



Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

FOCA - Elert

January 2012

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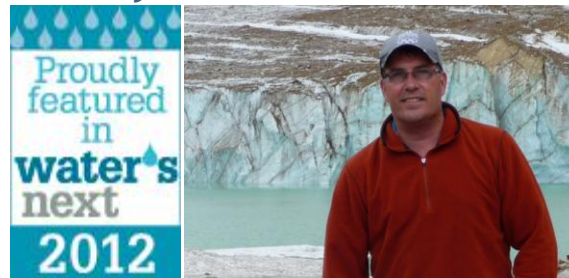
More about FOCA Programs

Read past FOCA Elerts

**The Benefits of FOCA
Membership**

Join FOCA

Terry Rees receives Honour



FOCA is very proud to announce that Terry Rees, FOCA's Executive Director has been honoured by Water Canada magazine.

Terry was selected as a person representing Canadian water excellence and who is making a difference, in the 2nd-annual *Water's Next*.

"If we want to have a thriving economy and a healthy population," Terry is quoted, "we need to be proactive with our water."

[Read more about Terry and this honour...](#)

~

The Board of Directors, staff and membership of FOCA extend huge congratulations to Terry!

Biodiversity: A Commitment and An Obligation



Waterfront property owners are important stakeholders in the health of Ontario's biodiversity, and [Protecting What Sustains Us](#).

As members of the **Ontario Biodiversity Council**, FOCA forwards this update from the OBC in response to the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario's report, "Biodiversity: A Nation's Commitment, An Obligation for Ontario."

[Read the news release..](#)

"Wow, FOCA, you don't look a day over 39..."

2012 marks the beginning of FOCA's 50th year of operations!

How it all began... In January of 1963, 125 people representing 40 cottage associations met in a Toronto hotel, and decided that the time was right to form a provincial association - and FOCA was born.

Today... FOCA has 500 member associations representing 50,000 families across Ontario. FOCA is a non-profit, voluntary organization dedicated to supporting the interests of waterfront property owners.



Join with us in celebrating this milestone.

Watch the FOCA website for anniversary celebration details: www.foca.on.ca and "Like" us on [Facebook](#) to keep up-to-date on all our breaking news.

What's on our Wish List?

You can help FOCA any time of year, by [becoming a member](#) or [making a special donation](#) to support our ongoing work.

Save the Date: FOCA's Annual General Meeting Saturday, March 3rd, 2012



Mark your calendar for the FOCA Annual General Meeting:
March 3rd, 2012.

Plan to join us for a day of updates and networking.

Associations: assign a voting member who can attend on your behalf.

FOCA's Board of Directors will report on new and renewed objectives resulting from the Strategic Planning process of the past six months.

The meeting Agenda, speakers and location details will follow soon.
For now, just save the date!

[Click here to link to presentations from past FOCA Events.](#)

Calling All Historians...

We need your help with FOCA's 50th anniversary celebrations this year:

- 1) Please help us to track down the people on your lake who have been involved with FOCA over the years. **Tell us** about the oldest families still there, or the folks who are gone but not forgotten. When did your association first form? Are any of the original members still involved? We'd love to hear your stories of the past 50 years.
- 2) Send us copies of your **old photos** capturing the "highs" and "lows" of your family's waterfront experience from the 1960s onward. We hope to work up an image gallery to share online!



Michelle of FOCA (far right) at Picnic Point on Lake Solitaire, 1970s

- 3) Make sure we have UPDATED contact information (mail and email) for each of your Association executives so that you will **receive notice** of our anniversary celebrations.

Forward pictures, stories and contacts to us as soon as possible
communications@foca.on.ca or by mail:
FOCA, #201 - 159 King St., Peterborough ON K9J 2R8

In Other News

~**Earth Day Canada** - the deadline for applications to the Community Environment Fund is February 28, 2012. [Click here for details...](#)

~**Emerald Ash Borer**: the pest has reached [Manitoulin Island](#), [Ottawa](#) and [York Region](#) and is reported to be [approaching Simcoe County](#) (Click each word for links to recent local news stories.)

~**American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts**, a U.S. Charity, announced it has received its first 2 gifts of conservation property, one of which is in Ontario. [Read the press release...](#)

~Environment Canada invites comments on a proposed recovery strategy for a small member of the heron family, **Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*), a species at risk. The public comment period has been extended until March 19, 2012. [Click here for more info...](#)

~**Cottage Dreams** announces the "**Casino Royale Gala**," an evening of gambling, dancing, cocktails and shopping, on Saturday, February 25, 2012. Get tickets online! [Get details..](#)



Emerald Ash Borer - click image for info



Least Bittern

Association Members - We're counting on you to share this email with everyone in your association membership!
REMEMBER: Send this message onward **safely** with a click:



*** FOCA encourages everyone to join their local Association. ***
In turn, we encourage those groups to be members of FOCA.
Individual and corporate support is also welcomed.

Not yet a FOCA member? JOIN US TODAY.

Support our work to protect Ontario's waterfront.

click to
join
FOCA

Your lake. Your lifestyle. Your legacy.

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