

Draft

Proposed Framework for Muskoka Bay Community Plan Process

Prepared by
Citizens' Environment Watch

1 March 2007

Draft

#380 - 401 Richmond Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 3A8
(t) 647-258-3280 (f) 416-979-3155
info@citizensenvironmentwatch.org www.citizensenvironmentwatch.org

Background

Muskoka Bay is a unique lake segment within Lake Muskoka. The town of Gravenhurst, Ontario is situated on the shores of Muskoka Bay. Development on the waterfront began over 100 years ago; in the past, the shoreline has been dotted with sawmills, criss-crossed with railway tracks, and decorated with various factories. In recent years, relative calm of the local farmer's market and steamship docks has been interrupted by the ambitious Muskoka Wharf project, once again bringing a flurry of commercial activity and associated road and boat traffic with it. The adverse effects of inadequately treated sewage from the Town of Gravenhurst, which in the past was emptied into the bay, have been recognized for many years. Generally, residents of the area feel that years of environmental stressors including residual effects from milling operations and sewage treatment coupled with the increased pleasure boat traffic brought about by new commercial development are adversely affecting their quality of life.

The District of Muskoka's Lake System Health Program, a planning policy adopted by District of Muskoka Council in the summer of 2006, identifies Muskoka Bay as "over-threshold" with respect to phosphorus concentration.

The following describes a community planning process (CPP), designed to engage local stakeholders to address stressors to the bay's ecosystem.

Rationale

Rationale for this project comes from both "bottom-up" and "top-down." At the most local level, there is a grassroots interest in coordinating efforts to improve the natural and social environment of Muskoka Bay. At the same time, local governments are also encouraging action by communities to address environmental problems.

Grassroots Support

The Muskoka Lakes Association (MLA) Water Quality Initiative (WQI) is an ecological monitoring program that has monitored the quality of nearshore waters in lakes across west Muskoka and south Parry Sound since 2001. Nine different sites within Muskoka Bay have been monitored since 2001 (although not all sites have been monitored in all years). A comprehensive education and capacity-building program has complemented monitoring activities since 2002. Among other activities, this program has included seminars, workshops, articles in the MLA newsletter, articles presented in the local media, the distribution of brochures and all reports and extensive educational materials published on the MLA website.

The Muskoka Lakes community generally and the Muskoka Bay community specifically have demonstrated knowledge of limnological principals governing their local ecosystems, how

Draft

these principles are affected by local land- and water-based activities, and the current state of local ecosystems. The MLA (an association that many Muskoka Bay residents belong to, and sponsor of the monitoring program) itself has demonstrated an interest in leveraging community concern and involvement by supporting the creation of a comprehensive community action plan. The MLA has also demonstrated the organizational sophistication required to effectively communicate with all members of the Muskoka Bay community as well as to raise and administer funds, engage a support team etc.

In addition, the Muskoka Bay Property Owners' Association (MBPOA) also represents many local residents. The MBPOA has expressed great interest in the health of the bay for many years, and has effectively engaged its membership in various activities designed to solicit feedback and input on local water quality and other environmental interests. The MBPOA is a co-sponsor of the CPP with the MLA.

A new association has been formed over the winter of 2006-07 to represent the interests of all Gravenhurst ratepayers, and embraces people living in town and permanent residents more comprehensively than either the MLA or MBPOA. This group is called the Greater Gravenhurst Ratepayers' Association (GGRA). In a recent vote of GGRA Directors, support for the MBCP was unanimous, adding to the project's growing list of co-sponsors.

A workshop held on July 8, 2006 at the Gravenhurst Seniors' Centre hosted by the MLA and MBPOA focused on the need for a comprehensive action plan for Muskoka Bay. The workshop was open to the public, and was advertised in the local media. A flyer advertising the workshop was directly delivered to all Muskoka Bay residents. The report on this workshop (and the other workshops that made up the workshops series entitled *Planning for Our Lakes: Everyone's Responsibility* can be downloaded from <http://www.loganenvironmental.com/mla/Reports/Workshop%20Report.pdf>. The remainder of this proposal is based on the outcome of that workshop.

Local Government Support

Muskoka Bay is within the Town of Gravenhurst (Area Municipality) and the District Municipality of Muskoka (DMM). DMM has jurisdiction over environmental concerns including water quality. The Town is responsible for controlling development. All Town policies must be in conformity to the policies of DMM.

DMM takes its responsibility on water quality concerns very seriously. They were the only local government in Ontario to have adopted any part of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Ontario Lake Capacity Simulation Model developed in the late 1970s. In the early 2000s, DMM revisited these water quality models and associated planning policies, developing the Lake System Health Program (LSHP). Official Plan Amendment (OPA) 32, recognizing the LSHP, was approved by District Council in October 2006. Although OPA 32 is currently the subject of an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board, the appeal is not related to issues associated with community planning, and it is anticipated that the appeal will be settled shortly.

The amended Official Plan (OP) classifies Muskoka Bay as “over-threshold” with respect to total phosphorus concentration. The OP as amended indicates that DMM will, in collaboration with any affected Area Municipalities, the lake community and other stakeholders, undertake limits to growth analyses, facilitate and participate in remedial actions and participate in stewardship initiatives (Sections F.12, F.13 and F.15) for all over-threshold lakes and lake-segments (bays). Together, these activities form the basis for an effective collaborative community plan.

According to Samantha Hastings, Director of Policy and Programs at DMM, even though the amended District OP supports the development of community plans, DMM has not developed a formal protocol or framework for their development. Currently, DMM prioritizes lake communities for community planning based on interest shown by community groups, area municipalities and other stakeholders. Each community plan is considered individually, developed from scratch, as DMM feels that there is no standard set of policies that are appropriate for all lake communities.

The Town of Gravenhurst has recently reviewed its entire OP, and adopted an updated OP in October 2006. Section D4.1 of the OP “supports” and “encourages” the preparation of lake management plans, specifically dealing with a number of issues such as recreational carrying capacity, shoreline development, vegetation retention and health, shoreline erosion and “other issues of importance to lake communities”. Even though the OP does not mention community-based planning, the Town has adopted OPAs resulting from community-based planning processes on various local lakes. These regulations appear in Section D5 of the updated OP.

The Gravenhurst OP also presents the possibility of designating a lake as a community improvement area, in which case additional funding may be available for carrying out recommendations of the community plan.

A review of the most significant planning policies of both DMM and the Town of Gravenhurst indicate that there is significant support for the development of community plans. This conclusion has been confirmed by staff comment (DMM) and the recent adoption of other community plans (Gravenhurst).

Objective

Together, the MLA, MBPOA and individual stakeholders of Muskoka Bay have demonstrated the capacity to ensure that local decision-making is responsive to issues that affect local quality of life. Likewise, local governments have indicated support for the development of an action plan on Muskoka Bay. The specific purpose of this project is thus defined as:

- To protect and enhance the local Muskoka Bay ecosystem through the creation of a local citizen-initiated comprehensive action plan valued by the local community and formally recognized by the Town of Gravenhurst and

the District of Muskoka.

The Muskoka Bay Community Plan (MBCP) is intended to guide the community in making discoveries about causes of concerning symptoms, use these discoveries to design actions to address the causes, and implement an ongoing monitoring system to evaluate the effectiveness of the actions. Intended outputs of the MBCP are an Official Plan Amendment to be considered by the Town of Gravenhurst and the District of Muskoka, a fully interactive online interpretation of the MBCP that allows the community to continue the discovery-behaviour change-evaluation process in perpetuity and a change in the community culture to better recognize environmental and social sustainability.

Implementation

This proposed plan is a dynamic document, and should always be considered a work in progress. Ideally, an interactive, web-based interpretation of the plan process will be made available to enable effective participation by all Muskoka Bay stakeholders during the planning process and in perpetuity.

The primary vehicle for the implementation of the planning process should be a plan committee made up of residents and other Muskoka Bay stakeholders. The MLA and MBPOA, as the most prominent community groups in the Muskoka Bay area, and the community groups that most residents of Muskoka Bay are members of, should support and facilitate this committee.

The main purpose of the committee is to represent the interests of all stakeholders of Muskoka Bay community in the design and implementation of a community plan for the Muskoka Bay Planning Area. The Terms of Reference for the Plan Committee, including specific responsibilities, are found in Appendix A.

Components

Components of the plan process will be as follows:

1. Plan Committee
2. Plan Framework
3. Issue Modules
 - a. Water Quality (phosphorus concentration and boat pollution)
 - b. Boat Traffic
 - c. Altered Shoreline
4. Official Plan Amendment Creation
5. Communications
6. Fundraising

Components are shown in Figure 1.

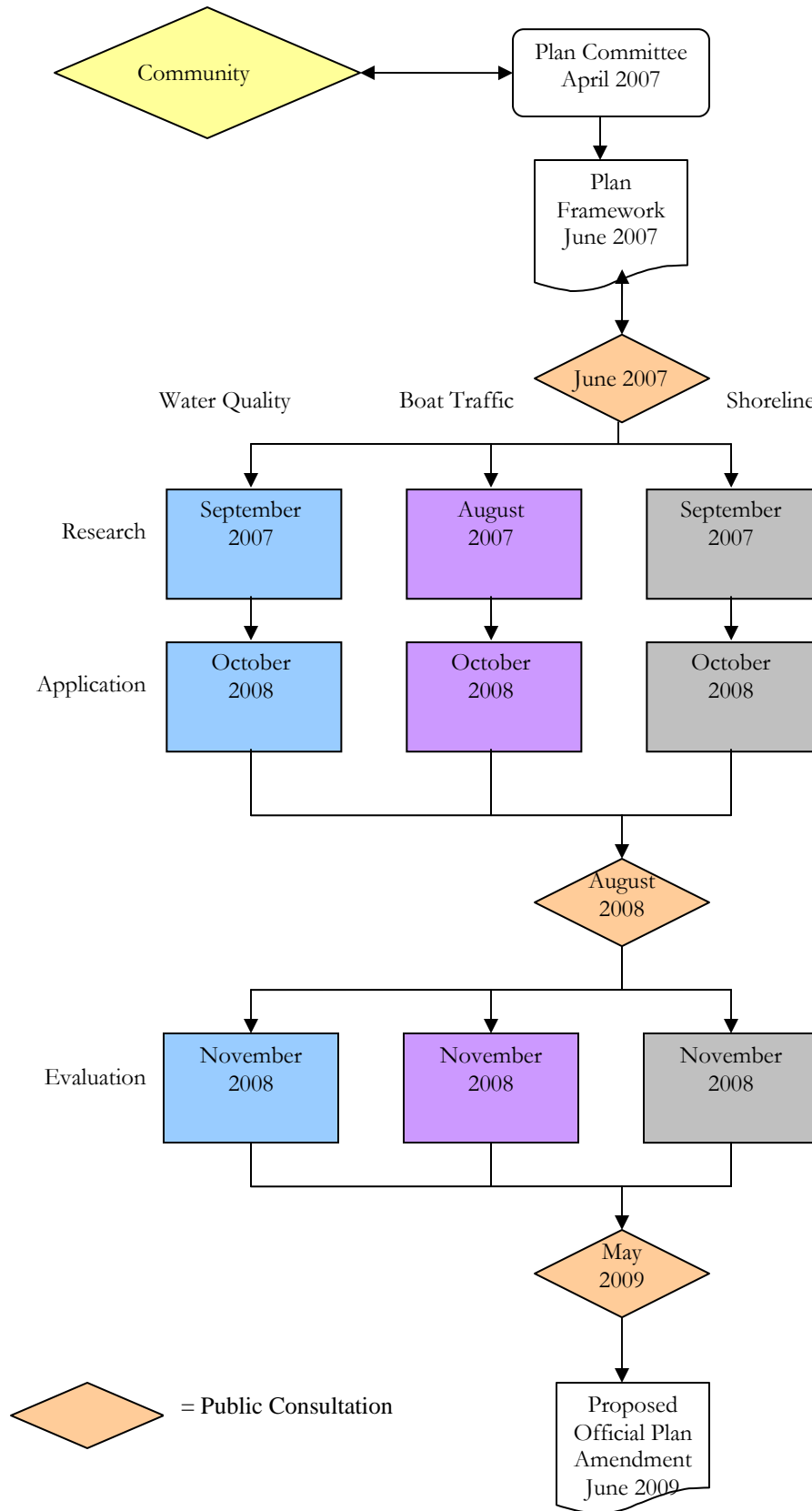


Figure 1 – MBCP Components

Plan Framework

The first stage of the plan process after the establishment of the Plan Committee will be to develop the plan framework. This proposal forms the basis of this framework. Once the Plan Committee has agreed upon a framework, it will be presented to the community for feedback.

Issue Modules

Each issue facing the bay's natural and human communities identified by the bay community at the initial workshop held in July, 2006 will be considered in an Issue Module. Organizing the plan's activities into these modules will allow for easier communication and public participation.

The modules will each be divided into three phases: research, application and evaluation. The research phase will address the knowledge gaps identified by the community at the July, 2006 workshop. The application phase will invite participation from the entire community in determining remedial measures for addressing each concern based on the knowledge generated in the research phase. Finally, an ongoing monitoring strategy including targets and objectives will be developed for each concern in the evaluation phase. A complete provisional list of steps is given in Appendix B.

Official Plan Amendment Creation

Once the work of all modules is completed, the findings will be presented to the community for feedback. A proposed Official Plan Amendment (OPA) will then be created based on the community feedback. The OPA will then be presented to the Town of Gravenhurst Council for inclusion in the Town's Official Plan, and the District of Muskoka for inclusion in the District's Official Plan.

Communication

Communication is one of the most important aspects of a community-based plan. Traditional plans created by and for professionals are nearly always text-on-paper-based and require time, energy and (often) professional expertise to read and understand. An effective community-based plan however, must become entrenched in local culture, and must enjoy buy-in from a vast majority of stakeholders. This calls for highly effective approaches to communication that are innovative, accessible and transparent.

The primary format of the Muskoka Bay Community Plan will be an interactive digital interpretation presented on the Internet where stakeholders can view progress, findings, news, upcoming events and other information related to the planning process. This web space should incorporate the concepts of common mapping, where all place-based information is displayed on a single map interface. Moreover, community stakeholders will always have the opportunity to contribute to the process.

Draft

The web space should be complimented by communication tools identified by the community at the July, 2006 workshop:

- Electronic mail bulletins
- Newsletters
- Local papers (including the results of local studies)

Fundraising

While the MBCP is administered by the MLA and MBPOA, it must be realized that significant investment of financial resources is necessary to support all components. A traditional consultant would no doubt charge well in excess of \$100 000 for the support of such a comprehensive and involved plan. While the support of this process through Citizens' Environment Watch (a charitable entity) greatly reduces the costs, an equivalent value of this process is still estimated as around \$40 000 (a breakdown of this evaluation is given in Appendix C).

These funds will need to be raised from local efforts. Significant investment from individuals (both in terms of money and time), businesses and other stakeholders of Muskoka Bay is anticipated. Specifically, local governments, individuals and businesses will be targeted for sponsorship of the community plan. Fundraising will be carried out by a joint committee of CEW and the MLA with input from the Plan Committee.

Timelines

The proposed timelines for the MBCP are shown on Figure 1. Specific target completion dates for each step is shown in Appendix B.

Research for all three of the Issue Modules should be complete by the end of 2007. Application phases (including a public workshop) are to take place during the summer of 2008, and Evaluation phases are to take place over the winter of 2008-09. A further public meeting will be hosted in the spring of 2009 to gather feedback on the final results of the study, informing the creation of the proposed Official Plan Amendment.

A proposed Official Plan Amendment, representing the community planning process, should be presented to the Town of Gravenhurst and District of Muskoka for inclusion in Official Plans and other planning policies in the spring or summer of 2009.

Stakeholders

The MBCP is designed to engage the local stakeholders including residents, business owners, recreational users, government agencies, non-governmental organizations and other issue experts. The purpose of involving these stakeholders is to better address stressors to the bay

Draft

ecosystem, as well as to get their support for the community plan in the form of both buy-in and resources.

A number of stakeholder groups to be invited to participate in the planning process and contribute to the Plan Committee were identified by the community at the July, 2006 workshop. These groups were:

- District of Muskoka
- Town of Gravenhurst
- Muskoka Heritage Foundation
- Muskoka Watershed Council
- Ministry of the Environment
- Ontario Fire College
- Muskoka Lakes Steamship and Navigation Company
- Various commercial interests from Muskoka Wharf

Draft

Appendix A

Terms of Reference for Muskoka Bay Plan Committee

1.0 Name

This committee shall be referred to as the Muskoka Bay Plan Committee, abbreviated MPC (herein referred to as “the committee”). The committee shall to the best of its abilities, represent the interests of all stakeholders of Muskoka Bay in the design and implementation of the Muskoka Bay Community Plan. The Community Plan is supported by the Muskoka Lakes Association (MLA), Muskoka Bay Property Owners’ Association (MBPOA), Greater Gravenhurst Ratepayers’ Association (GGRA) and Citizens’ Environment Watch (CEW).

2.0 Type

The committee is an ad hoc committee of the MLA made up of Muskoka Bay stakeholders.

3.0 Purpose

The main purpose of the committee is to represent the interests of all stakeholders of Muskoka Bay in the design and implementation of a community plan for the Muskoka Bay Planning Area. The committee will create a comprehensive action plan in a way that is valued by the stakeholders and is formally recognized by local government agencies so that the local Muskoka Bay ecosystem is protected from future anthropogenic detriment and enhanced to a state that is representative of pre-development conditions.

Specific tasks of the committee may include but are not limited to:

- a. Refine the objectives of the Muskoka Bay Community Plan;
- b. Refine the framework and deliverables of the Muskoka Bay Community Plan;
- c. Define the Muskoka Bay Planning Area;
- d. Facilitate two-way communication between the project team (the committee and CEW project team) and all Muskoka Bay stakeholders;
- e. Discuss the program with and advise the CEW project team as needed;
- f. Receive all reports of the CEW project team;
- g. Manage volunteers who participate in activities related to the development of the community plan;
- h. Contribute to fundraising efforts within the Muskoka Bay community; and
- i. Liaise with government agencies and subject experts as needed.

4.0 Responsibility

The committee is established by the authority of the MLA’s Environment and Land Use Portfolio (ELUP). The ELUP will appoint members of the committee, receive all reports of the committee and give direction to the committee as needed.

5.0 Composition

The committee shall be made up of a minimum of four (4) members. Positions and general responsibilities are listed in Table 1. All committee members must be either residents or employees or operators of businesses within the Muskoka Bay Planning Area, a jurisdiction to be defined by the committee.

Table 1 - Members of the committee

Position	Responsibilities
Chairperson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair meetings of the committee • Liaise with MLA ELUP as needed • Represent the committee to the media and the public as needed
Vice Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assume the responsibilities of the chairperson in the chairperson's absence • Assist the chairperson as needed
Communications Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate all forms of communication between the committee and Muskoka Bay stakeholders • Maintain accuracy and ensure confidentiality of contact list for Muskoka Bay stakeholders
Fundraising Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with WQI Fundraising Committee • Advise and coordinate fundraising efforts within the Muskoka Bay community

The committee may include a maximum of five (5) additional members of the Muskoka Bay community. These additional positions and general responsibilities are listed in Table 2.

Table 2 - Additional committee members

Position	Responsibilities
Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record notes of committee meetings • Assist Communications Coordinator and Fundraising Coordinator as needed
Water Quality Module Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the design and implementation of Water Quality Module • Advise CEW project team on Water Quality Module issues as needed • Coordinate all volunteers participating in activities related to Water Quality Module • Liaise with experts in the field of water quality
Boat Traffic Module Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the design and implementation of Boat Traffic Module • Advise CEW project team on Boat Traffic Module issues as needed • Coordinate all volunteers participating in activities related to Boat Traffic Module • Liaise with experts in the field of boat traffic and safety

Shoreline Module Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinate the design and implementation of Shoreline Module• Advise CEW project team on Shoreline Module issues as needed• Coordinate all volunteers participating in activities related to Shoreline Module• Liaise with District of Muskoka Water Strategy staff regarding the shoreline assessment
Member-at-large	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide support to other committee members as required

The committee may include a maximum of six (6) additional members representing other community stakeholders. These stakeholders may include local governments, agencies of upper-tier governments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions etc. At a minimum, the Plan Committee should include planning staff from the Town of Gravenhurst and the District of Muskoka, as well as one Town Councillor.

Should a committee member not be able to fulfill his or her duties to the committee, that member shall resign by giving written notice of resignation to the committee chairperson.

The Planning Liaison of the MLA Water Quality Initiative Committee shall be a non-voting member of the committee ex-officio. The chairperson of the ELUP may appoint members of the committee consistent with these terms of reference at any time for the duration of the committee's existence.

6.0 Authority

The committee shall have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the Muskoka Bay community in the interests of achieving the purpose of the committee.

7.0 Logistics

The committee shall operate using the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these terms of reference and any special rules of order the committee may adopt.

The committee shall publicly advertise and host at least one meeting open to the public on or before September 30 of each calendar year, but may meet as often as necessary to effectively fulfill its purpose. Other meetings may be open to the public or in camera. The committee may conduct meetings by conference call or by way of other digital media. The committee may invite any guest (such as members of the CEW project team, outside expertise etc.) to participate in any committee meeting. Guests will not have voting privileges.

Draft

The committee shall provide a report on the activities of the committee to the Planning Liaison of the MLA Water Quality Initiative Committee by the end of each quarter of each year (March 30, June 30, September 30 & December 31).

8.0 Resources

The committee should closely work with the CEW project team for the Muskoka Bay Community Plan. The project team is available to support the work of the committee by:

- a. Facilitating meetings, workshops etc.;
- b. Advising on scientific issues and scientific expertise resource (including creator of reports on knowledge and progress);
- c. Advising on planning issues and planning expertise resource (including creator of reports on knowledge and progress);
- d. Acting as a resource and support for communications; and
- e. Advocating for subject communities and the local environment.

Financial resources of the committee shall be managed by CEW as part of the MLA WQI project budget.

9.0 Communications

The committee shall communicate with the MLA Water Quality Initiative Committee through the Planning Liaison.

Draft

Appendix B

Provisional Steps for Muskoka Bay Community Plan

	Component	End Date
1.0	Plan Committee	
1.1	Develop terms of reference	18-Jan-07
1.2	Collect contact info	29-Jan-07
1.3	Involve stakeholders	30-Apr-07
1.4	Facilitate committee meetings (18)	1-Sep-09
2.0	Create Proposal	
2.1	Update existing preliminary Proposal	19-Jan-07
2.2	Facilitate public meeting	
2.2.1	Meeting Preparation	15-Jun-07
2.2.2	Meeting Report	19-Jun-07
2.2.3	Meeting Attendance	16-Jun-07
3.0	Fundraising	
3.1	Strategy	31-Jan-07
3.2	Grants/sponsorship	2-Feb-07
3.3	Event (cocktail party)	18-Aug-07
	Modules	
4.0	Water Quality (phosphorus loading and boat pollution)	
4.1	Research	
4.1.1	Design and administer survey	5-Jun-07
4.1.1.2	Compile and analyze survey results	28-Jun-07
4.1.2	Obtain, analyze and present data from TGR and DMM	
4.1.2.2	Septic inspection results	2-Mar-07
4.1.3	Increase TP monitoring	
4.1.3.1	Design program	24-Apr-07
4.1.3.2	Identify sites	1-May-07
4.1.4	Produce homeowner/stakeholder education package on BMPs	
4.1.4.1	Research BMPs	16-Feb-07
4.1.4.2	Layout	8-Jun-07
4.1.5	Boat Pollution study	
4.1.5.1	Background research on MTBE	27-Mar-07
4.1.5.2	Sample, analyze	19-Oct-07
4.2	Application	
4.2.1	Report on results of research	8-Feb-08
4.2.2	Facilitate workshop	
4.2.2.1	Meeting Preparation	11-Jul-08
4.2.2.2	Meeting Report	15-Jul-08
4.2.2.3	Meeting Attendance (2)	12-Jul-08
4.2.3	Final report - remedial action recommendations	10-Oct-08
4.2.4	Set targets - remedial actions	17-Oct-08
4.3	Evaluation	
4.3.1	Design continued monitoring program	22-Oct-08
5.0	Boat Traffic	
5.1	Research	
5.1.1	Design and administer survey (common with 4.1.1)	5-Jun-07
5.1.2	Survey boats coming into Bay (in kind from MLA)	29-Jul-07
5.1.3	Research affect of boat traffic on sediments	16-Nov-07

5.2	Application	
5.2.1	Report on results of research	8-Feb-08
5.2.2	Workshop (common with 4.2.2)	
5.2.3	Final report - remedial action recommendations (common with 4.2.3)	10-Oct-08
5.2.4	Set targets - remedial actions (common with 4.2.4)	17-Oct-08
5.3	Evaluation	
5.3.1	Design continued monitoring program	24-Oct-08
6.0	Altered Shoreline	
6.1	Research	
6.1.1	Design and administer survey (common with 4.1.1)	5-Jun-07
6.1.2	Shoreline Survey	
6.1.2.1	Training Material	20-Apr-07
6.1.2.2	Training Session	29-May-07
6.1.2.3	Collect and post data	18-Sep-07
6.1.2.4	Analyze data	21-Sep-07
6.1.3	Facilitate MWC workshop	
6.1.3.1	Meeting Preparation	24-Aug-07
6.1.3.2	Meeting Report	27-Aug-07
6.1.3.3	Meeting Attendance (2)	25-Aug-07
6.2	Implementation	
6.2.1	Report on results of research	6-Jan-08
6.2.2	Workshop (common with 4.2.2)	
6.2.3	Final report - remedial action recommendations (common with 4.2.3)	10-Oct-08
6.2.4	Set targets - remedial actions (common with 4.2.4)	17-Oct-08
6.3	Evaluation	
6.3.1	Design continued monitoring program	24-Oct-08
7.0	Communications	
7.1	Develop Website	29-Jun-07
7.2	Quarterly newsletter (7)	
7.2.1	Content	31-Dec-08
7.2.2	Layout	31-Dec-08
8.0	Other	
8.1	Research local OP	23-Feb-07
8.2	Draft OPA	3-Dec-08
8.3	Present plan to community (Town Hall)	
8.3.1	Meeting Preparation	1-May-09
8.3.2	Meeting Report	1-May-09
8.3.3	Meeting Attendance	1-May-09
8.4	Finalize plan	1-Jun-09
8.5	Present to council etc.	1-Jun-09

Specific recommendations for each Issue Module are taken from the Preliminary Proposed Community Plan Process for Muskoka Bay are included below.

Boat Pollution

- Administer survey to all Muskoka Bay residents to obtain information on their attitudes towards boat traffic, number and type of boats they own, how, when and where they use their boats.
- Measure concentration of gasoline additives (MTBE) in Muskoka Bay using a pilot site where traffic is most concentrated. If pollution is detectable, expand monitoring to other sites.

Boat Traffic (including wake boarding and erosion)

- Administer survey to all Muskoka Bay residents to obtain information on their attitudes towards boat traffic, number and type of boats they own, how, when and where they use their boats.
- Quantify erosion in the bay using aerial photography and results of shoreline survey. Place this data on online map for access by the public.
- Research the affect of boat traffic on sediments, phosphorus re-suspension, erosion and other environmental concerns. If adequate studies do not exist, consider primary research in subsequent years.
- Interview police agencies and local governments to find out about legislation governing boat traffic (speed, noise etc.) including barriers to enforcement. Distribute this information to bay residents.
- Distribute information regarding environmental impacts of large wakes, along with the findings about attitudes on the lake. Give helpful hints about where and when it is appropriate to wake board on Muskoka Bay.

Altered Shoreline

- Administer survey to all Muskoka Bay residents to obtain information on how they have changed their shoreline in the past several years.
- Conduct field survey, with the help of the District of Muskoka's shoreline mapping project, to determine the existing state of the shoreline on the lake and how it has changed since 1995. Post this information on a common map for easy access by the community.

- Invite Muskoka Heritage Foundation to speak at a public meeting associated with this module to educate the community on the effects of altering shorelines. Hold at least one in-the-field workshop dedicated to teaching residents how to restore shorelines to their natural state.

Phosphorus Concentration

- Administer survey to all Muskoka Bay watershed residents to obtain information on their usage of soaps, fertilizers and other phosphorus contributing products.
- Increase phosphorus concentration and turbidity monitoring efforts in the nearshore zone of the bay, including upstream in tributaries and drainage ditches. Measure water level and phosphorus concentration in streams and ditches immediately after rain events in addition to regular scheduled sampling. Post results on online map for access by community.
- Obtain information for distribution on best practices for homeowners in reducing phosphorus loading (including information on safe soaps etc.) from Muskoka Watershed Council (MWC). Invite MWC to speak at a public meeting associated with this module.
- Obtain results of septic inspection program from Town of Gravenhurst and post results on online map for access by community. Survey residents about their septic maintenance record and usage of outhouses.
- Using this information, sources of phosphorus loading and turbidity will be determined.

Draft

Appendix C

Estimated Equivalent Value of Muskoka Bay Community Plan

Draft

	Task	Cost
1.0	Plan Committee	\$ 3,860.00
2.0	Create Framework	\$ 1,600.00
3.0	Fundraising	\$ 1,400.00
Modules		
4.0	Water Quality	\$ 9,404.00
5.0	Boat Traffic	\$ 2,300.00
6.0	Altered Shoreline	\$ 5,200.00
7.0	Communications	\$ 5,500.00
8.0	Other	\$ 10,139.60
	Total	\$ 39,403.60

* Note that “Other” includes planning consulting (creation of the Official Plan Amendment (OPA), organization of the final Town Hall-style public meeting to present the OPA to the local stakeholders, etc.), presentation of Proposed OPA to council, travel and administrative costs.