



Newsletter

NOTTAWASAGA LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,
Your Board of Directors had a busy 2018 continuing the acquisition and restoration of our lighthouse.

Overall our fundraising efforts were reduced as we focused our efforts with the federal government to secure ownership. Support among both our members and the public-at-large remains strong. At the same time, the Board of Directors understands that securing ownership of the property is a key element in our fundraising efforts to raise the estimated \$2 million required to restore the lighthouse and construct new docking on Nottawasaga Island etc. Currently, land registry records reflect the ownership of Nottawasaga Island is "Her Majesty The Queen In Right of Canada." Canada's federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans is our main point of contact to transfer ownership in an agreement and they too are fully supportive of our cause. More on this further in this newsletter.

After two years serving as NLPS

Happy New Year



Dave West for mycollingwood.ca

On behalf of the NLPS **Congratulations to Ray Smith Recipient of the Order of Collingwood Award.**

Both Ray and Wynn are long standing NLPS members. Ray brought to life a vision for a Collingwood Youth Centre and volunteered many hours designing the Youth Centre, Hospice Georgian Triangle and the Barbara Weider House.

Ray allowed the NLPS the use of his property for our annual Community BBQ, three years in a row. He and Wynn are always so helpful having their property looking its best. We descend on them the day before for set up

Board member and government liaison, Robert Square takes over as Vice Chair with Nancy Leno and Pat Anstett remaining on as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. I will remain on the Board as a Director-at-Large and will assist where necessary on the various initiatives we have before us.

In closing let me say that 2019 is shaping up to be a very exciting year for NLPS and I look forward to continuing what has become a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to give back to our community via the preservation and restoration of this iconic and historic area landmark.

Sincerely,

Rick Crouch

Ownership Update

During 2018, lawyers working on behalf of the government completed an Indigenous Land Claim study that was required to determine if any native groups had a claim(s) or interest in the island. For the most part, local native groups have no interest in the lighthouse although some have fishing rights in the waters surrounding Nottawasaga Island. This interest will not impact the transfer of ownership nor our plans for the lighthouse and island itself.

Currently we are working on drafting a "transfer of ownership" agreement which to the best of our knowledge will be the first of its kind in Canada. Our hope is to have this in place towards the end of the first quarter with a completion date for NLPS to

and are offered the use of their kitchen facilities for food prep. They are great hosts and welcome the public warmly to the BBQ. They also offered their property for a Paddlethon and assisted in running a yard sale all in support of the NLPS.

Thank you Ray & Wynn!



Doug Burlock Photography

160th Lighthouse Birthday Celebration

This year marked the 160th birthday of our lighthouse. In late November, with cooperation from Mother Nature, NLPS Vice Chair, Robert Square, engineer Doug Hackbart along with his daughter & friend were transported by boat courtesy of NLPS member Howie Outerbridge. The weather & winds cooperated to make the trip to the island possible, hence the late decision to go ahead. Lighted for the first time on November 30, 1858, the lighthouse shares this 160 year milestone with Collingwood as 1858 marks the year in which the Town was incorporated. Using battery powered LED lighting and a timer, both the tower itself and the tower's lantern room were illuminated after dark for approximately 160 minutes, one minute for every year of the tower's age. Roger Klein made a great report on CTV and Sara Gateman posted it on our Facebook page. There was great feedback from those who saw it! On November 30th with a clear starry night, the lighthouse once again shone brightly for all to see. We received countless remarks from everyone that was fortunate to see the light once again shining across Georgian Bay waters.

Photo Credit: Doug Burlock

thereafter.

With 2019 now upon us, your Board of Directors is very excited about what lies ahead in the coming year for NLPS. Future newsletters will keep you abreast of our progress and we hope to make some exciting announcements in the weeks and months ahead.

We Need You!!

We are looking for volunteers to fill vacant Fundraising Committee Heads. If you are interested in becoming a part of our team to help restore our lighthouse, please contact us. Many hands make light work.

NLPS member Eleanor Burke along with cooperation of the Beer Store has raised close to \$8,000 for bottle returns. When returning your empties just ask to have your return money put into the NLPS jar at the cash counter! Every little bit helps!



Awards

It is nice to receive acknowledgment for our efforts which helps to promote our cause, promote membership in NLPS and increase the level of public interest. In 2016 the National Trust for Canada identified the *Nottawasaga Lighthouse* as **one of the top 10 Endangered Historic Sites in Canada**. Following our successful wrapping of the tower in 2016, the Nottawasaga Lighthouse Preservation Society (NLPS) is pleased to announce that we have received national recognition for our efforts by receiving one of **National Trust's Governor's Awards for 2018**. NLPS government liaison, Robert Square is shown here accepting the award.



Locally, our efforts have been further recognized as we were one of six groups selected to receive the **"Grassroots Heroes" award from On The Bay magazine for 2018**. See the current edition of On The Bay for further details.

Photo Credit: Doug Burlock

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Square - Vice Chairman/Government Relations

Pat Anstett - Secretary

Nancy Leno - Treasurer

Rick Crouch - Director

Contact us: 1-855-445-NLPS (6577)

or email: lightkeeper@nlps.info



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