

FOCA Elert - Labour Day Long Weekend 2018



Policy Updates & Government Affairs

Vote for your Future

News Item: "A summer survey by Nanos Research suggests that one-third of Ontarians aren't aware of the looming municipal election." (source: [London Free Press](#))

FOCA believes in the importance of civic engagement, but we want YOUR opinion! Please take 2 minutes to add your voice to our survey about voting in the 2018 municipal elections:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FOCA_VoteMuni_2018

[click here to take the survey](#)

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In preparation for the October 22nd Municipal elections, make sure you are registered to vote in each municipality where you or your spouse owns property. Visit [VoterLookup](#) to check online, now.

What is your association doing to get-out-the-vote? Get tips and ideas from FOCA, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/vote-for-your-future-2018-municipal-elections/>

Did you know: property owners can vote in their cottage Municipality, too!

**OTE
FOR YOUR FUTURE**

Ontario Municipal Elections: Monday, October 22, 2018
FOCA & your lake Association remind you:
Your Vote Matters!

FOCA's Gold-level Sponsors



Sponsors support our work. Please, support them!

FOCA Fall Seminar 2018 - Register NOW!

Cottage Country: What's Coming & How to Prepare for it Saturday, October 27, 2018 in Toronto

Register to join us at our next member event, where we will bring together more than 100 of your lake association peers to discuss association best practices, cottage-country natural hazards & risk reduction, and waterfront resiliency.

Scheduled sessions include:

- **Microbursts, alerts and cottage preparedness.** Guest speaker: **Dan Sandink**, Director of Research of the Canadian Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction
- plus, "On the Ground/Water" program updates from partners:
 - **Climate adaptation: creating resilient shorelines** - Kawartha Conservation will discuss erosion prevention, and how to take action at your own property to protect water quality & biodiversity!

FOCA 2018 Fall Seminar for Lake Associations

COTTAGE COUNTRY:
□ What's Coming
□ How to Prepare for it

Saturday, October 27th 2018
9:00am-2:00pm

Featuring:
"Microbursts, alerts & cottage preparedness"
Speaker: Dan Sandink
Canadian Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction

Plus:
* Septic Inspections
* Water Sampling News
* Resilient Shorelines
* Discussion Session - share experiences & learn from your peers

MEMBERS - REGISTER NOW:
foca.on.ca/fall-seminar-2018
\$60 includes lunch
(Non-Members pay \$75)

This event is sponsored by:
Travelers Canada
underwriters of CottageFirst group insurance

- **Lake Partner Program** - Why sample? Trends report. What's next?
- **Septic Inspection Programs** - a update on FOCA's 2018 research project with partners, investigating best management practices.

[Click here to visit the Event webpage](#), where you will find the registration link!

*Special thanks to our Event Sponsor: **Travelers Canada**, underwriters of the CottageFirst group insurance program, available exclusively to FOCA members.*

Program Update

Aquatic Invasive Species

The pictures and reports are starting to roll in from our 30+ on-the-ground Association initiatives in the **2018 FOCA Aquatic Invasive Species program**. Congratulations to all our member groups, and your hard-working volunteers!



identifying Fanwort at Lake Kasshabog

FOCA is very concerned about the potential impacts of introduced species and the effect they will have on our quality of life in Ontario. These invaders have proven to alter the environment, damage our economy, and negatively impact our communities.

For more about FOCA's AIS Program, visit: <https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/>



Frogbit removal at Otter Lake (Township of Rideau Lakes)

FOCA's Silver-level Sponsors



Waterfront Living

Short Term Rentals

On August 14, the **City of Kawartha Lakes** Council made a decision on short term residential rentals, choosing to continue to monitor and dialogue with residents, and to implement several amendments to City by-laws to enable Municipal Law Enforcement to better respond and track issues arising at such properties.



image: [KawarthaLakes.ca](https://www.kawarthalakes.ca) Facebook post

Other municipalities, including **Highlands East** (Haliburton) are considering a more hands-on approach to regulating rentals, through licensing. Get more information, and links to these and other news stories, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/responsible-cottage-rental/>

FOCA Cottage Succession Seminar Series

One of many FOCA member benefits is free attendance at our Cottage Succession Seminars with estate lawyer Peter Lillico. Peter has a variety of talks available for lake associations who want to help their members plan how to keep the family cottage for the next generation.



Want to host one of these in-person events with FOCA and Peter Lillico in your region next summer? Now is the time to open up the conversation with us! Find out more, here: <https://foca.on.ca/cottage-succession/>.

Recent Events

FOCA on the Road at Member Events

July 27, 2018 - FOCA was in attendance to help our member group, the **Muskoka Lakes Association**, celebrate their 125th anniversary. To celebrate, MLA has released a new video about their history and highlights. [Click here to link to the video.](#)

Congratulations, MLA! Keep up the good work, and keep building on that strong legacy.



L to R: FOCA's Terry Rees, incoming MLA President Lawton Osler and outgoing MLA President Bob Ensor

August 4, 2018 - FOCA participated in the AGM of our member Association, the [Paint Lake Ratepayers Association](#), near Dorset.



August 16-18, 2018 - FOCA attended the second annual **Jack's Lake Association Film Festival**. Congratulations to the organizers on another round of spectacular films, and a great turn-out! Proceeds support the JLA and the Apsley Food Bank.



Upcoming Events

Public Meeting on Proposed Mine - Hastings County

Sunday, September 9, 2018 at 4pm, Limerick Community Centre - public meeting and information session for anyone interested in a **proposed Nickel-Cobalt-Copper mine** currently in exploration phase in the area south of Hwy 620, west of Old Hastings Road near Ormsby, stretching east to Hwy 62 (Limerick Township, 25km south of Bancroft). The meeting is being hosted by Pancontinental Resources Corporation (Pancon). For background, see this recent article:



<https://www.intelligencer.ca/news/local-news/battle-brewing-over-mine-south-of-bancroft>

Binational Lake Association Network Event

September 11, 2018, Fort Frances - join fellow lake association representatives to network and broaden your knowledge of issues in the **Rainy River / Lake of the Woods** basin, and to discuss association priorities. This event is brought to you by the [Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation](#), and is an opportunity to



network, tell your story, and learn new strategies and exciting project ideas. For more details & to register, contact ksaunders@lowwsf.com.

Ontario East Municipal Conference

September 12-14, 2018, Cornwall - FOCA will be presenting at the **Ontario East Municipal Conference** about our research project, "*Waterfront property owners as economic development contributors in rural Ontario.*" Find out more, here: <https://foca.on.ca/wpo2018>



Calling all Next-Generation Lake Stewards!

Sunday, September 30th, 2018 at Black Creek Pioneer Village - FOCA is proud to be an event sponsor for our partners from [Emerging Leaders for Biodiversity](#) (ELB), who are holding an **Aquatic and Species at Risk Skill Building Symposium**. Sessions include basic benthic macro-invertebrate and fish identification skills, and updates



from aquatic ecology sector industry leaders. [Click here for registration details.](#)

Lake Environments

Boating Safety

Recently released data from the **US Coast Guard** says a lot about why things go badly out on the water, and should help us to avoid trouble in the future. The top category (with 2600 boating accidents, including 285 deaths) was related to vessel operations, but weather and other environmental causes made the list, too.

See the statistics, and get tips on how to make the remainder of the boating season a safe one, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/safe-boating/>



image: Chris Lewin

Tis the season for Blue Green algae

Nearing the end of a long, hot and dry summer, conditions are favourable for the growth of algae and in some cases, the formation of blooms of toxic blue green algae. Numerous notifications have been received for blooms across cottage country. Please be aware and if you suspect a bloom, you can report it 24/7 to the **Spills Action Centre** Toll-free: 1-866-MOETIPS (1-866-663-8477)

Learn more about blue green algae from [this fact sheet](#) (PDF, 6 pages) and in this short video from FOCA and Peterborough Public Health:



About Algae Blooms (2016)

FOCA's Bronze-level Sponsors

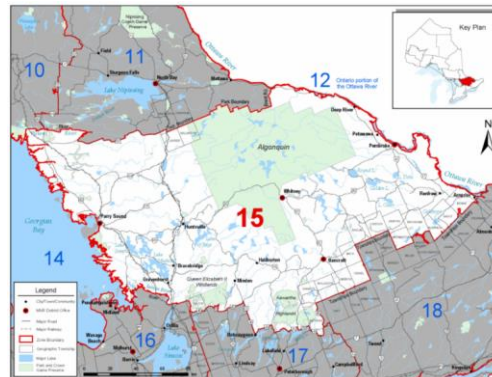


Call for a Volunteer

Fisheries Management Zone 15 - Advisory Council Member

FOCA has been very fortunate to have had member Steve Kerr represent us on the FMZ 15 advisory council recently. **Thank you, Steve!**

Now, we are looking for a new **volunteer** to represent waterfront property owners at these meetings. The role of the [FMZ 15 advisory council](#) is to contribute to the development of fisheries objectives and associated management actions, through the development of a Fisheries Management Plan. Such a plan typically takes 3 to 5 years to complete, with approximately one meeting a month (except for a hiatus in July & August!) The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2018 in Bancroft.



If you are interested in fisheries management issues, please [contact us](#) at the FOCA office to discuss volunteer possibilities, and to be put in touch with the Council.

Association Tools

Member Benefits

Do your members know about all their FOCA benefits? In addition to FOCA's ongoing work on behalf of waterfront Ontario, members have access to discounts, special offers and more! Review the details online:

<https://foca.on.ca/member-services/benefits/>
or download a [print version](#). (PDF, 2 pages)

NOTE: to print a copy that includes the **MEMBER ACCESS CODES** for these offers, you will need to use your FOCA web Login on the Benefits webpage.

Don't have your Member Login? [Contact the office for assistance](#).

FOCA Member Services & Benefits
Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

Tools for your Association:

- Membership Growth & Retention**—use resources from FOCA and your peers. [https://foca.on.ca/colleague](#) (membership)
- Association Liability Insurance**—get a FOCA member discount with coverage options for lake associations, road groups & land trusts. Inquire at Directors and Officers coverage. Call 416-254-0981 or visit www.casemembers.com/foct.
- Availability Communications**—members get a special offer: teleconferences for only 2.5¢ a minute per participant. See email newsletter FOCA where you can't 1-877-589-2363 or email colleague@foca.on.ca.
- Members only Online Resources**—access them on the FOCA website with your member Login.

FOCA Program Highlights:

- Lake Partner Program—FOCA's Lake Stewardship**—be a part of the program under which cottagers help protect the general public's enjoyment of the lake system.
- Invasive Species Monitoring**—document your cottage's shoreline help prevent the spread of invasive species in cottage country.
- Risk Management Program**—join or decline. FOCA's liability insurance program has offered lake associations excellent coverage and a member discount.
- Cottage Succession Seminars**—together with estate lawyer Peter Lillis, FOCA helps families plan how to keep the family cottage.

More info: <https://foca.on.ca/resources>

Offers & Discounts for you:

- CottageFirst**—the first group insurance program dedicated to cottagers! Get access to great coverage on your cottage, home, car & more. Available to FOCA members via Code Associates Insurance Brokers. Get your quote: 1-844-636-1187 www.cottagefirst.com
- Colman's Canada**—80% discount when you shop online and use the Access Code* at cheekit.com
- Action First Auto**—FOCA members get 10% off Philips Home Defibrillators
- DockinBox**—FOCA members can access a 10% FOCA discount on a dock home system OR a boat lift. www.dockinboxes.com
- Invicta**—use the FOCA Access Code* for a 7.5% discount on glass car systems for your home or cottage. <http://invicta.com>
- Canadian Choice Mower**—use the FOCA Access Code* for a FREE 1 year Individual Membership to the Mower! \$60 value. Phone: 1-888-342-0981, email: info@canadianchoice.ca
- Cottage Life Magazine**—use the FOCA Access Code* for a special discount on new subscriptions! \$9.95 (reg. \$12.95) (total \$24 for 6 issues, incl. free digital access) *Cottage discounts only to current Members

Your Roles:

1. **Get on the FOCA E-List**—to receive news, updates on the cottage industry season. Sign up at www.foca.on.ca
2. **Be Social**—connect with FOCA on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. www.foca.on.ca
3. **Attend Meetings & Events**—connect with your fellow cottagers and get inspired for cottage life.

Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
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Association News

Sharing Good Information

We love to read our members' Newsletters and e-news! **Please add FOCA to your distribution list** so we can keep up-to-date about all the great work being done by our member Associations across Ontario. Our mail and email contact information is at the end of this Elert.

As reported in the recent e-news of our member group, the [Lake Kasshabog Residents' Association](#) (LKRA):

Be Aware - Cottage Crime

With fewer people on the lake in the fall, cottage crimes can increase. Make sure you put valuables out of sight and lock up anything you don't want to lose while you away from the lake.

And we're not saying it's closing time - not by a long-shot - but just for future reference, here's some [cottage closing tips](#) from FOCA (PDF, 2 pages). If you are the victim of a theft you can use the OPP's online police reporting tool: <http://www.opp.ca/reporting/>.

It's a good time to make sure your insurance is up to date and sufficient, too. The Insurance Bureau of Canada has some useful info on [cottage insurance](#) (PDF, 2 pages). As a member of [our Association], you have access to [CottageFirst](#) discounts available only to FOCA Members. This pricing applies to your cottage, home, boats, cars - all your personal insurance needs.

These regular email updates from LKRA are read by over 60% of their 500 lake residents! Thanks for sharing so much great FOCA info, LKRA. We encourage everyone to share our [resources](#); we merely ask that you credit FOCA as the source, and include our web address, where practical.

FOCA is the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations,
the voice of the waterfront for over 50 years

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