

20 Cedarcrest Dr.  
Etobicoke, ON  
M9A 2V5



April 2020

Dear Manitou Association Members,

I hope everyone is healthy and enjoying time at home with their families.

There is nothing clever I can say regarding spring 2020 and what we are all dealing with on a global, national, local, and personal level. This year the Toronto Raptors are not in the playoffs; what about the Leafs?....oh wait no, no hope for them either. Our current Manitou board has taken the time to meet virtually and review a few thoughts about this strange start to our 2020 cottage season.

On Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> I attended GBA's 2020 virtual AGM. The Georgian Bay Association represents the combined voice of 19 cottage associations and 3,000 families along the eastern and northern shores of Georgian Bay. The meeting started by reviewing the province's current status for marinas which are deemed a non-essential service during the COVID19 pandemic as well as First Nations choice to restrict access to and through their land. Although frustrating, consensus agreed in the need to respect the guidelines and rules our Province has put in place to keep all people guided to the best and recommended behaviours at this time. We do not know the duration of these restrictions and closures and we will make every effort to update our membership; please stay tuned as we try to communicate to a moving target.

The AGM agenda then reviewed and updated participants on the different portfolios GBA directors have been working hard on, on all of our behalfs. Here is a quick outline of those portfolios and some of the main subjects that are covered and monitored:

**Boating** - rules from OPP, Boating Ont., Canadian Power & Sail Squadron

**Water Levels** - precipitation vs. ice coverage and evaporation, inter-lake transfer, wetlands, septic maintenance

**Coastal Protection** - municipal zoning, land use regulations, waste collection, TOA models, conserve & protect

**Fisheries** – commercial fishing on Lake Huron

**Guardians of the Bay** - awareness, protect & preserve, act, promote, Bay Days

**Aquaculture** - fish arming, glue/green algae, new tech

**Lands & Forests** - phragmites, GBF strategy 2020, dock foam, TOA

**Membership** - value proposition for what GBA does, propagate memberships

As you can see the GBA truly is our Voice on the Bay.

In January 2020, Township of the Archipelago's Ward 4 councilor David Ashley shared some of the thoughts collected by TOA. TOA reminds us of their work as partners with GB5 organizations. At the TOAs fall 2019 Deerhorn Conference which I attended along with Manitou's own Darin Buckland & John Wilson, TOA along with association representatives worked to develop and fine tune the TOA vision and mission statement.

**Vison:** The TOA will ensure the continued guardianship of the health and well being of the Georgian Bay shoreline and its watershed areas

**Mission:** The mission of the Township of the Archipelago is to preserve the unique and high quality of the natural environment which leads to a recreational experience that is both relaxing and aesthetically appealing to property owners and Visitors who use the area, and is designed to make both property owners and visitors realize that they share equally in the responsibility of attaining this mission.

The TOA's own website is very organized and full of useful links. We will link some of these useful pages such as fire & emergency, waste & recycling, eservice requests, newsletters, on Manitou's own new website launching imminently. TOA encourages you to sign up for their eNews, look on the bottom left of their nav bar on within any page on their site "Register for eNews" here <http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/>.

At the 2019 Manitou AGM last summer, members voted for initiating our own association website using Junction 59 who have provided and built many of the association websites you see here: <https://georgianbay.ca/membership/our-members/>. I have been working with J59 on our new sitemap, features and pages and happy to report our URL will be live within the month ahead at time of writing this. As an example, the layout will look very much like San Souci's site (see through on above link). We have put in the groundwork to have all Manitou membership information on the site as an online directory, as you currently have listed in Manitou's annual printed membership booklet. Each member including secondary members will have the ability to log in to your membership section and update/edit your family listing. We will provide further instructions and need everyone to actively play with the new site and start using all features. To set your expectation, please realize all suggestions, feedback and input will be welcome in order to work on and add pages, features and updates, including photo gallery and other. There may be some growing pains and time required to process all wishes and "to do" list with our new site, so please be patient as we expand into new technology. We will continue to develop and update it all after the site goes live.

**Dues 2020:** Even though 2020 is off to a slow start, we now would like to ask all Manitou members pay our 2020 dues. Primary memberships with voting privilege are asked to pay \$110 total (\$50 to GBA, \$60 to Manitou). These dues will provide you with a listing in the Manitou directory, email updates and direct mailings (from Manitou Association, the Georgian Bay Association and Georgian Bay Forever).

Once again, we would like to encourage additional families, couples or individuals who share a property to contribute \$50 (\$25 to Manitou and \$25 to the GBA) as a secondary membership. The secondary membership will provide you with the same benefits, less the voting privilege. For those of you that are members of the Sans Souci Cottager's association, we ask that you please make your GBA payment through Manitou. We also encourage you to reach out to any new neighbours in the area and introduce them to our association.

**For this year, please pay dues one of two ways (eTransfer is preferred):**

- **Email money transfer/eTransfer to [cgalberg@me.com](mailto:cgalberg@me.com)**
- **Mail cheque to: Chris Galberg, 20 Cedarcrest Dr., Etobicoke, ON, M9A 2V5**

**Events & Dates for 2020:**

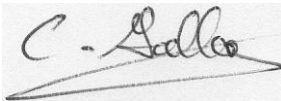
- **Due to COVID19 pandemic below events & dates are currently suspended until further notice. It is possible our AGM may be deferred or held virtually.**
- The Manitou Association Annual General Meeting scheduled (with hope!) at Warburton Island, B129-1 (Galberg cottage) on **Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>**.
- The Manitou Regatta on **Sunday, August 2nd**.

Your 2018-2019 Manitou Board is:

Chris Galberg, President  
Tom Pinkham, Past President  
Steve Traplin, Director  
Cathy Buckland, Director

Hal Martin, Vice President  
Marianne Galberg, Treasurer  
Darin Buckland, Director

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have,



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