

Local anglers' association boosting salmon stock in Bronte

by Herb Garbutt
Oakville Beaver Staff

The Halton Region Salmon and Trout Association (HRSTA) will be undertaking a project to maintain the salmon stock in Lake Ontario.

The association, formed in 2012, will house 10,000 juvenile Chinook salmon in a pen in Bronte Outer Harbour.

The salmon, about three inches long, will be placed in a five-foot deep, eight-foot by four-foot pen April 11 and be fed and monitored daily. They will be released into the lake in May.

Bronte Harbour was once the site of a thriving fishing industry, and HRSTA executive board member Larry Zimmerman said the association aims to ensure it remains an excellent place to fish.

"We wanted to do our part to help sustain the salmon stock in the lake," Zimmerman said.

The HRSTA has been working with the

Town of Oakville, Conservation Halton and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to co-ordinate the project.

Though members of the association have assisted in a similar project in Port Credit, Mississauga, this will be its first time overseeing one.

The HRSTA has also taken on other projects, such as cleaning up the creeks that feed the lake and supporting the annual Host a Veteran Fishing Derby, which will take place on June 13.

HRSTA members also assist the MNRF by reporting poaching and fishing in designated sanctuaries.

"We're another set of eyes for them," Zimmerman said.

The association is hoping to expand its membership.

It is holding a general meeting Monday (March 2) at 6 p.m. at Bronte Legion, 79 Jones St. Membership is a one-time fee of \$40 per person or \$60 for a family. Members receive a ball cap and a T-shirt.



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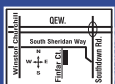
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