

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

FOCA Elert

May 2014

In This Issue

Provincial Election

FOCA Year in Review

Ontario Energy Board

Nuclear Waste DGR

Water Research Innovation

ONCA status

Asian Carp Awareness

Safe Boating

Gone Fishing

Events

Quick Links

[Read past FOCA Elerts](#)

[What are the Benefits of Supporting FOCA?](#)

FOCA encourages you to support:



Ontario Election 2014

FOCA wants you to VOTE on June 12th

The issues facing Ontario are significant and far-reaching, and it is incumbent upon all eligible voters to make an informed decision - and VOTE - in the June 12th Provincial election.

You only get one vote in the election, even if you have residences in more than one electoral district.

NOTE: FOCA requested clarification from Elections Ontario about **whether you can choose to vote in your cottage district in the upcoming election.**

The answer is, "yes," for some people, under certain conditions and with proper identification.

See the official response from the Chief Electoral Officer, and get more details about the vote here:

[FOCA 2014 Elections webpage](#)

Thank you to FOCA's Gold Sponsors:



FOCA Year in Review

Read the [FOCA 2013 Year in Review](#) publication for an overview of all the work FOCA does, and all the benefits of supporting FOCA.

Associations: please circulate this link to all your members, and remind them that they are FOCA members, too!



Proposed Hydro One rate increase

FOCA is once again intervening at the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) hearings, currently underway.

FOCA remains strongly opposed to broad customer reclassification proposals (such as eliminating the "seasonal" rate class) that could significantly aggravate the already dramatic rate increases proposed by Hydro One to the OEB for the period 2015-19.

All year-round residential and seasonal Hydro One customers will be significantly affected by the recent proposed changes.

Stay tuned to the [FOCA Energy webpage](#) for emerging information.

More hearings coming for nuclear DGR site

Update: The Joint Review Panel has announced that additional hearing dates will be scheduled for the proposed Deep Geological Repository (DGR) project near Kincardine, Ontario.

Dates will be set after the ongoing review of responses from Ontario Power Generation related to the Panel's additional requests for information dating back to November 2013.



Read the Panel's **Notice to Interested Parties** and get background and additional links on [FOCA's Hot Topics - Great Lakes Issues webpage](#).

Water Research in Action

Under the banner, "**Water nation**," the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) has posted several interesting articles profiling Canadian scientists who are devoted to protecting, conserving and managing fresh water. Read about the Great Lakes, nanoparticles, climate data and more, here: www.innovation.ca/en/ResearchInAction/ImpactStory/Waternation



CFI is an independent NGO that strives to build Canada's capacity to undertake world-class research and technology development to benefit Canadians.

ONCA on hold

Since the call of the June 12 Provincial Election, Bill 85 and the technical amendments required to bring ONCA (the Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act) into force **is now dead in the water**.

This means ONCA will not likely be proclaimed until after 2015, so FOCA associations will have plenty of time to get aligned with the new law.

FOCA and our partners at Borden Ladner Gervais (BLG) will remain focused on the progress of this change in the law, which will affect all Ontario non-profit organizations. BLG and FOCA will be releasing further information about how to be prepared in the weeks and months to come.

Asian Carp Awareness - signs available

The introduction of Asian carp would have devastating effects on our lakes and rivers.

To raise awareness and educate about Asian carp, our partners at the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and Fisheries and Oceans Canada are launching an Asian carp awareness campaign: "Report all Potential Asian Carp Sightings."

As part of this campaign, Lake Associations can access FREE 18" x 12" metal signs as well as print resources for distribution.



If your group would like to help spread awareness of the threat these fish pose to our aquatic ecosystems, please contact: Emily_Johnston@ofah.org or call the **Invading Species Hotline** at 1-800-563-7711. 1-800-563

Early detection is key to preventing the establishment of these fish, and reports from the public will be invaluable to the preservation of our lakes and rivers. To learn more about invasive species, visit: www.foca.on.ca/Invasive_Species

Safe Boating

Just prior to the May long weekend, the OPP released 2013 data showing that 8 out of 10 victims of marine fatalities were not wearing PFDs. As we come to the end of **North American Safe Boating Awareness Week**, May 17-23, the Canadian Safe Boating Council (CSBC) reminds everyone to boat safely:

- wear your lifejacket or PFD
- don't drink and boat
- take a boating course
- be knowledgeable about the risks of cold water immersion (and yes, it is still very cold out there!)
- be prepared before leaving the dock



Image courtesy Kirk Doughty

[Access refresher videos about boat safety on YouTube by clicking here.](#)

Need your PCOC? Remember: FOCA members access a discount from Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons, for the online course. [Click here for details...](#)

Gone Fishing

Looking for information about Ontario fishing regulations? Here's a handy link:
www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/LetsFish/Publication/STEL02_163615.html

The "Fishing Summary" provides information about licences, catch limits, bait and gear restrictions, and contains maps showing what rules apply in your area.



Recent Events:

May 2, 2014 - FOCA was pleased to participate in a recent workshop on **climate communications**, co-hosted by Green Communities Canada and the Sustainability Network. The featured presenter was Cara Pike from [Climate Access](#). (image at right)



May 4-6, 2014 - FOCA was proud to support and participate in the first annual **Water Initiative for the Future (WatIF)** Graduate Conference at Queen's University, Kingston. Terry Rees led a workshop about knowledge mobilization with Water Canada editor, Rachel Phan.

May 8-9, 2014 - This year's **Muskoka Summit on the Environment** was another successful gathering and learning opportunity for the waterfront community. For those of you unable to make it in person, catch the highlights on the CBC Radio show **Ideas**, with Paul Kennedy, on June 4th. The latest (2014) [Muskoka Watershed Report Card](#) was also launched at the Summit!

May 10, 2014 - FOCA participated in the **Kawartha Lake Stewards Association** Annual Spring meeting.



May 18, 2014 - FOCA spoke at the **Otter Lake Ratepayers Association** Annual General Meeting near Parry Sound - great turn-out, and super program updates from this active member Association! (image at right)

Coming Up:

June 7, 2014 - Residents in North Kawartha (Apsley and region) won't want to miss the annual **Lakeland Conference** coming up on June 7th. This regional event is an opportunity for shoreline property owners to learn about pressing environmental issues facing their lakes with local experts and organizations. Details and agenda: www.lakelandalliance.net/events.html

July 12, 2014 - **FOCA Cottage Succession Seminar**: Keeping the 'Family' in the Family Cottage, with estate lawyer Peter Lillico, at the Washago Community Centre (north of Orillia). Contact the FOCA office to register to attend: 705-749-3622 705-749-362 info@foca.on.ca
705-749-362

Support FOCA

FOCA works all year long on your behalf, to protect thriving and sustainable waterfronts across Ontario. **How can you help?**

1. Get on the **FOCA Evert list** so we can keep you up-to-date. If this message did not land in your Inbox directly from FOCA, **[CLICK HERE](#)** to join the Evert list today!

2. Like us on Facebook, to connect with FOCA on social media.

Like us on Facebook 

support
FOCA

3. Donate to support FOCA today.

4. Share this message with others!

FOCA believes everyone has the right to be alerted to issues that could affect their waterfront property investment.

FOCA's Gold sponsors are listed above.
Thank you also to our Silver and Bronze level sponsors:



CORPORATE SPONSORS support us. Please, support them.

[Forward email - use this feature to send to others safely!](#)

 SafeUnsubscribe™

Trusted Email from
Constant Contact™

Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to communications@foca.on.ca by communications@foca.on.ca |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations | 201-159 King Street | Peterborough | ON | K9J 2R8 | Canada