

# THE WINDERMERE GAZETTE

## WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE?

- **Windermere House** - Lots of things happening at WH. Stop in for a drink or meal at one of their lovely dining options.
  - **Windermere Pub & Patio** - Open 7 days a week. 12pm - 10pm in October.
  - **The Rosseau** - upscale dining in a beautiful setting. Check website for hours.
  - **Smokehouse BBQ Packages** - pre-order for pick up at WH
  - **Trading Post!** Artisanal goods & produce, charcuterie, souvenirs.
  - **The Spa at Windermere House** [spa@windermerehouse.com](mailto:spa@windermerehouse.com)
- **Windermere Marina** - Open Labour Day Monday 10am - 4pm. Effective Thursday, Sept 4th - Open Thursday through Sundays 9 - 5pm until Thanksgiving. **Last Day - Sunday Oct. 12 - 10am - 3pm**
- **Windermere Golf Club** - Open to the public until October 11th. **Iron and Strings Restaurant** - Open 7 days/week (See Upcoming Events)
- **Windermere Garden Centre** "Closed for renovations, call ahead for bulk material and delivery, visit us at our Port Carling location for all of your fall planting needs"
- **Taylor Farms** - Mon - Fri, 7am - 6pm. Sat. 9am - 5pm. Closed Sun. Great Cappuccino and Lattes at the cafe!! Open until Thanksgiving!
- **Christ Church Windermere** - services Sunday at 10:30am
- **Windermere United Church** - services Sunday at 10:30am. All welcome. **Nov 1st 2 - 4pm** Newfoundland Kitchen Party \$40 **Live Music** - Raising funds for needed repairs on the church.

## Windermere Together: A Community on the Move

Over the past few months, heartfelt conversations have sparked a renewed sense of purpose in Windermere. Neighbours gathered, stories were shared, and ideas flowed—all rooted in a deep love for our village and a desire to shape its future together.

Three themes emerged from these discussions, each reflecting what matters most to us:

### Strengthening Communication, Connection & Values

We heard a strong desire to build bridges across generations, backgrounds, and seasons. Suggestions included:

- Creating a community bulletin board (physical or digital) to share updates, events, and stories
- Regular town hall gatherings or coffee chats to keep ideas flowing
- Launching a "Windermere Voices" storytelling project to celebrate local experiences
- Encouraging youth involvement through mentorship or volunteer programs

The goal is simple: make everyone feel seen, heard, and valued.

### Monitoring Development, Infrastructure & Environment

Residents expressed the need to grow thoughtfully—protecting what makes Windermere special while meeting practical needs. Ideas included:

- Advocating for more affordable and accessible housing options.
- Supporting seniors through transportation, wellness programs, and social spaces
- Promoting eco-friendly practices - shoreline cleanups & native planting
- Addressing safety concerns - speeding and seasonal traffic issues.
- Encouraging year-round businesses to support both locals and visitors

Let's build a future that's sustainable, inclusive, and rooted in care

### Celebrating Culture, Heritage & Traditions

Windermere's cultural richness is something to be proud of and to share. Suggestions included:

- Organizing seasonal festivals, art walks, or heritage days
- A local arts directory to connect creators and audiences.
- Using existing spaces (community hall or church) for workshops and performances
- Strengthening ties between cottagers and full-time residents through shared cultural events

Together, we can honour our past while inspiring new traditions.

**Join a Working Group!** Each group aligns with one of the themes above and offers a hands-on way to contribute. Whether you're a long-time resident or a seasonal visitor, your voice matters. Meetings are flexible, tasks are shared, and every hour you give helps build a stronger, more connected Windermere.

Let's keep the momentum going—Be part of the change!

**Contact Jennifer at [jenlwilsonca@gmail.com](mailto:jenlwilsonca@gmail.com)**

Thank you to all of our community who helped make the Windermere Village Playground a reality!!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 1st - 2 - 4pm**  
**"Newfoundland Kitchen Party"**  
 @ Windermere United Church -  
 Raising funds for church repairs.  
 Support appreciated! \$40
- **November 1st - 8am - 10am @**  
**Raymond Community Centre** -  
**FREE** community breakfast - hosted  
 by the Lions Club - a thank you to the  
 community!!
- **Chair Yoga** - with Bev Longhurst -  
 starts in Ullswater - Wednesdays  
 beginning **Oct. 15th** at 9:30am.
- **Fitness** - with Bev & Jeremy - starts  
 Mondays at the Ullswater Community  
 Centre - **Oct 20th** at 7pm.
- **Windermere Golf Club** - *Iron and*  
*Strings Restaurant* Sun. - Wed. - 11am -  
 5pm, Thurs. - Sat. 11am - 9pm.  
*Saturday evenings* - Traditional Roast Beef  
 Dinner.
- **Windermere House** - **Live music**  
 Fridays and Saturdays - until October  
 18th - from 7-10pm

Submissions, content, or to subscribe  
[windermeregazette@icloud.com](mailto:windermeregazette@icloud.com)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- **Police - Non-emergency**  
 (705) 645-2211
- **Fire Department**  
 (705)-765-3156
- **District of Muskoka Office**  
 (705) 645-2100
- **By-law Office Township**  
 (705) 765-3156
- **Wharf Master**  
 (705) 769-3611
- **Windermere Golf Club**  
 (705) 769-3381
- **Windermere Marina**  
 (705) 769-3661
- **Windermere House**  
 (705) 769-3611
- **Taylor Farms**  
 (705)-769-2368
- **Windermere Garden Centre**  
 (705)-769-3238
- **Archives**  
[windermereandareaarchive@gmail.com](mailto:windermereandareaarchive@gmail.com)
- **Lions Club**  
[windermere@ar2lions.ca](mailto:windermere@ar2lions.ca)

## Windermere Together! (Process Map)

(designed by Pam Hubbard at the August 6th Community Conversation,  
 Chautauqua Festival, 2025)



## Windermere United Church is holding a

### "Newfoundland Kitchen Party"

to raise funds for repairs to the church.

On **Saturday, Nov. 1st, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**, the church is  
 hosting two Newfoundland entertainers.

Tickets are \$40.00 per person. If you can't make it, please  
 consider a donation!! We would really appreciate it!

Call or email Linda Edwards for tickets.

705-769-2214 or 705-641-1123 or [linda.aledwardsor@gmail.com](mailto:linda.aledwardsor@gmail.com)

## "THERE'S STILL TIME TO WIN!"

Tickets for Muskoka Chautauqua's 50/50 raffle can be purchased by visiting  
 the Raffle Info page on the Muskoka Chautauqua website.

<https://www.muskokachautauqua.com/raffle-info/>

Your contributions will directly support the community of Windermere and  
 Arts in Education programs, such as the Windermere Family Fun Day.

**The 50/50 draw will take place on Friday, Oct. 2nd 2025**

The winner will be contacted directly by phone and email, and the results  
 will be posted on the Muskoka Chautauqua website as well as social media  
 channels.

**Best of luck to all who participate!!**

## A Shout Out to Muskoka Islanders

Coming in 2027 is a third "Treasured Islands" collection.

Looking for stories, poems, anecdotes, photos and even drawings from your  
 children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews...

"The Next Generation"

Submissions must be received by January 20, 2027.

As many children's drawings as possible will be included in the book and some of  
 this original art will adorn the cover.

Also looking for a simple list of these "FIRSTS" that you experienced on  
 your island, for example, first time I saw fireflies, first time my Irish friend  
 Adrienne saw a snake.

Any questions and submissions may be sent by e-mail to [Boatkathyv@gmail.com](mailto:Boatkathyv@gmail.com)

Thank you and looking forward to more extraordinary stories.

Kathy Varley, Project Co-ordinator  
 Wellesley Island

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