

**Mattatall Lake Stewardship Association**  
**AGM June 11, 2023**  
**1.30 pm, Wentworth Rec Center**

**Welcome** - Donna Spracklin,(President)

**1.Minutes of the previous AGM June 5, 2022 - Motion to approve the minutes as circulated Moved Adele McSorley, 2nd Helen MacPhee, Carried.**

**2.Synopsis of 2022 and Plans for 2023:**Donna- 2022 - It was a peaceful year. (well ok until Fiona) The Lake water was clear. I have taken over the water testing and the water was sampled in May and July, the fall sample was unable to be done due to lab supply issues. Both water samples had a low, or good Total Phosphorus level ( .007 mg/Liter) This has been consistent with the water quality over the last few years.

Our membership nos are up to a good level of 63! , this is directly related to the road associations collecting fees, and we appreciate this effort greatly.. This gives the association some operating wiggle room and will allow the buildup of the bridge maintenance fund. But - the areas of the lake without a road association are relatively lacking in members. Please if you have not paid your dues we would really appreciate it if you will make it a priority - it is so much better if we are all good stewards and supporters of the lake. A big thanks out to Tammy Chitty - she has taken over updating the website and delivered 2 Newsletters with substance and style. A Facebook page was started! Oh so peaceful (until Fiona.)

But, I would like to remind everyone of why this association started - Sept 2014 when the lake had its first of 3 bluegreen algal blooms. It was a most frightening and disgusting sight. The lake water turned pea soup green. I am saying this as a reminder so we don't get complacent about lake water clarity and health. Nova Scotia's [Department of Environment and Climate Change](#) is now running for the 2nd year an awareness campaign on the presence of blue-green algae in waterways. As Nova Scotia becomes warmer, the likelihood of an Algal bloom rises.

The number of reports of algal blooms per year in Nova Scotia has jumped from under 5, 10 years ago, to nearly 20 in 2019, and last year over 60. We must not get complacent. So our plan for 2023 is the same as the last few years: Monitor the lake water for T phosphorus and clarity, and encourage all lakereaders to be good lake stewards. I will only mention here the top few ways:1. Maintain your septic. 2. Leave a natural buffer along the lake shore, try for 20 feet, 100 is better. This is a natural filter for runoff. AND 3. Slow down in shallow areas, turbulence stirs up the bottom and the phosphorus stored in the muck gets released back to the water.. There are many more helpful tips - see the website.

Last year we heard that the Nature Conservancy of Canada was to take over what we call "Hemlock Hill". What a happy relief. We are pleased to have Doug van Hemessen here to tell us what the plans are for this property. I have told Doug that the Mattatall Lake Stewardship Association will do all we can to support the Nature Conservancy's efforts there. So let's move on to get through the rest of the meeting, and on to Doug.

**3. Loons, Buoys and Aquatic Plants Update:** Gary J. Loons are back and hope is ongoing that this year nesting will occur. Gary urges all boaters to slow down, the waves from a boat wake can swamp a loon nest or drown a baby loon. The nests are built very close to the water level. There was an increase in aquatic plants last year but no success in identification. The reason for this is not clear as the nutrient level of the lake water has not increased. It is likely related to warming water temperatures.

**4. Communication** - Facebook. Michele- The facebook page "Friends of Mattatall Lake" is up and so far has 39 followers. We hope it will be used for dissemination of information to lakemakers that is quick and open to all. All lakemakers and friends are encouraged to sign on.

**5. Treasurer's Report Year End Financials:** Shirley Sorsdahl- Treasurer. **Motion - to Accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Moved Jill Smit, 2nd Adele McSorley, Carried.**

LAKE MATTATALL STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S END OF YEAR REPORT  
as of 31 March  
2023

Presented at LMSA Annual Meeting 11 June 2023

Bank Balance as of 1 April 2022 \$ 2911.70

**CREDITS:**

Membership Fees \$ 1625.00

Colchester County Insurance rebate \$ 410.00

**TOTAL CREDITS \$ 2035.00**

**DEBITS:**

Bank Fees \$ 53.40

Website Maintenance \$ 183.88

NALMS yearly Dues \$ 214.36

Registry of Joint Stocks \$ 31.15

Insurance \$ 820.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 1302.79**

Revenue less Expenses \$ 732.21

**BANK BALANCE as 1 April 2023: \$ 3643.91**

Shirley Sorsdahl,  
LMSA Treasurer

**7. Budget** - Shirley Sorsdahl, Treasurer: see attached

**LAKE MATTATALL STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATION Draft Budget 2023-2024**

<b>2023-2024</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>	<b><u>2022-2203</u></b>	<b>2022-2023</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b># Residents Contributing *</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Beginning Bank Balance (1 April 2023)</b>	<b>\$3643.91</b>	<b>\$2911.70 (1 Apr 2022)</b>	<b>\$2672.71</b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Membership Fees	\$1500.00	\$1625.00	\$875.00
Contributions by Residents			
Other - Insurance Rebate			
Department of Environment		0	\$100.00
Colchester County Insurance Rebate	\$410.00	\$410.00	\$410.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1910.00</b>	<b>\$2035.00</b>	<b>\$1,385.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Testing	\$100.00	0	\$100.00
Quatro Device			
Insurance	\$820.00	\$820.00	\$820.00
Accounting/Audit			
Other:			
Website Development, Renewal Fee	\$200.00	\$183.88	\$138.00
Fireman's Assoc - Rec Hall Rental			
Registry of Joint Stocks	\$32.00	\$31.15	\$32.00
Speakers for AGM			
Association Fees:			

North American Lake Mgmt Society		\$214.36	
DOE application fee			
Administration and bank charges	\$55.00	\$53.40	\$55.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$120620</b>	<b>\$1302.79</b>	<b>\$1,145.00</b>
<b>Revenue less Expenses</b>	<b>\$703.80</b>	<b>\$732.21</b>	
			<b>\$240.00</b>
<b>Ending Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$4345.71</b>	<b>\$3643.91</b>	

\*\$3000.00 Earmarked for bridge maintenance in future years

**Motion: That the Budget be approved as presented: Moved Roger Sorsdahl, 2nd Helen MacPhee**

Discussion: The Budget includes a line item for a dedicated bridge maintenance fund. We have set the amount at \$3000, up from a base of \$2070 in 2020 as an earmarked amount. This amount to be decided annually. The question was asked if these dollars then are to be unavailable for anything else. If a greater need arises at some time, these \$ could be used for that, with the understanding that bridge maintenance \$ will be raised from the full lake community as needed. As the amount earmarked is decided annually, this could be dealt with on an as needed basis. The budget contains a line items for Registration with the NS joint stocks as an association and Directors Liability Insurance, both of which have been paid for this year. The board has decided that with the increase in revenue with the road associations collecting membership fees that maintaining the registration and existing insurance is doable and preferable for the present time. The extra board insurance coverage discussed last year to cover any eventuality with the outflow bridge we feel is unnecessary. Recommendations: extra signage eg speed 10 km/hr, use at own risk : remind Aqua Vista residents of the weight restriction on the bridge .

**Vote on Budget: Carried.**

**8. Election of Board members:**

Retiring: Jake Jacobson, Dave Morton.

Reoffering: Donna Spracklin, Shirley Sorsdahl, Gary Jollimore, Michele Gillis

Nominations from the floor - Dixon Nubar (accepted in person) Charlene Tattrie - Not present, she will be asked after the vote.

**Motion to Accept the slate of directors: Moved Roger S, 2nd Helen MacPhee, Carried.**

A big thank you to the retiring, the returning and the recruited!

**Motion to Adjourn 1.30**

**Doug van Hemessen from the Nature Conservancy of Canada** gave us a presentation about the NCC and how they intend to manage the 35 HA (87acre) property *Mattatall Lake Conservation Lands* ( known locally as Hemlock Hill).

The NCC is a nonprofit land trust conservation organization that stewards 37,000 acres in NS. The current challenges to stewardship with Hemlock Hill are Fiona storm damage, road access (currently being cleared of Fiona blowdowns), the past partial harvest ( appears to be reasonable) and the expected arrival of the HWA. see [nshemlocks.ca](http://nshemlocks.ca). They will be building a fund to be available for use in treatment/mitigation efforts when the insect arrives. Signage is to be erected to denote the property. The area will be monitored several times yearly but they will be needing local volunteers to be local stewards and eyes and ears on the ground. Typical problems in other areas have been: wood theft, boundary lines, garbage littering, ATV use off road, and Invasive species. They use alot of volunteer help. More will be needed when the HWA appears as that will require alot of \$ and labour. Help should be available as well to locals who wish to treat hemlocks on their own property. Note: the public is allowed access to their properties and ATV's welcome on roads, as long as they do not do damage, respectful behaviour is expected. Allowed activities are hiking, berry picking, traditional trapping, and generally hunting unless property is posted no hunting. Camping is not allowed. This is the same for all Nature Conservancy property in Canada.

We are most grateful for the NCC for assuming the stewardship of this property. (Thanks again to Alan Bonnyman).

Mr van Hemessen was thanked for taking the time to talk to our stewardship association and I assured him our group plans to be helpful stewards and volunteers.

Ways to help: 1. - become a supporter of the Nature Conservancy of Canada financially

2. -Volunteer as a property steward or conservation steward ( eyes and ears on the ground)

3. - spread awareness - the Hemlock Wooly Adelgid defense will need support of all kinds.

