

## Message from your President 30 March 2021

Hello to each one of you,

Let me begin by wishing you good health as the third wave of the pandemic arrives. The wonderful news is that many of our senior residents have now been vaccinated. The Lachute arena vaccination site is operating smoothly.

This is the season of the annual spring thaw. Please be tolerant of the road potholes that we will maintain once the frost is out of the ground.

I would like to make a special mention of the energetic performance of your roads director Wayne Chambers. Since taking over he has had to deal with a fallen tree across the Entrance 1 road, renting a chainsaw and doing the work himself. When a huge rock rolled onto the road behind Stephane Pommet's house at 1732, we shifted it and he painted it bright orange to create our first Lake Sir John meteorite. He has also dealt with two road washouts near the junction with the road to Undermount farm, the most recent due to fast snow melting during a period of exceptional spring heat. His volunteerism and quick reactions have been exceptional. Wayne and I conducted a detailed inspection of our roads last fall, and we are developing a multi-year work plan for their continued improvement and maintenance. Wayne, thank you.

In my next note in April I will be asking you where you would like to volunteer and make a contribution to our lake community life. If each of us takes some of the load, the burden is shared and made easier. By working together we build community spirit and get to know our neighbours better.

At our March executive meeting the new Guidelines for Harmonious Lake Living were unanimously approved. There were amendments to the version circulated last August based on feedback received. We have placed restrictions on the power and speed of electric boat motors to protect our swimmers, as Dunany has also done. The approved text will be distributed in both printed and electronic form to residents in due course. Our Guidelines also contain a process for ongoing improvement, so this will be a living document. May I thank Susan Anastasopoulos, Mariam Bowen and Janet Donald for their incredible dedication and perseverance on this project.

We have made an enormous effort to update and track down contact information for our residents, with efforts by Terry Brew and David Bouskill and others. If you know of anyone who is not receiving our updates, please let one of the executive know. As well on the information front, Oksanna Pohlod has registered our domain name, has completed a website plan and is now building the site pages which will be password-controlled with a security certificate to protect the privacy of our residents and their information. You can see the beginning of our site by searching [alsj.ca](http://alsj.ca).

We have made steady progress on investigating the future of our corporate structure, including a draft plan of work and schedule. This is of course complicated with legal and financial implications and the option to create a nature reserve. We are currently awaiting advice from our notary and expanding our investigation to include an accounting firm. As many of you have told me, we are conscious of the need to preserve our 100 acres of buffer space and to be financially prudent. Many thanks to Chris Vroom, Janet Donald, Peter Nicholson, Mariam Bowen, Sylvie Dandurand and Terry Brew on this effort so far. We will keep you informed of progress.

On a related matter, the Cintra quarry just to the South of the lake has written me to advise that blasting and crushing operations will continue throughout 2021.

We welcome to the lake the Hebert family at 1143 (Alain St Denis' former house) and Cynthia Dawson who purchased land to the left of the hill up from the Entrance 1 causeway.

Please reserve your calendar for a lake regatta of human-powered watercraft on the weekend of 17-18 July. We intend to hold this event on the water and on rafts to ensure physical distancing amid the pandemic. More information will follow later.

In closing, may I wish you a happy Easter or Passover, and a healthy spring.

Doug Dempster, President