



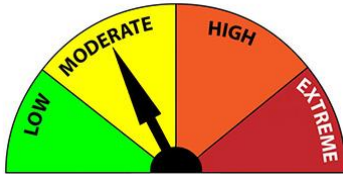
Sinclair / Finlayson Ward Township of Lake of Bays Councillor Rick Brooks

July Report - 2023

We continue to be undiscovered territory. The affects of wildfires elsewhere, our need for an extended extreme fire emergency and complete fire ban and then the dry conditions giving way to the potential of an excess of rain and potential of floods can become reality at any point.

I continue to have guarded optimism that life is somewhat returning to Muskoka... yes, we had black fly season, mosquitoes are having a resurgence of late and the deer and horse flies have found most of us by now. Saying all that, I wouldn't want to be anywhere else!

Fire Status & Fireworks:



Not to sound repetitive but for those of us who call this home, the potential of fire is always at the top of our minds when we mix dry conditions with fireworks, please continue to refrain from using fireworks.

This week the rating has dropped to moderate, but that does not mean we can drop our guard. We get updated from the MNRF regarding soil/ground conditions and yesterday's report was favorable enough to drop it to Moderate. ***As for fireworks, our residents and visitors need to be aware the current bylaw allows for them only on July 1 and statutory holidays between "dusk and 11pm".....which means Monday, May 22nd and Saturday, July 1st are acceptable, subject to weather conditions. Any other time must be requested. Hopefully those choosing to indulge will do so responsibly. We are ready for any event for those who don't ...and fines are likely.***

Concerns in lake of Bays?

Please contact By-Law Enforcement, **Chris Collings** ccollings@lakeofbays.on.ca

Huntsville/LOB Fire Dept. Public Educator, **Steve Markham** steve.markham@huntsville.ca

On a related note, the **Fire Services Governance Committee** of the Councils of the Town of Huntsville and Township of Lake of Bays Council has approved the recommended committee structure for this newly created body. The initial Committee will be comprised of the following members: 1. Two (2) members of the Township of Lake of Bays Council (Mayor Glover and Councillor Brooks) 2. Two (2) members of the Town of Huntsville Council (Mayor and Deputy Mayor) 3. Staff included in an advisory capacity reporting to the Committee shall initially include:

- Township of Lake of Bays Chief Administrative Officer
- Town of Huntsville Chief Administrative Officer
- Town of Huntsville Director of Operations and Protective Services
- Huntsville-Lake of Bays Fire Chief
- Huntsville-Lake of Bays Deputy Fire Chief.

I look forward to the challenges we will be addressing over the coming term and beyond.

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Roads: Superintendent Steve Peace and his crew continue to be busy addressing scheduled projects in all corners of the township. **We are now into summer, important to note for our residents is Tally Ho Winter Park Road is currently under reconstruction, its passible but please consider avoiding it for now.**

Brushing is also underway, calcium has been applied to our gravel roads, so along with the recent rain continues to address the dust issue. Our gravel roads continue to have issues with washboard conditions, especially propogated by excessive speed and truck & trailer traffic. Grading will be done again but not usually until fall, so again patience is the answer. **PW Superintendent Steve Peace is always available, call 705-635-2851.**

Public Notices: Lake of Bays Township Public Library / Baysville Branch



Interested in joining the team here at the Lake of Bays Township Public Library? We're hiring!

Find the full job description, qualifications, and how to apply at the Township of Lake of Bays website... www.lakeofbays.on.ca

Dwight Market: Every Wednesday in July & August



This truly is a reason to be turning LEFT leaving Limberlost Road...especially on a Wednesday as Linda's Lake of Bays Garden Centre is transformed into a huge market of neat and eclectic vendors, with over 50 each week and some different each week as well.

9AM to 2PM every Wednesday in July & August

You gotta check it out!

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Food insecurity is an issue for everyone;

I'm sure that we all have been affected by the cost of living, the increases at the pumps and grocery stores, but there are many where this is not just a recent phenomenon, it is their way of life. There are many individuals and organizations that are quick to answer those needs and I share with you two that I am aware of and engaged in myself.

We can not stress this enough; food insecurity knows no limits or demographics.

The Salvation Army's "Christmas in July" July 26th & 27th takes place at **Bullock's Independent, Metro and FreshCo** in Huntsville, supported by the **Kiwanis Club of Huntsville Muskoka**. They are on site collecting donations of food, gift cards and monetary donations for those two days to help refill the sparse shelves at the Salvation Army's Food Bank. There are others in the area who help those in need, however The Salvation Army Huntsville is the only certified food bank between Bracebridge and Burks Falls and literally serves the area in between.



Consider supporting this drive, everything collected support those in our area – Thank You!

Food 4 Kids Muskoka

This is an exciting program that I will share more on as the summer progresses as its purpose is to address the ongoing needs of our school aged children and the issues of hunger....again this is an issue that still for some, they don't want to believe is an issue here in "affluent Muskoka" but I'm here to assure you it is. More to follow as we roll this out in our 3 pilot schools this fall.

Check it out ... www.food4kidsmuskoka.ca If you'd like to help - let me know.

All the best,

Rick Brooks,

Councillor Sinclair / Finlayson Ward

Township of Lake of Bays

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