

# ALL ABOUT SKELETON LAKE

The lake is about 8.3 kilometres (5.2 mi) long and 4.8 kilometres (3.0 mi) wide, lies at an elevation of 280 metres (919 ft). The sole outflow is the Skeleton River at the west of the lake. It is controlled by the Skeleton Lake Dam.

The lake is thought to have been formed as a result of a meteorite impact. About 800 million years ago, an asteroid impact is suspected to have created a crater much larger than the remnant lake. Periods of glaciation since then have removed the original crater, leaving a lake approximately 2.2 miles across and 100 meters deep at its center.

According to residents of the lake, on calm days it is possible to see up to 30 metres (98 ft) underwater with the naked eye.

SOURCE: WIKIPEDIA



## THE SKELETON LAKE COTTAGERS ORGANIZATION

FROM THE WEBSITE [HTTPS://WWW.SKELETONLAKE.CA](https://www.skeletonlake.ca)

Skeleton Lake in Muskoka is unique among Ontario lakes for its crystal clear waters and dramatic landscapes. Formed by an ancient meteor strike and scoured by several ice ages, the lake has a rugged natural beauty that draws visitors back year after year.

The Skeleton Lake Cottagers Organization is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of the natural beauty and abundant wildlife characteristic of the area.



THE SKELETON LAKE PLAN  
Available for Purchase  
Members \$10.00

## FOKLORE

Skeleton Lake, or the pool of bones, is so named because when surveyors were working on the north shore, they came upon two skeletons resting on the rocks. When they asked a local Indian chief where the skeletons came from, they were told that he and his people had camped one winter on Skeleton Lake. When food became scarce the tribe decided to move elsewhere. One mother, with a fourteen-year-old son too weak to move, refused to accompany them. They died together of starvation, and the lake was named in memory of this mother and her son. It is said there is an underground current that leads south but no attempts have been made to find where it leads.

## RECREATION

The open body of water of Skeleton Lake is about the largest open body of water in all the Muskoka Lakes. This makes it an excellent lake for such sports as sailing and windsurfing, though there can be rough water. Fishing is a serious sporting challenge on the lake. Bass and trout can be caught. In the spring, lake trout will strike at minnows in cold shallow water. Later in the summer, trout like to stay in cold water below the second thermocline, which is typically 50–70 feet. This requires down-riggers to get the bait to the right depth. Bass can be caught in shallower depths.

## SUMMER CAMP FUN

Skeleton Lake is home to several religion-based camps including Camp Ramah in Canada, a Jewish summer camp; Camp Kwasind, a Baptist camp; and Camp Newport, operated by The Salvation Army.

## SKELETON LAKE PLAN & STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The SLCO undertook this effort with the following goals in mind:

- to provide itself with a Lake Plan for the achievement of its mission.
- to provide municipal planning authorities with documentation identifying the values and the features that the property owners of the Skeleton Lake watershed have a common interest in preserving
- to identify specific stewardship actions Skeleton Lake stakeholders, and the SLCO, can take in implementing the plan's mission.

Two Strategic Initiatives, grouped together, simplify the many recommendations detailed in the Plan:

Skeleton Lake Plan and Skeleton Lake Stewardship Program. This document will be the catalyst for several future initiatives aimed at the conservation and preservation of our great lake.

# HISTORY, COMMUNITY, EVENTS

## ONE TREE ISLAND



The famous "one tree Island" is one of the most photographed pictures of Skeleton Lake, and has been adopted as the Cottagers Association logo.

There is a strong sense of pride and of community life on Skeleton Lake. Support for initiatives is found from membership in the Skeleton Lake Cottagers Association, to general donations, to purchases of merchandise with unique logos, found on their online store.

<https://www.skeletonlake.ca/Store>.



## FISH HATCHERY PARK

In 1938, The Ontario Department of Game and Fisheries purchased 18 acres including the current dam site where the Lake empties into the Skeleton River and where the small falls would feed the rearing ponds by gravity. The hatchery was closed in 1992 due to provincial budget cutbacks. In 1993, with local pressure, the property was purchased by The Township of Muskoka Lakes to use as a park.



## WALKING TRAILS TO EXPLORE SKELETON LAKE HATCHERY FALLS AND FISH HATCHERY TRAIL



The Skeleton Lake Cottagers Organization was incorporated in 1989 by some forward thinking cottagers. They are currently compiling blog content and creating a beautiful history of this well loved lake. .

A history of our Lake as seen through the eyes of our community members and recounted in their legends, stories, and accounts over some six generations, from 1860 through to the present day.

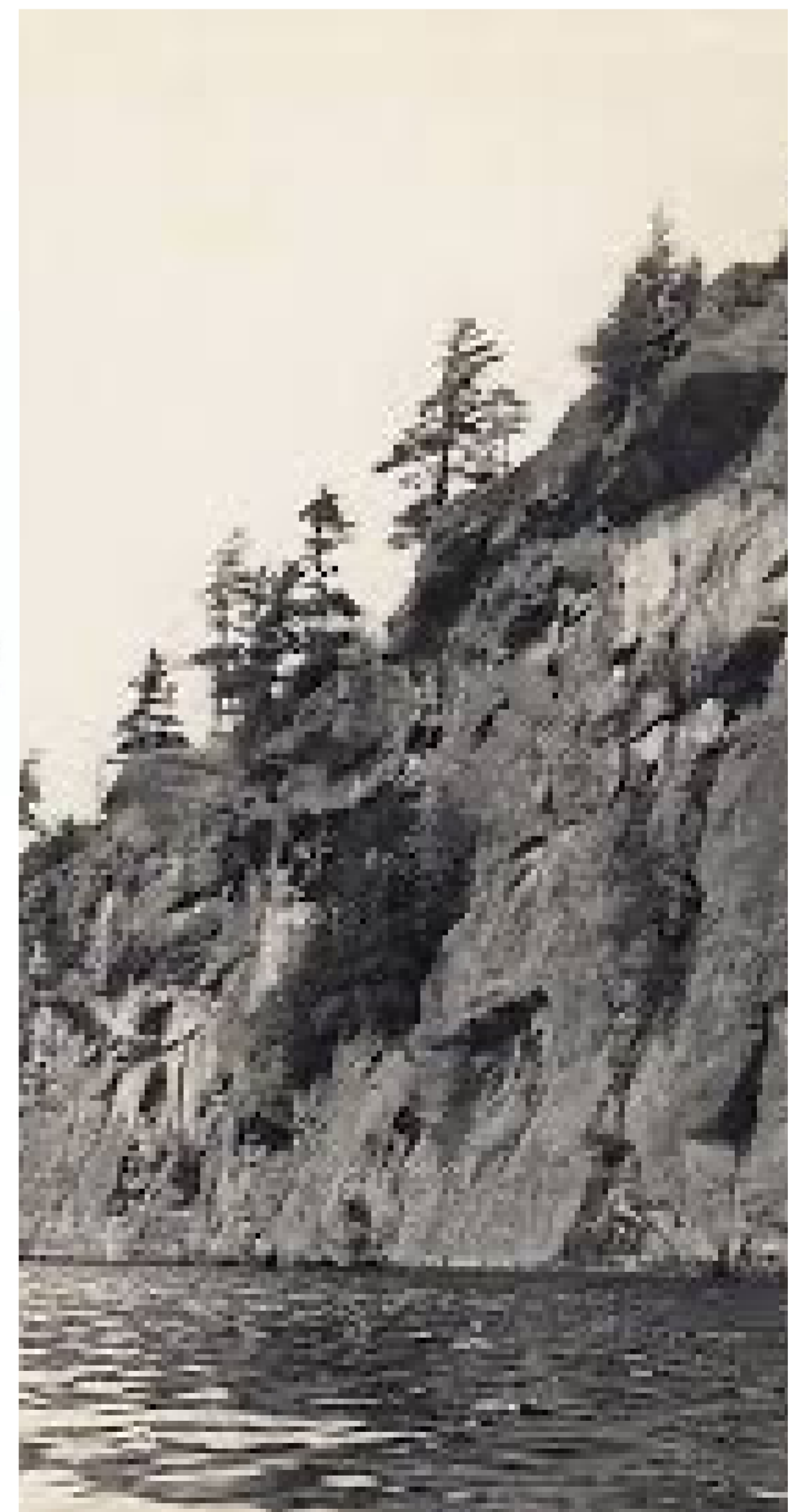
## ANNUAL EVENTS:

Every year the Cottagers get together for various fun family events. There is something for everyone!

These are just a few:

- Annual General Meeting
- Family Day
- Guided Hikes
- Bugs in the Mud
- Sailing Race
- keleton Lake Marina Fishing Derby Awards Pancake Breakfast
- Tour of Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary
- Annual Jack Wyndham/Bill Wilson Sailing Race

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:  
TO ENSURE THE  
PRESERVATION AND  
STEWARDSHIP OF SKELETON  
LAKE AND ITS SURROUNDING  
WATERSHED BY ENSURING  
THAT THE LAKE MAINTAINS  
ALL OF ITS MANY UNIQUE  
QUALITIES FOR  
GENERATIONS TO COME.**



## DEVILS FACE