April 2019 Volume 1, Issue 1

# Wasauksing Cottager Newsletter

## Cottage season officially opens

Cottage season on Wasauksing First Nation is between the dates of April 1st to October 31st of each year. Welcome back Wasauksing Cottagers!

## Opening your cottage this spring

It's that time of year, when returning to your cottage for the first time since the fall. Over the long winter, there are many tasks that you need to do prior to kicking your feet up and relaxing.

#### Before you go

- Contact service providers prior to heading up to ensure that your heat, hydro, satellite, etc. are connected and operational. Make note of account numbers and phone numbers for your services to bring with you;
- Check to make sure you have everything insured and you know where all of the insurance documents are; and
- Ensure you have a tool kit, cleaning supplies, and batteries for smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

#### On arrival

- Check outside of your property for any fallen trees, damage to power lines, phone lines, the deck, the dock, windows, screens, and under the cottage at the posts, pads and beams.
- Inspect the inside of your property for any signs of pests and look for any water damage that may have occurred.

#### Turning your water on

- Inspect all lines for signs of damage
- Replace any filters, prime the pump and open a cold-water tap before switching the power on at the panel box.
- Open all taps to remove air from the system.
- Close all taps and look for leaks and hissing.



#### Inside this issue

Welcoming a Tax Administrator2
Wasauksing Assessment Review Board2
Contact Information Update2
Property Tax Administration Update3
Tax Payments
Bear Wise4
Fishing and Land Use Permits4
WFN Land Use Plan and Environmental Management Plan Projects5
First Nation Conservation Program6
Wasauksing Services Information6
Garbage and Recycling Update7
Swing Bridge Construction7
Land Management and Compliance8
Wasauksing Marina8
Wasauksing News Updates9
Potawatomi Gathering10



## Welcoming a Tax Administrator

Aanii/Hello, my name is Daniss (Dawn-is) Pitawanakwat (Pit-ah-wah-nah-kwat). I have accepted the role of the Tax Administrator for Wasauksing First Nation (WFN), beginning February 11, 2019.

I am a member of WFN and I reside onreserve with my husband and children.

In my position, I will be responsible for the administration of WFN's property tax regime. I will be ensuring that communications are sent from Wasauksing Administration to the Wasauksing Cottagers in regards to tax related and compliance matters (this would include, tree removal, new construction, demolition, additions, dock removal or installation, and any alterations to your lot).

I look forward to meeting you and working with you.

If you have any questions, comments and/or concerns you may contact me at the Wasauksing Administration Office (705)746-2531 ext. 2260 or via email at TaxAdmin@Wasauksing.ca. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Miigwetch/Thank You,

Daniss Pitawanakwat

#### "Life is better at the lake"

#### Contact Information Updates

To ensure that you receive the latest and up-to-date information and correspondence with Wasauksing First Nation.

This would include seasonal telephone numbers and addresses, as well as, permanent addresses and phone numbers. Please contact the Tax Administrator, Daniss Pitawanakwat at TaxAdmin@wasauksing.ca or by phone (705)746-2531 ext. 2260.

### Wasauksing Assessment Review Board

Wasauksing First Nation is pleased to announce the following appointments to its Assessment Review Board for a three-year term effective December 18, 2018.

**Chair:** Iain T. Donnell, LL.B. - Mr. Donnell is the principal of Donnell Law Group. After being called to the bar in 1990, Mr. Donnell has practiced law in Southern Ontario for 25 years, focusing on criminal law, human rights, civil litigation, and municipal litigation.

**Member:** Mark Doble - Although recently retired, Mr. Doble was Director of Case Management for the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation of Ontario (MPAC) and a professional assessor/valuator for 38 years. Mr. Doble holds a MIMA Designation (Institute of Municipal Assessors) and his Paralegal License with the Law Society of Ontario. Mr. Doble is a former member of the Appraisal Institute of Canada and is a past president of the Institute of Municipal Assessors.

**Member:** Andy Anstett - In the 1990's, Andy Anstett was Chair and CEO of the Assessment Review Board of Ontario. Then, he served as Vice-President of Corporate Affairs at AEC International - a property assessment and taxation consulting firm. Subsequently, Andy was Director of Legal and Policy Support Services with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation of Ontario until he retired in June 2016. Andy is coeditor of "Ontario Assessment Legislation" published by Canada Law Book.

#### **Contact Information**

If you have questions about Assessment Appeals, please contact ARB Chair, Iain Donnell at idonnell@donnellgroup.ca or (905) 476-9100 and/or Chief Executive Director, Craig Brown at ced@wasauksing.ca or (705)746-2531.



Red sky at sunrise

## **Property Tax Administration Updates**

#### Key Dates for 2019

April 3, 2019 –	Wasauksing Chief and Council Approve Draft Annual Rates and
	Expenditure Law for 2019. Notification of Laws posted on
	www.wasauksing.ca for comment.
April 13, 2019 –	Wasauksing First Nation and PICA Executive Meeting.
May 3, 2019 –	Due date to comment on draft 2019 Annual Rates and Expenditure
	Laws.
May 14, 2019 –	Chief and Council Approve 2019 Annual Rates Law and Annual
	Expenditure Law.
May 30, 2019 –	First Nation Tax Commission (FNTC) Review and Approval of Rates
	and Expenditure Law.
May 31, 2019 –	Final 2019 Tax Notices mailed.
July 31, 2019 –	Final Property Tax Payments Due. Please note that taxes not paid on
	time will incur late penalties.

If you have not received your tax notice by June 14, 2019, please contact the Tax Administrator.

The filing of an assessment appeal does not remove the obligation to pay taxes by the due date. Any overpayments due to adjustments to assessments and/or tax bills as a result of the appeal process will be refunded.



#### **Tax Payments**

Tax payments must be paid:

- by mail to: Wasauksing First Nation, Attention Tax Administrator, PO Box 250, Parry Sound, ON P2A 2X4;
- In person at the Wasauksing First Nation Administration Building located at 1508 Lane G, Geewadin Road. Mondays- Fridays between 8:30am-4:30pm. Please ask for the Tax Administrator or a staff member of the Finance Department should the Tax Administrator not be available. Please remember to get a receipt for payment.
- All payments must be made by certified cheque or money order.

Wasauksing First Nation plans to have additional payment options in the future, including on-line payment options and/or preauthorized debit. As soon as these new payment methods are confirmed, you will be notified.



Young black bear

#### **Bear Wise**

Bears will usually avoids humans but they are attracted to areas with easy access to food. If bears learn that they can access food where you live, they will continue to return.

You can help prevent encounters with bears by:

Keeping garbage in bins and taking garbage with you when you leave your cottage;

Do not leave pet food outdoors or in screened-in areas;

Substitute a bird feeder for a bird bath or a nesting box;

Pick all ripe and fallen fruit from trees and bushes; and

Clean your barbecue after each use and empty the grease trap.

While out, you can help avoid interactions with bears by travelling in groups of two or more people. By being loud or making noise - whistling while you walk, talking, singing, etc. - especially in areas with low visibility where you may surprise a bear.

Be aware of your surroundings and look for any signs of bear activity in your area (i.e. droppings, claw marks on trees, paw prints, etc.).

If you encounter a bear, STOP! Do not panic. Remain calm. Keep your eyes on the bear and back away slowly while talking to the bear in a quiet, monotone voice. Do not turn your back to the bear until it is out of sight.

For more information on bears, please visit: bearwise.org



Fishing and Land Use Permits

Fishing on Wasauksing First Nation requires the purchase of a WFN fishing permit. Permits are sold at the Wasauksing Swing Bridge, Wa-G's Wigglers Bait & Tackle, Wasauksing Administration Office, and the Island's Gas & Variety.

Please visit the Ministry Natural Resources and Forestry on the www.ontario.ca website for additional information on licensing requirements.

Land Use Permits are required to camp or use designated beaches on Wasauksing First Nation. These permits can be purchased at the Wasauksing Administration Office during regular business hours.





## WASAUKSING

Naawanj ("Waubuno Channel") is considered to be one of the great historical waterways of the migration, and Waaseyakosing was given its name because of a part of the Ojibway legend that called on the people to stop and rest in the area during their great migration. A great shell made itself visible at Mnidoomnising ("Island of the Spirit" or Manitoulin Island) that reflected light towards the east that was cast over the land that came to be known as Waasevakosing ("Place that shines brightly in the reflection of the sacred light"), whose origins can be heard in the modern name Wasauksing.

-WFN draft Land Use Plan

## Wasauksing First Nation Undertaking Land Use Plan and Environmental Management Plan Projects

We wish to inform you that Wasauksing First Nation is currently in the process of developing a Land Use Plan and Environmental Management Plan for our reserve lands. These Plans are to be used together and will apply to members and non-members who use our lands, including businesses and seasonal cottages. The purpose of these community-led Plans is to set out a path forward for how our community wants to grow while protecting and preserving our environment and resources for future generations.

#### Why Are We Undertaking These Projects?

In February 2017, Wasauksing First Nation became the 69<sup>th</sup> community to become a signatory to the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management when our members ratified and approved our Land Code. Our Land Code gives us the authority and jurisdiction to manage and control our reserve lands and resources. These projects are the next steps to establish the framework, rules, policies and guidelines for appropriately managing our lands and waters.

#### What is a Land Use Plan?

A Land Use Plan is a requirement of our Land Code to address planning and zoning on our lands. Our Land Use Plan is a visionary document that provides strategic direction of how our community will develop over the next 20+ years. Our Land Use Plan will apply land use designations to our lands identifying permitted uses and relevant policies that will help us prosper while preserving our lands for generations to come. The Land Use Plan is a community-led planning process and, in accordance with our Land Code, will need to be ratified by Wasauksing members.

#### What is an Environmental Management Plan?

An Environmental Management Plan is part of our overall environmental protection and assessment framework of our Land Code. The Plan is intended to provide guidance on the assessment and management of current and future environmental issues and concerns on Wasauksing First Nation lands. In this Plan, we will identify environmental issues and concerns on our lands and propose management strategies and initiatives to address each.

#### **Questions?**

If you have any questions about our Land Use Plan and Environmental Management Plan projects, please reach out to Daniella Baker, Lands Manager at Wasauksing First Nation (<u>lands@wasauksing.ca</u>; 705-746-2531).



## First Nation Conservation Program

The program was designed to help lower energy consumption on First Nations' land by offering free energy efficient products for homes and cottages.

Through the program, you could qualify for LED light bulbs, smart power bar with timer, block heater with timer (depending on location) and may qualify for appliance replacement (1 fridge, 1 freezer, 1 window A/C, 1 dehumidifier).

If a cottage has an electric water heater, you qualify for more energy efficient products such as: showerheads, aerator (kitchen and bathroom), hot water tank wrap and pipe insulation.

If a cottage has electric heat (electric furnace), you may qualify for additional insulation, such as, attic insulation to R-50 and/or header insulation to R-20 and caulking if required.

To qualify, you require a Hydro One Account that *does not* say "Seasonal". The application process closes on April 26, 2019.

For an application or more information, please contact:

#### **Bernita Partridge**

Housing and Maintenance Supervisor Public Works Department 1508 Lane G Wasauksing First Nation, ON (705)746-2531 pws@wasauksing.ca

#### Services

#### **Wasauksing Fire Department**

April 1—October 31, 2019 No open burning during the hours of 10am—6pm. No burning during windy conditions or during fire bans. Fire rating information can be found on the sign posted at the Wasauksing cemetery. For fire emergencies call 911.

#### Wasauksing Nursing Station

Primary Health Care services available for WFN Cottagers. A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is available Monday– Thursday 8am-4:30pm on a walk-in basis and 4:30-6pm by appointment only. Services available through NP can include: wound care, referrals, diagnosing and treating illnesses, prescribing medications, ordering and interpreting medical tests, and performing medical procedures.

For more information you may call the Nursing Station receptionist at (705)746-8022 or by visiting the WFN Nursing Station at 1508 Lane G, Wasauksing First Nation. You must bring a valid Ontario Health Card.

#### **Anishinabek Police Service**

"Anishinabek Police Service provides effective, efficient, proud, trustworthy and accountable service that ensures Anishinabek, and it's residents and visitors are safe and healthy while respecting traditional cultural values and the protection of inherent rights and freedoms on our traditional territories. " The APS office is currently located at 1508 Lane G, within the Wasauksing Administration building. For immediate police assis-

tance please call (888)310-1122. For emergencies please call 911. Wasauksing First Nation Waste Transfer Station

Hours of Operation

Wednesday 5:00pm-8:00pm Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm

The Transfer Station Attendant will request your WFN 2019 Waste Transfer Station Card on every visit. Please have your Access card available for the Attendant.



## CONSTRUCTION AT THE BRIDGE—SPRING 2019

Beginning April 8, 2019 construction at the Swing Bridge Operators Station (Office) will commence.

Please take note of Construction Signage in and around the bridge area, as the replacement process of the Bridge Operators Station begins, at it's existing site.

There will be limited interruption to road traffic.

For more information please contact Public Works Department: (705)746-2531

## Garbage Disposal and Recycling

This year Wasauksing First Nation will be issuing WFN Waste Transfer Station Access Cards to Wasauksing Cottagers. The cost per card will be \$75.00 for the 2019 cottage season (April 1, 2019—October 31, 2019). The Access Card will allow the disposal of two bags of household garbage and an unlimited amount of approved recyclables per week.



2019 Wasauksing Waste Transfer Access Cards can be purchased at the Wasauksing First Nation Administration Office during regular business hours. Cheques and Money orders can be made payable to Wasauksing First Nation.

> Wasauksing First Nation 1508 Lane G P.O. Box 250 Wasauksing First Nation, ON P2A 2X4

#### Approved recyclables:

<ul> <li>Rigid Plastics/Bottles</li> <li>Any plastic bottles or containers found in your kitchen</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Paper and Cardboard</li> <li>Cereal/snack cardboard boxes</li> <li>-Phonebooks, magazines, and mail</li> <li>Office paper, newspaper and cardboard</li> <li>Please break down all boxes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Metals</li> <li>Tin, aluminum, and steel cans</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Glass</li> <li>Food containers or jars</li> <li>Soft drink and beer bottles</li> <li>Wine and liquor bottles</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Loose Plastic</li> <li>Plastic shopping bags</li> <li>Plastic film</li> <li>Please place all loose plastic together in a plastic shopping bag</li> </ul>	

## Land Management and Compliance Matters

Are you planning on doing any construction, removal or demolition on your lot? Please contact the Tax Administrator for application forms to complete prior to any work being done.

All Cottagers / Lessees must submit an application form that outlines the nature of the work to be completed. This can include tree removal, dock repair / removal / installation, additions to existing cottages / structures, new construction, alterations to the lot, demolition, or alterations / repairs.

The Cottage Lot Site Plan Layout, which is included in the application package, will provide a better visual as to where, on your lot, your planned changes will occur. Measurements from shorelines, boundary lines, and structures are important to include. Any new construction / additions will require engineered-stamped drawings from your contractor for review by WFN's inspector.

Please note the Fee Schedule associated with your application. Any requested work to be completed at your cottage will not commence without payment to WFN.

Upon receipt of the complete application package, the Tax Administrator will ensure that your project meets compliance standards and contact you if there are necessary revisions or if your application was approved. A Permit will be issued upon approval to be posted in a visible spot on your cottage lot

🛞 WA	SAUK	SING COTTAGE LO	15	asauksing First Nation 08 Lane G, P.O. Box 250 asauksing First Nation,ON P2A 2X4 k (705)746-2531 k:(705)746-3984
BUI	LD	ING P	ER	MIT
		posted in a visible place on		
		_		
	_			
Leas	se Lot:	Fire Route:		
		Fire Route:		
Proj	ect Description:			
Proj	ect Description:			Pitawanakwat

Please contact Daniss Pitawanakwat for more information (705)746-2531 email: taxadmin@wasauksing.ca

# Wasauksing Marina and Campground

Located at 891 Oak Point Road at the western point of Wasauksing First Nation. Wasauksing Marina offers the following amenities (and more):

- 88 Boat Slips from 16' to 35'
- Over 70 campsites in 3 separate locations
- 3 beaches on Georgian Bay
- Tent Camping Sites
- 2 shower stations
- 30 amp electrical to all camping sites
- Fire pits & picnic tables
- Gas Dock
- Boat Launch Ramp
- Convenience store with Wi-Fi
- Canoe and Kayak Rentals
- Water Taxi
- Barge Service
- 20 flavours of hard ice cream
- 100lb & 20lb Propane Tanks

For a full list of services, prices and additional information:

Wasauksing Marina 891 Oak Point Road P.O. Box 250 Wasauksing First Nation, ON P2A 2X4 Phone: (705)746-7212 Fax: (705)746-7116 Email: marina@wasauksing.ca www.wasauksingmarina.ca





## WASAUKSING FIRST NATION NEWS UPDATES



Our Forestry Inventory and Forestry Operating Plan project is starting and field work has started. Between April to September (approx.) foresters will be collecting data and an inventory of the woodlands and mapping trails. Field staff will be wearing highly visible outerwear to ensure people can see them. They may also be parked on roads for a short periods of time and their vehicles will be marked by safety pylons;

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wasauksing First Nation receives its Financial Management System Certification from the First Nation Financial Management Board. This makes Wasauksing the 17th First Nation government in Canada to receive certification from the FMB

Media Release can be found on our website www.wasauksing.ca



ANISHINABEK POLICE SERVICE

Wasauksing First Nation is happy to announce that a new Anishinabek Police Service Police Detachment will be constructed within the community in 2019-2020. The APS office is currently located within the Wasauksing First Nation Community Complex.

## MOVING FORWARD

Wasauksing First Nation recently completed it's new 5 Year Strategic Plan (2019-2024). It will be posted to the Wasauksing website soon.

## HYDRO ONE



Hydro One crews will be completing work on Wasauksing First Nation. Field crews will be out marking and removing trees along hydro lines.

# Wasauksing First Nation hosts Potawatomi Gathering Contact: 2019

E: pottawatomi@wasauksing.ca P: 807.464.2929

Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi

Forest County Potawatomi

Prairie Band of Potawatomi

Bkejwanong Walpole Island First Nation

SAVE THE DATE!

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Hannahville Indian Community

Gun Lake Tribe

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

Gathering/ Powwow Location: Wasauksing First Nation

# July 30- August 4, 2019

#### **Online Gathering Registration is Open!**

https://wasauksing.ca/2019-potawatomi-gathering-registration-form/

Pre-registration for the language & history conference, youth conference and gathering workshops is encouraged. +Miss Potawatomi

Language Conference July 30-July 31

Youth Conference August 1

Traditional **PowWow** 

Cultural Programming Aug 3- Aug 4 July 30-Aug 4

+Ceremonies +Golf Tournament +Baseball Tournament and more!