

**The Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association Bulletin**  
**Issue No. 51 – December 2021**

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### **Association's 2021 AGM held Virtually**

For the second consecutive year, the Blue Sea Watershed Association had to hold its Annual General Meeting virtually and outside the summer season. Therefore, it is not surprising that attendance was smaller than hoped for. Approximately 25 persons participated in the Zoom event.

Still, the AGM covered the standard themes that participants to past assemblies have come to expect. There was a thorough update of the Association's finances which are in a healthy state thanks, in large measure, to the generous donations from our members. The President's report reviewed the annual array of programs and activities (water quality testing, deployment of yellow buoys, etc.) which our volunteers continue to undertake as well as a focus on phase II of the Jute Tarp project, the removal of the bags from Blue Sea Lake. Financial statements of the Association as well details on our activities in 2021 are available on our website at [www.associationblueseas.org](http://www.associationblueseas.org).

A highlight of this year's AGM was a presentation by Larry Moore, President of our neighbouring Association, *Association pour la Protection des Lacs des Cèdres* (APLC), on the Association's efforts to address the Eurasian milfoil problem in Little Cedar Lake, including the very innovative and successful use of reusable synthetic tarps. This technology appears very promising, and both of our Association have since agreed to establish a joint working group to compare approaches and to determine what practical lessons we can learn and apply in controlling the spread of milfoil in our waterways.



*Deploying synthetic tarps over Eurasian milfoil in Little Cedar Lake.  
Photo by Manon Vincelette.*

As always, there was an opportunity for members to provide comments and suggestions on priorities for the Association. Containing the spread of invasive species remains the number one concern. There is also an urgent need to rebuild the communications capacity of the Association, with the departure from the region of Paul Ouimet, our capable and devoted webmaster. This will become a priority of the new Board and we are looking for people experienced in communications, web technologies, and social media with time to devote to the Association. If you are interested, please write to [info@associationblueseas.org](mailto:info@associationblueseas.org) and we will be in touch with you.

### **Meet our new Board Members**

We are fortunate that many of our members volunteer their time and talents to the Association because of their desire to help preserve and protect the environmental health of the watershed. Serving on the Board of Directors requires an additional layer of commitment. As is customary after each AGM, it is our pleasure to introduce those who have accepted to join the Board of the Association.



### **Lesley Cameron**

Lesley Cameron's family has been coming to their summer cottage at the north end of Blue Sea Lake since 1906, and recently welcomed the sixth generation to what she describes as "the special place that is Blue Sea Lake." She is therefore deeply invested in the long-term health of the lake and its watershed and in respecting and supporting the communities that have helped it thrive.

Lesley recent retired from her career as a lawyer specializing in estate planning, where she worked in private practice and in the financial services industry. She has served on volunteer Boards of other not-for-profit organizations in the areas of both environmental conservation and social housing. She looks forward to continuing the important work of the Blue Sea Lake Watershed in partnership with the municipalities and the other Lake Associations to protect and preserve this

important ecosystem for future generations to enjoy.

### **Marc Nadeau**

Marc Nadeau, as well, has a deep family attachment to Blue Sea Lake. He has been spending his summers there for 60 years and has now chosen to reside permanently in the new house he is building on the shores of Blue Sea. He believes strongly in the preservation of the lake and wants to involve himself in its protection.

Marc is a notary with the Gatineau firm Nadeau and Associates and has been practicing real estate and succession law for 31 years. He has served on other Boards of Directors and is involved in his community.



### **Jean-Serge Rochon**

Born in Gracefield, Jean-Serge Rochon recently retired after 36 years as Manager of the *Société agricole de Gracefield* and has been an active member of his community and the Gatineau region throughout his life. He was a municipal councillor and acting mayor. He was had leadership roles in the *Gracefield Credit Union*, the volunteer fire department, the Pontiac ZEC, the Maniwaki hospital and the *Société d'Aide au Développement des Collectivités (SADC) de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau*.

Jean-Serge now lives in Blue Sea with his wife Claire. He is an active enthusiast of both summer and winter sports including hunting and fishing, downhill and cross-country skiing, cycling, and golf. He remains involved in many facets of community life with a strong interest in the local environment. If you are cross

country skiing this winter around Blue Sea, you may encounter him grooming the trails.

The new Board of Directors held its first regular meeting - via Zoom of course – on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Certificates of Appreciation**

The work of the Association is possible because of the contribution and help our volunteers and supporters. This year was no exception. As a way of recognizing this contribution each year we offer certificates as a token of our appreciation. This year's recipients are:

- Gilles Arial & Club Scuba-Action
- Kevin Bouschel
- Bob & Kim Butler
- Mona Campanale
- Ben Edwards
- Raymond Lacroix
- Hélène St. Denis, Propriétaire Au Jardin d'Élen
- Ghislaine Turnbull
- Alexis Turnbull-Neault
- Maxime Turnbull-Neault

## Your elected representatives

Elections were held this fall, and it is worth knowing who your elected representatives are and how to reach them. First, the federal election of September 20<sup>th</sup> resulted in a new Member of Parliament for Pontiac, the federal constituency that includes the Blue Sea Lake Watershed. The new Member is Sophie Chatel, with the Liberal Party.

You may reach Sophie Chatel by email at [sophie.chatel@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sophie.chatel@parl.gc.ca) , by telephone at her Parliament Hill office at (613) 995-3950, or write her postage-free at House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6. You can also reach her at either of her two constituency offices:

- 87-B St. Joseph Street, **Gracefield**, Quebec, J0X 1W0. Tel: (819) 463-0112.
- 110 Front Street, Campbell's Bay, Quebec, J0X 1K0. Tel: (819) 648-2138.

Secondly, municipal elections were held across Quebec, including for the Municipalities of Blue Sea and Messines and the Regional County Municipality of La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau.

In Blue Sea, the Mayor, Laurent Fortin\*, and all six Councillors were acclaimed. The six councillors are:

- Seat 1: Michael Simard\*
- Seat 2: Michel Houde
- Seat 3: Marc Lacroix\*
- Seat 4: Gérard Lacaille\*
- Seat 5 : Paul Dénomme\*
- Seat 6 : Marielle Cousineau-Fortin\*

The star means their mandate has been renewed. Find out about the work of the Blue Sea mayor and Council and how to reach them by visiting the municipal website at [www.bluesea.ca](http://www.bluesea.ca) .

In Messines, the Mayor, Ronald Cross\* and two of the six councillors were acclaimed. The other four won contested elections. The six councillors are:

- Seat 1: Anne Langevin\* re-elected
- Seat 2: Annie Galipeau\* acclaimed.
- Seat 3: André Benoit, elected
- Seat 4: Charles Rondeau, elected
- Seat 5: Yves St. Jacques\* acclaimed
- Seat 6: Marie-Anne Poulin, elected.

Again, the star means their mandate has been renewed. Find out more about the work of the Messines Council, and how to reach them by visiting the municipal website at: [www.messines.ca](http://www.messines.ca) .

Finally, an election was held for the Warden of the Regional County Municipality (MRC) of La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau. With its head office in Gracefield, the MRC is responsible for many activities of interest to the environmental health of our lakes and waterways. It is worth spending time on the MRC website at [www.mrcvg.qc.ca](http://www.mrcvg.qc.ca).

The current Warden for the MRC, Mrs. Chantal Lamarche was re-elected on November 7<sup>th</sup>. You can reach her by email at [prefet@mrcvg.qc.ca](mailto:prefet@mrcvg.qc.ca) or by telephone at (819) 463-3241 or toll-free at (877) 463-3241. The MRC office is located at: 7, rue de la Polyvalente -Box 307, Gracefield, Quebec, J0X 1W0.

We must not forget Mr. Robert Bussière MNA for the electoral district of Gatineau, who is the local representative in the Quebec National Assembly. Mr. Bussière can be reached by email at [robert.bussiere.GATI@assnat.qc.ca](mailto:robert.bussiere.GATI@assnat.qc.ca) or by telephone at (581) 628-1802. He has constituency offices at:

- 490, Route 105, Chelsea, Quebec, J9B 1L2 Tel : (819) 827-3868.
- 100, rue Principale Sud, Bureau 23 Maniwaki, Quebec, J9E 3L4. Tel : (819) 441-2626.

Mr. Bussière is up for re-election in 2022.

On behalf of the Blue Sea Watershed Association, we'd like to congratulate all our elected representatives for their willingness to serve. It's important what they do. And we'd like to encourage readers of this bulletin to get to know them. Decisions that our elected representatives make matter to the quality of our environment. If you have a serious concern regarding the watershed, don't be shy. Contact them. Let them know what you think. And let us know that you did by writing us at [info@associationblueseas.org](mailto:info@associationblueseas.org)

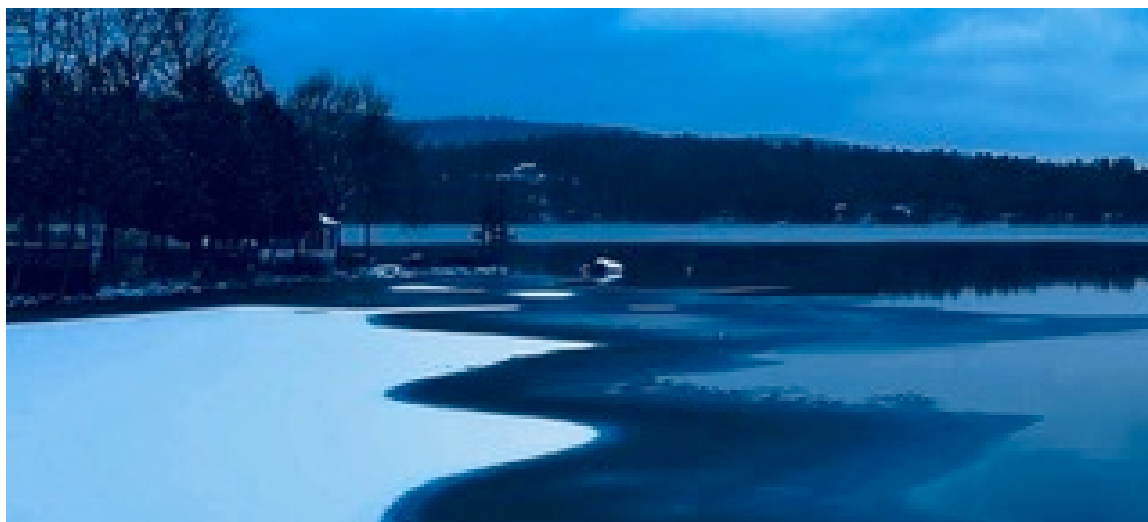
## Remembering André Beauchemin

Lastly, we want to say one last goodbye to our friend André Beauchemin, Secretary of the Blue Sea Watershed Association, who passed away suddenly and tragically in May.

No one misses him more than his partner in life, Barbara Major. So, the Association has presented her with a framed portrait, taken by Paul Ouimet



## Wishing you the best for the holiday season



*Ice arriving on Blue Sea Lake. Photo by Marc Grégoire.*

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*Shorelines* is a production of the Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association.  
Contributions : Francis LeBlanc, Marc Grégoire

Website: [www.associationblueseas.org](http://www.associationblueseas.org)

To contact us: [info@associationblueseas.org](mailto:info@associationblueseas.org)

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