

December 5, 2001

GLL 21-193

Mr. Ian Beverley
Muskoka Lakes Association
121 Medora Street
Port Carling, Ontario
POB 1J0

Dear Mr. Beverley:

Re: Final Report – Innovative Methods for the Determination of Water Quality

I am pleased to submit this final report to you on behalf of Gartner Lee Limited. It describes the program of water quality measurement and the results obtained from our pilot program in the summer of 2001. It also incorporates comments on the draft report provided by yourself and Rob Bosomworth. The report documents the findings of interest without a great deal of technical or scientific detail – I have attempted to relate the results to the concerns of the MLA and highlight findings of interest to your membership.

In the end, this was an ambitious program. This report represents a landmark in the level of investigation carried out by an association and is, in several aspects, cutting edge. Although results are not clearly unequivocal they do support our initial concerns that management programs of the agencies may not be revealing the true health of the lakes. The program confirmed that water quality in Lakes Muskoka, Joseph and Rosseau is generally excellent but does point to problem areas which require further investigation.

I have prepared an executive summary as part of the main body of the report. I will also prepare it as a stand-alone document for distribution to the MLA Board on December 6. I would also recommend that the MLA provide a copy of the report to Ms. Judi Brouse at the District of Muskoka.

In closing, I thank you for the opportunity to assist the MLA with this timely initiative and look forward to the next stages of your project.

Yours very truly,
GARTNER LEE LIMITED

Neil J. Hutchinson, Ph.D.
Senior Surface Water Specialist

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Attach.