

## Lake Stewardship Grant Program - 2021

Presented To:	City Council
Meeting Date:	May 25, 2021
Type:	Correspondence for Information Only
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Growth and Infrastructure

### Report Summary

This report provides information regarding the Lake Stewardship Grant Program – 2021.

### Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report refers to supporting ecological sustainability, creating a healthier community (promote Greater Sudbury as a great northern lifestyle alternative) and strengthening community vibrancy (encourage the active engagement of formal and informal neighbourhood groups) as identified in the Strategic Plan. The report also refers to increasing reforestation efforts as identified in the Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP).

### Financial Implications

In total, twelve applications are being recommended for funding with the total amount allocated being \$4,500 by way of cash grants and \$1,175 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS. The funding for these grants is provided for in the 2021 operating budget and will be approved through this by-law.

### Summary

In 2021, the City's Lake Stewardship Grant program received twelve applications for funding from local lake stewardship groups. The Watershed Advisory Panel reviewed the applications and recommends that twelve of the applicants be awarded funds through the Lake Stewardship Grant program with a total funding allocation of \$4,500 by way of cash grants and \$1,175 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS. A By-Law, presented at this meeting, must be approved for funding to be provided. The funding for these grants is provided for in the 2021 operation budget.

The Lake Stewardship Grant program was initiated in 2005 to support and encourage lake stewardship groups by providing them with additional resources. This is the 17<sup>th</sup> year for the Lake Stewardship Grant Program. Funding criteria and the application form were drafted by the past Watershed Advisory Panel. Projects must benefit the water quality of the lake and or watershed and demonstrate support and involvement of lake stewardship members, other lake residents or community members.

# **2021 Summary Report of Lake Stewardship Groups Recommended to Receive Funding Support**

## **Lake Panache Campers Association**

**Project Name:** Spring Water Sampling

**Project Details:** The Lake Panache Campers Association would like to continue its spring water sampling which includes 12 sampling locations around Lake Panache. Samples are to be analyzed at Testmark for metals and various other nutrients (sodium, chloride etc.) with TP samples analyzed through the Lake Partner Program. Results to be shared with CGS Lake Water Quality Program and stewardship members.

**Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to partially cover the cost of sample analysis through Testmark.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of a cash grant.

## **Lake Wahnapiatae Home and Campers Association**

**Project Name:** Septic Tank Pump-out and Maintenance Incentive & Communications

**Project Details:** LWHCA has created a strategic plan to identify priorities and associated actions for the lake. One of the key components of the strategic plan has set a target of reaching 50% compliance to a 3-year pump-out cycles of septic tanks around the lake.

Currently, compliance is at ~27% from their past efforts. We would like to continue this education effort along with increasing the number of incentives offered.

**Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to partially cover the cost of offering the septic tank pump-out incentives.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of a cash grant.

## **Ironside Lake**

**Project Name:** Spring 2021 Lakeshore Cleanup

**Project Details:** Shoreline and boat launch cleanup of Ironside Lake by the camper association volunteers with an end of day community BBQ.

**Use of Funds:** Funds to be used for waste containers, cleanup gear and BBQ refreshments for volunteers.

**Amount being awarded:** \$300 by way of a cash grant.

## **Minnow Lake Restoration Group**

**Project Name:** Fish Community Assessment

**Project Details:** The 2021 project to replicate the 1998 study that was done as a collaborative effort between City of Sudbury, Cooperative Freshwater Ecology Unity, N.A.R Environmental Consultants Inc. and Minnow Lake Restoration Group. Project would result in a comparison of the past 1998 study and 2021 fisheries population within the lake. Will take approximately 1 week of fieldwork to complete.

**Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to partially fund two Fyke nets. Once the project is complete, the Fyke nets will be donated to the Junction Creek Stewardship for their own purposes.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of a cash grant.

## **Simon Lake Stewardship**

**Project Name:** Simon Lake Community Awareness Campaign

**Project Details:** Community awareness event including BBQ and speakers to help gain more stewardship members and to rejuvenate public interest about Simon Lake. Event will follow Public Health protocols and will take place in June when weather permits.

**Use of Funds:** Funds to be used for BBQ food/rentals along with some supplementary education materials.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of a cash grant.

## St. Charles Lake Watershed Stewardship Association

**Project Name:** Watershed Engagement & Improvement

**Project Details:** Three potential projects for the 2021 season include:

- 1) Shoreline Naturalization Project
  - Additional revegetation of shorelines along south shore of St. Charles Lake, area between St. Charles and Middle Lake along with developed areas along the rest of St. Charles Lake
  - Plantings to help raised awareness about healthy shorelines to help mitigate impact of runoff and shoreline erosion
- 2) Eurasian Watermilfoil Float-a-thon
  - Community event where residents go on the lake in canoes, kayaks etc. to collect floating fragments of EWM
  - Event would also include a follow-up community BBQ following Public Health Guidelines.
  - Educational information about EWM would be provided to volunteers to raise awareness
- 3) Education Items for Non-waterfront Residents
  - Target non-waterfront residents, over 400 residents within the St. Charles Lake watershed, 2/3 of them are not lakefront properties.
  - Work to engage the non-waterfront property owners of the activities that may impact the water quality of the lakes within the watershed
  - Increase the contact list for the stewardship to build a more watershed based group, rather than strictly waterfront property owners

**Use of Funds:** Funds to be used to purchase shoreline/riparian plants, refreshments and Eurasian watermilfoil information sharing event and educational packages for non-waterfront residents.

**Amount being awarded:** \$325 by way of a cash grant and \$175 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS.

## Long Lake Stewardship

**Project Name:** Boost Your Buffer

**Project Details:** With the help of the Love Your Lake lake-wide report, LLSC identified that 328 properties have had all, or most, of the natural vegetation removed. LLSC would like to help increase the number of properties with naturalized shorelines on the lake by offering shoreline plants to property owners. LLSC has already committed its own funds to purchasing some shoreline species and will be using the funds from the grant program to purchase more plants.

**Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to purchase of native shoreline/riparian plants.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS.

## Four Lakes Community Association

**Project Name:** Environmental/Lake Information Calendar

**Project Details:** Collecting photos from lake residents of their lakes and surrounding areas to compile into a community calendar. Stewardship volunteers will work to create a community calendar with specific messaging for various issues or “tips”, such as reducing salt usage, ice safety and so on.

**Use of Funds:** Printing of community education calendars.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of a cash grant.

## Fairbank Lake Camp Owners’ Association

**Project Name:** Native Plant Gardening

**Project Details:** Purchasing natives flowering plants that are appropriate for riparian areas of waterfront properties. The goal is to purchase up to 150 plants from Southview Greenhouse Grower and distribute these plants to members of the lake.

**Use of Funds:** Purchase of native shoreline/riparian plants.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS.

## Clearwater Lake Stewardship Group

**Project Name:** Four Events for this Season

**Project Details:** Clearwater Lake Stewardship is planning four different events, spring, early summer, late summer and winter events. The 2021 funds will apply to the annual community BBQ event, which also includes a septic tank pump-out incentive and blue-bin draw.

**Use of Funds:** Purchases related to the annual Lake Stewardship Community BBQ event.

**Amount being awarded:** \$425 by way of a cash grant.

## Nepahwin Lake Watershed Stewardship Group

**Project Name:** Nepahwin Lake Yellow Fish Road: Help Keep Our Lake Clean

**Project Details:** Collaborative project with Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, R.L. Beattie Public School, the Nepahwin Lake Watershed Stewardship Group and the Junction Creek Stewardship Committee to build community relations and deliver the science-based Yellow Fish Road project by Trout Unlimited Canada that addresses the important role and concerns surrounding storm systems in the ecosystem of Nepahwin Lake. The project aims to engage and educate watershed students and residents to recognize and minimize the impact of storm system urban runoff to Nepahwin Lake.

**Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to purchase Yellow Fish Road School Package and associated in-class education materials for the completion of the community based project.

**Amount being awarded:** \$450 by way of a cash grant.

## McFarlane Lake Stewardship Committee

**Project Name:** Development of a Simple Predictive Bio-Monitoring Technique for Detecting Cyanobacteria

**Project Details:** To develop a predictive model for detecting cyanobacteria blooms by taking measurements of the lakes secchi depth along with a composite sample of the lakes photic zone using a vertical haul 80 um mesh plankton net. Turbidity of sample will be determined using a field turbidity meter (in NTU). Algae species will be identified by Linquist Aquatic Consulting staff in-kind. The goal is to find a correlation between turbidity, secchi depth and the occurrence of harmful algae blooms, which in theory should be transferable to other Sudbury area lakes.

**Use of Funds:** Funds will be used to purchase an appropriate plankton net for the project.

**Amount being awarded:** \$500 by way of a cash grant.