



May 7, 2025

Mayor Carolyn Amyotte Township of North Kawartha mayor@northkawartha.ca

cc: Deputy Mayor Jim Whelan: dmayor@northkawartha.ca
Councillor RuthAnne McIlmoyl: councillor@northkawartha.ca
Councillor Jim O'Shea: councillorW1@northkawartha.ca
Councillor Colin McLellan: councillorW2@northkawartha.ca

Re: Request for Council Support to Preserve the Lake Partner Program

Dear Mayor Amyotte and North Kawartha Council Members,

On behalf of the Chandos Lake Property Owners Association, I am writing to seek your valuable support regarding the **Lake Partner Program (LPP)**, the long-standing partnership between the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). The program has unfortunately been in a state of uncertainty since March, and **the 2025 sampling season could be in jeopardy**. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in encouraging the provincial government to continue this important environmental initiative.

Our association represents over 600 families on Chandos Lake who understand that North Kawartha's community wellbeing, tourism appeal, and property values are closely connected to the health of our lakes. **The enjoyment of our waterfront properties and their long-term value are intrinsically linked to the quality of our lake water.** This is precisely why our association dedicates significant resources to monitoring water quality, managing invasive species, and promoting responsible shoreline and septic system practices.

As you know, North Kawartha's identity is defined by its beautiful lakes and waterways that draw both seasonal and permanent residents to our area. These natural assets deserve the ongoing monitoring and protection that programs like the LPP provide.

For three decades, the LPP has built an invaluable database on freshwater lake quality, providing essential information for researchers, government agencies, and community organizations. What makes this program particularly special is that it relies on dedicated volunteers – including several from our own association – who collectively monitor hundreds of lakes across Ontario.

The program represents an exceptional value for the province, leveraging volunteer efforts to maintain critical environmental data collection. In our changing climate, having consistent, long-term water quality data becomes increasingly important for making informed decisions about our precious freshwater resources.

We would be grateful if North Kawartha Council would consider passing a resolution encouraging Premier Ford and Minister McCarthy to continue funding for the Lake Partner Program. Your voice would add significant weight to this important cause that affects all who cherish our lakes.

Thank you for your consideration and your ongoing commitment to the wellbeing of our community and its natural environment.


Sincerely,

Elsbeth

Elsbeth Gaukrodger,

President, Chandos Lake Property Owners Association (CLPOA)



Cc: Debra Anthony CLPOA Director Environmental Programs 

FOCA: communications@foca.on.ca