

## Mary Lake Association Propane Group Buying Offer

After a very successful first year, your Board is continuing to support a group buying opportunity that should be very appealing to any members who use propane. If you'd like to take advantage, though, we'll need to know soon.

The Woodland Heights Community Association has organized group purchasing of propane for almost fifteen years. Last year they negotiated a price (\$0.43.5/litre) that was 27% below the going market rate, the lowest in Muskoka. The price for 2017-18 has been negotiated and is **\$0.46/litre**. There are no additional costs: no tank rental, no delivery charges, no WHMIS charges and no setup fees for tank installation or propane pump-over from an existing tank. There are also no program management fees: the group buying is run by volunteers. The per-litre fee is the total cost.

The Mary Lake Association has worked with the WHCA to allow individual MLA members to take advantage of this program. It runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> each year, **so if you're interested, you must tell us by August 15<sup>th</sup>**. After that date, the next joining window will be the 2018-2019 year. We can't extend this offer to non-members, but feel free to pass this on to any neighbour who wants to join the Association and the group deal. If you have any issues with the program, your first point of contact will be your designated Mary Lake Association representative.

The buying group puts out a tender each year for the group purchase. Historically, Superior Propane has been chosen as they were again this year, but they've had to earn the deal each year. Vendor selection is mainly based on price, but the group also considers vendor size and reliability. Even in cold years when inventories have been tight, this have ensured uninterrupted supply to all participants.

Since the price is locked in for the year, there are no guarantees that it will be the lowest possible in any given year. Propane prices could crash in October. Historically, though, the savings have been large.

The MLA Board is excited to again bring this offer to its members. If you're interested, contact John Hogg at 613.324.4358 or [hogg@johnhogg.ca](mailto:hogg@johnhogg.ca).