



The Buck Lake Association Inc.

Box 36, INVERARY, ON K0H 1X0

www.bucklake.ca

email: Buck Lake Information

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

Buck Lake News – Nov 2019

Buck Lake Association Directors Meetings

The Buck Lake Association Board of Directors met on Sunday November 10th. Discussions focused on the various committee reports, the highlights of which are included in this newsletter.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on Sunday January 19th. All lake residents (seasonal or full-time) are welcome to attend. If you are interested, contact us at bucklakeassoc@gmail.com for further details regarding time and location.

About Your Hydro Bill and Electricity Pricing

It seems like Hydro Bills are one of those things everyone loves to hate. With the myriad of different charges on your bill, it can feel like the power company is looking for as many ways as possible to get your money.

This fall, there was an increase in the electricity rates charged residential customers. Plus, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has directed Hydro One to eliminate the seasonal rate class. This could have a huge impact on the delivery charges for Buck Lake cottagers.

The two main charges on the Hydro bill are for Electricity and for Delivery. Seasonal and permanent residents pay the same rates for electricity, however there are significant differences in what they pay for delivery. Let's look first at the Electricity portion.

Electricity

Although one would think that everyone at Buck Lake pays exactly the same rate for electricity, there are in fact two different ways you may be charged:

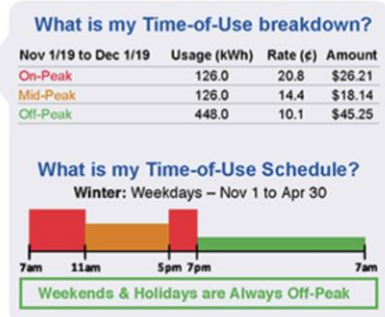
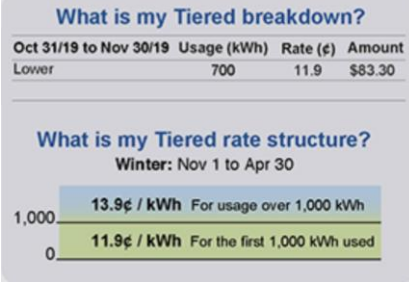
- Time-of-Use Pricing, or
- Tiered Pricing

| | |
|--|--|
|  | WAYNE GORDON SALES/MARKETING |
| | 4201 PERTH ROAD INVERARY (Kingston), ONTARIO K0H 1X0 |
| 613-353-1577 EXT.22 FAX: 613-353-7230 | |
| www.northcountrymarine.ca | |
| email: wayne@northcountrymarine.ca | |
|     | |

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

Time-of-Use pricing came into effect a few years ago when smart meters were installed throughout Ontario. However, many residents around Buck Lake were switched to Tiered pricing if their network was not reliable enough to support Time-of-Use pricing.

How do I know if I am on Time-of-Use or on Tiered pricing? Look at page 2 of your bill.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>If you see something like this, you are on Time-of-Use pricing.</p> | <p>If you see something like this, you are on Tiered pricing.</p> |
|  |  |

Regardless of which system you are on, the rates are increasing starting November 1.

| Time of Use Pricing -- ¢/kwh | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| | Before Nov 1 | After Nov 1 |
| Off-Peak | 6.5 | 10.1 |
| Mid-Peak | 9.4 | 14.4 |
| On-Peak | 13.4 | 20.4 |
| Tier Pricing -- ¢/kwh | | |
| | Before Nov 1 | After Nov 1 |
| Residential - Up to 1000 (600 in summer) kWh/month | 7.7 | 11.9 |
| Residential - Over 1000 (600 in summer) kWh/month | 8.9 | 13.3 |
| Seasonal - Up to 750 (600 in summer) kWh/month | 7.7 | 11.9 |
| Seasonal - Over 750 (600 in summer) kWh/month | 8.9 | 13.3 |

The prices are said to be increasing partly due to government legislation aimed at reflecting the actual cost of supply on bills, and partly due to the refurbishment of nuclear facilities.

Although the rate changes in the above table appear to be about a 50% increase, the OEB says rates are scheduled to increase by only about \$1.99 or 1.8% for a typical residential customer who uses 700 kilowatt hours per month. The 1.8% instead of 50% is because of the Ontario Electricity Rebate which will be a separate line item on your bill. The rebate was previously 8%

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

(this currently shows up on your bill as "8% Provincial Rebate"). This rebate went up to almost 32% on November 1st.

Essentially, on your bill you pay the Global Adjustment which is a big lump of money that covers building power plants amongst other things. Since they couldn't actually reduce the cost to make energy, the previous government refinanced the loans to pay for those plants. So now the monthly payments are lower but it will take longer to pay them off. Similar to refinancing your mortgage from 10 years to 25 years... lower monthly payments but you will be paying for a longer period. Since the Global Adjustment is complex and includes more than this "mortgage" they are just charging the original amount then applying a rebate as a separate line. Here are some links that may help:

<http://www.ieso.ca/en/Sector-Participants/IESO-News/2019/10/Ontario-Electricity-Rebate-to-take-effect-on-November-1>

<https://www.oakvillehydro.com/my-home/billing/ontario-electricity-rebate.html>

Next let's look at delivery changes and the changes that may be coming.

Delivery

The idea behind delivery charges is that customers should pay what it costs to have electricity delivered to their home or cottage. As a result, rural customers typically pay more for delivery than urban customers.

Delivery charges have a fixed component plus a variable component that depends on the amount of electricity you use. A credit for rural or remote rate protection is applied to the distribution flat charge for full-time residents. The bad news for cottagers is that credit is not available for owners who have a principal residence elsewhere. The table below shows the difference in delivery charges for full-time residents (Residential - Low Density) customers and seasonal customers. See [OEB Bill Calculator](#) for more details.

| Delivery Charges | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Usage kWh/Month | Residential - Low Density | Residential - Seasonal |
| 200 | \$42.81 | \$60.52 |
| 400 | \$48.22 | \$80.26 |
| 600 | \$53.64 | \$100.01 |
| 800 | \$59.05 | \$119.75 |
| 1000 | \$64.46 | \$139.50 |
| 1200 | \$72.38 | \$161.74 |

You can check on page 2 of your bill to determine whether you are classed as "Residential - Low Density" or as "Residential – Seasonal". If you are a living in a cottage that has been converted to a year-round home and have not informed Hydro One of the change, you may be able to reduce your delivery charges by being reclassified as Residential - Low Density.

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

The OEB wants to eliminate the variable portion of the delivery charges and charge a flat delivery rate for all customers. The group who will be most affected by this will be people who use very little electricity i.e. seasonal cottagers, as they would have to pay a higher rate all winter when they are using no electricity. In addition, several years ago the OEB directed Hydro One to develop a report on the elimination of the seasonal rate class.

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association, FOCA, has lobbied hard on behalf of Ontario Cottagers to maintain the seasonal rate class. Hydro One has indicated if the seasonal rate class is eliminated, 84,000 ‘seasonal’ customers would see bill increases of over 100% although this would be phased in over several years.

The latest update is that as of October 1, 2019, Hydro One, at the request of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has submitted a “Motion of Change,” recommending AGAINST the elimination of the Seasonal Class of customer. The Hydro One argument is primarily based on the fact that the ongoing shift to all-fixed distribution rates will mean both low and high volume customers will be paying an equal and fair share of their costs. (Note: The OEB decision that all-fixed distribution rates would apply to Seasonal customers was rendered September 30, 2015.)
The OEB decision on this matter is pending.

Disclaimer: The information contained in the above article was collected from a variety of sources including:

- <https://www.hydroone.com>
- <https://foca.on.ca>
- <https://www.oeb.ca>

We have done our best to present the data accurately. However, we are not experts in this area. For further clarification or details, please refer to the above sources.



Greenshield
PEST CONTROL INC.  Locally Owned & Operated
Over 25 years experience

Full Seasonal Control & One Time Services Available

Bat Control
Humane Bat Removal
Proofing & Decontamination
Warrantied Work, Attic Restoration

Wildlife Control
Raccoons, Skunks, Birds, Squirrels, Mice, Rats, & Other Wildlife Humane Removal

Insect Control
Ants, Spiders, Bees, Hornets, Fleas, Cluster Flies, Earwigs, BedBugs, Cockroaches, Millipedes, & More

Call for a **FREE** Estimate
Call Locally: 613 389 3999
Toll Free: 1 877 838 7278

Free Estimates
Full Warranties
Senior Discounts

www.greenshieldpestcontrol.com  

“To enhance people’s enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations”

Local Resident Reine Dawe Appointed National Silver Cross Mother

Submitted by Cheryl Savery

Reine Dawe and her husband Peter made their home on Buck Lake in the fall of 2006. Since then they have both been active members in the community. Peter served as President and member of the Buck Lake Association Board for a total of 6 years. They have also been active in the weekly golf group and helping out with the annual picnic and other events.



This year on November 1st, it was announced that Reine had been selected as Canada's National Silver Cross Mother. In this role, Reine will represent all of the mothers who have lost a child as a result of their service in the Canadian Forces.

Reine and Peter's son, Capt. Matthew Dawe, was killed while serving with the 3rd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in Afghanistan on July 4, 2007. It happened on his son Lucas's second birthday; just weeks before Matthew was scheduled to return home to Lucas and his wife, Tara. Matthew was 27 years old.

More than just an honour, Reine is treating this assignment as her mission for her country. "As a Silver Cross Mother, it is not about me," Reine emphasized. "It is about all the other mothers — 157 other mothers. I have to keep that perspective."

Throughout the year, Reine will also have several commitments across the country and internationally. She's determined to do a good job and to educate the general public on the sacrifices the women and men of the Canadian Forces have made for the country so that they're supported when they return from action.

"The perception of the public to military people affects what the politicians do," Reine said. "If the public is indifferent to soldiers coming back, it's not going to go very far, not far enough in my humble opinion. "Our soldiers don't deserve pity; the last thing they would want. They deserve recognition, appreciation, respect and they need to feel that they're supported."

Reine is also hoping to use her role as the Silver Cross mother to promote an organization near and dear to her heart: [Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan](#), though the Kingston chapter of the national organization is called Canadians for Women in Afghanistan. The non-profit provides educational opportunities for women, girls and their families and educates Canadians on human rights issues in Afghanistan.

Reine, I am proud and honoured to call you my friend.

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

President's Message:

Reflections on Remembrance Day

Submitted by Crawford MacIntyre

At the Buck Lake Association's annual general meeting in July 2007, I announced to the assembly the passing of Capt. Matthew Dawe, killed in action in Afghanistan a few days before at 27 years of age. I don't think his parents, Reine and Peter Dawe, were yet residents on Buck Lake and I did not know them then, but I did know that Matthew's death also affected Pat and Ann Hegarty who did live here. Matthew was married to their granddaughter.

By contrast, at this meeting I also referred to the 107th birthday of John "Jack" Babcock who grew up near Kingston. At that time he was the last known Canadian veteran of the First World War. He passed away in 2010 at the age of 109.

We all know what an influence the presence of RMC and the Kingston Base has had on the Kingston area and we at Buck Lake benefit from this immensely. Reine Dawe has just been given what must be the most unsought and unwanted honour of Silver Cross Mother of the Year. Those of you who know Reine are familiar with her dignity, strength and quiet force and with her significant participation in the life of our lake and to the organization of Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan.

Reine's husband, Lieut. Col. (retired) Peter Dawe, has been a strong volunteer and somehow was able to juggle being President of the Kingston Symphony Association and at the same time, President of the BLA's Board of Directors. He then assumed the presidency of the Boys and Girls Club in Kingston.

Retired Gen. Bruce Archibald was a stalwart, intelligent, and hard-working presence for years in the Boatilla committee led by Roscoe and Liz Trudel.

Recently retired Maj. Gen. Dean Milner and his wife Katrin have just moved to Buck Lake. He has already represented the Buck Lake community by presenting a wreath at the Sydenham cenotaph this past November 11. We'll likely tap them for more responsibilities as they fit in.

As I write this, I just learned that Ron Matthey passed away on Remembrance Day due to complications arising from a stroke. Ron was a longtime member of the Buck Lake community and along with other dedicated Buck Lakers, began the process of raising funds for kids at Camp Merrywood. He was the face and spokesman and admiral for the Boatilla concept for many years until he moved away about five years ago.

This year represents a changing of the guard for two of our best known activities, the Boatilla for Camp Merrywood and the Rider Cup annual golf tournament. For years the dedicated leaders of these activities devoted their time and enthusiasm and love for our community, but are now stepping down to pass the continuing responsibility onto others. You all know who they are, and I extend my thanks and gratitude to them on your behalf.

Thank you to all our volunteers and participants in maintaining our Lake as a most wonderful place to live and to cottage. There have been so many of you over the years.

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

PERTH ROAD STORE

5504 Perth Road Crescent
 Box 1049 Perth Road, ON K0H 2L0
 (613)353-6234
perthroadstore@xplornet.ca
 Monday-Friday 6:00am-7:00pm
 Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm
 Sunday 9:00am-5:00pm

Yet Another Great Murder Mystery Dinner and Fund Raising Success

On Saturday, October 26th, the Westport Legion was the scene of another baffling murder presented by Partners in Crime a company of writers, actors and production staff based in Kingston, Ontario.

As always, the audience was treated to an amazing roast beef dinner and was thoroughly entertained as they attempted to unravel the murder.



In addition to the Murder Mystery, there was a silent auction with numerous items to bid on. The proceeds from the auction totaled \$1800 and will be donated to Boatilla fund in support of Camp Merrywood.

We would like to thank all the business and individuals that supported us and encourage everyone support the businesses that so kindly donated their services and products to make our Silent Auction successful

| Local Businesses | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The Opinicon Dining & Resort | Home Hardware, Sydenham |
| Glenburnie Grocery | Memory Lane Flowers and Gifts |
| Inverary PharmaSave | The Point Restaurant |
| North Country Marine | Subway, Sydenham |
| Paradiso Pizza | Trousdale's General Store |
| Strickley's Auto | Creative Gardens |
| Mrs. Garrett's Bake Shop | IDA Westport Village Pharmacy |
| Alice Melo Fine Art | Lake Effects |
| Autohouse Kingston | Norris's Bait and Tackle |
| CAA | Rideau Lakes Golf Course |
| Cineplex | Rosie Yumanskis |
| doTerra Essentials | Scheuermann Vineyard & Winery |
| The Grizzly Grill Restaurant | Spring Children |
| Landmark Cinemas | Spring Street Salon |
| The Loyal Oarsman | Steve's Rideau Restaurant |
| Stained Glass by Yolanda | Tangled Garden Restaurant |
| The Screening Room | The Cove |
| Wilmer Wicks | The Good Life |
| Trillium Ridge Sugar Works | Trinity Artisan Boutique |
| Desert Lake Gardens (Mill St. Café) | Village Green |

| Personal Donations | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ria Berry | Cathy Ottenhof |
| Cheryl Dawson | Kerry Pringle |
| Greg and Dorothy Fisher | Mel Robinson |
| Bruce and Kathy McDonald | Cheryl Savery |
| Glen and LeeAnne Mercer | Cherrie Summers and Mike Hogan |
| Donna Neumann | Ross and Liz Trudel |

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

Thank you to Perth Road Store

We wish to express our sincerest thanks to Faye Schneider and Rob Wilson and Family at the Perth Road Store for so graciously offering to be the pick-up point for our calendars again this year. Their help to get our community calendar into our homes is greatly appreciated.



Ron Matthey

Long time area resident Ron Matthey passed away on November 11th. For many years, Ron was Chairman of the Buck Lake Community Watch which he co-founded in 1997. Ron was also one of the original organizers of the Buck Lake Boatilla and, by many accounts, was by far the most fervent of its supporters and organizers. Ron continued to support the Boatilla even after his departure from Buck Lake.

An avid wood carver, Ron fabricated the Perth Road sign which for many years was posted across from Roost Lane on Perth Road.

Do you trust the quality of your well water?

Submitted by Gillian Lash

For most dwellers, the quality of their drinking water is taken for granted. Through treating and testing, their local municipality ensures that the water meets the Ontario Drinking Water Standards. For those of us Buck Lake residents who source our drinking water through private wells located on our property, we do not have that luxury. How do we know that the water we drink is free of harmful bacteria that could make us sick?

Fortunately, Kingston Frontenac Lexington and Addington (KFL&A) Public Health provides us with a service to test the quality of our drinking water. The best part of this service is that it is free of charge! All that it requires of us is to pick up the sampling kit from a local KFL&A Public Health office, follow the simple instructions to take a water sample, and then return the bottle to KFL&A Public Health within 48 hours of collecting the sample. Within a few business days, you will know the results.

The laboratory tests for Total Coliforms and E. coli. Total Coliforms gives a general indication of the sanitary condition of the water and includes bacteria found in the soil, in the water,

Tammy & Heath Gurr
Broker
Sales Rep.

Your Total Real Estate Package!

613.273.9595

ROYAL LEPAGE
ProAlliance Realty
BROKERAGE
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

ROYAL LEPAGE CHAIRMAN'S CLUB

info@gurreathomes.com
gurreathomes.com

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

influenced by surface water, and in human and animal waste. E.coli is generally not found producing or reproducing in the environment. As a result, it is viewed as the best indicator for the presence of human or animal waste.

Over a decade ago, my father had a well dug on our property so that we would no longer use the lake water as a source of drinking water. Since that time, we never tested the quality of the water! Well water can be contaminated through human sewage; animal waste; snow melt that might include sand & salt mixtures; fertilizers; metal leaching from household plumbing and service lines; and organic chemicals found in many household products.

This past summer, I finally tested our drinking water. I was shocked when I received the results: “OVERGROWN WITH TARGET (bacteria). UNSAFE TO DRINK”. As requested, I immediately called the local inspector. She asked where I took the sample (kitchen sink faucet) and the type of faucet (pull-down faucet). Apparently, pull-down faucets are known for housing bacteria within the nozzle filter as dirt and/or food bacteria can splash up into the nozzle. If not cleaned with vinegar or wiped with bleach regularly, they become a home for nasty bacteria.

In order to fully eliminate contamination from the kitchen faucet, she advised me to take a sample from the bathroom. Before taking a water sample from the bathroom, I wiped the faucet nozzle filter with bleach and let the water run for 3 minutes. The results were much different: zero quantity of Total coliforms and zero quantity of E.coli! Phew!

However, it is important to understand that these results are only a “snapshot” of your well’s water quality. It is highly recommended that you test your private water supply three times a year.

Remember: Testing for bacteria is the only reliable way to know if your water is safe. You cannot tell by the look, taste, or smell of the water if disease-causing organisms are in it.

KFL&A Public Health offices where you can pick up and drop off the kits are located at:

KFL&A Public Health - Kingston

221 Portsmouth Ave., Kingston, ON

Monday to Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Public Health Ontario Lab

181 Barrie St., Kingston, ON

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information see <https://www.kflaph.ca/en/healthy-living/Drinking-Water.aspx>

“To enhance people’s enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations”

Reminders:

Buck Lake Calendar needs you ALL YEAR LONG!

Please send your amazing Buck Lake pictures in full resolution to Cheryl Dawson at dawson.cheryl13@gmail.com all year long... right when they happen. Please: no people in the photos.

The Buck Lake Community Directory

To be added to and receive the Buck Lake Community Directory, please email your contact information (name, lake address and up to 2 email addresses and phone numbers) to bucklakeassoc@gmail.com

Facebook Group

We have a very active group on Facebook with over 566 members. Please feel free to join.

Coming Events:

Jan 19th: Next BLA Board Meeting
(Please contact bucklakeassoc@gmail.com if you wish to attend)



TAKE THE FEAR OUT OF ENTERING
OR EXITING YOUR KAYAK



AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
KAYAARM.COM

Gord McDiarmid
Barrister, Solicitor,
Since 1979
(and a happy year-round resident on
Buck Lake since June 2006)

*Real Estate, Mortgages, Family Law
Wills, Estates, Powers of Attorney*

Home: 1097 Tober Lane, Buck Lake
Phone: 613-353-6912

Office: 3 Rideau Street, Kingston
Phone: 613-546-3274
Fax: 613-546-1493

Ron's Home & Cottage Services

- Plumbing, electrical, tiling, window replacement
- Bathroom renovations, maintenance
- Closing cottages for winter/water supply & drain systems & spring re-opening
- Renovations of all types
- Call Ron at **353-6919** (Buck Lake Resident)

In order to promote the spirit of Buck Lake, we invite your comments and suggestions for newsletter articles or announcements. Mail to: [Buck Lake Information](#)

Renew your Buck Lake Association membership on line. A receipt will be emailed to you to confirm your payment. A service provided by FOCA: <http://foca.on.ca/product/buck-lake-association/>

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"