

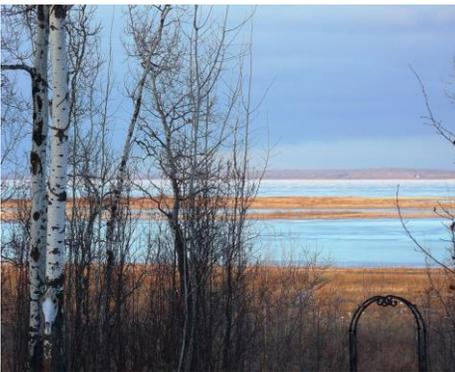
MLBMS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 6, FEBRUARY 2014

Welcome

This is the sixth issue of the Muriel Lake Basin Management Society (MLBMS) newsletter. Please feel free to pass this on to anyone who may be interested in our news or direct them to our website www.muriellake.com where this newsletter is posted, along with much other information.

The Board of Directors continue to meet monthly on your behalf and are pleased to announce that we have made considerable progress on a number of fronts.



PHOTOCREDIT: KEITH JUSTIK ACKERMAN

CHARITABLE STATUS

Our application for charitable status has been approved! We are now able to issue a tax receipt for all donations. This has been a huge project, with many small roadblocks to be maneuvered around but the result is well worth the effort. Many of the projects we need to complete come with considerable costs - we are currently working with a consulting group to develop a comprehensive ground and surface water study that could cost upwards of \$100,000. It will be necessary for the membership to pay for the majority of these costs even though we plan to apply for any grants that are available. We have already been receiving donations from many people but now you will have the added bonus of a tax reduction for your donation to the society. Our website is being updated to accept donations but until this is complete, please contact Richard at PO Box 6003, Bonnyville, Alberta, T9N 2G7

We have to recall the image of the planet from outer space: a single entity in which air, water, and continents are interconnected. That is our home. (DAVID SUZUKI)

AWARENESS

We continue to make contacts within industry and government as well as within groups such as ours. Awareness of the situation at Muriel Lake continues to increase and an active membership is the best way to get our message out – we do not want this lake to die and while much of our problem can be attributed to drought, most other lakes in our area have started to recover and we have not – we need to find out why.



PHOTOCREDIT: TARYN MCCRANK HANCOCK



PHOTOCREDIT: LINNEA AND DAVE PRINCE

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2ND ANNUAL BBQ – JUNE 14TH – SAVE THE DATE!

Our first annual family barbeque was held in June and while the weather was disappointing, a good time was had by those who attended. Hot dogs and hamburgers were cooked and served by the Board of directors and while the water issues were discussed, it was nice to meet some neighbors and make some new friends. Many thanks to Brousseau's Department Store for their kind support and to Don and Heather Hutchison for the use of the field. This year's BBQ will be at 1:00PM on June 14th in the cul de sac on Birch Road. Reminders will be posted around the lake early in June. Please plan to attend, it will be lots of fun.

AGM JULY 13 2014!

The turnout at the last AGM on July 14, 2013 was encouraging but slightly less than last year. The Directors of MLBMS have seen remarkable responses from the government for groups such as ours when they keep the pressure on and speak with a loud collective voice. It is important to continue to remind our elected officials that we are expecting them to help us find solutions to the huge issues Muriel Lake is facing. Numbers speak loudly to our government officials so please plan to attend our next AGM – 10:00AM on July 13th at the Bonnyville Centennial Centre

SURFACE WATER OBSTRUCTIONS

We continue to seek areas where there are blockages preventing surface water from reaching the lake. We really appreciate all reports of these obstructions and encourage you to keep us informed whenever you see a blockage or hanging culvert. The MD of Bonnyville has committed to addressing these situations with us but it is our responsibility to locate them, so send us an email if you see one and we'll try to get on it right away.

Website: www.muriellake.com

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