. He became close to two of his Clement cousins, twenty-year-old Florence and her older brother, thirty-year-old Charles. Charlie struck up a correspondence with A.Y. and began painting in oils as a hobby as early as that October. A photo taken at the close of the 1910 cottage season captured Jackson in a farewell “jump” on Portage Point’s rocky shore with the Clement siblings William, David Ward, Florence, and Edwin. A.Y. also came to know the younger members of the Williams and Breithaupt families. Fifteen-year-old Esther and twenty-one-year-old Elinor (Eleanor) Williams were Clement guests that summer. A.Y. became close enough to Louis Jacobs Breithaupt’s daughters, (Martha) Edna, Rosa, and Catherine, to inspire rumours of later romantic liaisons. Edna



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Month of June	June is Parks, Recreation & Seniors’ Month
Friday, June 17, 2022	Mayor’s Charity Golf Tournament
Wednesday, June 1, 2022	Senior Symposium
Saturday, July 16, 2022	Festival du Loup
Saturday, July 16, 2022	Weekly, July and August
Saturday, July 23, 2022	Community BBQ: Celebrating Tiny’s Heroes

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A.Y. Jackson depicts Cognashene in this painting, *Night, Georgian Bay*, aka *Land of the Leaning Pine* (1913). National Gallery of Canada, 1697. Estate of A.Y. Jackson / SOCAN (2021).

was twenty in 1910, Rosa twenty-two, and Catherine fourteen. Rosa studied fine art at the Ontario Ladies College in Whitby in 1908–09, and A.Y. would help to spark Edna’s artistic career. Edna would found a lodge, Wakunda, at Sawlog Bay on the mainland north of Penetanguishene and purchase Giant’s Tomb Island, where she would attempt to establish an arts colony. At some point before the war, A.Y. made a small sketch on board of Rosa painting outdoors, *Girl in the Middy*, now in the collection of the McMaster Museum of Fine Arts. An “unknown landscape” on its obverse may be a Jackson view of the approaches to Penetanguishene Harbour.

“I get tired of messing round by myself,” A.Y. reported to his mother from Portage Point. “Today I chopped wood nearly all day, for want of something better to do.” He felt a need

to split firewood because he couldn’t see much of anything to paint. “Sketching simply won’t go.” He further explained, “Sorry to say I have done very little sketching. The country does not lend itself to it ... It’s great country to have a holiday in ... but it’s nothing but little islands covered with scrub and pine trees and not quite paintable.

Although it does seem extraordinary that the now-iconic scenery left Jackson unmoved as an artist, he was not yet seeing this landscape as he and his future fellow Canadian artists would: as a place of raw atmospheric power and tortured beauty. He was in a cottage community that, at this stage, recoiled from a violent aesthetic of white-capped waters, howling winds, crackling summer thunderstorms, dirty squall fronts, jack pines twisted in a struggle to endure, and rock that was smoothed and smashed at sharp angles and along deep fractures by ancient glaciers and further shattered with every winter freeze and thaw. The Cognashene was attractive to city residents because of its sheltered waters, and its cottagers turned their backs on the prevailing westerlies and the view toward the open bay. As a history of the cottage area explains, “The first cottages were almost always positioned on the leeward side of the islands, looking east to the mainland. The exposed view to open water was deemed unattractive and the gusting west wind was an unpleasant force to be avoided.”

One small panel sketch that survives from A.Y.’s visits to the Clement cottage, *The Boat Beach at Portage Pointe*, could have been made that first summer. The view through an orderly screen of trees conveyed nothing of the visual aesthetic that would soon emerge for eastern Georgian Bay. A nocturne sketch, *Evening, Georgian Bay*, possibly executed that summer, passed to the Clement family and would enter the collection of the National Gallery. He completed a

larger canvas called *The Georgian Bay*, which he may have executed plein-air at an easel that summer, as it was done in time for him to enter it in the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto in late August. Whatever it depicted, the painting no longer exists. Jackson would have to try again with *Georgian Bay*, from fresh vantage points and with a fresh set of eyes.

This article has been lightly edited. Copies of Jackson’s Wars: A.Y. Jackson, the Birth of the Group of Seven, and the Great War may be purchased wherever books are sold, or ordered online from the publisher at www.mqup.ca/browse-books-pages-46.php. Read Hilary Slater’s review on page 14. You can learn more about the author at douglasshunter.ca.

1. Louis Jacob Breithaupt had acquired his houseboat after a tug company seized it for unpaid bills from its original owner, an American family named Vancrofter who had kept it up the bay at Parry Sound. David, ed., *Wind, Rock, Water and Sky*, 60.

Save These Dates!

On June 1, Jackson’s Wars author Douglas Hunter will be Fred Hacker’s guest for “A Day in the Life” at the Midland Cultural Centre.
www.eventbrite.ca/e/a-day-in-the-life-with-douglas-hunter-tickets-328259973417

On November 16, Jackson’s Wars will be the subject of the 2022 Carmichael Art History Lecture, delivered by Douglas Hunter at the Orillia Museum of Art & History. Register today at www.orilliamuseum.org.




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Volunteer Help Needed at Tiny Marsh

by KATE HARRIES



Help stop this invasive species from taking over. Photo source: Ontario Invasive Plant Council.

The M-T-M Conservation Association, which manages Marl Lake, Tiny Marsh and Matchedash Bay provincial wildlife areas, has a couple of ongoing invasive plant control programs at Tiny Marsh for which volunteer assistance would be much appreciated.

Garlic Mustard — May and June

M-T-M used to have specific garlic mustard pull dates but now we have a system where people decide when they want to come, they let us know, and M-T-M puts groups together, directs volunteers to the appropriate site, ensures at least one experienced puller is present, and provides bags for the unwanted weed.

Why get rid of garlic mustard? Don't be deceived by the pretty white flowers, this plant is a bully. It crowds out native species like trilliums and changes the soil chemistry to stop other species from germinating. This means a slow decline for a forested area as trees are no longer able to reseed themselves.

In 2017, we planted 1,500 native species in a badly infested field, and these plants — Oswego tea (beebalm), purple coneflower, common milkweed, cup plant and more — are establishing themselves. But they still need help. Pull sessions last three hours and working conditions, featuring an audience of appreciative birds, are very pleasant. If you are able to help, email info@mtmconservation.org.

Invasive Phragmites — July and August

Last year we started a three-year project to control Invasive Phragmites at Tiny Marsh. This plant can suck the life out of a wetland, choking out native plants and significantly reducing habitat and biodiversity.

Stands growing in water will be taken care of mechanically,

by amphibious vehicles (truxors) that cut them out. The volunteer effort in July and August will focus on Phragmites growing along the edge of the dykes, using raspberry cane cutters.

Again, sessions last three hours and coordinator Dave Hawke makes sure that everyone learns and has fun. Register by emailing vol@mtmconservation.org.

Kate Harries is a director of the M-T-M Conservation Association.



The Township of Tiny is teeing up once again to host the Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament. This year's event will take place on June 17 at the Orr Lake Golf Club. Enjoy a round of golf and help fund 16 local charities provided needed services in healthcare, seniors, education, and youth. Also benefiting this year: the Sts. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church, which will receive \$10,000 toward humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

Last year the tournament raised \$60,000, and the organizers are hoping to surpass that amount this year. Since it began in 2015, the tournament has raised over \$310,000.

In addition to supporting humanitarian efforts in Ukraine, this year's fundraising will directly these local organizations:

- Angels with Backpacks
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- Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe
- CLH Foundation
- Gateway Centre for Learning
- Hospice Huronia
- Huronia Community Foundation
- Independent Living Services Simcoe County
- Midland Public Library
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- Quest Art School + Gallery
- Scientists in School
- Sistema Huronia Music Academy
- We Are The Villagers
- Wendat Community Programs
- Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre

As in past years, FoTTSA's *The Tiny Cottager* continues as founding sponsor. "Community initiatives like this tournament help so many in our area," says FoTTSA president Paul Cowley. "We are proud to support it and encourage everyone to join us."

Here's how to get involved:

- register as a golfer or team of golfers
- sponsor or donate to the event
- bid on the virtual silent auction or enter the virtual raffle draws

For more information, visit www.tiny.ca/events/golf.

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