



April 22, 2024

Council, Township of Algonquin Highlands  
1130 North Shore Road,  
Algonquin Highlands, ON  
K0M 1S0

Council, Township of Minden Hills  
Box 359, 7 Milne Street,  
Minden, ON  
K0M 2K0

**Re: Loss of the Boat Ramp Facilities at Wedgewood Marina and  
The Need for a Public Boat Ramp to Service 3 Lake Chain**

We are writing to **urgently request** Algonquin Highlands and Minden Hills Council's assistance in ensuring that the current boat ramp at Wedgewood Marina, which has been operating and serving the community and county for many decades, remain in place until a permanent alternative is found.

More than 800 properties on the three-lake chain of Boshkung Lake, Little Boshkung Lake and Twelve Mile Lake rely on this boat ramp at Wedgewood Marina for their boating, fishing and summer activities, and have for over 60 years, either in addition to or when the boat ramp at Hwy 118 is not available.

The local tourism and hospitality industry relies completely on the use of these boat ramps for their guests who are visiting and spending time in or around the three-lake chain. The local marina, storage and service companies, who provide much needed boat launching and haul-out service to residents of the three-lake chain, use these boat ramps. Local governments and their agencies, including the OPP, MNR and MOE, require access through these two boat ramps to conduct their operations on the three-lake chain.

Since the current boat ramp at Hwy 118 at Little Boshkung is in urgent need of significant upgrading and dredging to allow it to be safely and effectively used when water levels are low, historically by late August, and during the busy summer period, we also urgently requesting that you take action, both individually and combined with the adjoining townships and, if required, the Province of Ontario, to ensure that these required upgrades and dredging are completed as quickly as possible.

This will need to be completed by late August, when residents and visitors to the three-lake chain start to remove their boats for the season, and as the Trent-Severn Waterway continues to draw down water to ensure that waterway remains open and safe for boaters.

It's very important to mention that there's also a significant concern that if residents are able to launch their boats this Spring, they may NOT be able to take them out at the end of the season, especially after Labour Day when the water levels are very low and the ramp at Hwy 118 will be unsuitable and/or inaccessible.

If the boat ramp at Hwy 118 is inadequate going forward, a new boat ramp site needs to be acquired as quickly as possible. We believe the Twin Lakes Resort site, where the construction barge was launched to upgrade the Twelve Mile dam, warrants serious consideration as we understand this is County-owned shoreline allowance land. Alternatively, another site that could be utilized in such a fashion is requested. **Time is of the essence.**

We hope that the above requests will receive your immediate attention and urgent action, since the loss of the boat ramp at Wedgewood Marina and poor condition of the boat ramp at Hwy 118 will cause irreparable harm to residents, businesses and others that have come to rely on them until adequate corrective action is taken.

Please let us know your action plan as soon as possible so we may advise our members.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Steele,  
President, BLPOA  
Boshkung Lake Property Owners' Association

Stuart Smith,  
President, TMLB  
Twelve Mile/Little Boshkung  
Lakes Association

CC: Liz Danielsen – Algonquin Highlands  
Ivan Ingram – Minden Hills  
Angie Bird – Algonquin Highlands  
Shirley Johannessen – Minden Hills  
Vicki Woods – BLPOA  
Arthur Lee – BLPOA  
Dan Jakubowicz – BLPOA  
Leslie Haller – BLPOA

Bob Carter – Minden Hills  
Chris Card – Algonquin Highlands  
Cynthia Fletcher – Minden Hills  
Karen Kirk - TMLB  
Lisa Tompkins - TMLB  
Jonathan Ginou - TMLB  
Jim Colson – TMLB  
Lorraine Gilmour – TMLB