

## THE GREEN WATCH

### The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Newsletter

Representing property owners and residents in the Watch and Green Lake Area

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## AUTUMN 2009

### August 2009 AGM Summary and Message from the President

*From Bruce Gilmour, Chair*

The A.G.M. was held on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 at the Sonny Johnson Fire Hall #2 on North Green Lake Road. I would like to extend my appreciation to Chief Roy Allan for providing the hall for the meeting and to Alan Boyd for his assistance in coordinating the meeting set up and hospitality. The meeting was an appropriate opportunity to acknowledge the service and contributions to the work of GLARA by Robin Rusaw and Denis Read. Both Robin and Denis provided GLARA with important perspectives on history and knowledge in the shaping of the area. Best wishes in both retiring board member's new aspirations & we will miss you.

The **Financial Report** was presented and approved as presented. GLARA's financials are strong and healthy. The budget assists with fiscal affairs such as association memberships, the newsletter production, public information signs, lake marker buoys, and incidentals such as postage.

**Society Act Revision:** GLARA Bylaws – an amendment to the dollar value of annual membership fees (remove \$10.00) to read, annual dues will be determined as required and to be voted on by membership present. The purpose of this change is so we do not have to alter our bylaws every time there is a change in dues. This gives GLARA the authority to alter the due structure by adjusting the value without updating the constitution.

The **GLARA vision statement** contains a Greenbelt definition. In light of current times with increasingly more need for long term vision for the direction of regional planning decisions, the Greenbelt definition was reviewed by the executive and the edit was presented to the meeting for comment and approval.

**OCP Update:** GLARA and residents have been participating with the Provincial Government & the two regional districts on the process for the OCP draft. See the consultant's update in this newsletter. Comments on the OCP are encouraged by contacting the OCP Steering Committee by mail or email.

**BC Lake Stewardship Conference** in June 2009, hosted at Watch Lake. Two lake health studies completed on Watch and Green lakes were presented. Delegates learned about the data collected related to water contamination & foreshore development – this was very insightful information & data to go forward with in assisting the lake health monitoring.



GLARA plans to play a role in developing partnerships in monitoring water levels – sustaining quality and quantity of water. GLARA was honored with an award and acknowledged for 2009 for achievements in outstanding volunteer efforts.

**Bruce Rattray Review of CRD Area L:** Solid Waste Plan under review. Aquatic Centre feasibility study - 100 Mile House. Climate change action charter signed on for greenhouse gases to be under control, initial work on establishing baselines and a plan in the next year. Noise Bylaw proposed for specific issues includes barking dogs and deals in a ticketing system on all regulator bylaws instead of going through a court system. Wood stove/Boiler Bylaw - proposed to mitigate complaints of over stocking; soot & smoke is a significant health issue. Budget capacity limitations discussed in terms of the Regional District meeting increasing demands for education, monitoring, and enforcement because of regional growth. Public Involvement Process – Bruce Rattray needs information fanned out and feedback on views and issues that impact & affect the community. Area L Agenda Items are listed on the CRD website.

**Sally Watson Review of TNRD AREA E:** Sally thanked GLARA for doing the groundwork & research to let the directors know what is happening in their area. Solid Waste Management makes the difference; the introduction of the household waste drop fee has decreased volume of solid waste because there has been a direct increase in volume going into the recycling bin. 70 Mile Transfer Station is working well. Wood waste problem is still on TNRD's books. A Fun Day was planned in honor of the firefighters who answered the call during the 70 Mile fire. Beetle Action Coalition has finished their study and determined we need policy changes so forest/logging companies to log in interface areas where forest agents such as fire and beetles threaten the health of the watershed. Noise Bylaw (mentioned by Bruce Rattray) is something Sally would like to see (Off Road Vehicles). Wildfire news posted on TNRD Website – know what is going on and learn how to run emergency services in the neighborhood. <http://www.tnrd.bc.ca/>

Roy Allan reviewed the **Watch Lake North Green Lake VFD**. He acknowledged residents by expressing his gratitude to many for the volunteer efforts in the construction & upgrade to the two halls.

In recognition of the passing of Shorty Horn (First Fire Chief) - Fire Hall #1 will be rededicated in his memory. He was a true pioneer of the area this year. Born Nov. 23, 1919 in Fawn, BC (now known as Lone Butte) Walter Horn lived his whole life in the Cariboo owning and operating the Watch Lake Lodge with his family. On March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 he passed away peacefully. He will be sadly missed. **Residents were asked to be aware of the invitation to the Grand openings for the halls** (October 10/2009).



**“Shorty Horn”**  
11/23/19 – 03/28/09

Roy expressed concern for the poor road conditions that impact public safety and the operation of the fire department equipment. GLARA is aware of the concern throughout the road system for the pressing need for upgrading and will assist in taking a lead on contacting the correct jurisdiction.

**Wolfgang Viertel** – a Presentation of Haynes Island Preservation Proposal (Extension of Provincial Park South of Haynes Island). After the presentation, a recommendation from the floor was made that a statement be included in the OCP Draft about resident concern for “protected area status” for undeveloped areas, including the east & west ends of Green Lake and other documented environmentally sensitive areas. . Gordon Labinsky, an OCP Advisory Group member, asked that the recommendation to be more specific to include protection of the entire Crown Lands (islands, peninsulas, bays) as “protected areas” including Little Green Lake. It was approved to have GLARA draft a letter of support to protect the lake’s east & west ends as “protected status” in conjunction with Wolfgang's proposal to the OCP Steering Committee.

**The Great Basin Spade foot Toad Presentation** - Special Guest Jocelyn Garner. Jocelyn is a Biologist with the Ministry of Environment and attending the Thompson Rivers University. She introduced how the Spade Foot toad being recently discovered in the south Cariboo in the west area. This is the northern most area known to have a population of the spade foot. Her goal is to identify the area of sensitive concern for the spade foot and to continue in educating and promoting residents in what to listen for when out and listening for the toad!



**Spade foot toad**

Contact information for Jocelyn and details on terrestrial behaviors, habitat, threats and what you can do, is detailed on the CRD web site. <http://www.cariboord.bc.ca/> The spade foot toad is a threatened species, considered to be a priority one blue listed species, sensitive to human activities and some natural events. Spade foot is to be included in the OCP as identified habitat area. Jocelyn will be here again in May next year to continue the research of the spade foot toad.

**Elections** (3) Director Vacancies. Two vacancies were created by the retirement of Robin and Denis and a third vacancy needs to be filled by a Watch Lake resident - GLARA needs a voice from Watch Lake to bring the voice of Watch Lake to the local planning and priorities sessions. Dunham Craig from Green lake south was nominated and subsequently elected as a new director.

**Special Recognitions.** I am exceedingly grateful for the ongoing commitment made in both time and focus by the GLARA Directors and lake area residents in advancing GLARA's mission in advocacy and education on the sustaining of the ecological, social, and economic health of the area. Dave Schwarz for his part on the directorship pertaining to forestry. Marie Kuyek (and Ken Greenwood) credited for their contribution in property tax research and for producing the Newsletter; and to Fred Kuyek for water testing and his skills in providing me with practical advice. To Jack Keough and Alan Boyd for bringing their board and committee experience as assets to the work of the executive. Alan, thank you for your legwork around the lake with sign upgrading and tending to the marker buoys. To Judy Cole for the Green lake north perspective to the issues and priorities. To the exhaustive work Lorrie Fleming completes on behalf of taking minutes and doing research on a variety of our active files. Thanks for keeping me up to date Lorrie. And for point and counter point, I sincerely value the depth of thought brought to the work of the board by Joanne Macaluso and Mark Tener.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all and for 2010, may the year be one of contentment, health and filled with the times, things, and people that add to your happiness and enjoyment. Bruce and Wendy Gilmour

## GREEN BELT REPORT - FALL 2009



Actual size  
5 mm

Beetle-attacked forests in our area have and are being salvage logged to recover the economic value of the timber before it degrades. Areas of note are 3 blocks in the vicinity of Jim Lake and Nolan Lake. When these blocks were first planned, a few

years ago, Gordon Labinsky provided input and comments to the harvesting plans and by all accounts his comments were considered in the current cut blocks. There are large buffers adjacent to the lakes, in the form Wildlife Tree Patches, which will preserve the riparian areas adjacent to the lakes. Very recently I have received and been reviewing the plans of BC Timber Sales (BCTS) in conjunction with Gordon and have provided comments to the BCTS planners on behalf of GLARA. Of importance in the comments provided is keeping with the "Green Belt" definition, the trails, and road access and road networks. A current area of focus is east of Crater Lake where BCTS is planning some future harvesting. Further review and comments will be provided.

Of note is there are large areas of designated Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA's) along the south side of Green Lake, south of Haynes Island to Nolan Lake along the south shore of Jim Lake and on the west end of Green Lake. Currently these areas will remain intact as they are predominately spruce and Douglas-fir and should be spared the beetle for the time being. These areas will provide for good riparian habitat and interior forest conditions for the foreseeable future. All harvested areas will be reforested with ecologically suitable and commercially valuable species, to replace the current dead conditions that exist.

Although forests will regenerate naturally over time, conducting harvesting and reforestation activities now will help recover timber and ensure future timber supply.

GLARA will continue to be active on the forestry front providing input and comments to the harvesting plans in the vicinity of Green and Watch Lakes.

Wishing each of you a winter full of fun and activities.

Please feel free to call me should you have any questions.

David Schwarz, R.P.F.



# WATER REPORT

Water temperature and clarity tests took place on Green Lake every two weeks this year starting June 3 and ending September 21. At this time no "water quality sampling" is taking place in Watch or Green Lake due to Government cut backs. We do testing for PH levels on Green Lake and Watch Lake. Green Lake is a steady 9.2 and Watch Lake is about varies slightly around 8.6. Unfortunately Watch Lake is not doing water testing any more. If you know of anyone that would like to do deep water testing on Watch lake starting next May, please contact: Fred Kuyek, 250-456-2230 for more details.

Since our first recordings back in 1997 the average temperature of the lake was

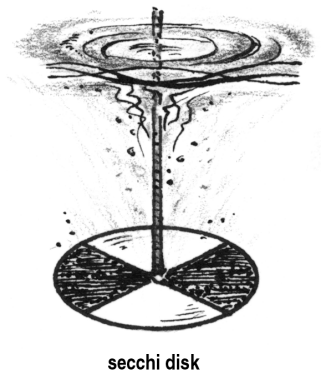
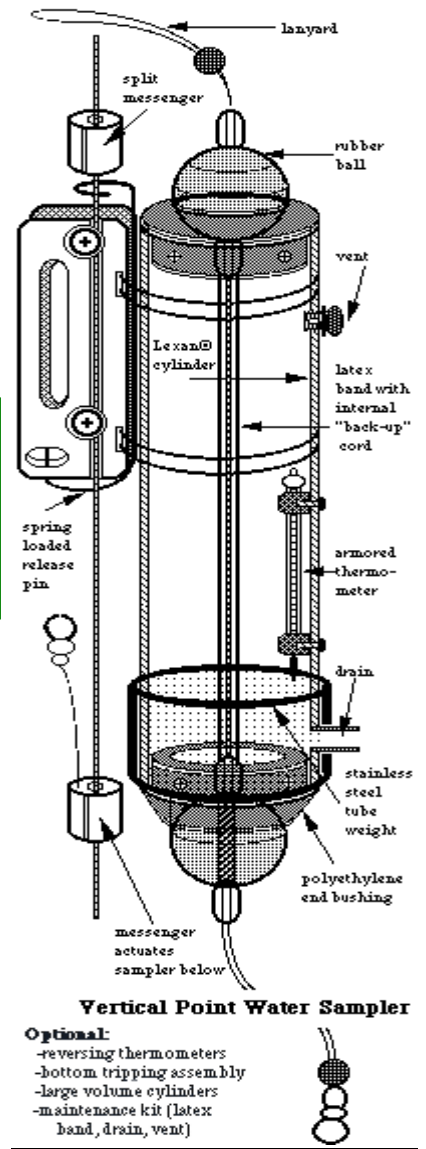
June:	.5 meters - 8.5 °C	12 meters - 6 °C	24 meters - 4 °C
Mid August:	.5 meters - 20 °C	12 meters - 16 °C	24 meters - 7 °C
Late Sept:	.5 meters - 10 °C	12 meters - 10 °C	24 meters - 8 °C

Van Dorn Water / Horizontal point water sampler. →

We also do a Secchi water test. A Secchi Disc is an 8" disk with white & black quadrants and is attached to a 30m tape measure. It is lowered into the water until it is out of sight then raised slightly until you can see it, then record it's depth. The Secchi disc gives us a reading of water transparency according to the depth of the measurement. The average clarity for Green Lake is 10 meters (32.8'). The Secchi results vary throughout the summer. Weather conditions dictate the clarity of the lake. If it has been fairly calm for a couple days before the test we have recorded clarity to the depth of 12 meters (39.4'). This reading occurred on June 8/2004. If the weather has been windy or stormy prior to the test we have recorded as low as 4.5m (14.8'). This reading was taken on August 14/1998, the day after a summer storm. Every year we enter July data for Secchi to the Great Canadian Dip-in, which is conducted by the BCLSS. The data is available on the BCLSS website. To view it open the link: <http://www.bclss.org/library.html> click on quarterly Newsletters then open volume 12, issue 3 to find this years results of dip-in. Move around the website and check it out, there is a lot of interesting reading. Become an "individual member" if you like. Secchi Disk →

**Buoys:** This October Alan Boyd, Grant Speers & Greg Roberts took the two rock hazard buoys out for winter storage at Fred Kuyek's home. They are removed to prevent the ice movement from tearing the decals off. They will be returned to Green Lake in May.

Fred Kuyek  
Green Lake Water Steward



## GLARA Membership Report

We have 311 voting members in GLARA (one vote per property). The number of people who read our Newsletter with membership privileges is actually 649, plus the Newsletters that members pass on to other people. If you receive this Newsletter you are a paid up Member or a special mail-only recipient.

Marie Kuyek, Membership/Treasurer



# Green Lake and Area Official Community Plan

## Status Report, November 2009

Good progress is being made on the Green Lake and Area Official Community Plan (OCP). All three public meetings have taken place, each preceded by a meeting with the project Advisory Group. The public meetings were well attended, and discussions were thoughtful, diverse, and extremely helpful to the formation of the OCP.

Simultaneously, discussions are taking place with the First Nations who have interests in the area. The various Bands have chosen to work together on this effort through the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council and the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council. The project Planning Team and some of the Cariboo Regional District Board members have held meetings and discussions with representatives of the First Nations. Another meeting is planned prior to the end of the calendar year.

The study area boundary was confirmed, and a draft OCP has been prepared; it is available on the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) and Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) Web sites (see links below). The highlights of the OCP as it is evolving are as follows:



- A preamble will mention that Green Lake is a closed water system, and that water quality is the highest consideration. The health of Green Lake is the foundation for this plan.
- 70 Mile House is the primary settlement area – higher densities, commercial and institutional uses, and improved services are encouraged.
- At the 83 Mile Road / Hwy 97 junction, protection of the heritage values and increased tourism related commercial services are encouraged.
- New residential lots on Green Lake are not supported, either through subdivision or development of Crown Land. The lake has a significant number of vacant lots, and increased development is considered a threat to the water quality of the lake and other environmental and cultural resources. The approach to resort commercial development on Green Lake is under discussion.
- Existing and future shoreline development is to be managed with policies that protect water quality, and protect and enhance biophysical resources.
- Land use designations in the more remote areas discourage subdivision to limit sprawling development.
- Protection from development is encouraged for areas with high environmental values, high recreation values, and areas of interest to First Nations.
- New development is encouraged in appropriate areas, particularly development that will support the economy, and ensure that new projects minimize environmental and social impacts.

The intent is to have another draft of the OCP available to the public early in 2010, and to complete the draft for referral to other agencies by March 2010. All public information regarding the OCP is made available on the regional district Web sites: <http://www.cariboord.bc.ca/> or <http://www.tnrd.bc.ca/>



# SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW



Over the next 18 months the CRD's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be under review. There will be extensive public consultation to solicit input on existing and desired waste management practices.

Reviews and assessments will be done on:

- the current solid waste management practices to help identify operational improvements and /or efficiencies.
- content and evolving solid waste management strategies to determine feasibility of incorporation into the current system.
- development of financial strategies.
- opportunities will be identified for moving toward a long-term goal of Zero Waste.
- acceptability of using refuse derived fuel for energy generation.
- consistency of user fees applied throughout the District
- opportunities for achieving waste reduction through the strategic application of revised tipping fee structures.
- opportunities for establishing regional composting facilities.
- the costs and benefits of enhanced recycling opportunities at rural refuse disposal facilities will be compared.

Residents will have an opportunity to participate in the review through a questionnaire/survey, public open houses, and by contacting the CRD or their local Director once the consultation phase has begun (look for updates in the local newspaper and on the CRD website spring 2010). <http://www.cariboord.bc.ca/>

Everyone can do their part to reduce solid waste volumes in the landfills by: recycling, reusing clothing and household items by donating them to a second-hand store or dropping off at a local share shed. Reduce materials used by only purchasing things that are needed and have minimum packaging, and segregation of waste (separating out wood waste, large metals/appliances, concrete/rock and compostable materials).

Look for information in the New Year on a location in 100 Mile House for electronics recycling.

Below is a picture of the number of tires that were in the Watch Lake landfill on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Tires are recyclable and consumers pay \$5 to \$9/tire at the time of purchase as an advanced disposal fee. Residents can recycle their old tires when they purchase new ones. The following is taken from the Tire Stewardship BC website <http://www.tirestewardshipbc.ca/> it describes what happens to tires that are recycled: Over 80% of the scrap tires collected are recycled into products. Most are recycled into crumb rubber, which are granules of rubber with the steel and fiber removed. Crumb is then used to create a variety of products including athletic tracks and synthetic turf fields; non-slip pavers for patios, walkways and playgrounds; colourful, resilient flooring in recreational facilities; flooring and mats for agricultural and industrial use; and asphalt rubber. In addition to crumb based products, many highway truck tires are road mats. The remaining 20% of scrap tires collected are used as a fuel supplement in the cement and pulp and paper industries.



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