

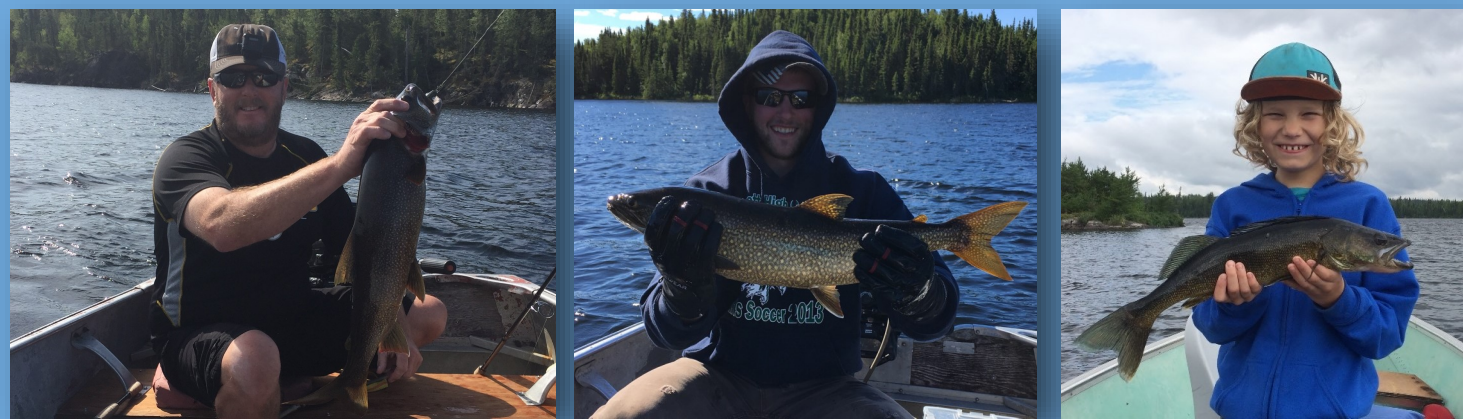
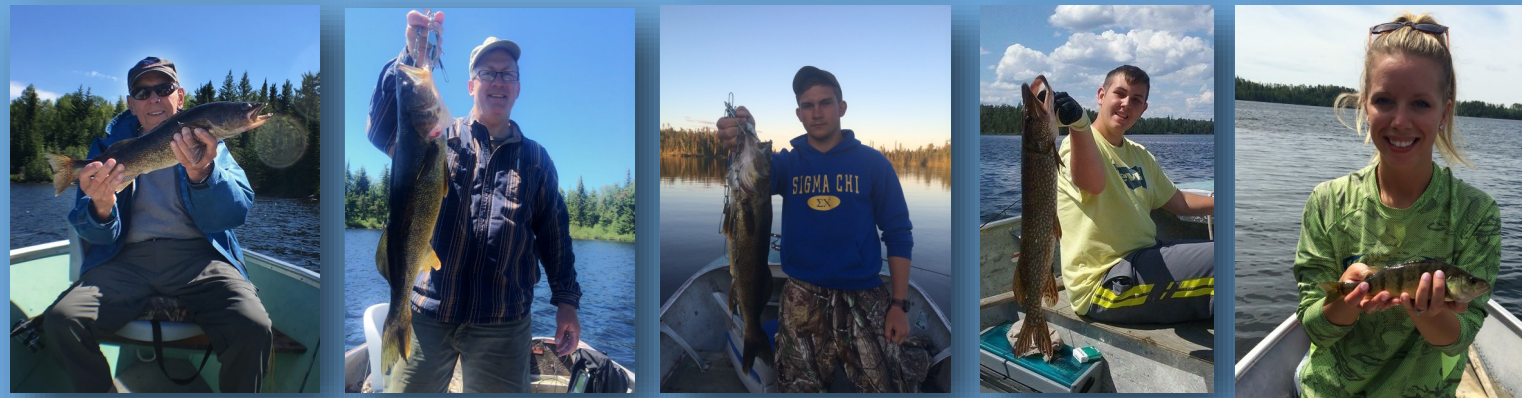


VIKING ISLAND

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2016

FISHING

Viking Island saw a lot of adventurers this year, many guests portaged over to our other lakes to try their luck, most came back successful. We also had a lot of kids on the Island this year. We had one family book the Island for their annual reunion and I can't even describe how much fun the kids had catching leeches and minnows; fishing and playing on the beaches! We also had a couple come up for their honeymoon after finding us on TripAdvisor, Emily really enjoyed Perch fishing on Foley.



Hello Everyone,

Our second season has come and gone and we couldn't be happier with how it went. Many guests returning and a few new guests to join them.

We found this year more relaxing than the first year—now that we know what to expect. We even took a couple days off and went fishing! It IS as great as everyone tells us!

We implemented a catch and release program this year—asking that anything over 18" was thrown back to continue breeding after a quick picture. We also asked that you eat as much fish as you'd like while at VI, but to please not take any home. It took a few trials and errors before we ironed out the kinks. Thanks to everyone with your patience and understanding with this issue.

You'll now be able to contact us by cell phone, call or text 807-728-1654 with any questions or to book your fishing trip.

As many of you know now we lost our German Shepherd KoDa to cancer this past February. He is greatly missed by everybody and we're thankful for everyone's kind words. Everyone who met him had something nice to say.

We would sincerely like to thank all our guests and everyone who helped to make this an exceptional year.

Happy fishing

Vito & Dayle

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The little Backhoe made the 7 hour trek across the ice & the portage! It will make work easier!



A guys weekend in February sure cleaned things up! Brian and Mikael helped Vito haul out 12000 lb of scrap and garbage!



A view of Douglas Lake in March

WINTER AT VIKING ISLAND

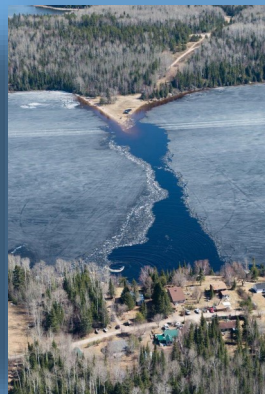
Vito and I had lots of fun on the Island this year. Unfortunately the ice took a really long time to form up this year. On December 8th we went ice checking on Trout Bay, there was about 5" along shore but the whole middle was still open. Vito didn't make it up by snow machine until January 8th. The winter months we had on VI were really nice, unseasonably warm and just the right amount of snow. Mother Nature got us in the end, we expected an early spring but the ice didn't actually melt until May 4th. Total weight of material hauled in (not including the backhoe) - 50 000 lbs. Total weight of "material" hauled out—12000 lbs.



No snow left— April 18th



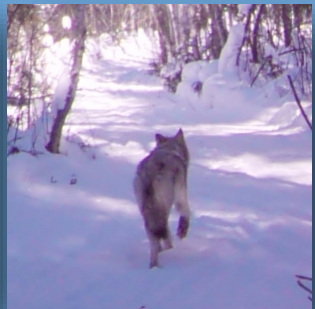
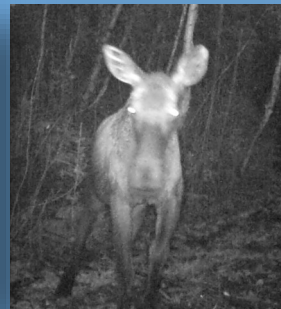
May 4th—A few stubborn pieces of ice holding on Howey Bay, everywhere else was ice free



May 1st there was a clear path to McKenzie Island

SPRING AT VIKING ISLAND

We were pretty excited to check the game cams this spring as we had been seeing a lot of tracks all winter. Lucky for us we actually caught something! Vito made a snow groomer to pull behind his snow machine, and I marked it with branches, so we had an awesome trail leading to the Island..... The wolves thought so too, at least on Trout Bay. They had packed our trail even wider and "marked" a large chunk of it.



Some of the animals we caught on our Game Cam this year—it was pretty exciting to see the first one! Our trails are always covered in tracks, so it was nice to see pictures!

UPGRADES

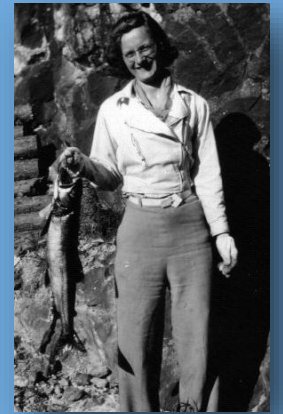
Vito and his crew did a lot of work again this year. They ripped out the last of the old docks and installed another floating dock as well as a large deck space to sit out on. They replaced the roof on the fireside. Vito made some very cool custom VI things. We upgraded the solar system with new solar panels and will be adding batteries this winter. The new solar panels made it possible to go 6 weeks without running the generator!



New door and ramp for the Main Lodge, and it is now level



New roof & supports on the Fireside



Florence Carlson turned 102 this September!!



There is now a floating dock & large deck area where the gas shed used to be



Bird nests and eggs were in abundance this year



Custom BBQ Grill made by Vito



A throwback to when Art Carlson Sr made his own fiberglass boats



Donna & Eddie came to visit and spread the ashes of a long time friend and guest of VI—Barry Nall

