



SCUGOG LAKE
STEWARDS

SCUGOG LAKE STEWARDS INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

For the year 2024, held on April 29, 2025
Scugog Memorial Library, Rotary Room, Port Perry
6:30 to 8:45 p.m.

WELCOME: **President Rob Messervey** welcomed many SLS members, Advisors, partner organization representatives (Kawartha Conservation), our provincial representatives and municipal elected officials, special guests, and members of the public.

A few people of note were recognized: Members of Council (Ian McDougall, Terry Coyne), Bobbi Drew, Ed Leerdam, (President of Kawartha Lakes Stewards Association), Kawartha Conservation staff (Nancy Aspen, Nathan Rajevski), members of the MP and MPP's offices, Township staff, MSIFN representatives, Chamber of Commerce, and BIA leaders.

WILLIAMS TREATY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Lynda Kamstra

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: Rob Messervey briefly reviewed the key items on the Agenda. These included approval of the Financial Audited Statements, appointment of the Board Directors, review of the 2024 Annual Report and Keynote Speaker. Rob identified and welcomed the keynote speaker for the evening, Kelly LaRocca, Chief, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation.

Rob Messervey introduced the current board members: Pat Bunting, Vice-President; Barbara Karthein, Director of Science and Research; Cliff Moon, Director at Large; John Brown, Director of Strategic Planning and Governance; Tony Janssen, Director at Large, Membership; Juli Lyons, Director at Large; Michael Brock, Director of Projects; Lynda Kamstra, Director of Administrative Services; Misty Santos, Director of Membership; Jeanne Symes, Treasurer; Curtis Tomlin, Director at Large; Ken Wilson, Director at Large, Science and Research. Unable to attend: Tyler Harrow-Lyle

Acknowledgement and thanks to the Departing Directors: Tyler Harrow-Lyle

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Rob Invited all members from the floor to participate in motions. Moved by: Pat Bunting; Seconded by: Cliff Moon. MOTION CARRIED
Agenda accepted as posted.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Moved by: Barbara Karthein; Seconded by: Juli Lyons. MOTION CARRIED

Minutes accepted as posted.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 30, 2025 FULL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Rob explained the purpose of the meeting was to adopt the new By-Law # 1 and Letters Patent in compliance with the Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act, requiring a vote from the full membership.

Moved by: Michael Brock; Seconded by: Misty Santos. MOTION CARRIED

Minutes accepted as posted.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: KELLY LAROCCA, Chief, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. Rob highlighted many of her achievements before her presentation entitled, *On the Shores of Scugog – Challenges and Opportunities in the protection of our traditional territories*.

Chief Kelly LaRocca introduced her talk in Anishinaabemowin. Explained clans and governance and how knowledge is shared. Explained community naming of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg (one of six Mississaugas) which is part of the Anishinabek Nation. Touched on many other topics and issues: Mississauga Nation building (gathering of chiefs), importance of wild rice, four sacred medicine, Williams Treaties, Every Child Matters and residential schools, women and water walks, 2021 drinking water tower, meaning of pow-wows.

Chief LaRocca addressed the importance of the Greenbelt, Lake Scugog as “The Giving Tree”, ancestral movement to Lake Scugog, historical richness of the lake, and impact of Lindsay dam on wild rice, cranberry, and fish habitat. Ultimately, the community purchased available land in the middle of Scugog Island, reinforcing the importance of lake to the community.

Chief LaRocca’s final area of discussion focused on a path forward for lake enhancement work post the discontinuation of the Lake Scugog Enhancement Project: causes of degradation, misunderstandings (e.g. weeds), invasive species. Lead with purpose, prevent further destruction, strong advocacy and enforceable regulations, protection of Treaty Lands, partnership with land trusts, Conservation Authorities, and private landowners. Municipality needs to be part of a shared responsibility. Restoration to build resilience for future threats. Dredging must serve long-term health of lake and not to serve a specific interest like boating. Cited dangers and cause of blue-green algae blooms and should be a priority. How?

1. Land use changes
2. Wetland protection (filters)
3. Stormwater updates
4. Climate change threats

Rob acknowledged Chief LaRocca’s messages and reinforcement of the need for a common “language” around the lake. Barbara Karthein, thanked our speaker and presented her with books (*Greenbelt, Paddle to the Sea*).

BUSINESS ITEMS:

PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Jeff Lingard, Inclusive Advisory.

Mr. Lingard reviewed key elements of the financial report.

Motion to approve the Audited Financial Statements as presented and circulated to the membership:

Moved by: Tony Janssen; Seconded by: Jeanne Symes. MOTION CARRIED

Approved statements will be posted on our website, www.scugoglakestewards.com

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2025-26:

Motion to approve Inclusive Advisory as the Scugog Lake Stewards 2025-26 Financial Auditors.

Moved by: Juli Lyons; Seconded by: John Brown. MOTION CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2025-26:

The suggested slate of Board of Director candidates was presented by a nominating committee: Michael Brock, John Brown, Pat Bunting, Tony Janssen, Lynda Kamstra, Barbara Karthein, Juli Lyons, Rob Messervey, Cliff Moon, Misty Santos, Jeanne Symes, Curtis Tomlin, and Ken Wilson.

The President indicated that the Scugog Lake Stewards, by the current By-Law #1 can have up to 15 Directors and currently have 2 pending vacancies. Then he asked three times for any additional nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations.

A motion was made to approve the slate of directors as put forward: John Brown; Seconded by: Susan Gower. CARRIED

PRESENTATION OF SLS 2024 ANNUAL REPORT: Pat Bunting

Pat Bunting, who coordinated the production of the Report, commented on the first three pages—our goals and the expertise of the Board encouraging partnering organizations to connect with SLS.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: Rob Messervey

The year in review focused on research activities, projects undertaken and under development (with some specific remarks about importance of and desire for continuing goals of LSEP), and communication and education initiatives (pontoon patrols, Lake Discovery Day, newsletters, Science Socials with experts).

A robust Question and Answer session ensued. Questions and discussion involved a number of important topics : the reasons for cancellation of the Lake Scugog Enhancement Project, addressing invasive aquatic plants in a non-intrusive way, the status of the Avenu Properties proposal, concerns about contaminated stormwater runoff and sewage treatment plant effluent impacting lake water quality and recreational use, blue-green algae management, and the need for shoreline management enhancements including shoreline naturalization utilizing native plants and septic system management.

This was followed by the President's closing remarks thanking the Keynote Speaker, Chief Kelly LaRocca, Board of Directors, and to everyone who attended, our advisors, and all those who have made the evening a success.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn. Moved by: Barbara Karthein; Seconded by: Lynda Kamstra. MOTION CARRIED

Signed by: _____
Rob Messervey, President

Date of signature: _____

Signed by: _____
Lynda Kamstra, Director of Administrative Services

Date of signature: _____