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# Who is FOCA?



FOCA is the only province-wide voice for Ontario waterfront property owners



*FOCA's Mission:  
To protect thriving and  
sustainable waterfronts across Ontario*



# ✓FOCA's working on:

- **Municipal Elections**
- **Land Use Planning**
- **Fisheries Act - the new world**
- **Policing Costs**
- **Hydro Rates**
- **Anti-spam Laws**
- **ONCA**
- **Algonquin Land Claim**
- **ELA**
- **Great Lakes**
- **Carp**
- **Invasive Species Act**



# Elerts are **your best source** for up-to-date news



## Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

FOCA Elert

April 2014

### In This Issue

- Spring Water Conditions
- OPP Costs Update
- ELA deal reached
- CottageFirst Launch & Prize Winner
- PPS Update

### Spring Water Conditions Update

Most water levels have stabilized in inland lakes, yet water levels are generally still quite high as large volumes continue to pass through Southern Ontario watersheds. Even with little to no new precipitation, it will take several days or possibly weeks for the water to move through the lakes and for water levels to subside.

Prompt all members to sign up:

**[www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca)**

### Policing costs set to dramatically impact municipal property owners urged to ACT NOW!

FOCA is speaking out against the proposed changes to the OPP Billing model, which will significantly alter the amount that rural municipalities will pay for policing services. For properties assessed above the township average (typically those on waterfront), this change could have a profound impact on your property tax bill.

FOCA strongly encourages our members to write their MPP to express their concerns. Feel free to refer to the letter to FOCA members, background, on the [FOCA Policing Costs webpage](#). Please speak up!

### New Provincial Policy Statement Released

For the past three years, FOCA has been looking out for waterfront interests in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) Review, as part of the Rural Working Group. The PPS provides policy direction for land use planning this province-wide tool, largely focused on urban growth, has not always effectively served the interests of rural, northern or waterfront communities.

You can find a full copy of the new **PPS 2014**, and a list of the significant changes by the update, on the [FOCA Land Use Planning webpage](#).

Stay tuned for more information on the practical implications for property owners in waterfront communities as a result of this new policy update.

### Electricity rates set to rise

Hydro One Networks has filed a rate application for their regulated prices, covering the period 2015-2019.

FOCA is seeking intervenor status at the Ontario Energy Board, to represent the interests of residential waterfront property owners who comprise a significant portion of Hydro One's customer base, including the majority of customers classified as "seasonal."

No date(s) for these hearing are as yet confirmed. Stay tuned to the [FOCA Energy webpage](#) for updates.

### Significant Hydro One billing issues under investigation by Ontario's Ombudsman

In response to increased complaints...

# FOCA AIS Monitoring Program



- Engage FOCA's 500+ member associations and 50,000 waterfront families
- Provide the tools and resources to identify, report and monitor AIS.
- Assist Lake Associations in educating their members on AIS and best management practices.



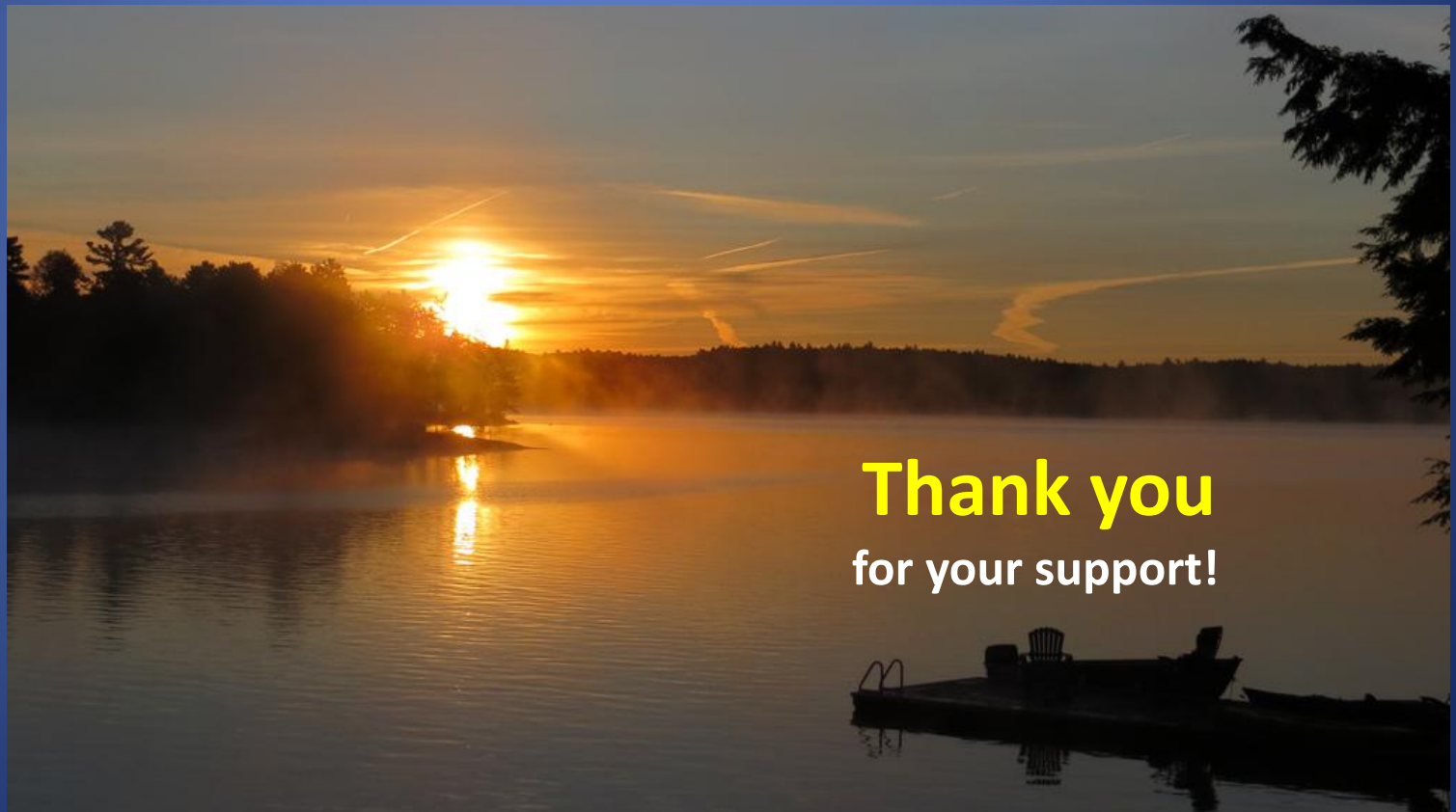


# Contact us at:



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**Thank you**  
for your support!