

50 Shades of GREEN

all about
algae



Muskoka Stewardship
Conference

PROGRAM

Friday
May 12

Port Carling
Community Centre

2017

OUR SCHEDULE

| Time | Topic | Speaker |
|----------|---|---|
| 8:30 am | Registration opens | |
| 9:00 am | Opening Remarks | Muskoka Stewardship Conference Host Dr. Peter Sale, <i>Muskoka Watershed Council</i> Chair John Klinck <i>District Municipality of Muskoka</i> Mayor Don Furniss <i>Township of Muskoka Lakes</i> <i>Facility Sponsor</i> |
| 9:30 am | Keynote presentation: What are cyanobacteria trying to tell us? | Dr. Charles Trick <i>University of Western Ontario</i> <i>Sponsored by the Lake of Bays Association</i> |
| 10:30 am | Break | |
| 11:00 am | Algae: natural indicators of environmental change | Dr. Andrew Paterson <i>Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change</i> |
| 11:30 am | Reported blooms in Ontario lakes: 1994 to 2016 | Claire Holeton <i>Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change</i> |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch | |
| 1:00 pm | Algae in Honey Harbour, Georgian Bay | Aisha Chiandet <i>Severn Sound Environmental Association</i> |
| 1:15 pm | Reporting algal blooms | Daniel Joyce <i>Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change</i> |
| 1:35 pm | Algal blooms: a public health perspective | Karen Kivilahti <i>Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit</i> |
| 1:55 pm | New (and improved) tools for researching algae in lakes | Dr. James Rusak <i>Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change</i> |
| 2:45 pm | Break | |
| 3:00 pm | Panel discussion with conference speakers | Moderated by Dr. Peter Sale <i>Muskoka Watershed Council</i> |
| 4:15 pm | Closing Remarks | Lou Guerriero, Chair <i>Muskoka Watershed Council</i> |

OUR SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker: Dr. Charles Trick

University of Western Ontario

Dr. Charles Trick is an oceanographer (and sometime limnologist) who studies the formation of phytoplankton blooms – both harmful blooms and toxic blooms – in many areas of the globe. He was the Beryl Ivey Chair for Ecosystem Health at the Schulich School of Medicine and is a Distinguished Research Professor in the Faculty of Science at Western University.

Dr. Trick studies, writes, and speaks about the impacts that natural and human-caused changes to the aquatic systems have on phytoplankton communities, and the effect this has on communities and industries that rely on them. He was awarded the inaugural Western Humanitarian Award for leading a project studying the ecosystem health of Lake Naivasha in Kenya, the inaugural Fallona Interdisciplinary Science Award, and the Akira Okubo Distinguished Professorship from Stony Brook University. This said, Dr. Trick is in an intellectual battle with the unpredictable dominance of cyanobacteria.

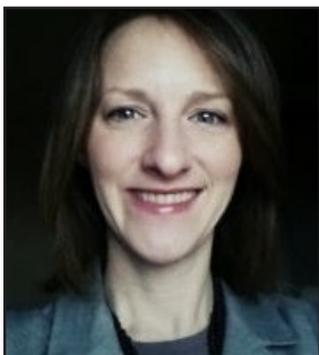
Sponsored by the Lake of Bays Association



Dr. Andrew Paterson

Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Following the completion of his PhD. in Biology from Queen's University in 2000, Dr. Paterson was hired as a research scientist at the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's Dorset Environmental Science Centre (DESC). At DESC, located in the heart of Ontario's cottage country, Dr. Paterson carries out research on the effects of multiple environmental stressors, including climate change, on the water quality and ecology of inland lakes. His recent work has focused on understanding the causes of algal blooms in nutrient-poor lakes within the Canadian Shield.



Claire Holeton

Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Claire Holeton works for the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change as an expert in algae and nutrient science. Her academic training includes studies at the University of Victoria (BC), the University of Southampton (UK), and the University of Uppsala (Sweden). Her research activities have included studies in diverse environments including polar oceans, rivers and inland lakes. As part of her current role, she coordinates algal identification in the province's response to suspected blue-green algal blooms.



Aisha Chiandet

Severn Sound Environmental Association

Aisha completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Guelph where she specialized in Water Resources. Following her time at Guelph and after working for the Severn Sound Environmental Association for a year and a half, she earned a master's degree in the Watershed Ecosystems program at Trent University. Her master's work focused on water quality and biological communities in stormwater management ponds. After graduating at Trent, Aisha returned to the SSEA and has been a water scientist there for 8 years. Aisha's work at SSEA focuses water quality monitoring of lakes and tributaries in the Severn Sound watershed.



Daniel Joyce

Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Daniel Joyce is a Divisional Program Specialist with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change. He has been with the ministry for 17 years in various roles. He is currently the Operations Division Program Lead for their Blue-Green Algae response and Work Plan Coordinator for their Great Lakes Strategy/Canada-Ontario Agreement program. Daniel works out of the Eastern Regional office in Kingston.



Karen Kivilahti

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Karen Kivilahti has a bachelor's degree in both Occupational and Public Health and Sport and Physical Education. She is a Certified Public Health Inspector and the Program Coordinator for Safe Water at the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. Karen has over 12 years of experience as a public health professional and in 2015, she was the recipient of the Lilli Ann Zahara Award for her leadership in the field of environmental health.



Dr. James Rusak

Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

Dr. James Rusak is a scientist with the Dorset Environmental Science Centre, an Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change research centre focusing on inland waters. He uses biological, physical and chemical long-term and large-scale monitoring data to improve the early detection of environmental threats and understand ecosystem response to multiple stressors. Additionally, he also uses high-frequency automated-sensing data in Muskoka lakes to investigate processes occurring at much shorter time scales that can affect algal and carbon dynamics in lakes, all in an effort to help improve our understanding of aquatic ecosystem services and, ultimately, enhance the linkages between science and policy.



Muskoka Stewardship Conference Host/ Moderator: Dr. Peter Sale

Muskoka Watershed Council

Dr. Peter Sale was a senior scientist with the United Nations University's Institute for Water, Environment and Health and is Professor Emeritus at the University of Windsor. Educated at the University of Toronto and the University of Hawaii, his research into the ecology of coral reefs spanned a career at the University of Sydney (1968-87), University of New Hampshire (1988-93), and University of Windsor (1994-2006).

His latest book, *Our Dying Planet*, tells the story of our impacts on the environment from the perspective of an ecologist who has seen environmental decline with his own eyes. Dr. Sale is Past-chair of the Muskoka Watershed Council and is currently leading Muskoka Watershed Council's Algae Sub-committee.

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Thank You!

We thank all of the volunteers, speakers, sponsors and participants for making our 5th Muskoka Stewardship Conference possible.

Muskoka Watershed Council and the District of Muskoka give special thanks to June Kingshott for sponsoring two students to attend our Stewardship Conference.

Organizing Committee:

Ryan Sorichetti

Christy Doyle

Rebecca Willison



Muskoka
WATERSHED COUNCIL

Muskoka Watershed Council is a volunteer-based non-profit organization founded in 2001 to promote watershed health.

www.muskokawatershed.org



The District Municipality of Muskoka is an upper-tier government involved in monitoring recreational water quality since 1980.

www.muskoka.on.ca
www.muskokawaterweb.ca