

# Otterlake News

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## From the President's Desk

Well, I think most of you will agree we have certainly had, as was predicted, a truly old-fashion winter with lots of snow after a few years of little or no snow. Now it is time to look forward to spring and summer.

This winter has been very different. With the snow coming early and with heavy accumulations it took a very long time for the lake to completely freeze over. There were a couple of major storms with very high winds early in the winter that re-opened the skim of ice that had formed on the lake. As a result it was late in January before the lake was finally frozen over. Again, before it had a chance to freeze very well, it received yet another blanket of snow. As a result there has not been very much activity on Otter Lake this winter as the ice is considered to be unsafe. It has been reported that the Eastern Ontario area has received 9 feet of snow and that was before the storm in early March that left behind another 50+ cm. The large snow pack late in the season combined with soil that is already saturated, poses a risk of seasonal flooding this spring. Check the RVCA website for updates.

Included in this newsletter is Karl's full Lake Report for the summer of 2007. As usual it is a very informative and detailed report. This report and many other items of interest can also be found on the Otter Lake Landowners Association website.

There have also been a couple of other developments over the winter that are quite exciting. The first announcement is that our Lake Steward Karl Fiander is now President of the board of FOCA (the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association). Also the FOCA office has just recently re-located to Peterborough from the Toronto area. FOCA will be at both the Toronto and Ottawa Cottage Life Shows this year and the Spring Seminar will be April 5th. Watch for all the details on the <http://www.foca.on.ca> website.

The second announcement is that the RVCA Lake Management Planning Program is being expanded to include other areas outside the Lanark boundaries and because our Lake Management Plan was already in progress we were chosen as the lake to give representation in the Leeds & Greenville area. This will provide us both with guidance and assistance in completing our plan and perhaps some funding as well. There will be more to come on this as the process is finalized.

Looks like this will once again be a busy and exciting summer at Otter Lake!!!

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