

The Problem...

- Something called a Floating Cottage has emerged on several lakes within Ontario
- These things are actually shipping containers welded together, floating on unencapsulated Styrofoam and stabilized with vertical steel girders
- The problem... they have been erroneously designated as vessels by Transport Canada
- The issues are numerous, pollution, environmental destruction, navigation, use of public lands, unregistered, paying no municipal taxes, consuming local emergency services to name a few
- The builder(s) and owners believe they are able to operate above any law, navigate where-ever they wish, “park” and pollute anywhere on our lakes and not pay municipal taxes
- At last count we have engaged 10 federal, provincial and municipal agencies and not one of them believes they have the ability to regulate and manage this issue



There is a 3 part solution that solves this issue

1. Petition Transport Canada to treat Ontario waterways and floating homes in the same manner that they ruled on, 20 years ago for floating homes in British Columbia



Transport Canada's stated policy is to ensure fair and consistent policy across Canada, British Columbia's regulatory framework from Transport Canada defines these as Float Home

2. Petition Transport Canada to revoke the vessel classification they have applied to these objects, they are floating homes just as they have ruled in British Columbia



As a vessel, shipping containers can't be regulated by local municipalities... as Float Home they can

3. Engage and educate local municipal government that they have the right to create bylaws that regulate floating homes within their boundaries (as Township of Georgian Bay has already done)



As Floating Homes, municipalities have the legal ability to manage them:

- Adherence to a building code
- Regulate where they can (and cannot) "park"
- How municipalities can manage float home sewage and environmental destruction
- Registration and paying to the municipal tax base

The Plan to be executed prior to summer...

- The Gloucester Pool Cottagers' Association (GPCA) has led the way in framing the solution and engaging the right stakeholders
- Our team has built a multipronged plan with 4 primary objectives:
 1. Engage 30+ Cottage Associations to have their members send targeted emails to Minister and Deputy Minister for Transport Canada and top 6 bureaucrats controlling this file in Transport Canada petitioning for a change
 2. Employing our Cottage Association stakeholders to delivery 30+ House of Commons petitions to the same government stakeholders petitioning for a change
 3. Engage 30-40 municipalities with water resources in their boundaries that are large enough to support floating cottages and communicating that their respective councils have passed a resolution to petition for a change
 4. Engage 12-15 Members of Parliament to advocate on our behalf to the Minister and Deputy Minister of Transport Canada