

Baptiste Lake Association  
 P.O. Box 877  
 Bancroft, Ontario  
 K0L 1C0

MEMORANDUM

June 23, 1987

To: Executive of BLA  
 From: J. Vance, Secretary  
 Re: Meeting of Executive June 20, 1987

The meeting was held at Birch Cliff Lodge commencing at 10:00 a.m.  
 Those present were:

Chairman: Cathy Marshall, President  
 Members: Rae-Anne Reynolds, Director  
 Edith Blakely-Jackson, Director  
 Ross Viscoff, Director  
 Gordon Flagler, Vice-President  
 Norman Jull (part time)  
 David Milne, Director  
 Rick Coulter (part time)  
 Peter Istvan (part time)  
 Jack Vance, Secretary

Membership

1. It was decided that a membership table should be set up at the Regatta and the Wooden Boat Show. We will need volunteers to prepare an appropriate sign, obtain sufficient copies of the BLA Newsletter and membership application forms, and set up and maintain the table during these two events.
2. It was suggested that a small display be made up for soliciting memberships at the following locations on the Lake:
  - Birch Cliff Lodge
  - Grant's Store
  - Baptiste Lake Marina
  - Scott's

This display would probably consist of a small sign, together with copies of the Newsletter and membership application forms.
3. It was noted that only about 40 responses had been received to date from the mail-out earlier in the Spring to approximately 160 of our 1986 members, requesting that they renew their membership for 1987. It was decided that a reminder would be prepared and mailed out as soon as possible. This reminder would also note upcoming events such as:
  - Wooden Boat Show
  - Regatta
  - Annual meeting of BLA
  - Corn Roast

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It would be accompanied by a complementary copy of the latest issue of the Ontario Cottager magazine, if sufficient copies can be obtained for this purpose. Jack Vance will try to arrange this effort.

4. There are 600 or so cottagers/permanent residents/businesses on the Lake which are potential ~~40~~ members of BLA. The Newsletter prepared earlier in the Spring was sent out to only the 160 of these who signed up as members of BLA for 1986. It was decided that the Newsletter, together with an accompanying membership application form, should be sent out to the remaining 400+ potential members as soon as possible. Rae-Anne Reynolds will try to arrange for this mailing.

#### Regatta

1. This event will be held at BCL on Sunday, August 2, 1987 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (rain day Monday, August 3). The Regatta will be under the overall direction of Rick Coulter as Regatta Chairman.
2. Gordon Flagler will try to solicit the services of Dave Rattle to provide a sound system for both the Regatta and the Wooden Boat Show.
3. It was noted that BLA's liability insurance policy should be reviewed to see if it is in force, and if it automatically covers sponsored activities of the Association such as the Regatta and the Wooden Boat Show.
4. After much discussion it was decided on a motion of G. Flagler, 2nd by Edith Blakely-Jackson, that there would be no admission charge for attendance at the Regatta. However, it is intended to solicit donations from attendees and to raffle off tickets in order to help defray the cost of the Regatta (which is estimated to be about \$400).
5. There was some discussion about the Mister and Miss Baptiste contests usually held at the Regatta (concern was voiced that females generally should not be "flaunting" their bodies in events such as these; others thought that this was normal and that anyway males were "flexing" their muscles in the same fashion in their contest). The matter did not come to a vote.
6. Rick Coulter, David Milne and Peter Istvan (from Camp Ponacka) retired to work out details of Regatta events, prizes, notices and so on.

#### Wooden Boat Show

1. This event will begin with a boat parade from Baptiste Lake Marina at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 1, 1987, which will proceed past the government dock near Grant's store, and then back to the BCL dock where the boats will be put on display during the afternoon.
2. Gordon Flagler is in charge of this event for BLA, and he stresses that this will not be a contest; rather it is intended to be a fun day for

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reviewing the many types of these craft (and their power plants) which have been in use in the Bancroft area. This will be noted in advertising the event.

3. Approximately 15-20 Sea Cadets from \_\_\_\_\_ will be available to assist in this event, arranged through the efforts of Edith Blakely-Jackson, and the cadets will be under the supervision of Wayne Jackson.
4. For this event it will be necessary to move the boats ordinarily tied up at BCL, and this will be done starting at about 8:00 a.m. They will have to be tied up temporarily at other docks nearby (G. Flagler and J. Vance volunteered theirs for starters). It may be necessary to ask for volunteers to provide further dock space and/or to help move boats.
5. G. Flagler has requested that entrants in the parade arrive at the Baptiste Lake Marina dock at 10:15 a.m. for organization purposes. A small amount of information on each registrant will be obtained there, and this will subsequently be read by the announcer from BCL dock when that boat passes this point.
6. Hot dogs and pop should be made available at BCL during this event (to be discussed with D. Milne).
7. Gordon and Christine Flagler will host a party at their cottage in the evening after this event; the only stipulation for attendance is that you arrive by a wooden boat.
8. Gordon Flagler has had posters advertising the event prepared which will be posted at strategic locations in the Bancroft area. Copies of these will be made available at \$2 each to the general public as well. (The budget for this event was previously approved at \$200.)
9. G. Flagler will talk to Ron Moore's about some sort of mementos for the entrants. He will also inform the OPP of this event.

 Development Above High Falls Dam

1. Cathy Marshall reports that she discussed the recent application of the developer (Mathews) for severance/rezoning of further lots in this area with Niall Carney, the Hasting's County head land use planner. The Mathews group have apparently retained Greer, Galloway as their environmental consultant for this development.
2. Concern was expressed that one or more of the cottages recently built on the previously severed and rezoned lots in this area were too close to the water. The minimum setback is 100 feet, and if they are closer than this to the water the Township should be contacted for an explanation of why this was allowed to happen.

Baptiste Lake Association  
 P.O. Box 877  
 Bancroft, Ontario  
 K0L 1C0

MEMORANDUM

July 29, 1987

**To:** Executive of BLA  
**From:** J. Vance, Secretary  
**Re:** Meeting of Executive July 25, 1987

The meeting was held at Birch Cliff Lodge commencing at 10:00 a.m.  
 Those present were:

Chairman: Cathy Marshall, President  
 Members: Lynn Allan, Director  
 Rae-Anne Reynolds, Director  
 Ross Viscoff, Director  
 Gordon Flagler, Vice-President  
 David Milne, Director (part time)  
 Bruno Morawetz, Director (part time)  
 Jack Vance, Secretary

Incorporation

A draft notice prepared by Norman Jull of our intention to incorporate as the Baptiste Lake Conservation Association was circulated. This notice must be sent out to our members two weeks in advance of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) as a legal requirement. Therefore, it must be mailed by the August 1 weekend. Cathy Marshall is co-ordinating this effort.

Nomination of Directors and Officers

The nominating committee will put forward a new slate for consideration by the AGM. A part of this slate will include:

President:	Gordon Flagler
Vice-Presidents:	Lynn Allan and Norman Jull (if willing)
Treasurer:	Margaret Evenden
Secretary:	Rae-Anne Reynolds
Directors to include:	Don McLarty (if willing) Rick Coulter (if willing)
Membership Committee Chairman:	Lynn Allan

Wooden Boat Show

Gordon Flagler reported that there was a very good response by people wishing to joint the parade and/or exhibit their craft. All arrangements are in order for this event.

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Regatta

David Milne reported that arrangements are in order for this event.

Membership

1. Jack Vance reported that we had 47 memberships for 1987 in hand now, and 125 letters (with magazine) had been sent out to our other 1986 members reminding them about membership dues for 1987.
2. A further 300+ letters were sent out to potential members asking them to join BLA. This effort was co-ordinated by Rae-Anne Reynolds.
3. Ross Viscoff has placed membership material at strategic loctions around the lake. He also has made arrangements for a membership table which will be used at the Wooden Boat Show, Regatta and Corn Roast.

Corn Roast

It was noted that a large crowd may turn up at the Corn Roast this year, due to increased publicity and general awareness of it.

OPP Patrols on the Lake

It was reported that complaints were being received concerning an excessive degree of vigilance by OPP boats this year. It may be necessary for the Association to send a letter to OPP management on this matter.

Public Dock

It was reported that complaints were being received concerning boats being parked at the public dock for excessive lengths of time, sometimes days and weeks. Also, garbage was accumulating for excessive periods. It may be necessary to contact MNR with respect to resolution of these situations.

Water Levels

Concern was expressed that the water level now was lower than it should be at this time of year and this could lead to serious problems further on in the year. However, no action was required at this time, but the situation will be closely monitored throughout the summer.

Jack Vance  
Secretary

Baptiste Lake Conservation Association  
 P.O. Box 877  
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MEMORANDUM

August 31, 1987

To: Executive of BLA  
 From: J. Vance, Director and former Secretary  
 Re: Notice of Meeting, and Water Level Alert

Executive Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive is scheduled at Birch Cliff Lodge (BCL) for 3:00 p.m. on the day of the Corn Roast, which is Saturday, September 5, 1987. One currently critical issue, namely Lake water levels, needs to be discussed, as well as a potentially critical one (hydro plant at High Falls). No doubt there will be other issues. Please plan to attend.

For those involved, there will be a further meeting on planning for next year's Regatta and Wooden Boat show at 3:45 p.m. The Corn Roast itself is scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m.

Lake Water Levels

1. As many of you are aware, the water has fallen to extremely low levels, those not seen since the '40's or '50's or earlier. As a result, many cottagers, permanent residents and businesses are experiencing serious problems.
2. Our President, Gordon Flagler, filed a letter with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR - who control the dam) on August 22, 1987 outlining the problems our members were experiencing and requesting that they take immediate action. Other members also complained to MNR in person and by telephone, and Ross Viscoff informs me that MNR reduced the flow through the valve at the dam by one-third on August 25, 1987. It was almost wide open before that.
3. David Milne and I attended a meeting called by MNR at 10:00 a.m. on August 28, 1987 to discuss the situation. The meeting included representatives from:
  - Martin Lumber - Dave Anderson
  - Bancroft Village - Jack Hattin
  - Bancroft PUC - Don Easton
  - BLA - David Milne
  - Jack Vance
  - MNR - Dave Loftus (Chairman)
  - Dave Davidson
  - Owen Fleming



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4. Martin Lumber's mill at the head of Benoirs Lake is approaching a critical stage respecting water for fire protection and for feeding their boilers. They are now considering options, including the construction of a cofferdam which would be used to create a reservoir upstream of it (and thereby further reduce the flow into the rest of the system, including Baptiste Lake, at the most critical times). There would be other major impacts on us of construction of such a cofferdam.
5. David Milne outlined the impact of low water on those around Baptiste Lake. Not only are serious problems being experienced now, but a disastrous situation is in the offing next Spring if we head into Fall with a very low water level - which will rise over the late Winter and Spring lifting ice (and therefore docks). Many other impacts were identified, including that on the fishery, and (even now) significant economic losses to businesses, damage to boats and motors, water intake problems, etc.
6. Bancroft representatives were asked by BLA to consider closing down their power generating station such that MNR could close the valve at High Falls dam to the maximum extent. David Milne noted that in 1982, in a situation not as serious as this, that the valve was closed to allow only a 25 cfs flow over the dam ( which is 1/4 of what it was set at on the day of the meeting). Bancroft representatives agreed to consider this and get back to MNR by Monday, August 31, 1987.
7. Bancroft representatives noted that there would be a considerable revenue loss to them if they had to close their plant entirely for a significant period. They also noted other impacts, and that there needed to be a contingency plan worked out with the interested parties to deal with situations like this in the future. MNR also advocated a contingency plan be prepared, and all agreed this should be done, but BLA pointed out that we need the plan now.
8. MNR circulated some calculations they had made regarding lake water levels under several assumptions as to High Falls dam valve settings. They also indicated that it would take about 4" of additional rain fall in the Baptiste Lake system's watershed to stabilize the lake at the level it was on the day of the meeting. Since it would normally take up to a couple of months for this much (more than at present) rain to fall, it can be expected that the lake level will continue to fall significantly.
9. It seems to me we are in for even more serious problems whether or not the flow at High Falls is reduced to the minimum. If it is not reduced to the minimum then I think we are in for a disastrous situation (barring a miracle, of course).
10. I believe we need all the help we can get in pressuring for a much reduced flow out of the Lake and preventing the construction of a cofferdam by Martin Lumber. Please attend the Executive meeting and help out. Also, please inform others on the Lake about this situation, and the fact that it will get worse before it gets better, so that they can take evasive action to the extent possible.

Jack Vance  
Director

Baptiste Lake Conservation Association  
 P.O. Box 877  
 Bancroft, Ontario  
 K0L 1C0

MEMORANDUM

August 31, 1987

**To:** Members of Baptiste Lake Conservation Association (BLA)  
**From:** Jack Vance, Secretary  
**Re:** Minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM), August 15, 1987

The meeting was held at St. Mathew's United Church Hall, Baptiste Village commencing at 10:00 a.m. About 40 members were present.

Minutes of Previous (1986) AGM

The Secretary noted highlights taken from the minutes of the 1986 AGM. A motion to accept these was made by Wilf Langan, 2nd by Lynn Allan. Carried.

Report of President on Previous Year's Activities

Cathy Marshall recounted some of BLA's activities over the past year, including:

1. **Wooden Boat Show** - This event featured some 40 boats for a parade and display at BCL on the day before the annual regatta. It attracted a substantial number of people and is intended to be an annual event now. Special thanks go to Gordon Flagler, Joan Barrett and Ted Moores for organizing it, and to Wayne and Edith Jackson for their help and through them the help of the Brantford area sea cadets who worked at the docks.
2. **Annual Regatta** - This event in 1987 was ably directed by Rick Coulter, notwithstanding adverse weather conditions which required that it be split up to parts of two days. Special thanks will be expressed to Dave Rattle who supplied his sound system for both the Regatta and the Wooden Boat show; and to Bob Redford for acting as announcer throughout.

An open letter will be placed in the Bancroft Times expressing thanks to area merchants and others for donating prizes.

It was noted that BLA requires input from members and other interested parties as direction for determining the longer term future of the Regatta. If you have ideas and opinions on this please contact a member of the Board of Directors of BLA.

3. **Corn Roast** - This was held at Birch Cliff Lodge (BCL) on Labour Day weekend in 1986 and was seen to be a success. It is intended that this be an annual event now. Special thanks go to Gordon Flagler, Rae-Anne Reynolds and David Milne for this event.



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It was noted that cleaning up after the Corn Roast should be done by BLA members.

4. **Newsletter** - The layout of the Newsletter as revised for the Spring '87 issue was well received, and we are looking for a catchy name for the Newsletter. Rae-Anne Reynolds was thanked for her efforts in producing the Newsletter, and she should be contacted if you have ideas on a new name.
5. **Other Issues** - Cathy Marshall noted a number of other matters that are now, or likely will become, major issues (some are discussed further on). These included lake water levels and weed growth, minimum lot widths, and the possible development of backlots around the Lake.

#### Weed Growth

It was noted that excessive weed growth had occurred in some areas around the Lake, and this was thought to be due to the presence of phosphates in the water which had passed through septic systems (they don't remove this particular chemical), the use of lawn fertilizers, and even people bathing in the Lake who use soaps and shampoos. It was noted that there are environmentally acceptable cleaning products available generally, but that dishwasher detergents and lawn fertilizers were a particular problem and their use should be avoided. A booklet has been produced by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) which gives a very good guide to environmental issues of particular interest to cottagers, and copies of it were made available to those present. If you wish to receive a copy please contact MOE at Queen's Park - its title is "Cottage Country - An Environmental Manual for the Cottager".

BLA has contacted MOE about doing a survey on the Lake to identify problems with septic systems (or complete lack of these systems in some cases).

#### Acid Rain

It was reported that the last rain produced an abnormally high acid reading on a sample of Lake water. It was noted that the readings vary significantly from the north side of the Lake (granite bedrock) to the south side (some sedimentary bedrock having natural alkalinity which tends to neutralize the acid rain fallout). It was also noted that trees were being particularly affected by acid rain this year.

#### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Margaret Evenden, provided a statement (see Attachment "A") of our financial condition at June 30, 1987. She also noted that this did not reflect substantial expenditures made between June 30 and August 15, 1987 (about \$1,795) or membership fees received (also substantial, but no precise amount given as this had not been summarized). Margaret Evenden moved that this report be accepted, and that the BLA financial year end on June 30 while the membership year end on December 31. This was seconded by Ross Viscoff and carried.

### Membership Committee Report

As membership chairman, Jack Vance reported that 106 members had paid their dues up to July 31 (since then it has increased to 145 at August 31). Based on the return of forms with membership dues at July 31, the vote tally on the two questions put forward in the membership form on further land subdivision and a possible hydro plant at High Falls dam are as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No form returned/ No opinion</u>	<u>Total</u>
(i) Are you <u>opposed</u> to further subdivision development just above High Falls dam?	59%	8%	33%	100%
Above results factored up in proportion, to eliminate those who did not vote	88%	12%	-	100%
(ii) Are you <u>opposed</u> to construction of a hydro generating plant at High Falls dam?	52%	12%	36%	100%
Above results factored up in proportion, to eliminate those who did not vote	81%	19%	-	100%

Mr. Vance noted that we had sent out reminders to the balance of those 1986 members (about 175) who had not sent in their 1987 dues yet, as well as a letter to an additional group of potential BLA members (numbering more than 250) asking them to join the Association. He also noted that while those who had returned the questionnaire expressed a variety of particular concerns about the Lake, an abnormally high response was being received concerning the perceived poor maintenance of the North Baptiste Lake Road this year.

### Environment Committee Report

The Chairman of this committee, Edith Blakely-Jackson, reported that she had discussed testing for water quality with Ontario MOE, who will supply testing equipment (Secci discs and bottles) and test water samples, if BLA will take samples from the Lake. It was agreed that she will contact Jim Haddow, who has done extensive water sampling from the Lake over the years, with a view to how this can best be done on a regular basis. It was agreed that the MOE booklet on environmental matters of particular interest to cottage country (mentioned above) should be sent to all members with the next BLA Newsletter.



### Water Levels

Several members expressed the opinion that the Lake was now (mid-August) at a lower level than had been seen since the early 50's for this time of year. It was reported that the water level gauge installed by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) at the BCL dock was now completely out of the water. Many views were expressed on the impact of such low water levels, both now and if they persisted throughout the Fall (particularly winter dock damage in the latter case). It was agreed that Gordon Flagler would talk to the current MNR man responsible for controlling the High Falls dam water outflow, and file a letter with MNR expressing our concerns in this regard.

### Fire Committee Report

In the absence of Bruno Morawetz, Chairman, Jack Vance reported that according to recent correspondence from B. Morawetz three fire pumps were now in place for the use of people on the Lake, one each at BCL, Baptiste Lake Marina and Camp Ponacka. Furthermore, signs indicating the specific location of each pump had been placed on the shoreline and at the nearest adjacent road. Mr. Bob Say, one of our members from New York State, was thanked for his extensive work and expense in rehabilitating one of the fire pumps.

It was also reported that another pump was in the hands of the Herschel Township Volunteer Fire Dept. and needed to be placed on the Lake as soon as possible. This may require sending a letter to F. Ireland, chief of that department.

### Municipal Action Committee

In the absence of B. Morawetz, Chairman, Jack Vance noted that recent correspondence from him indicated the following:

- (i) Subdivision of Land Above High Falls Dam - Although no further application for severances or rezoning had been received, it was known that the developer had retained a consulting firm to do an environmental impact study for the development of the balance of his land. BLA has expressed to the Herschel Township Council our view that they not approve a rezoning for this further development.
- (ii) Hydro Plant at High Falls Dam - There was no further specific action respecting this possibility, and it was reported that the Reeve of Herschel recently expressed his opposition to the proposition. It was decided that a letter should be sent to both MNR and Herschel expressing our opposition to any power plant development at High Falls dam.

### Incorporation of BLA

Norman Jull, Director, has done extensive work on this subject. Incorporation is required to:

- (i) Give BLA "standing" in a legal sense.
- (ii) Limit the liability of members.
- (iii) Is a step toward qualification of BLA as a charitable organization, thereby hopefully making some or all donations to it allowable for income tax purposes at a future time.

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In order to have our organization accepted for registration as an incorporated body it was necessary to have our name changed for official purposes to "Baptiste Lake Conservation Association" (although we can still refer to ourselves as BLA).

A draft of five proposed By-Laws for the Baptiste Lake Conservation Association was distributed to all present (copy attached with amendments annotated, Attachment "B").

A motion by Wilf Langan, 2nd by Wayne Jackson, that the "By-Laws be approved as presented" was carried.

An amendment was moved by Randy Watson that By-Law No. 3 be changed to insert the following words, "including the Past President", on the eighth line so that it now reads, "who, including the Past President, shall thereby become the board of directors of the Association". Seconded by N. Jull. Carried. (See attached annotated By-Laws.)

Another amendment was moved by Gordon Flagler, seconded by Don McLarty, that By-Law No. 4 be changed so that third to last line reads "shall end June 30 of each year, and shall make copies". Carried. (See attached annotated By-Laws.)

A motion that "the membership year shall coincide with the calendar year (January 1 to December 31)" was made by Gordon Flagler and seconded by Wayne Jackson. Carried.

#### St. Mathew's United Church, Baptiste Village

Jack Vance reported that the Elders of this church were requesting cottagers to indicate their interest in having the church remain open during the summer. You can indicate your interest to Jack Vance, Ken Fisk, or any member of the church.

#### Photo Album of Baptiste Lake

Jack Vance would like to compile an album illustrating happenings and scenes around the lake, both past and present. If you have photos of historical or scenic interest please contact him.

#### Election of Officers

A proposed slate of officers (now called the Board of Directors) for the 1987-88 year was presented to the meeting with the Agenda. A motion was made by Wayne Jackson and seconded by Christina Flagler that the "Board of Directors for 1987-88" shown as Attachment "C" be declared elected. Carried.

Gordon Flagler, the new President, reported that Lynn Allan had also agreed to take over as chairman of the Membership Committee.

The meeting expressed its thanks to Cathy Marshall, outgoing President, and to Jack Vance, outgoing Secretary and Chairman of the Membership Committee, for their contributions.

#### Next Meeting of Board of Directors

This meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 5, 1987 at BCL, prior to the Corn Roast.



Jack Vance  
Outgoing Secretary

Attachment "A"

**Baptiste Cottagers and Resort Owners Association**

BAPTISTE, ONTARIO

Financial Statement 1986-87

Balance, June 30, 1986	(Account No. 363-15)	\$ 127.88
	(Account No. 1409727)	<u>\$3,982.22</u>
		\$4,110.10

Income

Regatta	\$ 165.00	
Membership (etc.)	\$2,312.00	
Bank Interest	\$ 211.35	
Exchange	<u>\$ 8.44</u>	
	\$2,696.79	<u>\$2,696.79</u>
		\$6,806.89

Expenses

Insurance	\$ 250.00	
Regatta Corn Roast	\$ 641.50	
Bank Charges	\$ 21.00	
Rent	\$ 25.00	
Newsletters/Minutes Mailing	\$ 495.57	
Times Duplicating	\$ 30.00	
Times (1984)	<u>\$ 9.50</u>	
	\$1,567.57	<u>\$1,567.57</u>

Balance, June 30, 1987		<u>\$5,239.32</u>
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Bank Statements: Balance	(Account No. 363-15)	\$ 60.31
Balance	(Account No. 1409727)	<u>\$5,179.01</u>
		<u>\$5,239.32</u>

Margaret Evenden, Treasurer

## BAPTISTE LAKE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

## BY-LAWS

By-Law Number One - - Membership

Membership in Baptiste Lake Conservation Association shall be open to all persons and organizations subscribing to the aims of this Association.

By-Law Number Two - - Members' Dues

Annual dues for a member shall be twenty dollars (\$20). The immediate family of a member shall enjoy the privileges of membership, except voting, without payment of additional dues.

By-Law Number Three - - Board of Directors

At each annual meeting the members shall elect:

- a president
- a first vice president
- a second vice president
- a secretary
- a treasurer,
- and members at large

*, including the Past President,*  
who shall thereby become the board of directors of the Association. These officers shall form an Executive Council, of which they shall be members, and to which they may appoint additional members of the Association whose services the directors deem to be of value to the Association from time to time, to serve at the pleasure of the board. A quorum of the Executive Council shall be a minimum of three directors or, in the absence of at least three directors, a minimum of five.

The government of the Association and the direction of its work shall be vested in the Executive Council except that only the directors may vote on changes to these By-Laws, and such changes require confirmation by two-thirds of the votes cast at the next meeting of the members, notice of which must be mailed at least ten days prior to the time of the meeting. At any such meeting the members may confirm, reject, amend or otherwise deal with the By-Laws.

By-Law Number Four - - Duties of Officers

The president is the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside, if present, at all meetings. The president shall, having consulted the Executive Council, appoint all committees and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The president shall report annually to the members on the activities of the Association.

In the absence of the president, the following order of presiding officers shall be maintained: the first vice president, the second vice president, the secretary and the treasurer. In the absence of all of the said officers, the Executive Council shall appoint a temporary chairman and a temporary secretary for their meeting.

The vice presidents shall assume the duties of the president in the event of absence, incapacity or resignation of the president and shall assume such other duties as are assigned by the board of directors.

The secretary shall keep and maintain all of the records of the Association, including membership records with which he may have the assistance of an Executive Council member appointed for the purpose. The secretary shall attend to the correspondence for and on behalf of the Association and shall keep minutes of all meetings. The secretary shall keep a list of the names, permanent and temporary addresses and telephone numbers of the officers.

The treasurer shall receive, keep and disburse the funds of the Association. All disbursements greater than one hundred dollars require the prior approval of the president. Disbursements made by check shall be signed by the treasurer OR the president. The treasurer shall report on the Association's finances at meetings of the Executive Council. The treasurer shall prepare financial statements for the fiscal year which shall end ~~December 31~~<sup>July 31</sup> of each year, and shall make copies available to all members upon receipt of requests therefor which are accompanied by stamped, addressed envelopes.

#### By-Law Number Five - - Meetings

The rules of parliamentary procedure shall govern all meetings. All questions of parliamentary procedure shall be determined by reference to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

There shall be in every calendar year an annual meeting of the members to be held on a Saturday during the summer season at a location in the vicinity of Baptiste Lake, to hear the president's report, approve the treasurer's report, elect directors and for consideration of all other matters which might properly come before the meeting.

Votes shall be decided by a simple majority of those paid-up members present and qualified to vote, except for changes to the by-laws, as stated in By-Law Number Three. Votes shall be by a show of hands.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1987-88

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone No.'s</u>
<b>President</b>	Gordon Flagler (home - Toronto)	Home: (416) 960-4939 Business: (416) 966-5069 Baptiste: (613) 332-3528
<b>Vice-President</b>	Lynn Allan (home - Peterborough)	Home: (705) 748-5369 Business: (705) 743-5610 Baptiste: (613) 332-4336
<b>Secretary</b>	Rae-Anne Reynolds (home - Willowdale)	Home: (416) 491-9917 Business: (416) 592-6102 Baptiste: (613) 332-4798
<b>Treasurer</b>	Margaret Evenden (home - Hamilton)	Home: (416) 385-7865 Baptiste: (613) 332-2680
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Cathy Marshall (home - Thornhill)	Home: (416) 881-1218 Business: (416) 881-8376 Baptiste: no phone
<b><u>Directors</u></b>	Dave Biernaskie (home - Baptiste Lake)	Home: (613) 332-1233 Business: (613) 332-1233 Baptiste: (613) 332-1233
	Edith Blakely-Jackson (home - Burford, Brantford area)	Home: (519) 449-2708 Business: Baptiste: (613) 332-1586
	Rick Coulter (home - Thornhill)	Home: (416) 889-2265 Business: Baptiste: (613) 332-4247
	Dan Griffin (home - Bancroft)	Home: (613) 332-2875 Business: (613) 332-1533 Baptiste: (613) 332-3302
	Wayne Jackson (home - Burford, Brantford area)	Home: (519) 449-2708 Business: Baptiste: (613) 332-1586
	Norm Jull (home - Thornhill)	Home: (416) 889-1624 Business: (416) 749-3991 Baptiste: (613) 332-3674
	Al Loney (home - Nepean, Ottawa area)	Home: (613) 828-5367 Business: (613) 820-2159 Baptiste: no phone



"C"

Don McLarty  
(home - Newmarket)

Home: (416) 898-3678  
Business:  
Baptiste:

David Milne  
(home - Baptiste Lake)

Home: (613) 332-4382  
Business: (613) 332-3316  
Baptiste: (613) 332-3316

Bruno Morawetz  
(home - Peterborough)

Home: (705) 745-9441  
Baptiste  
Business: (613) 332-4125  
Res.: (613) 332-2158

Jack Vance  
(home - Toronto)

Home: (416) 922-5122  
Business: (416) 964-1762  
Baptiste: (613) 332-2785

Ross Viscoff  
(home - Baptiste Lake)

Home: (613) 338-5466  
Baptiste: (613) 338-5466

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Baptiste Lake Conservation Association  
 P.O. Box 877  
 Bancroft, Ontario  
 K0L 1C0

MEMORANDUM

September 10, 1987

**To:** Members of Baptiste Lake Conservation Association (BLA)  
**From:** Jack Vance, Director  
**Re:** Water Level Alert

As most of you are aware, the water level in Baptiste Lake during the past week or so is the lowest it has been within memory, and far below the minimum level agreed upon some years ago with Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) who control the High Falls dam outflow.

In the first instance, this water level has been due to abnormally low rainfall, of course. However, it has been exacerbated by the High Falls dam outflow not being significantly reduced this summer until this Association complained in late August, both in writing and verbally. Since then we have been in contact with the several key interests involved, which include, as well as MNR and ourselves, Martin Lumber at the top end of the water system on Benoirs Lake who have a large water intake on the river there, and Bancroft PUC which operates a power house at the lower end of the system in Bancroft. After a lot of work by several members of the BLA Executive, the water outflow from High Falls dam has been closed off to the absolute minimum, and at this particular point in time the Lake level has been stabilized (albeit at a very low level). Offsetting this has been a recent action by Martin Lumber to increase the reservoir of water available for their use by construction of a cofferdam on the river flowing into Benoirs Lake (and therefore reducing the water volume coming into the downstream system). We have been assured by the MNR Minister's office that this is temporary only, and when the emergency has passed the cofferdam will be removed. We shall monitor the situation very closely.

Obviously, however, we need a long term solution put in place both as far as Martin Lumber and Bancroft PUC are concerned, and regarding control of the Lake level at High Falls dam by MNR. Your Executive is endeavouring to do this, but we need your help. Please do that by dating and putting your address at the top right of the attached letter to Hon. Vincent Kerrio, signing it and sending it to Queen's Park (better yet, make up your own letter). Also, we are asking all members to document problems they have experienced because of this low water level (with pictures and records where appropriate).

Of course, all of these activities undertaken on your behalf by the Association are costing us money. So please, if you have not already done so, send us your cheque for \$20 in membership dues for 1987.

Thanks.



Jack Vance,  
 Director

Address:



Date:

The Honourable Vincent Kerrio  
Minister of Natural Resources  
6th Floor, Whitney Block  
99 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1W3

Dear Mr. Kerrio:

As someone with a significant interest in the welfare of the Baptiste Lake system, I am writing to you to express my grave concern about the extremely low water levels that currently exist on Baptiste Lake.

I am alarmed about the damage that has already occurred to boats and properties, serious problems with water intakes, the loss of income to the tourist businesses around the lake, and the potential for permanent damage to the fish population of the Baptiste/Elephant/Benoirs lakes system.

It is my hope that your ministry will do everything possible to return the water level immediately to the agreed upon minimum levels, and avoid further harm to the environment and potentially very serious winter dock damage if the condition persists into the Fall. I also hope you will take every available step to avoid a recurrence of this problem in the future.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

c.c. Baptiste Lake Association  
P.O. Box 877, Bancroft, Ontario K0L 1C0

**Baptiste Lake Conservation Association  
P.O. Box 877  
Bancroft, Ontario  
K0L 1C0**

**MEMORANDUM**

August 31, 1987

**To:** Members of Baptiste Lake Conservation Association (BLA)  
**From:** Jack Vance, Secretary  
**Re:** Minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM), August 15, 1987

The meeting was held at St. Mathew's United Church Hall, Baptiste Village commencing at 10:00 a.m. About 40 members were present.

**Minutes of Previous (1986) AGM**

The Secretary noted highlights taken from the minutes of the 1986 AGM. A motion to accept these was made by Wilf Langan, 2nd by Lynn Allan. Carried.

**Report of President on Previous Year's Activities**

Cathy Marshall recounted some of BLA's activities over the past year, including:

1. **Wooden Boat Show** - This event featured some 40 boats for a parade and display at BCL on the day before the annual regatta. It attracted a substantial number of people and is intended to be an annual event now. Special thanks go to Gordon Flagler, Joan Barrett and Ted Moores for organizing it, and to Wayne and Edith Jackson for their help and through them the help of the Brantford area sea cadets who worked at the docks.
2. **Annual Regatta** - This event in 1987 was ably directed by Rick Coulter, notwithstanding adverse weather conditions which required that it be split up to parts of two days. Special thanks will be expressed to Dave Rattle who supplied his sound system for both the Regatta and the Wooden Boat show; and to Bob Redford for acting as announcer throughout.

An open letter will be placed in the Bancroft Times expressing thanks to area merchants and others for donating prizes.

It was noted that BLA requires input from members and other interested parties as direction for determining the longer term future of the Regatta. If you have ideas and opinions on this please contact a member of the Board of Directors of BLA.

3. **Corn Roast** - This was held at Birch Cliff Lodge (BCL) on Labour Day weekend in 1986 and was seen to be a success. It is intended that this be a annual event now. Special thanks go to Gordon Flagler, Rae-Anne Reynolds and David Milne for this event.

It was noted that cleaning up after the Corn Roast should be done by BLA members.

- 4. **Newsletter** - The layout of the Newsletter as revised for the Spring '87 issue was well received, and we are looking for a catchy name for the Newsletter. Rae-Anne Reynolds was thanked for her efforts in producing the Newsletter, and she should be contacted if you have ideas on a new name.
- 5. **Other Issues** - Cathy Marshall noted a number of other matters that are now, or likely will become, major issues (some are discussed further on). These included lake water levels and weed growth, minimum lot widths, and the possible development of backlots around the Lake.

Weed Growth

It was noted that excessive weed growth had occurred in some areas around the Lake, and this was thought to be due to the presence of phosphates in the water which had passed through septic systems (they don't remove this particular chemical), the use of lawn fertilizers, and even people bathing in the Lake who use soaps and shampoos. It was noted that there are environmentally acceptable cleaning products available generally, but that dishwasher detergents and lawn fertilizers were a particular problem and their use should be avoided. A booklet has been produced by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) which gives a very good guide to environmental issues of particular interest to cottagers, and copies of it were made available to those present. If you wish to receive a copy please contact MOE at Queen's Park - its title is "Cottage Country - An Environmental Manual for the Cottager".

BLA has contacted MOE about doing a survey on the Lake to identify problems with septic systems (or complete lack of these systems in some cases).

Acid Rain

It was reported that the last rain produced an abnormally high acid reading on a sample of Lake water. It was noted that the readings vary significantly from the north side of the Lake (granite bedrock) to the south side (some sedimentary bedrock having natural alkalinity which tends to neutralize the acid rain fallout). It was also noted that trees were being particularly affected by acid rain this year.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Margaret Evenden, provided a statement (see Attachment "A") of our financial condition at June 30, 1987. She also noted that this did not reflect substantial expenditures made between June 30 and August 15, 1987 (about \$1,795) or membership fees received (also substantial, but no precise amount given as this had not been summarized). Margaret Evenden moved that this report be accepted, and that the BLA financial year end on June 30 while the membership year end on December 31. This was seconded by Ross Viscoff and carried.

### Membership Committee Report

As membership chairman, Jack Vance reported that 106 members had paid their dues up to July 31 (since then it has increased to 145 at August 31). Based on the return of forms with membership dues at July 31, the vote tally on the two questions put forward in the membership form on further land subdivision and a possible hydro plant at High Falls dam are as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No form returned/ No opinion</u>	<u>Total</u>
(i) Are you <u>opposed</u> to further subdivision development just above High Falls dam?	59%	8%	33%	100%
Above results factored up in proportion, to eliminate those who did not vote	88%	12%	-	100%
(ii) Are you <u>opposed</u> to construction of a hydro generating plant at High Falls dam?	52%	12%	36%	100%
Above results factored up in proportion, to eliminate those who did not vote	81%	19%	-	100%

Mr. Vance noted that we had sent out reminders to the balance of those 1986 members (about 175) who had not sent in their 1987 dues yet, as well as a letter to an additional group of potential BLA members (numbering more than 250) asking them to join the Association. He also noted that while those who had returned the questionnaire expressed a variety of particular concerns about the Lake, an abnormally high response was being received concerning the perceived poor maintenance of the North Baptiste Lake Road this year.

### Environment Committee Report

The Chairman of this committee, Edith Blakely-Jackson, reported that she had discussed testing for water quality with Ontario MOE, who will supply testing equipment (Secci discs and bottles) and test water samples, if BLA will take samples from the Lake. It was agreed that she will contact Jim Haddow, who has done extensive water sampling from the Lake over the years, with a view to how this can best be done on a regular basis. It was agreed that the MOE booklet on environmental matters of particular interest to cottage country (mentioned above) should be sent to all members with the next BLA Newsletter.



Water Levels

Several members expressed the opinion that the Lake was now (mid-August) at a lower level than had been seen since the early 50's for this time of year. It was reported that the water level gauge installed by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) at the BCL dock was now completely out of the water. Many views were expressed on the impact of such low water levels, both now and if they persisted throughout the Fall (particularly winter dock damage in the latter case). It was agreed that Gordon Flagler would talk to the current MNR man responsible for controlling the High Falls dam water outflow, and file a letter with MNR expressing our concerns in this regard.

Fire Committee Report

In the absence of Bruno Morawetz, Chairman, Jack Vance reported that according to recent correspondence from B. Morawetz three fire pumps were now in place for the use of people on the Lake, one each at BCL, Baptiste Lake Marina and Camp Ponacka. Furthermore, signs indicating the specific location of each pump had been placed on the shoreline and at the nearest adjacent road. Mr. Bob Say, one of our members from New York State, was thanked for his extensive work and expense in rehabilitating one of the fire pumps.

It was also reported that another pump was in the hands of the Herschel Township Volunteer Fire Dept. and needed to be placed on the Lake as soon as possible. This may require sending a letter to F. Ireland, chief of that department.

Municipal Action Committee

In the absence of B. Morawetz, Chairman, Jack Vance noted that recent correspondence from him indicated the following:

- (i) Subdivision of Land Above High Falls Dam - Although no further application for severances or rezoning had been received, it was known that the developer had retained a consulting firm to do an environmental impact study for the development of the balance of his land. BLA has expressed to the Herschel Township Council our view that they not approve a rezoning for this further development.
- (ii) Hydro Plant at High Falls Dam - There was no further specific action respecting this possibility, and it was reported that the Reeve of Herschel recently expressed his opposition to the proposition. It was decided that a letter should be sent to both MNR and Herschel expressing our opposition to any power plant development at High Falls dam.

Incorporation of BLA

Norman Jull, Director, has done extensive work on this subject. Incorporation is required to:

- (i) Give BLA "standing" in a legal sense.
- (ii) Limit the liability of members.
- (iii) Is a step toward qualification of BLA as a charitable organization, thereby hopefully making some or all donations to it allowable for income tax purposes at a future time.

In order to have our organization accepted for registration as an incorporated body it was necessary to have our name changed for official purposes to "Baptiste Lake Conservation Association" (although we can still refer to ourselves as BLA).

A draft of five proposed By-Laws for the Baptiste Lake Conservation Association was distributed to all present (copy attached with amendments annotated, Attachment "B").

A motion by Wilf Langan, 2nd by Wayne Jackson, that the "By-Laws be approved as presented" was carried.

An amendment was moved by Randy Watson that By-Law No. 3 be changed to insert the following words, "including the Past President", on the eighth line so that it now reads, "who, including the Past President, shall thereby become the board of directors of the Association". Seconded by N. Jull. Carried. (See attached annotated By-Laws.)

Another amendment was moved by Gordon Flagler, seconded by Don McLarty, that By-Law No. 4 be changed so that third to last line reads "shall end June 30 of each year, and shall make copies". Carried. (See attached annotated By-Laws.)

A motion that "the membership year shall coincide with the calendar year (January 1 to December 31)" was made by Gordon Flagler and seconded by Wayne Jackson. Carried.

#### St. Mathew's United Church, Baptiste Village

Jack Vance reported that the Elders of this church were requesting cottagers to indicate their interest in having the church remain open during the summer. You can indicate your interest to Jack Vance, Ken Fisk, or any member of the church.

#### Photo Album of Baptiste Lake

Jack Vance would like to compile an album illustrating happenings and scenes around the lake, both past and present. If you have photos of historical or scenic interest please contact him.

#### Election of Officers

A proposed slate of officers (now called the Board of Directors) for the 1987-88 year was presented to the meeting with the Agenda. A motion was made by Wayne Jackson and seconded by Christina Flagler that the "Board of Directors for 1987-88" shown as Attachment "C" be declared elected. Carried.

Gordon Flagler, the new President, reported that Lynn Allan had also agreed to take over as chairman of the Membership Committee.

The meeting expressed its thanks to Cathy Marshall, outgoing President, and to Jack Vance, outgoing Secretary and Chairman of the Membership Committee, for their contributions.

#### Next Meeting of Board of Directors

This meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 5, 1987 at BCL, prior to the Corn Roast.



Jack Vance  
Outgoing Secretary



Attachment "A"

**Baptiste Cottagers and Resort Owners Association**

BAPTISTE, ONTARIO

Financial Statement 1986-87

Balance, June 30, 1986	(Account No. 363-15)	\$ 127.88
	(Account No. 1409727)	<u>\$3,982.22</u>
		\$4,110.10
<u>Income</u>		
Regatta	\$ 165.00	
Membership (etc.)	\$2,312.00	
Bank Interest	\$ 211.35	
Exchange	<u>\$ 8.44</u>	
	\$2,696.79	<u>\$2,696.79</u>
		\$6,806.89
<u>Expenses</u>		
Insurance	\$ 250.00	
Regatta Corn Roast	\$ 641.50	
Bank Charges	\$ 21.00	
Rent	\$ 25.00	
Newsletters/Minutes Mailing	\$ 495.57	
Times Duplicating	\$ 30.00	
Times (1984)	<u>\$ 9.50</u>	
	\$1,567.57	<u>\$1,567.57</u>
Balance, June 30, 1987		<u>\$5,239.32</u>
Bank Statements: Balance	(Account No. 363-15)	\$ 60.31
Balance	(Account No. 1409727)	<u>\$5,179.01</u>
		<u>\$5,239.32</u>

Margaret Evenden, Treasurer

## BAPTISTE LAKE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

## BY-LAWS

By-Law Number One - - Membership

Membership in Baptiste Lake Conservation Association shall be open to all persons and organizations subscribing to the aims of this Association.

By-Law Number Two - - Members' Dues

Annual dues for a member shall be twenty dollars (\$20). The immediate family of a member shall enjoy the privileges of membership, except voting, without payment of additional dues.

By-Law Number Three - - Board of Directors

At each annual meeting the members shall elect:

- a president
- a first vice president
- a second vice president
- a secretary
- a treasurer,
- and members at large

*, including the Past President,*  
who shall thereby become the board of directors of the Association. These officers shall form an Executive Council, of which they shall be members, and to which they may appoint additional members of the Association whose services the directors deem to be of value to the Association from time to time, to serve at the pleasure of the board. A quorum of the Executive Council shall be a minimum of three directors or, in the absence of at least three directors, a minimum of five.

The government of the Association and the direction of its work shall be vested in the Executive Council except that only the directors may vote on changes to these By-Laws, and such changes require confirmation by two-thirds of the votes cast at the next meeting of the members, notice of which must be mailed at least ten days prior to the time of the meeting. At any such meeting the members may confirm, reject, amend or otherwise deal with the By-Laws.

By-Law Number Four - - Duties of Officers

The president is the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside, if present, at all meetings. The president shall, having consulted the Executive Council, appoint all committees and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. The president shall report annually to the members on the activities of the Association.

In the absence of the president, the following order of presiding officers shall be maintained: the first vice president, the second vice president, the secretary and the treasurer. In the absence of all of the said officers, the Executive Council shall appoint a temporary chairman and a temporary secretary for their meeting.

The vice presidents shall assume the duties of the president in the event of absence, incapacity or resignation of the president and shall assume such other duties as are assigned by the board of directors.

The secretary shall keep and maintain all of the records of the Association, including membership records with which he may have the assistance of an Executive Council member appointed for the purpose. The secretary shall attend to the correspondence for and on behalf of the Association and shall keep minutes of all meeting. The secretary shall keep a list of the names, permanent and temporary addresses and telephone numbers of the officers.

The treasurer shall receive, keep and disburse the funds of the Association. All disbursements greater than one hundred dollars require the prior approval of the president. Disbursements made by check shall be signed by the treasurer OR the president. The treasurer shall report on the Association's finances at meetings of the Executive Council. The treasurer shall prepare financial statements for the fiscal year which shall end ~~December 31~~<sup>July 31</sup> of each year, and shall make copies available to all members upon receipt of requests therefor which are accompanied by stamped, addressed envelopes.

#### By-Law Number Five - - Meetings

The rules of parliamentary procedure shall govern all meetings. All questions of parliamentary procedure shall be determined by reference to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

There shall be in every calendar year an annual meeting of the members to be held on a Saturday during the summer season at a location in the vicinity of Baptiste Lake, to hear the president's report, approve the treasurer's report, elect directors and for consideration of all other matters which might properly come before the meeting.

Votes shall be decided by a simple majority of those paid-up members present and qualified to vote, except for changes to the by-laws, as stated in By-Law Number Three. Votes shall be by a show of hands.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1987-88

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone No.'s</u>
<b>President</b>	Gordon Flagler (home - Toronto)	Home: (416) 960-4939 Business: (416) 966-5069 Baptiste: (613) 332-3528
<b>Vice-President</b>	Lynn Allan (home - Peterborough)	Home: (705) 748-5369 Business: (705) 743-5610 Baptiste: (613) 332-4336
<b>Secretary</b>	Rae-Anne Reynolds (home - Willowdale)	Home: (416) 491-9917 Business: (416) 592-6102 Baptiste: (613) 332-4798
<b>Treasurer</b>	Margaret Evenden (home - Hamilton)	Home: (416) 385-7865 Baptiste: (613) 332-2680
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Cathy Marshall (home - Thornhill)	Home: (416) 881-1218 Business: (416) 881-8376 Baptiste: no phone
<b><u>Directors</u></b>	Dave Biernaskie (home - Baptiste Lake)	Home: (613) 332-1233 Business: (613) 332-1233 Baptiste: (613) 332-1233
	Edith Blakely-Jackson (home - Burford, Brantford area)	Home: (519) 449-2708 Business: Baptiste: (613) 332-1586
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Baptiste Lake Conservation Association  
 P.O. Box 877  
 Bancroft, Ontario  
 K0L 1C0

MEMORANDUM



September 10, 1987

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**From:** Jack Vance, Director  
**Re:** Water Level Alert

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Obviously, however, we need a long term solution put in place both as far as Martin Lumber and Bancroft PUC are concerned, and regarding control of the Lake level at High Falls dam by MNR. Your Executive is endeavouring to do this, but we need your help. Please do that by dating and putting your address at the top right of the attached letter to Hon. Vincent Kerrio, signing it and sending it to Queen's Park (better yet, make up your own letter). Also, we are asking all members to document problems they have experienced because of this low water level (with pictures and records where appropriate).

Of course, all of these activities undertaken on your behalf by the Association are costing us money. So please, if you have not already done so, send us your cheque for \$20 in membership dues for 1987.

Thanks.

Jack Vance,  
 Director

Address:



Date:

The Honourable Vincent Kerrio  
Minister of Natural Resources  
6th Floor, Whitney Block  
99 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1W3

Dear Mr. Kerrio:

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I am alarmed about the damage that has already occurred to boats and properties, serious problems with water intakes, the loss of income to the tourist businesses around the lake, and the potential for permanent damage to the fish population of the Baptiste/Elephant/Benoirs lakes system.

It is my hope that your ministry will do everything possible to return the water level immediately to the agreed upon minimum levels, and avoid further harm to the environment and potentially very serious winter dock damage if the condition persists into the Fall. I also hope you will take every available step to avoid a recurrence of this problem in the future.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

c.c. Baptiste Lake Association  
P.O. Box 877, Bancroft, Ontario K0L 1C0