



2010 FOCA Fall Seminar

November 6, 2010

Meeting Summary

On a bright Saturday after an early snow, FOCA's annual Fall Seminar was held at the York Reception Centre in Toronto.

Entitled "**Making it Happen**," the event was a popular success, with more than 80 people in attendance. The day was a lively opportunity to network and catch up with familiar faces and new friends.



Karl Fiander, President of the FOCA Board of Directors, provided introductory remarks. Karl opened the brief Members' meeting to vote on a **bylaw revision** which passed unanimously after a brief discussion and some questions from the floor.

Terry Rees, Executive Director of FOCA, provided news and updates on FOCA activities from the past year, and introduced Michelle Lewin, the new FOCA Communications and Development Coordinator. Tracy Logan, FOCA Membership & Programs Coordinator, summarized the many programs in progress at FOCA.



Tracy presented the **2010 Jerry Strickland Award** to the Hudson Lakes Association. Bruce Taylor (President) accepted on behalf of the association, and provided a summary of the accomplishments and ongoing concerns of the Hudson Lakes.

Danny Relich of Hydro One described the new Smart Meters sweeping through Ontario, and outlined Time-of-Use pricing in his presentation, "**Important News about your Electricity Services.**" Danny responded to many lively questions from property owners, and encouraged members to adopt a culture of conservation by switching to off-peak electrical usage, wherever possible.



Lunch was generously provided by corporate sponsor **Yamaha Motor Canada.**

.../

/2010 FOCA Fall Seminar...



Before the afternoon session, attendees were invited to browse FOCA merchandise and speak with the corporate sponsors in attendance, including BOATsmart! Canada, Hydro One, TyeDee Bin, Ontario OnSite Wastewater Association, SunLife and the Adopt-A-Pond Wetland Conservation Programme.

The afternoon flew past, due to a fantastic panel discussion: **“Making Sustainable Waterfronts a Reality.”** Randy French of French Planning Services acted as enthusiastic moderator. Randy first accepted congratulations from Terry for winning the 2010 Excellence in Planning Award from the Ontario Professional Planners Institute. Randy went on to introduce each panel member who spoke in turn before fielding general questions from the audience.

First to speak was **Karen Hunt**, President of the Otty Lake Association, who explained the “Lake Networking Group” of the Mississippi/Rideau/Tay area, and the opportunities created when lake associations work together.



Heather Elliott from Stoney Lake outlined her family’s personal efforts to protect their property in her presentation, “Creative options for sustainability on private land.” Heather and her late husband Don initiated a variety of approaches including conservation tax incentives, easements and donations through a local land trust.



Finally, **Judi Brouse** of the Muskoka Watershed Council gave a practical and engaging talk, “Connecting land use to water quality.” Judi was instrumental in the 2010 Freshwater Summit and the Muskoka Watershed Report Card, updated in 2010. If you look to the lake for the quality of your water, Judi admonished, you are already too late; the problem starts up-land and up-stream with land use decisions that affect surface water. The crowd had many questions and comments to share with the panel.

This concluded the 2010 FOCA Fall Seminar. Immediately following, **WRAFT** (Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation) conducted their Annual General Meeting. Chaired by Al Morson, the meeting developed into a discussion of the future of WRAFT, and the amalgamation of WRAFT with FOCA. For more information on WRAFT, you can visit the website: www.wraft.com.

? SAW THIS ? →

If you were at the event but missed the survey sheet, please use the **ONLINE LINK** on the “News” page of the FOCA website.

http://foca.on.ca/news_and_events



← ? MISSED THIS ?

If you couldn’t attend the meeting but would like to hear the **ONLINE ARCHIVE** recording, contact the office for details.

info@foca.on.ca Phone: (705) 749-3622