SFX Lake Environmental Fund

Annual General Meeting

August 16, 2025

Presentation of the members of the Board of Directors:
Patrice Bernard, Patrick Wilhelmy, Souzi Mhanna, Jean-Pierre Corbeil, Jeremy Rycroft, Diana Jegou

Quorum:

The quorum is confirmed. The list of participants will be added to the list of members and is available for consultation.

Post AGM Note: The official calculation is at 29%, including proxies. The required is 20%.

Approval of the agenda:

France Pomerleau moved the resolution to adopt the agenda and was seconded by Denise Pinsonneault

There will be a question period at the end.

During the presentations, we will only take the questions of clarification.

Approval of the minutes of the 2024 AGM:
Diane Lapointe moved the resolution to adopt the agenda and was seconded by Yves Jegou.

Welcome - Patrice
Welcome to all of you and thank you for being here. The 2024 meeting was longer than normal. We had a lot of technical and scientific information. This year we are continuing these projects, which are already known and have few new technical elements. The meeting should therefore be shorter; we prefer to let you ask questions and above all want to save time for the presentation of our biologist. Souzi and Jean-Pierre will present some projects and will translate each other.

There was a question about the difference between the Association and the Fund. There are 21 associations in Wentworth-Nord, including the SFX Lake Association. They manage the boat gate, boat tags, organize social events, etc. The Fund's mandate is to fund projects that focus on the health of the lake. According to our regulations, the Fund can get involved in initiatives, provide training, etc.

Elections:

Patrice: You elected me for a three-year term here in 2022. The first half was under Souzi's presidency and more recently, Souzi and I transitioned, and I now take on the role of president. Time flies so fast. I wish to renew my mandate because I believe that our lake is a jewel and it has a lot to do to take care of it. I firmly believe that the Fund is the right place for me to contribute to this. Obviously, I am not going to direct the vote, I leave it to Jean-Pierre to preside over the election.

Jean-Pierre Corbeil: introduced Patrice and thanked him for his great contribution. The Fund has announced the position and no candidates applied. Patrice was therefore unanimously elected.

Patrice: Thank you for your support and I am committed to giving the best of myself as well as your team of directors.

Speaking of directors, Diana Jegou have been elected in 2023. From the beginning of her term, she mentioned that she wanted a 2-year term that has just ended. She does not wish to stand for re-election and the whole team we thank her warmly for her contribution. We lose Diana from the council, but the community does not lose its participation. She remains very involved and without her initiatives such as cafés, potlucks, singers, conferences. Our community would not have the chance to be so united without her. Congratulations and thanks to Diana.

We therefore remain a five-member board of directors. That's enough to have a diversity of opinions and good debates. We are especially looking for people who want to get involved in projects with or without being on the board. If we have volunteers who are also interested in the Board, we will invite them and formalize their mandates when you vote at the next AGM.

Financial Report:

Financial statements are not published on our site because there are cases of fraud, and we don't want to expose ourselves.

AGM post-note: If you want more information or if you want to consult the figures in more detail, do not hesitate to contact us.

In terms of income, we will remind you that we have set up an investment strategy with term deposits of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. This ensures annual availability while having higher yields. We had record revenues of $9,111

Our operating expenses are $1,884. These are our usual expenses, bank fees, website, corporate fees. Our biggest expenses in this regard remain the same, accounting fees ($775) and our insurance ($601). This year we have added the Rappel co-op membership fee which gives us access to a lot of technical information for the health of the lake. This is a one-time expense of $200.

The most important element of our finances is the projects we support.

a) First, we have the project for a counter-expertise of alternative roads that was presented last year. As agreed with Hélène, we are gradually paying the total amount of $9,000 between now and the trial and have made a first payment, $3,000

b) We did water tests, but the net cost is negative, $39, thanks to a credit negotiated by Souzi.

c) Finally, we have our important project for a lake mat authorized and presented last year. Souzi will present the update to you. The year 2024 is the most expensive of the program. We spent $5,820. We received the City's grant of $5,000, the last instalment, $1,400, was received after the end of the year. Our net cost to date is therefore $820 and we will continue to invest in it. Thank you again to our Municipality for this support. All these projects represent investments of $5,179 in 2024.

The net result for 2024 is a surplus of $2,160. Our capital is therefore increased to $226,094 and we are almost back to the amount of capital received when the Fund was created ($230,330).

Projects:

1. **SHORELINE RESTORATION – Jean-Pierre translated by Souzi**

A new project was launched last September following the recommendation of biologist Louise St-Cyr: to restore the shoreline along part of the aerobic corridor, starting after the park/beach area to Blueberry point. This project aims to reduce erosion and sediment input into the lake, which promotes the proliferation of invasive aquatic plants.

Before we could go ahead with the project, we had to obtain authorization from the MRC, which manages the aerobic corridor. Once this was done, the MRC provided us with recommendations regarding the choice of nursery plants and shrubs, which must be native and can be used to restore the shoreline. The requirements are such that they must not interfere with road maintenance and must not obscure the view of the lake. We would like to thank the MRC for their collaboration in this process.

Planting will take place during the week of August 25, weather permitting. We would like to especially thank Claire Valiquette for her help in finding volunteers and for her essential involvement in the success of the project.

Questions / comments:

- Hélène Perrier asked if we were aware of the municipality's work on the corridor, the answer was yes.
- Claire Valiquette asks the volunteers to give her the phone numbers and if there are more volunteers to go and see her at the end of the meeting. Planting scheduled for August 26 (weather permitting).

2. **Lake mat phase 2 – Souzi – translated in Frean by Jean-Pierre**

For those who don't know, this is a project initiated by the fund and has received financial support from both the municipality and the fund.

The purpose of it is to create a plant free corridor for all kinds of non-motorized and motorized boats to go through to reduce the transport of invasive plants around the lake. We use lake mats which we fabricate and install ourselves to achieve this corridor.

This plant free corridor will not provide a permanent solution rather just a solution that is buying us time until we are presented with a better solution.

I am pleased to announce that so far this project has been a success but only because of the support we have had from the community. I would like to a take minute to thank those who have volunteered to help us achieve our goal for this project. We really appreciate not only the time and energy you put into this but also appreciate how

generous you have been by allowing us to use your home, equipment, boat, dock, etc. So, a big thank you to Jacques Leblanc, Helene Perrier, Gaetan Crevier and Diane Lapointe, Agnes Simard, Céline Bouchard, Charles Boyer, Laurie Wallace, Danielle Lapointe, Françoise Chatigny and Pierre Faucher. From the Board, we have Patrice and Jean Pierre including myself. Thank you for your generosity, relentless commitment and camaraderie!

A quick resume and update of where we are and what we have accomplished. Last year we fabricated 18 lake mats and placed them around the Monfort bridge. This year, we fabricated an additional 32 mats, and we widened the path around the bridge and extended it towards the Monfort Pavillion. You can visually see this path from the bridge. It is delineated with red and green buoys. Patrick will be discussing the buoys after.

Our goal next year is to continue this path to reach the Pavillion and widen it as well. This will include fabricating more mats and the relocation of existing mats. We would like to add a notice at the Pavillion for residents and visitors as well explaining why they should navigate in this path. So far, people have naturally remained in this path.

This year, we realized that we have enough volunteers that can fabricate the mats and what we really need help with is strictly for installing and relocating the mats. So, anyone who can swim and help in the water is welcome to join us.

Questions / comments:

- What is the depth in this section, does it vary? : About 8 -10 feet over the distance, we did.

3. Lake mat (continued) – buoys – Patrick Wilhelmy

Installing the mats and making a corridor requires the installation of buoys. Three colors, red, green and yellow. Red and green delimit a channel, you must navigate between its buoys. In the channels, you should not sail at more than 10km/h. Yellow delimits areas where you should not sail.

Questions / comments:

- We will have to put up a sign at the pavilion explaining the colours of the buoys for our visitors. Claire Valiquette says that it is essential to have more signs to inform.
- Carl Chapdelaine suggests that a barometric map of the lake also be distributed to the Pavilion and residents.

- Anne-Claude Bonin: Apart from the channels, there are also a lot of plants, we had to inform people not to sail in these areas?

4. Surveillance at the Pavillon - Patrice

During the construction holidays we had a surveillance project at the washing station at the Pavilion. The objective is to convince the Municipality to include summer surveillance at the Pavilion in its 2026 budget. We were present every other day to be able to compare the number of visitors who pay the washing fees when we are there vs. when it is in autonomous mode without presence. We have an excellent collaboration with the Director of the Environment, Sébastien Poncelet and our Municipal Councillor, Colleen, who had a surveillance team at the beach.

We are waiting for the statistics of the washing station to carry out our analysis and work with Sébastien and Colleen. We have noticed a big change this year: we were surprised by the low number of visitors. This is beneficial for the tranquility of the lake and to reduce the risk of introducing invasive species, but it will make it more difficult for us to justify official monitoring. We will keep you informed.

The project cost only $31.04 for the bibs thanks to our volunteers. Thank you to the volunteers I had the pleasure of working with: Anne Poland, Lyne Bédard, Richard Morris, Charles Boyer, Laurie Wallace, Celine Bouchard, Pierre Faucher, Diana, Souzi, Jean-Pierre

Questions / comments:

- Charles Boyer: Being at the pavilion is also beneficial for communicating information to users about the rules, it helps to raise awareness of good practices for the health of the lake.
- Agnès Simard: The fines given last year surely discouraged many visitors.
- Pierre Faucher: Do we have the results of this exercise?
  No, we are working with Sébastien Poncelet to obtain the statistics.
- Diana Jegou: The washing machine has often been broken so the statistics will not be very reliable.

5. Dredging – Jean-Pierre translation by Souzi

As you know, the use of de-icing products and sand in winter is essential for maintaining the steep road at the Montfort Bridge. All this material ends up collecting under the bridge. This accumulation creates a blockage in the lake that prevents water from

circulating normally and thus promotes the growth of invasive aquatic plants. In August 2015, dredging allowed us to regain 4 feet of water under the bridge. It is currently approximately 15 inches.

Two years ago, we submitted a request for dredging again. The environmental assistant director, Benjamin Plourde, had initiated the process, but he left his position at the end of August last year. Since then, we have been working closely with Sébastien Poncelet, who currently holds the position of environmental assistant director. We would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank him for his commitment. Approaches and meetings have been made with a biologist from the MTQ, who, like biologist Louise St-Cyr, recommends dredging under the bridge. We are currently awaiting authorizations and funding. Mr. Sébastien Poncelet is actively working on this, and we hope that dredging can take place as soon as possible.

Questions / comments:

- Carl Chapdelaine: The pit is not enough?
  The pit has no partition so the sand settles at the bottom and the water goes down too quickly during heavy rain, so it stirs up the sand that comes out of the pit to fall into the lake.

Varia:

Questions / comments:

- Dave Clark: He had a dream for the background, in the early years, he didn't manage to accomplish what he wanted. For the past 4 years, he has finally seen his dream come true and would like to congratulate the current members of the Fund.
- Denise Pinsonneault: Talk about the work Dave had to do to get there. Talk about the threats he has had and want to thank him for his work. You are a board that does the right things.

END OF THE AGM at 11:20