

# The Sandbar



Lac Patterson's newsletter



## Our first newsletter!

You've seen our post on Facebook or our blogs on the website, but now we have a newsletter!

Starting spring 2024, a semi-annual newsletter (April and October) will be available at each cottage. I will also distribute the newsletter to cottages that are not part of the Facebook group this spring. The goal is to send the newsletter by electronic email in the future. The newsletter will also be archived on our website.

1

### EMAIL

Send us your email address to: admin@lac-patterson-lake.ca

2

### ADDRESS

Please add your cottage address in the email and language preference

3

### FEEDBACK

Your feedback is always welcome through email or Facebook!



### Eurasian water milfoil results

See page 2 for details



### New lake association

Let's rebuild the lake association. See page 3



### Water testing

RSVL and E.Coli testing. See page 4



### New lake logo!!

See page 5

### 2023 Financial results

See page 6

## Eurasian Water Milfoil

It affects almost over 200 lakes in Quebec and 57 in the Outaouais region and it threatens our lake.

It's one of the invasive species that is spreading quickly in all lakes. It grows and spreads rapidly while invading replacing native plants. It negatively impacts fish and wildlife populations as well as human activities such as swimming, boating, waterskiing, fishing and tourism in affected areas. It can also affect your property value negatively from 8 to 19%. Milfoil populations can be very dense making it very costly to control if not done quickly.

**“Prevention costs less than controlling it.”**

Last year and this summer, it appeared that we had Eurasian water milfoil near the bridge which is usually always the place where it makes its presence due to the boat launch. Boats that have visited other lakes and have not washed beforehand are the number one culprits in introducing the invasive plants in lake (the photo on the right was taken near the bridge). The sighting was reported to Sentinelle, the Quebec government website to report invasive species for official validation. The biologist reported that it didn't appear to



be Eurasian but that it was a native version. However, another sample will be taken this summer to confirm.

31 Mile Lake has taken the approach to install buoys to mark the areas with milfoil to alert boaters to avoid the area and prevent breakage of the plant.

Blue Sea Lake had tarps installed over the affected areas.

Any of these options cost money and effort and it is difficult to obtain funds from local or provincial government so it's up to us to fundraise.

Think about how much money you don't spend yearly at home for landscaping or keeping the grass free of weeds. Wouldn't your lake paradise merit just as much?

### BOAT WASHING IS IMPORTANT!

If you or your guests use your boat on other lakes, PLEASE ensure that your boat is washed before AND after visiting another lake. Hot water and high pressure boat wash is available free at the Cayamant Municipal office.



## New Cottage Association

It's time to come together again.

It's been years since the Patterson Lake Cottage Association has been defunct. But with the lake under pressure from invasive species and sedimentation, it's time to come together and make plans for its future.

**“I care about my lake and want to be involved in it's future.”**

We should all care about that beautiful stretch of water in front of our cottage. It's why we are all here isn't it? To enjoy swimming, boating, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, having a bonfire by the lake with our friends and family.

When the lake faces threats, it's hard and almost impossible to tackle them on an individual basis. How do you have a voice at



the municipal or provincial level? How do you get funds/grants to fight invasive species?

A lake association such as a not-for-profit organization can help support short and long term goals/actions from the community to protect the lake, get recognized formally at the local or provincial level and also facilitates obtaining grants and protects individual members in a legal situation. It fosters a community that works for a common goal - the protection and health of Lac Patterson.

Though I am happy to be involved and help create one, I am looking for a champion(s) to take up the mantle and get it done.

### NON-PROFIT LEGAL PERSON. WHAT'S INVOLVED?

This is the type of organization that needs to be created with the Registraire des Entreprises du Québec. It exists separate than from its members. Can sign contracts through its members. May sue or be sued the same way as a natural person. Does not share capital and its members are not liable. The initial setup cost is approximately \$300.00.

Once set up, the interim administration proceeds to write the goals and stewardship as well as set up a membership fee. An annual general meeting is set up to elect board members and adopt the goals. Association insurance should also be considered (additional cost).



## Lake water testing

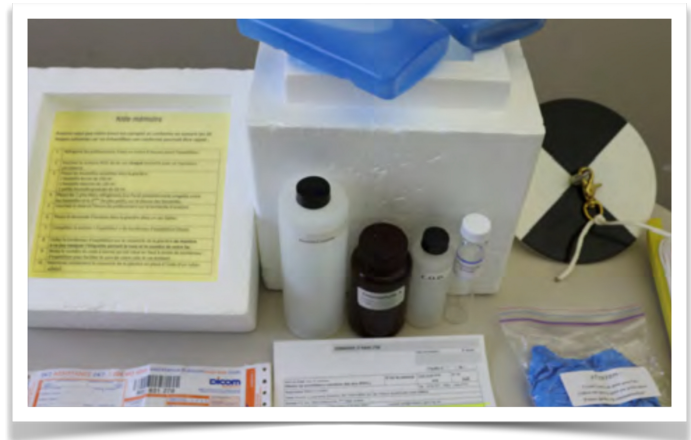
### Provincial testing with RSVL and our own E.Coli tests

Since 2022, in June, July and August, measurements for water transparency, Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll a, and dissolved organic carbon are taken and sent to the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs (RSVL).

As well, E.Coli testing is done with an Ottawa lab, three times during the summer.

### “Annual testing costs are about \$600/year.”

It's important to map out the improvements/ degradation in the quality of the lake water year over year. 2023 RSVL results are posted on our website [www.lac-patterson-lake.ca](http://www.lac-patterson-lake.ca) and as well on RSVL's portal <https://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/Eau/rsvl/relais/index.asp>. Select Cayamant as the municipality and then click on our lake on next page. The E.Coli results are on the website under Environment/Water.



According to the ministry this year, “Patterson Lake shows little or no signs of eutrophication. This lake must be protected. To preserve its state, the MELCCFP recommends adoption of preventative measures to limit the intake of nutrients from human activities”. They also say that other factors such as aquatic plants, periphyton and sedimentation should also be looked at.

**GOOD NEWS!** With the Québec government's recent creation of the 500 million dollar Fond Bleu (Blue Fund), it looks like the subsidy to participants in the RSVL program will be ongoing as our fee this year is \$127.87.

## REGROUPEMENT POUR LA PROTECTION DE L'EAU DE LA VALLÉE DE LA GATINEAU

Last summer after I attended the Forum National sur les lacs in Mont Tremblant, I was voted in as a committee member on the board of the Regroupement pour la Protection de l'eau de la Vallée de la Gatineau (RPEVG). Our mandate is to inform and help support lake associations in the MRC for our area. It is a great way to work with other lake associations, be connected to the MRC, and other organizations like Fédération québécoise de défense des lacs et cours d'eau (FQDLC). As a private member, I pay \$20.00 a year to RPEVG. It is \$100 for lake associations. Anyone can join as a private member and attend our AGM in August in Blue Sea Lake.



## New lake logo!

### Why do we need one?

Our website needed a logo to convey our identity.

**“It grabs attention, makes a strong first impression and it triggers our emotions.”**

Sarah Casselman, who is Mike and Kathy Casselman’s daughter (down in the bay), is a graphic designer who designed the logo as a favour. I knew we had to represent our famous sand bar sign, our beloved loons and the water. This for sure, for me, triggers my emotions about the lake. Capped off with our lake name and location, and voila!

We kept to the lighter blue colours for the frame and lettering as well as the font to pay homage to the old logo.



I hope you all like it!

The logo is also our brand. It can be used to put on merchandise. Last fall, I mentioned we could create some merchandise around it, and we could use some small proceeds toward our fundraising. Many of you were excited and chomping to get in on it.

I’ve done some test runs on glasses and cups so far, and are testing out embroidery on shirts.

A list of available merchandise to select from will be posted in late April.

### 5% EXTRA TO HELP FUNDRAISE

With an extra 5% attached to an order (before tax), you can help build up our “rainy day” fund. This fund would be used for things like information material, cost of setting up a lake association, insurance for the association, lake assessment by biologists (this is highly recommended), memberships with other organizations or (Heaven forbid!) legal actions against others that threaten the health of our lake.

The more we order of the same item, the less the cost will be and shipping will be free!



# 2023 Financial Summary

## How did we do?

Our bank account as of December 2023 is \$1331.36. The 2023 contributions were higher because of the extra \$10 requested to attend the forum on lakes last June.

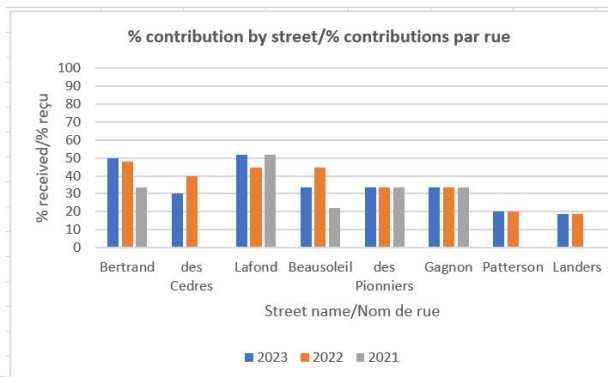
**“If we have that much money, why do I need to contribute more?”**

Good question. The answer is, it’s not all about the water testing. Currently, website costs, informational material is privately funded by one person. If a formal lake association is created, there are some costs as well in the form of one-time ministry setup cost, yearly insurance costs and membership to sister organizations. In the near future, there will come a time where outside resources will also be required to help with the control of invasive species and/or inventory of aquatic plants, sedimentation and periphyton. Let’s build that fund for the future.

États financiers-2023- Financial Statement Sep	
<b>Revenue - Revenus</b>	
2022 contribution balance	\$712.49
2023 contributions	\$1,600.00
Intérest/Interest	\$24.77
<b>Total revenue -Revenus totaux</b>	<b>\$2,337.26</b>
<b>Dépenses/Expenses</b>	
RSVL 2023 tests	\$ 119.98
Forum - registration fee	\$ 431.16
Caduceon	\$ 454.76
Other	
<b>Dépenses totales -Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,005.90</b>
<b>Balance remaining / Solde restant</b>	<b>\$1,331.36</b>

It is my hope that this year we can reach more cottagers and obtain contributions from at least 75% of the 121 cottages around the lake. You can help by spreading the word.

Street name/ Nom de rue	Cont. received/ reçu	#cottages/ chalets	% contributions	\$ contributions
Bertrand	24	48	50.00	\$800.00
des Cedres	3	10	30.00	\$100.00
Lafond	14	27	51.85	\$420.00
Beausoleil	3	9	33.33	\$100.00
des Pionniers	1	3	33.33	\$30.00
Gagnon	1	3	33.33	\$30.00
Patterson (from bridge to end of municipal road where Bertrand starts)	1	5	20.00	\$30.00
Landers	3	16	18.75	\$90.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>41.32</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>



## \$20 CONTRIBUTION FOR 2024 WATER TESTING

Last year we gained 10 new contributors but unfortunately, 11 from 2022 did not contribute to 2023’s campaign. **The 2024 campaign is on again!**

You can etransfer \$20 to: [admin@lac-patterson-lake.ca](mailto:admin@lac-patterson-lake.ca) or visit me Danielle Morrison at 191 chemin Bertrand to give cash if you prefer.

