



## **Lake of the Woods District Stewardship Association**

63<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of Members

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 7:00 pm online via Teams

### **President's Welcome**

President Garth Collier welcomed attendees to the 2025 Annual General Meeting of members and reviewed virtual meeting procedures, including muting microphones, using the Q&A tab, and voting via the raise-hand icon. A support phone number was provided for technical issues.

Garth acknowledged the lands and waters of Treaty 1 and Treaty 3, recognizing the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Cree, and Métis peoples.

Garth then confirmed that a quorum of members was present, then called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Garth presented the agenda for the 2025 Annual General Meeting and called for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was moved by Don Parfitt, seconded by Carley Fyke, and passed.

### **Approval of 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Garth called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The motion was moved by Trevor Templeton, seconded by Adam Blake, and passed.

### **President's Report**

Garth summarized the activities of the Association over the past year and highlighted the completion of a full governance review and the future governance operations of the Association. Garth also touched on forestry and Highway 17 twinning.

Garth introduced Brie McCardle, Executive Director; Quinn Miller, Membership and Communications Coordinator; and Mimi Mastromatteo, Social Media Manager.

## **Executive Director's Report**

Brie McCarlde began her Executive Director's report by highlighting the strength of LOWDSA's community and the impact of member support. Brie announced the LakeSmart Team for 2025, including returning members Cass Wagner (LakeSmart Lead), Ashley Vogrig, and Aneira Olsen, and welcoming new team member Kailyn Rozecki. Brie acknowledged the 2024 LakeSmart sponsors and announced the Celebrate Lake Life Golf Tournament to be held on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Brie concluded with a tribute to Garth Collier as he steps down from the role of LOWDSA President.

## **2024 Financial Statements**

Carley Fyke, Co-Treasurer of the Association, presented the report of the Finance Committee and the 2024 audited Financial Statements. Carley reported on the Association's revenue and expenses and reviewed the statement of financial position and 2024 EISP position. Carley summarized the financial expectations for the coming year.

## **Appointment of Auditors**

Carley Fyke moved that Ainsley Donald, Independent Auditor, be re-appointed auditor of the Association for the 2025 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Jeff Rempel, and passed.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Membership and Communications Committee**

Trevor Templeton, Chair of the Membership and Communications Committee, summarized the initiatives of the Committee during 2024 which included the new LOWDSA website, new LOWDSA-branded paddles, and the planning of a billboard along Highway 17. Trevor also commented on the planned activities for 2025, including the first Celebrate Lake Life Golf Tournament. Lastly, Trevor acknowledged the fee increase that took place in 2024.

Quinn Miller, Membership and Communications Coordinator, summarized the social media and membership statistics of the Association. Quinn discussed the launch of the new LOWDSA website, highlighting the simplicity and functionality while also encouraging feedback through the transition period.

**Government Affairs Committee**

Don Parfitt, Chair of the Government Affairs Committee, presented the current issues that the Committee is monitoring, including highway twinning, forestry management, nuclear waste, water levels, internet access developments, and Federal Capital Gains Taxation. Don concluded by noting that if there are any other topics members would like the Committee to follow, they can reach out to Brie (Executive Director).

**Environment Committee**

Adam Blake, Chair of the Environment Committee, reported on the activities of the Committee throughout the year, including the acquisition of LOWDSA's first owned boat wash station, expanded programming in Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, seedling sales and tree planting, and engagement of youth through the LakeSmart program. Adam also highlighted continued LakeSmart programming for 2025 as well as IISD-Experimental Lakes tours, and metal and electronic waste collection events.

**Election of Directors**

Chris Semenchuk, Chair of the Nominating Committee introduced the following nominees to the Board of Directors:

- Natalie James
- Leigh McKenzie
- Meghan Mills
- Joanne Tuckwell
- James Williams

Chris moved that the following directors be elected to serve a term of two years, seconded by Bob Stewart, and passed.

- Garth Collier
- Carley Fyke
- Martha Mankewich
- Natalie James
- Leigh McKenzie
- Meghan Mills
- Joanne Tuckwell
- James Williams

Chris shared the list of the current directors of the Association:

- Bob Stewart
- Carley Fyke
- Don Parfitt
- Garth Collier
- James Williams
- Jeff Rempel
- Joanne Tuckwell
- Leigh McKenzie
- Martha Mankewich
- Meghan Mills
- Natalie James
- Sean Campbell
- Trevor Templeton

#### **Question and Answer Session and Adjournment**

Garth gave tributes to Adam Blake and Chris Semenchuk for their years of service and leadership.

Following a question-and-answer session, Garth welcomed the new Board members and thanked the members for their attendance at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.