



FIMLA Newsletter

Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Watershed Association

www.fimla.ca

This Issue

President's Message

2024 Golf Tournament

2024 FIMLA Annual General Meeting

The 2024 Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday, August 10th**, at the home of Wendy and John Bakker, **1141 Wood Duck Lane**. There will be socializing and coffee from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., with the business meeting starting at 11:00 a.m.

This is an **election year**, and we are looking to welcome new members to the Board. Three of our board members are stepping down this year – myself (President), Susan Grigg (Secretary), and John McDougall. If you are interested in volunteering for your community, please contact me or any of the FIMLA board members. We would love to have representation from ALL our member lakes – Fourteen Island, Mink, Little John, Little John's Sister, and Buffy.

Hope to see you there!

Mary Rae



Background

In 2019, the FIMLA membership identified the Fourteen Island Lake dam as a priority project, since large portions of the dam were starting to deteriorate. Why do we care? Failure of this dam would result in a significant drop in the water levels of Fourteen Island Lake and Mink Lake – by up to 2 metres – significantly impacting shoreline habitat and the lake ecosystem. It is likely that we would no longer have a navigable body of water from Mink Lake to Fourteen Island Lake. We would instead have separate bodies of water, a land bridge between Mink Lake and Fourteen Island Lake, and lots of high and dry docks around the

lake – maybe even a few more new islands! Rehabilitation of the dam is also critical to maintaining the current outflow volume from Fourteen Island Lake, ensuring that there are no impacts to the downstream Provincially significant Spring Wetland Complex, Spring Lake, Verona Lake and Hinchinbrooke Road.

FIMLA retained D.M. Wills Associates, an engineering firm which specializes in dams, who completed a structural inspection of the dam in 2020 and prepared a report outlining the scope of the recommended repairs. They have completed a dam safety assessment (required for permitting purposes), have completed detailed design,

Here's Your Dam Update!

Things are progressing with the dam rehabilitation, and we hope to start construction later this summer. While we have raised the funds to complete the necessary engineering work to date, have some funds in the bank, and have a commitment from the Township for \$200,000, we do not yet have a quotation for the rehabilitation work. So, we need to keep up our fundraising efforts.

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completed grading and clearing of the access road to the dam, in preparation for the construction.

The following is a summary of the total funds spent to date:

Tasks	Cost
Structural inspection / topographical survey	\$9,616.30
Scoped Dam Safety Assessment	\$14,283.20
Detailed design	\$33,075.10
Fisheries Impact Assessment	\$4,019.25
Submission of Request for Review to Department of Fisheries and Oceans	\$995.00
Grading and clearing access road	\$15,961.25
TOTAL	\$77,950.10

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our fundraising efforts, we have already raised more than \$100,000! And as reported in the latest newsletter, the Township of South Frontenac has approved funding in the amount of \$200,000 for the much-needed rehabilitation of the Fourteen Island Lake dam. Their decision marks a significant step forward in ensuring the safety and longevity of our lakes and the surrounding ecosystem.

Next Steps

Until we receive bids for the work from potential contractors (later this month), however, we must continue our fundraising efforts. While we have estimates for the proposed work from our consultant, it is always possible that contractor quotes will come in above these estimates, and above the amount of money that FIMLA has available. **Your continued support of our fundraising efforts is crucial!**

D.M. Wills has estimated the construction costs at \$199,550 plus HST. This estimate is up from the original 2020 estimate of \$141,000 plus HST. This is due to the passage of time and changes to the design required by the permitting authorities. The current estimate includes a provisional item for a concrete sill, if there is not an existing one (to be determined during construction), estimated at \$17,900, as well as a 20% contingency for unforeseen costs or changes in scope.

As well, we still have the additional expenditures over and above the construction costs, including the following:

Tasks	Cost
Additional access road work	\$10,000 (estimated)
Tendering, contract administration and inspection by D.M. Wills	\$35,903
Financial audit (2025), in compliance with the Ontario <i>Not-for-Profit Corporations Act</i>	\$5,000 (estimated)

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All these costs are above and beyond the construction costs. In the worst-case scenario, if the provisional work is required and all the contingency money is required, the cost to complete the dam rehabilitation is \$276,394.50. In the best-case scenario, if no provisional work is required and no contingency money is required, the cost to complete the dam rehabilitation is \$221,928.50.

This month, we will embark on the process of securing a contractor. D.M. Wills will be soliciting quotations from four contractors with experience doing this type of work. This careful selection ensures that the rehabilitation work will be carried out with the highest standards of quality and safety in mind. The required permit applications are currently being reviewed by Quinte Conservation, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Once permits are approved, we are targeting to commence the construction later this summer.

Keep the Donations Coming

Until we know what the actual construction costs will be, we need to continue our fundraising efforts. In the worst-case scenario detailed above, at least another \$40,000 to \$50,000 will be required. Keep up the great fundraising work everyone and keep those contributions to the dam rehabilitation fund coming!

Contributions may be made by e-transfer to treasurer@fimla.ca, or by mailing a cheque to:

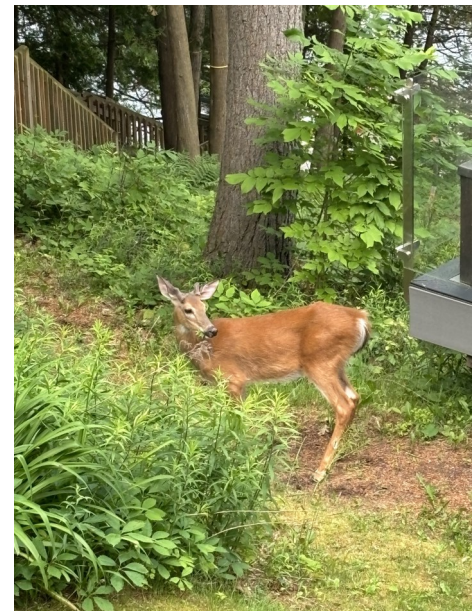
FIMLA

c/o Karen De Luca, Treasurer
3037 Old Fourteen Island Lane
Hartington, Ontario, K0H 1W0

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our lake community.

For more detailed information on the dam and how we got here, see the 2021 to 2024 Newsletters.

Mary Rae





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Come one, come all to the Third Annual FIMLA Golf Tournament

This year's tournament is booked for Saturday, July 27th at Rivendell Golf Course, followed by a dinner at The Lion's Club Hall in Verona. Whether you are a seasoned golfer or a beginner, the tournament is a best ball format which allows everyone the opportunity to play within a foursome and enjoy the beauty and fun of our local course.

As in previous years, all participants will receive some special gifts and there are several opportunities to win prizes, such as the "19th Hole Putting Contest". Registration begins at 12:00 p.m. followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m.

If you want to participate, but really don't feel that golf is your thing, then plan to attend the dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. Once again, our own FIMLA member Tim Lloyd, owner of the Kingston Montana's BBQ and Bar, is sponsoring the meal and you are guaranteed a delicious dinner, whether it be the famous barbecued ribs or a vegetarian bourbon pasta. This year we have included a children's portion/price for the meal, so you can bring the whole family.

As part of the festivities of the evening, we are once again hosting a silent auction. Please consider donating a new item to the auction. Also, please plan to bring your wallet to bid on all of the amazing items that will be available.

For those of you who have played or dined at previous tournaments, you will know that this is an event not to be missed! If you have not yet experienced the tournament please consider joining in anyway – through the full tournament (\$125/person), the dinner only (\$25/person or \$12/child), or by donating an item to or purchasing an item from the silent auction.

This is our major fundraising event for our dam restoration. As you all know, the dam is crucial to the sustainability of our lake and lake ecosystem, and we are getting close to achieving our goal. It would be, quite frankly, "a disaster" not be able to achieve our goal due to a lack of funds!

Susan Pine

(Happy Birthday Sue)



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Published occasionally by the Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Watershed Association.

Inquiries, suggestions, corrections, and contributions may be sent to:

secretary@fimla.ca

Lake Partner Program

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in partnership with the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations run this volunteer-based program to monitor the quality (nutrient status and clarity) of water in Ontario's lakes. Data from the province's lakes can be found on the LPP website:

<http://desc.ca/programs/LPP>

Thanks to our water testers:

14 Island Lake: Sue & Brian Grigg

Mink Lake: Joe Buckley

Buffy Lake: Timothy Lloyd

**Little John & Little John's Sister:
John McDougall**

Willy's Lane Boat Launch Dates

The following are the opening dates for the 2024 season:

Spring:

April 13 to May 26

Labour Day:

August 31 to September 2

Fall:

September 14 to October 21

Please note:

Permission only applies to paid-up FIMLA members for 2024.

Gates will be locked at all other times and boats cannot be taken in or out except in an emergency. In an emergency, please contact one of the FIMLA executive to make arrangements. Those using the launch are requested to make a donation to the Willy's Lane Road Association of \$35. **Payments can be made by Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) to:**

willyslane14@gmail.com

or

r.nageleisen@gmail.com

Please remember that the launch is on private property and its use is through the generosity of the land-owner.



Image by Mike Fischer