

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAKE OF BAYS



**REPORT**

**TO:** Mayor & Members of Council  
**FROM:** Stefan Szczerbak, Planner  
**DATE:** October 27, 2009

**RE:** OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 10 (OPA # 10 LOB)  
Raven Lake and Menominee Lake Plans  
Applicants: The Raven Lake Association and the Menominee Lake Association  
Agents: Mr. Harry Wilson (Raven Lake) & Mr. David Johnstone (Menominee Lake)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Amendment No. 10 to the Township Official Plan of the Township of Lake of Bays is hereby deemed to be a complete application.

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with the preparation and circulation of this Amendment application to implement the policies of both the *Dynamic Plan for Raven Lake (2007)* and the *Menominee Lake – Lake Plan (2004)* for comment.

**ORIGIN:**

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and June 30, 2009 respectively, the Menominee Lake Association and Raven Lake Association submitted their applications for an Official Plan Amendment to the Lake of Bays Official Plan. It was suggested by staff to consolidate these applications into one Official Plan Amendment as the purpose of these applications would be to assist with the implementation of both the “Dynamic Plan for Raven Lake – 2007)” and the “Menominee Lake - Lake Plan”, both which have been prepared by their respective associations.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Menominee Lake - Lake Plan was essentially prepared to encourage everyone who enjoys the lake and to treat this lake as a delicate and scarce resource that must be kept in balance. The process to develop this Lake Plan was initiated in 2002 and involved several workshops, stakeholders, committee and Annual General meetings as well as an extensive survey. To ensure protection of the long term health of the Lake and its unique character, the plan has included several action items which relate to both general municipal land use planning recommendations, and (the main focus of this plan) local stewardship initiatives.

The Dynamic Plan for Raven Lake was initiated in 2005 and their process also involved a questionnaire, several workshops, meetings and also advice and guidance from a consultant. This Plan was created to maintain and improve five fundamental characteristics

of the lake. These include: a) Water Quality, b) Wildlife Habitat, c) Natural Appearance and Natural Viewscape, d) Recreational Opportunities and f) Peace and Tranquility.

While these Associations have been very active implementing stewardship initiatives, they approached staff respecting adoption of policy which would implement some of the land use policy recommendations contained within the document.

### **ANALYSIS:**

#### *Menominee Lake – Lake Plan*

As only a small portion of Menominee Lake is found within the jurisdiction of the Town of Huntsville, this Lake Plan mainly focuses on the lands found within the Township of Lake of Bays.

In this regard as it relates to the Lake of Bays Official Plan's, the implementation objectives of the Lake Plan is to:

- Negotiate with the municipalities to have the appropriate sections of the Lake Plan incorporated in the Official Plan and Secondary Plans.

To achieve this directive, the Lake Plan includes the following general policy directions as it applies to Lake of Bays:

- Permit linear residential development;
- Protect Water Quality through the review of development application both on the lake and within the Menominee Lake Watershed;
- Protect the wetlands within the Menominee Lake watershed.

#### *A Dynamic Plan for Raven Lake*

Similar to Menominee Lake, the municipal jurisdiction over Raven Lake is split between The Township of Algonquin Highlands and Township of Lake of Bays (smaller portion of the Lake when compared to Algonquin Highlands). This Lake Plan contains an Action Plan to implement the Vision of this Plan through the following five fundamental characteristics of the Lake:

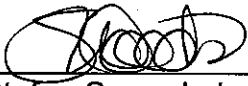
- Water Quality;
- Rich Wildlife Habitat;
- Natural appearance within a natural viewscape;
- A variety of Sustainable Recreational Opportunities; and
- Peace and tranquility

Staff will proceed to draft the amendment and discuss appropriate wording with each of the Associations. Once the draft has been refined, staff will proceed to schedule a public

meeting so Council and the public will have an opportunity to review and comment on this draft policy.

In order to facilitate processing of the amendment, approval to circulate is being requested at this time.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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for Stefan Szczerbak, M.Sc., RPP, MCIP  
Planner