The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA) brings together more than 50 property owners' associations representing over 100 waterbodies and 17,000 shoreline properties. The CHA remains committed to protecting and enhancing the health of lakes across Haliburton County, Ontario, Canada. As shared stewards of the environment, the CHA urges provincial legislators to enact a ban on all lead fishing sinkers, weights, split shots, and jig heads weighing 50 grams or less and any lead-headed tackle measuring under 6.5 cm in length. This restriction would align provincial policy with restrictions already in place within our national parks for the past 30 years.

Lead (Pb) is a known powerful neurotoxin harmful to ALL living things. At least 78 avian species -- along with many different kinds of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish -- have been documented with lead poisoning. The Common Loon, due to its aquatic habitat and natural feeding behaviours, is especially susceptible to lead poisoning from ingested fishing tackle, which represents its *number one* cause of mortality.

Furthermore, *the Canadian Government openly acknowledges that lost lead fishing tackle represents the most significant source of lead released into Canadian waters, with an estimated 545 metric tons lost or discarded in our lakes and rivers every year, year after year...* This is simply unacceptable, particularly given the fact that today's anglers have several non-toxic tackle alternatives readily available.

The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations strongly urges Ontario's Legislative Assembly to enact stricter regulations on lead fishing tackle in accordance

Paul MacInnes – Volunteer Chair