

The Kahshe Krier

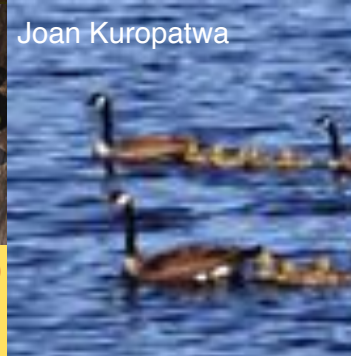


Official newsletter of the KLRA
 Published 3 times a year
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Summer/Fall 2014



The Summer in Pictures- 2014



THE 4TH ANNUAL KLRA PHOTO CONTEST
 Judges: Randy Craig, MissyMandel

Where to find it

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Hard copies of this edition of the Krier are being printed in full colour. If you, as an e-newsletter recipient, would like to receive one of the limited number of extra hard copies, contact me at keithonkajshe@bell.net **asap**. First come, first served!

The Municipal Elections - October 27, 2014

The KLRA does not endorse any of the candidates in the upcoming municipal elections, but we do encourage you to exercise your right to vote. To help you to decide who to vote for, we asked each of the candidates named below to tell us why we should vote for him or her in 250 words or less.

Mayor (choose ONE candidate), - Paisley Donaldson*, Gordie Merton*

Ward 3 (choose ONE candidate) - Bob Colhoun, Dave Pinder

Ward 4 (choose ONE candidate) - Randy Jorgensen, John S. Wilson

District (choose THREE) - Rosemary King, Sandy Cairns, Sylvia Purdon, Paul Kelly, Terry Pilger*, Mark Clairmont*

Here are the responses we received:

* see pages 11 and 13

Ward 3

Bob Colhoun

Judy and I have been permanent residents in our community since 1995. During this time I have served for seventeen years at either the local or regional levels of government. I have endeavoured to represent our ward in a fair and judicious manner. As a supporter of the K.L.R. Association I am very aware of such issues as water quality, garbage collection and local environmental concerns pertaining to Kahshe Lake. Also, I am aware there is petition being circulated regarding the South Kahshe Lake Road spring flooding; I would be willing to explore different avenues to solve this problem.

As a councillor, I have always been a strong proponent for the expansion of our Centennial Centre in its pursuit of meeting the needs of all the age groups in our community. As a senior citizen, myself, it is a pleasure to serve as the council liaison with our very active seniors club, which has over 600 members.

In summary, I have always tried to base my council decisions on factual information and ratepayers input. In the latter regard I require and appreciate your assistance, both as an Association and as individuals. I firmly believe that only by working together can we be assured that our community develops in a manner which will benefit all of us. I intend to pursue such goals and would like to count on your support.

Sincerely

Bob Calhoun

Dave Pinder

The time has come for a fresh new face to represent Ward 3. On Sept 4th the Gravenhurst Banner wrote: "The current council is unapproachable. Council is scaring people off of giving input. The public doesn't feel as if their ideas are welcome"

I want to change this! I want the constituents of Ward 3 to allow me to be their "Voice beyond the gates!"

My name is Dave Pinder, I'm 48 years old and a long time resident of the Ward 3 area. My wife Karen and daughter Madison support me 100% in running for your Council representative. Let me be "Your voice beyond the Gates" I bring a fresh energy and I am passionate about Gravenhurst - Ward 3. We have a lot to be proud of.

My business background and business / personal experiences have taught me what a significant impact we can have.

I want Ward 3 to have a voice. • I want Ward 3 to have a strong impact and involvement. • Lets keep the momentum going! • I am here to act for you, as your councillor for Ward 3.

I would love the opportunity to be your voice.

Let's talk! Call me @ 705-327-9515

Thank you for your support.

Dave Pinder

Ward 4

Randy Jorgensen Did not respond.

John S. Wilson Did not respond.

District of Muskoka

Terry Pilger Response appears on page 11.

Sandy Cairns Did not respond.

District of Muskoka

Sylvia Purdon

District Government was brought in to modernize the delivery of municipal services in Muskoka and implement up-to-date environment and planning standards. I am running again for the position of Muskoka District Councillor in order to look at how much District Government is costing each household, to see how we can streamline and improve performance standards throughout the area and to find new, innovative ways to manage.

Muskoka is a fully modern municipality with state of the art sewage and water treatment plants, environmentally safe land use planning, clean lakes and rivers, year round recreational programs and facilities, and excellent child care and education.

But overlapping services between Town and District, despite attempts to coordinate the systems, are costing money and we need to give a hard look at how this impacts homeowners in beautiful Muskoka.

My long and fruitful experience on District and Town of Gravenhurst Councils provides me with exceptional insight into the root causes of these issues. I have a Diploma from Queen's University in Municipal Government, and worked for years as a Community Economic Development officer in Muskoka. I retired for a few years and used that time traveling extensively to see how the rest of the world lives visiting the South Pacific, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Places like Melbourne have a lot to teach us about successful communities.

My main interest is your neighbourhood, your lake, your experience in Gravenhurst and Muskoka.

If you vote for me on October 27, I will work diligently and pro-actively on your behalf.

Sylvia Purdon

sylviapurdon5@gmail.com

Paul Kelly

Muskoka has been a part of my life since my family built a cottage here in 1957. Following a career in the education field spanning some 40 years, we made our permanent home on Morrison Lake in 2007. After becoming a permanent resident, I have taken a leadership role as the Chair of the Gravenhurst Environmental Advisory Committee.

I strongly believe that if future generations are to inherit an economically and environmentally secure Muskoka, we must protect our water and land, provide sufficient affordable housing, support jobs in the new economy and have government that is open, transparent and listens to its residents.

As your District Councillor, I will be committed to:

- The creation of a **Vision** with a long term **Sustainability Plan**. A plan that is in front of Council at every meeting and is considered in every decision
- Regular, open and two-way **communications** with all residents and all of the time
- Taking a hard look at ways to **control spending, debt and duplication of services**
- Paying significant attention and effort toward the **protection** of our water and forests
- Creating and managing a **sustainable** community with honest, open actions **advancing** our Economic, Social, Environmental and Cultural foundations
- A positive Can Do attitude

Let us start by *Protecting Today and Planning for Our Future*.

I would like to hear from you. What are your concerns and priorities? For more information, or to share your thoughts, please e-mail kellysp@sympatico.ca, phone [705 687 5605](tel:705-687-5605) or go to www.paulkelly.ca

Paul Kelly

Rosemary King

First of all, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed the past four years representing the people of Gravenhurst, and the District of Muskoka. I ran four years ago because I knew I had skill sets that would serve political life well.

Beginning with active listening then comprehensive understanding and finally making appropriate decisions for all concerned based on process and facts, and yes, the "decision" part can sometimes be contentious with not all stakeholders necessarily agreeing. For me, it's about the process based on policies and bylaws. Making correct and defensible decisions is about following process. I am standing for re-election as a Gravenhurst District Councillor because, simply put, I would like to continue the job I started 4 years ago. Budget commitments and programs were started but still need careful and thoughtful stewardship to see them to the end. The Downtown Revitalization Committee is just one example of these programs.

In summary, I could have talked about taxes, levies, services, budgets, economic development etc. and yes, these are important issues and always will be, but I do think that willingness to co-operate, to listen, to act and have that passion for public service are just as important, and are determining factors of great leadership. Thank you.

Rosemary King

Gravenhurst District Councillor

Looking after the Lake

Benthic Invertebrate Monitoring - 2014

Monitoring bottom-dwelling aquatic invertebrate communities on Kahshe Lake has been carried out by the District Municipality of Muskoka (DMM) since 2003. This type of monitoring provides an indirect measure of water quality and habitat disturbance, as different species have different sensitivities to environmental changes such as pollution or habitat alteration.



This year, the sampling was carried out on August 21 at Site 2 (see the 2013 Lake Steward report). Once sediment (bottom mud) was collected by DMM biotechnician Dylan Moesker, volunteers from Kahshe Lake (Clare Henderson and his sons Scott and Paul and grandson Alex, Toby Fletcher, Nancy Purkis and her grandson Finn, Alex and Joan Milburn and Miranda Virtanen from the Georgian Bay Turtle Hospital) got to work counting them on the Pearson cottage deck. My wife Gail kept the



coffee flowing and organized a great lunch (compliments of the KLRA) for everyone when the counting was done.

The DMM will provide me with the results of the counting and they will be incorporated into the 2014 Lake Steward Report. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made this year's count a success.

In addition to the benthic counting, I've attended two Muskoka Watershed Council seminars this summer. One was to familiarize Lake Stewards with invasive species and the other dealt with current research on total phosphorus as it relates to algal blooms. I'll provide additional details on these in the 2014 Lake Steward report.

Ron Pearson -KLRA Lake Steward



Rock Markers

Randy Craig
Barry Elder
Roger Playter
Tim Ottaway
Ron Roberts
John Mertl
Fred Hughes



HaulAwayDay

This summer, for the first time, the KLRA offered its members an opportunity not only to rid their properties of unwanted and unsightly items, but to set an example for younger generations on the importance of contributing to a cleaner environment.

The initiative started on Monday, July 28th, and continued throughout Monday, August 4th, with a total of 28 participating members. Although this number may seem inconsequential, the amount of waste collected was anything but: three 40-yard bins filled with everything from appliances to construction waste to plastic palm trees. This effort would not have been possible without Troy Hutchinson of Kahshe Barge Services, who donated 26 hours of time, fuel and barge usage to collect the items; and Dennis and Judy Ring who donated a large section of their property to house the dumpsters and extra equipment used by Kahshe Barge.

Given the overwhelmingly positive feedback from this year's participants, and the number of members who missed the opportunity to participate, we fully intend to repeat this service again next year. Our aim will be to: increase the number of water and road access participants, as well as solicit HaulAwayDay sponsorship from local vendors. Both the Rings and Kahshe Barge Services are already onboard to volunteer their services again next year.

(Unfortunately we have no pictures of this event. If any of you do have pictures, please send them to me to be used to promote next year's HAD. Ed)

Snakes and Adders, by Rob Abbott (Conservation Committee)

There are no poisonous, rabid, or even mildly dangerous snakes in the Kahshe and Bass lakes area. Before you accuse me of being unable to differentiate between my elbow and my asp, yes, there are Massasauga Rattle snakes in Muskoka, but not east of Highway 11. Regardless of what Uncle Frank claims to have killed on the path to the outhouse, it wasn't a rattler. Chances are it was an Eastern Hog-nosed Snake. These most thespian of reptiles will emulate more formidable species when threatened in the hope that attackers are not herpetologists and that they can be fooled by a tail twitching in dry leaves, by a raised head and by spreading a cobra-like neck (which is why they are sometimes referred to as Puff-Adders). If all else fails, they will take their final curtain, roll over and play dead. Sadly, these once common creatures are now a rare sight in this area and have become an official Threatened Species.

Similarly, that wasn't a deadly Water Moccasin or Copperhead, or Cottonmouth that Cousin Gord saved the children from on the beach; it was likely a tiny-toothed Northern Watersnake, as dangerous as a Nerf dart.

Kermit may kvetch ungrammatically that it "ain't easy being green", but it's a lot easier than being legless in loon-land. Culturally, snakes are represented as Eden evictors, Egyptian Queen dispatchers, and Indiana Jones' kryptonite. Consequently, as if natural predators, habitat loss, predation by pets, mower mincing, and Firestone flattening weren't enough, many human/snake encounters end with a shovel or an axe. Until Disney casts a snake as the hero or as a Thumper-like sidekick in an anthropomorphic animated feature, it's unrealistic to expect that most of us (or any of us!) will get over our visceral fear and loathing of snakes.

Snakes in Muskoka that are classed as Species at Risk include Ribbon, Milk, and Fox snakes. Identifying these snakes is difficult even with an illustrated field guide or an internet connection, since there are so many local and regional variations in colour and pattern (see the 3 Hognosed snakes above). There are **NO** snake species whose population numbers are too high. So if it's legless, long and slithery, there is **absolutely no** reason to kill it!



Eastern Hognosed snakes



Ribbon Snake



Milk Snake



Fox Snake



Coming soon - Multiple e-mail Addresses per Member



We have been asked to support multiple e-mail addresses per membership, and will soon be able to do so and will email you with instructions on how to set it up for your family as soon as the system is ready.

If you have an e-mail address but are not presently receiving e-mails from us (you should have received several "e-blasts" from us this summer), please let us know your e-address. If you have recently changed it, send your new one to myemail@kahshelake.ca.

Housey's Rapids Picnic - July 20, 2014



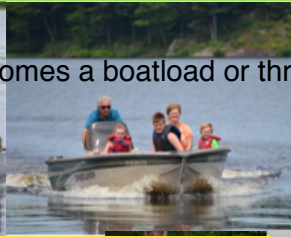
Some work



and some don't!



And here comes a boatload or three of ... trouble!



Over ninety people came out to enjoy a beautiful summer's day for the 53rd Annual Picnic. Shawn Corbett and the Houlbergs set things up, Gwen Hems wowed them at the Craft Table, Gord White and Tien Bui cooked up a storm, Belinda Sutherland and crew ran the kids' games, Alison Price and Matt Barker ran the Horseshoes Tournament, Nancy Corbett and Wendy Houlberg sold millions of Raffle tickets, John and Joan Kuropatwa sold tons of gear at the Boutique, Janis Ryan took these pictures and 724 others(!), Keith Price made a general nuisance of himself, as usual, and the turtles stole the show! Oh, and Cathy Dunphy broke a horseshoe! Our thanks to **The Opera House, Sobey's, Cottage Life, Muskoka Springs, Muskoka Meats, Home Hardware (Washago), TimBrMart (Washago), TimBrMart (Gravenhurst), Giant Tiger, Independent (Gravenhurst), The Gravenhurst Fire Department and the OPP.**

Competition Results

Swimming

- Small
 - 1. Morgan
 - 2. Gord
- Medium
 - 1. Sebastian
 - 2. Madison
 - 3. Max
- Large
 - 1. Carson
 - 2. Aiden

Egg and Spoon

- Small
 - 1. Olivia
 - 2. Madeleine
 - 3. Morgan
- Medium
 - 1. Noah
 - 2. Ronin
 - 3. Gavin
- Large
 - 1. Sebastian
 - 2. Aidan
 - 3. Carson

3-Legged Race

- Race 1
 - 1. Grace & Madison
 - 2. Aidan & Ron
 - 3. Yvonne & Sebastian
- Race 2
 - 1. Cathan & Carson
 - 2. Noah & Matt
 - 3. Hilary & Erin

Pillow Case Race

- Medium
 - 1=. Madison
 - 1=. Sebastian
 - 2. Noah
 - 3. Hilary
- Large
 - 1. Cathan
 - 2. Carter
 - 3. Ron

Also ran/stumbled/fell Keith

Balloon Toss

- Toss 1
 - 1. Riley & Emma
 - 2. Natalie & Kevin
 - 3=Jenelle & Nicole
 - 3=Carter & Nancy
- Toss 2
 - 1. Patrick & Erny
 - 2. Grace & Madison
 - 3. Jenelle & Nicole



Horseshoe Tournament
 Derek Houlberg & Brendan Doyle
1st Winners of the Cathy Dunphy Broken Horseshoe Trophy
 Runners-up
 Wes & Janis Ryan
Trophy made by Donna Sutherland





The Kermit Long Kids' Fishing Derby — July 26, 2014

The Fishing Derby was run for 50 years by Kermit Long himself, then by cottagers at the east end of Kahshe Lake, and now by Kermit's son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Karen Long, on behalf of the KLRA.

It was an overcast day -- great for fishing! A new category was open this year for ages 13-16. The one prize was a first place trophy which was won by Keaton Appleton for his 23 3/8 inch pike.

There are 3 permanent trophies for the 3 largest fish caught by those 12 years and under. KC Long, Kermit's great grandson, caught the largest fish, a 23 5/8 inch pike. Second prize went to Seth McAulay with a 22 inch pike and third was won by Carson DeForest with a 14 1/4 inch large mouth bass.

For the other categories, first place winners received a personal trophy, 2nd place winners received \$7 and third received \$5. In addition, every child's first fish earned him a toonie.

And the winners were

Sunfish	1. Carson DeForest, 7 5/8 in	Largemouth Bass	1. Carson DeForest 14 1/4 in
	2. Aiden Sauve, 6 3/4 in		2. KC Long 12 1/8 in
	3. Rowan Lake 5 7/8 in		3. Curtis DelRe 11 in
Perch	1. Marcus Selva 6 7/8 in	Smallmouth Bass	1. Aiden Sauve 14 in
	2=Vivian Logie 6 3/4 in		2. Matthew Croker 13 7/8 in
	2=Aaron Lake 6 3/4 in		3. Adam Lundy 13 3/4 in
	3. Aiden Sauve 6 1/2 in	Pike	1. KC Long 23 5/8 in
Rock Bass	1. Ryan Richardson 7 in		2. Seth McAulay 22 in
	2. Cameron Davies 6 3/4 in		
	3. Troy P. 6 1/4 in		

Two "Special" Awards:

Jackson Long, 18 months old for being the **Tiniest Angler**.

Adam Lundy for his **16 ft. monofilament snag**.



Carson DeForest

K.C.Long



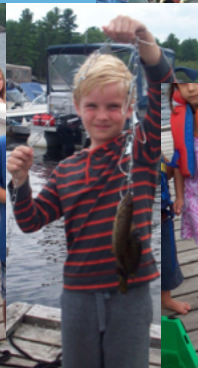
Carson DeForest



Seth McAulay



Keaton Appleton



Adam Lundy



Sophia Logie

The committee, Ken and Karen Long, Toivo Madrus, Sandra Moad and Cathann DeForest, thank those who helped record the more than 80 fish entered. All were released alive.

Go fishing next year -- join the fun.

The Regatta - August 16, 2014

LET THE RACES BEGIN..



.. AND END!



What goes up often comes down!



Scott Dunlop and Steve Wild John and Joan Kuropatwa Judy Henderson

Ryde 135 Parade - August 16, 2014



André Fingerle



Part of the Official KLRA Canoe "Floatilla"

Note the 2 birch bark canoes ↑



Float organiser Bill Irwin

The rest of the "Floatilla" ↑



Annual General Meeting

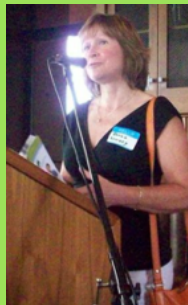
The Annual General Meeting of the KLRA was once again held at the beautiful Muskoka Bay Club on North Muldrew Lake Road in Gravenhurst. Over 90 members attended a lively and interesting meeting, with a town update from the Mayor, Paisley Donaldson, and our 2 Councillors, Randy Jorgensen and Joe Donaghue, and a presentation by Nurse Practitioner, Donna Kearney about rural health centres in Muskoka. The Officers of the KLRA reported on the Financial position of the Association, the proposed budget for the coming year, the appointment of auditors for 2013-2015, the association's priorities for 2014-2015, and the quality of the lake.



Mayor Donaldson and Councillors Jorgensen and Donoghue spoke briefly and answered prepared questions and also a couple of questions from the floor.

One of the highlights of the morning was the presentation of the “**Outstanding Volunteer Award**” which, this year, went to **Clare Henderson**,

our long-standing and extremely hard-working **website manager**, who also contributes as a member of the **Communication, Outreach and Membership Committee (COM Com)** and of the **Conservation Committee**. He was the editor and driving force behind the first two (sold out) editions of **The Healing**



Waters of Kahshe, a history of our lake and community and an extraordinary achievement. He is still compiling and collecting stories for the on-line editions of **The Healing Waters**. He was very involved with the **Lake Plan**, he made the **Photo Contest** happen, and has already agreed to work on the **Kahshe Kalendar**.

The final speaker was Donna Kearney who gave a very informative and encouraging resume of the status of the proposed establishment of Nursing Stations in various locations in Muskoka.



President John Mertl with Outstanding Volunteer Clare Henderson

The Kahshe Country Crafts Show



The show will be donating \$3000 to the OPP Canine Unit this year and \$150 to the Gravenhurst Fire Department for their smoke detector program.

Dennis and I appreciate all the support the cottagers give us with the show but we need many more volunteers. Volunteering can be as little as you can give or jumping into the whole preparation. We need people to distribute flyers (even if it's just to your neighbours), to bake goodies, to help with the bbq (cooking and serving), to organize the raffle and silent auction items, to sell raffle tickets, to set up tables, to direct traffic, to entertain or MC ing (even for 1 hour). Please think about what you could do and contact us at rockhaven@bellnet.ca. Thanks. We are also looking for ideas to revamp some areas of the show. We're are hoping to have a meeting with interested parties in the very near future. If you have any comments or wish to attend, please email us.



Judy Ring

IN MEMORIAM

George William Mills (1925 – 2014)

It is with great sadness that the family of George William Mills (better known to everyone as “Old George”) announces his death on July 6 2014. To his wife, Margaret, he was the love of her life; to his children, Suzanne, Mary, Tep, George and Janet, he was the epitome of patience, love and caring; to his grandchildren, Brooke, Bryan, Courtney, Whitney, Tyler, Michelle, Brianne and Maggie, he was the fun-loving Papa who was never too busy for a game of cards, a swim or a great story ; and to his great- grandchildren, Owen, Landon, Tenley, Peyton and Gracie, he will always be remembered as “Old Papa”. As all of his family married, Old George welcomed their spouses with enthusiasm and love. George came to Kahshe Lake over seventy years ago to convince Margaret Kehl to wait for him when he returned from the navy in WW2. Following the war, they were married and built their own cottage on the Kehl compound beside Denne’s dock road. In this tiny cottage they raised their children and entertained all of their friends. Old George loved his summers at Kahshe Lake, and a successful career in education made his dream possible. Fishing, playing cards, horseshoes, spending time with the Kehl clan, Francis and Heaps families and all of their friends made summers at Kahshe Lake idyllic. Following retirement, George and Marg moved to their cottage in Grant’s Bay, and enjoyed many years with their family and friends. He will be missed by many. A Celebration of Life will be held at St. George’s Golf Club in Etobicoke on October 25 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.



District of Muskoka (cont)

Terry Pilger Although I am not presently a sitting council member, I believe that I can put my years of experience on Gravenhurst and District of Muskoka councils and in business to good use over the next four years. I am going to highlight a few of my ideas.

The taxes you pay do not reflect the services you get; we need to find ways to ease the tax burden; we need to build a stronger Gravenhurst and Muskoka Economy with a goal of further spreading the tax load; we need a greater focus on economic development in Gravenhurst; we also need to examine any potential duplication of services at the Town and District levels. Gravenhurst and Muskoka need to find a creative way to assist residents to dispose of large items... getting them to the landfill and/or recycling depot as an ongoing program.

Concerns about the vulnerability of water-access-only property owners on Kahshe Lake require that the town should have a strategy in place in the event that present facilities cease to exist

In my previous terms on council, I was found to have a reputation for hard work and dedication. I am a good listener who acts quickly on matters brought forward. I will return your phone calls and emails.

Feel free to contact me at terry@terrypilger.com and visit my website www.terrypilger.com for more information. I look forward to serving you once again.

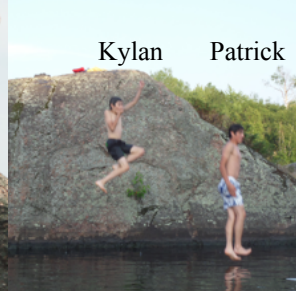
Terry P. Pilger

Kids having fun on Kahshe

(Left to right) Noelle, Cameron, Sophie, Olivia, Faith and Maya



Kylan Patrick



Alex, Vanessa, Shannon, Brady and Hilary with Alanna-Marie supervising!



Alanna-Marie



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The Elections *[Two candidates submitted their candidacies at the last minute; Gordie Merton for Mayor on Wednesday and Mark Clairmont for District of Muskoka on Friday. Since the Krier was ready to go to print by that time, this extra page has been added in order to give these two gentlemen plus incumbent mayer, Paisley Donaldson, the opportunity to submit their 250 words. Ed]*

District of Muskoka (cont) (choose 3)

Mark Clairmont I am an editor with the Hamilton Spectator and I also run the MuskokaTODAILY.com web newspaper. Prior to being a mayoralty candidate in 2010, I had served as a Town or District Councillor from 2003-2010. During this period significant progress was made at Harvie Street and Pineridge Gate, updating retail and tourism and morphing the "old town" into a 21st century community to attract new retirees and seasonal residents who could blend work and play. That's my legacy on council. I believe that Gravenhurst/Muskoka should be a natural oasis with wireless jobs at its core to counter needless debt/taxes – while banning polluting billboards along Hwy. 11. Key challenges at the District level include health care delivery, policing costs, debt and governance structure. Gravenhurst has to be more proactive in selling itself to the GTA business world and to bright and aggressive boomers looking for new opportunities to create new lives for their families. This means wise planning, bold thinking, some short-term risk-taking, and showing we will be a liveable, working community. The Gateway to Muskoka's assets are legendary – and to take advantage of our beauty and bounty of caring and responsible deep thinkers, we must encourage the stakeholders in our community to use their resources to build the kind of Gravenhurst we all want. I want to be a strong advocate and champion of Gravenhurst at the competitive District table – and continue the exciting results I was part of from 2003-2010. Email me at mark@muskokatodaily.com

Mark Clairmont Gravenhurst District Councillor

Mayorality

Paisley Donaldson

It has been a privilege for me to serve the citizens of Gravenhurst as Mayor for these past four years, and I am committed to continue leading the positive change that is making Gravenhurst a better place. As a Council we have created a more open and transparent municipal government. We have successfully nurtured positive and supportive relationships with our many partners. I am proud of the priority placed on managing growth in a manner that balances the protection of our unique and sensitive environment with our need to grow and prosper as a community. I will continue our commitment to ensure docks and landings are accessible and maintained. The septic re-inspection program has been in operation for eight years and I will continue to support this important initiative. I will introduce a budget proposal for a large item pick up day for our community. As a Council we purchased a new tanker fire truck for Station 2 and this commitment to our Fire Service will continue as we acquire new and better personal breathing equipment for our fire fighters. Council will bring sustainable growth to our community while ensuring that the protection of the environment remains a priority. I will continue our commitment to the revitalization of our downtown. And we will work with various partners to develop a high-speed, fibre-optic connection in appropriate areas of our town. I am committed to ensuring our town becomes the best it can be. I need your support so that I may serve our community over the next four years.

Paisley Donaldson Mayor of Gravenhurst

Gordie Merton

Hello. My name is Gordie Merton. I am a 23 year old young man who, for the past 7 years, has been a strong and independent voice for disabled people and low income people living in Muskoka. One of the biggest projects that I have contributed to was helping to bring Bill 179 to the floor in Queens Park, a Bill designed to bring transparency and accountability to the Children's Aid Society of Muskoka. My Platform is simple. I want to bring a positive change to Gravenhurst. I wish to create transparency and accountability in the local government of Gravenhurst, and to restore the faith and trust between the local councillors and the residents of the town. I may be young, but I am willing and able to listen to people's concerns and to work to find solutions for them, and I am ready to take a stand for our community and town.

Gordie Merton