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Event dates 2024

March 10: Deadline for all Members to review and submit suggestions re constitution draft in WRITTEN FORM. By email, mail or in person.

May 4: Parks Cleanup - meet in respective parks at 10:00 - Lunch/picnic after clean up at 1pm in Park 1

May 18: Special meeting to make changes to our By - Law/Constitution at 12 noon.

July 04: PICNIC (Formerly known as BBQ) at 2pm.

August 24: AGM to have a vote on the new constitution Park 4 at 2pm.



Sand Castle News

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JANUARY 2024 EDITION



President's Report:



Happy New Year to all Members of SCCA! I hope you all had nice holidays and are getting ready for the new and important events for 2024. This first Newsletter for 2024 contains a lot of important information that requires your attention. The new SCCA board that was elected in August 2023 continue to work hard on the modernization of our By Laws/Constitution according to the legal framework of Ontario Non-For-Profit Corporations Act, 2010 (ONCA). Website is:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/guide-not-profit-corporations-act-2010>.

As of October 18th 2024, SCCA - as a non-profit organization, we are mandated to update and file all necessary documentation with the Ontario Government. This work was started by the previous board in 2023 and we continue to work on it in 2024. As a result of this work, we consult lawyers to make sure that our updated constitution is written according to ONCA and Ontario legal framework. Unfortunately, we have a substantial part of our revenue used to pay for consults with lawyers and for tree removal - last year and this year. Fortunately for us, lawyers fees happen once in several decades.

We want to keep our findings and finances very transparent to all Members. Our Vice President, Bruce and Secretary-Treasurer Arek will explain more about the legal part and finances further in this Newsletter.

This year we would like to ask all Members of the Association to be involved in the process of changing our By Law/Constitution. We included the draft of the proposed constitution in this mail and email. It is posted on our website as well. You can find our website link in "Contacts" part of this news letter. Please, do contact Arek to be given a password to access our website, if you don't have one. He will make sure that you have an access to SCCA website. You can find our old constitution, financial statements and the draft of new constitution there.

We have to follow a very strict deadline in order to review and finalize this draft not only with SCCA Members, but with our lawyers. We will vote on it at the August AGM and submit it before October 18th, 2024. I know that we have many members of the Association who would like to take an active part in this process. Please, make sure you follow deadlines, if you want your suggestions and voices to be heard and counted during this process. After the AGM, the SCCA Board will file a modernized By Laws/Constitution with Ontario Government and will modernize our Letters of Patent according to the new goals of our Association. Those changes you can check in the proposed By Laws/Constitution.

If you have any questions, please, do not hesitate to contact us. If you haven't submitted your updated email, phone and mailing address yet, please, send this information to Arek (Secretary

-Treasurer). He keeps this information up to date. We will not post personal information on SCCA website or our Facebook page. It is only for our records, so we can contact you in case of emergency with your house or for sending you newsletters, membership invoice and legal documents.

Now I want to mention some other issues that were pointed by SCCA Members to the Board.

1. Excessive outdoor lighting.

We have many people complaining that some SCCA Members have either excessive or very bright outdoor lighting. I understand that we need an outdoor light for safety reasons. However, please, be mindful of your neighbours' comfort and our beautiful wild life that we have in our area. Please, turn off lights that you don't need at night time and leave only enough lights to provide you with a safe way to your home or cottage. Especially, if you know that your outdoor lights are facing your neighbours' windows and interfere with their sleep and daily lives. In addition, we have beautiful parks with a lot of birds and wild life that are nocturnal. Bright lights interfere with their life cycle and may damage their health. If you are interested, please, review a Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Dark-sky Preserve Guidelines https://www.rasc.ca/sites/default/files/RASC%20DSP%20GUIDELINES%20-%20Summer%202013_0.pdf.

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SCCA 9 Bluewater
Ct. Tiny ON L9M 0H2

President's Report Cont'd

Tiny township is adhering to these guidelines.

2. Construction waste in our parks.

Our parks are not dumping areas for construction waste. Please, preserve our beautiful parks and neighborhood for everyone's enjoyment. We have all worked too hard to make it a nice neighborhood - not to turn it into a dumping ground. Please, discuss it with the construction crew on your construction site and use a proper disposal location:

<https://www.simcoe.ca/SolidWasteManagement/Pages/locations.aspx>.

If more complaints are made regarding this behavior, we will take steps to protect SCCA property. The same

applies to any regular garbage and cigarette butts in our parks. These parks are your assets and your property as well. Please, preserve it and take care of it.

3. Picking up after your dog.

Please, pick up after your dogs. I posted on a SCCA Face Book page a nice article suggested by one of our members explaining why it is important to do so. It is a responsibility of a dog owner to follow the rules and by laws. Your neighbors will like you and your dog much more, if you don't give them the reason to complain about your dog's poop all over the streets and parks trails. Let's respect each other and make our life more pleasant and enjoyable.

Please, do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any suggestions or concerns. We are representing your voices and need to hear from you. We have an amazing board which is dedicated to work very hard and to make it right.

Thank you for helping our community,
Irina Jacobs



VP Report

Happy New Year!

The SCCA (Sandcastle Community Association) was incorporated as a not-for-profit company in 1966. The SCCA owns our four parks and the walkways that run to and from them.

The company pays property taxes, insurance premiums and maintenance costs on these properties with funds raised by levies paid by the members of the Association. Members of the Association are similar to shareholders of a profit-based business. The Association is regulated by the Ontario Government and it's new not for profit legislation known as ONCA. Compliance with this regulation is mandatory by October of this year. This affects our association by requiring a significantly amended Constitution. The Constitution acts like a blueprint for the Association to operate the Corporation, it speaks of members rights, election of officers, financial responsibilities for examples.

As of October, we are required to implement a revised Constitution that meets the requirement of ONCA and meets the needs of our Association,

now, and well into the future. As a membership, we will also prepare a list of rules that will cover conduct on our properties that we will vote on at the August AGM. We need your help. Please read the enclosed draft of the Constitution, and feel free to provide comments, or ask questions, by contacting me by email (vp@sccatiny.org)

We will accept suggestions until March 10 2024. This draft would not be possible without help from members like Sharon, Dan, Tom, Dave, Bonnie and others, and the hard work of the SCCA executive. Considerable input was required from our legal firm.

As we agreed at our last AGM, a special meeting will be held in May to discuss the Constitution. At this time, we will call for a vote on abandoning the old Constitution, and accepting the new one. If this vote is successful, a mail vote will be conducted to all members. If this mail vote is in favor of the new Constitution, it will be voted upon at the August AGM. This is a lot of work, but is required under our current Constitution. If we are not successful in adopting the new Constitution, we may be faced with gov-

ernment intervention in our Association. The SCCA is a gem; let's work together to protect it into the future.

Please review the draft document. Contact me if you require information or have a suggestion. Please also consider the rules that you believe should regulate the Association and its properties.

Cheers! **Bruce Waddell**

Dues Payment: Interac e-Transfer is available. The email to send it to is treasurer@sccatiny.org. No password or security phrase needed.

All invoices will now be numbered so you only have to reference the invoice number in the message. Please don't use the email used previously as we no longer have access to it and the payment will be refused.

We also accept cheques payable to "Sand Castle Community Association" (again, make reference to the invoice number) which can be sent to:

SCCA
9 Bluewater Court.
Tiny, ON L9M 0H2

Secretary-Treasurer Report:

Welcome to 2024. I wish I had good news for everyone, but this year will be difficult from a financial perspective. The main reason for this is the cost of our new Constitution. As Bruce as already elaborated, this exercise was not optional. We were required by the Ontario Government to update our Constitution to adhere to the new legislation or risk losing our not-for-profit Business Charter. In order to ensure that the new Constitution does adhere to the new legislation, we retained a Law Firm to go help us create the rough draft. This ended up costing the SCCA substantially more than was originally anticipated to the point where it ate up almost half of our annual revenue. Nevertheless, it is done and over with and we can get past this hit but will need to be careful with our expendi-

tures for this year. In light of the cost, I do hope everyone gives the new constitution the attention it deserves. We're all looking forward to comments and having it ratified at this year's AGM.

Arek Skibicki

Recreation Director Report:

Happy New 2024 Year, dear SCCA members!

Thanks to all of you who joined our events, volunteered and helped with building our community last year. In 2024 we again are planning a barbeque lunch for Park Cleanup volunteers in the Spring, our Annual BBQ in the Summer and

the Corn Boil following the AGM in August. Please check the event calendar in this newsletter and save the dates. We will also provide reminders in your mailbox and on our Facebook page! As always, if you have any suggestions on the recreational events during winter, please reach out to me or another board member.

Warm wishes for a wonderful winter to everyone.

Catherine Rutgaizer

**Parks Director Report:**

Hello everyone!

It's that time of year again. I hope everyone is doing well.

Parks Clean Up this year is Saturday, May 4th. Meet at 10 am in the park of your choice, where Parks Wardens will coordinate activity in that park. The rain date is Saturday, May 11.

After many years, Bill Schumacher is resigning from the Park Warden role in Park 4. We extend our sincere thanks to Bill, his late wife Arlene, and his family for their service and dedication to the SCCA. Thank you especially for the maple tree forest and the wild flowers you see throughout Park 4. Frank Siriani will take over as Park 4 Warden this year.

As I say every year - park clean up never stops. Please continue picking up sticks and branches as you walk through the parks, and put them in neat piles. This makes it easier and quicker at clean up time. I hope to be renting a dumpster for parks clean so the parks clean up material will be deposited there. We no longer want to have large burn piles in the parks. As mentioned too, in Irina's message, please ensure you do not dump your yard waste or construction waste in the parks.

Enjoy the remainder of the Winter, and the beginning of Spring. See you at Parks clean up, and remember to contact me should you have any concerns.

Rick Benz



We are very lucky to live in a lovely area of Ontario, and it is rare to have properties with access to four parks, four beaches and a boat ramp to enjoy. More houses are being built in the SCCA, and more people are living here full time, which means that our communal areas are becoming busier than ever. Because each of us are partial owners of these areas, and share ownership with 140+ other families, it is important that we respect the area that we share with our neighbors. Please be considerate and respectful of our SCCA community and the beautiful nature we have available to enjoy. In order for us to fully enjoy our shared spaces, it is important for all of us to be aware of, and abide by the following rules for the parks, beaches and ramp:

SCCA shared properties are to be used only by members of the SCCA who have paid their annual dues on a timely basis. Your guests and renters may also use the property. SCCA Boat Ramp members must be present if guests or renters are using the boat ramp.

Fires and barbeques – are not allowed in the shared spaces. Please feel free to have picnics, but do not include foods that need to be cooked on site.

For fires that you have on your personal property, you must have a fire permit issued by Tiny Township. Please do not burn if the wind is blowing more than 20 kph. If there is a fire ban in the Township you cannot have a fire. Do not dispose of ashes in the parks as this is a fire hazard.

Beaches and Parks – please leave the beaches and parks at the end of your daily visit as you've found them. Do not leave any garbage, chairs, beach toys, kayaks, canoes etc. on the beach. There will be a portable toilet in Park 4 again, so please use it or your own homes when nature calls – do not use the beach as a toilet.

We had hoped to do a trial providing fixed kayak/canoe racks at the beaches, but our lawyers and insurer have ruled against it for liability reasons.

If you take your pet to the beaches or through the parks, please ensure they are leashed, and you clean up their waste.

If you choose to smoke on the beaches or in the parks, please be respectful of other SCCA members that are present. Please smoke a respectful distance from others and remove all cigarette butts when you leave.

Please remember that the beaches are shared, and relatively small, so for the enjoyment of all SCCA members, please be respectful and share the space.

Parks – do not dispose of your yard waste or leaves in the parks.

Motorized Vehicles – are not allowed in the parks/beaches. The only exception is SCCA vehicles which are required for parks cleanup, maintenance and security/patrols.

No camping – on shared property.

Loud music – please keep your volume to a low level.

*We thank you for adhering to these rules, **which apply to all homeowners, renters and guests.** You are responsible for any damage on shared property, whether it is caused by you, your guests, or your renters.*

Thank you for your adherence to these rules.

IMPORTANT TOWNSHIP CONTACTS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS & NEW FIREWORKS BY-LAW!

Tiny has a new fireworks by-law. Fireworks are now only allowed on Victoria Day, Canada Day, New Years' Eve and New Years' Day. If the weather is inclement on Victoria Day or Canada Day, fireworks can be set off on the next calendar day.

Fireworks are only to be used from dusk to 11 p.m, with them allowed from dusk to 1 a.m. only on New Year's Eve. Fireworks are not to be used when there is a fire ban or winds over 20 kmh. Do you need help on who to call with problems that may require: Township By-Law enforcement, garbage / recycling, OPP Assistance etc? Don't ignore the problem, call the relevant number below.

- Township Office / General Enquiries: 705-526-4204
- By-Law Officer: [24 hours] 705-526-4136
- For confidential complaints about burning during a fire ban, burning leaves, improper garbage disposal, disturbing/excessive noise.
- Animal Control : 705-549-2289 Recycling/Garbage Collection: 705-735-6901 or 1-800-263-3199
- For information about schedules and acceptable materials.
- OPP: Non-emergency: 1-888-310-1122

For confidential complaints concerning road safety - including speeding or reckless driving, snowmobiles, unlicensed ATV's and off-road/trail bikes on roads, disturbing/excessive noise, suspicious persons or activities, and other safety and security concerns.

- Emergency: Police/Fire/Ambulance: 911

