



VOTE TO KEEP MUSKOKA, MUSKOKA. YOU CAN HELP PROTECT THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE!

TELEPHONE AND ONLINE VOTING OCTOBER 17 - 24

Why does the MLA engage in municipal elections?

Some have questioned why the MLA gets involved in politics. The MLA has been participating in Muskoka politics and recommending candidates for over 40 years. MLA members strongly support this political involvement, from as far back as 1979 when 90% of members were in favour. In our recent survey, 88% of members said they want the MLA to continue to provide recommendations for candidates in Muskoka.

How did we identify our community's views of the critical issues facing Muskoka?

This election, as in 2018, the MLA teamed up with Friends of Muskoka and formed a Political Action Team. Early in 2022, the MLA/FOM Political Action Team consulted with our respective boards and many other lake associations to determine the critical issues facing Muskoka:

- End excessive blasting and tree clearing, like on Sugarloaf Island
- Stop residential subdivisions masquerading as resorts
- Ensure responsible short-term rentals
- Protect nature and our lakes
- Ensure more effective by-law enforcement
- Ensure more effective use of your tax dollars
- Prevent council conflicts of interest

- Support the local economy and community
- Preserve the long-term value of your Muskoka investment

We are involved and we are informed!

Our Public Affairs Manager attends most TML council meetings and many in Gravenhurst, Bracebridge, Seguin and District of Muskoka. She reports back on issues of importance and council members' positions. In addition, MLA and FOM directors personally observe and participate in council meetings year-round where important issues are on the agenda.

How did we determine which candidates to endorse?

Through a combination of interviews and/or written questionnaires, we assessed all candidates for their alignment on issues of importance to our members, expertise, knowledge and ability to work effectively at the council table. Detailed presentations were made to the MLA Board of Directors. While all candidates love Muskoka, the MLA Board and FOM approved a list of Endorsed Candidates who we felt would be best able to represent waterfront issues and be effective councillors in each of TML, Gravenhurst, Bracebridge and Seguin.

Voting is easier than ever!

Few of us realize that Ontario property owners and their spouses can both vote in every municipality where they own property. So you and your spouse can both vote at your home AND also at your cottage if you are: a Canadian citizen, 18+ years old; and you are registered to vote. Renters and their spouses can also vote.

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President's MESSAGE



Muskoka gets under your skin. It happened to me as a teenager, delivering the morning newspaper dock to dock, watching the sun rise over the misty lake. I watched the same thing happen to my four boys as they settled into the rhythm of a Muskoka day, with the lure of the lake to swim, fish and water ski, and the forest to explore and build forts. Muskoka is under my family's skin. And I'm pretty confident it's under your skin, too.

What a Muskoka summer we had! Most of us found ways to be together safely with family and friends, and the fun side of the MLA was back with in-person aquatic and sailing regattas, seedling day, and the ever popular antique boat show. A huge thank you to the over one hundred volunteers and our amazing office personnel who organized these events and also brought our water quality testing back to pre-pandemic areas.

The October 17th - 24th municipal election is now top of mind.

A great deal has changed in Muskoka since the 2018 election. Back then the issue that drove us to vote was preventing subdivisions on commercial resort properties, like at Minett or Legacy Cottages on Lake Rosseau. But forces have appeared in Muskoka which value the ability to build whatever they want, without regard to the impact on this magnificent place. Many of them have a short-term commercial interest in development projects not always aligned with the long-term best interests of Muskoka.

We are all in Muskoka because someone built here, and many of us (me included) are building. Fortunately, many in the development community agree with the MLA's goal of developing responsibly so we don't lose Muskoka's beautiful natural character and clean water - those unique attributes that draw people here, and that maintain our property values.

But the forces that have appeared are pushing back against efforts by the MLA and councils across Muskoka to curtail unsustainable building practices. They also have aligned candidates running in the municipal election. This election is crucial because the councils elected in October will be finalizing the official plans that the MLA and our community have been working so hard on over the past three years, and then approving the scores of building details that will be put into by-laws.

Some have asked why the MLA is involved in municipal politics at all. The quick answer is that 88% of the MLA's membership said they want our help assessing candidates and our recommendations as to who is most aligned with members' values. The longer answer is best told in this story.

Over 40 years ago, on December 21, 1979 when most seasonal residents had closed up their cottages for the winter, Muskoka Lakes Council unanimously approved plans for a large resort

complex on Lake Muskoka at Roseneath. This came as a blow to the MLA, which had been working with a professional planner trying to convince council of the need for careful planning and development. Roseneath became a rallying cry and in a member survey, 90% were in favour of the MLA participating in local politics. The political action committee, headed by Robin Labatt, launched its Your Muskoka campaign for the October 1982 municipal election. The MLA put up 1,000 'Save Our Shores' posters and ran ads in the Muskoka Sun, endorsed candidates, called over 2,000 people, and organized buses from Yorkdale to Muskoka on voting day. Seven of the ten candidates endorsed by the MLA were elected, and a new awareness and co-operative spirit was created around the council table.

So the roots of the MLA's political action run deep! The MLA can only further our members' goals of responsible development (97%) and reasonable taxation (85%) if we advocate with council throughout the term and participate in elections by identifying aligned candidates and informing and engaging our members. This is the democratic way. It takes a tremendous effort by our MLA volunteers, but we believe it is worth every minute.

I hope you will take a few minutes to learn more about the October election in our Elections article in this issue of Shorelines. It has information about voting (online and by phone - no need to organize buses!), and the candidates endorsed by the MLA Board of Directors.

On October 17th - 24th, vote for your family's enjoyment of one of the most beautiful places in the world and for your property values. Vote to honour the efforts of past generations, and for the next generation to be able to enjoy it here. In the words of the tagline in our new MLA logo, vote "for all generations".



**Cottages are special places.
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COCKBURN ISLAND

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Voting is online or by phone. If you are registered to vote, you will have received a Voter Information Letter in the mail at your permanent address in September with voting instructions. It includes your personal identification number that you need to vote.

If you have questions, visit our elections website vote4muskoka.ca or call or go online with your municipality (numbers and links are on our website).

How do you determine if you are registered to vote?

You can easily determine whether you and your spouse are registered to vote.

- For Township of Muskoka Lakes, click on the TML Voter Registration Portal on the Township's website.
- For Gravenhurst, click on the Gravenhurst Voter Registration Portal on the Town's website.
- For Bracebridge, click on the Bracebridge Voter Registration Portal on the Town's website.
- If you are not registered, you can register right there on these portals.

Or call the municipal office: TML (705) 765-3156, Seguin (705) 732-4300, Gravenhurst (705) 687-3412, Bracebridge (705) 645-5264.

Meet the MLA and FOM Endorsed Candidates

GRAVENHURST ENDORSED CANDIDATES

Mayor

Terry Pilger



District Councillors

Sandy Cairns



Peter Johnston



Jaden Hollingshead



Ward 1 Councillor

Penny Varney



Ward 2 Councillor

Joanne Morphy (acclaimed)



Ward 3 Councillor

Michelle Robinson



Ward 4 Councillor

Randy Jorgensen



Ward 5 Councillor

Christina Hunter



BRACEBRIDGE ENDORSED CANDIDATES

Mayor

Michael Opara



District Councillors

Brenda Rhodes



Don Smith



Tatiana Sutherland



Ward 1 Councillor

Christian McEachran Morin



Ward 2 Councillor

Steve Binstock



Ward 3 Councillor

Stuart McKinnon



Ward 4 Councillor (acclaimed)

Archie Buie



Ward 5 Councillor

Serge Valcourt



SEGUIN ENDORSED CANDIDATES

Mayor

Ann MacDiarmid (*acclaimed*)



Ward 1 Councillor

Janet Borneman



Ward 2 Councillor

Art Coles



Ward 3 Councillor

Greg Getty



Ward 4 Councillor (*acclaimed*)

Terry Fellner



Ward 5 Councillor

Ted Collins



Ward 6 Councillor (*acclaimed*)

Gail Finnson



MUSKOKA LAKES ENDORSED CANDIDATES

Mayor

Peter Kelley



Ward A

District Councillor (*acclaimed*)

Ruth Nishikawa



Township Councillors

Mary Ellen McIntyre

Glenn Zavitz



Ward B

District Councillor (*acclaimed*)

Allen Edwards



Township Councillors

Susan Mazan

Gord Roberts



Ward C

District Councillor (*acclaimed*)

Guy Burry



Township Councillors

Sally Moyer Kent

Rob Bosomworth



NB: you may vote for 2 Township Councillors in your ward

Muskoka Lakes Association (info@mmla.on.ca) and Friends of Muskoka (info@friendsofmuskoka.ca) are registered third party advertisers in the Town of Gravenhurst, Town of Bracebridge, Seguin Township and Township of Muskoka Lakes.

DETAILS HERE



ON OCTOBER 24TH
WE CAN HELP KEEP
MUSKOKA, MUSKOKA.

HELP WANTED - EDITOR POSITION

The MLA is currently looking to hire an editor to oversee the publication of both the yearbook, as well as NewsBites. The RFP can be accessed here <https://mmla.on.ca/web/default/files/Banners%20Home%20Page/RFQ%20Scope%20220929.pdf>

If you or anyone you know is interested in applying or learning more, please direct your inquiries to admin@mmla.on.ca.



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

The Muskoka Lakes Association is proud to support our local community and raise awareness of the amazing work done through local organizations. This summer the MLA donated \$1,000 to an organization fitting those qualities, the Bracebridge Women's Shelter.

Interval house is a charitable non-profit organization whose vision is the elimination of oppression, abuse and violence against women.

These funds will help support women and their children on a short-term emergency basis through accommodations, confidential support, and access to community resources. These programs also extend to assist in the transition to a long term safer, healthier living environment.

The MLA is pleased to donate these funds to help support this valued community association. Thank you, MLA members.



New Members

Please welcome the following as new members of the MLA! From July 12 to September 29, 2022

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Scott BAKEWELL | Barbara CRAIG | Douglas & Carrie GRAY, GRAY-BEARSS | Jacqueline MEIERS | Barry & Patti ROTH |
| Julie BATTERSBY | Leslie CROMPTON | Kim & Bill HOROSKO | Alex MILIC | Ian SHANTZ |
| Brent & Jennifer BISHOP | John DEFRANCESCO | Mike & Lori HOTSON | Robert & Sandra PEARSON | Daniel SIMMONDS |
| Barbara CHISHOLM | Sheila DOHERTY | Pamela HUGHES | Andrea PORTER | Paul SPAFFORD |
| Maureen CLARKE | Robert DURRANT | Peter JOEL | Deborah POTTS | Maksims VOLKOV |
| Tom CLOSSON | Hussein FAZAL | Stephen JONES | Joe QUATRARO | Nancy & Andrew WHYNOT |
| Joan & Peter COPP | Leanne & Dave FIFIELD | Kit C. A. KENNARD | Harry REINDERS | |
| Douglas & Elizabeth COWAN, HENDERSON | Laurie FLETCHER | Linda MCNEIL | Selene RICHARDS | |
| | Randall GILBERT | | | |

10th Annual Food Drive




The week following Thanksgiving don't forget to donate! This year, all donations will be in support of the **West Muskoka Food Bank**.

Drop-off Locations:

- Oliver's Coffee - Bracebridge
- Oliver's Coffee - Gravenhurst
- Oliver's Coffee - Port Carling
- Oliver's Coffee - Bala
- Glen Orchard General Store
- Rosseau General Store
- Spirit Bay Harbour Marina
- Walkers Point Marina
- Campbell's Landing Marina
- SWS Boatworks
- Hamer Bay Marina
- Gordon Bay Marina
- The Cove Marina
- MLA Office

Drop off bins are accessible during open hours only inside the above locations.



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DOUG CROSS STEWARDSHIP RECOGNITION - CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRIS & LOUISE CRAGG



Doug Cross Stewardship Recognition Program to help local community and lake organizations across Muskoka's watersheds recognize the dedication, effort, and good stewardship activities



of their members. 2022 award of Recognition was presented to Chris and Louise Cragg.

Chris and Louise have been long-time members of the Muskoka Lakes Association and have always actively participated in the citizen science aspect of the water quality initiative. Chris is currently an MLA director and is the Chair of the Water Quality and

Environment Portfolio. Under Chris's direction the program has pursued an improved scientific approach which has benefited the watershed and provided local governments, residents and cottagers with a comprehensive annual report. This report also initiates a call to action for areas of concern. Chris is also a member of the Muskoka Watershed Advisory Group. This is a provincially structured group of nine individuals who work with the province to protect the Muskoka Watershed while supporting economic growth.

Thank you to Chris and Louise for their stewardship of Muskoka.



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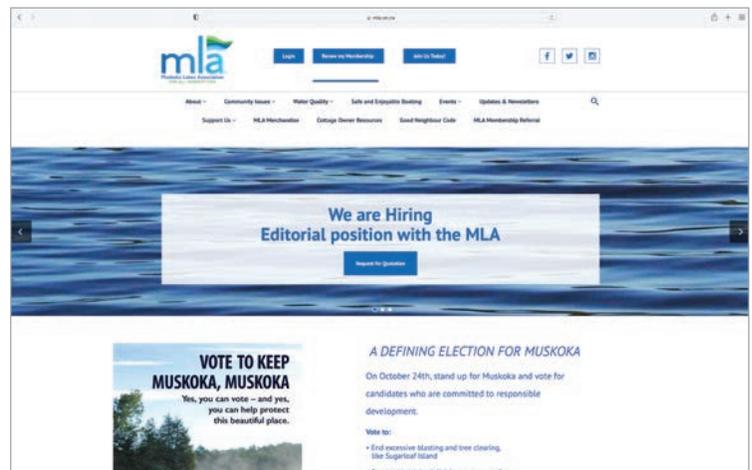


CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

* Broker ** Sales Representative

MLA DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Behind the scenes the MLA continues to work on improving our digital systems to better serve our members. This includes an updated look to our website in keeping with our new logo (with content revisions yet to come) as well as a new and improved membership renewal process. Your 2023 membership renewal will be primarily sent out through email allowing for online renewal, and at long last you will also be able to select auto-renew, should you prefer this option. This means you don't have to manually renew every year! Membership renewal messages with more details and instructions will be sent in the coming weeks and you can test drive the new website for yourself!





Autumn is generally the time for new initiatives, new projects, and a "get back" to school and commitments. Now is the perfect time to get back to your commitment to Muskoka and help bring one new family into the MLA. Talk to your friends and neighbours who are not members, and call the office with their name and contact info. We'll do the rest!



AUTUMN "GET BACK"

REFER A FRIEND AND BECOME AN MLA AMBASSADOR

DETAILS, TOOLS & SIGN UP

Contact us at newmembers@mmla.on.ca or by phone 705.765.5723

mla
Muskoka Lakes Association
FOR ALL GENERATIONS

MLA 2022 PHOTO CONTEST

Entries may be submitted by MLA members and their families in the categories of:

- Muskoka Wildlife**
Capture unique pictures of Muskoka's beautiful wildlife
- Fun & Games With The Next Generation**
What games do you play with the kids at the cottage?
- Naturally Beautiful Shorelines**
Show us the beauty of your natural shorelines
- Yearbook Cover**
Have your photo featured on the yearbook cover!

High resolution, portrait orientation photos only please!

Sponsored by **Aben** GRAPHICS
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VISIT www.mla.on.ca for complete contest rules

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Local's Corner

Northern Living Kitchen & Bath Ltd.



This business was started in 2005 after founder Nancy Fournier moved to Muskoka to live in her cottage full time. She had been designing kitchens since 1987 in southern Ontario. Searching for work in her field here turned up empty, so Northern Living was born in a small rental space in Parry Sound, focused on designing and installing kitchen and bathroom cabinetry.

Business boomed, and within a year they outgrew that space and began building the Northern Living Design Center where they are currently located.

The new facility includes a full range of bathroom fixtures, tiles, countertops, and cabinetry. Jason Robertson joined them at that time and their services expanded to include full turn-key renovations. A few years later lighting was added to their product offering with the addition of Living Lighting Parry Sound. This makes it very simple for clients to choose everything needed for their renovation in one visit.

They currently work with a team of 3 designers, a project manager, a lighting and plumbing fixture specialist, and a team of skilled installation trades.

Nancy says working on summer homes and lake front properties is especially enjoyable, as these spaces have special design challenges. They are also areas where clients like to express their tastes. While their urban homes may have a “typical” aesthetic, cottages are often in families for generations, so there is not the need to think about following a formula of design for resale, but where they can truly customize a space for the unique requirements of the family.

Northern Living Kitchen & Bath is located in Parry Sound, and are currently booking renovations well into 2023. Demand throughout the pandemic has been non stop, and the pace shows no signs of slowing down.

Northern Living Kitchen & Bath Ltd.
6 Designer's Lane
Seguin, ON P2A 0B2
705.746.8686
www.northernliving.ca

Cathie Mostowyk



Contact Us

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