

### JOCKO BEAUCAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES INC. 1082 Jocko Point Rd. RR # 4 North Bay, ON P1B 8G5

President: Barry MacNeil Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: Christine Leonhardt

Community Centre 705-753-4067

www.jockopoint.com

# Attention All Jocko Point and Beaucage Residents Important Meeting April 23 @ 1:00 P.M.

Jocko Beaucage Community Services has been overseeing fire services, emergency shelter, entertainment and fund raising, in partnership with the Ladies Auxiliary, since the formation of the fire department. There was never a problem getting volunteers to aid and assist at any type of function, from garage sales and breakfasts to darts and dances. Following years of slowly declining participation, over the last three years many long time great supporters have retired, moved away or have just got tired. Our strong force which used to be over 40 people (including many firefighters) has shrunk to an aging group of TEN. This group of seniors is getting tired and IF this Community Centre is to survive, we need HELP.

- 1. We need volunteers for JBCSI Executive -
- 2. We need volunteers for Auxiliary –
- 3. We need the support of locals attending our functions (75% of current attendance is from outside our community!)
- 4. We need fresh ideas and assistance from You.

## <u>A decision must be made on April 23 on either continuing</u> <u>or closing the doors forever.</u>

Bring your ideas and commitment, show everyone you are a giver and not just a taker. Many small communities are becoming distant from each other, because of social media, television, age disparity or just too busy.

Joining our supporters is a terrific way to meet your neighbours, get to know, among others, who can help with something at home, from assisting around the house to building a house. It will assist in keeping our

## **Community Centre functioning as it should.**

## Please read the back of this page for Overview.

Do Not let your Community down – Thank you!

### **OVERVIEW** – FUTURE OF THE JOCKO POINT/BEAUCAGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Jocko Beaucage Community Services Inc.	The Community Centre, Participation, and Volunteers	A Bit of History
All residents of Jocko Point and Beaucage are members of Jocko Beaucage Community Services, Inc., which is a not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to provide services to the community. Originally the service was basically the Fire Department.	The Community Centre (also informally called "the hall") used to be a hotbed of activity. Now, there is one regular fundraiser: the Brunch held on the first Sunday of the month. Jocko Point and Beaucage residents come out in very small numbers (if at all) for events and activities, from dances to baseball, from Darts and Pub Nights to exercise classes. Even the Brunches are attended mainly (75-80%) by people from North Bay and Sturgeon Falls.	In the early 1980's, residents were determined to create a Fire Department. There were many volunteers involved in all aspects of the project. The Fire Hall was built <b>BY</b> the residents, <b>FOR</b> the residents. It opened in 1986. Its presence keeps your insurance premiums down. The Nipissing Band of Ojibways provided the lot for the Fire Hall, and that was the extent of their contribution to the project.
JBCSI has a Board of Directors made up of volunteers from the community. Four of the eight positions are currently filled. The Board often announces upcoming events on the group mailboxes. These announcements are intended for all residents.	There is only a handful of volunteers who are committed to holding activities at the Community Centre. They donate not only their time and energy, but money, food, and equipment. They are increasingly discouraged by the disinterest shown by residents.	Fundraising and donations supported the Fire Department. Eventually, Nipissing First Nation collected fire- protection dues from all residents <b>on behalf of</b> JBCSI.
The JBCSI Board looks after the Community Centre, which was originally built to facilitate fundraising for the Fire Department. All fundraising done now is to keep the Community Centre running. The Community Centre is funded only through attendance at fundraisers (the monthly Brunch) and donations (including hall rentals). As of April 1, 2016, JBCSI no longer looks after the Jocko Point Fire Department. <b>None of the proceeds</b> <b>of fundraising go to the Fire Department any</b> <b>more.</b> Fire-protection dues collected with your lease are now kept by Nipissing First Nation for operating the Jocko Point fire station.	<ul> <li>In a nutshell:</li> <li>All fundraising done now is just to keep the Community Centre open.</li> <li>There is one regular fundraiser now: the monthly Brunch</li> <li>Net proceeds from the Brunches and hall rental donations are not enough to pay the Community Centre bills.</li> <li>There are not enough committed volunteers to hold additional events.</li> <li>Poor attendance on the part of Jocko Point/Beaucage residents makes it pointless to try to hold additional events.</li> </ul>	The Community Centre was built <b>BY</b> the residents, <b>FOR</b> the residents, to facilitate fundraising for the Fire Department. It opened in 2000. Throughout the years since then, some residents have advised other residents not to support the Community Centre because of particular volunteers or situations there, which has not helped foster the development of a strong community. <b>All</b> residents were invited to a Special Meeting on November 10, 2015, regarding amalgamation of our fire department with Nipissing First Nation Fire Services. The residents who attended <b>agreed to</b> <b>transfer ownership of the entire building to NFN</b> . The Community Centre is now <b>leased</b> from NFN.
	Do we keep the Community Centre open?	

To be discussed at the meeting on April 23.