

## George Daniels

### Betty Day Award Winner



George Daniels (right) is presented with the 2009 Betty Day Award by Lake of Bays Association Director Fraser Govan at the Annual Meeting held in July in Dwight.

George Daniels has channeled his unbridled energy, enthusiasm and considerable talents to the Lake of Bays community for more than forty years—and his efforts were honoured in July with the presentation of the 2009 Betty Day Award. This Lake of Bays Association award is given out annually to an exceptional volunteer member who has furthered the Association's goals.

A cottager on Montgomery Point since 1965, George served for 25 years as a director of the Lake of Bays Association, including two years as president (1988–1990). George's greatest contribution to the Lake has been in communications and marketing. He overhauled the Yearbook during the 1970s and introduced advertising revenue to help support the publication. The 50th anniversary

issue was produced with a Wintario Grant obtained by George. And it was George's idea to start a quarterly newsletter. He also developed the Association's mission statement: *to promote, maintain and enhance a clean, healthy and natural environment, a well-served community and a safe, peaceful Lake of Bays*. All of the 'firsts' implemented by George are still serving the Association today.

In the mid 1980s George and others recognized the need to set up a mechanism separate from the Lake of Bays Association that could accept charitable donations and issue tax receipts. This led to the creation of the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation in 1985. George became its first vice-president.

Since 2005, George has tirelessly

*continued on page 2*

## SAVE THIS DATE

Please Come  
Lake of Bays Association  
Winter Board Meeting  
**Saturday, January 16, 2010**

Baysville Senior's Centre  
10:30 a.m.  
Lunch following

This is an open meeting with  
topics of interest to all  
Water Quality Report  
G8 Update  
... and more.

Everyone welcome.

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## President's Letter

by Mary Neal, President, Lake of Bays Association

Lake of Bays. The name evokes different responses for all. For some, it is the area of their birth, where they still live and work. For others it is the community where they've retired. For many it's the location of their seasonal haven. For some, 'Lake of Bays' represents generations of ownership and treasured memories. For others, the lake is a new experience and memories are just beginning to be shaped.

Regardless of their connection to the lake, those who love it share many values. It is the work of the Lake of Bays Association to identify, advocate for, support and preserve these common values. It keeps us very busy! Fortunately, many committed and passionate individuals and groups accomplish our efforts. The list of board members for 2010 is printed in this newsletter for your reference if you have a question or issue that needs to be addressed.

Our annual general meeting in July was very well attended and we were proud to present the Betty Day Award to a very worthy recipient, George Daniels. George's numerous contributions to the lake have affected many aspects of our organization and of our environment. Look for the photo and article in this issue that further details George's work.

Many of our Association members have participated in the early stages of the Township's Strategic Planning process. Please read Deb Cumming's article and keep up-to-date, via our website, with the progress of this important planning and budgeting tool.

A committee of the Board reviewed the present Board structure and governance methodology this summer and suggested some minor changes that we feel will further strengthen our operations. We are currently working to update our Policy and Operations Manual. This rather daunting task will be completed by the spring.

Our thanks to our Association's Recreation and Safety Committee for the Safe Boating Courses organized this summer. These courses were very well attended and all who wrote their Pleasure Craft



Operator's Card tests now have their required licences.

Accompanying this issue of Current Connection is our membership renewal form. Given all that the Association accomplishes, and even just knowing that our water is being continually tested, should be ample justification for sending that \$50 renewal! Please be our ambassadors. Make sure that your new neighbours are aware of the Association. Additional membership forms may be accessed on the website ([www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca)).

I invite all members to join us at our annual winter Open Board Meeting at the Baysville Senior's Centre on January 16 at 10:30 a.m. This gathering is a great opportunity to chat in a relaxed atmosphere with Association board members, local politicians and other seasonal and permanent residents about local issues and Association activities. This year we have invited the Community Relations Group of the Integrated Security Unit for the 2010 G8 to address our meeting and answer any questions you may have about the summit in June 2010. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend.

## What's Happening This Winter?

Just because the boats are put away doesn't mean there's nothing going on at Lake of Bays. Be sure to check our CALENDAR OF EVENTS on [www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca) for information about community events during the winter season. Here's just a taste of what's happening...

**November 13–14:** GIRLFRIENDS' GETAWAY WEEKEND featuring Chantal Kreviaszuk in concert at Deerhurst, a fashion show at the Algonquin Theatre and cooking demonstrations by Jeff Suddaby of 3 Guys and a Stove at Flotron's. Tickets and information (705)789-4771 [www.huntsvilleadventures.com](http://www.huntsvilleadventures.com).

**December 30:** OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY in River Mill Park, Huntsville

**February 19–20:** DORSET SNOWBALL winter carnival

**March 4–7:** ONTARIO WINTER GAMES in Huntsville, including women's hockey events in Baysville

If you want to post an event on the calendar, please send the details (who, what, where, when and contact info) to Phyllis Ferguson at [phyllis@cottagecountry.net](mailto:phyllis@cottagecountry.net).

### George Daniels Betty Day Award Winner

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raised funds for the Lake of Bays Volunteer Firefighters' "Float the Boat" campaign, which has gathered more than \$200,000 to purchase a fireboat. Another project has been the annual Anglican Church Regatta, which raises money to support St. John's in Port Cunnington and St. James on Fox Point. But closest to his heart is the Andrew Daniels Fish Stewardship Program, established in memory of his son, an avid angler, who died suddenly in 2004 at the age of 37.

In receiving his award, George was true to form; a consummate promoter, recruiter and motivator, he challenged the crowd to get the next generation involved. That's exactly what makes George Daniels special. He knows how to seize an opportunity and he's always moving forward.

## 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you to the following volunteers who have agreed to serve on the Lake of Bays Association Board of Directors for the 2009–2010 season.

Mary Neal	President
Kathleen Black	Treasurer
Brian Simpson	Vice-President & Co-chair Planning
Barry Morrison	Co-chair Planning
Deb Cumming	Environment Chair
Andrea Duncan	Communications Chair
Betty McDonald	Membership Chair
Gloria Woodside	Volunteer Relations & Nominations
Andy Barnett	Environment Committee
Malcolm Burwash	Recreation and Safety Committee
Morris Eccles	External Affairs Committee
Jean Francis	Membership Committee
Fraser Govan	External Affairs Committee
Cliff Hatch	External Affairs Committee
Karl Jaffary	External Affairs Committee
Barry Johnson	Recreation and Safety Committee
Marnie Wraith	Planning Committee

Contact information for our board members is published in the Yearbook and on the website [www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca). Your enquiries may also be directed to the Association office or a staff member who will direct you to the appropriate person.

### **Bev Govan—Administrative Assistant** **Lake of Bays Association Office:**

Phone: (705) 767-3395  
Email: [info@loba.ca](mailto:info@loba.ca)

### **Wendy Gibson—Executive Coordinator**

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### **Ginette St-Amant—Advertising Sales Manager**

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## Silent Boat Rally:

### Lucky poker hand wins round of golf at Deerhurst Highlands

Congratulations to Margaret Casey, winner of the grand prize at the 2009 Silent Boat Rally—a round of golf for four at the beautiful Deerhurst Highlands Golf Course in Huntsville.

A sunny but windy day greeted the boaters at this year's Silent Boat Rally—a celebration of quiet (and gasoline free) boating. Led by the Heather Belle, Graeme Ferguson's electric boat, the fleet of canoes and kayaks toured Bondi Bay collecting a poker hand along the way. The event was held at Bondi Village on Sunday, July 12. Brian and Nancy Tapley were wonderful hosts once again. Everyone gathered afterwards for food, fun and prizes. Thank you Brian and Nancy!



*Helena and Gordon Wright, winners of a gift basket full of yummy snacks donated by Neal Brothers of Concord  
Photo by Sam Havens*

Other winners were:

Mary Neal  
Gaylen and Elin Racine  
Peter Neal  
Graeme and Phyllis Ferguson

Special thanks to our sponsors:

Deerhurst Resort  
Neal Brothers of Concord  
F.T. Ross and Sons  
Rafters of Muskoka  
The Oxtongue Craft Cabin and gallery  
Miss Nelles of Baysville

## Did you miss the PCOC Deadline?

September 15th was the deadline for all recreational boaters in Canada to have the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) in order to operate a powered watercraft. You can bet the OPP will be on the water as soon as the ice melts, eager to hand out the \$250 fine to anyone caught without their card. If you missed the deadline you can try the test on line this winter at [www.BoatSmartExam.com](http://www.BoatSmartExam.com). Last summer the Lake of Bays Association offered three opportunities to write the PCOC test and the plan is to continue the program next summer. Consideration is also being given to offering a Safe Boating course for kids. Look for more information in the next issue of Current Connection.

## Community-based Strategic Plan for Lake of Bays

By Deb Cumming, Environment Chair

Earlier this year, the Township of Lake of Bays launched a community-based planning process to develop its strategic plan. The strategic plan will assist the Township in identifying priorities in all aspects of its operation and mapping a direction for the future. Once the strategic plan is complete, Council will use it to guide its decisions about how to spend our tax dollars over the next five years. Township staff will use it to guide their planning decisions so that their day-to-day actions reflect what residents want to see.

Soon after its launch, the Township retained John Miller and Louise Parrott of ICA Associates Inc. to facilitate the planning process. The process was designed to include many opportunities for public involvement; an advisory group that included an Association member on it was set up in May of 2009 to help the consultants fine-tune the process and to open lines of communication within the Township regarding the strategic plan and participation opportunities. Over the summer, there were public meetings and public participation is ongoing as the process takes the information and input it has received and works to translate it into viable and meaningful action steps.

Over 150 people attended public meetings in Baysville, Dorset and Dwight in July to share their vision for the future of Lake of Bays Township. At the same time, 180 people completed a questionnaire that was available on the Township's website and at area libraries. This first draft of the Community-Based Strategic Plan has been posted on the Township's website ([www.lakeofbays.on.ca](http://www.lakeofbays.on.ca)) for information, discussion and to encourage further public input. The goal is to ensure that the plan will truly reflect the whole community's vision for the future.

The draft community-based Strategic Plan was submitted to the Finance and Corporate Services Committee of the Township on September 15, 2009. The Township has stressed that the strategic goals and priorities that emerged from the consultative process will shape its future actions. On October 16, the first of several public workshops took place. At that

meeting, facilitators and the public worked together to identify the steps required to implement the main principles of the strategic plan.

The main principles of the strategic plan are on the Township's website (also linked to [www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca)), but are summarized below. There were wide ranging discussions and opinions at the public meetings held in the summer, including controversial and often heated debate. The citizens of Lake of Bays Township are consistent in demanding strong leadership, fiscal responsibility and transparent processes from their Council and staff. There was also a strong sense that Council and staff need to work collaboratively with its citizens and local organizations to accomplish meaningful and effective goals and objectives.

The strategies that have been identified during the public participation process so far are:

- Engage and communicate openly with the community
- Develop a sustainable local economy that supports the Township vision
- Ensure sound, innovative and transparent financial planning
- Develop long-term land, lake and com-

munity plans that are balanced and adaptive

- Protect, preserve and promote our healthy, natural environment
- Work in collaborative partnerships
- Develop our capacity to provide social services

These strategies were accepted as community-derived and community-supported strategic priorities, and the process will continue to use volunteers to translate them into short-term goals and describe the action steps that work towards the goals. Township staff will then be responsible for developing departmental business plans that respect and incorporate the endorsed strategies and action plans, and planning future expenditures of human and capital resources accordingly.

This is the big challenge. The process to date successfully solicited input from citizens and developed a well-articulated list of strategies to be used for planning purposes. But, using these strategies as the basis for making decisions regarding the management of the Township's human and capital resources—when those resources are not sufficient to attend to all of the strategic priorities—is going to involve some very tough choices, not just for Township Council and staff, but also for Lake of Bays citizens.

## Sue Schaal and George Daniels Nominated for Muskoka Awards

Congratulations to Lake of Bays Association members Sue Schaal and George Daniels who were nominated for the 2009 Muskoka Awards. This was the inaugural year for the awards, established by Muskoka Magazine to showcase those who have made a lasting difference to Muskoka and the people who live there—both permanently and seasonally.

Sue Schaal is a long standing Director of the Lake of Bays Sailing Club and founder of the Brian Schaal Memorial Golf Tournament, which in addition to funds raised for the sailing club, has raised \$10,000 for the Huntsville District Memorial Hospital, \$50,000 for the Algonquin Theatre in Huntsville and an estimated \$20,000 for the YWCA's Muskoka school program. George Daniels was nominated for his long history of volunteer involvement and fundraising efforts in connection with the Lake of Bays Association, the Lake of Bays Fireboat Committee, the Anglican Church Regatta and the Andrew Daniels Fish Stewardship Program. Both Sue and George are cottagers on Lake of Bays.

The Muskoka Awards were presented at a gala dinner in September and all nominees and recipients (in seven categories) were featured in a special supplement inserted in the October issue of Muskoka Magazine. This special awards publication is available online at [www.muskokamagazine.com](http://www.muskokamagazine.com).

## Increased Development Charges Approved

By Bill Rogers, External Affairs Committee

After almost a year of review and many meetings and presentations, District of Muskoka Council voted to approve significantly increased development charges effective July 14, 2009. Funds collected from developers through these charges help finance the construction of roads, water and sewer systems and other infrastructure required to accommodate new development in our communities. Your Association strongly supported the increased rate structure and over the period of debate made three separate presentations to District Council on the issue.

Traditionally, the District of Muskoka has not recovered the full cost of development-driven capital expenditure and the unpaid balance of these costs has been transferred to the general property tax base, resulting in higher property taxes on existing properties. The Lake of Bays Association, and most other residential associations, called for development charges that would fully recover the cost of new development infrastructure.

Council sets the new development

charges for a period of five years from 2008 through 2013. Council has approved rate increases of about 13 per cent each year throughout the period. By 2013 the increased rates will generate about 90 per cent of the projected development-driven expenditures, a substantial improvement over earlier years.

Increasing development charges was one of 10 recommendations in a strategy implemented by the District of Muskoka last year to reduce a debt of \$106 million, accumulated primarily from water and sewer capital projects. In September, district staff reported that the various resolutions from Council have been implemented by staff and are having the desired impact. The Lake of Bays Association lobbied hard for this annual report card as a way to increase transparency and accountability.

Your Association will continue to work with District Council and staff in future years to ensure that actual capital investment programs meet, and do not exceed, the needs of the community.

## G8 UPDATE AT WINTER BOARD MEETING

January 16  
in Baysville

G8 Update. The Community Relations Group of the Integrated Security Unit

for the 2010 G8

has been invited to attend the Lake of Bays Association Winter Board Meeting Saturday January 16 at 10:30 am at the Baysville Senior's Centre.

Come hear the latest update on plans for the Summit and a discussion of specific impacts on the Lake of Bays area residents.

## Wearing PFDs is Mandatory

By Gaylen Racine, Recreation and Safety Committee

No, that's not really true. But the title got your attention. Most boaters have a gut negative reaction whenever a well-meaning water-safety body recommends that everyone must wear a PFD or lifejacket at all times when on the water.

That response is understandable. Boaters like their freedom, however, everyone should be aware of situations when it makes sense to wear PFDs.

For example, during day-to-day boating on Lake of Bays, you should wear a PFD if:

- you can't swim or swim poorly.
- you are a child.
- you are responsible for non-swimmers
- or children. You can aid them more quickly.
- you are going out alone in a small boat. When you fall out and the boat floats off, it is handy to have some support.
- you are boating at night or in poor visibility. You are then prepared to deal with unexpected collisions or groundings.
- you are out in rough weather.
- you are on the lake when the water is cold in the spring and fall. If you hit the water, the shock of the cold will make it difficult for you to react.
- you are a passenger in a boat and have

been drinking. Your reaction times are slower and your judgment can be impaired. (This only applies to passengers. Boat operators should not have been drinking)

If you do not wear a PFD or lifejacket, be sure you and fellow passengers can don one if needed. When was the last time you personally tried putting one on while in the water? When was the last time you advised your big boat passengers where your PFDs were so everyone could find theirs?

Enjoy boating on our wonderful lake. But do not forget about your safety.

## Bigwin Tea Room to be Restored

The Bigwin Tea Room is being restored to serve members and property owners of the Bigwin Island Golf Club. This unique octagonal stone building is one of the original structures of the old hotel and features the Arts and Crafts style and beautifully crafted stone fireplaces that signify the classic Bigwin look. Situated just east of where the Rotunda once stood, the Tea Room originally served as a daytime restaurant for light lunches and an ice cream parlour. When the Rotunda was demolished last year, care was taken to preserve several of the stone fireplaces as landscape features within an outdoor area now called the Rotunda Gardens. According to Dave Smith, vice president of Bigwin Island Golf Club, plans are being considered to connect the Tea Room and the Rotunda Gardens with landscaping, creating a new indoor-outdoor venue for special events. The project has required extensive repairs to the roof and interior, but it will be worth it, says Smith. "Preserving this building is a wonderful way to highlight the heritage of the Bigwin facility."



Work started on the Bigwin Tea Room in late September.  
Photo by Andy & Dorothy Barnett

## Ice Smart Tips From the Lifesaving Society


- \* It is critical that the ice quality or type of ice is evaluated before you travel.
- \* Clear hard, new ice is the only kind of ice recommended for travel.
- \* Avoid!
  - slushy ice
  - ice on or near moving water i.e., rivers, currents
  - ice that has thawed and refrozen
  - layered or rotten ice caused by sudden temperature changes
- \* Other risk factors that weaken or "rot" ice:
  - snow on ice that acts as a blanket to prevent hardening of ice
  - pressure ridges due to wind or current pressure

**Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness  
for New Clear Hard Ice.**

*No ice is without some risk.  
Be sure to measure clear hard ice in several places.*

3" (7 cm) or less  
**STAY OFF!**

<b>4" (10 cm)</b> ice fishing walking cross country skiing	<b>5" (12 cm)</b> one vehicle - snowmobile or ATV	<b>8-12" (20-30 cm)</b> one vehicle - car or small pick-up	<b>12-15" (30-38 cm)</b> one vehicle - medium truck
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 **LIFESAVING SOCIETY**  
*The Lifeguarding Experts*

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

**NO ICE IS WITHOUT SOME RISK... MINIMIZE YOUR RISK**

## Parking Problems at Norway Point to be Resolved

by Fraser Govan, External Affairs Committee

The Norway Point Park parking lot is a municipally owned facility providing public boat docking and launching with a parking lot for cars and trailers. This summer, over-crowding caused considerable frustration and unfortunately escalated to the point that vandalism occurred to several vehicles belonging to water-access and island residents. Ideally, water-access property owners should be able to purchase over-night parking and docking space at commercial marinas, but the reality is that there are not enough spaces available at the existing local marinas.

The Township of Lake of Bays has formed a task force to develop a long-term solution that would address the needs of both water-access property owners and the general public without compromising the existing business of local marina operators. Council has agreed that changes must be made to the current by-law to accommodate both day and overnight users. One of the options proposed includes expanding the vehicle parking area to accommodate overnight parking by water-access residents. These expanded facilities would operate under a permit system with a cost-

recovery fee structure implemented to pay for the required expansion. Details of the permit system and fee structure are not finalized and the Township invites input from the public, island residents and marina operators. Permits will be in limited supply and there are 17 island property owners who have spoken for this type of service through the task force. If you are a water-access resident and would be interested in a permit, or want to be a participant in the task force, please contact Don Chevalier at the Township of Lake of Bays. (705) 635-2272.

## Enter the Lake of Bays Photo Contest

Deadline is December 31st



Photo by  
Judy Long

### Categories:

**Life at the Lake:** people, pets and dwellings

**Nature:** wild plants and animals

**Landscapes:** land, water and sky

The photo contest is open to all Lake of Bays Association members and their families. Photos must be previously unpublished and submitted, one per individual per category, in digital format to Aben Graphics: [info@abengraphics.com](mailto:info@abengraphics.com) before December 31, 2009.

Please entitle the subject line of the email as "Lake of Bays Photo Contest."

Each participant agrees to have the Association use their photos in the newsletter, yearbook and website.

**Don't wait. Send your photos today!**

## G8—Latest News

On September 25th, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that Canada will co-host the 2010 G20 meeting with the Republic of Korea. The location of the G20 meeting has not yet been officially announced but there is speculation that it will be held in conjunction with (either before or after) the G8 Summit scheduled for June 25–27, 2010 at Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville. At the time of writing, the G8 Integrated Security Unit is still going ahead with its plans to ensure a safe and secure G8 summit. More information will be posted on the official website ([www.g8isu.ca](http://www.g8isu.ca)) when it becomes available. The Lake of Bays Association will also keep our members updated on [www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca).

What does hosting the G8 or the G20 mean to residents of Lake of Bays? Restricted access on the Highway 60 corridor is guaranteed, and resulting increased traffic diverted to Highway 35 and Highway 117 is expected. How the influx of thousands of people associated with participating delegations, security and media will directly impact you will be a function of where you live, where you go and what you plan to do in and around the Huntsville area during the summit.



November 2009

Members!

The Lake of Bays Association begins its 84th year! Your support of the Association is essential to continue the ongoing activities and special projects that our directors, volunteers and staff have undertaken to preserve your enjoyment at Lake of Bays.

Some of the Association's ongoing activities include:

- Water Quality Testing Program
- Monitoring Township and District Council and Committee meetings
- Communications: Current Connection, Yearbook, e-news, website
- Area Steward Program
- Participation in the Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation (WRAFT)
- Participation in the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA)
- Meetings: Executive Committee, Board of Directors & Annual General Meeting
- Silent Boat Rally

During 2009, several special projects were initiated or completed:

- Safe Boating Courses & PCOC Certification
- Shoreline Re-naturalization Project at Norway Point Park
- Eco-lawn Demonstration Projects at Norway Point Park & Dorset Park
- Monitoring implementation of the Development Permit By-Law in Lake of Bays
- Participation in Township of Lake of Bays Community-based Strategic Plan
- Review and input on District of Muskoka Economic Strategy
- Review and input on District of Muskoka Debt Reduction Initiatives

The Association's mandate is *to promote, maintain and enhance a clean, healthy and natural environment, a well serviced community and a safe, peaceful Lake of Bays*. Our community is growing and we are committed to the future of Lake of Bays. We would like to get to know our non-rate paying residents—your family members who may not pay the taxes or the annual Lake of Bays Association membership fee, but who spend time at the lake and are active in our community. Please include family members' e-mail addresses on your Membership Renewal Form so that we can send them LOBA NewsFlash! Providing our e-mail bulletins will keep your family members informed of news and events on the lake. For this service there is no additional cost. The additional family names will not be added to the Yearbook or our mailing list.

Your membership makes it possible for the Lake of Bays Association to continue and expand the work that we do. **We urge you to renew your membership for 2010. The renewal forms are enclosed in this mailing and the Association appreciates your prompt reply.** Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Betty McDonald  
Membership Chair

Sincerely,

Mary Neal  
President

## Yearbook Products and Services Directory Online...

When planning your next purchase for your Lake of Bays property or residence, please consider our yearbook advertisers first. The Products and Services directory in our yearbook is available year round on [www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca).

## Advertise with us in 2010...

If you are interested in advertising in the 2010 Lake of Bays Association Yearbook, please contact Advertising Sales Manager, Ginette St-Amant at [ginettest@rogers.com](mailto:ginettest@rogers.com), or call (705) 205-0028. The 2010 Advertising Rate Card is now posted on [www.loba.ca](http://www.loba.ca).

## Use of Association Membership List is Prohibited...

All members and advertisers are reminded that the Membership Directory in our yearbook is a copyrighted membership list that has been prepared for the benefit of the Lake of Bays Association members only. The use of this list to offer merchandise or services for sale is prohibited.



CURRENT CONNECTION is published periodically by The Lake of Bays Association for the information of its members. Suggestions, inquiries, manuscripts, photos etc. can be sent to:

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Produced on behalf of the Lake of Bays Association by Fine Impressions, Toronto, Ontario.

Printed on paper containing 50% recycled fibres, including 10% post-consumer waste. Recyclable where programs exist.

