

April 15, 2010

RE: Proposed Hydro Generating Station in Bala

Dear Members,

In keeping with the Chamber's mandate, *"to promote and improve trade and commerce and the economic, civil and social welfare of the Township of Muskoka Lakes"*, the Board of Directors continues to meet with stakeholders regarding the proposed hydro generating station in Bala.

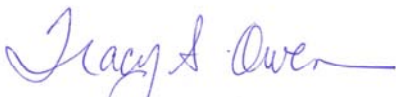
Previously, the Chamber facilitated a public information session in August of 2007 at the Bala Community Centre. Subsequently, the Board of Directors met with Swift River Energy Limited (SREL) in October of 2008 regarding the proposed scope of the project. The MLCC has also sent email broadcasts to our membership regarding third party public meetings both in support and opposition of the project.

In response to the Environmental Screening Report submitted in October 2009 by SREL to the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), the MLCC wrote a letter to the MOE in November 2009 identifying that the report was insufficient in identifying the economical impact and requested a detailed economic impact study be conducted to determine the full extent of the disruption to the Bala and area business community.

Should the project receive approval, the MLCC has been proactive in soliciting member suggestions on ways to help reduce possible impact to the local business community. In March 2010, your Board met again with SREL to address the concerns raised by the Environmental Screening Report and requested additional information on their plan to minimize the impact on our businesses before, during and after construction.

We will continue to update our website with information from all stakeholders in order to keep our membership informed. For more information, please refer to the 'Bala Falls' tab on our website or contact the Chamber office.

Sincerely,



Tracy Owen
President