

## Vicars Pond Update

The water level in Vicars Pond was very high last Fall, Winter and this Spring. Naturally, this causes the surrounding water table to be that much higher than desired. Many of you are concerned about your sump pump's ability to keep your basement from flooding due to the resulting high water table. This note will update you on the actions we have taken and our plans going forward.

Over time, the maximum level of Vicars Pond has gradually risen. This is because the drainage path from the east end of the pond out to Lake Simcoe passes through ditches, culverts and drainage easements, all of which are gradually filling in due to frost heaving, grasses, weeds, bulrushes, leaves and miscellaneous debris. It is estimated that the maximum level of Vicars Pond has increased by about 10 inches over the last 10 years, or about 1 inch per year. This is likely to continue into the future.

Storm water drainage in Bayshore is provided primarily by the Township ditches and culverts. The maintenance of these are the responsibility of the Township, but virtually no maintenance has been done in over 20 years. There are a few areas in Bayshore that are reaching critical levels, and the drainage path to drain Vicars Pond is the most urgent. The Director of Common Lands has been working with the Township for about one year, doing deputations to Council, writing letters to the Works Dept., touring Works and Councillors through Bayshore, and by working directly with our Councilman, Joe Gough.

On or about November 18, 2019, Josh Kavanagh from Ramara Township surveyed the ditches that drain Vicars Pond. He then wrote an email stating that there was not sufficient height differential to allow Vicars Pond to drain into Lake Simcoe! We disagree.

As a result, the BVA decided to rent a pump and lower Vicars Pond by about 15 inches by pumping the excess water to Harbour 99. This process took 3 days and is now complete. We were fortunate to be able to use an existing 4-inch pipe, with minor changes.

We will monitor the situation. If we get heavy rains during the Winter, like last year, we are prepared to lower the level again, if needed.

In the meantime, we will be doing our own measurements to cross check the survey done by the Township and will be going back to Council in the near future with another deputation requesting action. The drainage path from Vicars needs to be lowered as we do not want to continue to use the pump in the future.

If you have questions as to the action plan to control the maximum level of Vicars Pond, or any other questions with regard to Common Waters or Common Lands in Bayshore, please do not hesitate to call.

**Steve Goulter**

**Director of Common Lands**

Bayshore Village Association

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**Thank you**

**Bayshore Board of Directors**