

**Notre Dame and Usher Lakes Association**  
**Annual General Meeting – Rupert Community Hall**  
**August 24, 2017, 10:00 am**

*Mandate of the association:*

*“to promote, protect and preserve the quality of Lac Notre Dame and Usher Lake and the watershed environment of the Lakes to ensure their continued use and enjoyment by all”.*

**Constitution of the meeting**

At the opening of the meeting, of the 27 members registered in 2017, 14 were present.

Therefore, quorum was attained.

Move to open the meeting – Jane Hayward

Seconded - Lisa Fast

**Approval of 2016 AGM minutes.**

Move to approve minutes of AGM, 2016 - Lisa Fast

Seconded – Dave Hayward

**Approval of the 2016 AGM agenda**

Move to accept agenda – Lynn Forrest

Seconded - Lisa Fast

**Treasurer’s Report**

The report was presented by Lisa Fast. There were 27 members in 2017, bringing in \$550 in membership fees, down from 39 in 2016.

The two bank accounts hold \$5,666.74. Expenses this year were \$562.34 including bank fees, Revenue Quebec filings, web site hosting, the post box rental and purchase of additional buoys.

- In the spring meeting, the Board had voted to reduce membership fees to \$10 per household for 2017, given that there was \$5,000 in the accounts.

Jim Bowen asked why membership was declining – Lisa explained that Milfoil was at its height when the association began, people have gotten used to it. Another member commented that awareness is low – that in particular, because the website is not updated, people may not be aware the Association is still active.

---

**Bank Accounts as of June 31 2017**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Members	27	39
<b>Revenus - Income</b>		
Cotisation/Memberships	\$550.00	\$700.00
Deposit on Mail box		
Don/Donation		
Subvention	Municipalité	
Intéret	Banque	\$17.16
Total	<b>\$568.12</b>	\$717.16
<b>Frais généraux d'administration</b>		
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Charges locatives - Rental	\$-	\$-
Cheques		
Bank Fees	\$71.40	\$71.40
Permis	\$34.00	\$-

---

Fourniture Bureau		\$20.82
Web Site	\$95.88	\$34.07
Casier postal box	\$196.61	\$179.36
Buoys	\$164.45	\$143.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$562.34</b>	<b>\$449.28</b>

Bénéfice - net earning \$5.78 \$267.88

**Summary with bank balance**

Debut	Chequing	\$2,623.17	\$2,208.00
	Savings	\$3,037.79	\$3,020.63
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,660.96</b>	<b>\$5,228.63</b>

Revenues	\$568.12	\$717.16
Depenses	\$562.34	\$449.28
<b>Total Current</b>	<b>\$5,666.74</b>	<b>\$5,496.51</b>

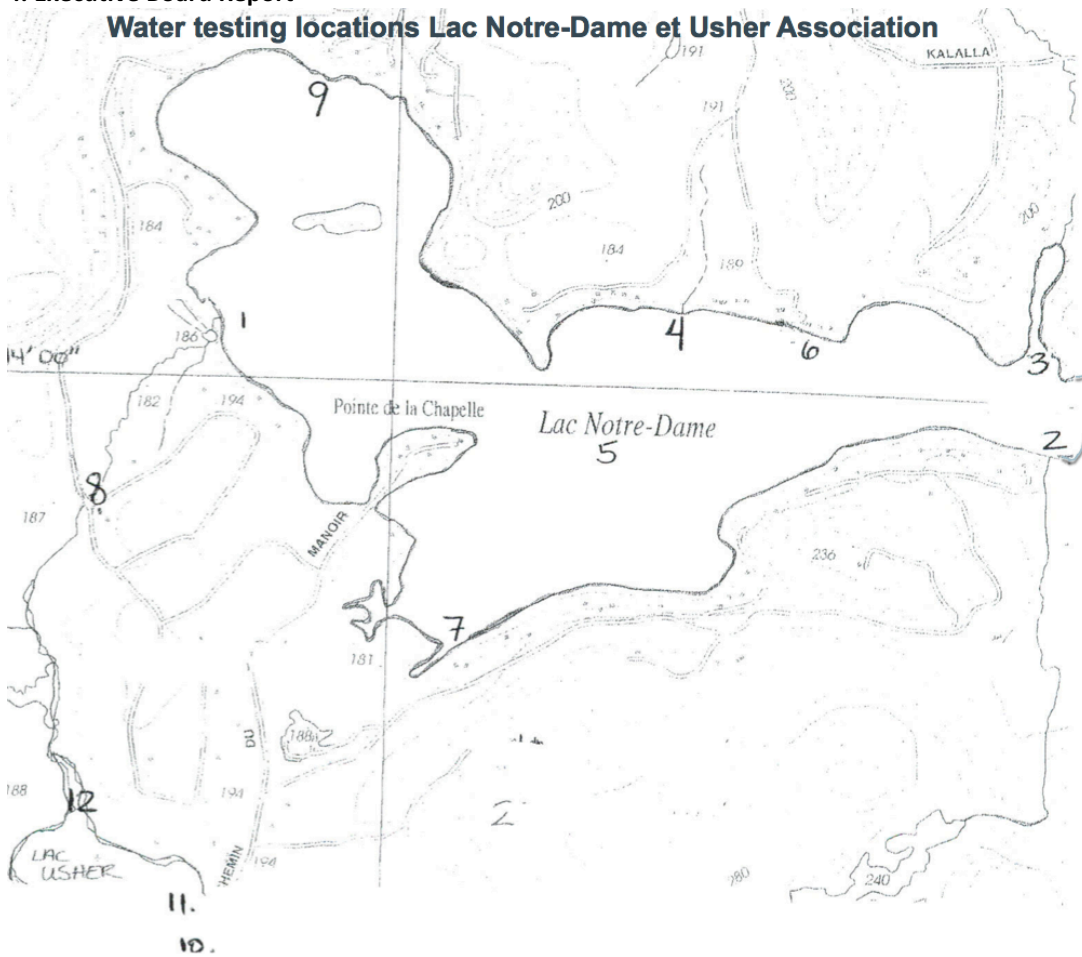
**Solde banque/ bank balance**

Chequing	\$2,612.20	\$2,458.72
Savings	\$3,054.54	\$3,037.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,666.74</b>	<b>\$5,496.51</b>

Moved to accept Treasurer's report – Erin Jamison  
 Seconded – Marie Maisonneuve

**4. Executive Board Report**

**Water testing locations Lac Notre-Dame et Usher Association**



Water testing – Water levels in the lake are very high this year due to record-level rainfall (Ottawa’s total rainfall for July 2017 was 249.8 mm – the most since recording began at the Ottawa Airport in 1938) and cooler weather (not a single day above 30 degrees in July).

Water transparency tests with the Secchi disk were performed in July by Lisa Fast, with help from Denis Corbeil. The measurement in the deepest part of the lake at location #9 (between island and shore at Chemin Corbeil) was 3.75 meters. In 2015, a 7m measurement was recorded at the same location but that month Ottawa received only 40mm of rain. This year’s rainfall has brought in a lot of sediment, and high water levels have eroded the shoreline as well. Another clarity measurement will be done in September, hopefully there will be some improvement.

Laboratory water testing is planned for this coming week and will be performed by Carole Doré. Results will be posted on the Facebook page.

Milfoil – People were reminded of the importance of removing milfoil cuttings from the water, after cutting. Milfoil bits may also drift in that have been cut up by boat motors, and lake residents are encouraged to remove them from the lake (they make good compost). A member said that they felt that more cuttings were washing in this year on the North-East side of the lake.

- The Lake Association encourages residents to cut milfoil themselves and remove the cuttings.
- **Cutting tools – link will be added to site/Facebook.** Some residents purchased Weed shears and/or Aquatic Weed Eradicator cutters for personal use or shared use from this site: <https://canadianpond.ca/product/aquatic-weed-rakes-cutters/>

*Electric cutter history:* An electric cutter was purchased before 2008 by the Association, and is stored at Bob Scott’s. It required mounting on a barge and a team of 10-12 volunteers to manage both the cutter and the manual labour of removing the heavy cuttings from the water. After a few years, as the weed levels naturally declined, & the cutter was no longer used due to the huge amount of effort required to organize a volunteer team, boats, fuel and strong bodies. The barge was destroyed in 2010, as it was stored at Camp Kalalla, and was a danger to the camp. The Association did not renew its insurance; therefore future users would need to sign a waiver to borrow the cutter and would have to return it in the same condition that they received it in. No one has done so since 2010.

Lake Watch - No new invasive aquatic plants or species have been reported. Zebra mussels are a concern, as well as the Rusty Crayfish.

Info-sharing – The web site has not been updated because the format/system is too old. People expressed that there was a need for better communication with members and residents. The board will try to improve communications via email by collecting email addresses for all members and the web.

- The Board agreed that awareness is a priority – Lisa will redesign and update the website this fall so that the latest reports are available and so the site can be viewed from a mobile phone.

Beaver impact: Erin Jamison reported that the beaver dam at the exit to Usher is under control and free-flowing. Marie Maisonneuve reported that there are active beavers damming near test location #2. At location #3, on the creek from Notre Dame to Lac Bernard, there appears to be flow and little obstruction.

- The Lake Association has no authority to manage beavers, rather we depend on property owners to contact the municipality or local trappers.

Ice fishing: Concerns were expressed about garbage and fires on the lake during winter, and that a tournament had been held. Residents are asked to contact the Municipality if they have concerns about ice fishing activities on the lake.

## 5. Proposed program for 2017-2018

Website- Lisa will manage the update of the website this fall. Hosting fees were paid in July by Robert Boucher.

Email communications plan: The post office box will be closed because the Association has moved to online banking and box rental fees are over \$100 per year. Communications with the volunteer board members will be supported via email and the web site.

Fridge magnets & AirBNB binder page: Lisa brought copies of the proposed fridge magnet and AirBnB-style binder page. The text has been reviewed and approved by the Board, although a French translation is still required. The board will source and obtain the magnets/cards with suction cups this year, we expect to spend up to \$200 on these items, and deliver them to local residents via members and/or dock drops.

Boat Launch signage: We had a very good discussion with regards to a proposed purchase of 'No boat launch' signs. Quite a few people worried that signs would signal/hint to people that there WAS a boat launch there – that no signs were better. The Board agreed that boat launching in general is outside of the mandate of the Association.

- A motion to abandon the purchase of signs was proposed by Diane Ferguson, seconded by Lisa Fast and voted upon, with the majority supporting that the Association should not buy the signs.
- It was suggested that people could put up "Privée/ cul de sac" signs on their roads to let people know they are private roads. It was also agreed that a member would re-situate the "wash your boat" sign on Ch. Generations so that it also does not convey the impression that there is a boat launch in that area.

Move to adopt the proposed program – Lynn Forrest

Seconded – Lisa Fast

## 11. Elections

The current board agreed to stay on, with the addition of one new volunteer, Marie Maissonneuve.

1. Jane Hayward, President
2. Robert Boucher, Vice President
3. Lisa Fast (Treasurer)
4. Dave Hayward
5. Erin Jamison
6. Marie Maissonneuve \*new member

The Board requested new members. Robert Boucher for example, has served for over 10 years.

Meetings will be restricted to two times per year in addition to the annual general meeting.

However, Article 3 requires 7 people on the Board.

### Article 3 - Board Of Directors

3.1 The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of seven (7) persons, each of whom at the time of his/her election, or within ten (10) days thereafter and throughout his/her term of office, shall be a member in good standing of the Association. If a person ceases to be a member in good standing of the Association then he/she shall no longer qualify to be a Director and must resign forthwith.

3.2 The election of Directors at the Annual General Meeting of members may be by a show of hands, but if more than the required number of Directors are nominated and stand for election, the vote shall be conducted by secret ballot. The members of the Association may, by resolution passed by at least two-thirds (67%) of the votes cast at a Meeting of members of which notice specifying the intention to pass such a resolution has been given, remove any Director before the expiration of his/her term of office, and may, by a majority of the votes cast at the meeting, elect a person in his/her stead for the remainder of his/her term.

3.3 The Directors shall strive to achieve the Objectives of the Association.

"to promote, protect and preserve the environmental quality of the lakes and the watershed, for the use and enjoyment of everyone."

Each Director shall act upon the business of the Board in a thoughtful, conscientious, financially-responsible and transparent manner. Directors are expected to take an active role in the promotion and development of the Objectives of the Association. Each Director, excluding the President and Vice President, shall serve as a liaison for a specific area of the Lakes, and his/her responsibilities shall include coordinating activities and communications between the Association and its members of the sector he/she represents.

3.4 The Board should to the extent possible have representation from all sectors of Lac Notre-Dame and at least one representative from Usher Lake.

- Jane Hayward will look into changing the articles, given the small size of the Association in general.

Closure at 11:50 am

Move to adjourn – Erin Jamison

Seconded – Lisa Fast

