

Saturday, March 7, 2026
from 9:00am to 3:00pm



by Zoom webinar & in person at
the Bayview Golf & Country Club

Event Summary for

Attendees & Members



DID YOU KNOW? - 2026 IS A MUNICIPAL ELECTION YEAR

FOCA lobbied for your right to
vote in BOTH your urban AND
cottage country ridings!

see
p.9



WHAT'S FOCA BEEN UP TO? WHAT'S UP NEXT?

Read the CEO's Report about
advocacy, programs, services
and member value

see
p.3



AGM

SALT RESOLUTION
and other items of
business

see
p.5



ROAD SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Who's incorporated?
Who has insurance?
By-laws?

see
p.10



WHO GOT THE 2025 FOCA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD?

see
p.6

2026 FOCA SPRING SEMINAR

Highlights

FOCA 2026 Spring Seminar & AGM – Event Summary

FOCA held our **Spring Seminar and Annual General Meeting** – ‘**Where Lake Leaders Connect**’ as a hybrid event on Saturday, March 7, 2026. There were 125 attendees in person at the Bayview Golf and Country Club in Thornhill and an additional 127 participants by Zoom webinar, making this another large member event!

All paid registrants received a separate link to view the **event recording**. This document contains a summary of the day’s events. Sessions are described on the following pages and here are **links to all the slides**:

Slide Set #1 – [FOCA CEO’s Report & Introductory/End Slides](#) (PDF, 10 MB)

Slide Set #2 – [Annual General Meeting](#) led by the FOCA Board of Directors (PDF, 2 MB)

Slide Set #3 – [FOCA Terry Rees Achievement Award](#) Presentation (PDF, 3 MB)

Slide Set #4 – [Understanding Shared Values with First Nation Partners: Wise Practices for Meaningful Relationship Building](#) by Kassandra McKeown, Cambium Indigenous Professional Services (PDF, 9 MB)

Slide Set #5 – [Lessons from the Community: Developing a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan](#): overview by Terry Rees, project consultant, with panel discussion led by Deanna Forgie with the 3 pilot project groups (PDF, 9 MB)

Slide Set #6 – [Beneath the Surface: Identifying Aquatic Invasive Plants](#) by Katie Church of the Invasive Species Centre (PDF, 10 MB)

Slide Set #7 – [Preparing for the 2026 Municipal Elections: Community Engagement](#) by Marium Nur Vahed, Democratic Engagement Exchange, Toronto Metropolitan University

Slide Set #8 – [Highlights from FOCA’s 2025 Road Issues Survey](#) by Alan Revill, Co-Chair of the FOCA Road Issues Member Advisory Group

Slide Set #9 – [Climate Change and Cottage Country: Protecting What We Love](#) by Dr. Anabela Bonada, Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation, University of Waterloo

With special thanks to our valued Sponsors of this event:

**Refreshment
Sponsor:**



Event Sponsor:



**Lunch
Sponsor:**



YOUR ROLE: Share this information with members of your local association to ensure they know the value of being a member of FOCA! You can:

- Use prompts from page 1 on your **social channels** (but don’t post this document publicly)
- Use excerpts in your next **newsletter** from the session overviews on the following pages
- **Email the full summary** to your members so they learn about the 2026 event, highlights of FOCA’s work over the past year, and all your member benefits.

Need a different file format or copies of images? Email: communications@foca.on.ca

FOCA 2026 Spring Seminar & AGM

A Summary of the Day's Sessions for Members

Welcome & Opening Remarks (Slide set #1):

FOCA's Manager of Communications and Development, **Michelle Lewin**, opened the event:

I'd like to start this meeting by recognizing and thanking the traditional stewards of the lands and waterways where we work and live. The waterfront lands of Ontario are the traditional territories of many diverse Indigenous peoples who recognize the sacredness of water, the interconnect- edness of all life, and the importance of protecting land and water for the generations yet to come. We are all on a journey towards truth and reconciliation and offer this recognition as an important step in that journey. We are joining this virtual meeting from different locations, and I encourage each of you to dedicate yourselves to move forward in the spirit of respect, reciprocity, learning and sharing that learning.

Michelle thanked the Event Sponsor, **Hydro One**, and invited **Ryan Harris**, Director, Customer Experience Enablement, Hydro One Networks Inc. to speak. Ryan's remarks reflected on last year's generational ice storm and the work done by Hydro One crews to restore power safely and as quickly as possible. Hydro One operates 126,000 km of primary distribution lines through forests, over and under lakes, and across rugged terrain. They are working across the grid to keep the lights on by investing in infrastructure and proactive maintenance. The transition continues for 135,000 previously-seasonal rate customers moving to residential rates. FOCA worked with Hydro One to advocate for the 10-year extended phase-in of this transition, to minimize bill impacts.



Next, the Honourable **Tod McCarthy**, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) sent [recorded greetings](#). The Minister's remarks included thanks to FOCA for our continued stewardship and advocacy across Ontario, and he highlighted the shared success of the 5-year agreement signed last year between FOCA and MECP to continue the Lake Partner Program of water quality monitoring for Ontario's inland lakes.

Highlights from the CEO's Report by Lesley Lavender (Slide set #1):



Over the past year, I've had the privilege of travelling across Ontario and connecting with our lake associations across the province. What I've seen and heard is clear: this is not a passive community — it is a community of leaders.

For FOCA, fiscal 2024 was a year of change with new leadership and a strategic plan in development, and fiscal 2025 was a year of building. Together with our dedicated [Board of Directors and staff](#), we finalized and launched our [2025–2027 Strategic Plan](#), strengthened our team, maintained strong membership, and secured multi-year funding for cornerstone programs.

FOCA's impact continues to be grounded in both environmental leadership and strong advocacy. When the future of the [Lake Partner Program](#) was uncertain, you acted — and together, we helped ensure its continuation. We also secured new funding for [invasive carps](#) work, advanced programs on [phragmites](#) and [source water protection](#), expanded [boater education](#), and prepared to release the updated [Lake Planning Guide](#) that reflects today's realities and tools.

That is stability. That is momentum. That is growth.

We've also deepened engagement — including with youth who participated virtually in our [Fall Seminar](#), and now this Spring Seminar at no cost, due to the support of our valued [donors](#). We have expanded opportunities for members to inform our work through the development of 3 new **Member Advisory Groups** focused on environment, advocacy & government relations, and road issues.

On the advocacy front, FOCA has remained active and engaged. From responding to provincial legislation like [Bill 5](#) and changes to Ontario's [Conservation Authorities](#), to raising concerns about proposed new federal reporting requirements for small associations (see link at the bottom of this page), we are ensuring your voices are heard. We continue to support members with practical resources and guidance on complex and emerging issues, from the [Underused Housing Tax](#) to [cottage succession](#) planning, to the current public consultation period on [Alto High-Speed Rail](#).

These issues are often technical and time-consuming, but this is where FOCA makes a difference: analyzing, engaging early, representing your interests, and translating it all into clear, actionable support for your communities.

At the heart of this work is community. Visiting your lakes last summer reinforced for me that FOCA is not just an organization — it is a network of dedicated volunteers, caring neighbours, and community stewards who care deeply about their lakes and each other.

Those visits changed my perspective. They gave me a deeper understanding of what you need from us — not just policy wins or program funding — but tools. Clarity. Support. Simplicity. Connection.



This year, we are investing in strengthening the member experience — making it easier for you to access tools, guidance, and support. This includes new communications resources, an upcoming new website, and a new member portal designed to be simpler, more accessible, and more useful for your day-to-day leadership. Informed associations are powerful associations.

[FOCA membership](#) is more than a service — it is something you can leverage. It connects you to credible science, shared knowledge, and a province-wide network that amplifies your voice and supports your success. It can help your association grow, recruit new members, and engage the next generation of cottagers.

If the past two years have been about change and building, the year ahead is about **momentum** — driven by stronger partnerships, modernized systems, and empowered members with a shared belief that Ontario's waterfront communities matter.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for leading locally.

And thank you for helping shape FOCA's future.

Related Links:

Download a copy of the **2025 FOCA Year in Review**: https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/FOCA_2026_Year-in-Review-1.pdf (PDF, 4 pages)

Read FOCA's submission to the Department of Finance Canada in response to draft legislative proposals released January 29, 2026, suggesting amendments to the Income Tax Act that would introduce **expanded reporting requirements for non-profit organizations (NPOs)**:

<https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/FOCA-submission-NPO-Tax-Reporting-Requirements-26Feb2026.pdf> (PDF, 3 pages)



Highlights from the FOCA Annual General Meeting (Slide set #2)

There were voting representatives from 155 member Associations, far surpassing the quorum requirement of 25 members, in accordance with FOCA's Bylaws. **Business conducted in the 2026 AGM:**

- approved the Minutes of the 2025 AGM
- received the Audited Financial Statements presented by the Auditor, Massimo Siciliano of Clarkson Rouble LLP
- appointed Clarkson Rouble LLP as the Auditor for the 2025-2026 fiscal year
- approved a [Salt Resolution](#) calling on the Province to develop limited liability legislation tied to mandatory training and enforceable best practices, among other actions
- elected the slate of Directors recommended by the FOCA Governance & Nominating Committee.



Consult the original [Notice of Meeting](#) for supporting materials including the full slate of Directors elected.

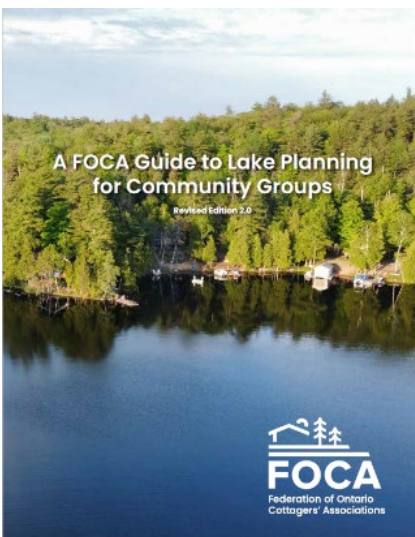
Director **Marry Ann Peden** recognized the work and time that **Deborah Martin-Downs** has given to FOCA and thanked her for her service. Deborah retired from the Board on March 7, 2026, having completed her second term of office as the Chair of the FOCA Board of Directors.



In a Board Meeting held after the AGM, the **2026 FOCA Board Executive** was appointed:

Chair: Donna Commerford
Vice President: Diana Piquette
Treasurer: Rick Blickstead
Secretary: Michael Peterson

Release of the Second Edition of the FOCA Lake Planning Guide



We are very pleased to announce the release the second edition of the **FOCA Guide to Lake Planning for Community Groups** which includes additional information about source water protection, for groups that are interested to explore more about these options in their own communities, expanding upon the resources in the original 2008 edition.

One print copy of the Guide is available for each FOCA Member Association, and many association representatives picked up their copy at the Spring Seminar & AGM.

The digital copy of the Guide, and all the related 'Sample Resources' (peer lake plans, worksheets, assessments, sample surveys, workshop ideas, presentations, and more!) is under the member login on our webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/lake-planning-guide/>. (If you don't have, or can't recall your member login, reach out to the office for assistance during business hours: info@foca.on.ca).

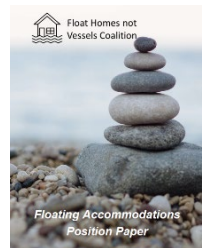
Highlights from the FOCA Achievement Award session (Slide set #3)

The **2025 FOCA Terry Rees Achievement Award** was presented by **Donna Commerford**. This award celebrates the successes of the FOCA community and encourages sharing of best practices among our vibrant community of members. The award is given annually to a FOCA member association that has demonstrated innovation in its work, and dedication to community betterment.



The 2025 FOCA Award recipient is the Gloucester Pool Cottagers Association (GPCA) for their advocacy efforts to engage varied stakeholders to implement a response to large shipping container 'vessels' that appeared on Little Lake near Georgian Bay in the summer of 2021.

The Award was accepted by **Cheryl Elliot-Fraser** and **Paul McKay** of the GPCA. Congratulations! The efforts of GPCA's working group, the 'Float Homes Not Vessels Coalition' led successfully to amendments to the Public Lands Act by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Parks Canada mooring restrictions, and by-laws in the two local township to restrict or prevent the placement of these structures over water. Read [FOCA's March 2026 media release](#) (PDF, 1 page) about GPCA. Download a copy of the [Floating Accommodations Position Paper](#) (2025; PDF, 11 pages) created to help other municipalities craft responses to similar threats, and get related and background information on the issue on FOCA's webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/floating-accommodations/>. We encourage you to **share this information** proactively with your own municipal partners.



Lead Petition – Call-to-Action:

Over the years, the [FOCA Achievement Award](#) has been presented to association groups of all sizes, and from all parts of Ontario, for their environmental or advocacy initiatives, their community, or stewardship education. **Please apply for the Award on behalf of your association, or a neighbouring association, when you hear the call for nominations this fall!** We love sharing your success stories.

Donna featured a particular update from the **Wolfe Lake Association** who had received the FOCA Award in 2022 for their '**Let's Get the Lead Out**' initiative to promote lead-free fishing to protect loons, eagles, and other aquatic wildlife from lead poisoning. There is now a petition active, to urge Ontario legislators to ban certain sizes or weights of lead fishing tackle, in order to align with existing regulations in Ontario National Parks and wildlife refuges.



They took the lead out of paint, gas, pipes and more. Isn't it time to get the lead out of our fishing tackle, too?

For more, visit: fishleadfree.ca/

YOUR ROLES:

- Watch and share a short **video** explaining the impact of lead on loons, created by the 'Get the Lead Out' group: <https://youtu.be/6jdaDCASUx0?si=ju2tD5ydl4sDgzlq>
- Read and share their **info sheet** about [Loons & Lead Fishing Tackle](#) (PDF, 1 page)
- FOCA encourages every member to **print out, sign & circulate** this [Lead Petition Form](#) (PDF, 1 page) at your own local AGM and events this season. This petition must be hand-signed; digital signatures will not be counted.
- Completed forms should be **returned by mail** to:

Let's Get the Lead Out Representative
c/o 9 Garland Lane
Godfrey, ON K0H 1T0

For more on this initiative, visit <https://fishleadfree.ca/> or email fishleadfree@gmail.com

Understanding Shared Values with First Nations Partners - Wise Practices for Meaningful Relationship Building (Slide set #4):

Kassandra McKeown of Cambium Indigenous Professional Services spoke about:

1. Reframing how we understand relationships and responsibility
2. Legal Personhood and the Rights of Nature – Rice Lake example
3. Land Relationship Visioning as a collaborative tool and process.

Consult Kassie's slides for an outline of the difference she described between the terms 'consultation' (a fiduciary duty to consult and accommodate; a legal obligation of the Federal Government or their entities) and 'engagement' (meaningful relationship building). She encouraged everyone to learn whose treaty lands are in your region, where those communities are located, and whether they have an environmental, lands, or consultation department you can reach out to. Proceed with an understanding that no single knowledge system has more weight or legitimacy than another, and consider the unique relationship First Nations have with land and water.



Rights-based work being done by First Nations is intended to protect, help, enhance, and preserve against pressures such as development. We are part of a system – land, sky, water, wildlife – that works together to sustain all of us. "My understanding of a wetland is that it is the kidneys of Mother Earth," said Kassie. "We live in relation with water and understand that water is sacred. Water is life." We have reciprocal obligations of care and respect toward the land and waters that sustain us.

Alderville First Nation, where Kassie sits as an elected member of Band Council, is championing an initiative to assign ecological personhood to [Rice Lake](#) in Ontario. The [Magpie River](#) in northern Quebec (2021) is the only other current Canadian example of a waterbody with 'personhood' status, but there are international examples in at least 44 countries. The Band Council passed a resolution granting Rice Lake legal personhood status in November 2025. See the slides for the 9 'Rights of Personhood' granted to the lake by Alderville First Nation. The next step is to establish a Guardians Council of representatives of the First Nation and other stakeholders including cottagers' associations, municipalities, conservation authorities, and others.

Finally, Kassie described the **Land Relationship Visioning digital tool** she developed for First Nations to marry western land use planning with First Nations' needs and priorities, to help with creating inventories of species and spaces, and community engagement ideas. Watch a video about the resource: <https://youtu.be/gA6EtgPoczg?si=hRiYPxZOTA-z1OVx> and access the digital toolkit online here: <https://www.indigenousaware.com/lrvtraining>.



Lessons from the Community: Developing a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan (Slide set #5):

Terry Rees, pilot project consultant for rural [source water protection](#) (SWP), gave a [recorded report](#) summarizing FOCA's Drinking Water Source Protection Plan pilot project in 2024, and expanded efforts in 2025 using the Province's 'best management approach' to develop plans for rural waterfront communities. Most of Ontario's urban population is protected by Source Water Protection provisions, but most rural communities lack this protection.



The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) approached FOCA in 2023 to try to help close this gap. With MECP financial support, in 2024 FOCA engaged a professional consulting engineer to produce a 'source-protection-light' document for Crego Lake delineating groundwater and surface water

vulnerability zones, and an action plan for the community. Then in 2025, three additional FOCA associations undertook entirely volunteer efforts to create local plans without professional consultants.

Deanna Forgie, FOCA's Programs Coordinator led the panel discussion with the 2025 participating member associations about their efforts and resulting source water action plans. Thank you to the panel participants:

- Dale Klodnicki from the **Lake Bernard Property Owners Association**
- Beth Carey from the **Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association**
- Tom Ellis from the **Little Silver/Rainbow Lake Property Owners Association**.

Some highlights from the panel discussions:

QU: What new knowledge did you gain about your community's drinking water sources, as a result of participation in the project?

- Tom E: *Thanks to the Association President, Dr. Frank Johnson, for his work on the project. Wells and ground water were the biggest surprise – the association does sample the lake water, but had thought of drinking water as a property owner responsibility, not an association one. However, the survey of community members indicated over 70% of property owners in their area rely on wells for their drinking water.*
- Beth: *Thanks to Shelley Fellows and the rest of the group that worked through this process. In their survey results, 25% used wells, and 60.7% use surface water. But over 57% did not regularly test their water. Many residents said they don't use fertilizers or pesticides, but said they do use 'organic' fertilizers or manure – which do add phosphorus impacts – so it seems ongoing education is key, as individual choices matter around the waterfront.*
- Dale: *We are fortunate to have some local technical expertise in 2 aquatic ecologists and a retired civil engineer in our association, plus strong support from our municipalities. We formed a 'Roundtable on Lake Health' including 3 local municipalities (Mayors and Councillors), and the Near North Education Centre and Chamber of Commerce. We had already identified road salt as an issue, but need to learn how to identify the groundwater recharge area, which turns out to be most of the local town area!*



QU: Who needs to be part of future solutions around source water protection in your community? How should your story be shared?

- All respondents mentioned the local municipalities, but recognized that the municipalities may not have capacity to monitor, so the lake associations needs to stay involved.
- A watershed-based discussion is ideal; it may be more than just your one association that needs to be at the table.
- There are townships that have undertaken septic reinspection projects, and lake associations have advocated to their townships to monitor well capacity in proposed development areas.
- Lake associations have a key role to play as Official Plans are being updated, and are a key partner in education.

QU: How manageable was the project for your group, and what advice would you give others?

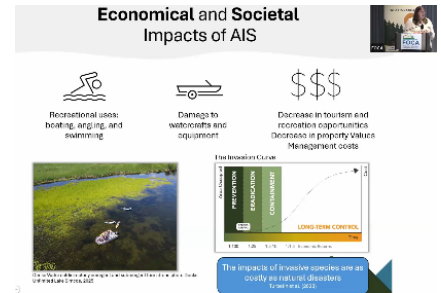
- *"We needed more science experts in our group."*
- There is a lack of reliable well data available from government sources.
- Survey uptake might have been improved if there were more volunteers to go door-to-door with the invitation to participate, rather than just emailing a digital survey.

Deanna wrapped up the session by noting that the process of drinking water source protection planning does take time; it's a big workload. Lake planning is a good place to begin. Remember: no one is coming to plan for your lake. It's up to the people who care about the lake to do so. FOCA is completing our final reporting to MECP on the project this month, and the pilot project reports will eventually be posted to the FOCA website for member reference. Watch the FOCA newsletter for updates.

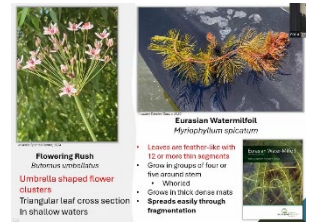
Beneath the Surface: Identifying Aquatic Invasive Plants (Slide set #6):

Katie Church, Aquatic Invasive Plant Coordinator at the Invasive Species Centre provided context for identifying invasive aquatic plants in Ontario. Consult the slides for detailed information on the following:

- What are invasive species?
- Impacts of aquatic invasive species (AIS)
- How to identify AIS
- Reducing pathways of spread
- How to report AIS.



Katie provided helpful tips for identifying Water Soldier, Parrot Feather, European Water Chestnut, Flowering Rush, European Frogbit, Invasive Phragmites, Fanwort, Yellow Floating Heart, Floating Primrose-willow, and Water Mosses. The slides provide ID information, comparisons with common 'look-alikes', mapping of their known locations across Ontario, and some management options and best practices.



Links to handy digital resources mentioned during the talk include:

- OIPC's [Aquatic Invasive Plant Best Management Practices](#)
- [Invasive Aquatic Plant Pocket Guide](#)
- [Invasive Phragmites Technical Bulletin](#)

Access your digital copy of FOCA's Guide: [Understanding the Underwater World of Plants](#) (PDF, 92 pages)

Comments from the Parliamentary Assistant - MNR

Dawn Gallagher Murphy, the Parliamentary Assistant to the **Minister of Natural Resources** (MNR) spoke at the start of the afternoon session about the many MNR services and priorities that intersect with the interests of FOCA membership including invasive species prevention, fire safety, restrictions on floating accommodations, and many other topics.

Pictured: Cheryl Elliot-Fraser of Gloucester Pool Cottagers Association (recipients of the 2025 FOCA Achievement Award for their work on the floating accommodation issue), PA Dawn Gallagher Murphy, FOCA CEO Lesley Lavender, March 7/26.



Preparing for the 2026 Municipal Elections: Community Engagement (Slide set #7):

Marium Nur Vahed of the Democratic Engagement Exchange, Toronto Metropolitan University, spoke about community engagement in elections. Ontario Municipal elections will take place this year on **October 26, 2026**. There is work to be done over the coming months to educate fellow waterfront residents to vote in the election, engagement strategies, finding the next generation of community stewards. "Cottagers are amongst the least likely to vote in municipal elections," she said. "If your voices are missing at the ballot box, your priorities are easier to ignore." Consult the slides for tips.

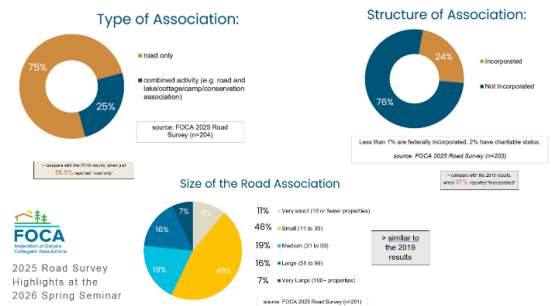


Remember: FOCA fought for your right to vote in Ontario in every municipality where you own property! That means you can **vote in your urban riding, but also in your cottage riding**. Let fellow members know about this. Watch for [FOCA municipal election updates](#) throughout the year – about as ensuring you are on the voter list, tips for holding an all candidates meeting, where to vote, getting out the vote on election day, and more.

FOCA 2025 Road Issues Survey: Highlights (Slide set #8):

Alan Revill, FOCA Board Director and Co-Chair of the **FOCA Road Issues Member Advisory Group** presented summary results of the late 2025 FOCA Road Issues Survey. Consult the slide for details. Some highlights:

- We received responses from 217 unique road groups in the survey data – an increase over past versions of this survey in 2019 and 2011. Altogether, over 7,400 rural properties are represented in the survey answers, in 65 Ontario municipalities.
- About $\frac{1}{4}$ of respondents are incorporated. $\frac{3}{4}$ are purely “road groups” while the rest are combined lake/road groups.
- 72% of respondents carry liability insurance.
- Many respondents have at least part of their road access over a municipally-unassumed road that is maintained privately by the local property owners’ group.
- Only 54% of respondents said they have written by-laws, and 26% note specifically that they only have a ‘handshake agreement’. If your road group needs to work on developing by-laws, reach out to the FOCA office for samples from fellow members: info@foca.on.ca.
- There has been an increase in extreme weather events in recent years impacting roads (high water, sudden downbursts, ice, wind, fallen trees and/or power lines) and related road maintenance budgets.
- Over half of respondents say their road is **not in compliance with local standards for emergency service vehicles** (i.e., at least part of the road does not have the corridor width, height, and turn-around requirements to meet Ontario Fire Code), or don’t know.
- Annual dues range widely, but most respondents (78%) reported that everyone pays the same amount, regardless of seasonal versus year-round usage. Of course, many respondents have entirely seasonal roads.
- 87% of respondents reported that they get at least 90% of all road owners to pay their annual dues. If *your* road association needs information about how to get everyone to pay their fair share, and the Small Claims Court case law on the principle ‘unjust enrichment’, reach out to the FOCA office for assistance: info@foca.on.ca.



FOCA will be doing more analysis on the data, including filtering in various ways (long versus short roads; hilly versus flat; large culverts or bridges, etc.) We plan to hold a **special member webinar** later this year, to dig into the road survey results. Watch the FOCA newsletter for updates! Also, consult member resources on our webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/road-issues/>.

Climate Change & Cottage Country: Protecting What We Love (Slide set #9)

Dr. **Anabela Bonada** of the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation, University of Waterloo spoke about the changes we are experiencing in Ontario cottage country, and how to adapt to protect ourselves and our properties.

As temperatures rise, so do climate extremes which have contributed to more frequent and

severe weather events, reshaping the risks and the costs of catastrophic insured losses. There are steps that each of us can take on our own properties to adapt and reduce risks. Consult the slides for homeowner action tips about flooding, erosion, and wildfire. Shoreline resilience requires systems thinking. Dr. Bonada suggested a variety of additional useful resources from other jurisdictions:

Listen to this podcast!



With host Sarah Thorne and cohost Jeff King

- [Infographic about Flood Resilience](#)
- [Infographic about Wildfire Resilience](#)
- [The Engineering with Nature Podcast](#) with host Sarah Thorne and cohost Jeff King
- [Managing Rising Risks: Climate-Resilient Shorelines for Canada](#)
- [Government of New Brunswick's Home Floodproofing Guide](#)



Congratulations to our 2026 Spring Seminar Door Prize Winners:

Door Prizes!

IN PERSON:
PurpleAir Flex air sensor



WEBINAR:
cottage succession recording



Jim Dymont of the Skeleton Lake Cottagers Organization won an **air sensor pack** from **Purple Air** (valued over \$300).

Karen Alexander of the Big Brother Lake Association and **Rory Gooderham** of the Birch Island Residential Property Owners Association each won digital access to a **FOCA Cottage Succession Seminar** recording with lawyer Peter Lillico, valued at \$50 (FOCA member price; \$110 for non-members).

Member Contest: Win a SaveStation Community Cottage AED Package

Thank you to our partners at **Action First Aid** who launched a special FOCA Member Contest at the 2026 Spring Seminar. Your association could win a prize pack valued over \$4,000:

- ✓ A SaveStation Outdoor Climate Controlled AED Cabinet with AED & Response Kit (SS500)
- ✓ Outdoor AED Signage Bundle
- ✓ Group CPR/AED awareness workshop at your location

Enter by April 30, 2026 to be included in the draw:

[SaveStation Contest – Enter Online Here](#) [Contest Rules & Regulations](#)

ENTER TO WIN!

Win a SaveStation® Community Cottage AED Package to protect your family and cottage neighbours. In a cardiac emergency, every minute matters. Create a Cardiac Emergency Response plan with your neighbours to ensure an AED is accessible within 3 minutes.

Includes:

- ✓ SaveStation Outdoor Climate Controlled AED Cabinet with AED & Response Kit (SS500)
- ✓ Outdoor AED Signage Bundle
- ✓ Group CPR/AED awareness workshop at your location

Action First Aid.ca SAVESTATION

Member Giveaway: Win a new Zoll 3 Automated External Defibrillator



Thank you to our partners at **Rescue 7** who offered in-person attendees at the FOCA Spring Seminar an opportunity to enter for a chance to win a new Zoll 3 AED. Improve safety and emergency preparedness in cottage country to protect your family, guests, and neighbours by increasing access to essential safety equipment and awareness resources. The draw will be made by Rescue 7 after the Cottage Life Show ends on March 29, 2026, so apply today:

[Enter online here for a chance to win](#)

REMEMBER:

FOCA member **discounts & offers** are available to your member families – <https://foca.on.ca/benefits/>

NEW! AED Discount for FOCA Members

Rescue 7 is offering a **15% discount** to FOCA members off all new and Encore Series automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Call for inquiries about training. (login below for order access details).

NEW! Dock Discount for FOCA Members

On the Water Designs is offering a **5% discount** to FOCA members who use our exclusive access code when ordering (login below for the code).

Also, for a limited time, take advantage of additional **"They pay the taxes"** winter savings.

FOCA members can now get **Rogers Preferred Pricing** on cell and 5G home internet services! (Login below for access & your FOCA "Proof of Membership", needed for this offer.)

Members enjoy savings off the online rate with FOCA's Member Discount Code when reserving your next stay on the Park'n Fly app or at www.parknfly.ca. You can even earn Aeroplan points. Plus, join Park'n Fly Rewards and earn points and perks on every eligible stay.

Login below to access FOCA member discounts on select **automated external defibrillators** (AEDs; \$395 to \$598 off retail prices), community **"Save Stations"** (\$50 off retail price) and a cottager Emergency Preparedness Bundle from Action First Aid (\$50 off retail price).

Cottage Life Magazine – special discount on new subscriptions OR renewals! Pay only **\$24.95** for 1 year + 1 free issue. Includes free digital access. Login above for access to the **member order link** to access this price!

CottageFirst: the first group program dedicated to cottagers, **exclusively available to FOCA members**. Get great coverage on your cottage, home, car & more. Contact Code Associates Insurance Brokers: 1-844-CADE-1ST or visit www.cottagefirst.com for a no obligation quote.

Ensure your fellow members know about these benefits as part of your FOCA member value.

Need help with your member login? Email info@foca.on.ca for assistance during business hours.

Thank you everyone who participated in the **2026 FOCA Spring Seminar & AGM event**.
We look forward to seeing you at the next one – tentatively mark your calendar for Saturday, **March 6, 2027**.

