

THE GREEN WATCH
The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Newsletter
Representing property owners and residents in the
Watch and Green Lake Area



Board of Directors

Bruce Gilmour, Co-Chair

Fred Kuyek, Director

Leanna Leib-Milburn, Director

Dave Schwarz, Director

Dunham Craig, Co-Chair

Marie Kuyek, Editor

Jack Keough, Director

Cheryl Groves, Director

Dunham Craig, Water Testing

Marie Kuyek, Membership/Treasurer

Roy Allan, Director

To Contact a Director please email your request to: greenwatchlake@gmail.com



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2020

Dear GLARA Members,

It seems every year we have something new to talk about and this year it is high lake levels. I hope you have time to read Gordon Labinsky's article on historic lake levels in this edition as it was informative to me. One of the consequences of the lake level is that many lots are experiencing bank erosion from wave action, strong north winds that were prevalent in June and July as well as boat wakes. The wind is obviously beyond our control but we can reduce boat wakes by being courteous and slowing down when near shore. It is also a very good year for the septic service industry on the lake as groundwater levels remain high. It is a good cocktail conversation to speculate why, but suffice it to say that it seems that high ground water is pervasive throughout the Cariboo and we are not singled out locally. One thing for sure is the mosquitos are very happy with the abundance of breeding ground!

We are very fortunate in this area to have almost no Covid-19 cases locally and we hope our local population remain thoughtful and diligent throughout the rest of the year. With respect to that, GLARA has decided to follow suit with the Fire Halls and Snowmobile Club and postpone our AGM until next year. GLARA was prepared to initiate a complete water 2020 sampling program and was working with the BC Lake Stewardship Society when we were notified by the Ministry of Environment that they did not want us to co-mingle on the boat due to Covid-19 and cancelled this year's program. The Ministry considers Green Lake to be low risk due to the excellent results recorded in years past and consequently will not fund the analysis. It was determined at the last years AGM that GLARA would fund the program but the Ministry said they would not accept our results if we collected it during the Covid-19 pandemic. So, we are left to look forward to next year but suffice it to say, with the flushing level that is occurring this year, I am content that the lake remains in good health. We would however like to perform a full suite of tests in 2021 as none have been taken in over 10 years and as with any health, early detection is the key.

In tune with our BC Provincial Health Officer, who we are all familiar enough with to just refer to her as Bonnie, be safe, be respectful of others and enjoy the summer.

Sincerely, Dunham Craig – Co Chairman GLARA

Mobile: 1 778-386-9039

dunham@dvrcraig.ca

RCMP REPORT

Over the last month there have been 80 calls for service for the Clinton RCMP versus the same time period last year having 83. Traffic complaints remain the highest call for service for the Detachment. Clinton members issued 29 violation tickets for traffic offences during the month of June as well as 23 written warnings. This of course does not include the violation tickets that were issued by the Kamloops Traffic members or Ashcroft Traffic members who both performed traffic enforcement in our area during this time as well.

Cst Masters continues her efforts to enroll enough volunteers to begin a Speed Watch in Clinton as well as many of the other communities in our Jurisdiction. Being part of Speed Watch is not challenging, for the most part it is as simple as coming into the Detachment to pick up the required equipment, setting the equipment up at a designated location, monitoring traffic, recording data, returning the equipment and submitting your data. For the data tracking, there is on the iPhone (not sure about Android) an app that makes tracking of traffic data and then the submission a very easy process. Speed Watch can take place any day of the week and at any time, so it can work around your schedule, as long as the minimum of 2 trained volunteers are available. So find a friend that you like to hang out with and volunteer together by contacting Cst Masters at the Detachment, 250-459-2221.

There has been numerous traffic related complaints in the Green Lake area. Speeding vehicles and quads on the roadway are the two largest issues. We will continue our enforcement patrols in the area and educate those people choosing to ignore the respective statutes with monetary fines which may include demerit points from your driver's license. No one ever plans on something going wrong when driving a motor vehicle or off road vehicle contrary to the laws and regulations, but first responders attend files where they do, some are even life altering.

Recently there was a situation where someone received a call from someone claiming to work for Service Canada requesting the person's SIN and asking which police Detachment jurisdiction they fell under. A second call was then received from the phone number associated to our Detachment and a name of a previous police officer at our Detachment was used in an attempt to have the person transfer funds electronically. Luckily this person became suspicious and did not transfer any funds, instead they called in to police to verify what they were being told. Through the use of modern technology scammers can make calls show up on your caller ID with any phone number they want, and in this case it was our Detachment's phone number. With the use of the Internet and a quick search on the Clinton RCMP, the scammer probably came up with the name of a past employee, but it could just as easily have been a current employee's name. With our phone number and a credible person pretending to be a police officer calling you, the call might appear legitimate, which makes it challenging to see the scam taking place. Do not transfer anyone money or give out personal information without being certain of who you are dealing with as you will likely never see that money again. The RCMP does ask for your name, date of birth, address and phone number when we are creating a file, but you are the one then either calling a Detachment or 911. We do not usually call you to ask for this type of information, and in the few times where we might, you can always call us back to be certain of who you are speaking with. We have booklets on the most common scams available for free at the Detachment, but keep in mind that these scammers are always finding new and innovative ways to try to separate you from your money. If something appears to be too good to be true, then it usually is. Cst Masters is planning to host a Bike Rodeo on September 19th from 10 am to 2 pm at the Reg Conn Centennial Park parking lot.

Cpl. Chris von COLDITZ, Detachment Commander Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Office: 250.459.2221 [E-mail: chris.voncolditz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:chris.voncolditz@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)



Written midday in what is so typically Cariboo Green Lake weather...

The north side of the lake has bright colours from sunshine while the south side has moisture falling, somewhere between showers and rain! Hang about and the conditions will be different in an hour!

This piece is submitted as a reflection over the storm event at the dinner hour on the lake July 23/2020. For those who were on the lake, from the 70 Mile House direction, a sound could be heard, consistent with a growing noise of a large fan, it became louder and louder. My next-door neighbor hollered, "Hey Bruce, a funnel cloud, a cyclone shaped wind is funneling dust over the Flying U and it is moving this way. It's over the lake now and picking up water, you'd better move fast..." My hat took off and the side table my affairs were placed on, literally took flight!

I learned later how trees were blown over, not unusual for Green and Watch Lakes. However, a boat breaking free from its mooring buoy, a different story... I write about seeing if there is interest by lake residents to have things about your property which are under water, assessed for wear (chains to mooring buoys, water lines, foot valves, docks, floats, etc.).

My buoy is currently in at least 13 feet of water – more lung capacity for this land lubber to either check fittings or to thread a new anchor chain! A Kamloops scuba shop has approached me to enquire if there is interest for lake residents to have assessments of below the waterline features. We have changed out our anchor chain only once in 24 years. The chain is not galvanized, consequently, the chemical composition of the chain is such there is not only the wear and tear, but a deterioration of the chain's chemistry and integrity of the chain's strength.

The sea we had yesterday evening (and will inevitably experience several times a boating season) might, could and will damage below water line features. What is out of sight and out of mind may be lost if not maintained.

For more information, please contact:
Ocean Pacific Adventure Sports – Kamloops
Mr. Jon Hudon
Tel. 250-828-0188
Email. info@oceanpacificadventuresports.com

Or, if you are interested in participating, please let me know by sending a message with the nature of the underwater investigation (work) you would like considered. Email: brucegilmour@shaw.ca

I will take this data to Jon to see if some quotes for field assessment and work can be floated.



Ahoy and thanks, Bruce Gilmour and salty mate Marley

Invasive Species



Disposal of Yard Waste Is Everyone's Responsibility

Many garden plants are becoming invasive as a result of unsafe disposal practices. Unwanted plants in your garden should not be disposed of in green spaces next to or near your property. Plants that are in flower can produce viable seeds that can begin sprouting where they fall. Other plants or pieces of plants can recover from the initial shock of being uprooted and begin growing where they are discarded.

There are many green spaces where yard waste has begun growing and spreading. Their spread can choke out native plants and reduce habitat and food sources for native birds, insects, and animals. Once these plants become established, and especially if they are one of the more invasive horticultural varieties like Himalayan balsam, purple loosestrife, yellow flag iris, knotweed, mountain bluet, dame's rocket, or goutweed, it is extremely difficult to control them. Here are a few key points to consider and follow if you have plants in your garden that you know are invasive or are showing invasive tendencies:

- Remove unwanted plant material before plants go to flower, or next best, before they go to seed.
- Deposit unwanted plant material in heavy plastic bags and dispose of them in the household waste area in your nearest transfer station or landfill within the Cariboo. Disposal bags are available for pick-up at your nearest manned transfer station or landfill. Please request bags from the transfer station or landfill attendants.

Please Do Not:

- Compost the material, as seeds and plant pieces can begin to grow.
- Burn in open piles, as seeds will often survive and be capable of sprouting.
- Dispose of unwanted garden plants in green spaces, as they may survive and begin to spread.

The most effective and efficient method to get rid of invasive plants is to prevent their establishment in the first place. Please take the time to learn about invasive plants, know what they look like and do not purchase or grow them.

If you have any questions or concerns about invasive plants or need some assistance in the identification or management of them, please contact the CRD's Invasive Plant Management department at 250-392-3351 or toll free 1-800-665-1636 or invasiveplants@cariboord.bc.ca



Figure 1. Spread of Dame's Rocket in green space from space unsafe disposal practices.

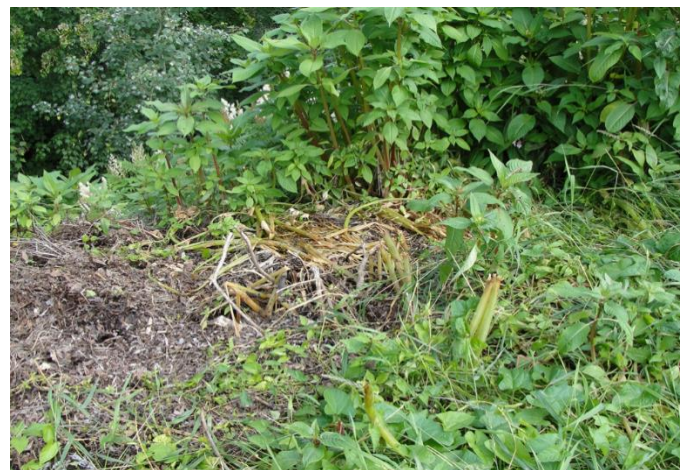


Figure 2. Spread of Himalayan balsam in green space from unsafe disposal practices.

Water levels in Green Lake-Gordon Labinsky

My most recent water level measurement was taken on July 24th 2020. From the top of my underwater benchmark to the lake surface was 75 in of water depth. This is the highest water level in more than 50 years. I will explain in the following how the 75 inch water level relates to some recent historical lake levels.

July 24, 2020 sitting at 75" from benchmark

July 22, 2019 -13 ¾ " below 75" benchmark

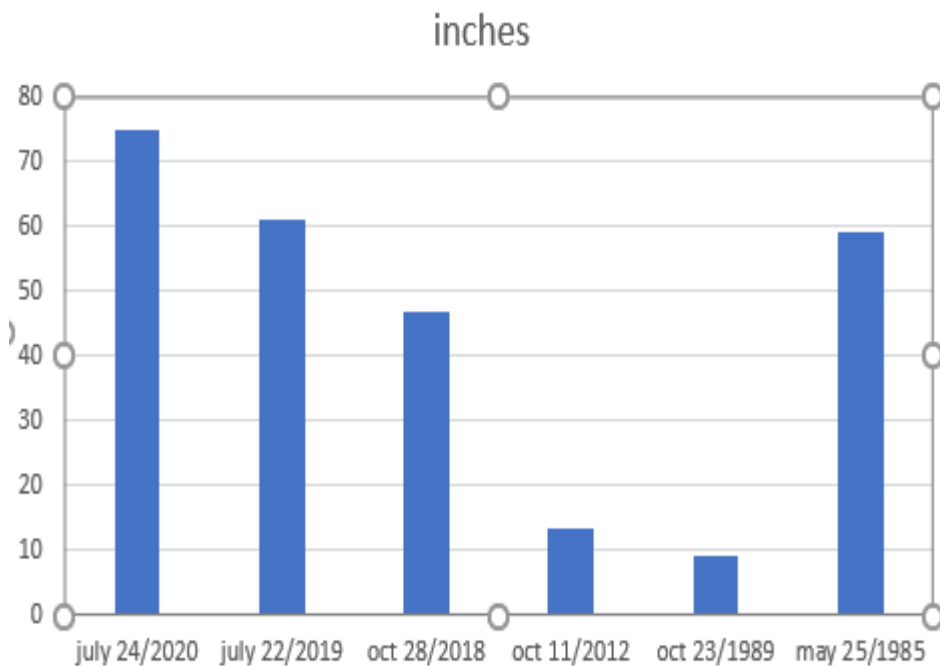
Oct 28, 2018 -28" below 75" benchmark: this was when Green Lake stopped spilling water into the outlet channel at the East end of the lake. Below this water level the lake no longer has any flushing action and is essentially a pond and whatever pollutants that go into the lake stays in the lake. The lake level below this point is controlled mainly by evaporation during the open water.

Oct 11, 2012 – 61 ¾" below 75" benchmark: when after many years of luring water levels Lake was dangerously Close to the lowest recorded level ever

Oct 23, 1989 -65 ¾" below 75" benchmark: the lowest measured by Environment Canada.

May 25, 1985-16" below 75" benchmark: highest level recorded by environment Canada in 25 years of recording From May 1969 to March 1995.

Between May 25/1985 & Oct 23/1989 Green lake dropped 49 ¾ inches (this was over a 53-month period). The water levels on Green Lake will continue to change in the future and be controlled mainly by precipitation evaporation, temperature, wind and the effects of climate change. There is a very good reason why most of the wharves on the lake have wheels as every year Green lake has both a high and a low water elevation. The dates when the lake reaches the yearly levels are never the same and most years can be months apart.



Here is a small graph of the dates. A larger graph of all the years water levels will most likely be put together and be published in the Spring 2021 Newsletter.

The Forest Landscape, Summer 2020

The forest landscape in the vicinity of Green, Watch and Pressy Lakes has been significantly altered over the last few years, including the fire salvage and wild fire mitigation harvesting. Forest health concerns continue on the landscape with the presence of the Douglas-fir and Spruce beetles in the area brought on by the Elephant Hill Fire and climate change to a certain extent. These two factors contribute to tree stress and vulnerability to attack by beetles.



Fir Beetle



Spruce Beetle

The movement of beetle activity is being monitored on crown land and I encourage you to do similar on your own property. It is critical that any beetle attacked trees are disposed of this fall or winter and prior to the next beetle flight in the spring. The fire mitigation area will have current Douglas-fir beetle activity removed prior to next flight.

Pheromone baiting is a practice that is used and can be very effective in beetle management and protecting your properties. Note, pheromone baits are applied in the spring, prior to flight, in order to be most effective.

With the replanting of the burned and logged areas along with the establishment of the plant communities, there is evidence the forested landscape is slowly repairing itself from these significant alterations. In addition, the establishing trees and plant communities develop much needed root systems to help with water uptake and potentially provide some relief during the spring freshet* season.

Stay safe, enjoy the summer and collectively we all have a role to play in the health of our forests.

David Schwarz, RPF
GLARA Director

*the term **freshet** is used to describe a spring thaw

Fish Stocking Report

Release Date	Waterbody	Species	Strain	Geno	life stage	Avg. Size	Quantity
2020/06/25	GREEN 70 MILE HOUSE	Kokanee	All Female	Triploid	Fry	2.60g	14,230
2020/06/24	GREEN 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout		Triploid	Fingerling	15.63g	5,000
2020/06/23	GREEN 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout		Triploid	Fingerling	10.98g	5,747
2020/05/25	NOLAN 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout	All Female	Triploid	Yearling	18.77g	7,000
2020/05/21	WATCH 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout	All Female	Triploid	Yearling	16.68g	40,000
2020/05/25	JIM S of GREEN LK	Rainbow Trout		Diploid	Yearling	18.13g	20,000
Last Year							
2019/11/06	GREEN 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout		Triploid	Fry	3.10g	7,000
2019/10/17	GREEN 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout		All Female	Fry	3.51g	21,386
2019/10/17	GREEN 70 MILE HOUSE	Rainbow Trout		All Female Triploid	Fry	2.36g	29,111

**GLARA AGM has been cancelled this year.
Next one August 2021**

Watch Lake – North Green Lake Fire Department News Summer 2020



Will we ever have a “normal” summer here again? This is a question a lot of people must be asking. In 2017 we were evacuated for a good portion of the summer as a result of the threatening wildfire and then in 2018 the smoke from fires in the North created unfavourable conditions. Last year wasn’t too bad, but we didn’t have the usual run of hot weather. Now, in mid-July, with the exception of a few nice days, summer seems yet to start.

In past years this fire department has spent considerable time and money securing reliable sources of water. We have wells, in-ground and above-ground reserve tanks, two dry hydrants with plans to develop more, two water tenders and water totes on both one-ton pickups. Who would have thought that nature would have now provided us with too much water? In June the road was flooded we couldn’t even get to the Tristan Road tank and several of our members assisted in the sandbagging of lakeshore properties to prevent further damage. The lake level is higher than any previously recorded level and the standing water in ditches and ponds has resulted in what must be a record mosquito hatch. Several families were greeted on their return to the cabin by overflowing septic systems caused by the high water-table and there is a hazard to boating with the increased amount of floating debris and broken dock parts.

To further “dampen” our summer enjoyment the Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in travel and gathering size restrictions. For a while, part-time property owners were asked to stay home while full-time people attempted to respect the isolation period. The call of the lake and holiday time has been strong, and many people, both permanent and part-time, are having small gatherings. As of this writing BC’s Covid-19 cases are on the rise. Our firefighters restrict their training activities to follow pandemic prevention guidelines. Please follow their example by limiting the size of your contacts, follow the two-metre distancing and wear a mask when necessary.



One of the most enjoyable summer activities has always been to sit around a campfire in the evening and roast marshmallows. Fortunately, with the slow approach of summer, some of the burning restrictions as reported on the BC Wildfire web page have been temporarily lifted and campfires are currently allowed.

Effective at noon on June 19, 2020, Category 2 open burning will be allowed again in the Central Cariboo, Quesnel and 100 Mile Fire Zones within the Cariboo Fire Centre's jurisdiction. Open burning within the Chilcotin Fire Zone remains restricted. Campfires continue to be allowed throughout the

Cariboo Fire Centre.

The following activities will also be allowed within the Central Cariboo, Quesnel and 100 Mile Fire Zone as of noon on June 19, 2020:

- the use of sky lanterns
- the use of fireworks, including firecrackers
- the use of burn barrels or burn cages of any size or description

Be sure to check the GLARA web site, South Green Lake Community Facebook page or the BC Wildfire web site for updates to the outdoor fire restrictions as the days become drier and hotter.

Our fire department officers have asked that we remind all property owners, whether the property is developed or undeveloped, to please be sure that the street address is displayed on your fence post or gate. If they can’t find your property, an emergency response could be delayed.

Have a great summer – stay safe so we can all enjoy the lake for years to come.
Oh, by the way, we haven’t had any fires.

Roy Allan – Past President, WL-N.GL VFD

South Green Lake Volunteer Fire Department

August 6, 2020

548 Green Lake South Road
70 Mile House, BC V0K 2K2
Tel: 250-456-7547
Fax: 250-456-2334
Email: southgreenvfd@tnrd.ca

I would like to personally thank all residents, auxiliary members, volunteers, TNRD staff and especially our SGLVFD Firefighters for their commitment and dedication to protect our community. Without this support from everyone, we would not have been able to achieve all of our accomplishments. We have had very few 911 calls this year; one fire complaint and one for a tree down on the hydro line.

We are continually exploring all options with the TNRD for funding, training and capital expenditures. We have aligned with the TNRD and have an approved COVID-19 for returning to full practices. Also, a big thank you the TNRD Emergency Services for the 3 loads of sand and bags delivered to the fire hall for residents to use.

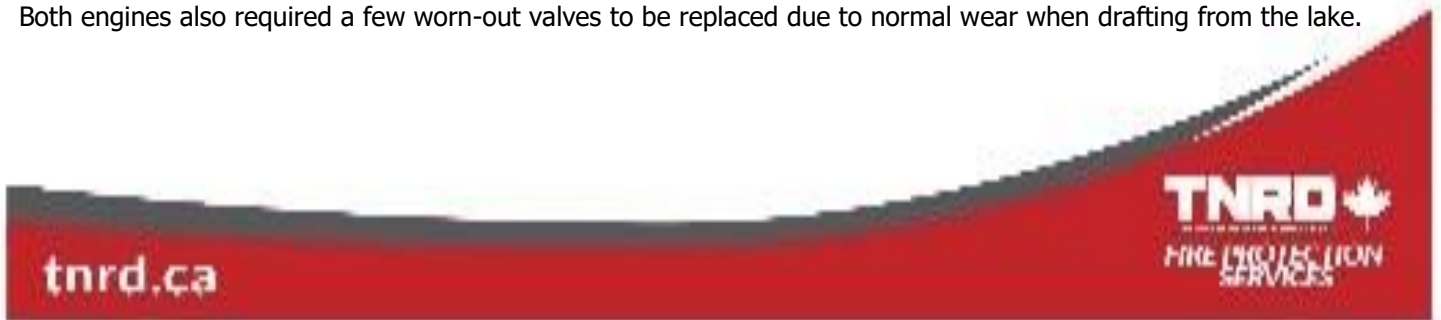
With the renovation to the outside of the old hall complete, the SGLVFD Auxiliary then purchase all of the paint and volunteers repainted the training area and kitchen. Planning for the renovation started in the fall of 2018 and the TNRD approved the project on Oct. 1, 2019. Also, SGLVFD hopes to be able to insulate and replace the roof of Fred Potter Memorial Fire Hall with Gas Tax funding in 2021.

All equipment and tools purchased with the Red Cross Resiliency funding and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBMC) funding has been tested through group training. One of the purchased items is a low level jet syphon strainer that allows us to move and store more water closer to the fire scene. We can utilize two ponds giving us an extra 2000 gallons and a better turnaround time for tender operations.



I would like to thank everyone who helped out with all these grants. The research and ordering of equipment was no small task. The total amount of these grants is \$124,500.00. This has allowed us to purchase quite a few items on our five (5) year strategic plan without using any monies from our 2019/2020 operations budgets. With a Covid-19 Safety Plan in place we are now able to hold full practices. In early summer we went back to normal operations with our bi-weekly practices and our monthly Tuesday night administration meeting. Our roster is in great shape with 30 active members.

All apparatus just completed their annual testing with both Engines (Pumpers) passing the Fire Underwriters pump tests. Both engines also required a few worn-out valves to be replaced due to normal wear when drafting from the lake.



SGLVFD is in the fourth year of our five (5) year project to install dry hydrants as our primary water source. Last fall we installed two more dry hydrants at Access 2 and Access 10, with accreditation of these delayed to this fall due to the amount of ground water this year. Locations for our 2021 have been chosen and they are Access 8 and Access 12. These hydrants will be placed in the fall with accreditation in summer of 2021 (weather permitting).

I reviewed our system and all dry hydrants are live in the Grading Index.

If an address location point is not within 300 m of hose lay by road of a recognized dry hydrant a dwelling would not be eligible for DPG 3A.

The following below is an example search result. FUS provides 150 m and 300 m coverage bubbles from the address point. If a recognized hydrant or recognized dry hydrant is not within the 300 m coverage bubble for a Personal Lines insured dwellings than a dwelling would not be eligible for DPG 3A. An underwriter can use the Ruler tool in the map to check hose lay distances to ensure a dwelling being insured is within 300 m of hose lay by road.

If a sponsored broker or subscribing underwriter has question about a search result in the Grading Index they are encouraged to submit a query to FUS by clicking "envelope icon/Inquire about this result".

Details of the dry hydrant locations will be published in the Canadian Fire Insurance Grading Index for insurance brokers to use. Thanks to our project coordinators Dunham Craig and Jim Smith, and to all who helped.

Thank you once again to our South Green Lake volunteers. It takes a team of dedicated people to operate our fire hall and we can stand proud during these challenging times.

Hoping everyone has a safe and healthy 2020.

Yours truly,

**Peter McKie
Fire Chief
South Green Lake**

tprd.ca

TNRD
FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

Check out our website! www.glara.ca

With a lot of help from Larry Messaros back in 2013, we created an internet site specifically for GLARA news, local information, useful links and photos. We have articles concerning local issues written by the GLARA directors and all the members are also asked to contribute items they feel may be of interest to the community.

All of the "**Green Watch Newsletters**" back to issue no. 1 from 1993 have been archived and it is interesting to browse through past issues to see how GLARA concerns have been dealt with over the years.

There is a "**calendar of coming events**". If you know of an upcoming event of interest to the community, please let us know and we will post it on the Calendar. Down on the left side of the page there is also a link to the Environment Canada website set on local weather, but you can also use it to access weather forecasts anywhere in Canada.

There is a tab titled "**contact us**" that contains a telephone directory for all of the GLARA directors to enable you to contact a board member for more information on lake area issues and activities.

You will also see a tab titled "**snow report**". Here you can get an update on the snow depth and ice conditions throughout the peak of the winter season to help you in planning your winter recreational activities.

Under the tab titled "**Snowmobiles/ATV's/Boats**" we have listed the often overlooked Provincial regulations concerning these vehicles. We hope that this will help promote the safe operation of recreational vehicles in our area.

Take a look under the "**Photos**" tab. We have a few photos here representing various seasonal themes, but we need submissions from everyone in the community. Send your photos to admin@glara.ca and share the record of your good times in all seasons here in the Watch Lake – Green Lake area.

The tab titled "**What is GLARA**" describes the aims and goals of your community voice. The concluding statement is particularly important for keeping the interest in all of our concerns up-to-date.

"**GLARA is your organization**". Let us know what you want to see, or to be involved in, within your community, whether it's Watch Lake, Green Lake or 70 Mile House. Share your ideas or contribute your suggestions and get involved. Contact a director, the editor of the Newsletter at greenwatchlake@gmail.com or the website administrator at admin@glara.ca

"We want to hear from you!"

Roy Allan, website administrator

Printed by

Heritage
Signworks

Quality Commercial Printing & Signs

#3-221 A McDermid Rd, 100 Mile House, BC (across from Timber Mart)

ph: 250-395-2950 e-mail: heritagesignworks1@gmail.com