



THE GREEN WATCH

The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association News Letter

Representing property owners and tenants within two kilometers of Watch and Green Lakes

Allan Boyd, President	456-7651	Robin Rusaw, Director	456-7703
Dennis Tupman, Director	456-2302	Fred Kuyek, Water Testing	456-2230
Joyce Dyck, Secretary	456-7567	Joanne Macaluso, Director	456.7320
Jim Klenk, Director	456-2373	Bruce Gilmour, Director	456.2140
Denis Read, Director	456-2338	Lorrie Fleming, Director	456.7566
Jack Keough, Director	456.7725	Angela Wynton, Director	456.6070
Marie Kuyek, Membership/Treasurer		456-2230	

SPRING 2006

Important Notice

Development Hearing

A Continuation of the Second (2) Reading of April 10, 2006

June 12, 2006

At 7PM in the Watch Lake Community Hall

(located 2.2 k from Watch Lake Lodge at Watch Lake Rd and Little Green Lake Rd)

Application by Kolodinski for rezoning Bylaw No. 4125 Lot 1, District Lot 3891, Lillooet District, Plan 38531, from Rural 1 (RR1) zone to Lakeshore Residential 2 (RL-2) zone for the purpose to create an eleven (11) lot residential subdivision located at 6454 Livingston Road at the North end of Green Lake.

Previous applications made a number of years ago had been rejected due to concerns regarding water levels, lakeshore protection of marsh areas, and ecological preservation. These concerns have not changed.

GLARA suggests no such applications be passed until an Official Community Plan is in place to guide the growth of the community and respectfully protect the lakeshore, marshes, birds, and wildlife that balance our ecology and pristine environment in the 70 Mile, Green Lake, Watch Lake area.

GLARA encourages all residents to attend this meeting!

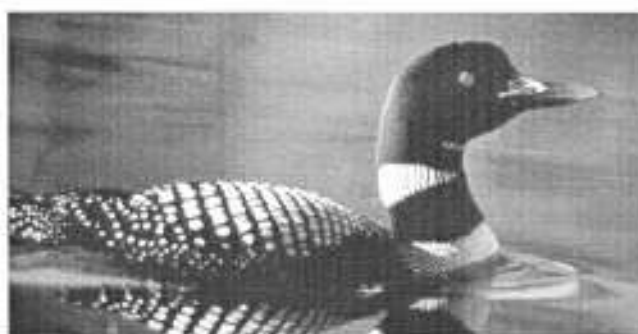
PRESIDENTS'S MESSAGE

By Alan Boyd

Hello to all GLARA members and also to anyone who gets our newsletter that could become a member. We would urge you to join our association and get active. What with property values and demand for properties escalating as never before dreamed of rates, we need to have all property owners as members to speak as one on issues that concern the Green and Watch Lakes area.

Your Executive Board is continuing to work with our two regional districts (CRD and TNRD) to develop the questionnaire that will go forward to every property owner in the Green, Watch, and 70 Mile areas. When this document does arrive at your home we would urge you all to complete it to the best of your ability and return it. We would hope for a very high percentage of the questionnaires to be completed and returned in order to effectively deal with concerns in the forthcoming Official Community Plan. There will be public meetings to follow as the document moves forward.

On other issues, the pine bark beetle continues to ravage our greenbelt and all the surrounding forests. We urge you to be extremely careful with any burning as the fire hazard is unlike any we have experienced before. Be careful on the trails and on the water, our hospital ER doesn't need more customers. Have a safe and happy summer. *Alan Boyd, GLARA President*



*Remember loon's nest
close to the water's edge.
Please go slowly and do
not disturb the shoreline.*

EDITOR'S NOTE

*By Angela Wynton,
Interim Editor*

Thank you Dave Claxton for all your energy and the wonderful contributions you have made to GLARA. Especially, thank you for regularly getting this newsletter out to the membership! The Directors at GLARA and all the Green Lake Watch Lake members wish you and Gloria all the best in your new home in Duncan on Vancouver Island. May they too keep you busy!

Things are changing at our lakes and we must be cognizant of those changes. To be sure we go in stride and with care we must be aware of the effects and impact those changes may have on the ecology, environment, and residents. It is important to show up at your local zoning and development hearings. Find out what is going on. Coming is the June 12 hearing and it will be an important meeting.

There is concern regarding the water levels and the marsh ecology of the lake, especially if development beyond capacity burdens the northside of Green Lake. The residents recognize there will be changes, and there will be building, but it must be a very well thought out process when it comes to preserving our local ecology and lifestyle. After all, most of us have moved to the region to enjoy and participate in a sustainable and healthy ecology and environment.

As we work towards developing an OCP (Official Community Plan) we can look out to the future, and look out for the sustainability, of this beautiful area. Please attend your regional zoning meetings, and pay attention to your GLARA, CRD, and TNRD surveys. After all, we are responsible for the legacy we leave. Let it be a healthy and sustainable one that all our heirs will be proud of!

See you at the June 12 zoning meeting, Angela.

WATER REPORT

By Fred Kuyek

This year the first water test was conducted on Green Lake on May 20th. Water samples were taken to test only temperatures and PH levels. The Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection has determined that Green Lake and Watch Lake have remained stable for the past few years and testing for Nitrogen and Phosphorous will be on hold for at least one year. Lac De Roche Lake and Heffley Lake have begun testing for these items.

On Green Lake the temperature at 24 M was 2° C. This is the lowest recording for this depth. Previous readings were 4° C. At 12 M the temperature was 4° C and at .5 M the temperature was 7° C. pH levels were 9 for all three depths. In addition, water clarity was also tested. The depth of clarity was 9.5 M. These tests will be conducted every two weeks till the end of summer.

The ice was off Watch Lake on April 19th. Norm Rastad and Ralph Cole continue to measure and record temperatures and pH levels at the three depths for Watch Lake. To date data remains consistent.

Green and Watch Lakes may well be two of the most beautiful and critical lakes in the Cariboo. Those of us who live and play here must all share the responsibility for ensuring these lakes remain pristine and a healthy environment for fish, waterfowl, insects, animals, and people! These are some tips on how to keep Green and Watch Lakes healthy. The BC Lake Stewardship Society and the Provincial Government Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection developed the following guidelines:

1. Minimize the disturbance of shoreline areas by maintaining natural vegetation cover.
2. Replant lakeside grassed areas with native vegetation.
3. Do not import lakeside fine fill.
4. Do not use fertilizers in areas where the potential for water contamination is high, such as sandy soil, steep slopes, or compacted soils.
5. Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides before or during periods of rainfall, due to the likelihood of run-off into the water system.
6. Have your septic tank pumped out every 2 to 5 years by a septic service company. This will help extend the life of your field, ensure it is functioning properly, and minimize the possibility of leeching of septic water into the lake.
7. Use phosphate free soaps and detergents.
8. Refrain from dumping chemicals down your drains, as they can kill the bacteria that make your septic system work!
9. When boating, never throw trash, cans, bottles, or unused food overboard.
10. Never use the lake as a toilet!
11. Never use the lake as a bathtub! - the soap you introduce to the water remains for years, along with any other foreign bodies you may deposit there.
12. Fill gasoline containers where any overspill will not contaminate the lake water. Gasoline, especially mixed fuel, spreads over the water surface and prevents insects from hatching, pollutes waterfowl, and eventually can have a negative permanent impact on the lake water and bottom sediment.

NEW SIGNS

Two of our new GLARA signs are now up! One is at the junction of 83 Mile Road and North Green Lake Road, the other at the junction of Watch Lake Road on Pioneer Lane at Banks Road. And boy is Ol'Yardley ever looking good!

Happy Fishing



AN OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN BALANCES THE FUTURE

GLARA is committed to establishing an Official Community Plan (OCP) for Green Lake Watch Lake. There are many changes happening in our area. Human settlement will become more intense as lakeshore and lake view properties around the province are developed and occupied. People are retiring in great numbers, especially in the lower mainland, and are selling expensive urban homes and investing in recreation properties or permanent rural homes.

Your GLARA Board believes it is better to be proactive and to plan for well-managed human settlement that satisfies the needs and aspirations of present local residents, and balances and integrates ecological and environmental habitats.

The OCP Committee has been working diligently with the CRD, TNRD, and Urban Systems to prepare a survey that will provide additional information regarding interests, issues, and concerns relevant to our lakes and area. This tool asks pertinent questions that will help and support the OCP Committee and the regional players to develop an accurate picture to build on in designing an Official Community Plan for the 70 Mile, Green Lake, Watch Lake area.

Community planning protects and provides for what people and residents see as priorities in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, symbiotically with the natural environment.

Please, when you receive your copy of the survey take time to read it thoroughly and answer the questions as best you can. It is not just our future – it is the future of our heirs, the children of BC, and all nature that abounds in this region.

Thank you from the GLARA OCP Committee

INFORMATION DIRECTORY

CRD 1.800.665.1636
www.cariboord.bc.ca

TNRD 1.877.377.8673.
www.tnrd.bc.ca

Ministry of Environment
www.env.gov.bc.ca

Water stewardship
www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd

Environment stewardship
www.env.gov.bc.ca/esd

Environment protection
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epdiv

Ministry of Forests & Range
www.for.gov.bc.ca
at this sight there are direct links to *Fire Smart* and the *Mountain Pine Beetle*

Grasslands Conservation
www.bcgrasslands.org

GRASSLANDS - A THREATENED ECOLOGY

Grasslands are an essential part of our local ecology. Grasslands are rare, unique, life-sustaining ecosystems that support a great diversity of plants, animals and insects. More than thirty percent (30%) of British Columbia's threatened or endangered species depend on grasslands for their survival. BC's grasslands represent less than one percent (1%) of the provincial land base and are one of Canada's most endangered ecosystems. There is a strong need to improve education and communication concerning grasslands related issues. In fact, ancient grasslands represent a much more endangered space in BC and across Canada than does ancient or old growth forests.

The only sure way to promote grassland stewardship and ensure the sustainability of our grasslands into the future is through educating the public and raising public awareness and appreciation for these ecosystems. There are many grasslands in the 70 Mile, Green Lake, Watch Lake area. Please pay attention and learn about what you can do to protect and preserve them.

Partial excerpt from Grasslands Conservation Council of BC with permission.

GLARA
Green Lake and Area Rate Payers' Association

AGM
Annual General Meeting
at the
Green Lake Snowmobile Clubhouse
South Green Lake
10 am Saturday August 19th, 2006

If you are not already a member now will be a good time join! Call Marie Kuyck at 456.2230

IMPORTANT! Before filling out this form, check your envelope! Your expiration date is on your label. If your label is flagged with pink this newsletter is a reminder that your membership has expired. It has been a busy year for GLARA executive and we did not get a letter out to our members reminding them of their expiration date. Our apologies.

Green Lake Area Ratepayers'
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

name of member applying

legal description of lot if known

fire # & street

full mailing address (one newsletter per paid membership)

home phone

lake phone ?

work phone ?

fax available?

e-mail address?

cheque enclosed?

Make cheques payable to G.L.A.R.A. & mail to: RR#1, Site Q Comp 5, 70 Mile House, B.C., V0K 2K0
Fees are \$10 per year, \$30 for 3 years. We are still offering our 'ONE' time only bonus to members - \$30 for 4 years. May 2006B - means you are paid-up until that date and 'B' means you have used your bonus year already. Receipts will be mailed to you when your Fall newsletter is sent out or you can pick them up at the AGM meeting Saturday August 19th 10 a.m. at the South Green Lake Snowmobile Club.

HELP

KEEP OUR AREA LAKES

SAFE

CLEAN

POLLUTION FREE

PLEASE

NO SOAPS, DETERGENTS, SHAMPOOS, etc.

**There is no flushing action to these lakes.
What you leave accumulates.**

**Dispose of garbage and fish entrails in a proper container or at
local dumps at 70 Mile or at Watch Lake.**

RESPECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND WILDLIFE

**Thank you,
Green and Watch Lakes Area Ratepayers' Association
GLARA**