



# FIMLA Newsletter

Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Watershed Association

[www.fimla.ca](http://www.fimla.ca)

## In This Issue:

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## 2025 FIMLA Annual General Meeting

The 2025 Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 2nd, 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. There are no elections planned this year, however we are always open to welcome new nominations to the Board. 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. *A draft copy of the 2024 AGM Minutes is at the end of the newsletter for Members to review prior to the 2025 meeting.*

Hope to see you there!  
Richard Nageleisen

## A friendly reminder to pay your Membership Dues...

Did you know that FIMLA Members:

- receive newsletters and bulletins about special events, the work of the Association and matters of concern to the community
- are invited to participate and vote at our Annual General Meeting to learn more about their lakes and meet their neighbours
- are invited to get involved in projects and help shape the future of our lakes.

Membership fees are \$50 per calendar year, and can be paid via e-transfer, cheque or cash. Please send your e-transfer to [treasurer@fimla.ca](mailto:treasurer@fimla.ca), and include the property owner name in the comment part of the e-transfer, bring cash to the AGM or mail your cheque to Karen DeLuca, Treasurer, 3037 Old Fourteen Island Lane, Hartington, ON, K0H 1W0.



## President's Message

It has been a year since our last newsletter; our time and efforts being consumed by the Dam Reconstruction Project. Well, it's done – almost! Our push to get the project done last Fall, including the urgent push to get more funds, paid big dividends. The weather cooperated and while the low Fall water levels were a concern, they were perfect conditions for carrying out the work. The construction work was carried out on time and on budget. Some minimal changes were made to the design/implementation plan, but these were resolved quickly, without extra cost and contributed to a superior result. This also meant that the projected Project Management costs came in under budget. All that remains is the final project warranty inspection and an audit/review engagement if required. A full project report will be provided at the AGM, including a detailed financial report.

The Dam consumed a lot of time and energy from the FIMLA Board over the past several years. Fundraising, engineering studies, environmental studies, compliance investigations and applications were a few of the project factors to be addressed. We owe a great deal of thanks to those who led the way on this effort, especially our

con't...



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...con't past President, Mary Rae, who spent countless hours pursuing grants and the regulatory requirements to make this happen. We also owe our sincere gratitude to the many FIMLA / lake owners who donated generously to providing to bring this project to fruition. And finally, a big thank you to the Township of South Frontenac whose financial support was essential to our ability to implement this project.

With the Dam Project behind us, we can refocus our attention on our Lake community and growing our connections and activities. To that end you will note that this year's golf tournament will be a fun event as opposed to a fund raiser, and it will be our last golf tournament. We hope to hear from you about other potential social activities that could be considered going forward.

As well, I would like to encourage you to renew your membership and for those who use the Willy's Lane Boat launch, to pay the annual fee. These are modest amounts but have a big impact. They ensure that we have useable facilities, access to the greater cottagers' associations through FOCA, that we can afford the necessary operating costs, insurances and membership fees for the Association.

Be safe and be aware for a great Summer on our Lakes!

**Richard Nageleisen**



*Photo courtesy of Richard Nageleisen*



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## Treasurer's Update:

### 2025 AGM FINANCIALS

**Opening Bank Balance on January 1, 2025:**  
\$133610.77

#### Revenue

- Membership fees are \$ 50 x 5 350.00
- Donations 1733.32
- Golf Tournament 0.00 estimated
- Fire blanket sales 360.00

#### Expenses

- Aarde 86235.76
- Cade Insurance 1406.16 estimated
- FOCA 367.25 estimated
- Website Domain 199.79
- Bank Fees 10.50

**Closing Bank Balance on May 13, 2025:**  
\$49608.04

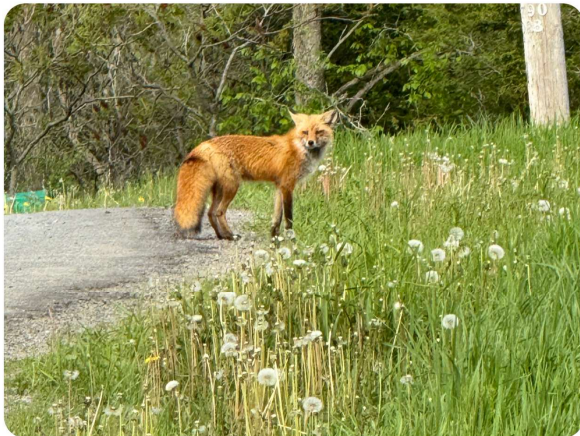
### 2024 AGM FINANCIALS

**Opening Bank Balance on January 1, 2024:**  
\$41368.87

#### Revenue

- Membership fees are \$ 50 x 48 2400.00
- Donations 47931.84
- Golf Tournament 11684.28
- Lion's Breakfast 1050.00
- Lion's Car Show 3000.00
- Fire blanket sales 1370.00
- Township Grant 200000.00 Expenses
- Quinte Conservation 1390.00
- DM Wills 18448.47
- Aarde 153556.40
- Cade Insurance 1406.16
- FOCA 367.25
- Website Domain 16.94
- Bank Fees 9.00

**Closing Bank Balance on December 31, 2024:**  
\$133610.77



*Photos courtesy of Karen DeLuca and Shauna Peart*

*Continued on page 3*



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## FIMLA Acknowledgements and Celebrations:

### **Congratulations to General Walt Natynczyk!**

A very loud cheer of congratulations goes out to General (Retired) Walt Natynczyk who last December was awarded the honour of Officer in the Order of Canada. Walt and his wife Leslie are residents of our Deer Park community on the south shore of 14 Island Lake and have been retired there permanently since 2003. Walt joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1975 and rose to the rank of Chief of the Defence Staff, Canada's only four-star general until he stepped down in 2012.

Walt's elevation to the rank of Officer in the Order of Canada is only one of his many international citations and is a reflection of a career devoted to Canada's defence, diplomacy, peace keeping, and often, military combat. Walt's greatest love, however, is centred on Leslie, their three children and their grandkids. He will often be sighted on our lake with one or two of his grandchildren trolling for lunkers.

Canada was blessed to have had such a man in its service. We are blessed to have him as a neighbour and friend.



*Written by Peter Peart  
Photo courtesy of Walt Natynczyk*

### **Thank You Mary and Geoff Rae!**

What can one say about the contributions made by our Past President Mary Rae? Mary, along with her husband Geoff, have given so much to the FIMLA community that a short note of thanks seems insufficient. Together they have been a truly dynamic duo who gave tirelessly to the many issues important to the members of our community and none more important than the dam.

Thirty years ago the Lake Association and its executive committee worked with the Township to make reconstructive repairs to the dam. That work produced three decades of relative protection to the lake levels but the time for significant new works had arrived: repairing the dam had become an urgent matter. But who would be responsible for that needed work? There was no operating authority, no government or government agency responsible for the upkeep of the dam to turn to and say they needed to step up and get the work done. It fell to the Lake Association and its executive again to find a way forward. Enter Mary (and Geoff).

For more than three years Mary led the efforts to secure support for the rehabilitation efforts and the funding of the works. Mary quietly and with great professionalism worked with Township elected officials and staff, the Conservation Authority, as well as the Ministry of the Environment to raise their understanding of the urgent need to get the dam repaired. Her efforts and those of the Executive bore fruit this past fall with the rebuilding of the dam, work that will certainly protect our lake levels for decades to come.

Mary of course, would be the first to say..."it takes a team to be successful" but a great team always needs a great leader. Mary you were just what we all needed! Thank you. You and Geoff have left us a lasting legacy that we will benefit from every time we jump into the lake or search for those elusive walleyes. We are all truly grateful to you.

*Written by Jim Pine*

*Please send photos and special news items to [secretary@fimla.ca](mailto:secretary@fimla.ca). (Please note that submissions may be shortened at the discretion of the editor.)*



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## Come one, come all to the Fourth (and FINAL!) FIMLA Golf Tournament!

Hey everyone! Get ready for our 4th and final FIMLA Golf Tournament and Dinner event! **This is not a fundraiser anymore** —it's a fantastic opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate with our neighbours, friends, and family! Don't miss out on the fun—register online at [www.golf.fimla.ca](http://www.golf.fimla.ca) and send your payment to [treasurer@fimla.ca](mailto:treasurer@fimla.ca). Let's make this a memorable gathering! Can't wait to see you there! Any leftover funds will be invested in the revitalization of the Verona Lions baseball diamond.

# 4TH AND FINAL FIMLA GOLF TOURNAMENT







## 28 JUNE 2025

**12:30 PM REGISTRATION**

**1:30 PM SHOTGUN START AND SCRAMBLE FORMAT**

**6 PM LIONS HALL, VERONA**

**7 PM DINNER SERVED**

Registration Fee: \$100 per golfer, which includes 18 holes at Rivendell, a cart, dinner at the Lions Hall, prizes, and a silent auction

\* Note the reduced price.

To sign up, visit:

[www.golf.fimla.ca](http://www.golf.fimla.ca)

Registration closes June 14th

**Dinner Only Options**

Pulled pork sandwich with all the fixings - \$20

Kid option - \$10

Vegetarian Option - \$20

E-transfer payment to :

[treasurer@fimla.ca](mailto:treasurer@fimla.ca)



**We Serve**



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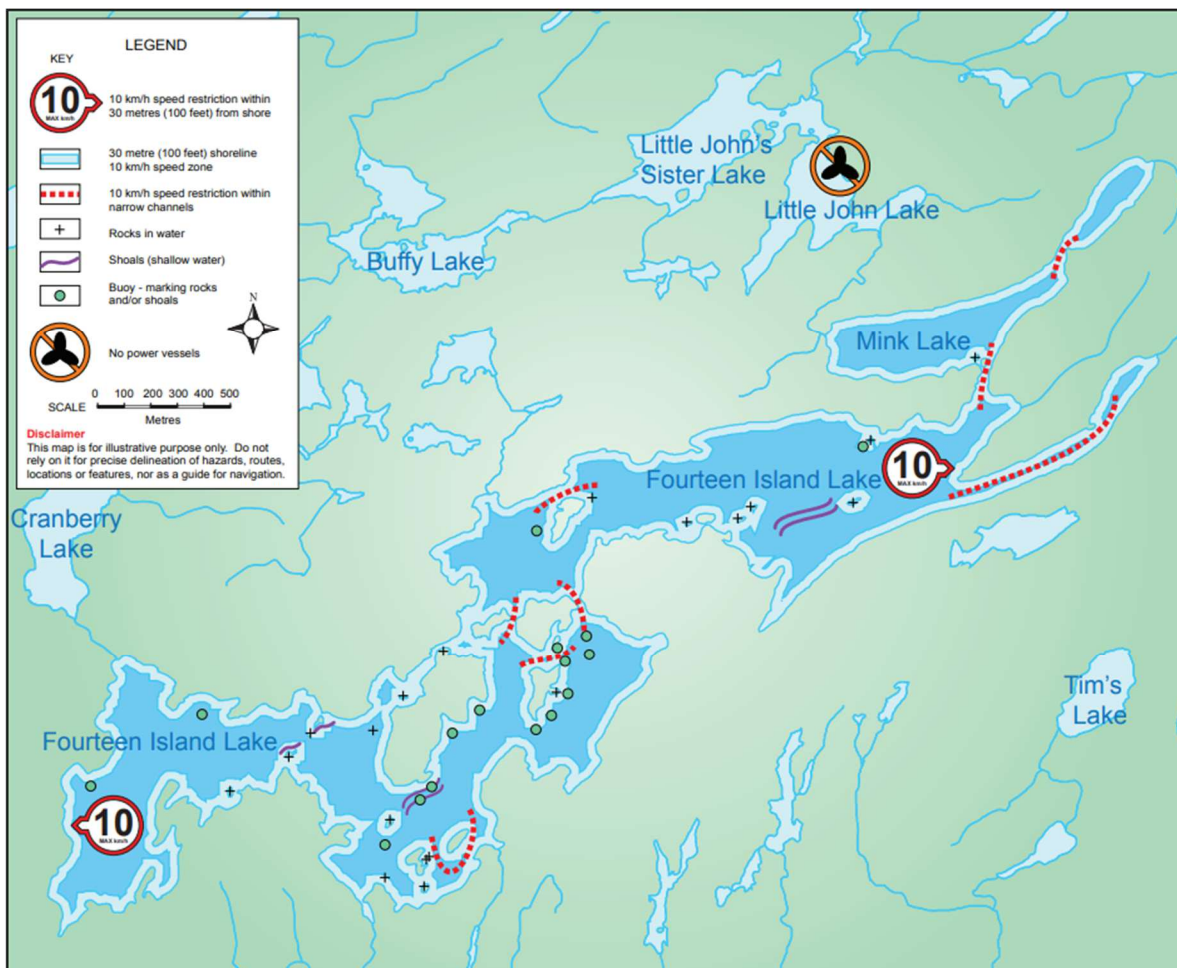
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## FIMLA Boating Etiquette: Let's all do our part to keep our lakes, loons, shorelines and docks healthy and safe!

### Boat Wake Reminder:

Whatever boat you drive, it is bound to put up some type of a wake, and the wake has the potential to: shake your neighbours' docks, erode the shoreline, swamp the loons' nests. And each boat is going to react a bit differently to speed – normally, your wake is minimized if you are traveling at cruising speed, with the boat on a plane; or when you are traveling at “dead slow.” However, anything in between is likely to give off a wake, and often the worst speed is “slow” but not “dead slow,” when your boat is pushing a lot of water. Please get to know your boat, understand what speed throws up a wake, and then try to respect your neighbours' shoreline and dock, and the environment, by avoiding the speeds that throw large wakes.

Please refer to the Boating Guidelines and Speed Limits Map below:



## FIMLA Executive

### Contact Details

**President:**

**Richard Nageleisen**

[r.nageleisen@gmail.com](mailto:r.nageleisen@gmail.com)

613-407-0264

**Vice-President:**

**Claire Zanetti**

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613-299-1425

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**Shauna Peart**

[secretary@fimla.ca](mailto:secretary@fimla.ca)

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[treasurer@fimla.ca](mailto:treasurer@fimla.ca)

**Director:**

**Susan Pine**

[j.pine@sympatico.ca](mailto:j.pine@sympatico.ca)

613-921-5933

**Director:**

**Craig Pettis**

613-634-0741

**Director:**

**Joe Buckley**

**Past President:**

**Mary Rae**

The **FIMLA Newsletter** is published occasionally by the Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Watershed Association Executive. Inquiries, suggestions, corrections and contributions (we'd love to share your photos of lakes, flora and fauna!) are always welcome and may be sent to:

[secretary@fimla.ca](mailto:secretary@fimla.ca)

Let's  
HAVE A  
great  
SUMMER

## Willy's Lane Boat Launch Dates

The following are the opening dates for the 2025 season:

Spring: Saturday, April 12th—  
Sunday, May 25th

Labour Day: Saturday August 30th—  
Monday, September 1st

Fall: Saturday, September 13th—  
Sunday, October 26th

**Please note: Permission only applies to paid-up FIMLA members for 2025.** 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. Gates cannot be unlocked for friends or visitors to take boats in or out between the agreed opening dates.

Those using the launch are requested to make a donation to the Willy's Lane Road Association of \$35. Payments can be made by e-transfer to [willyslane14@gmail.com](mailto:willyslane14@gmail.com)

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

## FIMLA



[secretary@fimla.ca](mailto:secretary@fimla.ca)



[www.fimla.ca](http://www.fimla.ca)



[facebook.com/groups/FIMLA](https://facebook.com/groups/FIMLA)

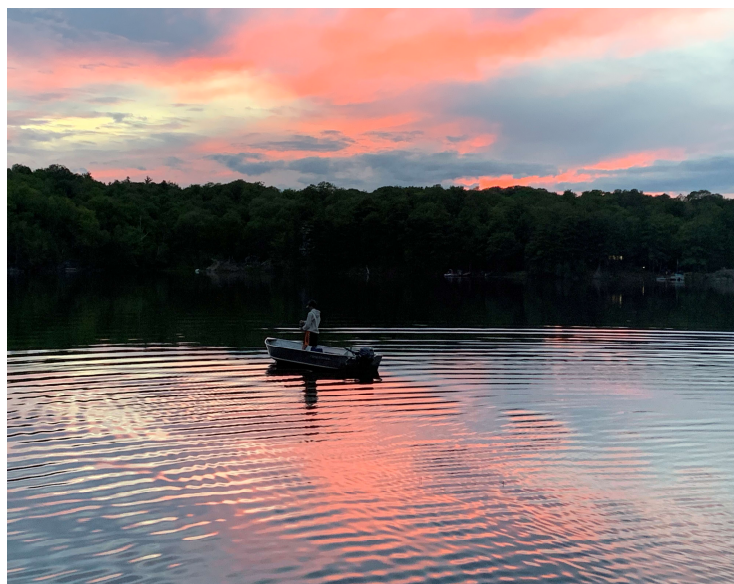


Photo courtesy of Henry McBride



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## 2024 FIMLA Annual General Meeting Minutes (Draft)

The 2024 Annual General Meeting of the Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Watershed Association (FIMLA) was held at the home of John and Wendy Bakker on Saturday, August 10, 2024. Approximately 50 people attended.

### 1. Welcome – Mary Rae

FIMLA President Mary Rae called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. Mary welcomed everyone and expressed thanks to Wendy and John Bakker for hosting.

### 2. 2023 AGM Minutes – Mary Rae

The 2022 AGM minutes were published in the Winter 2024 FIMLA Newsletter. Copies were available at the AGM.

#### *Resolution 2024-1*

Be it resolved to accept the 2023 AGM minutes as set out in the Winter 2024 Newsletter. Moved by Mark Valiquette; seconded by Tom Bourne. Motion voted on and carried.

### 3. Fundraising Update

#### a. Golf tournament – Grant Thompson

Grant noted that the golf tournament was a success for the third year in a row, building on the success of previous years. Grant thanked the sub-committee volunteer team (Mary Rae, Susan Pine, Peter Bedoukian, Gord Thompson, Tim Brown) for their hard work and monthly meetings. The tournament sold out with 29 teams and the dinner sold out with 125 attendees from the community. Mary added her thanks to the sub-committee for all of their work and amazing results, with special thanks to Grant and to Tim and Stacy Loyd for preparing the food for the dinner.

#### b. Other fundraising

Mark Valiquette asked for 15 volunteers to work the Verona Car Show. It was a successful effort last year resulting in a donation to FIMLA afterwards. Mark will send out an email to the membership with details.

Karen De Luca noted that the February 2024 Lions Club breakfast volunteers also raised funds for FIMLA and that could be done again.

### 4. Dam Update – Mary Rae

Mary noted that the dam repair project, identified as a priority during the 2023 Annual General Meeting, is progressing well, with significant funds raised for payment of the work to date, including re-construction of the access road, and funds secured from South Frontenac Township.

D.M. Wills Association was retained as the specialist to repair a report, dam safety assessment, detailed design, permit applications, Fisheries Impact Assessment and Request for Review by Department of Fisheries and Oceans. There has been a total of approximately \$62,000 in engineering fees paid to date.

Road access work by Arden Construction started in fall 2023, with a short window available for construction; the work extended into June 2024 because of weather constraints, which also necessitated increased materials. The invoice is \$54,000; higher than the estimate. The road is now capable of carrying a heavy equipment load.



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South Frontenac Township approved \$200,000 towards the dam project. The Quinte Conservation's proposed levy for maintenance was not approved by township council.

Next steps: the board is awaiting Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) permit approval (anticipated by end of August 2024); D. M Wills is sending out a package for quotations to five (5) contractors, providing two-weeks for quotes. Once the quotes are received, we will know if FIMLA has sufficient funds to proceed with the work this year. Current estimate by Wills is \$200,000 plus HST, including a provisional item to install a concrete sill if needed, plus \$36,000 for tendering and contract administration. Total funds raised to date are approximately \$300,000. Mary thanked everyone who contributed to date, resulting in almost \$100,000 in donations from the FIMLA community. Special thanks to South Frontenac Township for their financial support of \$200,000. There is a need to continue fundraising efforts; FIMLA may be \$20,000 to \$40,000 short depending on the quotes that come in. The membership will be notified after the quotes are received.

Steve Barker, resident at the end of Willy's Lane, expressed appreciation that the issue with the road being impassable in June was rectified quickly, and asked whether there would be access for property owners during the dam project construction work. Mary confirmed that it will be made clear to the contractor that access must remain open.

A discussion period followed, with several attendees posing questions regarding project costs and timing (such as road maintenance costs during construction, warrantee, timing). Mary's responses included confirmation that road maintenance costs and warrantee will be part of the contract, road maintenance after construction should be part of the contract, and that South Frontenac Township's funding commitment is for a 3-year period.

John McDougall mentioned the community spirit demonstrated through fundraising success and thanked all. Jim Pine referred to the \$200,000 commitment by South Frontenac Township and noted the amazing job that Mary and the executive did to be successful in getting that funding. Mary expressed gratitude to South Frontenac Township council.

There was discussion about ongoing maintenance costs and requirements after the dam repair is completed, including the plan for maintenance responsibility moving forward, largely shouldered by the two landowners to date. Richard Nageleisen indicated that the board will refresh who has responsibility for the fully functional operating sluice way with logs, after the construction is completed. Mary noted that the MNR and/or Quinte Conservation may provide advice regarding water levels as part of project approvals. Mary indicated that the board would discuss ongoing maintenance at their next meeting, and consider forming a sub-committee. Thanks were given to Steve Storms and the Storms family for clearing out debris at the dam regularly thus far.

## *Resolution 2024-02*

Be it resolved that the FIMLA Board be authorized to proceed with retaining a contractor for the dam reconstruction, as funds permit.

Moved by Jim Pine; seconded by Mark Valiquette. Motion voted on and carried.

## **5. 2023 Financial Report and 2024 Proposed Budget – Karen De Luca**

Karen reviewed the FIMLA 2023 Financial Report and 2024 Proposed budget (copies of each were provided in the Winter 2024 FIMLA Newsletter and at the AGM).



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Karen thanked everyone who had sent membership fees to date for this calendar year. Karen noted that if the landowner name isn't part of the email address for an e-transfer and/or isn't the same as the landowner email address on the FIMLA contact list, she doesn't know which landowner to associate it with; if a family member is submitting the e-transfer, please ensure the landowner name is provided.

## *Resolution 2024-03*

Be it resolved that the 2023 Financial Statement and the 2024 Proposed Budget be accepted as set out in the Winter 2024 Newsletter and presented at the August 10, 2024 Annual General Meeting.

Moved by Grant Thompson; seconded by Anne Turner. Motion voted on and carried.

## **6. Fire Blanket Fundraiser – Susan Pine**

Susan was approached by a landowner regarding fire blankets that they produce, for use to extinguish small fires. There are particularly useful for children or the elderly that may have difficulty using a fire extinguisher. The fire blankets were discussed by the FIMLA board as a fundraising opportunity. The fire blankets cost \$15.00 each and would be sold for \$30 each or 5 for \$100 through FIMLA. Tom Bourne indicated that fire blankets are a great tool for at home, to contain small fires (such as grease fires) while waiting for emergency fire response to arrive.

Mary indicated that given the support from AGM attendees, including endorsement by our resident fire fighter, the next board meeting will include discussion of logistics for selling the fire blankets as a fundraiser.

## **7. Audit or review engagement of FIMLA's financial year**

Mary Rae noted that an audit will be required next year if FIMLA receives the \$200,000 from South Frontenac Township towards the dam project costs. The hope is that a financial review will suffice.

## **8. Election of Board**

Mary Rae thanked John McDougall, Anne Turner and Susan Grigg, members stepping down from the board, for their time and efforts over the years. John expressed kudos to the board, and noted their skills and that they are deserving of support.

Richard Nageleisen gave thanks to Mary, stepping down as President since 2018. Mary was recognized for her significant work on a number of key initiatives, including completion of a FIMLA constitution, preparing FIMLA newsletters, and many successful efforts for the dam repair project, such as achieving a dam assessment by Quinte Conservation, incorporating FIMLA as a non-profit with a new set of by-laws, negotiations with MNR, Quinte Conservation and South Frontenac Township resulting in \$200,000 in municipal funding, and engaging D.M. Wills to get to where the project is at today. It was a huge effort, required specific skills and knowledge and a lot of time. Richard also thanked Geoff Rae for his support of Mary and for donating his time and expertise. Richard closed by noting that we all owe Mary a huge amount of thanks. There was a standing round of applause for Mary. Mary thanked everyone and said that it has been a privilege to sit on the board as President; Mary noted that she is struck by the community support and feels blessed to live here.

Shauna Peart and Joe Buckley volunteered as new members. No other names were put forward during the AGM.



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## *Resolution 2024-04*

Be it resolved that the following candidates be elected to serve as the Board of Directors of FIMLA for two years, from today until the Annual General Meeting in 2026: Joe Buckley, Karen De Luca, Richard Nageleisen, Shauna Peart, Craig Pettis, Susan Pine and Claire Zanetti.

Moved by Janine Knackstedt; seconded by Tom Bourne. Motion voted on and carried.

## **9. Other Business**

Susan Pine thanked everyone that had donated this year to Willy's Land Road Association for access to the boat launch; donations has increased from 15 last year to 24 this year. For those that hadn't already done so, please send an e-transfer in the amount of \$35.00 if using the launch.

There was some discussion about boating safety. Darryl Poyner noted that he was almost in a boating incident this year, with an oncoming boater that was not aware and being conscious of boating safety. Chris noted that boating regulations require a driver and a watcher if pulling a tube or water skier and that this is an important requirement to follow. Susan Pine noted that swimmers also need to be safe when/if swimming across the lake, such as having a marker or a boat with them for visibility.

## **10. Adjournment**

Mary Rae asked for a motion to adjourn the AGM at 12:10 pm. The motion was moved by Jim Pine and seconded by Mark Valiquette. Everyone was thanked for attending.