

Appendix 1: Full text of the survey that was sent to all active lake association groups in the Rideau Valley, as identified by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. Groups were contacted via email and surveys were completed electronically. We obtained a response rate of 71%, with 12 of 17 active associations completing the survey.

Social-Ecological Bright Spots Among Lakes in the Rideau Valley

Welcome to the survey of lake associations as part of the Social-Ecological Bright Spots project at McGill University. The survey should take roughly about 60-120 minutes of your time. If you would rather conduct an in person interview over Skype or Telephone and have answers transcribed, please contact the PI directly. If you are unable to answer these questions, please reach out to another member of the association and ask them to fill out the survey or help you answer. Thank you for your participation!

Section A: Contact Information

This information will remain confidential. Your name, email, phone number, or any other identifying personal information will not be shared outside the research team. We may contact you to follow up on or clarify answers given in the survey.

Your Name	
Your Email	
Your Phone Number	
Your Role in the Lake Association	

Section B: Basic Association Information

Association Name	
Association Website (if available)	
Association Social Media Handle (Facebook, Twitter, etc., if available)	
Association Email	

Does your group do any of the following activities? Yes or No. In the right side column, please indicate what percentage of association time is spent on this category.

Activity	Example	Y/N	%
Conserve or preserve the environment on or around your lake	Protected park areas, no wake zones		%
Manage areas of your lake	Garbage clean up, shoreline plantings, invasive species removal		%
Transform local systems	Encourage renewable energy, septic re-inspection programs		%
Lake Monitoring	Water quality testing (independent of RVCA), invasive species monitoring		%
Advocacy or Planning	Production of a lake management plan		%
Environmental Education	Workshops on stewardship, invasive species awareness program, summer camp focused on environment for young cottagers		%
Networking with local government agencies	Working with RVCA, township		%
None of the above	<u>Please Explain:</u>		%

Of these, which is your primary activity? Check only one.

Conserving	
Managing	
Transforming	
Monitoring	
Advocacy	
Education	
Networking	
None of the Above	

Section C: Community Information

If possible, please provide a figure or estimate for total number of cottages/homes on your lake:

If possible, please provide a figure or estimate for total number of residents or cottagers on your lake:

--

How many cottages/homes are occupied year-round? Provide a percentage.

	%
--	---

Are most folks involved in your association *year-round residents* or *seasonal cottagers*? Check only one.

Seasonal	
Year-Round	

Where are most residents on the lake from? Check only one.

Local (Lanark, Leeds and Grenville, Frontenac Counties)	
Eastern Ontario (incl. Ottawa and Kingston)	
Elsewhere in Ontario	
United States	
Elsewhere in Canada	

Where are most lake association volunteers from? Check only one.

Local (Lanark, Leeds and Grenville, Frontenac Counties)	
Eastern Ontario (incl. Ottawa and Kingston)	
Elsewhere in Ontario	
United States	
Elsewhere in Canada	

Do people involved in the lake association also participate in one or more of the following activities? Check all that apply.

Hunting	
Fishing	
Gardening/Farming	

Section D: Networking

Please list groups with which you regularly collaborate on environmental projects or programs:

Please list groups that you go to for knowledge, data, or expertise relating to environmental issues

Please list groups that you lobby or advise regarding environmental or planning policy

Please list groups from which you have received resources – funding or materials.

Section E: Impacts

What major changes or outcomes does your lake association wish to see from your stewardship work? Please be as specific as possible.

--

Do you track metrics about your activities? Write in Yes or No

--

If Yes, which metrics do you track? Would you be open to providing these metrics to the research team?

Metric	Can provide? Yes or No

For the statements below, check off your agreement with the statement on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)

a) *Our group has improved the following social outcomes in our community*

a. *Community Participation*

1	2	3	4	5

b. *Trust Between Neighbours*

1	2	3	4	5

c. *Influence on Policy*

1	2	3	4	5

b) *Our group has improved the following environmental outcomes in our community*

a. *Plants and Habitat Quality*

1	2	3	4	5

b. *Water Quality*

1	2	3	4	5

c. *Land Protection*

1	2	3	4	5

c) How influential have the following events and processes been on your group's work?

a. *Extreme Weather*

1	2	3	4	5

b. *Climate Change*

1	2	3	4	5

c. *Financial Crises*

1	2	3	4	5

d. *Changes in Elected Officials*

1	2	3	4	5

e. *Social Movements*

1	2	3	4	5

f. *Development or Rezoning Plans*

1	2		3	4	5

Section F: Additional Information

Which of the following organizing tools does your association use? Check all that apply

Email List	
Physical Newsletter	
Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc)	
Word of Mouth	

Other? Please Specify.

--

How many hours a week are generally spent participating in association activities overall?

What is your expected yearly budget for 2018?

Remember, like all questions in the survey, this will be kept confidential and is only for comparison purposes

Approximately what proportion of your budget comes from the following sources? Please ensure the proportions sum to 100%

Government	%
Foundations	%
Corporations	%
Individual Giving	%
Membership Fees	%
Service Fees	%
Other	%

Please Specify "Other" sources

How much is your association's membership fee?

Must every cottager/resident on the lake pay association dues or fees? Fill in Yes or No

**If no, do non-paying residents opt-in to paying (must join the association) or opt-out (members of the association as a default)?
Write in out-in or opt-out**

Personally, what are your main motivations for participating in your lake association?

As an association, what is your greatest accomplishment?

Section G: Final Section

Would you like to be contacted with final results of the project? Yes or No

--

Do you have any final thoughts? Share with us any additional information about your group or this survey that you think is important.

--

**This concludes the survey.
Thank you for your participation!**