



Re Haliburton County Proposed Shoreline Preservation Bylaw

October 29, 2020

To County Council Members,

As President of the Mountain Lake Property Owners' Association, and on behalf of our membership, I wish to appeal to Haliburton County Council to proceed with the Shoreline Preservation Bylaw to be in effect for the 2021 building season.

With years of education through our annual meetings, water sampling, fish habitat rehabilitation, Lake Report, surveys, social media, Lake Steward programmes, and newsletters to name a few, our Association has been diligent in outlining the methods to maintain a healthy lake. We have recognized that the protection of natural shorelands is key in maintaining the quality of water in our lakes. Our Association has operated continually since 1978 and has had excellent participation from our lake residents over those years.

There have been many examples of shoreline destruction around the County this summer and the building boom trend will likely result in more if there is no Bylaw to control and prevent further degradation. News of several blue-green algae blooms in neighbouring Muskoka Lakes are clear reminders we cannot be complacent.

As members of the Federation of Cottagers' Associations and the Coalition of Haliburton Lake Associations, the MLPOA has been diligent in informing our members on good practices to enable healthy lakes. While education is key to influencing change, it has become obvious that local legislation including fines and/or mandatory restoration is required to counteract the damage inflicted on shorelands by those who choose to ignore science or good intentions.

We believe the intent of the Haliburton County Shoreline Preservation Bylaw is fundamentally central to lake health and ask that you proceed assertively to enact the Bylaw for Spring 2021 to protect our shorelands which in turn will protect the quality of our water, our investment in our property and the economy.

Sincerely,

Howard Clarke
President
Mountain Lake Property Owners' Association
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CC Members of Haliburton County Council
Minden Hills Councillors