



Lake of Bays Advisory Group Gets Down to Work

In response to ads in the local newspapers, a group of community volunteers has come forward to develop ways for people in the Township of Lake of Bays to get involved in planning for the Township's future.

The volunteers are:

Kelly Hayward
Herb Hickling
Fred Landry
Marie Poirier
Deb Cumming
Ginny Burgess, Councillor

These six volunteers form the **Project Advisory Group (PAG)** for the Community-Based Strategic Plan. At their first meeting on May 27th, they identified the values that underpin the community planning process, they learned about the planning approach that will be used, and they brainstormed a long list of people and groups in the community.

Their primary focus will be reaching out to as many people in the area as possible to find out what they value most about living in the Lake of Bays area, what some of the issues and challenges might be, and what can be done to deal with those issues. People can share their ideas by attending one of the three public input meetings being planned for July or by completing a questionnaire online. Volunteers will be distributing paper copies of the questionnaire as well.

Once the strategic plan is drafted, Township staff will use it to guide their planning decisions so that their day to day actions reflect community priorities. Council will use the plan to assist in budgeting our tax dollars over the next five years.

Residents are advised to keep an eye on the Lake of Bays Township website at www.lakeofbays.on.ca for more information and for regular updates.

People are invited to talk with a PAG volunteer if they get a chance. General inquiries can be made to Stefan Szczerbak at the Lake of Bays Township offices, at 635-2722, and at planner@lakeofbays.on.ca