

Winter 2011 NEWSLETTER

AGM Meeting

The AGM for this year was held 1 Dec 2010 and was attended by approximately 20 households. If you missed it please review the minutes at the website <u>www.sunsetlakes.ca</u>. There was good information provided about past events and future programs. Of most significance was the discussion regarding 2011 SLOA Dues. Last year our fee was set at \$325. Since we set this fee several pressures have been placed on our costs, namely HST and increased fuel and electricity costs. Accordingly our annual costs have and will increase again this year. At the AGM a vote was passed to increase our annual fees to \$350.

Annual Dues

Your annual dues for 2011 have been set at \$350. They are due 15 March 2011 and a self addressed envelop has been included for your convenience. Dues that are not paid by 15 March are subject to a late charge fee of \$35.

SLOA Committee for 2011

John Dawson - President Marcel Falardeau - Vice President/Grass cutting/Communications Terry Lister - Treasurer Claudia Buttera - Gardening - Water Quality Control Heather Counsell – Pool/pool reservations Dan Weslake - Design Review Debbie Ng - Social Events Rob Koktan Rui Rodrigues Kailey Taplin – Youth Member

Welcome to New Residents

Community Events

Canada Hockey Day on our Ponds: Weather permitting February will see a series of hockey games on our ponds. Lisa Antle, Rob Koktan and Dan Weslake have agreed to organize the events. So come on out if only for a skate, some hot chocolate and to meet your neighbours.

Spring Clean-up Day - at 9:30am: We will be pulling in the docks, putting the nets away, storing the canoe and generally cleaning up the area. Meet your neighbours at the pool and start your day off with coffee and a TimBit . Rain Day will be Sunday at 1:30 pm. See you there.

Social Activities: Debbie Ng will be putting together a list of events with tentative timings for the upcoming year so check the web site.

Tennis lessons: Another great success this year. Many thanks to Andrew Wilson and his family for organizing this year's lessons. See you all again next year. Andrew has agreed to organize lessons for 2011 so please contact him to sign up. The lessons are for young and old. Check our website as we will be posting updated information in February 2011.

Neighbourhood Garage Sale: Hope everyone enjoyed moving their treasures from one household to another. We will plan on a similar event in May 2011. Thanks Debbie for the organization and advertising.

Pool: It is planned to open the pool once again this year on 20 May. Heather Counsell is once again looking for youths in the community to operate the pool during the summer months. Those interested should contact send her a resume and she will contact all.

Swimming lessons: Is there any interest in having swimming lessons at the pool? Please contact Debbie Ng at (613) 574-0143 or e-mail <u>debdng@gmail.com</u>).

Water skiing: Dan and Judy Anderson plan to once again to host the annual ski competition in July this year. More details will follow including opportunity to sign up for the sumer ski school. If interested in becoming a member of the ski club please contact Dan Anderson.

Golf tournament, Fireworks, Community BBQ: Marcel has agreed to organize this years event. More details will be provided. A tentative date of

If anyone in the community has further suggestions for social events, and/or would be willing to help out with event planning please contact Debbie at <u>debdng@gmail.com</u>

Water quality and the effects of fertilizers

Using **NutraFX Algae** (a safe and natural product) worked last year to control the algae in our lakes and ponds. The nitrate and phosphate levels are under control. We need a volunteer for each of the two ponds. A thank you to Shane O'Neil, Jamie Taplin, Marc Seaman, Claudia and Rob Buttera, Steve Finkelstein and Ed Lister for their help this year.

We continue to ask residents to assist us to help find alternatives to pesticides and fertilizers. A major factor that contributes to the problem of high levels of algae in our lakes is the *run-off from fertilizer used on lawns throughout the community*. They continue to enter into Twin Lake in significant volumes at two "hot spots" which then feeds into Sunset Lake which also has three additional culverts feeding runoff water. Without *eliminating* the use of fertilizers on our lawns this will be a **never ending battle**. The only permanent solution lies in total eradication of the use of traditional fertilizers.

We introduced an alternative in 2009 - **NutraFX Turf** which acts as a bio-stimulant, helping to release soil nutrients present and improving water absorption and retention capabilities. It contains natural plant growth stimulants, minerals and vitamins. NutraFx Turf is one viable option to traditional fertilizers and with some minor research, you will find many others. If you wish to order **NutraFX Turf** please place your order through John Dawson (613-821-5113) or preferably through e-mail at john_christinedawson@rogers.com. Please do your research and use these more environmentally friendly products. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us, or contact Mr. Roland Poirier directly at NutraFX: (613) 258-7496 or www.nutra-fix.com

Covenants

Being a resident of Sunset Lakes confers many benefits and privileges. However, with those benefits come certain responsibilities, as dictated, primarily, by the *DEED RESTRICTIONS FOR SUNSET LAKES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS* which can be found online at http://www.sunsetlakes.ca/sunsetlakes/sunset_index.htm.

Reminder of some covenants (<u>www.sunsetlakes.ca</u>):

We realize there are extenuating circumstances and you may need an exception to a covenant for a short period of time. If that is the case let us know and we can work out a solution. Some of the perennial observations made to the Board are -

- Driveways that have not been paved (or equivalent type surface) within one year of construction.
- Trailers, boats, RVs, etc. continue to be stored on driveways or in yards for prolonged periods (greater than a week).

As a Board you have entrusted us with the responsibility to ensure the covenants are followed. To this effort we have enclosed a copy of a form letter we will be using in the future to inform those resident who are in violations of a covenant. We realize that this often occurs inadvertently and will work with all to come to an amicable solution.

Stay in touch for the latest news on our web site - <u>www.sunsetlakes.ca</u>.