

Bio - John Howden, running for President.

My name is John Howden. My family had enjoyed their second homes at Twin Lakes Beach for over 100 years. My grandfather, Dr John Power Howden, for whom I am named, was one of the original seasonal residents and a significant landowner on Twin Beach Road. I am privileged to have many of my relatives and good friends here at the beach. I am 52 years old. My wife Marilyn and I have 4 children all of whom have happy memories of glorious summers spent at the beach house. When I am not in residence at the beach, I am a school administrator in the Winnipeg School Division. I have been an educator in many different capacities for 28 years. Our hope is to rebuild our four season home and eventually retire to the beach.

Over the years, having grown up at Twin Lakes Beach, I've witnessed profound changes to the place we all love and share. Clearly, there has been some recovery from the devastation of the flood but much work remains to be done. If I am honoured to be elected as your president, I promise to maintain a strong advocacy role for our mutual interests through my efforts as a representative plaintiff in the class action lawsuit and as a neighbour and friend who truly loves this special place as much as you all do.

Drop by the Love Shack at 315A Twin Beach Road for a visit, a cool beverage and a chance to share your voice, concerns, and vision for the reconstruction of this special community that we love.

Sincerely,

John Howden

Bio - Mario Lebar, running for Vice-President

I was born and raised in Winnipeg and have been going to the Twin Lakes Beach area since 1981 after I met my wife, Kathleen Lebar(Howden), who has been a life-long resident of the Twin Lakes beach area. We have 3 children, 14, 16 and almost 18 years of age and have spent many summers at the Lake, enjoying all the activities and quiet family time the Twin Lakes Beach area afforded. Like many others, we shared a family cottage until 1998, when we built our own at 315B Twin Lakes Beach Road. Our cottage was quite damaged during the 2011 flood, but relative to many others who lost their entire structure, we came out with a building mostly intact.

My community interest was brought to the fore during the 2011 flood. Like many others, I and many of my family and friends, worked diligently to protect our cottage in the days prior to May 31, 2011. Based on the information provided to us by various government bodies, we felt we were doing all we could and most importantly all that was necessary. This unfortunately, turned out not to be the case. Once the extent of the damage became evident it was clear to me that this was no ordinary circumstance and we needed assistance from the government to rebuild. I volunteered to join the Flood Action Committee along with Jack King, Dennis Turek and others to ensure that the promised assistance would be made available. We continued to press the government for greater action and equitable treatment, but it became apparent that the municipal, provincial and federal governments were more interested in shifting blame to each other than truly hearing our concerns. At this point, it became clear that other avenues needed to be explored where more pressure could be brought to bear on the provincial government.

I along with my brother-in-law, John Howden, commenced an investigation of what legal remedies might be available. We had a legal opinion produced that confirmed our belief the government was negligent in their actions and could and should be held accountable. Through a series of meetings with various stakeholders at Twin Lakes Beach and other areas around the lake, we were able to raise enough funds to demonstrate our seriousness to the legal community. Along with others on the committee, notably Fred Pisclevich, we were able to secure the services of a top flight Winnipeg firm, D'Arcy and Deacon, to act on behalf of those Lake Manitoba stakeholders who were damaged during the flood and continue to suffer losses to this day. As the lead lawyer, Brian Meronek, said at one meeting, justice rides a slow mule, but at least we have the mule going and in the right direction also.

During these trying last two years, both my work and educational background has allowed me to contribute to promoting our interests effectively. I have a law degree and a master's in business administration from the University of Manitoba. My work experience is with CN Rail in logistics and customer service, with the Canadian Wheat Board in information technology, and now at the University of Manitoba, in information technology as the Director of Enterprise Systems. These skills and experiences I believe has allowed Flood Action Committee to move more quickly and more confidently as we addressed issues. I have also learned the of commitment, collaboration and communication when working either as a small team or part of a larger group to achieve goals and objectives. I strongly value and respect different perspectives and truly believe that all of us are smarter than any one of us.

I recognize that the Twin Lakes Beach Association is a small group with relatively limited resources and that we need to manage our expectations as to what can be achieved. But I believe we have punched well above our weight over the past few years and I would like to continue that tradition by contributing in the role of Vice-President.

Thank you for your time and attention.
Mario Lebar

Bio - Alice Dent running for Treasurer

When asked to run for Treasurer, I felt I had to. Having been at Twin Beaches for 45 years, I feel it is time to give back.

At this point, we still need a strong executive that will continue with all the hard work and time that our previous executive has done to rebuild our Twin Beaches. We need to continue this work in hopes of not repeating the spring of 2011. This past year, I was a representative for the Association together with Jack and a few other families affected by the 2011 Flood, we met with the Auditor General to express our dissatisfaction with the government's Disaster Financial Assistance Programs, Appeals Process and just what a nightmare this whole fiasco has been for most.

My financial background includes working for a large Financial Institution for 35 years. For the last 5 years, I have also owned and operated a small bookkeeping business. I have held numerous volunteer positions including School Treasurer for 16 years.

