

LAKE STEWARDSHIP AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE OF MCKELLAR TOWNSHIP  
DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday May 21, 2026

07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81764034414?pwd=bYsk1CkbaVcmi1tJ2SX3rCWWPXUQC.1>

Meeting ID: 817 6403 4414

Passcode: 484731

One tap mobile

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<https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf>

Our Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61565497380905&mibextid=ZbWKwL>

Item	Time	Please note: These are ongoing agenda items. Only items marked with an * will be discussed at the next meeting.
1.	*	<p>Land Acknowledgement:</p> <p>In the spirit of reconciliation and co-operation, we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Mississauga people. Its boundaries fall within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaty of 1923. We are grateful to live here, and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years. To honour the suffering of Indigenous people and the love and wisdom they have carried for thousands of years, we pledge to work in community and harmony with each other and the environment we inhabit and work towards Truth and Reconciliation.</p>
2.	*	<p>Roll Call: Tony Best (); Ross Crockford (); Peter Duffey (); Jennifer Ghent-Fuller (); Carl Mitchell (); Nick Ryeland (); Rick Speers (); Rob Gibson ()</p> <p>We need 5 committee members to have a quorum ( )</p> <p>Does anyone have a declaration of pecuniary and/or personal interest and general nature thereof?</p>
3.1	*	<p>Motion to accept the minutes of April 16, 2026. (attached)</p> <p>Moved:       Seconded:</p> <p>Amendment:</p> <p>Approved with ( ) without ( ) Amendment :</p>
3.2	*	<p>Would any committee member like to add any item to the agenda?</p> <p>Motion to accept the agenda:   Moved:       Seconded:    Approved</p>

3.3	*	Added items - Does anyone have any environmental issues they would like to discuss?
4. Goals		<p>General Updates on Current Issues.</p> <p>Agenda items are based on the items in the goals of the Final Report of the Lake Stewardship and Environmental Ad Hoc Committee (July 23, 2021), and the purpose of LSEC as outlined in the Terms of Reference in Schedule "A" to By-Law 2021-41, August 10, 2021.</p> <p>NOTE: Numbers have been changed to reflect deleted items. Ongoing items deleted from Agendas and Minutes: Septic Education, Microplastics, Fish Catch reporting sign at Armstrong Lake following stocking, Catch and Release signs, Dark Skies, ICE CAP, EV Chargers, Organic Waste Planning, Pollinator Gardens. These items can be brought back as needed.</p>
4.1	*	<p>Waterfront/Shoreline Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 21 – seven articles written for our facebook page on concerns about environmental damage caused wake surfing (attached in separate email)</li> <li>• Do we want a handout – 4 pager printed on 17 X 11.5?</li> <li>• Email address for responses to wake surfing articles is lsec.boatwake@gmail.com</li> <li>• Chris Houser has updated his talk on wakes – can we invite him to do a talk on zoom and replace the 2 talks already on our web page</li> <li>• We may be able to show videos at the market</li> <li>• <b>Approve question below</b></li> </ul> <p>April 16: Further discussion on the education campaign on wake surfing – see actions below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will advertise an email address and Peter will receive them and farm them out for answering – we could put the questions anonymously and the answers on the facebook page</li> <li>• What form can action take at the market – need cooperation of MLCA – neutral banner about lake traffic etc –</li> <li>• Chris Houser announced that he will be doing research on Manitouwabing Lake in the summer of 2027 – three members with places that form a triangle on the Great Bay are willing to assist</li> <li>• 2026-03-25 19:38:04 From Ross Crockford to Everyone:</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested open-ended question for Facebook: "Enhanced wake boats are designed to create big waves for surfing. They're fun, but controversial: several lakes in Canada and the USA have recently banned wake surfing, because those big waves can damage docks and shorelines, and rip up fish habitat along the lake bottom. Have you experienced any issues with wake boats or wake surfing on Manitouwabing, or any of the other lakes in McKellar township?"</b></p> <p><b>** Is there a general consensus that this is the question we will use?</b></p>
4.2	*	<p>Water Sampling</p> <p>May 21 – have the sample bottles and instructions for sampling for PFA's</p> <p>Apr 16 – should be able to take a sample for PFA's in May –</p>
4.3	*	<p>Publicity</p> <p>May 21 – Ross, Rick and Jennifer are working on revisions to the Environmental Considerations publication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larry Kilian has sent pictures for our consideration for the cover (attached in separate email)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions:</li> <li>• Do we want a page on environmental damage caused by wake surfing?</li> <li>• Do we want a page on PFA's outlining the type of water treatment that filters them out? Or water treatment generally?</li> <li>• Do we want a page or two on how lakes work?</li> <li>• Do we want to keep the boating safety page?</li> <li>• Do we want to add an item discouraging insect fogging?</li> </ul> <p>April 16<sup>th</sup> – Rick, Ross and Jennifer will form a small subcommittee to decide what changes, if any, we need to make to the publication “Environmental Considerations...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion of articles distributed on How Lakes work – parts 1 and 2 are ok – hold the article on water recharge areas until we have information on Drinking Water Source Protection for areas that are not covered under the Clean Water Act</li> </ul> <p>Presentations - YouTube videos from this committee are posted here:  <a href="https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf">https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Links-to-YouTube-Videos.pdf</a> along with other videos</p> <p>Our postings (listings and a table of contents) are uploaded on the township web page under “Residents/Environment.” Jennifer will continue to gradually update the page with Megan Attard’s help. <a href="https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/environment.aspx">https://www.mckellar.ca/en/living-in-our-community/environment.aspx</a></p>
4.4	*	<p>Earth Day / <b>Clean Up Our Lakes</b></p> <p>May 21 – sign put up at the transfer station for the Clean up our lakes campaign May 11</p> <p>April 16 -Publicity to start on May 4<sup>th</sup> there’s lots of garbage in the Township ditches</p> <p>Feb 26 – the new guidelines for recycling in McKellar Township are posted on the web site under Municipal Services/Transfer Station</p> <p>Jan 15 – Council passed a bylaw that we can hold the Clean Up Our Lakes Campaign between May 11 and 25<sup>th</sup> as we requested. We need to put up the sign at the transfer station and do publicity.</p>
4.5	*	<p>Fishing / Wildlife –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 16 – Fishing – MLCA will be conducting the Get the Lead Out campaign again this summer</li> <li>• Apr 16 General discussion about fishers apparently “giving up” on fishing when there are wake boats active on the lake – the fishers apparently get tired of having to repeatedly readjust their positions by pointing in a direction perpendicular to the wakes made by the wake boats. Jennifer asked Chris Houser about the potential effect of the underwater turbulence caused by wake boats and he agreed that it would destroy the bass nests if wake boats were active before the eggs hatch or cause the eggs that are attached to plants with underwater stems in the littoral zone to become detached.</li> <li>• Chair sent a letter to fisheries in Parry Sound inquiring about disturbance of bass nests and oxygen levels at various strata in the lake by wake surfing activity – Could not find Steve Scholten – sent to "info@dfo-mpo.gc.ca" <a href="mailto:info@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">info@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>, but that looks like a federal office</li> <li>• Tony heard from a local resident that he gave up fishing from his boat because wake boat activity was too disruptive. Should we attempt to follow up with other local fishers?</li> </ul> <p>May 21 – Ross has a lead on Turtle signs</p> <p><b>RESOLUTION #3 2025</b></p> <p>Moved: Ross, Seconded Peter – We will spend an amount not to exceed \$ 1200 on turtle signs. Passed Unanimously.</p>
4.6	*	<p>Benthic Study October - 2026 sampling is scheduled for July</p>

		GBB did Benthic sampling again in July 2025 – report is available on the McKellar Web Page here: <a href="https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Manitouwabing-environment-report-2025-1.pdf">https://www.mckellar.ca/en/township-services/resources/Manitouwabing-environment-report-2025-1.pdf</a>												
4.7		Pesticides/Fertilizers –												
4.8		Invasive Species – Mar 19 - Rob forwarded this link <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-fact-sheets">https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-fact-sheets</a>												
4.9		Water Levels –												
4.10		Drinking Water Source Protection Mar 26 – the three associations involved in the Drinking Water Source Protection project last summer made a presentation at the FOCA AGM – no sign of a manual yet												
4.11	*	Strategic Planning – May 21 - please keep track of any thoughts you have this summer on where we should concentrate our efforts in the fall of 2026 and the year of 2027 – email Jennifer and we'll keep a list April 16 – Need to take stock of what we are emphasizing this summer so the entire 2026 effort is not revolving around wake surfing (unless you think that's appropriate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One more educational topic at the most this summer, if that</li> <li>• We could start a campaign to leave the plants in the littoral zone, let them return if they're gone, try to find out information on replanting etc.</li> <li>• Or, do more campaigning on the ground vegetation at the shore.</li> <li>• Invasive species – pick one per year? – feature on FB?</li> <li>• We have an ad going in the MLCA newsletter to encourage people to keep fire damage reduction in mind when they do their yard work, plan renovations etc this year.</li> <li>• Discussion on people being asked for their resident's card at the transfer station – people who have been coming for years from Whitestone or McDougall may be recognized and thought to be from McKellar, so it's needed; students in the summer will not recognize people</li> </ul>												
4.12		Forests – new item – planning to suggest calcium replacement campaign/ash project in Longhorn												
5.	*	Budget May 21 – awaiting approval of our budget Dec 18: Proposed LSEC budget for 2026 presented to Council Dec 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 See Dec and Jan minutes.												
6.	*	Our meetings are now held on the third Thursday of the month. <b>Meeting Dates for 2026:</b> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">January 15<sup>th</sup></td> <td style="width: 50%;">July 16<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>February 19<sup>th</sup> (26<sup>th</sup>)</td> <td>August 20<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td><del>March 19 (26<sup>th</sup>)</del></td> <td>September 17<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 16<sup>th</sup></td> <td>October 15<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 21<sup>st</sup></td> <td>November 19<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 18<sup>th</sup></td> <td>Dec 17<sup>th</sup></td> </tr> </table> <p>The Council Chamber is available and has been booked for Third Thursdays. Old information is occasionally removed from the bottom of each item in these minutes, but can be found in old minutes on the Township's web page under Environment.</p>	January 15 <sup>th</sup>	July 16 <sup>th</sup>	February 19 <sup>th</sup> (26 <sup>th</sup> )	August 20 <sup>th</sup>	<del>March 19 (26<sup>th</sup>)</del>	September 17 <sup>th</sup>	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	October 15 <sup>th</sup>	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	November 19 <sup>th</sup>	June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>
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7.	*	Motion to adjourn. Moved:   Seconded:    Approved:    Time:            pm												