



BUFFALO LAKE SOUTH SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

March 2016

Prepared by the County of Stettler No. 6 Planning & Development department from the responses to the survey questionnaire sent out on September 18, 2015 by email (296 contacts) and website.

Total respondents: 217

Table of Contents

Question 1: How do you use the lake, the County-owned Municipal Reserve (MR) and Environmental Reserve (ER) in your community? 4

Question 2: Do you use / place any of the following summer / winter structures at the lake? 7

Question 3: Do you think it would be practical if the County obtained a license of occupation, recreational lease or other type of disposition from the provincial government in order to create one or more communal dock / pier system(s) that allows for use by lake front and back lot property owners through a permitting/consent system managed by the County?..... 10

Question 4: Where do you store your summer structure during the winter, and your winter structure during the summer?..... 21

Question 5: Are your storage options feasible, practical and safe? - If you answered "No", please explain why not. 32

Question 6: Do you think it would be practical and beneficial if the County obtained a license of occupation, recreational lease or other type of disposition from the provincial government in order to create one or more communal storage area(s) for winter / summer structures at your community? . 35

Question 7: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current access and amenities/facilities provided by the County on reserve land along the shoreline and in your community, as it may contribute to or detract from your use / enjoyment of the shoreline / lake? 42

Question 8: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the level of service that the County provides with regard to maintenance of the County-owned reserves, parks and pathways, both adjacent to the shoreline and elsewhere? E.g. removal of dead trees, mowing the trails, playground maintenance, weed control, signage? The frequency of maintenance and at the appropriate time of the year? Please specify in the box below. - What do you think the County could do better or just differently to improve the level of service? 52

Question 9: Do you think it would be practical to set up rules whereby the landowners through a community association could supplement or take over the maintenance of the reserve parcels, parks and pathways on behalf of the County, to improve the level of service? 61

Question 10: Do you think that encroachments from private property onto reserve land on the one hand, and trespassing of the general public (who are using the reserves) onto private property on the other hand, could be better managed if the County constructed a decorative fence, two or three feet tall, perhaps with accesses/openings to the shoreline at each lakefront lot, along the length of the

shoreline reserve where practical, in order to demarcate the boundary between private property and public reserve? 70

Question 11: Do you think that the County should allow every lakefront lot owner to cut a three-foot-wide path through the natural vegetation on the County-owned environmental reserve parcel in order to directly access the lake from their property? Or allow two lot owners to share one path? Or do you think everyone should have to do what a back lot owner has to do, i.e. access the lake using a communal walkway? 81

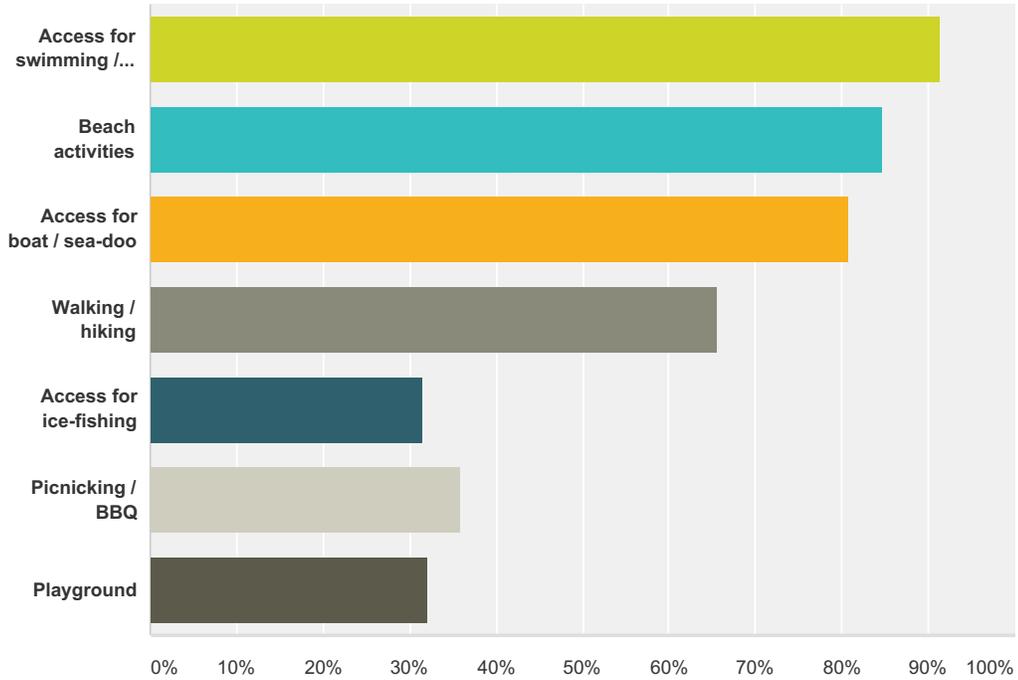
Question 12: The County must allocate the revenue from selling portions of reserve lands generally within the community wherein the revenue was generated. There will be a significant amount of dollars available in the reserve fund, and the funds cannot be used for any other purpose. How do you think these funds should be used? 91

Question 13: If you have used the public boat launch at Buffalo View Estates since it was reconstructed in 2014, do you think it works better now that the slope has been reduced?..... 102

Question 14: Please share any other thoughts that you have that could assist the County in developing a shoreline management plan that works for you. 109

Q1 How do you use the lake, the County-owned Municipal Reserve (MR) and Environmental Reserve (ER) in your community? Check all that apply.

Answered: 209 Skipped: 8



Answer Choices	Responses
Access for swimming / wading	91.39% 191
Beach activities	84.69% 177
Access for boat / sea-doo	80.86% 169
Walking / hiking	65.55% 137
Access for ice-fishing	31.58% 66
Picnicking / BBQ	35.89% 75
Playground	32.06% 67
Total Respondents: 209	

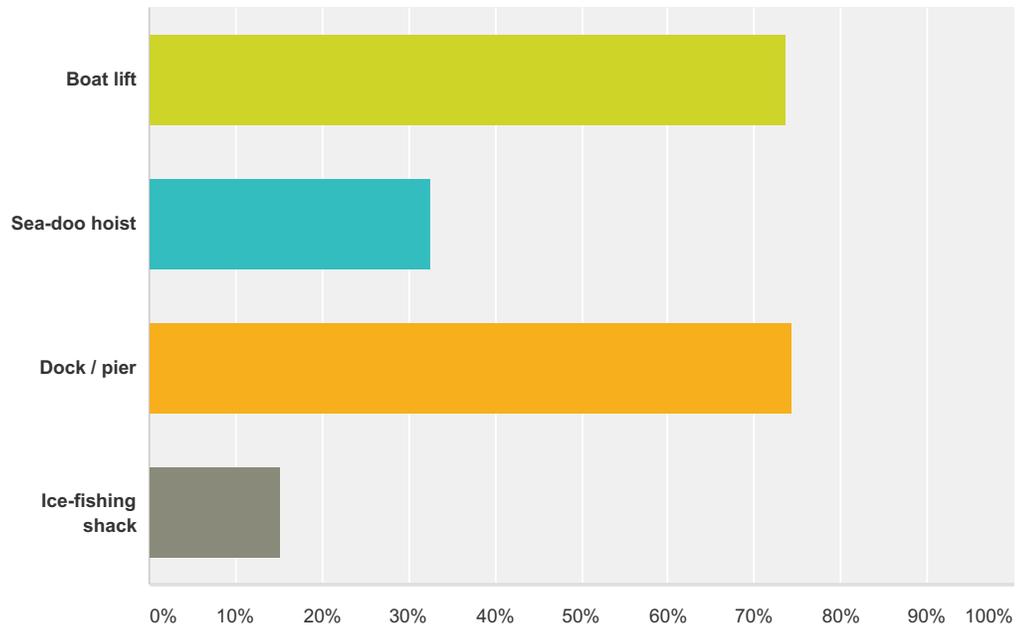
1. How do you use the lake, the County-owned Municipal Reserve (MR) and Environmental Reserve (ER) in your community? Other (please specify)

- 1) bird watching
- 2) Cross country skiing/snow shoeing. Kayaking.
- 3) Love to walk, need safe trail on beach. Do not like attitude of beach owners while I walk on beach.
- 4) Town of Settler has it right.
- 5) community piers
- 6) Access to launch kayaks in summer, skating in winter, beach campfires
- 7) We have kayaks at this time
- 8) Families play on the area, however there is no playground equipment on this section
- 9) bird watching, photography, nature walks
- 10) Enjoy view of water!!!
- 11) Waterskiing
- 12) Storage (May-Oct) for things we need at the beach so we don't have to carry canoes and things back and forth every time we go to the beach
- 13) Enjoying the view. I find that the focus of this survey is too narrow. To maintain the health & value of our lake it takes much more than a narrow shoreline strip. The entire watershed impacts the health of our lake and needs to be considered.
- 14) We boat and use beachfront in front of our lake lot
- 15) The access to swimming areas is very limited it would be nice to see more swimming areas and public areas without needing to follow a maze and require satellite maps to get there! Especially parking areas nearby even signs would be an improvement "beach this way beach parking that way".
- 16) We use the lake for what it's there for. I bought lake front thinking it would be the same as almost any lake in Canada - so you have personal access by path. I'm not sure why at one part of the lake you have about 25 feet of ER and at another part it is 150 to 300 feet of ER. There is really no reason why this is in place. Lakefront owners should be able to buy the ER up until the 25 feet mark the same as most lakes in Canada.
- 17) WE rely heavily on the ability to use the beach in front of our property and use the direct access to the dock and lake. This is THE reason why we bought the property.

- 18) Cross country skiing along the reserve. Access to lake for snowmobiling.
- 19) We cross country ski and snow mobile in the winter on lake and shore line. We do access the beach via marked patches to the lake from a back lot.
- 20) As it applies to the County, there is no playground, picnic area, beach or swimming area and nor should there be, there is all of the above at Rochon Sands village and a multimillion dollar Provincial park that has all of the above.
- 21) We spend a great deal of time looking at the lake from our deck, even if we don't actually go down to the lake itself. We especially enjoy the sunsets.
- 22) enjoying the sunsets, watching the birds, watching the water and activities on the water
- 23) At this time, we do not access the MR or ER in any matter. However, that does not mean that in the future I may want to access the lake to take my family and enjoy the water.
- 24) bird watching
- 25) A subdivision with no boat launch and no access for sea-doo.
- 26) We love having walking distance to lake access, it is the only reason we purchased the land.
- 27) Fire pit for wiener roasts and sing a longs.
- 28) where my property is there is no wading. the shore is covered in rock making wading impossible.
- 29) We do not use the lake.
- 30) Fishing (spring/summer/fall)
- 31) We rely on the access we have to our beach directly in front of our property.
- 32) We use our boat on the water to fish, and water sports. We use our beach in front of our lakefront lot only.

**Q2 Do you use / place any of the following summer / winter structures at the lake?
Check all that apply.**

Answered: 163 Skipped: 54



Answer Choices	Responses
Boat lift	73.62% 120
Sea-doo hoist	32.52% 53
Dock / pier	74.23% 121
Ice-fishing shack	15.34% 25
Total Respondents: 163	

2. Do you use / place any of the following summer / winter structures at the lake? Other (please specify)

- 1) Take home.
- 2) no
- 3) Access Rochon Sands boat launch when we have guests with a boat
- 4) None
- 5) Just walking
- 6) None
- 7) We share a dock with others
- 8) We do not use any motorized vehicles or have a dock. And we don't ice fish, although we often bear the burden of the ice fish houses in the spring when their garbage washes up to the shore. In fact, one spring an ice fishing house was left on the ice and collapsed into the ice, another spring one was left on the beach where someone set fire to it. Why don't ice fishers have to have a permit?
- 9) Picnic table and chairs
- 10) will be purchasing a dock over the winter
- 11) May use sea-do hoist and/or boat lift and/or dock in future.
- 12) Only May-Sept and we are mindful to place ours along with others together so that there is not a littering of the waters with random boats placed all over the place
- 13) There's a boat launch I like to go swimming near.
- 14) I have a fiberglass shed to hold our boating equipment, tubes, water ski's, life jackets, kids water toys, anchors, etc. My \$2800.00 shed has been by the lake for the past 15 years and has let my children have fun on the lake as they don't have to haul all of our equipment down to the lake every time we want to use the stuff!! I can understand the people that don't have lakefront thinking they get hooped. But we paid to have lakefront and they could have done the same. Just compare price of property and taxes.
- 15) We share a lot with others
- 16) Picnic table, umbrella and chairs stay at or near the beach from June to September
- 17) Store paddle board in summer for use on lake.
- 18) We store paddle board along the tree line in the summer months as well as lawn chairs.

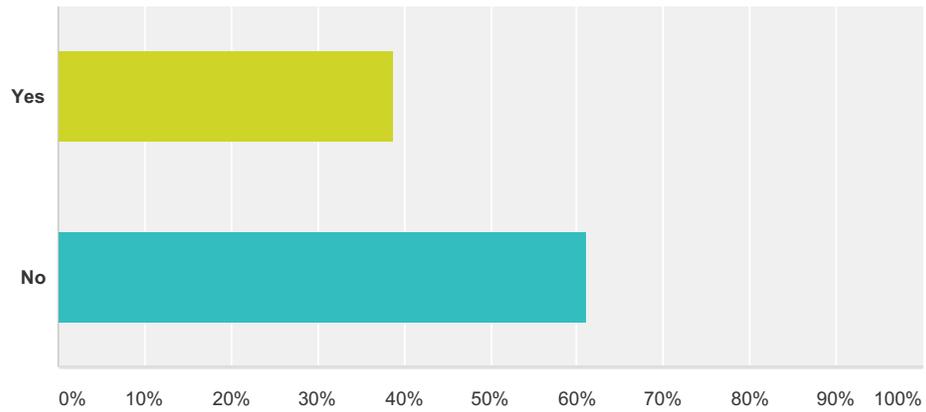
- 19) We currently store the pier and boatlift on the shoreline.
- 20) I sometimes leave my Canoe by the lake so I don't have to transport it from the house all the time.
- 21) Our lots are still empty, but when we build, we will use a lift and dock for our boat.
- 22) Will be looking at an ice fishing shack in the future. Others have sheds in the beach area, we would like to use it for fishing in the winter and shed in the summer.
- 23) No
- 24) chairs, benches, children's' toys
- 25) Picnic table Gazebo type canopy
- 26) No, not at this time
- 27) No have to drive to Rochon Sands
- 28) The beach area in BVE is not very swim friendly, the trees go right up to the water and the area is extremely rocky. A dock completely changes the way we use the lake, we spend the entire day there, the kids swim off it, we can tie up our boat for the day, it is wonderful. It is the best thing about our lake property. We would want moorage in the BVE marina but are respecting this as communal space to be developed by the BVE community association. The slope of the BVE boat launch makes it unusable for many boat types - the below water portion of the ramp is so steep that my boat will not float before taking water over the stern.
- 29) picnic table, and benches, canoe,
- 30) Seasonal storage of canoe, kayak, beach umbrella, etc.
- 31) equipment shed
- 32) WE do not use the lake

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) Occasionally we go ice fishing in someone else's facility.

Q3 Do you think it would be practical if the County obtained a license of occupation, recreational lease or other type of disposition from the provincial government in order to create one or more communal dock / pier system(s) that allows for use by lake front and back lot property owners through a permitting/consent system managed by the County?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 19



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	38.89% 77
No	61.11% 121
Total	198

3. Do you think it would be practical if the County obtained a license of occupation, recreational lease or other type of disposition from the provincial government in order to create one or more communal dock / pier system(s) that allows for use by lake front and back lot property owners through a permitting/consent system managed by the County? - If you answered yes and have an idea for the best location for such a system, please provide more information. If you answered no, please provide more information.

- 1) All communities already have a dock system and have spent significant money on it to date. I see no benefit to the added bureaucracy of having a dock system managed thru the County. Of great benefit would be a recreational lease allowing for added beaches especially in the newer areas like Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 2) I think that this would be practical for any new developments on the south shore. However, this should not be imposed for existing communities.
- 3) absolutely not
- 4) Not necessary. Current groupings have worked have worked very successfully on their own.
- 5) NO and NO LOC. There are so many question still to be answered regarding the communal dock as to where they be located and who is responsible to maintain, putting in and removal annually, the cost of the docks, etc.
- 6) A dock on the south shoreline would more than likely be destroyed by fierce winds that come across the long width of Buffalo Lake and would be too costly to build and maintain. Also, a communal dock would impede fishing and water sports along the south shoreline.
- 7) Things seem to work perfectly fine the way they are.
- 8) The south shore is not a good choice for a communal pier due to high winds, waves and ice. It would also impact the use of near shore water use for fisherman and water skiers. Not a smart or efficient use and not cost effective.
- 9) Start with 3.
- 10) High winds, ice, waves would make a pier a problem to maintain.
- 11) I love to fish and a pier would be nice to fish from.
- 12) We all need to share the lake.
- 13) I love to see children on the piers fishing.
- 14) at all public access and suggestions of lot owners.

- 15) A communal pier very congested & hard to maintain.
- 16) We already have a license of occupation; my question would be Would this allow us to put in a boat launch in our community? Right now, we drive to Rochon Sands to do this.
- 17) 4 piers, at 4th Ave, the Municipal Reserve at [REDACTED] (i.e. 3rd Avenue road allowance), one more east of the marina and one more on the road allowance 20-5?
- 18) Only as a way for users that want to use them. Still allow individuals to use their own systems that are close to their own access points. Having just one dock system would not work at Scenic Sands.
- 19) Off the current beach access road at the north end of the Scenic Sands beach
- 20) The beach access road past the garbage bins
- 21) Totally impractical. There is currently no requirement for a lease or permit. Why complicate things???
- 22) We presently have one at Buffalo lake meadows, and one private pier. Working well, but costs are carried by few.
- 23) all community access points.
- 24) I do not think this would be helpful for our community of Scenic Sands because we have a very long beach and there is plenty of room to accommodate both the boat lifts, and docks that are required and still allow lots of good beach use.
- 25) A communal dock is not reasonable now as we and many owners have already invested a lot of money into docks and lifts. What is everyone supposed to do with their docks/lifts if we aren't allowed to use them? If, in addition to our own docks, there was a communal one for back lot owners at the end of a Municipal Reserve, that would be fine.
- 26) Location to be made with input from the Scenic Sands Community Association. Scenic Sands may need 2 or 3 designated areas due to the length of the beach area.
- 27) Doesn't make sense - since there are so few access points to lake (in-between private lots).
- 28) People have already spent money on their own or mini communal docks, there is no need for the County to spend tax dollars to build something. In addition, the folks that have water vehicles in our area understand the peculiarities of the lake, that it is extremely shallow, has fluctuations in the lake bed and that you have to be very careful. Putting a larger County dock could suggest that the area is viable for larger watercraft, which it isn't.
- 29) Our lake community installs its own dock system which works well. Putting in a public type of dock system would only invite outside visitors from coming and utilizing our lake front.

- 30) We would prefer to have our own individual dock in front of our property
- 31) We already have a marina...maybe it needs expansion but I don't feel another separate area needs created - unless it is done down by the new boat launch in Bolin area.
- 32) I think a communal dock system would be great but is NOT possible given the waves that form on buffalo lake. Look at any marina and you will see it needs break water. I have witnessed the destruction of the wind and wave personally, it would tear that dock system to pieces if not protected by break water.
- 33) We have tried in the past to get the community to unite it a dock. The issues that arose were where do you try and put them. Who maintains them. Who puts them in and out of the water. Costs are high and I personally believe the need is not warranted.
- 34) There are not enough residents in our area (Scenic Sands) to warrant such an expense. Doing so would only encourage people from Ol' McDonalds resort to use it and store their boats there all summer rather than taking them home when they leave the campground. We want to keep the campers from Ol' McDonalds on the beach at the resort.
- 35) Buffalo Lake Meadows
- 36) 1. It is my understanding that the Provincial government is currently developing a set of policies for piers, buoys, etc. to serve as a model for all Alberta lakes. 2. It could be very expensive for the County to manage such a service.
- 37) It would be nice to have a communal dock located at the marina / boat launch only to be used temporarily by property owner / residents; no long term docking. I also like having my own dock for leisure time and activities.
- 38) I think most owners, on the lake or not, like the natural shore line and as minimal obstruction as possible. There is already a communal marina at the village that you can purchase and rent stalls at. I would not be happy if such a thing was put in front of us and I doubt anyone else would be. The main reason we go to Buffalo is it is less developed and more natural than many other options around.
- 39) we fish off of our dock, but I am afraid that a community dock would not allow us access for this.
- 40) I don't believe the south shore would handle community dock or pier as the strong waves and winds would tear a group of piers and boats without some kind of wave break. Several people enjoy fishing off our dock as well.
- 41) Storage sufficient on my property.
- 42) What location is optimal? it might be a divisive issue with the community.

- 43) On all County access points.
- 44) the best parking area is where the current Rochon Sands dock is located. Perhaps two smaller sized docks could be considered; one where the current Rochon Sands dock is and one over by the new Bolin development.
- 45) The problem is what location. what might be a good location for some may not be favorable for others. The issue may be divisive for the community and no apparent benefit from it. Currently people have their boats close to their area and it seems to work quite well with no issues.
- 46) I have no opinion on this just the same request for a public beach
- 47) Necessary, but likely cost prohibitive.
- 48) Our lake really has no good place to put one! Rochon Sands is the only real bay on the lake that has cabins.
- 49) A communal dock or pier would not be practical at Scenic Sands due to the length of the one km length of the beach. Residents at either end would not want to walk one km on the beach to get to their boat.
- 50) Buffalo View Estates and the existing Summer Village of White Sands boat launch.
- 51) Current practices are fine. There is no safe place to put a community dock on our shore unless the County spends hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars on a berm. Totally unnecessary.
- 52) That might be a good plan. I'm in the process of purchasing a pontoon boat for the simple reason that our shore access is so limited for the kids. The pontoon allows me to load up the family and throw out anchor--swim off the boat. So Yes, it might be a good idea.
- 53) Everything except the "permitting" part, since the presence of a communal dock would result in increased property values + taxes for the area as well as a greater incentive for further development, it seems cheeky to utilize permits/fees for access to a lakefront that essentially belongs to all Albertans.
- 54) Always, a planned and regulated system for shared use of the water is the best policy. The Provincial Weir is one of only a few places that affords protection from some severe storms that can roll in. Otherwise, the public beach in the village of Rochon Sands may be worth considering.
- 55) First the problem with the County doing this will be supplying proper parking and facilities to service a public "marina". Second the south shore is a tough spot for a marina because of the strong N.W winds therefore not allowing a simple tie-up stall type marina every stall would need a lift. Greatly effecting labor to install and remove every spring/fall.

- 56) I am concerned that such a large structure would not survive the intense storms. Also, where would this pier system be stored in the winter?
- 57) Near far north end of Scenic Sands beach area so can be accessed by the County road which approaches beach from near playground. This is the only option left now that the south access is no longer open.
- 58) The lake front area located within the County covers a large area and a number of subdivisions. Money that would go to build a pier system would be better spent on developing beachfront areas that are maintained. Given the size of some of the subdivisions there may be the need for a few docks so locating a dock at one location over another probably would not meet the expectations of local owners.
- 59) Best location for a public dock/pier would be right near a beach access. I don't think that anyone who owns lakefront property would want the public taking over the beach area in front of their property.
- 60) I would not be interested in paying the cost of a communal dock in our area.
- 61) Where it is currently installed each year - Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 62) I think the system works well the way it is.
- 63) I like that it is currently a pier/dock for just the immediate owners and not for use by the public.
- 64) in theory I think it will be ok, but, finding a spot to make everybody happy, may be an issue.
- 65) Would prefer to have removal dock on property.
- 66) Lake front owners should not have to drive to a boat location. We paid the price for lake front and wish to be able to boat, watch for the safety of our boat, children etc. Large structures require more environment disturbance. That is what we are trying to avoid. Single docks provide structure for spawning etc. with minimal damage to the environment.
- 67) I would like to see a boat launch of some sort near Scenic Sands or Buffalo Sands
- 68) how to implement? Everyone must pay and participate? Not sure about best location,
- 69) Buffalo Lake Meadows already has an LOC / DLO which has expired. This is an existing communal dock system and our community would be happy for the County to assume the DLO once it is reinstated.
- 70) All south shore County owned accesses.

- 71) I am confused by your question. I think you should build docks and I don't think the property owners should not have to pay to use them
- 72) Boat owners should be encouraged to use the marinas, at Rochon Sands. Too many piers junk up the shore line.
- 73) Would not be practical when the length of the beach is long and distance from cabin to communal dock may be unwieldy
- 74) Docks should be licensed and regulated, but not on a communal basis. That is neither necessary, nor efficient. BC lakes do not have communal docks which are an eyesore and unnecessary.
- 75) Yes, although then it would require more parking access for vehicles as well.
- 76) At boat launches and we need more usable launches with parking lots for sure.
- 77) I don't think a communal would work on the south shore as the waves get too large in windy conditions. Each boat would need a lift to be fully out of the water. A protected area would need to be created. Lots of people at lots of lakes put their boats in to use and remove them when done. It is tough to find a solution to this issue. I believe lake front owners have docks and lifts back lots put boats in and out.
- 78) we would prefer to use our own dock, so that we can place our sea-doo directly beside it. this allows us to monitor and protect our investment from other people who may want to damage or steal our property. It also allows us to monitor how secure the lift is when storms and waves hit it. We prefer our privacy. There may be areas like the Buffalo View Estates where a communal pier would be more appropriate.
- 79) Private docks are necessary in this area, to ensure safety by close geographical proximity. Severe and sudden storms occur in this particular area of the lake, with violent waves. As a land owner, it is important for us to ensure that our boat can be viewed easily to ensure it is safely docked and not causing harm. In addition, we can view our children and grandchildren easily on our dock, fishing with nets or rods, enjoying watersports, etc. Safety and proximity again is paramount, as our view of the lake is very narrow. If children travel to a communal dock, there is risk of brief unsupervision. Thirdly, a communal dock will not allow us to enjoy the privacy of our property. We are opposed.
- 80) Marina area not in front of lake front property owners.
- 81) At the end of the access road down from the garbage cans.
- 82) not looking to have marinas - We like the intermittent location of boat lifts as is does not overwhelm any one area with foot, boat, and vehicle traffic.
- 83) At Scenic Sands the old road and boat launch should be made into a public beach with washrooms as the beach is not owned by Scenic Sands residence.

- 84) this is done in our area
- 85) As the lake gets busier, it would be more tidy to have communal systems rather than boat lifts and docks every 15 feet apart, which restricts access to the lake.
- 86) buffalo estates
- 87) As a lake front property owner, I would not like a communal dock system. The lake front area of our property is not easily accessible by others and I would not like to change the landscape of the beach in order to promote more traffic.
- 88) Another tax grab by the County for something that they will not manage properly or correctly. there will not be adequate parking available, the garbage that this will attract will again be unmanageable. as it is right now each owner of a boat or marine vehicle keep the area clean. You are not going to please all and I do realize that some see the boat parking around the lake as a visual pollutant.
- 89) I do like the idea, however we have spent eight years waiting for BVE to get organized and now that we have spent money on our dock, I am not at all happy about the idea that we might have to get rid of it. I don't feel that is fair. A communal system must have sufficient capacity to meet BVE property owner usage. A system for usage rights must be provided.
- 90) As long as land owners have input on location or locations of dock/ pier systems. Also a proper boat launch is needed. The location would be at the northeast of the scenic sands area where road access to the lake needs upgrading.
- 91) I absolutely think this would be beneficial for our community. However, if this was put into place we would need the beach to be restored as well. There really is no benefit to having a communal dock and pier if there is no beach access for everyone to enjoy.
- 92) expand the current berm that is present or adjacent to it
- 93) Couldn't the County partner with the Village and expand the existing marina. Couldn't the County expand on the existing marina area in Buffalo View Estates. LEAVE THE EXISTING LAKE FRONT OWNERS ALONE
- 94) In reality I would need more information about what this would look like to answer this question, however we have already made a significant investment and have our dock system in place and working well.
- 95) Actual answer is: not sure. Consolidation for infrastructure consistency, safety, and management makes sense but a single location would not be practical.
- 96) my actual answer is not sure, we don't use the dock system

- 97) I prefer that individual owners make their own decisions. If the community grows larger, or if non-community members come out in large numbers, then this may need to be revisited.
- 98) what we have at buffalo sands already works fine
- 99) Currently, our community dock is well managed and provides residents with the option to titled ownership in the dock. County managed and permitted responsibilities have not been consistently well managed in areas of specific community concern, i.e. enforcement of community bylaws. We'd prefer to see the County better administrate the building permit process and remediation of past lax administration before the County takes on new responsibilities on behalf of the community.
- 100) tried and not sustainable
- 101) I think our Residents Association dock/Marina works very well. We are able to benefit from volunteer labour and only those who want to are part of it. We have never restricted participation and this is not something I see benefitting from direct County Government involvement
- 102) Our community already has a communal dock/pier system in effect, and I would like the County to continue to support this system.
- 103) The liability, set-up/take-down, maintenance, etc. becomes a headache. Not all boat owners use these facilities and therefore shouldn't be charged for them. It also becomes a congestion of boats/people increasing risk and reducing safety.
- 104) We purchased and pay taxes for a lake front property in order to have convenient access to the lake and boating. Having the boat stored at a communal dock will make it less convenient to use, increases risk to theft and vandalism, and we can't afford to pay a license to store our boat at a communal dock. To pack up all the gear and kids and drive to a communal dock is very inconvenient, frustrating, and hence less enjoyable.
- 105) In Buffalo View Estates the County has a marina they can develop and lease space to interested people. Start with that before trying to get a shoreline lease
- 106) it is working well the way it is now, less government intervention is better
- 107) At Scenic Sands we have an LOC for the beach. All lots have access to the beach, so not sure about the back lot access vs lake front thing. It may be nice to have a central pier system that people rent space for their lifts in but price, vandalism and access to parking come to mind as barriers to its success.
- 108) The reason the property value and resulting taxes are so high is that owners anticipate using the lake access in front of their property to house boats in summer months.
- 109) We see no problem with the way we have been doing it for the past 7 years. Who has a problem with the way it has been?

- 110) No. Costly to maintain, Water is too rough in storms, Lake bed is uneven and has different elevations. How would thy access the communal dock system unless you had a large one at a public access point or an existing marina. It is not practical.
- 111) Our community has already invested in a communal pier system. Our understanding is that all dock/pier systems installed in the lake are essentially public structures, though it is uncommon that the public make more than temporary use of them, i.e. typically limited to visiting friends via water craft.
- 112) This may be the way to go in new developments. But where individual docks/piers have been in use for many years, that portion of the shoreline should be treated as it has in the past.
- 113) NO. NO central docks, who responsible for costs, maintain these docks, putting in and out annually. Where will they be located
- 114) I would not be in favor of a communal dock system. We as a community have talked about the idea of a communal dock and was voted against due to cost, disagreement where dock would be located, shallowness of the water in our area. Presently we as individual community have tried to group our lifts in a small area. Presently we have 9 lot owners with 12 lifts grouped in a small area in front of one of the communal paths down from the back lots. With the shallowness of the lake in our community, it is just as easy to walk out to our lifts in the water (3 ft. to 4 ft. deep), 30 ft. to 40 ft. from shore and access our lifts without using a dock.
- 115) The south shore would not easily permit the building use of a communal pier/dock do to the high wind, waves and ice. The actual use would be very restricted because of the above.
- 116) at Boss Hill put it to the extreme north west of existing beech.
- 117) Many people have already invested in docks. Also, to find an appropriate place for a communal dock would be very difficult, the Bay is the best place, but there is no room there. Keep in mind that lake becomes very rough...and a Communal Dock out in the open would not be sufficient.
- 118) Buffalo Lake Meadows
- 119) Not only do I not want this, I don't believe the south shore would handle a community dock or pier as the strong waves and winds would damage a group of boats without some kind of wave break (which isn't possible). We (and our family) enjoy fishing off of our dock and with a community dock, I'm not sure we would be able to do this.
- 120) If you are suggesting that the County would manage and license all the private community docks and boat lifts, then I only see this as an inefficient and unnecessary tax and a waste of County resources. We don't need to legislate rules for boat lifts and private docks unless they are infringing on people's ability to use the lake in some way. I don't see this as an issue in our community. Abandoned lifts, docks and ice shacks are about the only problem I can imagine and will need to be cleaned up periodically. This cleanup money should come from the general

revenues of our taxes because these are isolated problems. This type of clean-up has to happen maybe every 10 years and not something that needs to be monitored annually. Licensing won't stop people from leaving equipment or materials on the beach. Disputes over placement will be handled by the people, I think most forget that anyone can put a boat lift or dock in at any point along the lake. What we have that is unique on the South Shore is probably the size and length of the docks due to the shallow basin on the South shore beaches. You require a great length of dock (100' or more) in order to get to a depth required to launch a boat or sea-doo from a lift. This makes for a lot of material (dock sections) and it all has to go somewhere when we take it out. The County and developers need to think about this when they are designing new communities. The equipment needed to build a dock at White Sands is far less than the equipment needed to build a dock at Buffalo Lake Meadows or Buffalo Sands. This has more to do with different rules that have been followed by communities depending on the age of the development and how the beach has been modified. What communities have been able to do in the past to create a beach and clean up the edge along their development and what is considered natural now in an artificially raised lake is causing us to put more foreign material into these lakes (i.e. the construction of berms). I think that if the developer of the community, the owners, County and the province worked to develop a proper beach and dock system then we would have a healthier shoreline and lake. The current practice of building these berms is introducing a lot of dirt and rock into the lake and the associated weeds with the disturbances created along them. Another problem is that the construction and maintenance of these berms is falling on the communities and we can't afford to maintain something that anyone can use. These are essentially private structures that we are building on public lands, yet only the owners in the community foot the bill for them. If the County wants to build a proper boat launch with marina and beach, then you can license/lease spaces at whatever people are going to pay for them. If you want to just tax the existing system, what is the purpose? What will you do with the funds that you'd collect by licensing the existing system?

- 121) I believe the relevant communities should manage these facilities, not the County.
- 122) What's wrong with how things are. Seems to work fine. Is this a make work project for some government agency / bureaucrat?? Really who is complaining?
- 123) Lakeshore too vast to have one communal dock
- 124) Not really sure where it could be located as the present boat launch road was closed due to a number of reasons including the shallowness of the lake in that area made it impossible to use for boat launching. Other properties boarder the remaining shoreline in the area you mention.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) At Scenic sands it should be at the boat launch access point. This could also serve Buffalo Sands possibly, although there may be too many boats. If this is not feasible a bigger inland boat docking area could be a possibility at the Ol' MacDonald's Resort. This would require extensive work but could be a community asset.

Q4 Where do you store your summer structure during the winter, and your winter structure during the summer?

Answered: 185 Skipped: 32

4. Where do you store your summer structure during the winter, and your winter structure during the summer?

- 1) Parking lot
- 2) We do not have any structures as we understood that personal property was not allowed on the provincial ROW or the municipal/environmental reserve that borders it. And it is not apparent why it is being allowed at this time.
- 3) License of Occupation (LOC)
- 4) On the ROW tucked in the bush.
- 5) We move our lifts off the beach.
- 6) tucked away in the trees on our LOC.
- 7) On our lake lot in the winter and in the lake during the summer.
- 8) n/a
- 9) On our property.
- 10) On personal property
- 11) Home.
- 12) Summer structures are dismantling in the Fall and stored on our lot during the Winter months. Boat is stored off the property at an indoor storage facility.
- 13) in the yard
- 14) In my driveway.
- 15) Some piers have stopped me from walking on the beach in the fall.
- 16) DNA
- 17) On our property
- 18) Dock structures and boat lifts are stored on the north side of the trees on the grass, probably on the environment reserve.
- 19) Dock system and boat lifts are stored on the north side of trees on grass area for the winter
- 20) Home

- 21) We store our dock just behind beach in winter.
- 22) On our property at Scenic Sands
- 23) Don't have any structures
- 24) On Lot
- 25) Along the shoreline in the first few meters of the trees.
- 26) On our property.
- 27) Pier and lifts in parking lot. Ice shack is a portable garage.
- 28) no one should store on public land
- 29) Hidden in the dead spaces of the bush
- 30) This year it is stored in the ER because we are anticipating more beach work before the summer, normally we store it on the back side of the beach.
- 31) We store our dock and lift on our property by the water in the winter.
- 32) Boat lifts and dock are stored in the parking lot at Buffalo Lake Meadows
- 33) Boat lift is stored just behind the beach area. No winter structures used.
- 34) N/A
- 35) Our boat lift is stored back off the beach so it doesn't interfere with any winter activities. Our winter ice fishing structure is stored away from the lake.
- 36) We store our summer structure in the edge of the tree line back from the beach. No winter structures.
- 37) On our property.
- 38) We don't have a structure. We place our canoe and chairs at the edge of the trees. They are out of the way of the snowmobiles and the lawn mowers.
- 39) On my own property
- 40) On lake lot for chairs and toys; Picnic table stays for winter

- 41) Items are stored on shore during winter.
- 42) We store summer structure on our own property. We have no winter structure
- 43) In summer, we haul our fish shack home (to town). In winter, we pull the dock and lift out and store them on our lot.
- 44) N/A at this time
- 45) We move or lift to the top of our lot. This is a real pain but we didn't want to be hassled by the County about it sitting on Environmental Reserve land. Our ice fishing shack is hauled to our farm for the summer and that is better than seeing dozens of shacks sitting on the beach all summer.
- 46) we don't have one
- 47) On our lake lot in the winter and in the lake during the summer.
- 48) My summer lifts are stored on the provincial governments land. We have squeezed them into the trees as to make sure they are not in the way for winter activities.
- 49) We put stuff in our garage or our shed. We don't leave it at the beach. We would really like the opportunity to do so but we obey the rules. What would really be ideal would be to be able to have a 10X10 shed at the beach where we could store things hidden in the trees. Of course, if you started to allow this you would have to mandate exactly what structures are allowed and/or maybe sell or rent them or it would look like hell as people built their own.
- 50) We relocate them to our lot when not in use.
- 51) I store my dock on the shore near the water during the winter being careful not to damage any trees.
- 52) On our lot
- 53) Our dock and lift are stored on our lot and boats offsite.
- 54) Municipal Parking lot and Environmental Reserve
- 55) we store our dock/lift on the Municipal Reserve / Environmental Reserve land because we cannot cut trees down in order to pull it onto private land.
- 56) The summer structure is stored on the beach.

- 57) We have a summer structure only and it is stored on Environmental Reserve / Municipal Reserve land as we cannot cut trees so that our lift/dock can be moved onto our personal land.
- 58) On community license of occupation
- 59) Dock and boat lift stored on my property.
- 60) Amongst the trees on the reserve
- 61) No structure to store.
- 62) At home. As they all should.
- 63) On our property.
- 64) on my lot
- 65) On our lot and communally, in parking lot.
- 66) Only have summer structure i.e. the lift and is currently stored on the reserve among the trees, it is not on the shore and discretely tucked away. No impediment for those who would like to walk on the shore or pathways.
- 67) I live a few miles up the road, no storage needed.
- 68) Just on the beach in the grass.
- 69) On the Federal Reserve just at the tree line. I moved it back when they did the beach management
- 70) On the provincial ROW within the LOC granted to the Scenic Sands Community Association
- 71) N/A
- 72) To date the boat has been in a boat house year round. This being no longer possible due to the new Environmental Reserve designation by the County. Our pier is stored back on our newly purchased land as will the new boat lift we must purchase. The boat will now need to be put on a trailer and stored elsewhere for the winter.
- 73) On our property.
- 74) In a community storage area

- 75) I have not got to that point yet. If you're talking boat lift and floating dock in the marina, I would hope that there is enough room to safely remove structures from the water and stack on the upper bank.
- 76) permanent structure, cottage only
- 77) on our property
- 78) On private property adjacent to the shoreline.
- 79) I store my lift and dock on S.V. of Rochon Sands Municipal Reserve License of Occupation lakefront and they charge me \$25 a year to do so. My ice shack is stored on private property.
- 80) Our boat lift and dock sections are stored on our property adjacent to the reserve.
- 81) We store boat lift further back on the beach
- 82) Picnic table moved into trees (Environmental Reserve) near beach or carried to our property.
- 83) Boat lift is stored in the parking lot along with the dock owned by the dock owners' association.
- 84) We currently do not own any structures that need to be removed.
- 85) My paddle board is stored on my property. Our sea doo lift is stored at the edge of the reserve in a natural clearing. We do not clear any vegetation or trees to do so.
- 86) In the winter months we store our sea-doo lift in the tree line at the back of the beach area. Our lift is placed in an area where the trees have a natural opening and no trees are removed to allow for the space our lift occupies. Our paddle board and lawn chairs are removed from the beach area and stored at our property.
- 87) County 'parking lot' adjacent to our lake access - Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 88) Our dock/lift is stored on our property, off of the Environmental Reserve designated land.
- 89) on my lake lot for the sea-doods and the lift in the parking lot at Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 90) I move them back to my own property; currently 2 miles off the lake.
- 91) We store our boat lift and dock system on our property that is close to the edge of the water and we store our winter equipment in sheds and in the garage.
- 92) In our shed and garage

- 93) stored on beach
- 94) The pier is stored on our property during the winter.
- 95) Store the fishing shack at our residence. Pier and dock stay on the shoreline.
- 96) I leave my RV on my lot in Scenic Sands in winter. I have a fold up ice fishing tent
- 97) on my property
- 98) sea-doo hoist is stored in the trees.
- 99) We have no structures. Only two Kayaks which we store at our home
- 100) There is a parking lot that all residents keep their lifts and dock system. Apparently this will expire in November. Please keep in mind that some owners who filled out this survey were unaware that the permission to keep the lifts and dock in the parking lot is due to expire.
- 101) At home
- 102) I don't have any
- 103) Store it on our property.
- 104) We have none at the moment
- 105) We only have a boat lift and store it just inside the tree line off the beach
- 106) We used to store it in our boat house, but are no longer able to do so.
- 107) We store our dock and boat lift in the back of beach area near the trees
- 108) Berm
- 109) Berm
- 110) Usually at the beach pushed back by the trees (boat lift) would like to do similar for an ice fishing shack. This year will be moving up due to berm development
- 111) In winter, the docks are stored on the municipal reserve. In summer, the ice hut is stored on our property.
- 112) Back in the woods off the lake
- 113) We pull them up onto our land.

- 114) Summer structure is stored on crown land in the winter.
- 115) We do not have structures at the lake other than a picnic table which we pull back into the trees away from the shoreline in the fall.
- 116) On the shore out of the way of ice jams.
- 117) placed on the shore
- 118) Beach and private property
- 119) As of now I am not living in the development but plan to be soon. I would very much like somewhere to store a dock and boat lift. I am not concerned with the fishing shack as it need to be hauled on and off the lake, it is just as easy to have storage for it elsewhere, to minimize the amount of items in the area.
- 120) At home in Camrose
- 121) In the past we have stored the pier and lift on the reserve but this year we will set it back on our own land, since we have more space now to store them.
- 122) The dock is stored on our lake property and the winter structure is stored elsewhere.
- 123) In my shop
- 124) Acreage
- 125) For now, on my property. No winter structures are stored
- 126) I do not have this at this time.
- 127) Do not have structures for summer or winter
- 128) We take our boat home as we are a back lot we have a table which we take to our lot for winter as we do not go there in winter.
- 129) On our property
- 130) on our path ways and shore line
- 131) On our property
- 132) On the beach in front of our lot.

- 133) Garage
- 134) at our cabin
- 135) We store our boat lift and dock on the beach area directly in front of our property.
- 136) I store mine up against the reserve. this is only for convenience. I have no trouble taking it away for the winter
- 137) We used to store our dock on the shore, in amongst the undisturbed trees but this year, due to the notice, we have taken on more risk and cost to move the dock to our property.
- 138) for summer structure part is stored in my backyard, sea-doo lift in the trees on the reserve. Have no winter structure to store.
- 139) Son's acreage in Erskine
- 140) In our communal parking lot.
- 141) On our property
- 142) currently do have a structure in use
- 143) On my own property.
- 144) We store some on our properties and some on the shoreline.
- 145) Winter storage: on the beach/in the bush (reserved land) and some on private property (my observations of our community)
- 146) n/a
- 147) Garage or under a tarp
- 148) We store our dock on our property (lakeside).
- 149) Summer structure - in the wooded area just behind the beach. This does not affect those walking on the beach or skiing, or ski-dooing.
- 150) no winter structures. our summer structures are stored next to the tree line of the beach/lakefront
- 151) Summer structures are stored on the shoreline. No winter structures.

- 152) We are part of the Buffalo Sands residents' association. We do not have our own dock system but the Community system is stored on the environmental reserve
- 153) Summer structure is stored tucked against the trees
- 154) year round at beach
- 155) Up to now, we have stored our dock and pier system on the County municipal reserve. There are two 5-foot-tall retaining walls and trees that prevent us from storing the structures up the hill and on our property.
- 156) Other residence
- 157) our pier is stored on our property as is the sea-doo lift. our boat is in the marina in the bay which remains in the water
- 158) On my property and on ROW
- 159) I have a License of Occupation for the area in front of my cabin, this is where I store my dock and lift
- 160) Right now the boat lift is on our lot - generally though we leave it on the beach area pushed back off the emergency access road.
- 161) What?! Does not apply.
- 162) In the winter the boat/sea-doo lift and neatly piled dock is stored on the Environmental Reserve, which does not damage any landscape.
- 163) Dock is pulled up on front lawn. Boat hoist because of weight is only pulled feet off shoreline.
- 164) dock is removed to the rear of the berm.
- 165) On our property on the lake front.
- 166) Our personal pier is stored on our property. Our boat lift is stored on the Environmental Reserve.
- 167) On the shore.
- 168) On our own property.
- 169) Scenic Sands Community Association's License of Occupation

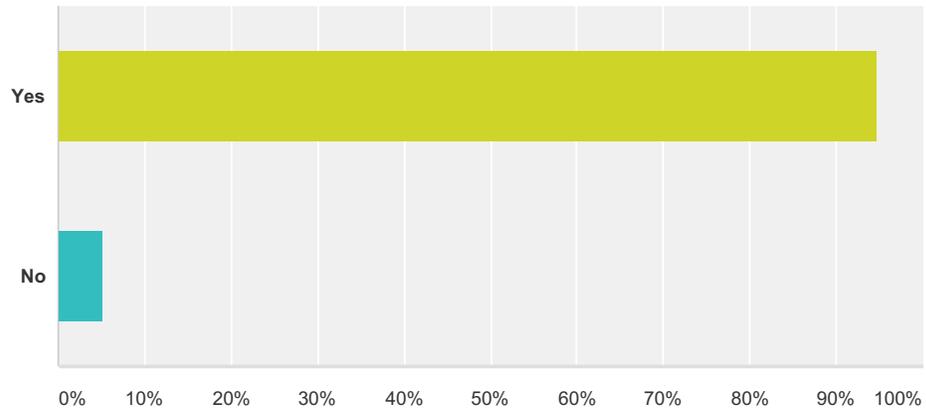
- 170) no winter structure. summer structures are stored on Alberta Government land next to beach
- 171) On our property. NOT on the Environmental Reserve land.
- 172) Store on lot
- 173) if we had these toys - it would be at our farm.
- 174) I store my Boat Dock on my lawn and my boat lift on the beach, which is now Environmental Reserve.
- 175) Parking lot at Buffalo Lake Meadows for Winter Storage.
- 176) Summer structures are stored on the Environmental Reserve / Municipal Reserve land as we cannot cut trees to get our lift and dock to our personal land. We have no winter structures.
- 177) The parking lot of our community at Buffalo Lake Meadows is really the only available spot to store things. There is such limited space at the water's edge that only a few items can be stored along the shore as the elevated water level has completely submerged our beach to the treeline.
- 178) on our property or on common parking lot
- 179) Winter structure stored on back lot at the lake.
- 180) Our boat lift is on the shore line with others. I have no problem moving it to our lot should that be the direction the County wishes to take.
- 181) Environmental Reserve. I pull my dock directly off the lake into an opening in the ER. No damage is done.
- 182) Summer structure stored on lake shore
- 183) On my personal lot.
- 184) Our boat dock and lifts are stored against the tree line on provincial land.
- 185) Pull it out of water and place on our lake lot

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) Dock is dismantled and stored along with boat lifts on private lakefront property.
- b) I personally do not have any but neighbours store their summer structures in front of my lot for the winter.

Q5 Are your storage options feasible, practical and safe?

Answered: 175 Skipped: 42



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	94.86% 166
No	5.14% 9
Total	175

5. Are your storage options feasible, practical and safe? - If you answered "No", please explain why not.

- 1) We reside in the community of Scenic Sands. While boat lifts have been stored on the beach in the past, it has become problematic over the past 5 years. The length of the shoreline is littered with docks, lifts and sheds. These are only used for 2 months of the year. Many of us visit during the spring, fall and winter months and these are a visual eyesore. They also pose a hazard to snowmobilers.
- 2) My answer is yes, as long as we have full access to/from the beach in order to pull out or put in our pier/boat lift on our existing property in the spring and fall. Boulders and rocks are on the hillside.
- 3) n/a
- 4) No one should store on beach
- 5) If one cannot store thing off the reserves one should not have it.
- 6) Very
- 7) No one should be on our property so it should be safe.
- 8) They are safe and feasible. It is not necessarily practical to haul the lift to the top of the lot- would be much handier to store it on the ER where we always used to.
- 9) N/A at present time.
- 10) Storing the lift is safe but getting it to the boat launch is a bit scary as it could sink in the lake while floating it to the boat launch.
- 11) Storage on S.V.R.S MR is at your own risk.
- 12) Small belongings like picnic tables, etc. are safely left near beach in winter as long as off the shoreline where snowmobiling enthusiasts cannot run into them.
- 13) have no real place, trees would have to be cut down
- 14) We have had zero issues with safety and the location is perfect.
- 15) Having to remove the boat from the water simply because rail systems are not permitted is impractical and unnecessary.
- 16) Not the moving back to our lot. Leaving items at the beach is safer as it does not require vehicles to move the items to lots.
- 17) Somewhat
- 18) No I would prefer to store such items closer to the water.

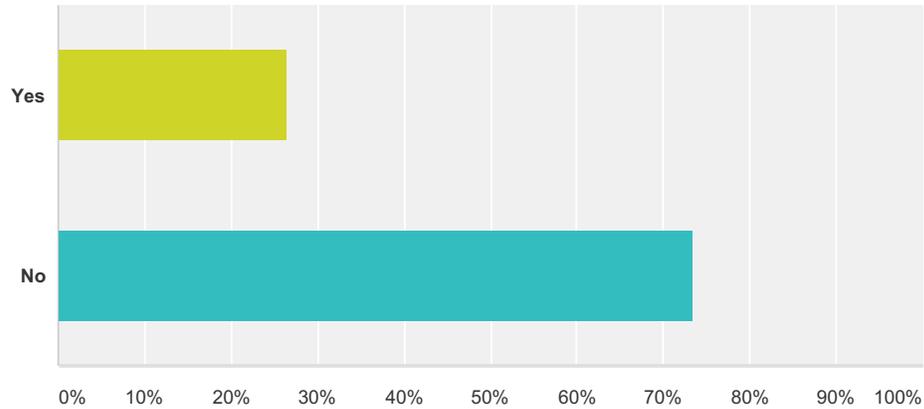
- 19) N/A
- 20) n/a
- 21) They are on MR, which works for me, but some might complain. I have no alternative.
- 22) When it was stored in the trees, it was hidden from view and safe from the winds, now it is on our property, visible and easy for someone to come and take it, plus the added risk of weather damage.
- 23) We have been storing our boat lifts and dock in the parking lot for the past 6 years without an issue.
- 24) see above
- 25) n/a actually
- 26) the new rules to move the structure are creating more traffic, dragging of heavy structures and equipment along the beach and roads and digging them up. They are not an imposition, and don't appear "junky" from the beach so having to move these deters use of the lake as hauling equipment up and down becomes tiresome
- 27) Storing the dock and pier system on the municipal reserve was feasible, practical and safe. Trying to lift a 500 lbs. boat lift and 1,000 lbs. of dock through the trees and up two 5-foot-tall retaining walls is NOT feasible, practical, nor safe. There is a huge personal injury risk having the County force us to get the dock and pier system up the hill and on our property. Also it is not possible to get a 10' x 10' boat lift, and an 8' X 16' sundeck through the trees on the environmental reserve. There is far greater risk to the County and the environmental reserve if we are forced to move our pier system and boat lift through the ER trees, and up two 5-foot-tall retaining walls, rather than storing them peacefully on the environmental reserve during the winter. (Note: the environmental impacts of storing the gear on the environmental reserve is no greater than having the gear in the water.)
- 28) The reason we push it way back is so it would be in no one's way.
- 29) As before, does not apply.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) The neighbours' option is safe from snowmobilers because they store the structures in the trees. So, safe yes, but not really feasible and practical.

Q6 Do you think it would be practical and beneficial if the County obtained a license of occupation, recreational lease or other type of disposition from the provincial government in order to create one or more communal storage area(s) for winter / summer structures at your community?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	26.50% 53
No	73.50% 147
Total	200

6. Do you think it would be practical and beneficial if the County obtained a license of occupation, recreational lease or other type of disposition from the provincial government in order to create one or more communal storage area(s) for winter / summer structures at your community? - If you answered "Yes" and you have an idea for a good location for a communal storage area, please provide more information below.

- 1) Unless I am mistaken we already have this storage capacity in our parking lot area.
- 2) No. These storage areas should be away from the shoreline. In particular, they should not be imposed on existing communities unless they are located away from the lake.
- 3) no no no.
- 4) We answered no because the impacts on the beach and surrounding area would be significant if the lifts, etc. had to be moved a large distance.
- 5) no and no. how do we move the lifts/docks without using a vehicle and/or dragging them to the central location ... this is not realistic.
- 6) My answer is no, because a communal storage only creates traffic jams and entanglements. Storage should be on individual owner's property with their liability insurance.
- 7) County property.
- 8) Boat storage might be possible but storage of docks, boatlifts and sea-doo lifts would not be practical or possible due to lack of access.
- 9) County has property where they could build storage.
- 10) I take my shack home in the spring.
- 11) No one should have a private dock.
- 12) take it home.
- 13) That would accommodate us for easy access to and from the lake front to put dock in or take it out.
- 14) The area we use probably is called environmental reserve area and is the easiest to access as far as moving all the lifts and dock structure
- 15) If one cannot sore thing off the reserves one should not have it.
- 16) Boat storage for the winter may be useful.
- 17) Not necessary or wanted.
- 18) Presently parking lot is best option as field/beach is under water.

- 19) if they cannot store on property they should not have it!
- 20) Again, because we have such a long beach, this would not be practical, and what we are normally doing is practical and safe.
- 21) Too difficult to transport dock and lift to a communal area.
- 22) At Scenic Sands, either at the bottom of the abandoned boat launch road or possibly an area near the playground.
- 23) Again, most people have made arrangements for storage and other folks just do what we do.
- 24) A place to store boats or other equipment would benefit many of the residents.
- 25) Who would be in charge of ensuring the valuables left in this lot would be secure? I also feel it would be an eye-sore and become a storage area for old fish shacks.
- 26) No opinion at this time.
- 27) I think this would end up an eye sore. The last thing we need is to look at a bunch of scabby shacks left behind. If someone brings an ice fishing shack to the lake it should be hauled away. It would be way too easy for someone to abandon their shack and the tax payer being left with the bill to remove it. I also don't think people want to move their heavy lifts any farther than they have to, it's easier just to leave them on our lot.
- 28) Communal storage is just a license to steal your neighbour's stuff.
- 29) Not needed. Currently, we have ready access to secure storage facilities that can be rented for a reasonable fee @ no cost to the County.
- 30) I don't see any open space within Buffalo View Estates for storage, unless the County wanted to turn some empty unsold lots into a storage area and possibly a playground for children.
- 31) This is a reasonable idea, but I don't think most people would move their structures even a few blocks to store them.
- 32) This would not be practical
- 33) same as the pier issue, what location is optimal, what is good for some may be unfavourable for others
- 34) Not on beach. Take it home
- 35) For the same reason as to not wanting the pier. No need for a storage location, as this will be unnecessary expenditure. there is no concern with the current practice.

- 36) Again no stand on this topic
- 37) Transporting the structure any distance could be an issue.
- 38) Moving boat lift more than just out of the water would require motorized vehicles (ATVs or pickup trucks). The use of motorized vehicles is strongly discouraged on the ROW
- 39) Too expensive and totally unnecessary.
- 40) Storage seems to be a problem for all lake residents, on every lake you go too. I had property in Montana and we--as a group--built our own storage. This was done at our expense and anyone in our area could participate. Not everyone participated.
- 41) It would encourage more of them
- 42) Piers and boat lifts are not easily transportable. Fishing Shacks obviously are.
- 43) County-owned Rochon Sands and Old Bolin present one special hurdle to lake users and that is access to move docks etc. because of the steep slope of the shore. I am unaware of current County MR that would be a prime location to store docks and lifts. This is why the MR (now ER) has been used for so many years prior and is truly the best viable option for storage of NON permanent equipment.
- 44) In the ER near the access road to beach (past playground) in Scenic Sands. It will be unsightly but at least all the mess in one place! Otherwise, just let landowners just leave their boat lifts in the trees (ER) along the beach where they usually sit on the beach.
- 45) I'm sure a lot of residences would benefit from a storage area. Maybe a good location would be on the south side of the main road.
- 46) We have a place at Scenic Sands and I suggest that it be by the old boat launch.
- 47) Possible location would be the old boat launch access in scenic sands for the scenic sands community. This storage area needs to be limited to tax paying residences of the community, not every ice fisherman that accesses the lake through our community.
- 48) At the same current location - Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 49) parking lot at Buffalo Lake Meadows where we currently keep our lift.
- 50) I think it would be a great idea to have a single spot to store all this stuff, because so many are just left wherever it is easy for them to be dumped.
- 51) I would be concerned if we had dock, boat lifts etc. transported annually. This would make for unsafe conditions. Most owners once they have gone through the effort of transporting to the lake would not want to have to move it again to an off-site location.
- 52) As long as storage areas are in a close proximity

- 53) less disturbance but if communal how to access for summer use. Would some hoists be "buried" in behind others?
- 54) Our parking lot is perfect for storage, so no DLO should be required by the County
- 55) It has to be out of sight from the shore, or again, junks up the shoreline. It isn't practical for piers, lifts etc., as no one will haul them to an off-shore location?
- 56) For buffalo sands, it should be beside the main pier out to the dock.
- 57) Mechanized equipment would be required to move the equipment to the storage unit potentially damaging the shoreline when there is no time left in the season for vegetation to regrow leading to shoreline erosion during the late fall and early winter.
- 58) Close to launch and protected from thieves.
- 59) For winter structures it would be fine as they are easy to move. For summer docks and boat lifts they are large and cumbersome to be moved very far and access to the shoreline for removal is extremely limited.
- 60) I am not sure how we would be able to relocate a pier to another piece of land without a flatbed truck and someone who is capable of lifting the structures. If it was storage for boats, that might benefit some landowners, as long as it was secured. I'm not sure where the best place would be, except perhaps on a piece of land close to the Buffalo View Estates marina.
- 61) Could perhaps be beneficial for ice fishing shacks in the summer and also snowmobiles.
- 62) No as long as it doesn't increase taxes to support fees for payment and is based on rental
- 63) Again right down at the end of the access road.
- 64) It would be hard to move them too far. They are heavy, cumbersome and no vehicles are allowed on the beach to help.
- 65) on the way down the road to the beach (For Scenic Sands), you could put up a fenced locked area for storage
- 66) Beneficial Yes. Proximity & logistics for dock moves would likely challenge the practicality. Our dock is designed to roll in and out over short distances using simple levers operated by one person. Usage rights would need to be administered. As long as the pathway is kept clear I would wonder how inconvenienced the few winter users are.
- 67) I don't feel this is necessary as we have not had any issues in the past. I would rather see the County use these funds to assist in restoring the beach.
- 68) the gravel parking lot where the trash containers are

- 69) Our community would then require trailers and other equipment/resources to relocate the equipment to the water, to then have volunteers put it all in the water. Just the placement of the dock system takes an entire weekend and it has been difficult to coordinate community member calendars in spring and fall already.
- 70) I think this should fall under the home owner's responsibility.
- 71) Again, leave it with individuals. There is no problem currently.
- 72) The only practical location I can think of is the environmental reserve area adjacent to where our dock/marina is installed in the summer. Anything further away would substantially increase the work required to install and remove the docks
- 73) Current storage along the trees is practical and low impact
- 74) The liability, set-up/take-down, maintenance, etc. becomes a headache. Not all boat owners use these facilities and therefore shouldn't be charged for them. It also becomes a congestion of boats/people increasing risk and reducing safety.
- 75) We have 1,500 lbs. of equipment. The objective is to move them as little as possible. Moving them up the hill, or to a communal storage area is a nightmare for us.
- 76) Boat lifts and docks are not practical to be move to a common area.
- 77) we are a small community (Abbey Road) where we all have direct access to the lake front and we have our own License of occupation
- 78) I think there are only a few ice fishing shacks and owners keep them on their lots through the summer. Boat lifts through the winter are pushed back off the emergency access so at this time I think the development money could be better spent elsewhere.
- 79) Why only consider Provincial Government land?
- 80) Our property does not allow for easy removal of structures. Trees and steep bank.
- 81) Off the lake front so no License of Occupation would be required. Property on the lake front is too expensive to use for storage. Build it off the lake front on an existing lot in the development.
- 82) In new developments this is a good plan, but after years of individual storage the existing developments should be left as is.
- 83) How will we get the lift to this communal area with no motorized vehicle allowed, dragging them cause to much environmental damage
- 84) /??

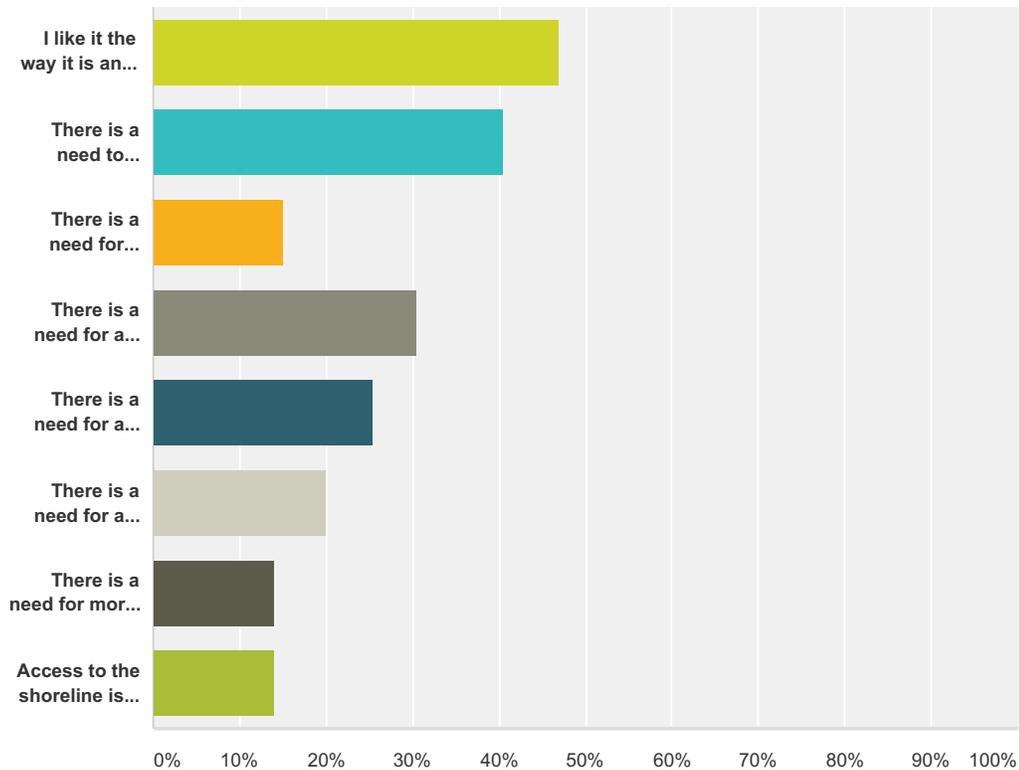
- 85) I have no way of removing my dock or boat lift from the water back to the road to load it, and take to a communal storage area. Keep in mind that most of these lifts and docks are moved down to the shoreline and put together there.
- 86) Parking lot as it is already in use. May need to expand parking lot if additional use is expected.
- 87) You have to provide something; the problem is with how it would be done. Normally you would just pull up your equipment onto the beach or onto your land adjacent to the beach. At Buffalo lake Meadows there is no beach, and the ER/MR is covered in trees so we've had to use the minimal land adjacent to the tree line and rely primarily on the parking lot. The parking lot though will not support the entire community's storage needs once the community is fully built out. It also isn't practical for those that live on the East end of the community to have to haul all their equipment to the parking lot located at the West end of the community.
- 88) Again, I think the community associations/private enterprise should manage these types of facilities.
- 89) Buffalo Sands, Ember Res has a residential lot that they put a pipeline under, can't build on it and it is close to the end of our development, could build secure storage there.
- 90) This equipment cannot be moved very far. Just roll in roll out in the case of docks and boat lifts

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) Storage of docks etc. is not feasible. Boat storage could be a possibility as many years ago people used to store their boats in the Dance Hall over the winter.
- b) A community storage area in Scenic sands should be at the boat launch area. Other than that storage could possibly be arranged in the winter at Ol' MacDonald's Resort.

Q7 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current access and amenities/facilities provided by the County on reserve land along the shoreline and in your community, as it may contribute to or detract from your use / enjoyment of the shoreline / lake. Check all that apply.

Answered: 200 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
I like it the way it is and nothing needs to be done to improve it.	47.00% 94
There is a need to maintain the shoreline, clean-up dead trees, pick-up garbage, control weeds, remove undergrowth/brush or mow the grass to set up a picnic spot for the day, but nothing else.	40.50% 81
There is a need for facilities/amenities such as garbage receptacles, fire pits, picnic tables, washrooms, playgrounds (add more ideas, if any, in the comments box below), and for regular maintenance of these facilities.	15.00% 30
There is a need for a trail (formal or informal) that is well-maintained, from Scenic Sands to Buffalo View Estates, and in the future all the way to the Summer Village of White Sands (where practical).	30.50% 61
There is a need for a public beach.	25.50% 51

BUFFALO LAKE SOUTH SHORE Shoreline Management Plan Survey Questionnaire (County of Stettler No. 6)

There is a need for a communal dock / pier system.	20.00% 40
There is a need for more parking areas.	14.00% 28
Access to the shoreline is insufficient (please specify in the box below).	14.00% 28
Total Respondents: 200	

7. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the current access and amenities/facilities provided by the County on reserve land along the shoreline and in your community, as it may contribute to or detract from your use / enjoyment of the shoreline / lake. Other (please specify)

- 1) Our walking path in Buffalo lake Meadows is perfect as is. It is very natural. Any changes such as fences, additional cleanup, widening or changing of the pathway surface in any way would be a huge environmental disturbance, potential hazard and or a liability. It should feel like a walk thru nature and its innate beauty maintained. I also have no interest in a continual pathway that connects all communities. A path within each community is fine but interconnected only increases the chance of additional crime. I wish to keep my community safe.
- 2) The new cleared walkway through the Environmental Reserve is attracting increasing and unauthorized quad usage which is detrimental and contrary to the intent of an ER. We are concerned because there appears to be no way to stop it.
- 3) People come to the lake for water activities. That is the whole idea. Fishing, boating, water skiing, wake boarding etc.
- 4) More public access
- 5) Nothing from the road is marked.
- 6) While we enjoy the current trail system and would like to see it extended all the way to White Sands, we do not see the benefits of cutting down trees, bulldozing shrubs and natural habitat to put a trail through the front of existing occupied lots. Many people walk the roadway enjoying the pavement for pushing strollers, bicycling, rollerblading or just enjoying the smooth flat surface away from insects, uneven terrain and potential encounters with wildlife such as coyotes, skunks and porcupines.
- 7) no change
- 8) I cannot get to the beach in the summer.
- 9) When my relatives visit I need more parking.
- 10) A nice cement sidewalk would help me as I am a senior.
- 11) desperate need for trail on beach.
- 12) Not enough parking and accesses to the waterfront.
- 13) Leave ER/MR as natural as can be at Scenic Sands

- 14) The beach at Scenic sands has been eroded considerably since the Lake levels have risen. There needs to be an ability to create a wide enough beach to make the recreation use of the beach more feasible and enjoyable, just like the southern end of the Scenic Sands beach.
- 15) A trail would be nice but I wouldn't call it a necessity.
- 16) Lot owners on the lake shore have always been responsible stewards. Dead trees, weeds etc. have always been removed without County interference
- 17) There was an awesome beach at Buffalo lake meadows when most of purchased property, and a beach are would be well used.
- 18) Need open trails to beach and signage.
- 19) We have all the amenities we require at Scenic Sands.
- 20) As mentioned, for Scenic Sands, a communal dock(s) and storage system may be necessary for future growth of the area.
- 21) Everybody that uses the beach keeps their own area clean. Could use help on the ER to clear dead and fallen trees.
- 22) The current maintenance program for the shoreline and environmental reserve is perfect. I like exactly what is happening now. There is no need to create parking spaces, docks/piers or facilities i.e. washrooms or tables. The community does an excellent job of self-managing the area. Other than in the spring when the ice fishing garbage washes up there is never any garbage on the beach and people are respectful of the environment.
- 23) I like it the way it is now. I can tell from this survey that the County would like to put in a public beach and boat launch to allow the general public to access our community. We do not want the general public to flood our area and have it become another Sylvan lake.
- 24) I feel the shoreline maintenance should be done by each lot owner in their area. Adding fire pits and garbage cans will just create a headache and cost money for someone to maintain. Putting in a trail seems ludicrous. Anyone that wants to walk the shore is already entitled to do so. A path would be constantly eroded by winter ice. Wrecking nature to create a smooth path seems to contradict the point of the shoreline management plan.
- 25) the only thing we need is the permission to clean up and burn the dead wood in the ER
- 26) With all the docks along the shore, it feels like you are walking through their property.
- 27) I think with the current plan of having the grass mowed by the County is sufficient
- 28) Once the County starts to pick up garbage etc. the people will start leaving it to be picked up. We don't have a problem now. The only statement I agree with above is doing something (or

allowing us to do something) about the growing fire hazard in the ER because of dead trees and excess wood etc. Keep in mind that whatever the County decides to do in one area doesn't need to be done in another. Each community along the beach has different issues.

- 29) For 50+ years property owners have maintained our shoreline. When a new lakeshore development is planned it would provide an opportunity for the County to consider what public facilities/services would be provided.
- 30) There is a need for access to a Private Beach not a Public Beach and better access to shoreline.
- 31) I don't think the County currently provides much in the way of shore line management, and that keeps the shore natural and beautiful. This, again, is one of the main reasons we continue to go to Buffalo vs. more developed places. There are community beaches at Rochon Sands Provincial park and at the summer village of Rochon Sands. I don't think a County facility would add much in the way of access or convenience and would definitely disrupt the natural habitat.
- 32) There is a need to maintain the shoreline and clean up dead trees, underbrush and garbage.
- 33) Note that the location and access of any proposed beach could become a significant issue.
- 34) Open up the beach for all.
- 35) As the shoreline has been lost, better access is needed. Repair and upkeep has not been good.
- 36) There is normally no garbage to be picked up as the community is very responsible in ensuring that no waste is left on the shore or reserve. The County should continue to mow the grass.
- 37) what is needed and the County is not doing is to clean up dead trees as these are significant fire hazard.
- 38) When I moved to the area I spent more than an hour trying to find the beach, getting unwelcoming stares from people the entire time who acted as though I were trespassing. I never did find a suitable swimming area, just a boat launch where I'd often take a quick dip at night and parked illegally to do so. It seems such a shame to not have any access to such a beautiful lake, such potential for tourism is simply wasted.
- 39) Any trail system should be informal.
- 40) For the people that are not lakefront it would be nice to have some washroom Facilities by the old boat launch. fishermen could also get use from this also. I wonder where everyone goes to the washroom??
- 41) We have always done this and will continue to do so.

- 42) I know the rules don't allow stairways from the view lots, down to the water. The walk ways are fine and might be the only option. I have owned two lake front properties--both in the USA--and have never seen a set up like the one we have. Also, if the environment people would allow the County to open up views through the trees--I'm not saying cut trees down-- AND this is just my opinion, properties at Buffalo Lake View would move much quicker. I know this first hand--I've brought couples to the properties and the first thing they say is " I want to see more of the Lake" I think this can be done without disturbing the environment.
- 43) If you've ever been to Wasagaming on Clear Lake in Manitoba, I think their setup is ideal: http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/travel/travel_magazine/may15/images/RWT5388.jpg
- 44) WE do not want it to become busy like Pigeon or Sylvan lake we enjoy the way it is very much.
- 45) I like the trail idea, but in-turn it will cause more damage to the natural shore line that we are to be protecting than you currently think. Mother nature is very powerful and especially along Rochon Sands shore the steep grade narrow ER and strong ice movement will wreck any trail system in 20 years.
- 46) I certainly don't need the parking as I live shorefront but do empathize with backlot owners who need to drive to get all their belongings to the shoreline to spend the day but really aren't supposed to park anywhere nearby.
- 47) I feel that if we disturb the reserves and develop them more we are destroying the habitat for vegetation and animals that inhabit the reserves.
- 48) We utilize the little patch of land that we can near the dock EVERY WEEKEND as we sit and watch our kids play. SO wish we had a little sand area for our young families.
- 49) I like it the way it is, but I will be a minority I think. There is going to be more and more pressure on this Lake in the future, and I think a pro-active approach will have to be taken to deal with this. There will be more and more people who will want to use this, so we need infrastructure in place to deal with the increased usage.
- 50) I love the idea of a formal paved trail but I believe that it should not go through areas where houses border the waterfront this trail could go through the bush and parallel some of the main road ways.
- 51) many MRS are not accessible to the shoreline
- 52) We would like to have the ability to keep the shoreline between our property and the Provincial ROW free of weeds, dead fall, replacing rock and debris that has moved in with the changing of seasons.
- 53) This question needs to be reworded. Am I satisfied or dissatisfied? When I check the box?? If the only people on this shoreline are owners, we don't need a public anything.

- 54) At the old boat launch in Scenic Sands it could be made usable for small craft e.g. canoes, kayaks and smaller boats
- 55) I don't need more facilities/amenities myself, but others need these things for their use and enjoyment because they have farther to go to use the lake and/or have small children that need washrooms.
- 56) Our residents have absolutely no beach after the high water sucked the entire beach area away approximately 8-9 years ago. Not one resident is able to enjoy the water and have built unsightly structures to be able to enjoy the water. If amenities were available (basic like garbage cans, fire pits, picnic tables), it would be an absolute joy to the owners here. Currently we have a very small berm road end that is all gravel, so children can't even build a sand castle or walk without shoes.
- 57) all along the south shore reserve land has been used as extensions to private lands which excludes public use on public lands.
- 58) The more you change the shoreline, the less I like it.
- 59) Anyone who has spent any time at Buffalo Lake would quickly realize that a trail around the lakeshore would not be well utilized and is frankly a waste of taxpayer money. A biking trail throughout the provincial park is available and utilized by many.
- 60) Like the trail system. Do not want parking.
- 61) a pathway from Scenic Sands to White Sands would be a GREAT IDEA!!!!
- 62) This question is tough to answer as it tries to cover too many different type of shoreline segments. E.g. item 2 may work for Scenic Sands but Buffalo Lake Meadows may like item 5. There may not be a commonality in the answer depending on where people have property. Currently the majority of the shoreline on Buffalo Lake is public so why do we need a specific public beach?
- 63) A communal dock would limit the boat storage to a few areas instead of the way it is now where boat lifts are seen all along the shore at Scenic Sands, detracting from the view of the lake. Encouraging boat owners to share private docks instead of having individual boat lifts would address this issue as well.
- 64) More folks coming and more boat access is going to be needed, if you do not get land now it will be gone forever for access to private land ownership.
- 65) I do not like to disturb a lot of the natural habitat because I want to see the summer birds nesting in this area. However, I want to be able to clear a small portion of the reserve so that my family can enjoy the beach. Therefore, I want to be able to remove noxious weeds, thistles, wild roses, nettles and long vegetation that hinders sitting and playing at the beach.

Our shore is solid rocks. I would like to clear about 10 feet of rocks along the shore so the children can easily play and wade in the water.

- 66) If you buy lake front you should be allowed a dock back lots should be on the community dock not in front of someone's home.
- 67) With trails that would be improved
- 68) Large communities such as Buffalo Sands and Buffalo Meadows would benefit from a more extensive beach area to for people to use.
- 69) At Scenic Sands there is a need we need an area where we can launch our boats have washrooms and garbage cans we should be like Rochon Sands as we do pay taxes and have nothing when I bought we did have a boat launch with cement pads perfect for size of boat see-doos canoes.
- 70) If the County is flush with money that it is looking to spend, create more beach space at Buffalo Sands or Meadows.
- 71) I feel a path joining all the communities would be a great addition. However, I am not in favor of disturbing natural areas with man-made infrastructure. A 'natural' pathway fine. A concrete walkway/fences - not fine.
- 72) A trail from Scenic Sands to Buffalo View Estates is much needed as the kids bike on the gravel road to go to the ice cream store which in many cases is unsafe to ride on.
- 73) I would love hiking paths around the lake for hikers and biking
- 74) There is definitely a need for a trail system. the system needs to be set up for those that walk, run, push baby carriages and also for bikes. this would be a great project for the youth back from universities, colleges
- 75) Currently there is no public beach in our community of Buffalo Lake Meadows. The water rose over 5 years ago and wiped away our beautiful beach that extended out hundreds of yards from the shoreline. We as a community worked together to install a playground for the community which is great however everyone comes to the lake and has lake property to make use of a beach. This is something we have had to go without for over 5 years. We are the only community in the area that does not have a beach.
- 76) Current access is a berm made and mostly funded by some current land owners. It is a vital structure for our access to the lake but needs to be expanded, reinforced and maintained with public funding as almost all landowners utilize it to some extent but not all of these residents have or are willing to pay for continual upkeep/maintenance

- 77) The parking lot and walking trail along the front of Buffalo Lake Meadows is rarely used by the public and has become an unsightly storage area for a pier etc. Just makes more cost for the County taxpayer keeping up these walking trails.
- 78) The lack of beach areas is a concern. We have invested significant \$'s to maintain the beach area behind our Abbey road location. I could see in the future if there is a trail that more people could access and enjoy the beach area. That being said under that scenario we would look to the County/Province to take over the maintenance of the beach in terms of remediating erosion etc. etc.
- 79) Access to shoreline - in some instances access isn't obvious or is unavailable for people and properties not directly on the shoreline.
- 80) not sure about more playgrounds as the water/beach is sufficient for most, but garbage receptacles, picnic tables and washrooms (at least one more) would be a big improvement.
- 81) Residents already maintain the shoreline. Best place for a trail is the south side of Bayview Street. There is a public beach in Rochon Sands and the Provincial Park. No room for a public beach fronting the Bolin subdivision (no parking). Could build adjacent to the BVE marina provided facilities were installed.
- 82) There are some areas in BVE that would be ideal for shoreline grooming and creating a beach. Particularly in the areas that have become flooded with shallow, stagnant water in the years with high lake levels. This stagnant water has also created a Swimmers Itch infestation. Sand could be brought in during the winter and it would create a public beach as well as reduce/eliminate the Swimmers Itch problem. Also a pathway along the lake as described above would be fantastic. Now people walk along the narrow, winding roadway. This is very dangerous and disrupts traffic. Someone (likely a child) will get hurt someday. At White Sands it is so nice how you can stroll along the beach from one end to the other.
- 83) the main concern; who would be responsible for policing and how would that be done
- 84) We have access to the beach and generally people are sensible about parking. The real question is growth potential- Scenic Sands seems to be pretty much sold up, but there are still lots that have not been developed meaning that the need for more parking at the beach in the future may arise.
- 85) You know this question is misleading ... for people who do not frequent the lake often, this all sounds good, but unless you know the shoreline, it is impossible to understand that access is very difficult on some parts of the lake. The shore is rocky; the seaweed is dense. Use the public access points for picnic tables, washrooms and playgrounds. If the developer had not been so greedy and developed such high density in BVE there could have been a large space developed for access with all these facilities. The County is partly responsible as the development was approved!!! As far as a trail goes. Great idea but who would maintain it. The ice heaves and the storms would wipe out any sign of a trail along the lake. Put the trail on the south side of Bayview Street and meet up with Rochon Sands. The trail can then be

used for families walking, biking away from the speeding cars on Bayview. Think of safety first!

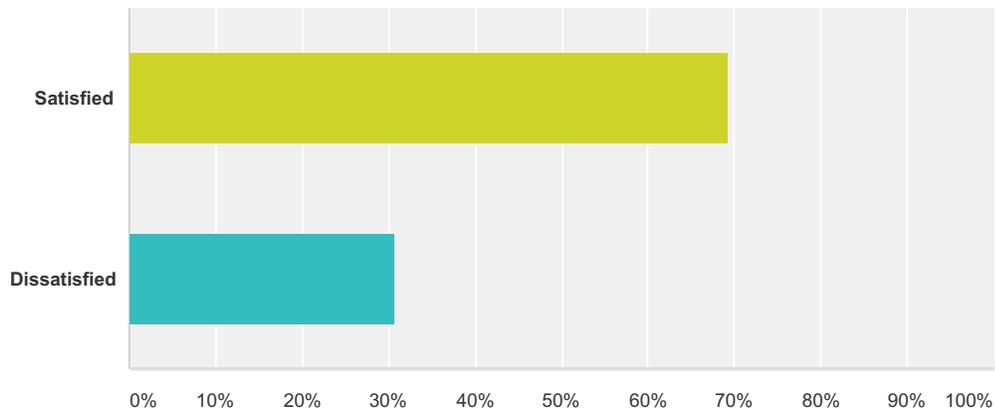
- 86) There is a need for a boat launch though the shoreline waters are very shallow and a break-water would likely be required to maintain a suitable depth of launch water. Regarding shoreline access, the second and third of three access paths to the lake were partially under water this spring and require additional material to ensure their permanence.
- 87) We need garbage pick-up services, not on the ER, but we feel that the County should be responsible for garbage pick-up on the roads. We are currently using Rochon Sands facilities, and feel that the County should be obligated to do this for the amount we pay in taxes, we should be getting something in return.
- 88) we live on Boss Hill Road and the traffic in and out of Boss Hill is overwhelming – dusty ...
- 89) Limited access points due to beach (previous beach and grasslands) being flooded in the past 7 years in front of Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 90) Every community beach does not need to be setup like the provincial park, but with the elevated water level at the lake some communities (Buffalo Lake Meadows and Buffalo Sands) have been incredibly affected where the beach is flooded and gone. We used to have a large beach with a large area of grass and sand areas to play/picnic on etc. and it is all under water. The solution by the province and County has been the construction of these berms which are very unnatural. I don't think anyone can claim that the beach areas at Scenic Sands, Old MacDonald's campground, Rochon Sands Provincial Park, Pelican Point, Braeseth Beach etc. haven't been modified from their natural state to become the public use areas that they are today. We understand the need to preserve the bird habitat at the lake but there has to be a balance between protecting shoreline and creating recreation areas. For approved developments that have been affected by high water levels what is the community's recourse, and what is the best method to achieve lakeshore access and enjoyment that best preserves the quality of the lake and provides the amenities that every community should have.
- 91) we have berms at Buffalo Lake Meadows and it is very disappointing. We have completely lost our shoreline that was a major source of enjoyment and significantly reduces the attractiveness of our subdivision.
- 92) The County should only maintain unoccupied shoreline, but leave in as natural a state as possible. Individual lake front owners should maintain their own properties. A public beach could be constructed by the County along with boat launch and pier facilities for day usage, trails, picnic, etc. I don't think a shoreline trail system should be in place as this will reduce privacy of landowners and would certainly lead to increased vandalism.
- 93) proper fish cleaning stalls at boat launches

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) More and more visitors are discovering Buffalo Lake and will continue to do so in the future. Ol' MacDonald's Resort is a very good example of what can be done with a small piece of sandy beach.

Q8 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the level of service that the County provides with regard to maintenance of the County-owned reserves, parks and pathways, both adjacent to the shoreline and elsewhere? E.g. removal of dead trees, mowing the trails, playground maintenance, weed control, signage? The frequency of maintenance and at the appropriate time of the year? Please specify in the box below.

Answered: 196 Skipped: 21



Answer Choices	Responses
Satisfied	69.39% 136
Dissatisfied	30.61% 60
Total	196

8. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the level of service that the County provides with regard to maintenance of the County-owned reserves, parks and pathways, both adjacent to the shoreline and elsewhere? E.g. removal of dead trees, mowing the trails, playground maintenance, weed control, signage? The frequency of maintenance and at the appropriate time of the year? Please specify in the box below. - What do you think the County could do better or just differently to improve the level of service?

- 1) Generally, very satisfied however, the Buffalo Lake Meadows playground needs to be maintained 100% by the County alone. In addition, the plowing in the winter needs to be done sooner after snowfalls. Signage is fine as any additional signage would detract from the natural beauty of the area.
- 2) In previous years, the ROW in front of Scenic Sands was mowed once a year, after July 1 (as required by ESRD). And only the width of a single lane could be mowed. This year, it was repeatedly mowed starting in May and almost the entire width of the berm was mowed in the recently worked area on the beach. This is not allowed under Scenic Sand's LOC and is contrary to the intent of the BLISMP and the Public Lands Act.
- 3) Dead fall removed on County land.
- 4) More attention needs to be given to addressing the intent of the Fire Safe Program - i.e. removal of an appropriate amount of deadfall in environmental reserve areas immediately adjacent to occupied dwellings. We are pleased with the County efforts regarding beach areas, pathways and the mowing of road verges.
- 5) for what we pay for taxes we hardly get any services (the County gravels our roads way too much to justify the tax dollar they charge us), would like to see the dead fall removed for fire safety reasons.
- 6) But, too many tax dollars have already been wasted. Future expenditures could be minimized if landowners were allowed to be caretakers of MR/ER. Just like the sidewalk to the street -- property in a city/town is taken care of by the landowners.
- 7) Many County residents use these areas, therefore the County need to assists in certain areas (garbage & playground)
- 8) The County could be more transparent about its 20-year plan for the south shore. Collecting accurate information from the County about plans for the south shore is impossible. I have personal experience asking the same question to multiple County officials and been given completely different answers. Additionally, the County could work in cooperation with South Shore property owners instead of treating them as adversaries, as many tell me they are made to feel by County officials. Trust me when I say, as a group, no one takes more care nor has more vested interest in the health of the south shore then the property owners themselves.
- 9) Best that the County continues to do nothing.
- 10) Hard surface path.

- 11) From the trails I have seen, they appear to be mowed and maintained in a satisfactory condition. There could be an increase in signage and awareness around the trail systems as whenever I walk them, I never run into anyone else on the pathways.
- 12) A summer sidewalk would be nice.
- 13) The level of service does not match our taxes.
- 14) The County needs to step up and provide something for our taxes.
- 15) desperate need for trail on beach that is maintained for average capabilities.
- 16) Buffalo View Estates pathway is an embarrassment for a public path. it is uneven and dangerous.
- 17) Beach maintenance, clearing of weeds at shore line and removal of dead fall in ER would be nice.
- 18) Cutting of the grass has been very effective. Thank you. Pathways that provide access to the beach and winter recreation for the back lot owners need to be created and maintained as needed. Some just need to be identified. The barbed wire between various developments needs to be removed before somebody dies. Pathways on ER and MR's need to be created in order to allow all public to access these lands not just "expansive" land owners. The south end of MacDonald Drive heading towards the beach is a "Road Allowance" and should be made an additional public access to the beach.
- 19) Mowing at shoreline should be more frequent.
- 20) The only path on the shore line has never been maintained by the County. In fact, it is too dangerous to walk on. It seems to be lot owners look after their own weeds.
- 21) a presents that declares community property.
- 22) We are satisfied the way things are except for the deadfall on the ER
- 23) Current public areas need more work.
- 24) Perhaps the County could dredge the shoreline periodically to improve the quality of the water
- 25) I am satisfied with the shoreline maintenance as I feel nothing should be done, leave it how nature intended. The County could provide more services as to speedbumps along to actually enforce the 30km/hour speed limit. And if you want to provide services for lake residents -water seems like an obvious promise that has yet to be fulfilled.

- 26) Remove dead trees as they are a fire hazard, plus there are a few very tall dead trees that if they fell over could cause serious damage or injury.
- 27) The only things that need addressed in my opinion is the rules of the ER need to be clearly set out. I feel that the land owners who boarder the ER should be allowed to trim dead branches and rake/ pull weed to improve the beach. I feel the County was fair in the sale of the MR land. With the additional land the land owners purchased there should be no reasons for encroachment's or fire pits on the ER land. I feel a walking path is a Silly idea. Anyone who has walked the beach should realize it is a foolish idea. If one tree is taken down to build a path than I feel the buffalo lake shore plans have failed. They should be protecting trees not taking a cat down there and clearing a path for 2 people a year to take advantage of. Anyone that wants to walk the shore is already able to do so and shouldn't require a fancy path.
- 28) Things are good but wasn't aware that County was doing anything as our community takes care of this stuff
- 29) The group doing the maintenance on the paths and mowing the grass have been very good in our community.
- 30) Deal with the clean-up of the ER or let the residents do it. Actually the residents would rather do it than have to pay increased taxes to hire more employees at the County. It is a great community building tool.
- 31) The current shoreline "path" in the Buffalo View Estates is hazardous to use. The fences in the east portion of Buffalo View Estates seem, at best, to serve no apparent purpose.
- 32) The trail through the shoreline reserve could be graveled due to all the large rocks protruding which makes it's a little tricky to navigate and dangerous.
- 33) I was unaware the County did anything around us other than plow the roads. There are not many facilities where we are and we are fine with it.
- 34) Need weed control e.g. thistle.
- 35) the County does not do a reasonable job with regard to maintenance of County owned reserves. there are lots of dead trees that are hazard and nothing is done about them. As a community we ensured the appropriate maintenance of the shoreline at our own expense. we proved to be stewards of the sustainability of the shoreline and did what was required. It took lots of effort and time but we were willing to do so as this is home for us.
- 36) I appreciate that the trail system is developed and maintained to minimize the construction impact and still retain the "nature" aspect. However, there are few sections of the newly developed trails (near the Marina) that I suggest may take this a bit too far and present slipping/tripping hazards. With a bit of gravel/fill many of these pothole hazards (due to size of the rocks) could be eliminated, and also make the walks/biking more enjoyable. Please

note that my observations are over a year old, and since these trails are one of the last ones created the County, actions may have already taken care if this issue.

- 37) Make it a public space. Not a private use beach.
- 38) Very satisfied in relation to reserves, parks and pathways. Not very satisfied with shoreline maintenance.
- 39) The County while it mows the grass do not remove dead trees and debris.
- 40) See previous comments... It's fall and I'm still wondering "where the hell is the good beach?"
- 41) People that are lake front usually take care of their own fallen down trees, dead brush, and cut the grass in front of our property
- 42) To my knowledge the County has never removed deadfall on the ER / MR lands at Scenic Sands. Doing that would be a great benefit towards reducing fire risk. The County does a fantastic job of moving the trails and providing signage
- 43) Pathways and fences (in BVE) were a waste of time and money.
- 44) I am a new buyer and haven't been around long enough to comment on that. I plan on building in the early spring. I have walked the area and it seems very well maintain. From the marina throughout the lower area, it's certainly descent. Treed area and lake shore need work.
- 45) We need a garbage area that we can use other than using the one in the village of Rochon Sands.
- 46) Other than cut overhanging trees occasionally, I have yet to see any County services. Other than raising taxes to an unmanageable rate for middle class income earners.
- 47) I am not aware that any deadfall has been removed from the ER, at least not in any great amounts. As we are considering the benefits of becoming a Fire Smart Community, cleaning out the large amount of deadfall on the ER will be a pressing need.
- 48) County is doing a great job.
- 49) There needs to be more monitoring of the proper use of reserve land. The over use of motorized vehicles is destroying the reserve.
- 50) It is a reserve, leave it in its natural state. All motorized vehicles need to be refrained from operating in the reserve. The County, local authorities need to police the use of quads, razors, gators etc. from operating with impunity on these lands. There have been many comments made and supposed policing of these activities by the County/police but there are hi ways cut through the reserve by property owners running their quads, razors and gators to the beach

areas. My comments apply to summer motorized vehicles only as I see the damage caused to the lands, winter access by snowmobiles does not cause damage to the lands directly because of the snow cover.

- 51) We have dead trees, both standing and fallen, on our property that I would like to see removed as we were told by the County that we can't touch them. I worry about the safety of the dead trees coming down.
- 52) From what I see as a person who does not live in the County, it does not look bad, but I may be the wrong person to answer this question.
- 53) all of the above
- 54) Other than road maintenance why is the County involved in the development of private lands adjacent to the shoreline. Has the County now turned into a developer? Can I buy shares? I would prefer that the County not spend my tax dollars (already overtaxed) on development of a subdivision and paths parks etc. to satisfy a developers dream.
- 55) Very satisfied with mowing and road maintenance. To improve: a recycling container for paper, plastic and cardboard would be wonderful! We have been very happy with the County and how everyone seems to want to work with our community. I don't see the need to bylaw to come out as often as he is currently. We are a self-policing community for the most part and try to keep everyone behaving well... Anything for a beach though we are tired of the swamp, duck itch and leeches....
- 56) weed control, path, communal fire pits, tables, parking
- 57) Removal of dead trees.
- 58) Require a Large common garbage disposal area. Driving our garbage to Erskine or Stettler is not an option.
- 59) As far as I can tell the County has done absolutely nothing along the ER along the shoreline at Buffalo View Estates. I hate the access points to the shoreline, (cement sidewalk with a chain link fence) which looks like it belongs in a city, not in a rural setting. Again, the more you change things, the less I like it, and from the plummet in property values, I think you've done a disservice to our land values. Things like a big paved parking lot & big metal fencing at the Marina, look like it belongs in a city.
- 60) There is a lot of deadfall in the Reserve, which presents a fire hazard
- 61) The County has spent an enormous amount of time debating the use of land for reasons that remain relatively unclear. It appears a tremendous waste of resources. The County needs to be far more transparent in WHY this is being undertaken. It affects a very small number of people.

- 62) More frequent mowing and maintenance would be better.
- 63) County does well on mowing trails, weed control and signage. About average on playground maintenance and fails on removal of dead trees, bush, shrubs and dry wild grass on County reserves. Removal of deadfall should be addressed each spring. Though not mentioned, dust control on the shoreline access roads is none existent and needs to be addressed.
- 64) The County has done an exceptional job of mowing, grading and garbage pick-up at Scenic Sands this summer 2015.
- 65) I'm not dissatisfied with what the County is doing now, I would just like to see the shoreline more usable as per question 7.
- 66) That the County removes standing dead trees when asked, so that falling trees do not damage property. That weeds are controlled (particularly in August and September when thistles go to seed.) and trees trimmed more frequently along Bayview Street.
- 67) It's very important to remember that Buffalo Lake is not a town and we need to preserve the natural appearance and beauty of the area. In future developments, let's keep the landscape as it was meant to be and as it has been for hundreds of years. As landowners in the County, I believe we could benefit from an area for true recycling and garbage refuge and that is all. Parks are available at Old MacDonald's and the Provincial Park and White Sands, which is sufficient. The pathways at BVE are never used and frankly the aesthetics in that area make me nostalgic for the past before the developments began. The BVE marina is also worth commenting on ... how on earth did approval occur to change the dimensions of Buffalo Lake? A travesty ...
- 68) I think they do a very good jobs as they should the taxes are extremely high and would expect anything less
- 69) For what we have they do a great job
- 70) Trails must continue to be mowed
- 71) remove dead trees (fire hazard). need paved roads and maintenance (big pot holes in existing road)
- 72) In our area this year's maintenance crew (2015) did an excellent job maintaining the MR's and ditches.
- 73) I think the County should be providing more assistance with regards to maintaining beach areas along the shore line.
- 74) more clearing of dead trees, weed control at shoreline etc. is needed

- 75) Generally, the community deals with these things and the County has little or no involvement. The County should stick to road maintenance and mowing the trails. Reduce taxes to reflect the minimal level of service the community receives and requires. If not, then contribute financially to community efforts to improve the area, such as beach maintenance.
- 76) where the country doesn't mow we as property owners are able to cover the rest of the areas
- 77) Generally, I am satisfied. There are times where general maintenance could be improved somewhat.
- 78) more work means more taxes and the cost is already prohibitive for seasonal users. Perhaps better maintenance (i.e. pothole repairs) of the roads in and around the communities would be far safer and more appreciated.
- 79) Reduce taxes. The property taxes don't reflect the level of service offered by County
- 80) Mowing and weed control should be done on a more regular basis
- 81) frankly the County has never done anything except plow the road and maintain the road. they could and should continue to the same but try to refrain from having 15 people sit around for an hour at the end of the day.
- 82) The MR areas in BVE are well kept but the ER along the lake is in poor condition. The public pathway is dangerous due to uneven ground and all the standing dead trees.
- 83) albeit the maintenance is the best I have seen in the last 30 years of enjoying the lake, there is still more that could be done as you get closer to the lake
- 84) I know many neighbours that say the County is not looking after the MR to the degree it should be which increases the risk of fire spread. It may be a fair assessment but we are not lakefront so don't notice so much.
- 85) Weed control on County Land is insufficient.
- 86) The County has done a fabulous job of mowing this year. We are in need of signs from time to time but the County is usually very responsive.
- 87) The public pathway signage has not lasted and requires replacement with more permanent materials. In some cases, the loss of signage results in the public assuming passage that is actually private property.
- 88) We haven't seen anyone removing dead trees etc. on the reserves. We need a dead tree to be cut down.
- 89) Satisfied except need dead fall removal on County managed land Fire hazard

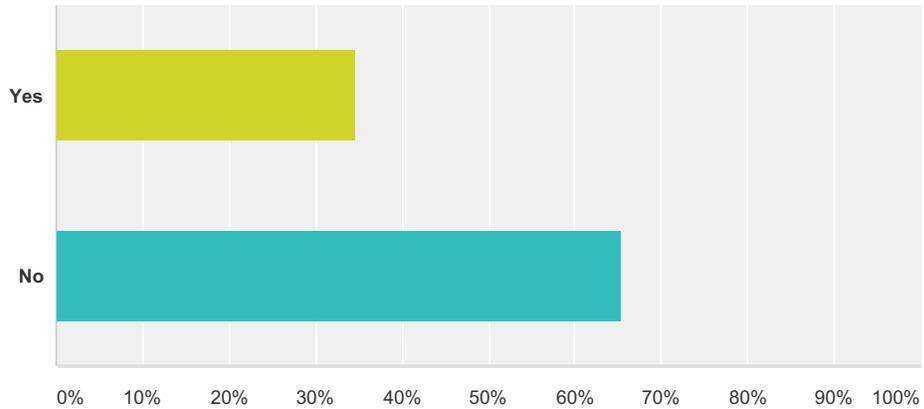
- 90) There have been some issues with pathways being cut across private lots. These need to be restored to original state.
- 91) When we have formed our association I will address this issue.
- 92) In recent years there has been little to no maintenance of pathways and trails throughout our community Buffalo Lake Meadows. This year, there has been an increased presence in mowing. I do think there needs to be weed control and dead tree removal. I am disappointed that the three berms which provide beach access are falling onto the community to fund and maintain as it will be impossible for us to continue to do so with volunteer labour and a \$100 voluntary community association annual fees. The County has provided materials but no labour and the damage from use and the water and wind action require annual work that we just cannot continue to do. Since the first berm was constructed we have not been able to finish the other two berms due to funds, material and labour. We just don't have the bandwidth as a small community.
- 93) We (our family) don't really like the use of Round up for weed control at the Buffalo Sand water plant, not only is this where we get our drinking/bathing water but it is right beside a playground. Also the quality of the tap water has declined since the development started ... we used to be able to fill a white bucket with tap water and it would be clear, this summer same bucket water was very cloudy?? Over all very satisfied!
- 94) Considering the amount of taxes taken there should be some consideration given to the maintenance and development of public use areas. In Buffalo Lake Meadows we do not have paved roads or utilities so taxes seem to be quite high for nothing more than garbage removal and the occasional mowing of our trails. We should be seeing monies for the development of lake front and recreational facilities such as picnic areas, soccer fields, ball diamonds, volleyball, children's parks. Something that puts our money to use.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) Organization of the right volunteers in the lakeshore communities to help with the ongoing building and maintenance of the right-of-way all along the lake. There must be a way to instill pride in the owners and get them to work with the County for the allover good of the lake.

Q9 Do you think it would be practical to set up rules whereby the landowners through a community association could supplement or take over the maintenance of the reserve parcels, parks and pathways on behalf of the County, to improve the level of service?

Answered: 187 Skipped: 30



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	34.76% 65
No	65.24% 122
Total	187

9. Do you think it would be practical to set up rules whereby the landowners through a community association could supplement or take over the maintenance of the reserve parcels, parks and pathways on behalf of the County, to improve the level of service? - Please provide more information.

- 1) The level of service is generally fine as it is. The County is already grossly overpaid from the money it extorts from the owners in the lake communities and provides very little services as it is. If it is deemed that the maintenance is insufficient there are certainly more than enough funds already paid by the communities to allow for the County to increase its level of service. The only way it would become appropriate for community associations to become involved would be if the County assigned and or relinquished the lands entirely to the community associations which would allow them to use and maintain at their own discretion. If the County needs help in maintenance, possibly they could approach someone living full time in that community and hire them as an outside contractor, under contract and paid by the County to perform the routine maintenance.
- 2) The County has the responsibility for these areas and taxes are paid for the County to enable this.
- 3) not sure how to answer this question would we get a tax reduction if we did?
- 4) Absolutely yes, because it would save tax dollars.
- 5) Interesting concept that needs more discussion.
- 6) The County want complete control of land around the lake. Power grab.
- 7) Self-interest.
- 8) No, I believe that the County is responsible for the maintenance of the larger reserves, parks and pathways and tax dollars collected should be used for these purposes. However, it may be feasible to explore interest in potential volunteer opportunities in enhancing or supplementing the maintenance of the small land strips particularly if the reserve is directly in front of existing lot owners and has been maintained for the past 40-50 years already.
- 9) It would be a nightmare getting cottage owners to take turns maintaining public areas.
- 10) County property needs to be County maintained.
- 11) I pay taxes for the County to provide me with service. My time is to relax at the lake not to do another job.
- 12) Do not trust them to provide public service.
- 13) Then it would become semi private.
- 14) And who's going to pay for this ... We would then have to hire someone to do this, doesn't sound to feasible for us.

- 15) only if public access is protected!
- 16) We currently cut the grass and maintain on pathways that the County cannot access with their equipment. The County providing gravel and mowing support would be appreciated.
- 17) Landowners could keep up with the mowing of the current pathways, as I believe they already do.
- 18) A community assoc. is a good idea. Not only for maintenance but also to be provide lot owners a say in what is going on.
- 19) Could possibly be done with trails. County owned equip run by volunteers. Mower, or track set for cross country trails.
- 20) That would preclude ownership by the association. Excluding general public.
- 21) Currently we can't do anything anyway. There are already too many dumb rules and if everyone just minded their own business and let us maintain our own area (not the community association) people would be happier
- 22) We appreciate having the County do the mowing of our verges, pathways and beach.
- 23) It would be beneficial if property owners could be responsible for maintaining the MR in front of their own properties. For the example weeding and getting rid of dead branches etc. perhaps the County can look after pathways and parks.
- 24) We believe that with the existing high tax base in Scenic Sands that the maintenance should be the responsibility of the County.
- 25) I think it is the County's responsibility to take care of public areas - this is why we pay taxes. I do not currently think we get good value for the taxes we pay.
- 26) Scenic Sands is still a primarily recreational community and people are either busy building or relaxing when they get there, if the maintenance was taken on by the community it could become an unnecessary burden on the folks that live there all year round.
- 27) The County simply mows the lawn and picks up garbage. They can continue this practice as it is what I pay my taxes for.
- 28) I feel this would be a setup for failure as you cannot enforce this if someone does not do their part.
- 29) We believe that with the high level of taxation for the landowners the County should have sufficient funds to maintain all County properties
- 30) This seems unnecessary and wasteful. If the County (specifically board members like [REDACTED] pushing for a non-sustainable and unwanted path) insists on creating things that need to be

maintained, it is then their responsibility to actually do it. Don't put in a path that nobody wants or will use, and then leave it up to us to deal with the problem you have created. Bottom line - if you want paths and parks than you will be wasting tax payer dollars for years to come trying to maintain them. Waste of money!! Please listen to these surveys and your tax payers!

- 31) People purchase lake property to relax and enjoy.
- 32) I feel the land owner who borders the ER should be able to maintain the ER as long as it is respected. They have a huge financial interest in the beach and should be able rake the sand/pull Canada thistle. It is in the land owners best interest to maintain the beach.
- 33) we do it now
- 34) I think our society does a good job of working with the County to make sure the service is good and in working conditions. I think the community could continue this with minimal help and some guidance from the County that it would be possible
- 35) We have this now at Scenic Sands where we control the License of Occupation and our beach operates very well for our residents. We take care of our own paths within the community with volunteers and people use the work as exercise.
- 36) Do not believe that most landowners would be suitably motivated or available to perform this maintenance
- 37) Lakefront property owners could continue to maintain the reserve parcel in front of their property.
- 38) I believe everyone at Buffalo View is there for leisure time not managing maintenance of the reserve.
- 39) I think many people would be happy to manage land around them. And pay less tax
- 40) a community association would better manage and facilitate the land owners' requirements as well as improve communication with the County to ensure that both parties goals are achieved.
- 41) We believe a community association would better manage and facilitate owners needs and requests to work with the County/government and environment so both parties are satisfied.
- 42) Who would finance the community to do so? would the County reduce taxes since it is not the one providing the required maintenance?
- 43) If this approach is done, then it should be to 'supplement' only, the base maintenance needs be performed at the County level.
- 44) They would make it a private use beach.

- 45) Unsure.
- 46) It is the responsibility of the County to maintain the reserve, parks and pathway. If the County wishes to delegate it to the Community, then the County should be providing the appropriate funding. The community has done a lot over the years in terms of volunteer hours and fund to maintain the shoreline but at the end of the day it is the County's role and responsibility to provide for such services for which the community pays property tax.
- 47) Sometimes if you want a job done right you have to do it your selves, besides the people who live in the community take the most pride in making it look nice.
- 48) Don't know.
- 49) Community associations do not have the funding to do such things. Getting volunteers to do this work would be a challenge as many people use the public lands only on weekends during the summer and are not inclined to give vacation time to maintenance of public lands.
- 50) Have every community association working towards common goals.
- 51) This is not practical and unnecessary.
- 52) The last thing I want to do is maintain this development. After a year of travelling I want to relax and enjoy my time and investment. That's a BIG NO!!! for me.
- 53) Creates a climate where neighbours may not agree, and then therefore, not get along. If the County completed the services, with input from the community, would be best.
- 54) Scenic Sands Community Association members & residents have been mowing most of the walking trails & the playground area for many years before the County took over some of that role! "Taking over" all the maintenance would only work if some of the few people who actually reside in Scenic Sands full time were willing. Summer-only residents are not there consistently enough to have the job done regularly, especially in years where the rains keep the grass growing.
- 55) Currently there are too many absent owners. That is, they only use their sites during the weekend or for a few weeks in the summer. To take over the tasks listed would take a lot of work and I think more than what the owners would want to or could manage.
- 56) I feel the that the County should continue to maintain the reserves. If the private landowners and community associations were to take this over from the County, there would be no consistency in following the rules that help maintain these areas. We have seen this repeatedly in Scenic Sands i.e. people are clearing their own paths with ATVs to the beach and setting up their own personal fire pits, horse shoe pits, volley ball areas etc. I think it is best for there to be one governing body maintaining the reserves and ensuring the rules are adhered to.
- 57) DEFINITELY NOT! There needs to be a single authority looking after this so the is consistency among lake communities as to how these areas are maintained. Even within our scenic sands

community there are many different opinions as to what should be allowed for the reserves resulting in people doing whatever they want, some causing major damage to these lands. This is the area the County does not and should not relinquish control of to the community associations. Make the rules and enforce them.

- 58) I believe a community association would benefit the landowners in having a more open dialogue with the County. I believe the landowners should have more control on maintaining their own properties, including the reserve parcels to keep them tidy and maintained for the mutual enjoyment of all.
- 59) I think that may be a great idea, the only problem is some of the community organizations may take this as an opportunity to push some of their own agenda's, and limit access to these areas.
- 60) Might be a good idea, would need more info.
- 61) I have enough work to do on my own property
- 62) Answered in previous question.
- 63) Again, if it wasn't for the failure of the BVE developer, we wouldn't have any pathways nor do we want any. On Buffalo lake there is no walking of the shoreline. It is a very shallow lake and does provide for such access. The provincial park is full of trails that are seldom used. Pathways create more ground disturbance which I feel is what we are trying to avoid.
- 64) Some people live year-round and the lake, but might be away for extended periods (winter). Many people are frequently at the lake but live and work elsewhere. Many people already do work on a volunteer basis.
- 65) Our community association already takes care of the LOC each year and our funds collected each year from landowners contribute directly to the maintenance of the berms. We have no funds left over to deal with any other projects as every penny goes to berm maintenance. We also maintain the playground in our neighbourhood.
- 66) this implies special ownership. All LOCs should be taken over by the joint municipalities.
- 67) If land owners are maintaining the land they will start to treat it as it is theirs
- 68) So let me get this straight, we pay taxes for service and you want to off-load that service onto the land owners? We pay taxes just like we do in the City, yet we get no garbage collection, and our kids go to school in the city, where we already pay tax for that education. We already are taxed for very little at the Lake.
- 69) Funding could be an issue. Some would pay if voluntary others would not. Some own multiple lots but would only pay once. Would like to see the funds collected with taxes per lot and then used by the association to pay form maintenance and improvements. And if funded by owners is it still open to public to use too. Second concern would be the usage of the area, would the rules regarding ATVs be removed?

- 70) It would be interesting to hear about the incentives that would be offered to take this over.
- 71) Yes, as several municipalities have an adopt a park program, there is the potential for the County to turn over maintenance or reserves, parcels and pathways to groups with a caveat the rules are clear and that some funding has to be set aside for these groups to pay for equipment, gas, and their maintenance.
- 72) I believe it would be far too great of a job for the County to clean up the whole shoreline. A strict set of rules/guidelines pertaining to what can and cannot be done could be facilitated.
- 73) I like the idea of a community association, in order to establish consistency, expectations and plans for the Reserve lands. It depends on the expectations of the community association, whether it is voluntary work or paid positions, whether we could use County equipment, supplies, etc. We are not sure about this one. We would probably go along with the majority of land owners and their wishes.
- 74) If it lowers taxes of course - sweat equity.
- 75) More involvement would hopefully encourage a higher satisfaction for the area
- 76) I do not know enough about this option to answer knowledgeably.
- 77) It wouldn't happen a few people would try the rest would find something to bitch about.
- 78) Each community has its own needs, they are unique and beautiful the way they are. To plunk a pathway from one end to the other is not a good use of tax dollars. Areas of Scenic Sands and Buffalo Sands have high water tables, so much so that the ROW is actually under water or saturated for large portions of the summer. While Rochon Sands often has very little ROW based on high water tables. White Sands has cliffs that would make it overly costly to put a pathway along its banks.
- 79) we pay the County very high taxes for minimal services I think this is something that the County should continue doing
- 80) keeping the beaches clean of debris and a place to dispose of the debris would be a good place to start
- 81) At the moment, I feel the landowners are very responsible. We keep the area clean and pick up garbage that comes in across the lake. This would require a functioning community association.
- 82) if landowners are allowed to maintain reserve parcels near their land? otherwise No.
- 83) The level of service has been adequate.

- 84) I'm sure no rules are necessary. If the County would be reasonable I'm sure most people would like to keep the grass mowed and cleaned up to enhance their properties. Just please ask us to mow the reserve close to our property and we will be happy to do so.
- 85) Would likely rely on revenue from memberships which would then have to be involuntary. If reliant on volunteers that would put pressure on non-permanent residents to schedule this time into their weekends or not participate.
- 86) Don't think this will work as usage levels vary greatly.
- 87) Handling things as close to the "work face" as possible generally means better outcomes for those affected and involved.
- 88) We are already doing this at Buffalo sands
- 89) I think through our Residents association we could benefit from such a system. In many cases our residents already supplement what the County does.
- 90) People are busy enough maintaining their own property, the communal areas are exactly that, to be enjoyed by all. Adhering to the saying "take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footsteps" would solve a lot of issues.
- 91) the County needs to update by at least two decades the notion of parks and pathways. we live in a tree hugging world and any path that needs groomed is not the kind of path people are coming to use.
- 92) There is too little owner engagement in BVE at this time.
- 93) our community (Abbey Road) already do 100% of the maintenance of the lake front, the County does mow in the crescent
- 94) We pay a lot in taxes and do not access the schools etc. that we pay for in the area. We should be able to expect quality services (grass cutting, grading and garbage) that sometimes diminish with outsourcing. We would not be opposed to a pilot project or contracting out the services if the quality is maintained and the community association was fairly compensated.
- 95) The Associations should be able to take over the administration of the County parcels, with the County improving their level of service
- 96) The community is aware of the needs at the lake.
- 97) Summer mowing would be the biggest challenge with respect to effective timing as well as efficient equipment. The level of service has been fine.
- 98) Perhaps to supplement. However, in Buffalo View Estates the County is doing a great job of maintenance.
- 99) The money that was collected for the sale of the reserve will need to be transferred over to the association that will be looking after this.

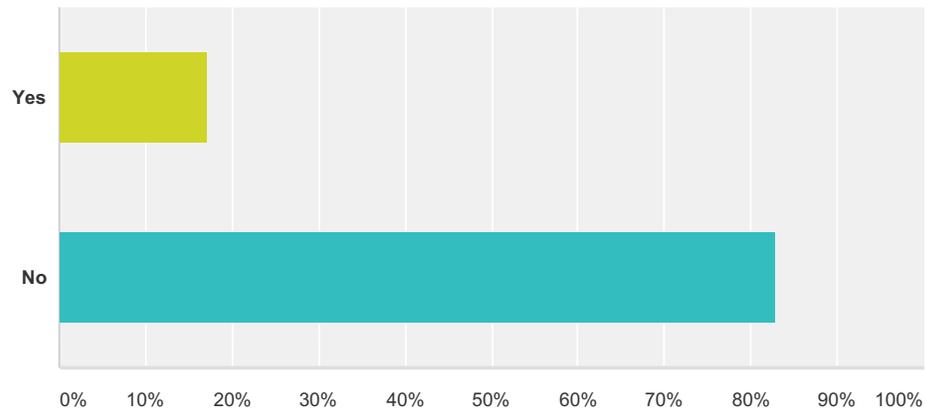
- 100) Yes, I think we as a community could manage the reserve parcels on behalf of the County but would need the County to enforce infractions against improper use of the lands (i.e. quads etc.)
- 101) Property owners need to look after their own property properly. Too many property owners use the area between the water's edge and their property as a junk yard. It needs to be cleaned up and kept that way.
- 102) This should be the responsibility of the County
- 103) We believe a community association would better manage and facilitate the owners needs and requests to work with the County/government and environment so all parties are satisfied.
- 104) The County collects a lot of tax revenue from these primarily summer use communities. In return we get garbage removal, maintained gravel roads, and grass cutting in the MR and ER paths. To suggest that we could take on or supplement this service, we already are doing that with the playground that we have built and the construction and maintenance of the berms with no formal agreement in place. Our community fees are voluntary and this burden of maintaining these areas is falling onto us with no way to collect from all owners that benefit in the community or any of the general public that may use them.
- 105) If there are over 50 lots in our subdivision and the County wants us to take on more responsibility, then the County needs to make our community fees mandatory and collect them for us through the tax system. I doubt though that many residents would approve this so I'd suggest that the community get out of the business of trying to be a summer village and that the County gets the responsibility for these amenities that ultimately provide recreation for the community members and the public which will bring tax and business revenue to the greater County population.
- 106) only if there was a commensurate reduction in property taxes. It is unclear to me the value of the enormous tax grab we have on our property.
- 107) No the County has equipment in place to do snow plowing, mowing, etc. They should continue to provide those "big" services.
- 108) understanding that from time to time there may not be enough available County staffing to perform maintenance
- 109) Left to residents there would be nothing but dispute and delay. Best to let the County invest as they would in other areas of the County.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) Yes. If it was to maintain the environmental reserve directly in front of private lakefront property. Parks and pathways should be maintained by the County and supported by tax dollars / reserve funds.
- b) There are volunteers in every community but they need to be organized and aware of responsibilities – plus there needs to be policy set so that they do not overstep their boundaries. There could be a number of community associations then with one representative from each sitting on a board with the County to set policy and rules and then maintain those regulations.

Q10 Do you think that encroachments from private property onto reserve land on the one hand, and trespassing of the general public (who are using the reserves) onto private property on the other hand, could be better managed if the County constructed a decorative fence, two or three feet tall, perhaps with accesses/openings to the shoreline at each lakefront lot, along the length of the shoreline reserve where practical, in order to demarcate the boundary between private property and public reserve?

Answered: 192 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	17.19%	33
No	82.81%	159
Total		192

10. Do you think that encroachments from private property onto reserve land on the one hand, and trespassing of the general public (who are using the reserves) onto private property on the other hand, could be better managed if the County constructed a decorative fence, two or three feet tall, perhaps with accesses/openings to the shoreline at each lakefront lot, along the length of the shoreline reserve where practical, in order to demarcate the boundary between private property and public reserve? - Comment if any

- 1) Sorry to be blunt but that is a TERRIBLE idea and even harder to believe that that could even be a consideration. We do not live on the lake front lots but are completely against this idea. 1. A fence, decorative or not is man-made intrusion and will ruin this beautiful natural area. 2. A fence will ruin the natural feel of the area. 3. The lake looks great as is, if there are any encroachments by landowners they certainly have not been a detraction. Weather a boat lift for instance is in the water or on the shore in winter you see it either way and is just part of what makes this a recreational lake. It's an attraction not an eyesore. 4. Intrusions by the public have never been a concern in our area. 5. It is a huge disgusting waste of good money. Use it for additional beaches or something of value. 6. Lake front owners pay a premium to have that location and do not need a fence to hoist their kids over, risking injury and possible injury liability directed at the County. 7. I do not feel that encroachments of docks, lifts etc. in any way detract or lessen the enjoyment of the lake by anyone in the general public so leave well enough alone and stop wasting money on useless trivial things like a fence.
- 2) This is not practical or needed in Scenic Sands. We own a 'lakefront' lot and have never had an issued with people coming onto our property. There is a metal marker at each property boundary.
- 3) NO
- 4) Definitely not! Residents and the public enjoy the natural environment of our area. A kilometer-long fence would be totally inappropriate for the area, and would destroy the looks and enjoyment of this beautiful area. It would not accomplish anything. We are very surprised that a fence of this type would even be considered. To our knowledge, and having over 30 years of appreciating the environment the way it is and being very active in our community association, trespassing is not an issue that requires a County response.
- 5) NO fence, what a waste of tax dollars
- 6) Encroachments were taken care of when the MR land was sold to lakefront landowners -- at which time steel survey posts/stakes mark the boundary between Private Property and Public Reserve. A fence will not stop a trespasser, but unfortunately it may be a safety/timing issue in the event that someone is drowning.
- 7) The push for a fence along the south shore is so absurd. It would add zero value to anyone. Obviously this idea is coming from a powerful position on Council who prefers animosity between the County and the south shore owners over cooperation between the two groups. It's so disappointing that power is being abused like this.
- 8) What encroachments? All are supposed to removed. The boundary is already demarcated with steel posts.

- 9) Make survey pins/posts very visible
- 10) Lake front residents will claim the beach as their own again.
- 11) No, absolutely not. The land has been designated an environmental reserve and should be left in its most natural state!
- 12) Low enough for the deer.
- 13) I would like to have a fence with a gate about two feet high.
- 14) The public beach has been used too much as private.
- 15) fences with gates would keep private and public separate.
- 16) A fence MUST be built to keep encroachments from happening again.
- 17) Not needed at all.
- 18) Instead of a fence, the County should consider building a "pathway" that runs along/near the shoreline reserve connecting all of the developments from Rochon sands to Mirror. Think of it as a bike path similar to the Kananaskis Provincial Park pathway systems.
- 19) A fence is a terrible idea and also offensive. What better way to discourage use of the lake than to waste money on a fence? The idea is also very impractical. Every year the ice would destroy it. Save the money for something else.
- 20) I do not see it as good tax dollars spent for the benefit.
- 21) fences define property.
- 22) Absolutely not, we have no issues with how it is now, it is a natural area and this would limit the movement of wildlife and destroy natural areas.
- 23) We are very much opposed to this. This would make it very difficult to move our dock and lift in and out of the water. We also purchased this property for the view as I'm sure many others did. A fence would be unsightly. We also believe it may decrease our property value.
- 24) As far as we know everyone respects the property of others at Scenic Sands
- 25) I think it would significantly decrease property values. I also do not think it would serve any purpose.
- 26) I don't believe this is necessary. I haven't heard of any issues with 'trespassing', perhaps because Scenic Sands is a close knit community and if someone inadvertently went up a wrong trail from the beach and ended up in someone else's property it would be funny rather than trespassing. There are a couple of lake front lots that have perhaps encroached on to the

public land but I don't think it's a big deal, it might be a few steps or a small platform, it's not doing any harm. Our community is not about creating fenced areas, it is about sharing and friendship, enjoying the land and helping each other.

- 27) I think this type of thing would take away from the natural beauty
- 28) This would disrupt the environment to a high degree
- 29) Please see above comments!! Help yourselves out -avoid the entire headache - by NOT putting in a path. Then no type of fence is needed!!! The only reason I have heard for putting in a path is for people who don't own waterfront to walk upon it. They are already welcome to do so! And legally entitled! Start walking already because in the 10 years we have owned waterfront I have yet to see anyone walking around near the water! Or wanting to walk more than the areas already provided with the Rochon Sands public beach, or Boss Hill, or Pelican Point. Seriously - who thinks this path is a good idea???
- 30) Maintaining weeds, grass and garbage that would collect along fence line! Not to mention debris thrown onto property owners area. There are paved walkways that should be used for walking and not the reserve land, and the walkways should be fenced. If a fence needs to be installed along a dangerous cut-off or embankment for safety reasons that needs to be considered, but it should not look like a compound.
- 31) NO one wants to see a fence, regardless of how 'decorative' you make it- it can't be as beautiful as nature already is. It is completely ridiculous to even think the County can build a fence along the ER. The terrain is rough and treed. Furthermore, the ice that piles up on the south shore would destroy the fence every year. Who is going to pay to fix it year after year? Finally, why is this even being suggested? Does anyone think it is a good idea?
- 32) what a ridiculous idea and terrible waste of money
- 33) Seems like a big expense for something not needed in our community
- 34) Not at Scenic Sands. This really isn't an issue because we have well marked paths from the beach to the road. We put up signage to demarcate the paths and people don't cut through private property.
- 35) I am not aware that this is a problem within our subdivision (BLM)
- 36) Fences are NOT NEEDED or WANTED! I wonder how many complaints have been brought forward to the County in this regard?
- 37) I think a fence is ridiculous. It may better manage the land, but people would rarely use it either way and you disrupting the natural shore line to build a man-made structure is ludicrous. I would much rather have general public trespassing on my lawn than have a fence in front of the lake. I have a fence in the city.
- 38) difficult to construct/maintain = expensive. detracts from the environment of the lake.

- 39) Ridiculous idea. How can a fence be maintained along the shoreline with frost heaves and ice constantly changing the shoreline? I believe this would be costly to maintain and have very little benefit. The current black chain link fence the County has put up in the BVE looks prison like as it is now. Several visitors we have make negative comments about that fence.
- 40) Absolutely not. a fence is not only not compatible with the surrounding it is unfriendly and uninviting. a big waste of hard earned dollars.
- 41) Although a fence would certainly demarcate the boundary, I believe a fence is unnecessary and will detract from the overall appearance and setting. I suggest that the demarcation can be accomplished with much less intrusion by installing permanent and visible "property corner pins'. If necessary, these could easily be outfitted with appropriate signs to show private property vs public access.
- 42) Build a fence to keep public, public.
- 43) More maintenance for the fence.
- 44) A fence, no matter how well done, will take away the natural beauty of the shoreline, reserves and pathways.
- 45) Absolutely NOT. A fence would not be compatible with the natural surroundings and the beauty of the area. Also would be unwelcoming and artificial.
- 46) Any designated area would be ideal.
- 47) You have to be kidding right. (Pave the road) get more garbage containers
- 48) This is not an issue at Scenic Sands
- 49) Building a fence on a 6-meter ER reserve make no sense at all. This would restrict our access to the lake and significantly reduce our property values which would require my neighbour and ourselves to seek compensation from the County of Settler through legal means.
- 50) Give this development time to fill up and develop. Right now that's not even close to being a problem.
- 51) A fence is a ridiculous idea. It would look terrible, animals would not be able to get across easily and it would become damaged by the ice year after year. This is a terrible idea.
- 52) Objective of reserve land is to enjoy nature in its purest form. A fence only adds elements of development and urban living.
- 53) In Scenic Sands, a fence is unnecessary because the lakefront properties are on a hill with many meters of ER between the property and the beach. But I do think the County should/could demarcate the front boundary line at every property to make the landowners aware. It may have been many years since most of us have seen the boundary stakes.

- 54) A fence would cost a considerable amount to install and maintain. Encroachment on to public lands is not limited to the lakefront lots. Money would be better spent on detailing each subdivision in detail and doing a yearly follow up to see what encroachments have taken place. Given the advancements in doing this digitally should make follow up easier to report on and control encroachment.
- 55) Until now we have not had a lot of the general public using the beach area in front of our property & I think if a fence was installed it would only entice the public to come & use the area. I think a fence would also be a hindrance to private owners that do have to remove structures back & forth. We are definitely not in favour of having a public pathway in front of our property.
- 56) I think that it is the responsibility of the land owner adjacent to the reserve to ensure that their structures are not encroaching on the reserve and if they are they should have to remove it. It should also be the responsibility of the land owner to erect a fence themselves in order to prevent those using the reserve from trespassing on their property.
- 57) I think there would be more damage to the reserve areas by erecting a fence. Property owners who erect structures on reserve lands, in my opinion should be made to remove these structures, plain and simple. People will rather ask for forgiveness after the fact than asking for permission before, this is not the correct way. Our property is thankfully not adjacent to reserve lands, and I would not think of building a structure on my neighbor's land, so why would it be acceptable to build on reserve lands? The County has building permits in place to ensure the rules are met before construction starts, and property owners building on public or reserve lands should be made to at their own cost remove the infringing structures. If a land owner wants to erect a fence to keep people off their lot, then they should erect it on their land at their cost.
- 58) It would be impractical for removing canoes, kayaks, docks etc. from the shore onto private property. I feel a fence would impede the lakefront views, even if it's only 2-3 feet tall. It would also take away from the feel of having the natural shoreline with a fence, no matter how decorative. I also feel a short fence would not dissuade the public from accessing the private property if they really want to.
- 59) Wow, this is going to open up debate isn't it. Something has to be done, but you have not done a good job of this yet., Selling property back to a bunch of these folks for a very discounted price, and having them still complain about the reserve and the ROW. I think if there is a complaint from a landowner, they should deal with it themselves. (maybe put up their own fence etc.) Also from the other side, the public needs to be made aware that there is public land all the way around the lake, and it can be used by anybody, therefore there can be no encroachment on this property from private landowners. You have to be very clear on this with the landowners, and if there is a problem, it must be dealt with immediately, and with a heavy hand.
- 60) We have never had any problems with trespassers on our property and a fence would greatly limit our waterfront activities.
- 61) That would just take away from land owners view.

- 62) Please suggest what is so natural about a fence or gate, whether it be decorative or not. Lakefront lot owners pay a premium in property taxes for the lake frontage. The dimensions of the proposed accesses/openings of the fence would limit their activities. We believe it is not the responsibility of the County/governing body, to limit lot owners access to the provincial lake. Insurance companies know that no matter how tall the fence is, trespassing will occur one way or the other. If the County is concerned about encroachments from private property, a once a year monitoring check system would be more affordable and less costly to maintain. Fences allow weeds and debris to be collected which is more unsightly than manicured grounds.
- 63) A fence?? Really!! So then the shoreline is ugly from the shoreline view and from the view in the water. Public access is on existing multimillion dollar provincial parks within walking distance of any of these subdivisions. The Red Deer river shore line should have public access. Do you want to build a fence along that too? I hope that someone from the area is elected to council so that we can stop the silly ideas.
- 64) less is more when it comes to fences, signs, etc. The natural look of the lake is appealing.
- 65) We do not have any problems with trespassing.
- 66) private property owners will never respect public lands. A good fence makes a good neighbour.
- 67) Not practical and Not necessary!
- 68) You build a fence in front of my property, and I will sell and never return. Sit in front of my lot for a week, no one will walk by? Build a fence for whom, some family walking to white sands? Give your head a shake, that is a stupid idea, ruins the ER (and I suspect is against the ER mandate) and creates a hazard for any kid or swimmer in peril, if I have run to the nearest gate before saving my child.
- 69) As noted, anyone who has spent any time at Buffalo Lake knows that is a complete waste of time and money.
- 70) The pathways to homes backing on the reserve need to be marked somehow. While walking the trails it is not clear which path has been created by a homeowner and which is a true path. There are no true lakefront lots at Scenic Sands and the MR is the buffer.
- 71) This would be a huge waste of money. It is not an issue in Buffalo Sands.
- 72) This would be a bad idea.
- 73) Waste of taxpayers' money. Better to spend the money paving the roads that access the lake.
- 74) People can put up their own if they want within the Land Use Bylaw.

- 75) There is not a problem that needs addressing and fencing would be no more a deterrent from trespassers than are the current private signs advising of private property - do not trespass. Those that trespass will continue to do so regardless of fencing - this is a relatively minor issue.
- 76) I understand the encroachments are being dealt with and I don't believe trespassing is an issue at this time.
- 77) Definitely dead-set against a fence of any type! It would spoil the natural beauty of the reserve land. It would be in the way of taking things to and from the beach. It would be difficult to install because the ground is mostly rocks and roots. It would look unnatural and gives the impression of "keep out" to the landowners. If trespassing by the general public became a problem, then I would like to revisit this and then have the County put up a line of demarcation. (example: signs but not fences).
- 78) This is an absurd proposal. Let us consider the environment and habitat around the lake. A two or three feet tall fence would have a detrimental effect on the deer, beaver and waterfowl that need the lake for survival. NO FENCES REQUIRED
- 79) I think they are fine it's very obvious and the fences allow for little trespassing
- 80) Everyone should respect another's property with survey stakes at the least but if the landowner should request a fence the County should oblige.
- 81) Sounds expensive
- 82) In many of the locations, this is a boggy area that floods regularly. The cost and longevity of such an expense would not make sense. If there are land owner encroachments onto reserve land, then these people should be warned to make appropriate changes and if they are not compliant then a fine should be levied.
- 83) We don't have the public coming to our beach. They are welcomed by some of us; the rest own the beach - so I'm told.
- 84) If this became an issue I would assume that each landowner would have to decide if they wanted a fence, currently the ROW is a nice buffer from the beach which is public and everyone has access to and the private lakefront landowners back property lines.
- 85) I believe fences detract from the beauty of the natural state of the lake. We didn't buy a place at the lake to put up fences. The lake should be left in a natural state.
- 86) if it bothers the land owner, they can make their own fences
- 87) that money would not be well spent
- 88) I wrote no, but the real answer would be unsure. I think that people for the most part are pretty respectful of other's property. I don't love the idea of fences; I think it gives the perception of unfriendliness. It becomes more suburban and less country. We want to ensure

public lands continue to be understood as publicly available. Perhaps there is a role for the community association to administer those that are spilling over.

- 89) absolutely not, that will be ugly and not conducive to the natural beauty of the area. we have not heard any concern of trespassing in the area.
- 90) I don't see this as being a huge issue that needs more funds put towards it such as constructing a decorative fence.
- 91) ABSOLUTELY NO FENCES!!!! WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE COUNTY CONTINUALLY WANTS TO HARRASS THEIR TAX PAYERS. WE JUST WANT TO GET ALONG AND ENJOY OUR SUMMERS AT THE LAKE. The County now has managed the encroachments. A ruling was made years ago by the courts stating that the lake front was MR. WHY DOES THE COUNTY KEEP POKING A BEES NEST AND UPSETING EVERYONE. DOES THERE ALWAYS HAVE TO BE CONFLICT WITH THE RESIDENTS!!! YOU WON ANNEXATION NOW LETS GET ALONG WITHOUT BULLYING!!!!
- 92) I don't think the construction of a fence would be the best use of funds. Perhaps having signage along a future trail indicating where legitimate access points are and where private property is would be an option.
- 93) Fence is not practical. We don't expect a great deal of trespassing as we do not expect the lake frontage at the Bolin subdivision will experience a great deal of traffic from the public. Money better spent elsewhere. Safety issues abound.
- 94) I simply don't see this as an issue - perhaps it has been for others but I am not aware of it.
- 95) Fencing seems a hammer solution to a fly problem. Bylaw monitoring and enforcement including removing encroaching structures at the landowner's expense should suffice. Landowners adjacent to public and environmental reserves can prevent most casual trespassing by installing fencing - that is what we did, at our own expense. But it clearly marks our property and adds to its value.
- 96) I do not think fences would be a real deterrent and they would not be attractive.
- 97) Once again: The liability, set-up/take-down, maintenance, etc. becomes a headache. It's a get away from the city, please let's not "cityfy" this recreation area with rules and fences etc.
- 98) This idea is totally ridiculous. How could you register the remaining parcel of land as ER and think that a fence could improve that mandate. Is it environmental reserve or not? The idea of a fence totally contradicts the definition and rules surrounding an environmental reserve. It is supposed to be kept in its natural state. How are animals going to gain access to and from the lake? A fence and a public pathway will destroy the environmental reserve.
- 99) Again we live in a world and there is now a world view that I will call tree-hugging. you cannot construct man-made structures and expect this generation and the next to want to come and look at them. I have no difficulty with people using my property for access.

- 100) Few properties along Buffalo lake have fences. These are mostly low density lots and fences would look out of place. If some property owners feel they need fences, then it would be at their discretion. Look at other areas e.g. White Sands. It has good public beach access and no fences around lake front lots.
- 101) a total waste of tax payer money, not required at all, if the landowner wants a fence let he/she pay for it, if a landowner is encroaching on County land than the County should deal with that individual landowner, do not penalize every land owner for the failings of a few
- 102) Again, at Scenic Sands we just aren't there yet. At higher density developments such as Buffalo Sands this may be very necessary.
- 103) Any fence would detract from the natural beauty of the lakeshore while increasing unnecessary maintenance costs.
- 104) No fence is decorative!! The encroachments have been dealt with and fencing is not required. The cost to put this up along the entire lake would be astronomical. The money that you received to solve these encroachments is to enhance the lake and improve access. Not fencing. A total waste of money. Again another misleading question for those who do not go to the lake on a regular basis and do not understand the issues. The folks who own property on the lake front understand that the reserve is public land. The tax mill rate for these properties is quite high for very little County services so it seems to me that they should enjoy unrestricted access to the lake as a benefit.
- 105) The primary cause of trespassing on private property, both lakefront and non-lakefront, has been the loss of original pathway signage as well as the occasional incorrect mowing of pathways that are not meant to be. A correct community pathway map distributed to each owner would also provide clarification as well as a graphic aid for guests and visitors.
- 106) Perhaps in new developments when it is planned ahead and property purchasers are aware of the plan and the rules for use of same.
- 107) A BIG "NO"!! Do not mention the word "fence" ever!
- 108) No decorative fences, what a waste of money. It would take away from the natural look.
- 109) seems like an extra cost. I don't think the trespass is an issue for us
- 110) A fence is not the answer. Please see comments made on previous question.
- 111) delineating the private property would announce to the campers where they should not be trespassing.
- 112) There are two public beaches with proper access to them at Rochon Sands. One in the Bay and the other at the Provincial Park. During summer months they are used, however even on a hot day, I have never seen them overpopulated. To save a lot of costs, I do not think it is necessary to have a fence put up on every property, it would not get used at all by the general

public as that would mean they would have to go thru someone's yard to get there. If you want that area marked, I think Stakes would work, and very cost effective as well.

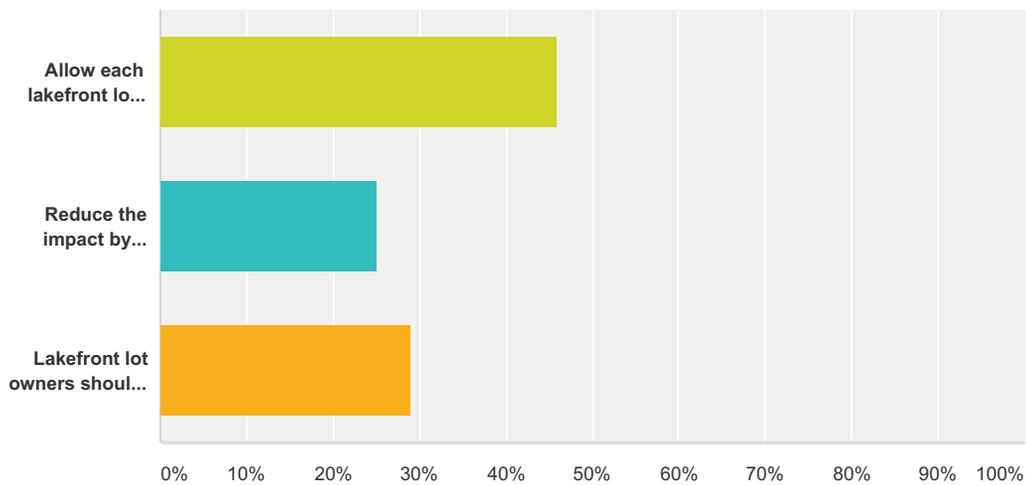
- 113) Terrible idea. I can't see how a fence on the reserve land would be maintained with frost and ice that constantly changes from year to year. I believe this to be an expensive and unjustified expense with little or no benefit. Coupled with my last statement, the existing black fences in the new division already look like prison fencing and isn't a welcome site.
- 114) I think if a landowner has had problems of this nature in our community that they have dealt with it by building something of this nature on their own. A blanket approach of creating a fence along all ER and MR property would probably damage more areas that are very sensitive to grow things on. Deal with it on a case by case basis if there is a problem but don't do this on all ER and MR land.
- 115) completely unnecessary for our community
- 116) People use and appreciate the lake for its natural beauty, a fence lining properties and the shoreline is an INANE idea!!! Day use areas should provide ample room for general public use, why would you encourage people to roam everywhere by building a fence, decorative or not. Do not screw with the natural features of this area.
- 117) not sure a fence would be successful but understand the reserves belong to the general public and the County of Settler is "very, very lax" in preventing encroachment by adjacent land owners, the County needs to get control of this - issue it is already causing problems.
- 118) Seems like a way to spend money without much return. Trespassing should be dealt with through the authorities, not a fence.
- 119) This would be extremely costly and given the nature of high water values in the spring, the fence would be subject to slouching, eventually look ugly and require a lot of maintenance. Leaving it in its natural state makes the most sense both esthetically and for the movement of nature.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) No! Fences should not be constructed on environmental reserves and they would not serve to keep trespassers out.
- b) No. This is not an issue at Scenic Sands where there is lots of reserve land but at some other lakeshore properties it may be the best way out of the situation. I however would rather see a well maintained trail from one end to the other with occasional signage to remind people to stay on the pathway and not stray onto private property.
- c) It depends. Decorative posts – yes; decorative fence – no. A fence will restrict our access to the beach.
- d) Decorative metal stakes every 50 feet would be sufficient.

Q11 Do you think that the County should allow every lakefront lot owner to cut a three foot wide path through the natural vegetation on the County-owned environmental reserve parcel in order to directly access the lake from their property? Or allow two lot owners to share one path? Or do you think everyone should have to do what a back lot owner has to do, i.e. access the lake using a communal walkway?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 41



Answer Choices	Responses
Allow each lakefront lot owner to cut a three foot path through the reserve land vegetation.	46.02% 81
Reduce the impact by allowing two lot owners to cut one path to share.	25.00% 44
Lakefront lot owners should have to use the communal pathways like anyone else.	28.98% 51
Total	176

11. Do you think that the County should allow every lakefront lot owner to cut a three-foot-wide path through the natural vegetation on the County-owned environmental reserve parcel in order to directly access the lake from their property? Or allow two lot owners to share one path? Or do you think everyone should have to do what a back lot owner has to do, i.e. access the lake using a communal walkway? - If your answer above was to allow every lakefront lot owner to cut a pathway, how would you suggest that such activities could be controlled or restricted so that the natural state of the environmental reserve is not degraded?

- 1) I am not on the lake but these people paid a premium and should have access. Making them have communal access is based on pure jealousy and is shameful. Otherwise drop their taxes as well. I would suggest that they clear access in a similar manner to tree avoidance cutting in seismic slashing. It allows for safe access and there are no straight line cuts making it unsightly. As a matter of fact, it is even hard to see that the pathway is there because it's not a straight line that you could shoot a canon through. It is something I am very familiar with doing. It might be appropriate to have it done professionally and not allow the landowners to do it themselves.
- 2) The current situation of pathways has been in place for many years and we would not support any of the suggested options.
- 3) what a stupid question, there is no harm in people cutting their own path, as you can see there has been very little or no vegetation damage.
- 4) Lakefront landowners pay over a \$1000/year extra for property taxes, plus the lakefront property costs more to purchase. Accordingly, they should have full property width -- access to the lake in order to put in/pull out pier/boat lifts.
- 5) None of the above.
- 6) Unreasonable question. It is similar to asking which hand would you like cut off. The public has access points as well as a public beach at Rochon Sands and Provincial Parks around the lake. Lot owners already have access to the lake.
- 7) In the document published by the Alberta Conservation Association entitled Caring for Shoreline Properties, (2001) there is a reference to Riparian Rights: "In common law a person who owns land adjacent to water has certain rights to access and use the water. The common law rights of an adjacent landowner to access and use the water are known as Riparian Rights." The document also references and recommends "cutting a 4 m wide pathway out to the water instead of cutting all the vegetation to make a nearshore swimming area. This is to help restore the natural balance and to help turn back the clock on water quality, deforestation, and loss of fish habitat."
- 8) none of the above
- 9) Take pictures before so they would be fined for trespassing.
- 10) I like the trees, too bad others have clear-cut the reserve.

- 11) I like the trees.
- 12) Too much reserve has been cleared already.
- 13) Limit use of ATVs on ER pathways.
- 14) As a back lot owner we are already sharing beach access
- 15) We are currently sharing a path.
- 16) Lake front lot owners have always been responsible stewards of the lake. They are not going to degrade it now. Why do you think the County needs to interfere??
- 17) Honestly most of the tree in the reserve have died due to high water level.
- 18) These pathways already exist in Scenic Sands and no new pathways are required.
- 19) Apply for a permit from County so that certain standards must be met
- 20) These paths are only walking paths so they don't impact the environment as this is a very sandy area.
- 21) Set up guidelines - vegetation is heavy enough that it is unlikely anyone will clear more than necessary.
- 22) I would suggest to folks that they don't 'groom' paths but if deer and other wildlife have created a path why not use it. I don't support taking out natural growth.
- 23) Have County do inspection once cut is completed.
- 24) I am a lakefront owner and do feel we need to use the public paths to the water to keep the impact of the vegetation low. Also this could be costly to enforce proper use.
- 25) This question is completely misleading as lake front owners have already found ways to access the water. If you are talking about the development of new lots, I can see how a shared path is a good idea. But, is a three-foot path large enough to even carry a beach umbrella to the water? Or paddleboard? Or pieces of a dock?
- 26) Do not have enough info to make informed decision. If a decision is made, must be available option for all.
- 27) Sharing a path when possible would leave much of the natural vegetation intact. I am sure there would be times when it is not practical to share (rough terrain), but when possible why not put 2 lake front path owners together on one path.
- 28) they are already doing it and it is no big deal
- 29) I am not sure how to govern this. This could turn into a huge issue.

- 30) The problem for Lakefront owners is their properties are way more valuable and so they pay way more in taxes but get nothing for it. They should have direct access to the beach if they want it or reduce their taxes. Again every community doesn't have to be treated the same. There are not many lake front properties at Scenic Sands and most use the communal paths already.
- 31) Denying direct access to the lake shoreline would substantially NEGATIVELY impact the ENJOYMENT, VALUE and ASSESSMENT of all such properties. Educate and provide incentives to owners as to how best to be responsible stewards.
- 32) Pathways may need to be wider in order to remove docks and lifts from public land, if this is required. A requirement to replant native type trees to replace those removed, could reduce impact.
- 33) I think cutting trees would be beneficial. A suggestion that I feel would make everyone happy is that the landowners on lake front can remove trees to allow access to beach and in the lake front would have to replant a specific group of trees that are native to the area that would keep the environment growing and would prevent "clear cutting". For example: if a 1.2m path cut requires 10 trees to be removed the lake front owner re-plants 1 tree for every 3 trees removed along the shoreline. Picking something like Saskatoon bushes. If the County wants lifts and docks removed from ER/MR the path may have to be as big as 3.7m to accommodate the larger structures
- 34) To be used for walkway only, not to be used by ATV's.
- 35) Some already have cut pathways and it does not look or degrade the surrounding. I am agreeable to either using common pathway or cut their own as some has already done and no harm was done to the environment.
- 36) I expect the County already has the appropriate tools in place to control/deter individuals from using/modifying County property, it should be a simple step to inform/educate then enforce it. If the tools are not in place, then the County has a lot larger issue than a few lake lot owners.
- 37) They have been this way for 60 years and it has worked well.
- 38) Lakefront owners pay a higher rate of taxes as they are lakefront, as well as paying a higher price for the land, initially upon purchase. The reason a landowner is willing to pay higher expenses, is because of the benefits of owning lakefront, which would include access to lake from their property. A restriction as to size or use of what is naturally already there, should be stipulated.
- 39) Currently there are few lot owners who cut their own path but there is no degradation to the surrounding environment. I would not object to either cutting their own path or use the communal pathways.
- 40) Seems like a shame to destroy such a beautiful area by letting every Joe Blow start "cutting their own path".

- 41) WE as lakefront owners paid for lakefront. Backlot owners paid for backlot. They could have paid for lakefront but chose to buy less expensive backlots! Notice any lakefront lots that have houses that were brought in that are 50 - 60 years old??
- 42) Perhaps visit Scenic Sands to see these limited use personal trails which have been in place for 10+ years and look OK to me. Also, can the County stop using the word "lakefront lot owners". It is much more appropriate to use the words "lakeview property owners" as most lots are not really lakefront.
- 43) None of the above. We need to have access to the lake for our boat lifts, piers and general access. Restricting our access in this manner will result in legal action because of reduced property values.
- 44) There is a major drop off down to the lake, off my property. That's not even an option for me.
- 45) Regulations exist to control access to shorelines by lot owners through reserve lands.
- 46) Have one person designated to walk down the beach once a month and inspect. If anyone deviates from the rules impose a large enough fine that it doesn't happen. If the fine is a slap on the wrist expect your ER to get cut down.
- 47) Use the paths that are already established
- 48) There are very few places along the ER in Scenic Sands where the vegetation is so dense that people cannot wind through between the trees to make their path to the beach. Scrub brush could be cut back but rarely would larger trees need cutting! Part of the reason we pay higher taxes and originally bought the properties we now own is because of our direct access to the beach. Would be crazy to make us walk all the way to the end of the development!
- 49) Keep the reserve as reserve. Once it starts when does it end and then what are the owners allowed to move down the path? A sea-doo lift, a dock, develop a picnic area?
- 50) Why should a property owner who again is adjacent to public reserves have any special access just because of where their lot is located? This practice is again done because nothing happens when people do what they want and damage the environmental reserve.
- 51) In the past, lake front owners did what they wanted to the shoreline anyway. This way there would be a clear defined objective for every landowner. I feel that the lakefront owners have paid a premium price for being on the lakefront so they should have the ability to access the lake.
- 52) If they want to cut across reserve land or ROW, it should stay the same as it is ... if you give them an inch, they will take a mile, be aware.
- 53) In Rochon Sands most lake front properties already have easy access to waterfront and I don't believe that there is any need to build further path systems between lots.

- 54) Privacy between lot owners should be maintained therefore each landowner should have their own access route. Three feet is probably not sufficient for some of the activities - five/six feet is more realistic. The trees/branches will start to fill in very quickly and then larger trees will need to be removed.
- 55) The natural beauty is long gone in the Buffalo View Estates area. The Old Bolin subdivision was not built on the same rules that are being used today. I believe new development needs to stay away from the shoreline. A path for every two land owners on the lake front in BVE (maybe 12 = 6 paths) and you have cut 3 already. Why is it relevant.
- 56) Most lot owners have a path cleared already.
- 57) one single inspection by a designated professional to ensure the paths are reasonable. Do not waste time and money on management of paths.
- 58) We are lakefront but very steep slope and we use the communal pathways.
- 59) Lakefront lot owners purchased their lots and paid more money for a reason - and that reason mostly is for direct lake access. Having two owners share one pathway is a very good solution.
- 60) Supplied answers are too vague. This topic requires more discussion with property owners and committee.
- 61) not a 3' wide path, but a path, just like the one that runs along the length of the ER, made by snowmobiles for the last 30 years. A path is all that is needed, not clearing a 3' path. Again, all three of your suggestions are stupid. It's an environmental reserve, less is more.
- 62) Combination of community and County cooperation for enforcement
- 63) Again, it is completely unclear why such a suggestion is even being made. There is nothing like this on BC lakes, nor should there be. Lakefront property was purchased because you are ON the lake. If the County is going to prohibit access, they should be prepared to compensate all property owners whose property value plummets as a result.
- 64) Make use of the pathways that are already there.
- 65) Make use of the pathways that have been here for 25 years.
- 66) Fencing and fines
- 67) I am a back lot owner but sharing an access between two waterfront lots would be a great idea.
- 68) The communal pathways are the way to go. Then everyone has the same access, the pathway maintenance is consistent and each can be upgraded by the County so they meet the same standards for width, step design, handicapped access, lighting at night, maintenance.

- 69) Keep the existing pathways at Scenic Sands. If other lot owners do not have access to a path but wish to have, perhaps they could apply to the County. That lot owner could potentially be directed to share an existing path or a new path could be created if feasible at the discretion of the County.
- 70) Two, three or more landowners could share depending on terrain and location.
- 71) Grandfather those lots that currently satisfy the needs of lake front owners. Address new guidelines for new communities based on reasonability, sustainability and fairness for all including lake front lot owners.
- 72) Via drawings and communication with the County to select the most appropriate place and direction the path be created.
- 73) We have lakefront property so that we can see the lake and so that we can access the lake and that we can use the beach for water activities and family activities. A 3-foot path is inadequate to see the lake and to use the beach. You may be able to access the beach but not use it for anything. We require a lot more than 3 feet. I think that 30-40% of usable lake frontage is required to be able to enjoy the lake. The rest could be left as natural habitat.
- 74) See prior comment regarding BVE marina. I agree with the three-foot path through the vegetation if it is kept natural.
- 75) It is common sense - don't destroy trees that are of mature growth. It is very easy to find shrubs to remove to allow for a pathway with little environmental destruction.
- 76) Lakefront landowners should be able to access the water through their property. This should be done in a way that minimizes the impact to vegetation and utilize natural gaps for their access. In communities where people back onto parks, water, etc. they access these features through their property and it is usually the reason people pay a significant premium on these types of lots. It would not make any sense to require a waterfront owner to leave their property and find the nearest public access point.
- 77) As I have been there about ten years, it doesn't matter there are trails and clear cut land all over sheds by beach they do what they want.
- 78) In Scenic Sands, Abbey Road and Buffalo Sands the water level has been so high for so long that a lot of the natural trees have died off, and in fact we have now seen an increase in Water Hemlock because of the moisture.
- 79) In a perfect world all neighbors would be friends and share a path to the beach. But since this is not possible, you could suggest it. But It is not something I think you can control or would even wish to try.
- 80) I think it is unrealistic to assume that the landowners will use the communal path, however I don't know that I think it needs to be three feet. There can be smaller paths that work fine. There has been so much reduction of trees, I worry what it will look like if the trees continue to come down. Do not allow trees to be cut for the pathway.

- 81) Current pathways would still be useful for back lot owners. whether a front lake lot owner cut a path or not would of course be optional.
- 82) The lake front owners purchased their land to have access to the lake. I do not see why they could not do so.
- 83) have guidelines for each affected lot owner for the creation of such path which would then have to be approved via a permit
- 84) Let people alone as long as they are keeping the grass and weed growth down and making things look nice leave it alone. The County does not make people who have unsightly property clean it up. Why pick on lakefront owners?
- 85) I think whatever is done here that existing pathways need to be grandfathered.
- 86) A structured assessment, guidance to local contractors and property owners, scouting of best path to reduce impact of tree removal, etc.
- 87) Why not allow each lakefront owner unlimited access? There is very little vegetation fronting the Bolin subdivisions. That land was cleared and significantly altered over the last 50 years and is no longer in its natural state. BVE is a different story.
- 88) While I believe in individual freedoms, I think policing the design and construction of individual paths creates a whole area of dissension and problems. It's no big deal for any of the lakefront lot owners (I am one) to walk down a couple of lots to use the common pathways.
- 89) most people use these pathways to get up and down from the beach no different than using a walking trail. The lakefront landowners have no vested interest in wrecking the environment. They have paid/and pay in taxes far more than the back lot owners for the privilege of lake front. What's the point if one can't have direct access?
- 90) The environmental reserve would not be degraded any more than as if deer where trying to access the lake. Not sure if we need to cut a three-foot path, as long as people can get through safely.
- 91) no man-made structures. simply clear what is approximately 2 ½ to 3 feet leaving all natural vegetation on each side of the path.
- 92) Survey and stake the allowed pathway boundary. Have owners pay for the costs if they choose to have their own path.
- 93) the caveat would be for those that already have a path way, grandfather that access in
- 94) Allow existing assesses to continue while controlling new or proposed access.

- 95) I feel any lot owners who purchased their property prior to the recent Bolin subdivision development should be allowed to continue to maintain what has been designated as ER property, as they have in the past i.e. weed control.
- 96) Our paths are 25 years old.....none have been added for many years.....we already share paths.
- 97) Makes sense for BVE area where there is a large reserve parcel. There is very little vegetation on the lake lots in Old Bolin and a smaller reserve area.
- 98) Initially, we were informed by the developer that each lakefront owner was allowed such a path and many have been established as a result. Ideally, pathways through the natural vegetation on the ER should be minimized and shared by as many neighbors as is practical. We and two neighbors have always shared one.
- 99) Applies only to new developments as most existing properties already have cleared access to the lake.
- 100) The ER is NOT degraded as it is right now. We all look after it - but we can assure you that it WOULD be degraded otherwise. Leave it alone and stop making such a fuss over it. We are not in need of a three-foot path - how ridiculous!
- 101) Stupid question. Just leave the way it is. Why are trying to make change old community. Set these rules in new developments.
- 102) most of the lake front owners in our community already have paths cut. I would enforce making sure these paths are not used to access the beach with ATV's etc.
- 103) People buy lake front property to have access to the lake. A 3 ft. to 4 ft. wide path with gravel base is the way to provide a decent path.
- 104) There is no reasonable answer here.
- 105) I think the County could do up a Brochure and state very clearly what can be done, and what cannot be done. Basically stating the Guidelines.
- 106) Lakefront owners should have their own direct path to the lakefront individually - the back landowners can use the already made lake access paths created by the County. I suggest that however many trees the landowner removes to make a path at the lakefront he could re-plant a specific choice from a group of trees to keep the environment flourishing without clear cutting the shoreline. The trees that are replaced would be native to land like Saskatoon bushes. If the County requires lifts and docks removed from ER/MR the path may be as wide as 12' to accommodate these structures.
- 107) You want to erect a fence along the pathway, yet don't want lake front owners to remove trees and affect the natural vegetation.....

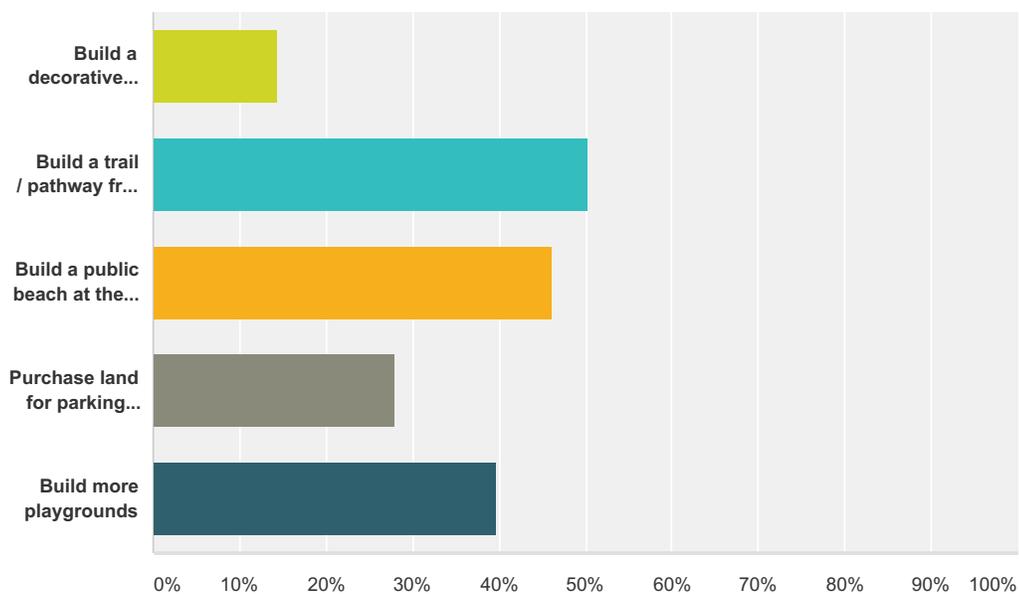
- 108) The ER behind our property is sparsely vegetated with trees, particularly when one removes the deadfall and deadstand. It is not difficult to wind a footpath through the ER for lake access and cause minimal damage to the vegetation/trees. Why be punitive to lakefront owners who purchased the land for the reason to enjoy the lake, paid more for their lots due to the proximity to the lake, and pay higher taxes for this privilege?

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) Allow each lakefront owner to cut a 3-foot wide path through the reserve land vegetation. Please refer to the “Caring for Shoreline Properties – Changing the way we look at owning lakefront property in Alberta” document, p. 13: “Riparian Rights” and p. 18 “It’s never too late: Restoring the Natural Balance”, regarding cutting a 4-metre wide pathway out to clear water Riparian Rights stem from King John and are written in the Magna Carta, the document that set the groundwork for our democratic process which is still in effect today (The document is currently on display in Edmonton at the AB Legislature Nov. 23 – Dec. 29, 2015).
- b) There needs to be a vehicular access to allow people to get their toys to the shore – then big pathways (from each property) would not be so important. Two (landowners) sharing would be the best for foot access.
- c) Allow each lakefront owner to cut a 3-foot wide path through the reserve land vegetation. However, 3 feet is not wide enough. We need to put our pier and boat lift in. We would like to see the lake; use the lakeshore. Too many trees, bushes and tall weeds obstruct this.

Q12 The County must allocate the revenue from selling portions of reserve lands generally within the community wherein the revenue was generated. There will be a significant amount of dollars available in the reserve fund, and the funds cannot be used for any other purpose. How do you think these funds should be used? Check all that apply or add your own ideas in the box below.

Answered: 139 Skipped: 78



Answer Choices	Responses
Build a decorative fence as described above.	14.39% 20
Build a trail / pathway from Scenic Sands to Buffalo View Estates, with garbage receptacles, fire pits, picnic tables, etc. (where practical)	50.36% 70
Build a public beach at the stormwater management facility in Buffalo View Estates, with picnic tables, garbage receptacles and fire pits.	46.04% 64
Purchase land for parking areas.	28.06% 39
Build more playgrounds	39.57% 55
Total Respondents: 139	

12. The County must allocate the revenue from selling portions of reserve lands generally within the community wherein the revenue was generated. There will be a significant amount of dollars available in the reserve fund, and the funds cannot be used for any other purpose. How do you think these funds should be used? Check all that apply or add your own ideas in the box below. - Other (please specify)

- 1) Build more beaches. The man made activity of permanently increasing the water levels of the lake have destroyed the nature beaches and habitat as seen at Buffalo Lake Meadows. Restoring the beach would get HUGE usage and is really what everyone I have talked to is interested in. In the MR areas (for Buffalo Lake Meadows): 1. SPORT COURT - tennis, basketball, ball hockey (maybe even ice) etc. 2. Ball Diamond 3. Dirt bike pathway. 4. Skateboard area. 5.outdoor swimming pool. Most importantly, spend money on things that will actually get a lot of use. Fancy pathways will not. To build it just because you have money is not wise. The path at Buffalo Lake Meadows is perfect and needs no changes. We do not want that commercial feel of a city walkway.
- 2) None of these are required in Scenic Sands
- 3) None of the above. We have been very pleased with the level of service supplied by the County to the Scenic Sands Community in recent years. All of the above suggestions are not necessary.
- 4) I don't think pathways would get used enough ... will our taxes go up with the cost of maintaining the path?
- 5) 1. Build a trail/pathway beside/parallel to the existing public road (Bayview Street) on the south side of the road with Public Toilets available. 2. The dangerous boat launch in BVE's needs to be fixed. It is way too steep and narrow. 3. The communal property between Block 6 and Block 8 has a gradual slope to make a boat launch.
- 6) none of the above.
- 7) Give tax relief for property owners. All the property values have fallen due to the slow economy.
- 8) My first choice would be to construct a paved bike path from Buffalo View Estates to White Sands. Funds collected could be used to purchase land if necessary and to pave the trail. This trail would be a natural extension to the existing road and trail systems, promote health and fitness and connect the two communities.
- 9) I like the picnic area idea.
- 10) The beach with sands sounds great!
- 11) A cement sidewalk should be the highest priority.
- 12) The beach could have a playground incorporated within.

- 13) This would probably pay for the mowing and general cleanup in each community that you already do regular maintenance for... and then that would happen more frequently making the communities happy as they can see tax dollars at work ... meaning that this would increase the chance of seeing someone from the County more often.
- 14) All very good ideas.
- 15) Build more paths in the Scenic sands community, and build a pathway from Rochon sands to Ol' MacDonald's Farm. With just picnic tables and garbage receptacles. Use the K-Country model as an example.
- 16) Build more paths in scenic sands.
- 17) Spending the money for a fence is a total waste of money and defiantly not wanted of needed. Whoever suggested this needs their head examined. Building a trail would be another waste of money as the shoreline changes yearly with the ice. For now, put the money in trust. Once a community association is formed the resident can have input.
- 18) Water access, and beach development.
- 19) None of the above.
- 20) This idea is acceptable, at least the pathway would be nice, I do not know if we need a lot more development.
- 21) Maybe a splash park or wading pool in back lot. A new basketball/tennis court near a new playground in Buffalo view estates. Perhaps the money could be used to tie in all sewage systems to one main one?
- 22) At Scenic Sands use it to build a safe storage facility for boat lifts, docks etc.
- 23) Add recycling bins along with the current dumpsters
- 24) Give the money to the community to be used for beach and pathway maintenance.
- 25) Build access for vehicles to get to the beach. Make an area for parking visiting vehicles/campers
- 26) we are in major need of more playgrounds - community center - more public areas (that don't affect private residences)
- 27) OR: Give the funds to the communities to make their own decisions regarding the best use of the funds, i.e. Scenic Sands earned \$1000.00 - let us use that money to build a communal BBQ at the playground.
- 28) No comment on this as so far this survey does not affect my lake community.

- 29) I think a walking path along Bay View Street would be a valuable addition to the area. As it currently stands, there are many people who walk on the road, as well as a large number of children who bike on it, at the same time as it is used for vehicular traffic, which is a safety hazard. A paved walking path would provide safety for the walkers, riders, and drivers.
- 30) I think a second public beach by the new boat launch has potential - but worry about the increased traffic that would create along Bay View Street. The road that accesses that new area, from Hwy 835, which is currently gravel would need to be used for all the boat traffic. A playground in that same area makes sense if a public beach is put in. And necessary parking. My first choice would be to use the money to create a path from Buffalo View Estates, along Bay View Street on the SOUTH SIDE where there are currently no houses! This would allow all of us who walk and bike along the busy road a safer option. A path along this top road, not the beach, is actually sustainable.
- 31) Hard to check any boxes without knowing exactly what is planned, costs, need, and cost to taxpayers for maintenance of above. If we had schematics/layouts of above, one could possibly make more of an informed decision. Otherwise it is like shooting a dart in the dark. Can this money be used to pipe a cheaper source of potable water to Buffalo Lake area? If so, that would be an excellent use of funds.
- 32) Bring in town water. I would say a huge majority of lot owners would jump at the chance to have town water. I feel that the County should donate money towards the Rochon Sands hall / playground project. The County lot owners use the boat launch and hall. The playground at the Rochon Sands provincial park could use some upkeep, half the year its under water. I have been going to it for 20 years and it has always been a swampy mess.
- 33) spend the money are more worthy ideas -how about enforcement of the bylaws regarding trailers?
- 34) Pavement from the Town of Stettler to White Sands rather than the gravel road would be beneficial.
- 35) Hopefully the money doesn't have a time frame and some can be stored for future upgrades that may arise from water levels and time
- 36) It seems from this statement that this whole exercise is about spending money because you have to and not because there is any true need to do so. If you want to spend the money in Scenic Sands then consider paving the roads, enforcing the bylaws you already have or better yet reducing the taxes.
- 37) Rather than spend this money, establish a trust fund and use the revenue to i.e. 1. Support a "community association" for the residents of the growth module in the County on the South shore to work with the Summer Village of Rochon Sands and White Sands. 2. Support active initiatives to seek input from residents to identify issues and plan how best to address issues that could enhance the health of our lake or threaten it. Currently, that could include e.g.

algae blooms, fish die offs, invasive weeds, invasive mussels, gasoline spills, sewer leaks, cattle watering, pipelines, ...

- 38) Private beach for the land owners of Buffalo View Estates.
- 39) A fence is ridiculous. We are not close to Buffalo View or Scenic sands and using our purchase money to build a path there seems inappropriate. Does it have to be spent right away? Why not invest it in something stable like some bonds or something and use the interest generated to fund maintenance and future projects?
- 40) Water and sewer maintenance and upgrades would be a better use of this money.
- 41) Buy bonds with the money and use the interest to fund whatever needs done in the future.
- 42) The current fence looks "prison like" in the BVE area. We suggest the County save the money for future upgrades to water/sewer system or perhaps contribute to a pipeline that would bring Stettler town water to the lake.
- 43) Clean up the reserve from dead trees as these are fire hazards.
- 44) There is also the need to clean up the reserve from dead trees and clippings. If applicable the funds could be used for improving the roads as to lower the dust in the summer months.
- 45) Skating rink, paved for use in the summer. Well maintained basketball courts.
- 46) Pave the roads, washrooms, more garbage containers With the amount of new people buying and using the lake pretty soon we will become a sewage disposal lake if we soon don't get some washrooms
- 47) 1) Encourage community associations to apply for grants from this fund for local enhancement projects. 2) Use the funds to remove deadfall. This could be on a shared basis, i.e. the communities could supply volunteer help and the County could match the work by offering to donate funds to school projects for work done by high school students to help clear the deadfall.
- 48) Building a pathway would be fine as long as it does not encroach on the Environmental Reserve or restrict access to the lake for anyone. No fence and no pathway on the ER. Upgrade boat launch with Village on Rochon Sands. Reduce our taxes please.
- 49) A trail without fire pits because of the fire hazard.
- 50) I'm sure all the above are open for discussion but that's a question I can't honestly answer. I find that keeping things SIMPLE are usually the BEST. " KISS"----KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID!!!:)
- 51) all good ideas
- 52) Garbage area.

- 53) Funds should be placed in reserve for a major municipal project agreed upon by community residents. Of course, playgrounds and a public beach are all good ideas. Lake access for public use other than residents is currently available at the provincial beach.
- 54) Rochon Sands is currently trying to build more playgrounds also and there are more County residents using the summer village than you think. The proposed path from Scenic Sands to Buffalo View Estates would be a kick to the nuts for the residents of Rochon and Bolin because that is where the funds came from and should stay there. We all know everyone's thoughts on the fence.
- 55) What reserve lands are to be sold to create this revenue???
- 56) Allocate to each subdivision, for the owners' associations to manage, funds that the associations can use to develop within their areas. Final say of how the money is spent would lie with the County but the ideas and work could be undertaken by the owner associations.
- 57) There should be more dumpsters available instead of having to drive so far with garbage. It would also be a good idea to have a pickup in the spring & fall for yard cleanups. It's quite a distance to the landfill & more convenient for people that don't own a truck or have access to one.
- 58) I don't understand why this land is being sold. It seems the County is giving special privileges to land owners adjacent to the reserves. When these lots were purchased did the land owners not realize the reserve was not part of their property. As an owner of a back lot I would not erect a structure or path on my neighbour's lot so why is this practice accepted by the land owners adjacent to reserves? If there will be a significant amount of money in the reserve fund why not have use these funds towards extra man hours needed to monitor proper use of the reserve. For example, the excessive use of motorized vehicles i.e. ATVs could be controlled better.
- 59) Why are these lands being sold? They are supposed to be there for everyone to enjoy, just not the land owners adjacent to them that can afford the cost or who feel they have the right to expand their lot. I don't have this option. There are land owners at scenic sands who erected fencing around their lot which encroached on reserve lands and then the County just sells them the land after it is determined that they erected their fence on public property????? This is wrong.
- 60) Beach near Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 61) BEACH sitting area at Buffalo Lake Meadows
- 62) As I mentioned before, this Lake will start to see a lot more use, and being able to have a place to go for a picnic, for example would be a good thing ...
- 63) Strongly disagree to decorative fence.

- 64) If the owners of BVE want a playground, great. I think people come to the lake to get away not bring the public. I would like to see the construction of a compost area so that people stop disposing in the ditch. The County could build a three sided dump and burn it once a month in the spring, summer and fall. Oh and your storm water thing does work. I have witnessed heavy rain and the lake turns brown from the run off well beyond the entrance to the marina at BVE
- 65) Pay everyone's property taxes with it. The area could use a consumer stimulus and the revenue should be used as deferred property taxes for each land owner.
- 66) My concern is for the people that are not very close to the lake but wish to use the lake. Also, with continued development pressure on the area, we need to accept that not all users are property owners--some could be casual visitors.
- 67) There is already a decent route to Rochon Sands from our neighbourhood. Our biggest interest lies in an actual useable beach.
- 68) Don't agree with a public beach or path on the southeast shoreline as this area of the lake bed and shoreline is solid rocks. How can you suggest to remove or alter the shoreline now that it is "Environmental Reserve"?? More rocks come into the shoreline every year with the ice breakup! The huge waves that come from the North wash up rocks and alter the shoreline constantly. The Public Beach, path etc. in this area of the lake will result in a waste of money! Location of a public beach requires further discussion. Committee members should all have a clear understanding of how the shoreline changes with the result of the huge strong waves with every storm that occurs.
- 69) Stop trying to develop/change the lake shore. We leave the city so that we can see birds and trees, deer, muskrats, etc. I don't go to the Lake to see a fence, fire pits, garbage receptacles, a manicured path, or picnic tables. Build that stuff off shore. Use the money you made to look after what you already have, but go down on the ER and clear, then maintain, thistles, dead trees and underbrush. There are plenty of public beaches already in Rochon Sands, that are hardly used as it is. Leave it alone or this lake will look like Sylvan Lake or Pigeon Lake soon, and that is not a compliment.
- 70) Use the money to clean up the marina at Buffalo View Estates.
- 71) We already have a pathway through the ER.
- 72) We already have a pathway through the ER.
- 73) Maintain the beach areas; brush removal, deadfall removal, mowing. No parking or increased public usage.
- 74) The pathway is the best idea as it benefits all the communities and it should extend all the way to White Sands eventually. A fence is a waste of money.

- 75) Build a pathway along Bay view street so that the children don't have to ride their bikes on the road.
- 76) The community associations and summer villages should be able to determine which projects they want to move forward and approach the County for a grant from the reserve fund. The list above is too limiting and may not meet the needs of a specific community.
- 77) Comment. If you build fire pits you will certainly invite rowdy parties from town and County kids and that is a fact.
- 78) Clean-up some of the shoreline.
- 79) Just a walking path with garbage receptacles - no to picnic tables and fire pits - who would be responsible for fires resulting from irresponsible picnickers - no supervision?? County maintenance
- 80) A true recycle area with regular garbage removal would be an asset. The options above are neither necessary or wanted in the area. Please stop development for now.
- 81) Take this surplus and make the lake front something EVERY ONE can use. We go there to use the lake not a playground. If we can't access the lake what's the point of having it there? There are already great paths in the area maintain them and put it to a better use
- 82) I still believe that Scenic Sands deserves its own boat launch.
- 83) The money should go towards assisting existing communities build, repair, protect any beach area they may have or actually building beaches where there is not a sufficient amount of space for the community at large to go and sit and enjoy the waterfront. For winter activities, perhaps a skating rink at Rochon Sands or any other community that has the space.
- 84) Again here we go - we don't need trails, we don't need fences, we need a public beach with boat launch at Scenic Sands. It is easy to make parking as no one comes to Scenic Sands except lot owners (backlot people) the same four on weekends and we don't need any more playgrounds since the one we have is always empty.
- 85) Build a basketball court at the park in Scenic sands i.e. pave the open area in the tree's just a half court. Build an outdoor rink at Buffalo Sands or Buffalo Meadows, pave it, this would be used not only in the winter but summer as well. The maintenance of the rinks could be shared but the associations. Or for even more bang for the buck and to help more ratepayers, pave the outdoor rink in Erskine, this gets used almost nightly in the winter, so paving would help the Erskine Rec Board maintain the rink. The added benefit is it then becomes an area during the summer months for basketball, roller blading, skate park, etc.
- 86) I don't really love any of these ideas. I would like to see more vegetation, it is not a very attractive area and I think that reduces the prospect of new buyers. It is like a weedy parking lot already. Don't spend money encouraging recreational use around the marina - people want to be at the beach Recommend more public vegetation to green up the area

Recommend reduce the slope of the marina boat launch (underwater portion) to allow boats to be safely launched Recommend bring clean sand to shoreline to make a useable public beach area Recommend develop the marina with boat slips for lease Recommend gravel along marina shore to minimize tracking dirt into the boats

- 87) None of the above should Build a boat launch which is badly needed for scenic sands.
- 88) Build a public beach at Buffalo Lake Meadows.
- 89) Just do not create more area's that County taxpayers have to pay to keep maintained. FOR HEAVENS SAKE FORGET THE FENCE!!!! I'm not even a lake front owner and it makes me mad, mad, mad.
- 90) We would like to see more beach areas maintained, for example in the event of a trail behind our Abbey road property allowing better public access to the beach area, we would suggest funds be allocated to take over the maintenance of this beach area in terms of annual erosion remediation etc. etc.
- 91) Build path on the south side of Bayview Street. The pathway was originally proposed when Pat Bolin sought approval for a residential development directly south of the Bolin subdivisions and the village of Rochon Sands. I assume that path would be a requirement for any future development so Bolin might be convinced to contribute the land if the County used the funds to build the path. he public currently uses Bayview Street for walking, jogging, biking, etc. logging and biking is not practical or safe on the existing Buffalo Estates path (uneven terrain). A paved path on the south side of Bayview could be the answer.
- 92) Beach maintenance and improvement.
- 93) I don't any of the above are required - it is sufficient as it is Why don't you reduce our taxes and monthly water sanitation bills instead - these are very high!!!
- 94) It's the ongoing maintenance and upkeep that costs. The cost of continuing to maintain what's currently being done will rise over time with inflation so putting the funds in reserve and using those for ongoing maintenance over the years will ensure the community is well looked after in economic good and bad times.
- 95) Give money back to tax payers. Just because there is a significant amount of dollars to spend, doesn't mean YOU HAVE to spend it! All the ideas listed above are a waste of money in my opinion.
- 96) land that is as natural as possible. much like you had at Buffalo View Estates before you cut down every tree and flattened it like a billiard table.
- 97) Fire pits are a bad idea because silly people that may or may not have a property in the area build fires and don't tend them properly. At Scenic Sands we had a fire by the garbage that burned right up to a cabin, if not for someone in the area that acted quickly it could have been a huge disaster. This summer some fools built a fire on the beach and burned residents' chairs

and children's toys were left as melted gobs in the residual mess. No fire pits. We aren't sure where the water level will be from year to year but I would assume the day may come that the pumps from the river may need maintenance or upgrading- perhaps some money can be set aside for that. Recreation is the first place to get cut- save the money for when we need it. If you must spend it the trails are a good place with no fire pits, and the public beach is okay too at Buffalo view estates.

- 98) The County should fund improvements to existing playgrounds in its subdivisions and neighboring municipalities
- 99) We already have a pathway from Scenic Sands to Buffalo Sands
- 100) Just because we have this money does not mean it has to be spent immediately. Let's make informed and rational decisions over an extended period of time. Paved Pathway on the reserve area on south side of Bayview.
- 101) I am firmly opposed to the sale of reserve lands, particularly shoreline lands, to adjacent private property owners; this practice interrupts continuous lake shore public walking, fishing and general enjoyment and invites additional development that detracts from the natural settings and views while requiring the enforcing of additional rules and regulations, a shoreline responsibility that has not been well managed in the past.
- 102) As long as these described above are built across (behind), south of the Old Bolin subdivision and nothing on the lakeside. And don't ever, ever, ever mention that word " fence" again.
- 103) Upgrade and groom the public beach at Boss Hill. Get rid of the swamp
- 104) As I stated in question 10 - The current fence has a "prison like" feel to it in the new BVE - not decorative in my opinion. It's been stated by many of our guests and residents. We suggest the County save the revenue for future upgrades to water and sewer systems or perhaps contribute to a pipeline that would allow Stettler water to the lake residents directly.
- 105) The funds should be used to bring all communities to an acceptable standard for beach/boat/parking/playground access. If Scenic Sands does not have adequate parking area for public use, then one needs to be purchased and built. If Buffalo Sands/Buffalo Lake Meadows have no beach area for their residents, then one has to be developed. I'm not familiar with the Storm Water Management facility at Buffalo View Estates to comment on that very specific item in the survey. I think playgrounds are a very community specific addition. Not every community would want one or need one. Same with community halls, I don't think anyone would recommend building one now given the limited use that they get in existing communities. What is the minimum standard that all communities want to have in a lake community and that we can support and maintain with existing community funds, tax dollars and County personnel and equipment?
- 106) complete beach development for our community that has lost the previous meadow area

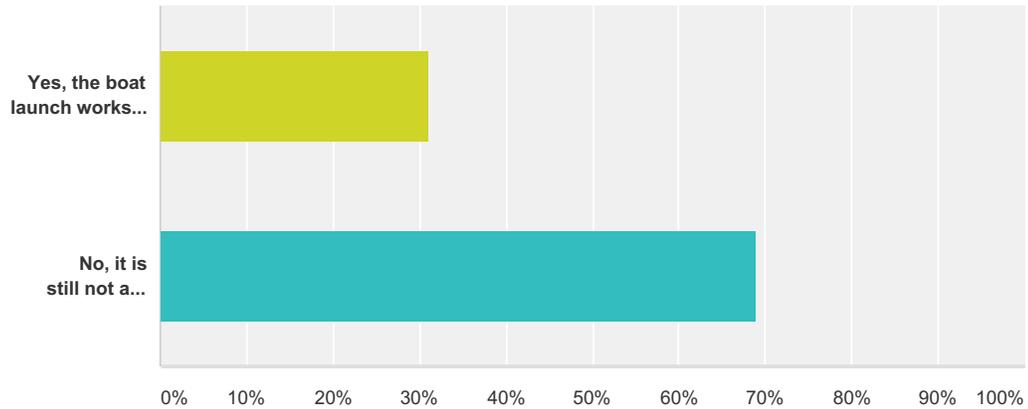
- 107) I am not a fan of selling or developing any of the reserve land, the wildlife needs our reserves. If the County does sell reserves in our development, I would prefer to have the money put to reducing land taxes

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) The revenue (from selling MR land) should be used for the purchase of a long term bond. The bond should be held in reserve for the sole purpose of reducing the capital cost in construction of a water / sewer line in this area.
- b) I would like to see walking trails or pathways built where practical (alongside the roadway in places) and extended to White Sands. There is no need for fire pits, garbage cans, etc. Just keep it natural.
- c) The current recession would suggest subsidizing our County taxes.
- d) Reduction of lake owners' municipal taxes.
- e) When there is a beach – water and sand – there is no real need for more playgrounds. Encourage the government to improve the beach at Rochon Sands Provincial Park and maintain it. Rochon Sands (Provincial Park) used to be the “Beach” to go to. Examine possibility of renewing that again – plus build one at Buffalo View Estates. Encourage the summer villages to improve beaches and beach access. Improve beaches at Scenic sands, Buffalo Sands, etc.
- f) No picnic tables – no one would want to picnic where the shoreline and water are filled with rocks. Rocks come in every spring with ice movement.
- g) A public beach at Buffalo View Estates with picnic tables, garbage cans and fire pits would be a good idea – if they have access to the shore and the shore is appealing to users (shoreline park only). One playground in Buffalo View Estates would be nice – make it into a park with tall trees, benches, washrooms, garbage cans. Provide garbage collection and recycling at Buffalo View Estates, so we don't have to use the Summer Village's facilities (not ours) or Erskine (too far). Put in water and sewer facilities for the landowners.

Q13 If you have used the public boat launch at Buffalo View Estates since it was reconstructed in 2014, do you think it works better now that the slope has been reduced?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 156



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, the boat launch works perfectly.	31.15% 19
No, it is still not a practical / usable boat launch.	68.85% 42
Total	61

13. If you have used the public boat launch at Buffalo View Estates since it was reconstructed in 2014, do you think it works better now that the slope has been reduced? - If you answered that the boat launch is not practical, what do you think should be done to improve it?

- 1) Never used it.
- 2) We haven't used it.
- 3) The Buffalo View Estates slope for the boat ramp is still way too steep and the road to the boat ramp is way too narrow, which poses a safety issue. Also, there is not enough room to turn around the boat in the BVE marina if there are more than one or two boats. The boat launch should be four times as wide and no more than the slope that Rochon Sands Village has on their boat launch in the Bay.
- 4) Never use that dock, only the one at Rochon Sands, in the village.
- 5) Roadway is very narrow and steep. The launch area is steep and the marina is tiny. It cannot handle very many boats.
- 6) We do not use this boat launch despite it being closer, as it is shallow, narrow and rocky, we use the one at Rochon Sands Village.
- 7) Used it once, it is fine.
- 8) It tests my backing up skills.
- 9) NA
- 10) Have not used this boat launch.
- 11) Never used it and don't intend to.
- 12) I use Rochon Sands launch.
- 13) There isn't an option for "haven't used it"
- 14) never used
- 15) I have not used this boat launch
- 16) Not used
- 17) N/A
- 18) Never used it.
- 19) Never utilized that launch.

- 20) Have not tried since changed
- 21) Have not used it as it appears to be too steep
- 22) It is not advertised so non-local people even realize it is available for use. There is no parking for boat trailers. It is a terrible design that makes backing a boat way down into it treacherous.
- 23) The boat launch works better than it did.
- 24) I didn't even know it was open to the public, and I am a boat owner. From riding my bike past, neither does anyone else. I have never seen a boat launched there. It also has very little parking.
- 25) can't answer this question as there is no option for "never used"
- 26) Please stop thinking about Buffalo View Estates and Scenic Sands together. There is no commonality from the perspective of the residents. They have their beach and we have ours. There is almost no crossover. No one is looking to the County to take control away from us; we manage our own beach very well now.
- 27) Provide signage to identify it as a public facility.
- 28) I use the launch almost every weekend, I appreciate the floating dock secured to the fence, great idea. I still find the launch too steep for safe use. I can't imagine what would happen will launching your boat if your vehicle's brakes or it slipped out of gear and rolled back while people are standing behind the vehicle.
- 29) I have not used it
- 30) boat launch is still too steep and too long to back down safely
- 31) Never used
- 32) The boat launch at the BVE is too steep. I suggest the designer actually owns or borrows a surf boat, v-drive to see how the design is flawed. It is too steep for a safe load of larger boats. Boaters loading or unloading at the BVE launch must also back up 500m from the top of the hill as there is no turn around provided at the launch area.
- 33) have never used it
- 34) Not applicable as never used it
- 35) Never used it but it looks ok
- 36) Research

- 37) I have not used this boat launch as I am concerned about the slope. As well, the small area of that marina worries me. I prefer to use the public boat launch at Rochon Sands Provincial Park. I have concerns that the entrance to the marina will eventually fill with silt and become unusable. That is what happened with the attempt 15 years ago to have a boat launch at Scenic Sands. As well, when the Buffalo Lake water level project was started, a canal was dredged to connect a small bay to the larger Secondary Bay. That canal is now (after about 20 years) so shallow that only pontoon boats can use it.
- 38) We are at Old Bolin properties. Never use this boat launch
- 39) n/a
- 40) I have never launched my boat but it certainly looks workable. I'll answer this question next year.
- 41) It is way too steep and is still not good to launch boats.
- 42) I was unaware it was a public boat launch.
- 43) The grade of the first 3 feet into the water is great. But from there on in it drops off way to quickly making any boat trailer too deep to allow the hull of the boat being loaded to stay in contact with the runners on the trailer. So when you hook up the winch of the trailer to the front of the boat the boat will float over above the wheel wells of the trailer and as you pull out the boat will not rest centered on the trailer. I have spoken with 4-5 people who said they used the launch once, but never again.
- 44) Don't use it
- 45) Have not used, was not aware of the Buffalo View Estates public launch. We go to Provincial Campground at Rochon Sands to load our boat.
- 46) Have never used it.
- 47) We do not use the boat launch.
- 48) Don't use it.
- 49) Have not used the boat launch.
- 50) Sorry, have not used it.
- 51) N/A
- 52) have not used the boat launch
- 53) Whoever designed that boat launch had no idea of the type of boats that would be launched there. The only boat launch that has any practical use for launching entry into the water is at Rochon Sands beach and the Provincial one is not sloped right for entry. You need a straight

entry, gradual decline and should be wide enough for two or three boats at a time. Safety should be the key factor and during a storm, boats don't back up easily!

- 54) Bring out a Cat and push it all back in. I am sure that would cost less than what has been spent to date by the County on the store water management facility. It used to be full of vegetation and that worked. I know my wife couldn't back a boat into that hole.
- 55) We have not used it. We use Rochon Sands or Ol' MacDonald's.
- 56) Have not used that launch. We use the launch in Rochon Sands.
- 57) The gates that were placed at the bottom of the ramp interfere with vehicles ability to turn around. The gates could be moved further back from the ramp.
- 58) Have not used this boat launch.
- 59) It has no use or service to me, and it was a dumb idea to begin with. Take a drive by and you'll see one boat in that marina. The development is ugly, with its paved parking lot (unused), 6' metal fencing. I have a boat, but use the boat ramp in the bay at Rochon Sands, and I keep my boat at the marina in the bay. It is a small inconvenience to drive there and get it. Would Joe Blow use it? I doubt it, it is 3 miles off the lake highway, when the one in the bay, and the one at the Provincial park, are right on that road. Dumb idea.
- 60) N/A
- 61) N/A
- 62) Buffalo View boat launch is over 5 km on gravel roads from our property. There are closer boat launches where the distance on gravel roads is shorter leading to less damage of the boat hull from rock pitting. It is unlikely, we will ever use the Buffalo View Estates boat launch.
- 63) We have not used it.
- 64) You have someone else's mess to clean up and the answers are not easy. There again the land has to be obtained for workable access and it is getting to late.
- 65) I haven't used it myself yet but I have heard complaints that it is not a very usable launch.
- 66) Too narrow. No place to turn around. Hard to get down to the water and turn around. Only one vehicle at a time can use it.
- 67) have not used it.
- 68) No, I just about launched my boat off my trailer dropping it in the lake. The launch is way too steep but the rest of the launch is very practical – parking, backing in etc.

- 69) I don't use it at all. I launch my boat at Rochon Sands. Didn't know there was a launch at Buffalo View Estates.
- 70) N/A
- 71) n/a
- 72) I never knew we could use theirs I thought it was private.
- 73) do not know
- 74) Have not used it.
- 75) Have not used it.
- 76) spend some monies to build a boat launch that the ice will not damage and that a person can walk into without sinking into the mud. also a boat launch that will accommodate to launches at once would be nice.
- 77) It is better for sure since 2014, but still not a usable launch for us. The below water slope is still so steep my boat takes water over the stern before floating off the trailer. Also I recently found my vehicle tires sliding on the slimy slope and was fortunate not to lose my entire vehicle into the water. Recommend re-sloping the underwater grade. Recommend installing and leasing boat slips
- 78) Did not know that there was a boat launch there.
- 79) N/A - I have not used this boat launch. We use the launch at Rochon Provincial Park
- 80) n/a
- 81) have not used
- 82) I have not used it
- 83) it was ill-conceived and remains useless. Get rid of as much concrete and metal fencing as possible and see if the ducks will nest there again.
- 84) Reducing the slope above the water level helped but it is so steep below the water that you cannot launch a boat in the normal way you do at every other boat launch. there is too much of a mismatch between the angle of the trailer and the boat. The bow of the boat wants to go under the winch on the trailer therefore I need to pull the boat out of the water before it is all the way forward on the trailer. This puts a lot of stress on the bow hook. Also, my boat's hull hits the frame of the trailer near the front. It is a dangerous launch until you get used to it. The floating dock is a nice addition, Thank-you.
- 85) We do not use the lake

- 86) Have not used it.
- 87) The boat/vehicle access to the storm water management facility is still impractical, and the launch area should be scrapped and replaced with foot access/marina access only to avoid continuing to spend copious County funds unnecessarily.
- 88) Still too steep. Needs more slope.
- 89) n/a
- 90) Do not use
- 91) I have not used this launch.
- 92) It is still a little steep for large water craft, but much better than it was.
- 93) What a senseless question - we are not allowed to use it - isn't it private?
- 94) Did not know that is available to general public.
- 95) It is too narrow and/ or steep to launch a boat.
- 96) ?
- 97) I have never used it.
- 98) We have tried but was un-successful. The boat launch is still too steep. V-drive boats are not able to use this launch. I feel it's also flawed where one has to back up your vehicle to get your boat in from the top of the hill with nowhere to turn around in the launch area.
- 99) Haven't used it.
- 100) an easy improvement would be to put the dock between the launches
- 101) We did not know it existed.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) It is very steep; not wide enough.

Q14 Please share any other thoughts that you have that could assist the County in developing a shoreline management plan that works for you.

Answered: 132 Skipped: 85

14. Please share any other thoughts that you have that could assist the County in developing a shoreline management plan that works for you.

- 1) Keep it natural, unobtrusive and don't worry so much about nit picking over every little thing. Let people live here, they certainly pay for it. If the beach areas could be reconstructed back to their natural state before the provincial water level increase in the 1990's, then the area would be pretty much perfect. Beaches will get used more than pathways. People want access to the lake, not around the lake. Add a few recreation areas such as sport courts etc. and you have a great mix.
- 2) Buffalo Lake is unique in Alberta with the environmental protection measures that have been put in place. In the priorities listed in the BLISMP, enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat is the primary one; development of recreational potential is not even mentioned. The natural shoreline of Buffalo Lake is what compelled us to buy here. A developed lakefront with personal structures and more parks and facilities is not what we desire, and is contrary to what we believed was protected through the provincial ROW and the various development plans that have been implemented since the lake has been regulated. Environmental protection should continue to be a priority in the development of this plan.
- 3) Needs more background in order to answer questions effectively
- 4) Your survey questions are designed in a way that leads the responder to answer the way in which is your preferred answer.
- 5) Ensure significant opportunities for input from the Community Association and individual landowners during any of these proposals going ahead, plus opportunity to review and comment on any proposed specific proposals before they are finalized. We do not believe that any of the proposed measures are needed. We are not aware of any issues that would justify the expense and believe that public use of the area would not be enhanced by the addition of fences and new 3ft wide pathways or by grouping docking facilities.
- 6) This survey is very leading to where the County wants things to go.....LOC, fences and pathway/picnic table etc. Our taxes are high enough at the lake before adding path, communal docks etc. Something to think about is cutting cost not adding more expenditure especially if the County loses its tax revenue from the redistribution of linear assessments, we don't want our taxes to go higher because of the plan. A lot more information/background needs to be given for people to make an education choice/decision.
- 7) Dear [REDACTED]: November 29, 2015 Appreciate the opportunity for landowners to have input. Very disappointed in the past - when there were misinterpretations in the MGA laws and interpreting guidelines/recommendations as law. Was wondering if we were back in times -- with the Crusaders? Would like Settler County to allow [REDACTED], [REDACTED] &/or [REDACTED] to represent our community (Block 6 & Block 8), since we have Not had fair representation in the past. Sincerely, [REDACTED]
- 8) All docks should be removed from the water edge, (none stored on beach front) except the present marina at Rochon Sands, operated by an association, who could be grandfathered in.

- 9) There is clear direction from council to disrupt the serenity that exists on the south shore of Buffalo Lake in the guise of "improvement and/or conservation" that is completely misguided and quite frankly an embarrassment to the entire County of Settler. It's a classic case of powerful political will to meddle in something that needs no more attention from the County now than it did 30 years ago.
- 10) The County interprets recommended practices as laws and misinterprets laws. The County pays little attention to property owners concerns and even less to their input.
- 11) Have the area accessible & useable for all, not just for a select few.
- 12) The Buffalo Lake South Shore Shoreline Management Plan is an attempt to maintain and preserve the surrounding land and waters of Buffalo Lake. Most landowners, particularly the long-term residents are extremely supportive of protecting the environment around our beloved lake. It is hoped that the County of Settler No.6 will follow suit and no longer allow developments such as Buffalo View Estates, where beautiful rolling hills, native trees and shrubs, and sloughs were stripped and graded into bare, flat, parking lots, many of which, years later still remain vacant and/or up for sale. With thoughtful and careful planning, it is hoped that any new developments will take into consideration the natural grades, vegetation and impact on wildlife of this unique and delicate environment.
- 13) Lake owners buy LAKEFRONT property to have access to boating, beach, etc. Otherwise they would buy cheaper property away from lake front. Public access to the lake can be provided on County land.
- 14) A real sidewalk please on the beach.
- 15) I really want to have my children and grandchildren have use of the beach.
- 16) Do not let special interest group at the lake take my use away.
- 17) signage for trails and public areas.
- 18) Buy beach weed cleaning equipment and use it to maintain area 10' from water line and mow rest of beach so grass prevents erosion.
- 19) Allow the Scenic Sands community association to finish their beach development as planned so that ALL lot owners have access and use of a decent beach. The water level increase from the 1990's provincial project has eroded the previous shore considerably. Allow Phase II to be completed ASAP. Research or allow the creation of breakwaters in order to reduce shoreline erosion. Allow public parking along the beach access road west of the "Garbage bins at Scenic Sands". Monitor the litter and garbage from the "ice-shack fishers" on a regular basis. Allow communal boat launch facilities. Establish, no boat zones for swimming only near the community beaches.

- 20) I am looking forward to grandchildren in the near future and having some sand to play in up to the water is what I really want. Without a line of sea-doo's and boats across our line of sight. At this point there is not any problem with the public on the beaches.
- 21) In the past, we have stored a small amount of recreational items (kayaks, life jackets, beach toys) in the trees adjacent to the beach for the months of June-August. We keep the area tidy and also built a wooden rack for the kayaks to minimize disruption to the vegetation. This quick access to our lake toys has greatly impacted our enjoyment of the lake. Since we purchased our 'lake front' cabin at Buffalo Lake, our family has greatly enjoyed both our direct access to the lake and our small beach area that we maintain by mowing, picking up garbage, raking etc., but also the area's beautiful natural environment. We are very concerned that beach access may be impacted by the BLSS-SMP. The value and re-sale appeal of lake front cabins in Scenic Sands will be drastically impacted if not only beach maintenance but also access is limited and difficult for lake front cabin owners.
- 22) For the most part don't try to insist on leases and permissions that have never been retired and are not necessary. The lot owners are the best stewards of the lake as the County really doesn't know anything about it. Definitely forget about a fence. Worst idea ever.
- 23) Beach development at Buffalo lake meadows, as well as road signs similar to Buffalo sands. Launch in area between Ol' Macdonald's and Buffalo Lake Meadows. Commercial lot on lake for gas sales. I have appreciated the open ear and helping hand the County has shown our owners association.
- 24) Get rid of the boat rails, they are a hazard and unsightly.
- 25) Don't think there needs to be a shoreline management plan. There are already too many people dictating what should happen. People are happy the way things are.
- 26) I think that we need to leave areas that are natural, natural. We definitely do not need a bunch of extra fences, gates and parking lots. As was discussed in the past, making a few parking spots at the bottom of the beach access road would be acceptable, but no big road or turnabout is necessary.
- 27) Please consider that land owners have spent a lot of money on waterfront properties to enjoy direct access to the water with unobstructed views and privacy.
- 28) Previous comments cover our thoughts. However, we should add that as members of Scenic Sands we greatly appreciate the Councils input and assistance for the recent beach restoration work.
- 29) Minimize development of public areas within current communities. Development of the lake is important but not at the expense of preserving the natural areas.
- 30) It is working well when residents share a boat dock and are able to store them back off the beach so they don't interfere with winter activities. We enjoy the lake summer and winter.

- 31) It would be very difficult for us to remove sea-doo lifts/storage box from the tree line, since there is no vehicle access to the beach.
- 32) I think the shoreline fence and pathway are not good ideas and would significantly devalue our properties.
- 33) My request is to be practical, there is a continuous cycle of conversation and debate regarding a public boat launch at Scenic Sands - the lake is NOT deep enough. Can we please just take that off the table.
- 34) I would like permission for buffalo lake meadows to bring in sand to create a beach so the members of the community can have a beach. But I do not want the general public to flood our quiet community and begin causing problems.
- 35) My family has owned property on the lake for the past two years. We love our time there, love how the environment is being taken care of, love that it is a bird sanctuary, and love that it is not over commercialized the way other lakes are.
- 36) To be honest, all of the local landowners are referring to this plan as the [REDACTED] Feud. We are tired of being caught up in the brothers and sisters trying to get the best of each other. Ensure your [REDACTED] Councillors are not on these committees. The personal vendetta is getting tiresome and immature. No one can focus on working together to preserve the lake when tempers are running high.
- 37) Quads, motorbikes and snowmobiles should be kept off of shoreline reserves.
- 38) It is not about what works best for us as individuals, but what works best for keeping the natural beauty of the lake area, while keeping it as safe as possible for families to enjoy. It needs to be fair for all. You can't allow some to purchase environmental area, while turning other lot owners down. The County appears to pick and choose importance of environment depending on who is asking and who may want to build at a future date in that area. Example: building up the lots on the east side at Buffalo View Estates ruined the natural lay of the land. The water run-off is far worse, after the supposed improvements, than it ever was before. Even the construction crews noted concern about the work they were asked to do. The paved pathway has already started to break away/erode from water runoff.
- 39) All I ask is that the County actually listens to the responses of the land owners. They pay huge taxes to live at the lake and get very little in return. Please help to make better relations between land owners and the County than they have had in the past. This survey is a chance to close the gap between land owners and County.
- 40) Try not to have the same plan for all. Buffalo View and Scenic Sands are different communities with different issues. Give the money to the community associations and let them decide what they want done rather than having the decisions made by people who don't live here and have a vested interest in make work projects for County employees.
- 41) There should be better boat access and better boat ramps at white sands. The existing boat access should be all concrete. The way it is now is better than before but more could be done.

- 42) Don't try to fix what isn't broken. I am not sure a bunch of improvements are needed at this time. Unless there are issues maybe nothing extreme needs to get done at this time. The economy is slow and not a lot of development is happening, so maybe we need to wait until the need arises before a bunch of improvements are done.
- 43) Let it be.
- 44) There should be consistent enforcement of landowners that violate the rules by leaving boat launches and docks stored on the MR and ER during the winter
- 45) A survey seeking input is a good start. Supporting three County counsellors to attend the Alberta Lake Management Society Workshop in September 2015 was timely. Given the purpose of the Society "is to promote understanding and comprehensive management of lakes and reservoirs and their watersheds." Take-aways for me were: 1. Several other groups concerned for the health of their lakes have been dealing with issues that have or could impact the health of our lake. 2. A number of resources were identified that could be available to us to help monitor the health of our lake and to plan how best to address identified concerns. 3. A "South Shore Community Association" could collaborate with the Summer Village of Rochon Sands, White Sands and the County to develop a vision, to identify concerns and plan how best to address concerns. For me a healthy and sustainable Buffalo Lake would see our grandchildren enjoy swimming, boating, fishing, ... as we have for 60+ years. A "South Shore Community Association" could take a leadership role in identifying issues/concerns and serve as frontline stewards of our lake so ALL community members could enjoy this great resource. 2015 11 05 [REDACTED].
- 46) With any extra moneys left over I would like to see a permanent dock system surrounding the marina as a day use boat docking only.
- 47) Path to lake for lakefront owners has essentially been in place for years - legal or not. I think it is important to allow lake front lot owners to have this access. "Old" lake front did not have an MR or ER in front and it places the "New" lakefront lots at a resale disadvantage so access via 3-foot path is critical and seems to be a reasonable expectation.
- 48) representatives of land owners need to communicate directly with the County to get clear communication of lake front needs.
- 49) Leave it the way it is.
- 50) Have representation of landowners on committees that are involved with the lake and the lake lot owners so that they may communicate their issues and concerns effectively as a community to our elected councilors to represent our "true" views and opinions.
- 51) Leave as is. No problems to date. Monitor encroachments that may appear in the future.
- 52) Clear the pathways, get rid of dead trees on reserve, cutting and maintaining the grass on the shoreline. Avoid unnecessary expenditures on piers and storage that location of which can be a divisive issue for landowners. the community has been very responsible and responsive for

maintaining the shoreline and ensuring that degradation does not happen. Community cares about buffalo lake and we are all here for the long term.

- 53) I believe that a primary role is to protect and maintain access to the public lands for the enjoyment of the general public. I fear that position is being severely challenged/threatened by a group of private land owners that are relatively well organized. I suggest that all or most of those private land owners knew (or should have known) that they were encroaching on public lands, and that they were doing so without approvals, and hence without a legal position. My view is that it is time to clear up an issue that has been allowed to grow for too long. I dare to say that if a less organized individual(s) were to encroach on any other Lands/Property under County Controls, and then try to convince/force the County into any type of concession, the County response would/should be significantly different than offered to the current individuals. So in the future, for a successful management plan, I believe it will vital that the County enforce the controls that they already have (or should have) to prevent a repeat of what developed over the last 30+ years.
- 54) Should have never sold the reserve lands.
- 55) If a fence is installed along the shoreline, it will require more maintenance which is not an ideal situation. Lakefront owners purchased lake front lots to have their own access to the beach, removing that option makes absolutely no sense whatsoever.
- 56) I want a good place to go swimming late at night where I'm not sneaking through people's back yards!!
- 57) Sell off ER to lakefront owners at a rate comparable with the times!! ER doesn't really come into play like it did 30 years ago!! The land sold would help with all functions of the lake. Land that would be sold to lakefront owners would not be used as a building lot as the water table could rise at any time. I feel the ER really has no practical use for the County and should be sold with first right of refusal to the lakefront owners
- 58) The County needs to proceed very cautiously on any such plan. Each community in the proposed area is different and has unique needs. A "one size fits all" plan will not work. I would prefer that the County puts more funds into helping these communities with dust control as that is an ongoing safety issue. Perhaps the funds from the sale of reserve lands could be used for dust control.
- 59) Make sure that it works for existing lot owners and the public to enjoy. Establishing rules and common goals would sustain an enjoyable area for years to come.
- 60) Sharing the 6-meter ER with the public is no problem as long as it is not destroyed by building a fence and or pathway. Communications could be the key to positive relations between land owners and the County. Working with the new groups that have formed for this purpose should help. the County has shown us good will by allowing us to purchase land to the 6-meter mark at a reasonable rate and begun to change the negativity of the past decade. We all hope this can continue. Having our voices represented on council could also contribute to a positive change. [REDACTED] Bayview Street Rochon Sands

- 61) In answering this question, I don't know all the rules and regulations that are involved. I've always had my own dock and shore station, along with easy lake access off my property. I don't know if that is even an option in this development. That would be ideal for me.
- 62) I truly believe the County will do as it likes and my opinion will not sway any decisions made regarding the lake.
- 63) I feel strongly that the fence or a walking path in front of the private land on the beach is a terrible, terrible idea for so many reasons. It will get damaged year after year and would be a terrible waste of resources. We would most likely sell our property if a fence, path was built or if we were told we could not put up our dock.
- 64) Understanding the need for balance between lakefront property owners, backlot owners and the public. Public access trails exist. Clear them, post clear signage and let everyone find the balance between privacy and sharing the public resource.
- 65) What you are doing right here is the best way to assist in the development of the management plan. Asking rate payers that use the lake shore every day and have previous years of knowledge. Share this questionnaire with White Sands and Rochon Sands so their residents can put in their two cents. The more responses we get the better.
- 66) In Scenic Sands, the biggest issue we deal with is the buildup of lake grass/sea weed along the shoreline which catches more and more grass and sand until we have a tall ridge along the shore. Then, in wet years, the beach area behind the ridge stays wet, weeds and grass grow and a marshy area is produced. I'd like to see the shoreline scraped by the County EVERY spring in June to remove the buildup of grass and sand to prevent the return of "sloughs" along our beach.
- 67) Whatever is decided by the County needs to be in conjunction and in agreement with the other counties. Buffalo Lake is a large lake and keeping it usable for resident and visitors will take effort on everyone's part.
- 68) Again, we are not in favor of a public walkway down the beach. We as landowners are not supposed to remove any rocks or weeds on the reserve land so how is it that the County would be allowed to build any pathways or clear areas for more beach access?
- 69) I feel it is necessary for the County of Settler to be the one governing body responsible for reserve maintenance and shoreline development. It is important to get input from landowners and this survey is a valuable tool - thank you. I think if the County gives up this responsibility to community associations and land owners there will be no consistency in regards to this land maintenance. Land owners need to realize that the County's rules and guidelines are set up to preserve this land not only for the wildlife it sustains but also for future generations to enjoy.
- 70) Set rules regarding reserve lands and enforce them. In my opinion the County has been derelict in standing their ground, you are easily pushed around. When we purchased our lot at scenic sands, every effort was made to make sure what we installed/built followed the rules set forth by the County at the time. Community associations are a joke, there are a few that get what they want, saying they speak for the masses, this is not always the case. In my

opinion this survey is the correct way to find out what people want for the areas their lots are situated. Our community association wants me to send my answers and comments to them so they can manipulate these when their submissions are presented to the County, that won't be happening.

- 71) I think the County does a great job maintaining our trails and I am grateful. I wish for dust control but really money could be better spent for our purposes by creating a beach sitting area at the pier of Buffalo Lake Meadows. thank you
- 72) Don't let the lot owners run over you. This is a great Lake in Central Alberta, lets protect it at all costs. Please let's look ahead a lot of years, as what you do know will affect this far into the future. Once you let things happen, you set a precedent, and then it is really hard to back pedal.
- 73) I believe that for the most part, property owners are satisfied with how things are. However, I do believe that the construction of a foot path that would not interfere with current properties is a great idea and would be well used in the summer and fall months.
- 74) I don't feel a pathway or a decorative fence are needed or wanted.
- 75) need more meetings with County and south shore committee
- 76) Please consider the lifestyle and privacy of the lake lot owners. Privacy in this context means limitations of what the lake (water) life offers. Selling lots around the lake with promotional ideas like walking paths that will be used periodically but need regular maintenance is a waste of funds which in turn are tax dollars. While relaxing at the lake, an owner does not like to see or hear maintenance workers. A community that is healthy is happy and thus will infectiously promote its own growth. The removal of trees, weeds, debris should be allowed for lake lot owners as this gives a human sense of beauty with the natural environment enhanced. I believe there is injustice in the idea of "natural environment" particularly if the County considers a fence between landowners and County-owned lands, then a walking path along the water's edge of the Provincial ROW.
- 77) I don't mind using the Erskine dump or the Village but a burn/compost facility would go over well in my opinion and as you can tell I have expressed it a couple of times. Other than that if we aren't doing anything illegal I don't feel that we need any hassle. The shoreline is very healthy on Buffalo lake. Fishing is as good as it has ever been and water fowl is flourishing. The stabilization of the lake has done wonders. Mother nature looks after almost everything else. I think somebody has a stick where it shouldn't be and there has been a negative created around the shoreline. If it wasn't for BVE and some encroachments on the MR the health of the community is good. I think this survey is a good bridge for the people of the community and the County. Neither party has done a good job of communicating to date. It feels like it has been a war between us. I hope our relationship continuously improves. I don't know that our current County representatives have been supporting us. For the residence maybe a town hall is in order to ensure that we are united. I truly thank you for being interested in our thoughts and praise this much needed survey. Sincerely,

- 78) Under NO circumstances should a shore line path be put along the reserve land. The County should leave things as they are and become more tolerant to clearing trees. 2 trees per year should be good.
- 79) The problem with the shoreline in recent years has been caused by erosion and subsequent drop-off and water infiltration to the reserve. The paths to the shore have been ankle deep in stagnant water (smell, mosquitoes, unpleasant) and makes access to the shore difficult. Also it has been difficult to reach the shore with a canoe or kayak through the reserve lands and the steep drop off made it difficult to get to a sea-doo or boat on a hoist in the water. In the past, we put our sea-doo into the water at a boat launch each time we used it. This was inconvenient and also meant increased pressure on the boat launches. Now we only use the boat launch twice a year and keep the sea-doo on the hoist in the water during the season. At present, groups of neighbours get together to put in and take out the hoists. We also group them in the water. Perhaps this activity could be improved by communal docks but I have concerns about cost and maintenance. Also organizing in/out events. Keeping the shoreline from eroding is important. Also need a space for mowing so that emergency vehicles can get to an injured or medically distressed person. We are happy with the situation as it is, however, I recognize that future use probably means increased use and how best to accommodate this?
- 80) Beach, beach, beach! We use our boat often and have traveled around the lake. There are many communities that have large, lovely beaches - even a place that's beach is so large, it has a tractor parked on it! All we want is a beach similar to the one we had when we bought out here. I feel quite 'ripped off' as a landowner since there are so many others with a beach and we have none and are offered no options other than gravel roads to a gravel patch surrounded by swamp and stench. Not my idea of lake living, and not what I bought into.
- 81) Too much land was sold to waterfront owners.
- 82) If you were to build a dock it could go in the Marina.
- 83) Take your time, study the shoreline to clearly understand how the water and ice impact it before making any costly alterations! Look after garbage disposal. A Playground for the children is a good place to start.
- 84) Less is more. The more you "urbanize" the lake shore the less appeal it has to me. I like trees, birds, and the wildlife this lake still offers. Those things are gone or in short supply at Sylvan Lake, Pigeon Lake, etc. Be careful, it's only "natural" once and you loose with every little tweak. Before you spend money on things take a look, go sit at the lake for a week, and think to yourself, who's going to use this?
- 85) I would recommend modelling the shoreline management after BC.
- 86) Enforce rules already in place. No point in adding additional rules and regulations when people park in no parking areas (won't walk a short distance to the lake) or use their ATVs on the trails without consequences.

- 87) I would like to see a swath taken out of the weeds from the southwest corner of the lake to the output area of the lake back to the Red Deer river. I'm curious if the weeds are reducing the outward flow of the lake, artificially maintaining a higher lake water level than should be. We are still very near the 100-year water mark of the lake and the water level has not gone down in recent years. I have visited the weir at the outbound point and no water is leaving the lake. So why is the water level still so high????
- 88) We love our house on the water and really want to keep it the way it is with no path and continued access to our boat with a dock. On our property a built path would cut through the root bound grasses and increase erosion which is already a problem on our lot. A path would make it happen even faster. We have already moved our buildings as required. Our house is a slice of heaven that is enjoyed by us and our 5 kids and 8 grandkids.
- 89) License lifts docks at a cost that will pay for its self. And encourage workable marinas. This will not be an easy task but in the future you will be glad you did the control sooner than later. Look at what happened with the County selling reserve. The sale took away valuable property that should be for all to use. The lake shore is not for lake front folks only. There will be lots of backlots in the future. I think that was a mistake but it is water under the bridge. All you can do now is look to the future and learn from other lakes and what has happened around our lake. The lake is a gift and is for all to enjoy. Thank you for the chance to make comments.
- 90) Nothing else for now. Excellent survey!
- 91) The ability to have unhindered access to the beach. We require the use of our own piers and boat hoists. We want to be able to SEE the lake from our residences and to USE the shore for family activities. Lakefront property will lose value if owners can't see or utilize the lake for recreation. We respect the necessity of protecting wildlife and valuable habitat. I believe in that strongly too but there can be moderation and balance between the two. I would like to see that landowners can cut weeds, trim suckers from trees and try to use a small section of the beach for enjoyment.
- 92) I really wish we could just be allowed to clean our individual beach fronts to the point we can use them functionally. Not destroy or interrupt the environment but to clean up. Moving rocks and raking seaweed and clearing dead trees doesn't interrupt the environment. Putting up bird houses, bat boxes and enjoying these properties together with whatever animals share these areas with us.
- 93) There is a reason that lake shores are "public access" areas and not to have lakefront property owners think that this is their private beach. If this was the case, there would be very little shoreline available for the public.
- 94) The appeal of Buffalo Lake to many of the people who put their savings into a property was that it was affordable to an average family. We appreciate the natural beauty found on this prairie lake and we hope to be able to continue to enjoy it.
- 95) As a lot owner at Scenic Sands - sorry about my comments over the years. So much crap has happened at Scenic Sands, I don't know if it is lunches or votes - we know the trouble makers ... hopefully they all move. Sorry they are trying to sell for big bucks but can't sell because who

would buy at a lake community with no boat launch, no easy access to lake, unless you have a boat lift or are a lake front owner with all summer toys in the bushes but if you walk on their beach they will chase you off. Make it a nice beach for everyone to enjoy as it is a beautiful lake to be enjoyed by all. And our taxes didn't go down when we lost our boat launch and beach access.

- 96) I feel a pathway along the water would be counter-productive in trying to prevent shoreline erosion and the general need to protect riparian areas. A one off public beach and access is one thing, I think a public walkway would lead to increased garbage in the lake and have an effect the privacy and security of lakefront lot owners.
- 97) It is nice to see this survey I hope the powers that control the monies take the results seriously. We have yet to attend a meeting where we have not been at odds with council. It seems that our Councillor has no idea what the people of the lake communities want and has taken it upon himself to decide. Since we have lived here we have had to fight against a boat launch, widening of a quaint country road, a parking lot, opening up of a locked emergency gate, and now a pathway and fence. At the last meeting at the Erskine Hall a Councillor was actually queried about people not feeling like they were being heard by Council, his response was "that is their problem", ouch.
- 98) The lake is for everyone's use but the people who own lakefront lots have paid much higher dollars to be lakefront and have lakefront access. I don't think taking this away will improve anything. A fence is a good idea as many times we have people walking through our property trying to get to the lake. Perhaps more signage could be used to direct those to the public access areas. As the water levels have increased over the last few years many people are trying to find ways onto a beach and are thus tramping down the natural vegetation trying to make paths to one. If the County is worried about keeping the reserve areas natural, then fencing or fencing off areas/walkways might be a good option. Just remember the people that have lakefront lots, like to see and be in the nature, and many are very respectful of it in this regard.
- 99) when developing a plan, we really need to consider the environment around the lake and how we can protect it but at the same time allow everyone to respect and enjoy it.
- 100) As additional development occurs a shoreline rights administration system will be important to keep order in the limited resource as more people look towards docks Squatters' rights from front lots must continue to be kept in check so backlot users are able to access the public space and water We have spent 8 years waiting for this community to figure itself out, are disappointed at the lumpy start this development has been through, are thankful Settler has stepped in to address development deficiencies, have invested in infrastructure to enable our family to use the area without community partnership and would like to ensure 1) we continue to have permission & rights to use our dock, and 2) would prefer to store our dock near the water through the winter without disturbing the reserve's vegetation.
- 101) better management of the reserves. Currently lots of dead trees that cause a fire hazard. better maintenance of the reserves in terms of grass cutting. Preserving the beauty and avoid an artificial fence that by itself is cumbersome for access to the lake by all and unfriendly and unwelcoming gesture. Provide a useable and practical boat launch. Amenable to have boat

dock to be used by residents and visitors to the area. Residents in the area have demonstrated a lot of commitment to the preservation of the lake and its surrounding should continue to have their views and opinions respected and listened to and accommodated as practicable.

- 102) Use some common sense, don't keep harassing lot owners and causing trouble. I'm happy the County sold frontage to the owners now leave it alone and let the people maintain their own areas. If for some reason the area in front of someone's property is not maintained and looks unsightly go in and mow it, pick the weeds etc. and add it to their tax bill.
- 103) Thanks for soliciting our input - we look forward to further updates.
- 104) Not specific to shoreline management - do whatever you can to encourage more home construction to bring in more residents and make for a more vibrant, full community. No trailers, homes only.
- 105) our subdivision (Buffalo Sands) is satisfied with what we have - of course I am only speaking for myself
- 106) this is a place for relaxation and enjoyment, let's continue to keep less policing so having less equipment and communal stuff will result in less governance and less need for policing.
- 107) I don't think the Shoreline Management Plan needs to be so disruptive to land owners. The concept of moving our boat lift and dock off the environmental reserve during the winter, a public pathway, a decorative fence, communal storage facilities and piers, are a nightmare for us. We purchased a lakefront property and pay high taxes to enjoy quick and convenient access to the lake. Our activities to date have not been bad for the environment. We are very conscious of the environment and take pride in ensuring the lake stays beautiful. The ideas discussed in the survey are frustrating and I fear they will take the enjoyment out of being a lakefront land owner at Buffalo Lake. A Shoreline Management Plan can be effective with guidelines that support the environment, while still allowing lake front owners direct access to the lake, with the opportunity to put out a pier, and even store a pier on the environmental reserve as long as it has no environmental side effects.
- 108) At Buffalo Sands we need some resources and assistance in shoreline weed control and a better beach for our residence.
- 109) I trust this is difficult to hear but despite the ridiculous taxes we pay for the service we get we would be better off if the County stayed in town. If they insist on trying to do something they need to do some research to find out who their target audience is. what you will find, as evidenced by the stellar sales and construction in Bolin View Estates is that your market is very limited. First, like it or not you need to realize that whoever buys and or builds or comes to visit or stay is a tree hugger or their children are. I do not use that term negatively but as a descriptor. First, people will not come from the city to buy in a neighborhood that looks just like the one they have in the city. indeed, Buffalo View Estates is actually less aesthetically appealing than some neighborhoods in the city where there has been an effort made to harmonize with the environment. one example would be the boat launch and marina. it used to be a lovely little slough with elevation changes and natural vegetation. People would come to buy around a natural setting where they can show their children the baby ducks etc. They

will not come, as you can see, to buy 1970's style concrete and pavement. A more recent example. Assuming there was a need for a parking lot near the boat launch, which is doubtful, but for the sake of argument let's say it was necessary. Picture a parking lot like you might see in a national park, perhaps gravel or washed stone, surrounded by trees and shrubs. That in contrast to the 1950's style paved parking lot surrounded by a plastic fence that looks like you should find a Safeway attached. Similarly, the "paths" in Bolin view, as straight as an arrow lined with black frost fence. by contrast the neighborhood I lived in until recently in St. Albert was built in the 1960's. The paths through the parks have natural curves and undulations, and are lined by indigenous trees and fauna. You are selling nature not pavement and fences. if you stand on the road by the boat launch and face away from the lake and look across the road at the pasture and see the slough and the fauna, that is what they will come from the city to buy. You are also selling stars, stars like you don't get to see in the city. As a result, you want to limit the street lights and, in a neighborhood in the city where your taxes are as high as they are out there, they have attractive, shorter, decorative street lights. not the biggest ugliest, and likely cheapest street lights you could find. There are a number of communities built around lakes. take some time and go look to see what works. Big Lake near St. Albert has many developments around it. none of them are billiard table flat, none of them have concrete curbs or big parking lots. There was a time when Rochon Sands and Buffalo lake had a natural advantage. it was less expensive than lakes closer to major urban centres. that is no longer the case. Indeed, with the tax structure it is arguable the carrying cost that make it disadvantageous. so why travel an hour or two further? well for the unspoiled nature of it all and if you don't have it you will have to fake it, or put it back. I suspect you will find that your primary audience is families with children still in the nest. if you factor out those who cannot afford to be out there you are left with a small segment and you must understand that they want to come and live amongst nature, even if you fake it for them, and show their kids the baby ducks on the slough and walk in the pasture and see the wild fauna. I also will comment briefly on your path. it has been a matter of great consternation for your taxpayers. I am grateful it seems you are reaching out for some input because truthfully there is a wealth of experience and expertise at the lake and most of us feel disenfranchised because we cannot vote. That said I ask you to take a drive along the road a look at all the properties that are lake front. what you will find is that despite the fact they all have lovely lake front views, they almost without exception have decks on the road side. That is because the prevailing wind blows off the lake into their cabins. It is, on any given day except for the hottest of summer, 10-15 degrees Fahrenheit warmer on the road side. that is why people walk back there, that is why everyone has a deck or a picnic table back there. we sit on our back deck at least 80% more than on our lake side deck, simply because it is not comfortable on the lake side very often. any path you build on the lake front will suffer from the weather. my advice, and I do not know why you are hell bent on a path but if it must be, it must have shelter from the lake and the wind or it will only be used on the very loveliest of days. I know you are busy but I would make time to discuss more of these issue if you like. I do not want to reproduce this now in an email to you. I can be reached at sjfix@fixandsmith.com

- 110) Big things for me: 1. Improve shore areas to create public beaches and to reduce Swimmers Itch. 2. Provide a path for people to walk along the shore so they don't need to walk on the road (that has no shoulder). 3. Clean-up the Environmental Reserve so dead trees aren't a hazard and the path way has level ground.

- 111) please be a steward of the taxpayers' dollars and do not waste them on frivolous vanity projects like fences and paved pathways, be respectful of the tax payers and their wishes
- 112) Balance is the key to this project so users can enjoy their properties and the environment is sustained for future generations. I am not sure all these developments can be treated the same as density makes a big difference in the needs of the areas. Buffalo Sands is high density and many of the items like a fence etc. are likely musts. Scenic Sands has much lower density so does not have the same needs. A cookie cutter approach will not work very well, so perhaps a framework with regular review might be better. If Scenic Sands gets built up more, maybe we'll find a need for a fence but for now let the animals roam (save some of the money for future needs). On one hand it would be great to have a groomed beach with bathrooms and parking, but then you get higher volume of people and all the garbage and vandalism that comes along with them. I do think the grass on the beach needs mowed to lower fire hazard and appreciate that the County is going to start doing that.
- 113) We do not feel that there should be any fence or walkway along the beach
- 114) Since we purchased the property in 2000 we have not removed any trees or shrubs. We have kept the shoreline free of weeds by mowing the area that is not covered with trees. In no way do we feel we have been environmentally unfriendly. I really wish we would be allowed to continue to keep this area weed free. Because there are trees right down to the shoreline on the edges of the property, building a fence or creating a path without cutting down trees would not be feasible. It would contravene ER rules. I certainly don't want hikers coming through my property. Parking is often problematic, but does cause the traffic to slow down.
- 115) Start the process of limiting the use of trailers or RV's in Buffalo Sands. The tax dollars that can be generated from development permits, water taxation and property taxes will go a long way to help the entire County. The process has taken a very long time in Scenic sands and the process needs to begin in Buffalo sands now so that when it is finally passed current residence will still be alive. The lack of development permits for RV's or trailers that are "squatting" on the lots and in contravention of current bylaws could also fund one hell of a Christmas party for the County if you would begin to enforce the existing bylaws and handing out fines for the trailers. Our association could supply plenty of tax dollars to the County and have our concerns heard (improperly installed septic system that continually fails) if everyone is paying their fair share. There is an RV park just down the lake and our association has endured enough financial hard times without having to subsidize lawn mowing and other public services that our mobile neighbours don't contribute to.
- 116) Please consult with residents at the lake before any decisions are made. The people who own land at the lake care about what happens there. Families have lived at the lake for generations with many memories and lots of emotion. It is wonderful that you have asked the general public for input but they don't know the risks associated with some of the ideas presented on this survey. This questionnaire has very misleading questions and tells me that some preconceived ideas are already in the minds of our County.
- 117) As a 60+ year frequenter and property owner of Buffalo Lake, I am fully supportive of an effective yet practical management plan and appreciate all the effort that is being made to sustain its water quality, natural habitats, land and water fowl, native animals and fish stock.

The extensive walking path system in our community is well used and worth maintaining throughout the summer. While they are often frequented by motorized vehicles, contrary to posted notices, the paths generally keep these mostly sensible users from running rough-shod over the natural terrain if there were no established paths.

- 118) Shoreline management is extremely important. However, where existing developments have been using it in a way that would not be compliant with today's developments strategies, it should be left as it is. I have watched people cutting back trees and vegetation in order to move their structures back to be compliant with new rules. This seems to me to be very short sighted - as trees and vegetation that were protecting the water from run off have now been removed - further exposing the lake to nutrients that would NOT have been there had they not have had to move structures back. Moving a fire pit into what has been a treed area requires removal of a significant number of large mature trees to ensure safety. Seems to me it would be better to leave the fire pit on the beach where it was and leave the trees alone!
- 119) We are certainly against any kind of pathway on the lakeside. We do, however, agree that there is a need for a pathway, and it should be on the south side of the existing roadway on Bayview street which leads to a natural and scenic, quiet walk through the trees. We see a lot of people walking on the road which is very dangerous for everyone - a path through the trees is just what we need. I have heard many people express that feeling. The "walkers" don't care if they see the lake while they walk or the serenity of the woods. And don't ever, ever, ever, mention that word " fence" again.
- 120) This plan is over kill, keep it simple. Make sure you are making these changes for the right and they are needed and wanted.
- 121) Please do not restrict property owners on the lake with unrealistic laws and land use. The lake side areas need cleaning up, no question, but what we see is there has been no guidance and enforcement of rules. People will do foolish things when no one is watching so guidance is key here. No one likes change, but proper change is good if done properly.
- 122) A shoreline development plan is not necessary. Rochon Sands is great the way it is.
- 123) Dust control on Boss Hill Road - speed control signage after cattle guard. Sign - CATTLE AT LARGE - Slow Down.
- 124) I think this survey was a good idea, giving everyone the opportunity to state their opinions. Thank you!
- 125) Have representation of landowners on committees that are actively involved with the lake and lake lot owners so that they may communicate their issues and concerns effectively as a community to our elected councilors to represent our factual views and opinions. Thank you.
[REDACTED]
- 126) The communities that have been approved and built have the right to ask for similar amenities that exist in neighboring communities. Minimum standards for how many boat launches, playgrounds, picnic areas, available beach area, parking areas for the public, parking/storage area for local owners, parking/storage areas for docks and boat lifts needs to be addressed

and I think that some of this has been done in the South Shore intermunicipal development plan. There exists a disparity between communities on the development of the shore and access to the water from what has been allowed in the past. You can have all the rules and regulations you want but ultimately if the community does not follow or want them then the County is spinning its wheels. With properly maintained paths and access to proper beach and parking areas you would eliminate some of your problems of people making their own path and damaging ER/MR areas. People would not be constructing their own path if the setup was practical and wasn't something restricting them from getting to where they want to go. A simple meeting with lake front owners and you could come up with plan of where and how many beach access points they would require and then some discussion could ensue about what is practical. This to me is a far better approach than to try to create blanket rules that dictate strict definitions of what you can and can't do. The owners would want to protect the ER/MR as much as you and maybe haven't thought of how their actions are affecting their environment. You may not understand how the community is using their area and what the community would want to see for access and facilities and what is priority to them.

- 127) restorations of beach areas should be priority to increase recreational opportunities
- 128) Leave the natural state of the lake in place as much as possible. Do not erect a fence, do not encourage general pedestrian traffic through private lakefront areas, do not build a trail along the shoreline.
- 129) please keep us informed on your progress.
- 130) Just a final note about the idea of building a pathway between Scenic Sands to Rochon Sands in the ER. The ER is narrow in front of our 7 lots on Abbey Road and very close to the waterline. Putting a pathway in there would be silly because: A: We privately paid for the reconstruction of a sand berm in front of our lots and it is far more practical for people to walk on it (and desirable) than through the trees, B: The pathway would be underwater for a good part of the spring/summer and very soggy, muddy and eventually rutted' C: It would also be extremely close to our dwellings and we worry about people quadding on it as people seem to think following rules don't apply to them - especially if they are not easily visible on a trail, D: If people are concerned about landowners cutting a 3' pathway through the ER for their private use and enjoyment of the lake, isn't it contradictory to consider cutting down hundreds of trees for a linear pathway? And a final note about being a beach-front landowner: - We have spent thousands of dollars privately trying to maintain a reasonable beachfront with no help from the County, - We spend countless hours maintaining the shoreline by hand, - We have planted over 100 trees on our property to help beautify our lakefront lot, therefore enhancing the look of the shoreline even if on our own private property, - We never try to dissuade other owners from other subdivisions from using the beach area we have maintained but rather welcome them and greet them warmly. They are getting a good deal too.
- 131) Similar to other lake front communities at Buffalo Lake, I strongly encourage the County to build public beaches at Buffalo View Estates.

Additional comments received through survey questionnaires submitted by hand:

- a) I have been a long time resident / landowner of Buffalo Lake and I am happy to see the environment and the lake preserved for future generations. It is important to keep it as natural

as possible so that wildlife populations can thrive, natural trees and shrubs continue to grow and the lake remains clean and viable.

- b) An absolute necessity begins by checking raw sewage entrance into our lake. There are some who have holes in their septic tanks, etc. and raw sewage is getting in (into the lake). Assign a project of asking for and getting pump-out bills from all residents. Build a trail from Ol' MacDonald's to eventually Boss Hill – but to White Sands for sure. If there is a trail, visitors will be less likely to go onto people's private property and all will be happier. Get the ER and MR cleaned up – get people's stuff off of it. Build communal docks – privatize or whatever – charge for use and stop all the little ones in the water. Our lake is a valuable asset – save it. If necessary, send a questionnaire that must be signed – one submission to each lot to get a fair representation. One from each computer leaves questions of validity.
- c) There is some vegetation which hinders the enjoyment of anyone attempting to enjoy the riparian area. Some of these are nuisances, some cause injuries and some are noxious. I would like to be able to remove the following without a problem from the County or Alberta Environment:

Noxious – Absinthe Wormwood, Canada Thistle, Common Tansy, Yellow Toadflax, Leafy Spurge, Scentless Chamomile, Oxeye Daisy / Shasta Daisy, Sow Thistle, White Cockle, Creeping Bellflower

Nuisances – Blue bur (burrs), Purple Loosestrife, Milk-vetch, Wild Licorice, Cinquefoil, Foxtail Barley, Dandelions

Injurious Types – all Thistles, Hemp Nettles, Prickly Rose, Sow Thistle, Foxtail Barley (pets), Stinging Nettles

I would like to remove these from the (environmental) reserve land and riparian area – all homeowners should be able to do this.

As your (County) horticulturalist knows, many of these spread by rhizomes and cannot merely be “picked”. Some require chemical application. Most of these have been found on our property and I have kept these controlled by picking, cutting, and using Round-up. Many are hazardous to cattle, horses, pets, children and people in general. They can spread to pastures and farmland. They detract from shore use by families.

I would also like to remove the suckers from Aspens, Chokecherries, Dogwood, Wild Rose since they produce crowded vegetation that have weakened health and are more likely to break off in wind storms or injurious (rose) or reduce the view / access to the beach.

- d) I completed your survey and was somewhat long winded. I do not want to repeat myself so I put my email address in the final comment box of the survey. If by chance it does not come to you, I am sending this. I would be happy to discuss all manner of lake issue with you at length at your convenience.

- e) I will remember to revisit this issue as potential fire management is a big issue for us here at Scenic Sands. Perhaps you can explain to me why the County takes such a hard position on the removal of deadfall from ER and MR lands. Surely the risk of fire outweighs the possible loss of habitat for ants, bees and some birds. I am sure you know that it is almost impossible to fight a fire that starts in ER lands. Scenic Sands is a prime example – the ER land is located between Crown land and private land with no road access except for the far north end alongside the old gravel trail. I would think the County may be open to legal action in terms of a fire on the ER land because of its hard line on removal of deadfall.
- f) Last week I observed the landowner just to the west of Buffalo Lake Meadows with his tractor in the lake and pounding in fence posts – presumably for his cattle as in the past. What does the shoreline management plan state about that landowner putting in a cattle fence (apparently) beyond his property line and even worse, allowing cattle to urinate and defecate in the lake? On a slightly similar note, as that same landowner is clearing their shoreline (beach area) with their tractor and utilizing the multiple acres along the lake for recreation purposes and not for farming, are they being taxed in the same manner as the landowners in Buffalo Lake Meadows or Buffalo Sands or Scenic sands who enjoy their properties with RVs? Please let me know the answers to my two questions above as many of our owners would like to know that they are being treated the same as the adjacent landowner.
- g) Thanks for the information. I think anyone with a boat will want it directly out from their lake property if possible. That's what I have done as the ease of using the boat is critical. People always want the easiest path. I will use the boat launch east of us then.
- h) If clustering of docks is proposed, then the issue of parking near them or the paths leading to them, needs to be addressed. Gas, life jackets, biscuits, ski lines, towels, chairs, food and beverages, all weigh a lot and they have to get from the cabin to the shoreline, dock or boat to be used. The easiest way to do this is in a vehicle or ATV. Both of which require parking after they are unloaded.
- i) On behalf of the Abbey Road landowners:

Further to the circulation of the Buffalo Lake South Shoreline Management Plan Survey in the fall of 2015 to the neighbouring landowners of Buffalo Lake, the property owners of the Abbey Road subdivision would like to provide additional comment to the County to make known our views and concerns and identify issues not necessarily distinguished on the questionnaire.

1. Survey Questions – Are the options they present relevant or viable?

It seemed that several questions presented conceptual ideas which, in practice, would require much more information and detail in order to make an informed response. Issues such as environmental impact, protection and sustainability of significant waterfowl and nesting areas, economic viability and general attractiveness of the natural setting would all need to be greatly explored prior to any decision making.

2. Specific Issues Raised in Questionnaire – What is the background of these issues?

There were questions raised for which their origin seemed unclear and their compatibility to the environment at odds with the surrounding area. Items such as accessibility, fencing,

parking etc.; what was the rationale of these ideas? The wild, natural beauty of Buffalo Lake and the mere fact that it doesn't have the noise/traffic of a Sylvan Lake for example, is what makes it special and has drawn landowners, weekenders and wildlife to the area.

- There are already several existing public access points around the lake for boating and fishing and we are not aware of any parking issues;
- Footpaths have already been incorporated in developed areas to facilitate beach access;
- Fencing? To keep out exactly what? What are the implications to the environment in building it and what of the yearly maintenance? It does not seem sustainable nor a viable use of public funds;
- Should direct access by lakefront lot owners not be allowed and access only be through communal walkways? The logic of this proposal is not only senseless, it does not provide an enhancement to anyone's enjoyment of using the lake - only an impediment;
- Storing of docking systems and other summer structures; they are in the water in the summer and not stored on any ER/ MR lands in the winter. They are not providing an impediment to any foot traffic in summer nor preventing safe recreational activity in the winter;
- Encroachments onto private property or MR lands? We are unaware of any issues causing problems in our community or others. At any rate, if people are going to trespass onto private property it is doubtful a fence of any visually pleasant nature will be much of a deterrent;
- Public Boat Launch at Buffalo View Estates? We did not know that such a thing existed. We have always either used Ol' MacDonald's or Rochon Sands.

3. **Communal Docking Systems – Extremely difficult to integrate, maintain and finance.**

Our own present docking system for Abbey Road has been built to adequately represent our needs. Certain items of caution should be pointed out when proposing a communal docking system for a large community:

- The stress of the actual dock location which it puts on a community as a whole;
- The visual impact, safety and legal aspects for those landowners who are closest to the dock and the community as a whole;
- The initial potential environmental damage of site layout/removal of trees;
- Subsequent annual movement of the dock sections in/out through the MR;
- The incompatible formats of various docking systems (square legs, round legs, wheels, decking, floating pads) would make integration with existing docking almost impossible;
- Who would be responsible for insertion and removal of the docking? The ability to get large groups of people to faithfully commit to a date twice annually would be difficult.

4. **The Greater Need for Firepits, Picnic Tables, Washrooms, Garbage Receptacles.**

Based on current usage and from casual observation, it has not been thought that clearing trees and adding these amenities would greatly enhance the public usage of the lake and would only require greater maintenance and monitoring. Like us, the families who come and use the beach around us bring their folding chairs, umbrellas, snacks – and pack their garbage out with them when they leave.

5. **Recognizing the Variation of Cyclical Water Levels, Shoreline and Erosion.**
Twice in the past ten years the lake level has risen to the 100-year water mark and taken several years to retract. Additionally, the water levels in the spring are high and the existing pathways through the South Shore ER/MR get very wet, spongy and sometimes completely deluged. Some ER's in other areas around the South Shore are wider, but through Abbey Road's section the ER is very narrow. To build up and maintain a pathway through it would be devastating to the riparian nature of the zone, require upgrading each spring and inevitably be costly. The very conception of building/maintaining long sections of fence posts in such a soggy wet soil gives way to visions of slumping, unsightly posts that are of no use or value to anyone.
6. **Satisfaction with the Current Level of Service Provided by the County.**
While the residents of the Abbey Road Community all share our own costs for beach maintenance and the physical aspects of keeping the beach mowed and tidy, we are presently happy with the level of service the County provides in garbage removal, road plowing and pathway maintenance.
7. **How Best to Use Funds Designated from Selling Portions of Reserve Lands.**
The Abbey Road Landowners do not think that targeting these funds for all the above would be a fitting use of these funds merely because they exist. If it cannot be used to reduce taxes, then surely there can be some brain-storming done through research and public input as to the best usage of these funds for the long term and not to be used to the detriment of the environment.
8. **Taxes – Fiscal responsibility?**
We find our taxes already inordinately high compared to others around the lake and would strongly oppose any additional services offered if it causes our taxes to increase in years to come when funding from the selling of reserve lands is depleted. In the end, we feel higher taxes are more detrimental to a family/community than any value added by augmenting unneeded facilities.
9. **Open House and Active Community Engagement – Dates and advance notification?**
In a notification to landowners in July 2015 it was stated that once the surveys were completed and all responses quantified, there would be an open house scheduled in the summer of 2016 to further discuss the issues and available options. Is this still on track and if so, will there be advanced emailed notification to all who received the questionnaires?
Currently in most municipalities a public consultation process is mandatory including open houses, informed visual displays, comment sheets etc. for the public to give informed feedback.

In summation, Community Consultation is essential in developing a plan that the majority of landowners will support and continue to enjoy. We (the landowners of Abbey Road) appreciate the opportunity the County has given us to participate in this process. We look forward to an Open House in the summer of 2016 where we can further exchange our views with County representatives and discuss how best to protect and preserve the environment with its aesthetic beauty in its natural setting, all the while keeping in mind the economic viability and sustainability of whatever proposals move forward.

j) Scenic Sands Community Association:

This document represents the views of the residents of Scenic Sands regarding the community engagement process of the County in relation to lake shore development.

The Scenic Sands Community Association (the Association) commends the County for seeking input from registered land owners in Scenic Sands concerning a potential south shoreline management plan (the Plan). We respectfully ask that you consider this submission as part of the input sought. It represents the majority view of residents in Scenic Sands and therefore should be taken into account as you contemplate future steps.

As a community, we agree with the County that feedback is essential because the measure of success of the Plan is the extent to which it addresses the needs, activities, concerns and interests of all who either live and/or enjoy this abundantly beautiful lake resource. For this reason, we submit that a more fulsome discussion should occur, much more comprehensive than that of the current survey.

We believe that the County's survey is not a reliable gauge of community perspective.

With regard to the survey sent by the County to the landowners, it seems to focus on limited issues that may not be significant to the Community. In some cases, the survey lists options but fails to ask whether such options are acceptable in the first instance and therefore whether they should even be included. There is no discussion of the consequences of making any particular choice in the survey as complete information is not provided. In addition, a lack of security in the survey set up makes it possible for any one landowner to answer the survey many times in order to have their viewpoint appear to be the majority view. In other words, the responses to the County survey cannot be considered as complete or reliable input because of the very structure of the survey.

We know that the County wants meaningful input but the implications of the County's proposals need to be better understood. For example, would certain proposals lead to a need for more policing? What is the implication on the County's staff level and how does that translate into required tax revenue and hence impact on property taxes? Our taxes in Scenic Sands are high enough without having to fund additional paths, communal docks, etc. A lot more information/background needs to be given to landowners for them to have well considered input. For example, a better tool than a survey would be a public open house in the summer, with 'Q and A' for landowners to understand what the County has in mind and to engage in well considered options that would be of benefit to all.

We want comprehensive Community Engagement!

While the County has stated that they have a need to spend funds set aside for community development, the Association's primary concern is whether such proposals

are prudent and whether they are even needed. How can we be more strategic with any funds we have to ensure value added and to enhance the enjoyment of this natural resource?

It is our view that better opportunities for input should be afforded to the Community Association and/or individual landowners prior to any decisions being made. Meaningful consultation needs to take place to determine what would be in the best interest of the general public, the Community, and the County. The County has the obligation to safeguard and ensure the continued viability of any proposed changes but the Community will end up paying for it. This consultation has to occur well before any decisions are rendered.

The onus is on the County to demonstrate that there would be benefit from the measures it may consider and implement. On the face of it, we do not believe that any of the proposed measures are needed. We are not aware of any issues that would justify the expense. On the contrary, we do not believe that public use of the area would be enhanced by the addition of fences and new 3ft wide pathways or by grouping docking facilities. Prior to the County proceeding with any measures, we look forward to the opportunity to sit down with the County and explore ways to ensure any funds that are available are put to good use and work better for all concerned.

Responses to Specific Issues Raised

What follows is a brief reply to certain questions raised in the survey. Where the issue is that of facilities addition or an activity proposed, our guiding principle in its assessment is consideration of the following:

- Is it needed?
- What value does it add?
- Would such an expenditure be prudent?
- Is it compatible with the surrounding environment?
- Is there a better use of the fund?

Is it Practical for the County to have an LOC in order to create one or more communal docks or a pier system?

The Scenic Sands community has the Licence of Occupation (LOC). Landowners have demonstrated good stewardship and prudent actions under the LOC with an objective to appropriately maintain the shoreline while preserving the environment. The area is well managed, clean, safe and meets the needs of the residents and the wider community.

The addition of docks will increase vehicle travel along the beach to the docks. This could lead to safety issues and damage to the beach. Vehicles are currently allowed only for maintenance and emergency access. We understand that any actions will be performed in a manner to minimize negative impacts, but we question the need for a communal dock in the first place. We are not aware that there is demand for this from

residents or users of the lake. We know of only one resident of Scenic Sands who has suggested that this is a good use of public funds.

As the majority is not in favour of a communal dock who would pay for the common dock/s and who would be responsible to maintain them, putting in and removing them annually? Neighbours may be pitted against each other, as what might be appropriate for some in terms of location may not be optimal for others. Currently, people have their boats close to their usage area and this seems to work very well. To date, the Association has not heard complaints with respect to either the need for docks or problems with the current practice.

Where do residents store summer structures in winter and winter structures in the summer? Are storage options feasible? Should there be a consideration for communal storage area(s) for both summer and winter structures?

Boat lifts, docks, wharfs or piers are currently stored during the winter months on Crown land, discretely tucked away in the trees. They are stored in such a manner so as not to interfere with access to the lake, are easily identifiable to prevent accidents of recreational vehicles and so as not to cause damage to the shoreline. They pose no impediments for those who walk on the shore or pathways. We submit that expenditures to build storage facilities are neither needed nor warranted. There is no concern with the current practice, however, concerns with respect to location and other logistics could arise.

Satisfaction with the current level of service provided by the County on reserve land, shoreline, County owned reserve, parks and pathway:

The community greatly appreciates the service provided in terms of mowing the grass on the shoreline to make it easier to set up day picnic places to enjoy the lake, not just for our community but also for the general public. The Association however believes that more can be done with respect to cutting dead trees and removing deadfall. Our concern is that these impose a significant fire hazard that can be a threat to life and property. We are willing to provide volunteer labour as we have often done in the past especially during shoreline maintenance. If the concern is shortage of labour, we are happy to work with the County to provide the necessary volunteer labour as long as this is done under the supervision of the County which is also willing to provide equipment since the community would not have the necessary capacity to do so.

The survey speaks of garbage receptacles, fire pits, picnic tables, washrooms and playgrounds. None of these were considered by the Community to be facilities needed to better enjoy the recreation activities afforded by the lake. Residents, as well as the general public who use the shoreline are very respectful in terms of not littering or causing disturbance. An inter-community pathway was suggested, and while we have no objection in principle we would like a discussion on its merit and continued maintenance.

Given our position on proposed infrastructure, there is no need for the additional parking. Any decision of that nature would in our opinion require further consultation and consideration of its impact on noise, traffic, dust and other negative effects in particular on local residents and the environment in general. In our opinion, current accesses to the shoreline are sufficient for both local as well as general public use.

Should landowners through a community association supplement or take over maintenance of the reserve parcels, parks and pathways on behalf of the County to improve the level of service?

Our answer to the above question is “No”. It is our opinion that the County is in the best position to provide such services because they are able to consolidate the work and bid it in larger packages than individual community associations to obtain competitive pricing. After all, it is the responsibility of the County to maintain the reserve, parks and pathways. If the County wishes to delegate such responsibility to the Community, then the County should provide the appropriate funding. The Community has done a lot over the years in terms of volunteer hours and funding for shoreline maintenance in compliance with its responsibility under the LOC. However, the maintenance of reserve parcels, parks and pathways is the County’s role and responsibility for which the community pays property tax (especially with the existing high tax base in Scenic Sands). It is important to note that we are not advocating for any increase in service from what is currently offered.

Encroachments from private property onto reserve land or trespassing of the general public onto private property and whether a fence along the length of the shoreline reserve where practical is advisable to demarcate the boundary between private property and public reserve.

The Association is not aware of any problems due to encroachment whether on private or public land. A fence in our opinion would be a waste of valuable tax dollars. We are very surprised that it would even be considered. A fence would not be compatible with the natural surroundings and beauty of the area. It would be restrictive, unwelcoming and artificial. If the County wishes to mark particular boundaries there are other options such as staking and flagging.

Should direct access by lakefront lot owners be allowed or should access only be through communal walkways for all lot owners?

The current pathways have been in place for many years and to our knowledge there have been no issues raised. There are a few lot owners who years ago created their own narrow paths that weave through the woods to avoid the removal of trees. No degradation has occurred as result of these paths and there is no reason for us to believe there would be any in the future. We have no objection to lakefront lot owners either cutting their own path or using the communal pathways as other backlot owners do.

The County must allocate the revenue from selling portions of reserve lands generally within the community wherein the revenue was generated. There will be a significant amount of dollars available in the reserve fund, and the funds cannot be used for any other purpose. How to best use these funds?

To reiterate the above, the Association does not believe that spending money just because we have it is a wise investment, nor on ideas like building fences which we vehemently oppose.

As to a linear municipal pathway built and maintained by the County from Scenic Sands to Buffalo View Estates with garbage receptacles, fire pits, picnic tables, and a public beach in Buffalo View Estates, while this would provide a central location for people wanting to spend the day at the beach, there could be issues of policing, maintenance and cleaning up. The Scenic Sands Community is concerned about potential additional tax implications for the continued operation of such facilities. In addition, we are concerned that such a municipal pathway may encourage the use of unauthorized quads and ski-dos, having a detrimental environmental effect, contrary to the intent of an Environmental Reserve.

As to whether such funds can be used to purchase land for parking areas, whether such is a good idea depends on the potential for additional developments in the area, which at the current time and for the foreseeable future, is doubtful at best.

If it is determined that building more playgrounds is desirable, the Community Association could and would apply for grant funding as we have done in the past.

Public Boat Launch at Buffalo View Estate

Many of our residents were not aware that such a launch existed, while others reported that it is hard to use. Currently, many of our residents use the Rochon Sands boat launch or the one at Ol' McDonalds resort.

Concluding Remarks

The Scenic Sands Community Association urges the County to make a measured and careful assessment of the proposed management plan for the south shoreline of Buffalo Lake. We believe that we are your customer, your partner in planning and your source of sober second thought on these kinds of proposals.

We all want the same thing which is to enhance the viability and enjoyment of this beautiful resource for our residents as well as for the general public, while affording an appropriate level of environmental protection.

We urge you to include us in future discussion and dialogue. We look forward to the opportunity to work alongside the County, exploring ways to ensure the funds that are available are put to good use and work for the betterment of all concerned.

- k) We, like many others on the lake front, have some concerns and question about the county's shoreline management plans. Like many of the people who own properties on the lake we enjoy the water and water activities as well as nature.

The rules prohibiting removal of deadfall and underbrush seems somewhat dangerous to anyone utilizing and enjoying the beauty of Buffalo la. The underbrush in these dry condition creates a fire hazard that as we all know would greatly affect the community and wildlife. The deadfall and standing dead trees is also a hazard. Some trees around our area have fallen and continue to fall. This is very hazardous to ourselves, our children and grandchildren, all of whom enjoy the lake. Should one of these trees fall and injure one of your residents utilizing the lake I am not sure what issues would arise and what liabilities the county would assume for standing dead trees where public access is allowed and clearly not being managed.

I would like to also be clear that we are not wanting or thinking people should be able to clear cut trees around the lake. We do feel that managed and maintained underbrush, deadfall and standing dead trees will only help the environment around the lake and allow wildlife to flourish and the environment. Perhaps we can create some kind of agreement that if trees are removed then others should be planted (not necessarily in the same spot) to replace the dead ones and therefore continue to allow the area to grow.

We have a dock and boat lift. When we put in the dock we all enjoy seeing the minnows and other fish enjoying the cover of the dock. This allows us to expose our grandchildren to the joys of seeing nature up close and watching it develop/ many duck, birds and deer have been seen around our lot. We have seen frogs and snakes as well as the many insects in and around our dock and lift. We are respectful like most around the lake and we truly don't believe the dock and lift does any harm to the environment. With reasonable and respectful trimming and removal of some trees I feel many residents could create a space to store docks and lifts that don't harm the environment and allow the county's residents along the lake to enjoy the lake to its fullest potential, both nature and recreational boating and fishing as well as playing in the sand and skipping stones.

The fencing around the new development in Buffalo Estates, we fell was a poor choice. The black 1.8 m high chain link fence takes away from the beauty of Mother Nature and creates a prison feel that draws lines and alienates residences. This takes away from nature and creates a city feeling which many people are trying to escape when the purchase lots at the lake. If fencing is absolutely necessary in some areas perhaps a shorter 1.2 fence would have been a better choice or a natural fence such as a hedge.

We are willing to brainstorm and come up with solutions or ideas that perhaps can solve the issues that the county and its lake residents feel exist. I am curious as to what the issues are that the county feels we need to create fences or stop tree management and weed control around the lake front. What harm are the residents committing if they were allowed to manage some of the lake front for their added joy and increased environmental growth? Perhaps some issues need to be addressed to those residents who have docks and lifts just sitting on the shore that don't get used year after year. Perhaps the county can address issues of residents dumping sewage or grey water into our lake. Perhaps there should be some discussion of farm land around the lake and how the chemicals and livestock affect our lake water and PH levels. We truly believe that the residents all want to maintain mother nature and her beauty around the

lake and a balance can be established where the residents can enjoy the lake with access to a manicured area as well as having nature and wildlife flourish.

Perhaps you could please give me a list of the issues the county and environment are concerned about and when residents sitting around enjoying a fire at the lake we can all come up with some suggestions that will create a balance for all of us using the lake front.

- l) You may wish to define and then identify by a mapping product the existing and planned Environmental Reserve and Municipal Reserve as well as the Crown land survey plan along the south shoreline. It is noteworthy that the water level change between the drought years (2000 – 2005) and the last five years have created an altered shoreline. Over history this tends to be a cyclic process. It is an incredible blessing that Buffalo Lake has a surveyed Crown land shoreline area to accommodate this process. It is the best setback zone one could ask for but it has to be monitored. Folks are still making “private” beaches, altering shoreline vegetation and lakeshore structure. This impacts habitat quality (aquatic invertebrate, amphibian and fisheries), decreases shoreline stability and reduces nutrient absorption. These activities may lead to more algae blooms. No one wants a child or pet to be affected by blue green algae. Regulations without enforcement, are precarious.