

May 2007

*Everyone in the community of the lakes can contribute.
Everyone can participate.
Our Lake Stewardship Plan is our lake map for the future.*



Bobs and Crow Lakes Stewardship Plan Summary



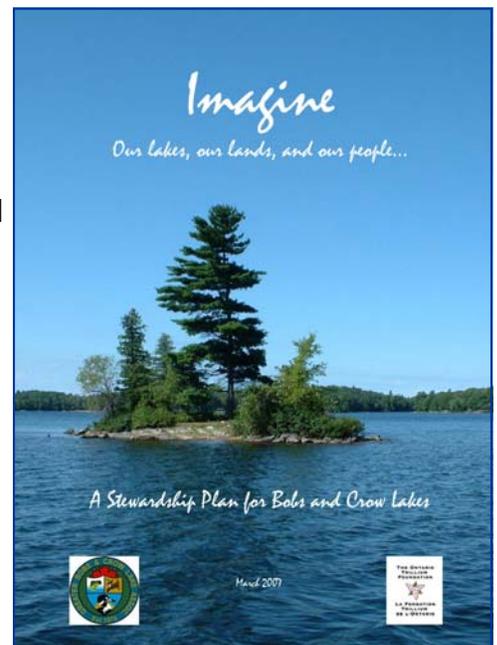
This summary outlines some of the highlights of the 75 page Lake Stewardship Plan and provides information about the availability of the document for your further reading and examination. This is also an invitation to participate in community working groups to address priority concerns identified in the recommendations.

What is a Lake Stewardship Plan?

A stewardship plan is an action-oriented document developed by the community to reflect and preserve the special and unique characters of the lakes. The plan will evolve and change over time as situations and circumstances dictate. It is about how we can be good stewards of the lakes. It is about how we can recognize and protect the unique character of the lakes and learn what we can do to ensure the long term protection of these waters and their watershed.

The aim of the Lake Stewardship Plan is to:

1. Identify the qualities that make the area such a desirable place for people to live or visit and the challenges that put those qualities at risk;
2. Recommend a series of actions that will help to ensure the sustainability of the lakes, the lands, the natural ecosystem and the way of life that we value; and,
3. Serve as a reference and guide to support continued activity for the stewardship of the lakes.



Vision for Bobs and Crow Lakes

Bobs and Crow Lakes are a unique place where people share a healthy coexistence with the natural environment. A place where every community member is a steward and promotes:

- *Good water quality*
- *Rich biological diversity*
- *Good fishing*
- *Natural landscapes and shorelines*
- *Safe and responsible recreational activities*
- *Personal privacy and peaceful enjoyment*
- *Neighbourly social interaction*
- *Historical and cultural preservation*
- *Sustainable economic development*

Our Community Objectives

Water Quality and Water Levels: *to maintain and improve our current standard of good water quality and water level management.*

Fisheries and Fishing: *to protect and enhance the natural elements that fish depend on to ensure a healthy population and to provide a sustainable fishery for anglers.*

Natural Environment: *to protect and enhance the ecosystems of our lakes to ensure a high quality environment for fish, wildlife, vegetation and people now and for the future.*

Boating and Recreation: *to ensure the enjoyment of boating and other recreational activities on and around the lakes while respecting the desire for peace and tranquility, with special emphasis on the challenges posed by boating.*

Emergency and Municipal Services: *to work with municipalities to improve the consistency of the administration of the lakes area, to maintain and improve our police and emergency services and to ensure the lake community receives an adequate level of attention to its needs for services and value for its tax contributions.*

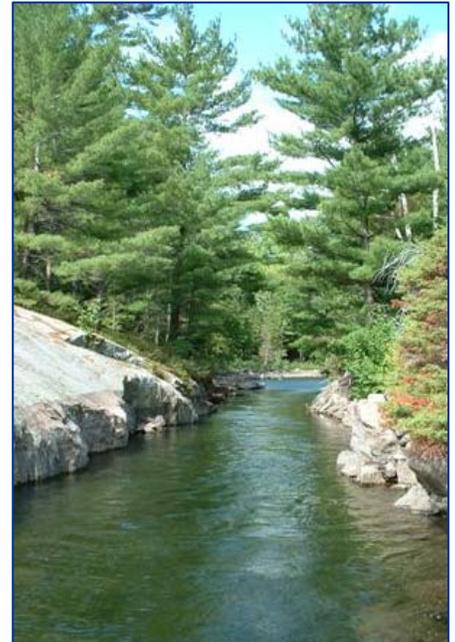
Development: *to ensure that our development activities, landscaping practices and resource extractions are in keeping with the character of our social, physical and natural environment.*

Sense of Community: *to bring together the people of the lakes and build a common sense of ownership and responsibility for protecting the lakes, beginning with implementing the Lake Stewardship Plan.*



Why Did this Plan Happen?

A study on the Tay Valley Watershed alerted the Bobs & Crow Lakes Association to the fact that lake plans would be essential to the understanding and preservation of the lakes in the watershed. They realized that if we are to continue to enjoy the present quality of the water and the environment of our lakes, a detailed study of them and the actions necessary to preserve their unique character was required. The Association then applied to the Ontario Trillium Foundation and was awarded a generous grant to undertake the project.



How was the Plan Prepared?



Lake planning is a community based process. Every effort was made to give an opportunity for everyone to be involved, the residents, the commercial property owners, provincial officials, conservation authorities and the municipalities. These consultations enabled the members of the community to give their views, discuss their main concerns and what actions seemed reasonable to address any identified problems. The following took place:



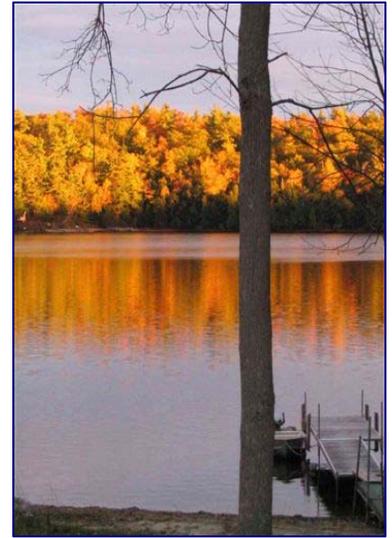
1. A survey was delivered to 1500 households and a good sample of over 500 were returned.
2. 12 workshops were held for various groups of the community to identify values, concerns and opinions.
3. The data from all the sources were compiled and this information formed the basis of a draft of the Plan.
4. The draft Plan was circulated and made available for comment from the community before it was finalized.



The Content of the Stewardship Plan

In the report you will find: a detailed analysis of the 7 identified community objectives with overviews and options for action; detailed maps and a fold out 11 x 17 map of the lakes; graphs; historical data, photographs; a description of the importance of the “Ribbon of Life”; a glossary; extensive references and reports and other items of interest to everyone.

The Plan also outlines physical characteristics of the lakes, fish habitat, bird species, the mammals, the reptiles, the rare and species at risk, aquatic plants, shoreline shrubs and herbs and trees of the watershed. It also addresses water levels, water quality and the lot and building requirements for the three municipalities that govern the lakes. This Lake Stewardship Plan is a very comprehensive and documented study of Bobs and Crow Lakes in the Tay Valley Watershed.



Partnering with the Municipalities

The Lake Stewardship Plan has been presented to the three municipalities that oversee our lakes – The Township of South Frontenac, Tay Valley Township and Central Frontenac Township.

The Councils recognize the importance of lake planning and they anticipate continued support to work with us on the recommendations outlined in the Plan. Councils will also deliberate the potential linkage and recognition of Lake Plan documents with Municipal Official Plans as such plans become available and are evaluated.



Where Can We Find the Lake Stewardship Plan Document?

The full Lake Plan and many reference documents are available on the Association web site:

www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca

The Plan is available to be purchased in CD format accompanied by a laminated map of the lakes or by order in hard copy. For information contact either 613-273-5236 or email:

gbcla@ca.inter.net. The Plan is also available at libraries in Sharbot Lake, Sydenham and Westport.



How Can We Continue to Participate as a Community?

LAKE STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUPS

To continue the positive work of the Lake Stewardship Plan, working groups will now develop future courses of actions based on the recommendations of this report. Your voice as a member of the community of the lakes is again important in this process. If you can contribute and would like us to contact you, please fill out this form and return it to the address below or access the form on the GBCLA web site. www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca.

Name

Address

Tele. No Email

Location in the Area

Please Indicate Your Specific Interest for Working Groups

Water Quality and Water Levels.....

Fisheries.....

Ribbon of Life Education.....

Invasive Species Program.....

Education & Communication Campaigns.....

Boating Safety and Courtesy.....

Community Programs for Youth and to further Community Spirit.....

Do you have a particular area of interest or expertise?

.....

.....

Please return this form to:

Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association
C/O 1262 Green Bay Road, R.R. # 2,
Godfrey, K0H 1T0

Together we can accomplish so much for our lakes!