



# DRIFT WORDS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BIG RIDEAU LAKE ASSOCIATION (BRLA)  
SERVING THE RIDEAU SINCE 1911 • POONAMALIE TO NARROWS LOCK  
– FALL/WINTER 2007 –

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**FROM THE BOARD ROOM:**  
**DOUG ARRAND, BRLA PRESIDENT**  
[PRESIDENT@BRLA.ON.CA](mailto:PRESIDENT@BRLA.ON.CA)

Mike Healey and I have followed a number of issues related to Rideau Lakes Township matters. Here is an update, based on responses from Rob Dunfield (our township liaison) and Anders Carson (the previous liaison).

### RIDEAU MAC RESORT

An agreement has been made to sell the Rideau Mac property to the resident campers. Concerns have been expressed about development on the site, including building, the sinking of wells, and the handling of waste water. Zoning of the site is unclear.



*photo: J. Trant*

An agreement has been made between Diane McNamee, owner's widow and Rideau Mac Resort Association (the camper's 98-member association) to purchase the property.

Well-drilling is not regulated by the township; this is a Ministry of the Environment (MOE) responsibility. We understand that the MOE has declared the campground as non-conforming use of trailers with respect to handling of gray water and sewage. The current system does not meet code requirements.

The Township has responded a number of times when neighbours have reported construction happening on the property. The building inspectors have issued stop work orders and have indicated a number of structures already built are non-conforming. In September, the Township issued an order of compliance with all appropriate building codes and zoning codes. The Rideau Mac Resort Association will have to apply for rezoning, as only a few acres of the property are appropriately zoned for commercial tourist activity. This will mean that their Association would likely have to engage the services

### IN THIS ISSUE

<i>From the Board Room</i> . . . . .	1	<i>WRAFT Update</i> . . . . .	8
<i>Our Members Write.</i> . . . . .	3, 9, 10	<i>Sailing Lessons.</i> . . . . .	9
<i>Environment Committee</i> . . . . .	4	<i>Butternut Tree Alert</i> . . . . .	10
<i>RFP: Environment Camp</i> . . . . .	5	<i>RFP: Membership Education</i> . . . . .	11
<i>RLEF</i> . . . . .	6	<i>BRLA's Corporate Sponsors.</i> . . . . .	12
<i>Septic Re-Inspection.</i> . . . . .	7		

### **FROM THE BOARD ROOM (CONT.) DOUG ARRAND, BRLA PRESIDENT PRESIDENT@BRLA.ON.CA**

of an engineering firm to develop a plan to support such an application.

In the meantime the Rideau Mac Resort Association has already agreed to freeze any building on lots that abut current neighbouring properties. If the Rideau Mac Resort Association applies for a rezoning application, apparently it will be an expensive venture. If its application is approved, the Township will be in the driver's seat as to controlling all future development on the property.

The Rideau Mac Resort Association has been very cooperative with the Township and willing to work for a resolution on all outstanding issues with the appropriate authority.

Apparently, Parks Canada has begun some questioning of the various docks that have been built on the property. This is outside of the Township's jurisdiction.

### **HANNA PROPERTY, PORTLAND WATERFRONT**

*It was announced that Rideau Lakes Township purchased the Hanna property in Portland: how much was paid and what are the plans for the property?*

The Hanna property was purchased by the Township for \$250,000 and it has cost the Township \$10,000 to remove the building. The waterfront structures will be removed this winter. It will have a few picnic tables and will be largely a passive park out of respect for its neighbours. A small bandstand may be constructed on the property but that is not certain.

The Township had to seek approval of the sale from the aboriginal council. Apparently there is a treaty claim on much of the waterfront property in Portland. The council approved the purchase on the basis that the land was to be used as a park.

### **GARBAGE**

*There is much concern about the new garbage/recycling plan. The requirement to purchase tags for all bags is a hidden tax, and the closure of the Portland dump to household waste drop-off is a significant inconvenience. There are also grave concerns about pick-up on private roads, as garbage left at the head of the private roads overnight is vulnerable to animal attacks the township*

*garbage men refuse to pick it up if the bags have been opened. The closest landowner to the head of the private road will be stuck with the mess. No provision has been made for weekend or rental use. People who are not always on the lake on garbage days can no longer drop off garbage and recycling at the landfill site. Provisions for water-access properties don't seem clear.*

Mayor Ron Holman has been a strong advocate for redesigned garbage collection. The driving force behind the new plan is that the Delta dump is about to be closed by MOE; instead of ten years left in the life of the Portland dump, there is probably no more than four years. Tags have been implemented to encourage people to recycle and to lessen the impact on the landfill site. The municipality has received a great many complaints about the new system.

All residents are supposed to get "uniform service" in the curbside pick-up plan. If you live on a public road, you can put your garbage out by your mailbox or at the end of your drive. Private road residents are supposed to get curbside pick-up in the summer and 'end of road' service in the winter. For water access properties, the garbage/recycling truck is supposed to be at the Portland dock and other "harbour/marina locations" on Sundays between 4 and 8 pm to pick up, starting sometime in 2008. If you choose to drop your waste at the landfill, the rate will be \$4 per bag (or two bag tags).

The mayor claims that there was no tax increase to carry out the new recycling plan, but this is because the citizen's will have to pay for their wet garbage tags at \$2 per bag. Recycling is free. The Township is going to try to encourage the private road owners to build garbage and recycling boxes at the head of the road where the trucks stop. This is supposed to stop the wild animals from ripping the bags apart and scattering garbage all over.

The township's fact sheet on garbage collection is on their web site at <http://www.twprideaulakes.on.ca/collection.html>

If you have concerns about garbage pick up – how it is working, or how it will work in the coming summer – please contact [president@brla.on.ca](mailto:president@brla.on.ca)

### **WILLIS WHARF**

*Willis Wharf was scheduled for repairs and upgrading. Where is the municipality on that project?*

The Township did put a new deck on the wharf this past spring. The cribbing and under structure is to be

## FROM THE BOARD ROOM (CONT.) DOUG ARRAND, BRLA PRESIDENT PRESIDENT@BRLA.ON.CA

rebuilt in 2008 once money has been provided in the 2008 budget.

### PUBLIC WHARF IN PORTLAND

The current floating docks are being pulled this winter and will be repaired as much as possible. It is possible that those in the worst condition may not be repaired as it would be too costly. The main wharf is in need of serious repair and the Township is exploring how that will be done. The Township is looking at all possible means of managing the dock in future including turning it over to private firms to manage and maintain it for the township. The township is especially concerned about the liability of not maintaining the structure; they realize it will be a costly fix but it needs to be done. They are even exploring partnering with other organizations to raise money for rebuilding in light of the new Heritage designation for the canal. Any ideas are welcomed.

### DECREPIT AND ABANDONED BOAT HOUSE NEAR TOWER ISLAND

There is an old boat house on the main shoreline east of Tower Island that has been falling into disrepair and collapsing these past many years. We've had a number of calls expressing concern about its safety.

The owners of the property had approached Parks Canada for permission to remove the structure. Parks made so many expensive and unrealistic demands that the trustees who look after the property walked away from the venture. This is out of the jurisdiction of the Township. BRLA will remain in touch with Parks Canada about this.



### COLONEL BY ISLAND BUILDING REMOVAL

In other news, Parks Canada has told us they are likely to remove the heritage building on Colonel By Island. Are there grounds for us to oppose the removal of this modern 'cottage', built by Danny Arnstein in 1949? Please let us know your thoughts.

Email [president@brla.on.ca](mailto:president@brla.on.ca).

#### Our Members Write ...

I am not sure if I am the first one to complain about this, but it is something that myself and surrounding neighbours on the Big Rideau find irritating. There is no doubt that the water is public and can be used by anyone in a boat or canoe. But, use of the waterway interfering with shore line privacy is not acceptable.

I don't think it is necessary for bass fishermen to be roaming around private docks with their cute little bass boats flicking lures under docks, swimming rafts and docked boats. Some days it is intrusive just trying to sit on your dock and enjoy the sun shine without this type of activity. I have seen my neighbour swim out to her raft and try to enjoy the sun and have to put up with this type of intrusion.

Grant it; the waterway is public and so is a sidewalk on a public street, but, I wouldn't offend a bass fisherman by standing on the sidewalk and stare in his windows for any length of time. Respect of peoples privacy is what it is all about and bass fishermen simply don't care.

Maybe this concern could be addressed by tournament organizers prior to the start of each tournament.

# DRIFTWORDS – FALL/WINTER 2007

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

PAT CHAMBERLAIN, ENVIRONMENT@BRLA.ON.CA

### WATER TESTING

Once again the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority added our historic testing sites to the work they were doing on the Big and Lower Rideau Lakes and I can report that all but two sites tested within normal range. Some tests in Portland Bay and the bay below the Beveridge Lock did indicate some e-coli: this has been the pattern in those locations and the Health Unit is aware of it.

### CORMORANTS

Following my request in the last DriftWords I received two reports of cormorant sightings. One was on a small island, the other on the reef offshore from Cow Island. In all likelihood they were migrating and fishing. Springtime sightings would be of more concern since any nesting activity would not be good news. Many areas along the shores of the Great Lakes have been gravely affected by cormorant colonies and it would be a shame if these birds began colonizing in our area. The Ministry of Natural Resources has an information sheet for private landowners with cormorant problems and the action that may be taken if trees and vegetation are at risk.

See [http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/f\\_w\\_files/cormorant2006.html](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/f_w_files/cormorant2006.html)



*Cormorants on the Shoals off Cow Island.  
Photo: J. Trant*

### COW ISLAND SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT

It was unfortunate that the shoreline work permit from Parks Canada (the governing agency for all shoreline work on the Rideau Canal system) was so long in coming. We were unable to do any work on the project this year. Permit in hand we are now awaiting estimates from two contractors for rip rap

work that we hope will be carried out this year at low water.

Tree and shrub planting projects along some shoreline areas to stop runoff are being planned for next year. If you are interested in helping to restore the natural landscape of Cow Island, please contact us. Email [environment@brla.on.ca](mailto:environment@brla.on.ca)



### ALGAE AND YOU

There has been much concern about algae this summer so let me quote from an algae report published in the Sept/Oct Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Newsletter. I think this will interest you and, perhaps, cause you to change some of your practices.

Algae are important. These tiny aquatic plants form the base of the food chain in lakes and rivers and convert nutrients to organic matter that helps oxygenate the water. But too much of a good thing can be bad, and during warm weather populations of algae can increase quickly to form large masses called “blooms”. Too much phosphorous in the water triggers these blooms.

Phosphorous is food for algae and more food means more plants. More plants mean more dead organic matter and decomposition which causes oxygen depletion thus degrading the entire aquatic ecosystem. It is a vicious cycle and phosphorous is the key.

**Reducing the amount of phosphorous entering the water is the most effective way to combat excessive algae growth.**

Shoreline residents should take measures to control overland runoff, plant a shoreline buffer, reduce ornamental lawns, stop using fertilizers and have their septic system inspected and pumped regularly.

It is really up to each of us to act responsibly. I hope that 2008 will be the year when we will all make even a few changes to ensure that “our” lake sees fewer of the algae blooms that caused us much concern this past summer.

## **ENVIRONMENT CAMP ON COW ISLAND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Big Rideau Lake Association (BRLA) seeks proposals from qualified educators to develop and deliver a week-long Environment Focused Camp program (EnviroCamp) on Cow Island during one week of July in 2008.

The EnviroCamp would take advantage of Cow Island's unique natural setting to highlight environmental issues faced by those living on or near Big Rideau Lake. These include natural habitat conservation, species conservation, reduction of personal impact (energy conservation, recycling), and respectful co-habitation (with all on the lake, making a multiplicity of uses).

We would like to see program participants develop:

- an appreciation for and respect of the unique natural environment of Big Rideau Lake
- an ability to identify native species of plants and animals
- an understanding of environmental issues specific to cottaging / living on the lake
- an awareness of the impact of their choices on the lake and its environment
- a sense of responsibility for the lake and its well-being, perhaps a propensity to become life-time stewards of the lake

We see this week-long program as a pilot for a longer-term initiative offering many levels of environmental education.

### **PROPOSAL CONTENT**

Interested Contractors are to develop a proposal for review by the BRLA Board, containing:

- a statement of qualifications and experience of the instructor(s)
- an outline of the materials to be developed
- strategies for meeting our learning objectives
- a timetable for delivery of materials
- a schedule for week-long EnviroCamp
- a statement of required budget (including stipend for curriculum development/delivery).

### **PROPOSAL DEADLINE**

Proposals, addressed to the Board of the Big Rideau Lake Association, are to be delivered by e-mail to [brla@brla.on.ca](mailto:brla@brla.on.ca) by Close of Business January 31, 2008

### **DECISION PROCESS**

Proposals will be reviewed by the BRLA Board, and the successful contractor notified by February 29, 2008. The Board reserves the right not to make an award.

### **DELIVERY DATE**

The program is to be delivered ONE of the following the weeks:

- July 7-11, 2008
- July 14-18, 2008
- July 21-25, 2008

Prior review of program materials with BRLA will be scheduled.

### **QUESTIONS**

Questions about this Request for Proposals can sent to BRLA by email to [brla@brla.on.ca](mailto:brla@brla.on.ca)

### **RIDEAU LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION (RLEF)**

Do you wonder if the water in the lakes is safe to swim in? to drink? To eat fish you catch there?

Do you think it's getting worse? Are you seeing more invasive species? Are you worried about algae and motor oil?

The RLEF is a non-profit foundation that raises money to support activities of the BRLA, URLA and other local non-profits with programs designed to protect and enhance the environment of the Rideau Lakes.

The RLEF Board, for 2007-8, which took office at the end of August, consists of:

David Bearman, Chair; Don Rasmussen, Vice-Chair; George Lamont, Treasurer; Henry Copestake, Secretary; and Pat Chamberlain, Ed Brigden, and Richard Raymond. We welcome your suggestions, ideas or concerns at [rlef@brla.on.ca](mailto:rlef@brla.on.ca)

In the coming year, RLEF will continue to focus on such major initiatives of its two constituent organizations as the refurbishment of Cow Island as a model environmental education site by BRLA and the control of commercial fisheries in the Rideau Lakes by URLA, as well as its on-going funding of such basic programs as water quality testing, fish and loon monitoring and shoal marking.

Your donations to the RLEF are tax deductible. They can be made on-line through the BRLA website at <http://brla.on.ca/rlef/> where your donation is handled by Canada Helps. Or you may send a cheque to RLEF, P.O. Box 93, Portland ON K0G 1V0.

Please give generously on-line at <http://www.brla.on.ca/rlef/>

### **SUPPORT RLEF WHEN YOU BUY OR SELL PROPERTY**

RLEF has established a special relationship with real estate agents that allows you to designate 25% of the commission that the agent would otherwise earn from the sale or purchase of property anywhere in Canada to the RLEF, with the tax receipt going to you! This can be of considerable financial value to both you and the Rideau Lakes.

We urge you to consider it and to let your friends and neighbours know. They don't even need to be lake dwellers!

Rideau Realty is a partner in this program. They are willing to assist in the sale or purchase of property

on the lake, or at your permanent home throughout Canada. To participate contact Ken Burns at 613-272-5000 or by e-mail at [rideau@rideau.net](mailto:rideau@rideau.net). For further information about opportunities to make a donation and save money this way, see <http://www.charitylinkrealty.ca>, or contact David Bearman, chairman of the 2007/8 RLEF fundraising drive <[dbear@archimuse.com](mailto:dbear@archimuse.com)>.

Simply tell the RLEF or your lake association, that you want to benefit from this program and we will help you select an agent of your choice from thousands participating nationwide.

### RIDEAU LAKES TOWNSHIP SEWAGE RE-INSPECTION PROGRAM

#### A REPORT FROM THE MISSISSIPPI-RIDEAU SEPTIC OFFICE: JAMIE SAUNDERS & ERIC KOHLSMITH

The Rideau Lakes sewage system re-inspection program is wrapping up for the season.

Participants in the program can expect to receive a copy of their re-inspection report form by Christmas 2007. Included with this report form will be an executive summary of the program results for 2007. The full Rideau Lakes septic re-inspection report will be available through Rideau Lakes township.

In general the results for Rideau Lakes township were consistent with what is being found across the rest of the province. Of 95 systems inspected to date, approximately ½ require remedial attention of some kind. The most common required remedial action is a tank pumping with slightly higher than 20% of inspected systems needing to be pumped. Other fairly common maintenance problems include broken baffles, heavy vegetative cover around and on the leaching field and erosion of the concrete around the outlet pipe of the tank. These concerns are the responsibility of the homeowner to address and a failure to do so as soon as identified can lead to a more serious and costly septic system repair and replacement in

the future. Maintenance issues are not restricted to older systems. We are finding the same issues with newer tanks and leaching fields that we are in older systems.

There were no negative interactions with cottagers or landowners at any time during the program. The main complaint we received is that a program of this nature should not be voluntary because the worst offenders will never be identified. The Mississippi-Rideau Septic System office is working on improvements to the property selection process to attempt to mitigate some of the weaknesses of a voluntary system. A second complaint we have received is that cottagers and homeowners were not aware of when we were going to be on-site. Appointments were made this year with people who requested on their questionnaire that we contact them before being on the property. This will be addressed next year by a more structured scheduling system for re-inspections. This may limit the flexibility of scheduling appointments but will increase the efficiency of program operation and help bring our costs down. There has also been discussion of a requirement for the septic tanks to be opened prior to our visits on-site. This is common in the rest of the province and would lessen time spent putting landscaping back together (not our specialty).

The re-inspection program in Rideau Lakes went very smoothly as a pilot program and it is my hope that it is continued in 2008. I'd like to personally thank all involved for their willingness to participate in this program. It shows a concern for water quality and a commitment to shoreline stewardship.

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### BRLA PENNANTS ARE HERE!

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Show your support for the BRLA by flying a pennant from your boat, car, dock, or ... wherever!

To get yours, send a stamped self-addressed envelope and \$10.00 to:

BRLA Pennants  
PO Box 93  
Portland, Ontario  
K0G 1V0

Or watch for your 2008 Membership Renewal.



## **WRAFT (WATERFRONT RATEPAYERS AFTER FAIR TAXATION) REPORT TO MEMBERS: NOVEMBER 2007**

**FROM CLIFF HATCH, CHAIRMAN WRAFT AND  
BOB TOPP, CHAIRMAN CAPTR (COALITION  
AFTER PROPERTY TAX REFORM)**

### **ELECTION RESULTS**

The Ontario election outcome, from the point of view of property tax reform, was disappointing to say the least. Even a minority government would have given us a good shot at getting an assessment cap in place. We had hoped that the range of positions taken by the three major parties would have made property tax reform an important election issue. Unfortunately religious school funding pushed our issue and many others right off the election agenda. With a Liberal majority and their belief that they have dealt with reform by the combination of the four year phase-in and seniors grant, it is going to be a challenge to make real progress in the year ahead.

### **CONTINUING THE FIGHT**

Despite the election outcome we will continue our efforts and believe that the upcoming assessment, covering the three year period 2005 through 2007 will represent yet another opportunity to demonstrate the critical need for reform. Property owners will receive their 2008 assessments beginning next September. Given the strong real estate markets throughout many parts of Ontario over the past three years there is no question that there will again be a huge disparity in assessment hikes which will result in major tax increases for hundreds of thousands of property owners and massive shifts in tax load from one area to another. So we have our work cut out for us.

### **FUNDRAISING**

One piece of good news is that we have been more than successful in this summer's fundraising effort to raise \$100,000 from the WRAFT membership and our CAPTR partners. We have substantially exceeded that goal and contributions are still coming in. This means that we will be able to continue our efforts to achieve meaningful reform to the property tax system over the coming year. It also is our real show of support from our membership. We are attempting to thank each of our donors by letter but if we missed you please accept our thanks.

### **PROGRESS TO DATE**

What have we achieved to date?

- Property tax reform came to the forefront with the issuance of the Ombudsman's report in the spring of 2006. We had input into that report and helped to raise concerns about the impact of assessment increases which led a few months later to an announcement by the government of a two year freeze on assessments. Extensive discussions continued between Finance staff and WRAFT/CAPTR representatives. In the government's 2007 budget, legislation was introduced to return to a four year assessment cycle with a four year phase-in of resulting assessment increases. We calculate that the combination of the freeze and the four year phase-in will produce for waterfront property owners on average a one-time saving of 25% of their tax bill. The Seniors Grant announced by the Liberals during the election campaign is a tacit acknowledgement of the hardship caused by the current tax regime.

- Both opposition parties have been calling for significant reform, the PC party an annual 5% cap on assessment increases and the NDP a freeze on assessments until sale of the property. We have had a considerable input into establishment of these policies.

- We have established our credibility with all major political parties as well as with the senior journalists following activities at Queens Park.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

What are our plans for the next year? It is our intention to continue to lobby for a cap on assessment increases. In our view the four year assessment and phase-in cycle does not deal with the volatility which remains the major flaw in Ontario's assessment-based property tax regime. We see four periods over the next year and a half when there will be opportunities to raise the issue with the media, the government and the public:

- At present there is some media interest in property tax reform as one of the outstanding issues to be dealt with by the Liberal government

- A report on municipal tax is due early in 2008 and will again highlight problems with the property tax regime and in particular the downloading of social service costs onto the property tax bill.



## WRAFT REPORT (CONT.)

- Issuance of assessment notices next fall will raise serious concern once again about the current system's volatility and the general concern with the assessment process
- Receipt of tax bills in 2009 will drive the message home again

Please watch our websites [www.wraft.com](http://www.wraft.com) and [www.captr.org](http://www.captr.org) to keep up to date on our efforts and again thanks for your support.

*[BRLA is a Member of WRAFT, and we support its activities, as we know taxation is a significant issue for our members.]*

### Our Members Write ...

We boat on the Big Rideau and quite often anchor in Lost Lake. It is my understanding that Lost Lake is a fish sanctuary and fishing is not allowed. Quite often we have seen boaters fishing on Lost Lake. In fairness to these fishermen, there are no signs stating fishing is not allowed.

Perhaps signs should be posted at Lost Lake:

"No Fishing Allowed".

## WE'RE GOING TO START THE SUMMER SAILING!



It's hard to believe, that we're planning for next summer, but there has been incredible demand for the Ontario Sailing Association's BOOM program. We were lucky to secure a week -- but it's going to be earlier than usual.

BRLA will be offering 5 days of instruction, with Ontario Sailing Association supplied boats (Laser Picos):

**June 30- July 4, 2008.**

We will need to increase fees slightly to cover the cost of the extra day of instruction, to \$275 if we can recruit the maximum of 16 participants.

As with last year, registration is limited. We'll be accepting registrations on a first-come first-served basis. We sold out last year!

To be sure of your spot, download the registration forms from the BRLA Web site – <http://www.brla.on.ca> – and return them right away.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Do you have a bit of free time to help-out over the summer months? Are you interested in improving life on the lake, benefiting the environment, or building community amongst our kids?

If so, the

**BRLA NEEDS YOU!**

Volunteer to help out a bit. Contact  
Doug Arrand  
BRLA President  
president@brla.on.ca

## Our Members Write ...

For the last two years we have noticed increasing number of vacationers (they could be owners or renters – we do not now) drive their marine recreation vehicles such as seadoos (just to mention one) at high speeds far exceeding the 10K / hr allowed in the bays. Our Horseshoe Bay is blessed with a variety of wild life and most of all with a family of loons. We are concerned that loons will abandon our Bay due to the disturbance caused by the high-speed lovers.

We would like to recommend that our association – or whoever is responsible for the preservation of wildlife and /or speed limits on the Big Rideau – post easily visible signs for those who may not be aware of the rules of using recreation vehicles on our waters.

It may also benefit us all if we post signs that tell people the penalties are what are the fines if they choose to ignore the speed limit signs.

## HEALTHY BUTTERNUTS – THE SEARCH CONTINUES

Butternut trees are disappearing throughout eastern North America due to a non-native fungus disease called butternut canker.

Butternut is listed as federally and provincially endangered but it is not protected on private land. Education and stewardship approaches are the key to protecting this species on private land in Ontario. There is a very high canker infection rate in eastern Ontario. We encourage landowners to maintain their healthy butternut trees.

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) is pleased to announce a generous contribution of funding from the Government of Canada Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk to support the ongoing Regional Butternut Recovery Program in eastern Ontario. With landowner permission and assistance, we have visited hundreds of private and public sites and have over 380 healthy trees in our database as potential seed sources for future seed collection. Twenty-five of those trees show signs of resistance to the canker disease. Leaf samples have

been sent to the Ontario Forest Research Institute for DNA testing to determine whether they are hybrids or pure butternut species.

Finding trees that exhibit signs of resistance to the canker is the main focus of our program. We are asking for help from landowners and interested persons to inform us of locations of apparently-healthy butternut trees so we can assess these trees for possible resistance. We're concerned that we will lose some of these trees to human activity or natural causes before we get a chance to collect seed or scions from them. The importance of locating these promising individuals cannot be overstated as these trees will be used to propagate seedlings to replace the many butternut trees that have been and continue to be lost to this very virulent disease.

If you have butternut trees on your property that you would allow us to assess for seed source potential and disease resistance or you know the location of healthy butternut trees, please contact the RVCA Landowner Resource Centre at 613 692 3571 ext 1128 or 1132 or contact Rose Fleguel at [rose.fleguel@rideauvalley.on.ca](mailto:rose.fleguel@rideauvalley.on.ca).

## **BRLA MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION INITIATIVE: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.**

The Big Rideau Lake Association (BRLA) seeks proposals from independent contractors to develop a program of education, information distribution and membership recruitment for the 2008 season.

BRLA's goals are to:

- contact all lakeside property owners
- provide them information about our association
- highlight the services we provide
- raise awareness about environmental and developmental issues we face on the lake
- recruit support and involvement

Visits are to be conducted in Summer 2008.

Interested Contractors are to develop a program proposal for review by the BRLA Board that must include:

- a description of the program to be developed
- a plan and schedule for developing and delivering the program
- a statement of qualifications of the proposed consultant
- a detailed budget of costs and fees  
(a bonus structure tied to new membership recruitment is a possibility.)
- revenue projections, including a schedule of fees to be included in the program.

Our goal is for this contact to be funded by revenues from advertising generated by the contractor (either in the form of a 'drop bag' delivered to lakeside residents, or in from corporate sponsorship of our education program.)

### **DEADLINE**

Proposals, addressed to the Board of the Big Rideau Lake Association, are to be delivered by e-mail to [brla@brla.on.ca](mailto:brla@brla.on.ca) by Close of Business January 31, 2008.

### **DECISION PROCESS**

Proposals will be reviewed by the BRLA Board, and the successful contractor notified by February 29, 2008.

### **QUESTIONS**

Queries can be directed to BRLA Membership: [brla@brla.on.ca](mailto:brla@brla.on.ca)

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## **HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED**

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As BRLA begins preparations for our 100th anniversary in 2011, we're gathering digital copies of historic photographs of the lake and its landmarks.

If you have photographs that you would like to share with us please email [brla@brla.on.ca](mailto:brla@brla.on.ca)



# BRLA CORPORATE MEMBERS 2007

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