

**Big Bald Lake Cottagers Association
Annual General Meeting
October 4, 2026**

In attendance

Tabatha Dean and Will Kuehn, 34 Elbow Point Road

Ria and Randy Whatman, 119 Irwin Drive

Brenda Thomas, 50 Fire Route 84

Ann Crawford, 124 Irwin Drive

Lynn and Rich Corbin, 8 Fire Route 87

Mel Eddy, 180 Hall Drive

Kat Saltsman, 72 Irwin Drive

Theresa and Mark Kowall, 343 Elbow Point Road

Linda and Mike MacKillop, 337 Philrick Drive

Meeting called to order 11:47 am

Tabatha Dean introduced herself and asked all others to introduce themselves.

Current Board Members

Acting President and Treasurer:	Tabatha Dean
Membership Coordinator:	Ria Whatman
Environmental Director:	Lucianna Adragna
Secretary:	Brenda Thomas

Motion for President Position on BBLCA Board:

President: Tabatha Dean assumed the position of Acting President when Matthew Speight moved away from the area and resigned. Motion to appoint Tabatha Dean as President approved by Ria Whatman, seconded by Kat Saltsman and all in favour.

Communications Director: Randy Whatman was nominated.
Approved by Mark Kowall, seconded by Theresa Kowall and all in favour.

Secretary: Linda MacKillop will be assuming this responsibility.

Treasurer's Report

Opening account balance was \$13974.25 and the year end balance was \$14124.55. The increase in the closing balance was due to reduced costs of Mail Chimp and Pay Pal and also the outside sponsors who supported the Regatta. Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Ria Whatman, seconded by Brenda Thomas and all in favour.

Social Committees

Winterfest Chilifest: Held February 15th at Tabatha and Will Kuehn's. Neighbours bring their favourite chili, which is judged by those in attendance and the winner receives a gift certificate. There has been as many as 140 people attending, and the event has only been cancelled once due to severe weather!

Beaver Dunk: Held March into April. The beaver is placed in the lake in front of Will and Tabatha Kuehn's. It is posted on the BBLCA website with a calendar. Guess when the beaver will dunk! One guess per household and one guess per day. Get your guesses in early to secure the date you want! Winner receives a gift certificate.

Road Clean Up: Held April 22nd to May 13th. Choose a road or a section of a road and clean up the debris. Email responses to info@bblca.ca or bblca.riaw@gmail.com. This year participants received a \$10 gift certificate for Pizza Alloro. Thanks to Pizza Alloro and BBLCA for contributing these gift certificates!

Let us know if you have any new contest ideas!

Meet and Greet BBQ Lunch: Held May 31st at Ria and Randy Whatman's property. We all enjoyed a barbeque with shared appetizers, salads and desserts. There were about 45 in attendance.

Regatta: Held August 3rd. This event allows for a maximum of 80. It has been an extremely popular event. Non-motorized vessels visit several locations throughout the bays on the north side of the lake and receive "loot." At the final destination, Michelle & Drew Heming's property there is a donut eating contest, hot dogs, water, and freezies for everyone!

Movie Night: Held September 5th. Special thanks to Michelle and Drew Heming for hosting this event. Outdoor movie under the stars!

Social Groups:

BBL Paddlers: Fiona O'Hanlon, Messenger Group

Festival of Trees: Sue Flanagan & BBLCA Board Members

Email us at info@bblca.ca or bblca.riaw@gmail.com if you would like to join our BBL Paddlers group, volunteer for the Festival of Trees or if you are interested in volunteering at any of our other events. We look forward to hearing from you!

Social Media

Website: bblca.ca - to get our newsletter, small fee to become a member

Email: info@bblca.ca

Facebook: Big Bald Lake Cottagers Association

Instagram: [bblca.ca](https://www.instagram.com/bblca.ca) Big Bald Lake Cottagers' Association

Facebook: Bald Lake Garden Club, Janene Greer

Membership Report

Membership is down this year as renewals were not sent in July 2026. They will be sent out in October 2026 and reminder in Feb 2027. Renewal notices for 2027 will be sent out in July.

If you become aware of any new resident, please email info@bblca.ca or bblca.riaw@gmail.com so that the committee can visit with them and provide them with a Welcome Basket from the BBLCA.

Membership dues are used insurance, prizes for contests, activities, water testing, and sponsorships. The BBLCA sponsors the Buckhorn Community Center's Dinner Theatre, Festival of Trees and Golf Tournament.

Water Testing:

E. coli water testing is performed by Rich Corbin and phosphorus water testing by John Boyce.

E. coli testing is done on Monday mornings at 5 different locations throughout the Lake. Rich has changed a location from time to time when the levels have been stable for some time and he has identified an area of potential concern.

The last testing that he did identified extremely high E. coli in Saunders Bay. High E. coli can be as a result of either or all of the following, geese in the water, geese on lawns, septic issues, and feeder streams. Bid Bald Lake has 11 feeder streams, and seven of them are from the north. This is being further investigated.

Volunteers

Volunteers are always needed, welcomed and appreciated!

New volunteers!

Welcome Basket Assembly: Theresa Kowall and Kat Saltsman

Welcome Basket Delivery South & West Sides of the Lake: Mel Eddy and Fran Morton

Welcome Basket Delivery North Side of the Lake: Anita Koch

Regatta T-Shirts Distribution: Fiona O'Hanlon and Ria Whatman

Bears

We are in Trent Lakes and we do have bears. Bears are attracted to high calorie, strong smelling food sources, especially meat, grease, garbage and sweet items such as birdseed, fruit and dessert mixes which they can detect from over 2 km away.

It is recommended that garbage be stored inside a garage or a locked shed and in a secure container. Bears are active from mid to late April through November.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:37 pm

Motion to adjourn by Tabatha Dean, seconded by Brenda Thomas and all in favour.