

**President's Report  
Annual General Meeting  
Turtle Lake Watershed Inc.**

**July 17, 2010**

Turtle Lake Watershed Inc. (TLWI) continues to be an active lake stewardship group thanks to the interest of Board members from each of the communities around Turtle Lake. Our mission is “*to maintain a healthy aquatic ecosystem within the Turtle Lake watershed basin*”. We focus our activities primarily on educational activities to provide lake residents and other interested people with information on how to keep our lake and watershed clean and healthy.

In the 2009-2010 fiscal year we held three Board of Director meetings as well as the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Our initiatives in the past year (April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010) were as follows:

***Information Signs***

During the summer of 2009, 15 aluminum information signs were placed at high use areas around the lake, primarily at boat launches and some beaches. Each sign frame contains interchangeable summer and winter messages. The sign frames were constructed by volunteer students from the Turtleford Community School under the guidance of Jim Range. Installation of the signs was done by TLWI Board members at our respective subdivisions.

***Shoreline Cleanup***

The annual shoreline cleanup at various locations on Turtle Lake was completed in July, 2009 under the leadership of George Rozdilsky. Our cleanup efforts over the years appears to have had a positive effect, as there is very little debris and garbage along the shoreline. Even with the high water levels in recent years, very little debris is evident along the shore.

***2010 Winter Ice User Survey***

A second winter ice user survey was carried out by four senior students from Turtleford Community School under the guidance of Nancy Range. The survey was done in February and March, 2010 (the first survey was done in the winter of 2009). All participants in the 2010 survey were given a 2010 Resource Protection Pocket Calendar, which was provided to TLWI by Saskatchewan Environment. The primary objective of the survey was to collect information on people's use and understanding of the impact of winter activities on the lake. It also was intended to educate ice fishers on Turtle Lake and the work of TLWI.

### ***Forestry Activities in Turtle Lake Watershed***

At our July 18, 2009 AGM, Kathleen Gazey, Regional Forester, Saskatchewan Environment, Meadow Lake provided our members with an excellent presentation on forest harvesting operating plans in the Turtle Lake watershed. Subsequently, Bob Gourlay attended a meeting of the Divide Forest Advisory Committee in the winter of 2010 to gain a better perspective on forest harvesting plans in our watershed.

### ***Enhancements to TLWI Website***

Bob Gourlay continues to do a great job in updating the TLWI website. A new feedback page was added to the website where visitors can submit questions and suggestions. Our TLWI website contains a wealth of information on Turtle Lake and its natural resources.

### ***Financial Status***

TLWI continues to enjoy a positive bank balance (about \$7500) thanks to continued membership contributions from our members. We continue to have sufficient funds to carry out new initiatives as they arise.

In closing, I wish to say that I am proud to have been part of the TLWI for the past several years. It has been my pleasure to serve as your President for the past three years. I am certain that TLWI will continue to serve as a meaningful environmental stewardship group for years to come.

Submitted by:

Merv Swanson  
President, TLWI

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