

Overview of Hastings talk

So much of what we do on our land has major consequences for our freshwater. **Our lakes and rivers are critically important.** It's as simple as that. We know the tremendous value they bring to our communities, and the huge importance of freshwater in our ecosystems. Development has affected our lakes and rivers – and it's our responsibility to work to protect them.

Barbara will outline some of the trends currently happening on waterfront properties and will share program results from surveys of waterfront residents on what they value about living on the water and what barriers currently exist to engaging them in stewardship of their lands. Barbara will be discussing what actions are needed to ensure that the lakes in Hastings Highlands remain healthy and how collaboration with lake associations and other partners can result in positive change. Barbara will also make recommendations towards actions that can be taken to protect the lakes and rivers as well as share opportunities for participations in stewardship programs offered by Watersheds Canada.

About Watersheds Canada

Watersheds Canada is a registered Canadian charity committed to protecting and enhancing lakes and rivers across the country. It's people just like **you** who inspire the work we do every day. For more than 15 years, Watersheds Canada has been working with landowners, communities, and organizations to keep our freshwater healthy, beautiful, and available for generations to come.

About Barbara King

Since becoming executive director of Watersheds Canada in 2012, Barbara has worked to revitalize the organization through implementing a “grass roots” approach to delivering shoreline stewardship programs. Barbara's passion is in helping to build capacity with lake and river groups on action-oriented stewardship programs by providing funding, training and programs that they can deliver at the local level. Collaboration, fundraising and strategic partnerships are at the centre of her work.

Barbara is currently taking her Master's degree in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Carleton University.

Barbara has been involved in many other non-government organizations as a board member and volunteer. Barbara lives in eastern Ontario on a small lake with her husband and two children.