

Information Byway



NORTH WESTERN ONTARIO
TOURISM ASSOCIATION

www.nwota.com

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BORDER UPDATE

NWOTA working together with KDCA, NOACC, NOMA and NODN have developed two forms of communications. Both are an attempt to take the monkey off the operators back to inform guests about issues such as DWI's and other border crossing issues that could put our guests in an embarrassing position.

Millions of dollars are spent to get guests to Ontario but nothing is spent to inform visitors of what is required to cross the border. Some have faced a rude awakening when CBSA runs a background check on them.

The Q & A is available to all operators and the website www.canadawelcomesyou.net should be given to all potential customers. The Q & A could be sent out with all correspondence with your customers and the website could be published in your advertising piece and linked from your website.

RBT Strategic Planning meeting for NW Ontario

The June 27th Strategic Planning meeting had to be cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date.

Dates to mark on your calendar:

Monthly NWOTA Meetings

**October 7, ANNUAL FALL MEETING,
(Fort Frances Curling Club, Fort Frances)**

November 2-5, Annual NOTO Convention

December 1st, at 12:00 noon, Emo Inn, Emo, ON

NOTO'S 2005

Nature & Outdoor Tourism Conference

Conference will be held in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario on November 2nd to 5th at the Best Western Great Northern. Join us for a full agenda packed with lots of good hands on workshops, industry research, a Fishing Symposium, marketing sessions, the Allied Trade Show, the NOTO AGM and an excellent opportunity to sit and relax with your colleagues after a long hard season. Complete registration packages will be arriving soon. This is an election year for the NOTO Board of Directors. Come join the team. Watch for your nomination form coming soon by email, fax and/or mail.

AKRC Update

Submitted by Bob & Peg Hunger

NWOTA has not been asked to attend meetings over the summer. However, we are aware of a number of worthwhile activities that the organization has underway involving fisheries, community involvement and forest management.

MNR ASSESSMENT UNIT

In times of budget cuts, it would be a tragedy to lose the information from the atlas and creel survey provides on major water bodies.

If you have a cabin that is not being used and would like to help the assessment unit, call Tom Mosindy, Kenora MNR at (807)468-2609.

FREE Marketing Opportunities with Ontario Tourism

Submitted by Sunset Country Travel Association

The Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership (OTMP) has FREE website listing opportunities available to tourist outfitters on their Angling, Outdoor and Snowmobile websites. All you have to do is contact the following individuals and they'll send you a form to fill out and list your package.

For the Angling and Snowmobile Websites contact:
Julie Larstone at (705)945-6578 or email
Julie.Larstone@mtr.gov.on.ca.

For the Outdoor Website contact Kendra Adema at
(705)755-2609 or email
Kendra.Adema@mtr.gov.on.ca.

North Western Ontario Tourism Association 2005 Annual Fall Meeting

*Friday, October 7, 2005
Fort Frances Curling Club
300 Eighth St.
Fort Frances, Ontario*



AGENDA

8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast – Sponsored by Fort Frances Times Printing
8:30 AM	General Meeting – for NWOTA members Minutes – Sept 1 st meeting Financial Report Membership Report Committee Reviews Economic Impact Study Resource-Based Tourism Licensing Hunting Committee Deer Management Review Border Crossing Update NWOTA/KDCA Joint Meeting Members Concerns
9:45 AM	Coffee Break - Sponsored by Emo Inn & North Air Taxi
10:00 AM	Mayor Dan Onichuk, Town of Fort Frances
10:15 AM	Margot Booth, TIAC Update; passport issue
10:45 AM	Iain Mettam, MNR, Update LUP meeting in Ignace
11:15 AM	Sheila Larmer, MTR Policy and Research Update
11:45 AM	Ken Boshcoff, MP Thunder Bay-Rainy River
12:00 AM	Lunch – Sponsored by Kaemingh Fuels Ltd, ESSO
1:00 PM	Doug Reynolds, NOTO update
1:30 PM	Jim Grayston, OTMP update, passport policy
2:00 PM	Frank Bastone, MNDM, NOHFC's Small Business Energy Conservation Program
2:30 PM	Harald Lohn, KDCA update
2:50 PM	Howard Hampton, MPP Kenora-Rainy River
3:05 PM	Coffee Break – Sponsored by Cloverleaf Shop-Easy
3:20 PM	Fred Hall & Bill Darby - Kenora-Fort Frances MNR update
4:00 PM	Meeting Wrap up
5:30 PM	Social Hour
6:30 PM	Dinner - Dinner Wine – Sponsored by Gillons' Insurance Brokers
8:00 PM	Presentations
8:30 PM	Dance – Live band "North of the Trax"

Update on the Passport for US citizens to reenter the US.

On April 5 of this year, the U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security announced the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), which will require all travelers to and from the Americas, including the United States, Canada and Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda, Central and South America to carry a passport

Shortly after Bush ordered a review of his administrations plans to require passports.

On **September 1st, 2005** the US government published a notice in the federal register outlining a new timetable and what documents could be used in lieu of passports.

The three step implementation process announced in April has be reduced to a two. Rules require a passport or proper identification (finger print and biometric information), not yet determined or specified.

- December 31, 2006, all travelers to the US by Air or Sea.
- December 31 2007, all travelers to US.

This information is available on the TIAC web site,
<http://www.tiac-aitc.ca/english/customsandborders.asp>

In a study for TIAC by the Conference Board of Canada suggests the loss will be 12.3% by 2008 as the WHTI is implemented. (Study available at the NWOTA office) Here is some information from the study.

- **By 2008 the cumulative effect of "Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative" (WHTI) will be 7,733,000 less people crossing into Canada from the US.**
 - 64.6% will be same day visitors.
 - 35.4% will be overnight visitors.
 - 61.1% will be in Ontario. (4,724,863)
- **By 2008 the cumulative effect of WHTI will be a drop of \$1,756,000,000 in travel receipts from US travel to Canada. (\$227/visitor)**
 - 20.6% will be same day visitor.
 - 79.4% will be overnight visitor.
 - 48.9% will be in Ontario. (\$858,684,000)
- **Average travelers with passports**
 - Same day traveler 44%.
 - Overnight Traveler 50%
- **Anticipated delay in applying for a passport. Overnight auto traveler.**
 - 2005 34%
 - 2006 15%
 - 2007 5%
 - 2008 46%

Margot Booth Director, Communications and Public Relations TIAC will talk about this issue at our fall meeting. OTMP is one of 25 groups on TIAC's *Passport coalition*. OTMP may also have something to add.

NWOTA MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW OVERDUE

Please forward your membership to the
NWOTA office as soon as possible.

Aulneau Advisory Committee

Submitted by Bob and Peg Hunger

The committee has met a number of times over the summer.

July 6th Draft Plan for the Kenora Forest was submitted and sections pertaining to the Aulneau were up for review by the committee. AKRC, Treaty III and Bimose Tribal Council were at the meeting. Concerns were strongly expressed regarding traditional uses and native values not having been included in the plan. Additional meetings between First Nations and MNR were to be scheduled.

August 8th An all day tour for the committee members was held to visit various locations to evaluate reforestation methods and success. An extremely worth while day hosted by MNR and Trus Joist.

September 8th A meeting was held to review field trip, review open house materials and be updated on discussions with AKRC and First Nations on the proposed draft wording for First Nation involvement in resource management on the Aulneau. Though not finalized this statement is a very positive step forward. If approved, activities on the Aulneau will not proceed until community based consultations are complete or April 1, 2008 whichever occurs first.

Next meeting date has not been scheduled.

LAKE OF THE WOODS WATER SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION HOSTS “A DAY ON THE LAKE “ WITH INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

Another significant milestone in the strategic direction of the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation was met this past July 20, 2005 when seven members of the International Joint Commission (IJC), from Ottawa and Washington, spent a “Day on the Lake” with Foundation representatives. The visit was an opportunity for the IJC to enhance their understanding of the water quantity and quality issues facing the Lake of the Woods watershed and to experience, first hand, the vast expanse and transboundary geography of this water body. Those members of the IJC who attended included Canadian Commissioner Jack Blaney, U.S. Commissioner Alan Olson, Canadian Section Research Advisor Rudy Koop, Canadian Engineering Advisor, Rick Walden, Syed Moin and Col. Michael Pfenning from the International Rainy Lake Board of Control and U.S. Engineering Advisor Mark Colosimo.

The day began with a meeting and presentation at the Lake of the Woods museum. Todd Sellers, LOWDPOA President, began by introducing the Foundation as the lead organization responsible for addressing water quality issues on Lake of the Woods and working with international partners to develop a water sustainability plan for the basin. Joan Richardson, Director for the Foundation, provided a synopsis of the day’s planned events and introduced the Foundation’s Executive Director, Kelli Saunders. Kelli summarized the water quality and quantity issues on the lake, the inception and purpose for the Foundation, its mission, objectives and proposed strategies for eventually developing a water sustainability plan for the Lake of the Woods basin. She also made reference to the fact that the goals of the Foundation are strongly aligned with the goals of the IJC’s Watershed Initiative whereby transboundary waters are managed on a watershed basis and management strategies are developed at the community level.

Following this, two of the lead scientists conducting research on Lake of the Woods and the Rainy River Basin, Andrew Paterson of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Nolan Baratonno of the Minnesota Water Pollution Control Agency, spoke on research findings and future needs. Nolan provided information on the type of research that is ongoing in the basin and that has been presented at the two International Water Quality Forums in 2004 and 2005. Andrew discussed the need for a water sustainability plan and key research projects that are required to reach that goal. Concluding the presentation was Tony Stephens, Chair of the Foundation’s Steering Committee. Tony indicated the need for support and direction from the IJC and asked the members to consider the work that has been done by researchers and the Foundation thus far in their consideration of promoting and supporting this initiative.

Following this presentation, the group boarded the beautiful “Caprice” yacht, owned by Graham and Susie Lount. The Lounts graciously escorted the group down to Crow Rock Lodge where Todd Sellers and Lodge guides cooked up a wonderful shore lunch on a secluded island location. By 2:30 pm, the group was headed back to Kenora for a reception at the Best Western Lakeside Inn where community members and resource agencies had been invited to attend. Presentations were again made by the Foundation and the group was addressed by Roger Valley, MP Kenora and closing comments were provided by Commissioner Jack Blaney. The IJC indicated that they supported the work of the Foundation, they recognized that there are issues to be dealt with on Lake of the Woods and that community strength and partnerships, especially the international ones the Foundation has developed, are critical to the success of any watershed planning initiative. They assured the Foundation that they would work towards a formal support system within one year’s time. Roger Valley indicated his interest in organizing a major fundraising initiative with key political leaders in the spring of 2006. The evening concluded with the Commissioners and their colleagues boarding a float plane at the Harbourfront docks, and flying to Fort Frances via the west and south shores of the basin. Members of the Foundation and LOWDPOA joined the flight to provide commentary on the characteristics of the basin, issues of concern at the south end of the lake and the connection between the Rainy River and Lake of the Woods.

The day was a definite success. The Foundation is confident that the IJC believes in the work that is being done and the direction being taken. It was obvious from the discussions held that day that there is recognition that the time is right – water quality on Lake of the Woods is an immediate concern that requires immediate attention. The future of the lake is completely dependant on the actions taken today and the Foundation has always believed that it is imperative to have the IJC on board as well as all levels of government and communities with a stake in the lake.

Drawing on the momentum of July 20, the Foundation will continue to move ahead raising the awareness of water quality issues and the Foundation’s mandate to stakeholders within the basin, discussing research needs with scientists working in the watershed, and garnering support in the way of donations and grants to support that mandate. This summer, the Foundation has made presentations to the Lake of the Woods County Board (U.S.), the Roseau County Board (U.S.), the Koochiching County Board (U.S.), and the City of Kenora Council. This fall, they are scheduled to present at Council meetings for the Lake of the Woods Township and the Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls on the Canadian side of the border. The basin is large and the task before us is just as large. The Foundation is building a strong, collaborative team that is focused on ensuring we have water in our basin that is useable by all for the future.

If you have not sent your favourite recipes to the NWOTA office - please do so now. We would like to get started on our cookbook so that it can be available in the spring. Send your recipes to info@nwota.com or fax them to (807)488-5514.



Northwestern

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April 12, 2001

METHODS OF PROVIDING POTABLE WATER

There are several methods to ensuring potable (safe) water for your establishment. Outlined below are the expectations of the Northwestern Health Unit and methods to achieve these expectations.

American Plan

An American plan style lodge can be defined as a lodge where the food is prepared for the patrons by the hosts.

Potable water for an American plan lodge must be available at the following water sources:

- Handwashing sink
- Kitchen sink
- Dishwasher

Light Housekeeping

A light housekeeping cabin is defined as a cabin where the patrons prepare their own meals in their accommodations. The light housekeeping cabins that are on a communal supply, usually two or more cabins per lot (one pump house for several cabins) require one potable water tap within the building. Light housekeeping cabins include a kitchen. The supply of potable water must be adequate for drinking, brushing teeth, cooking, handwashing and the preparation of food. Providing bottled water is not adequate in a light housekeeping cabin.

Any tap that provides water that is not potable must be posted "WATER UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION".

Outpost Cabins

Outpost cabins are cabins that are remote from other buildings and/or structures. There is only one cabin per lot. Outpost cabins may or may not have pressurized water. The outpost cabins may provide bottled water or a water treatment system. Also the outposts may only post a sign that "WATER UNFIT- BOIL WATER FOR ONE (1) MINUTE PRIOR TO CONSUMPTION".

METHODS TO ENSURE POTABLE WATER

Several water sources must be considered prior to choosing a water system. Water sources can include:

- Drilled well
- Dug well/sand point
- Surface water

Drilled well

Drilled wells have a six-inch casing into a bored hole that penetrates the groundwater. Drilled wells are usually 50 to 400 feet deep in Northwestern Ontario. If the water source is obtained from a drilled well, then water samples must be taken for microbiological analyses. If there is no presence of bacteria (Total Coliform or E. coli) then the water is satisfactory for drinking.

Dug well/sand point

A dug well may be 3 feet to 20 feet in diameter and may use concrete or some other support on the walls. Dug wells may reach depths of 40 feet. These wells penetrate a high ground water table. These wells are often subject to contamination from the surface *run-off*.

A sand point is where the water source is from a surface water. The water is drawn from a sandy soil that acts like a primary filter, removing the larger particles.

Both dug wells and sand points require water treatment systems to ensure the water is potable.

Surface water

Surface water source includes lakes, rivers, streams and natural springs that are in contact with the surface. This water source is subject to fecal matter and other contamination by spring and heavy rain run-off, and animal and human population. Surface water must be treated prior to human consumption.

WATER TREATMENT METHODS

Filtration to a one (1 urn) micron filter is required to move parasites such as *Giardia lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium pan/urn*. Filtration*does not remove all bacteria or viruses.

A disinfectant is also required to remove bacteria and viruses. Disinfectants can include chlorination, iodine, bromine, ultra violet and ozonation.

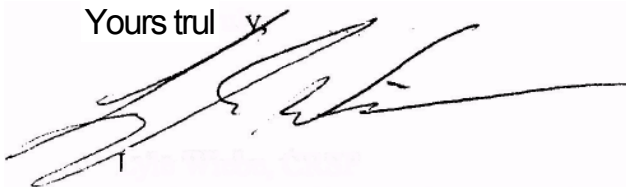
Disinfectants typically follow filtration in the water distribution system. In the case of chlorination, iodine and bromine pre-filtration provides consistency in the application of these chemicals. Pre-filtration is required for the use of ultraviolet light, as well.

It is the owner/operator's discretion to determine which water treatment system would suit their needs.

Attached is a copy of the correspondence that was mailed out to all tourist camp owners/operators in 1998.

Please advise the office in writing of what measures you have taken, or will take to meet these requirements.

Yours truly,



Lyle Wiebe, CRSP Environmental/Occupational Health and Safety Professional
Enc.(1)

cc. Bill Limerick, Environmental Health Team Leader