

Transport Canada's "Ontario RBAC Meeting"-Submitted by Paul Morgan
GBA Director; representative for South Channel Association

Jan 15, 2013 Direct Energy Centre

On behalf of the GBA Boating and Safety Committee, I attended the Recreational Boating Advisory Council (RBAC) Meeting

Transport Canada hosted the meeting.

The following are my notes taken as a cottager observer.

1. The DRAP- (Deficit Reduction Action Plan) continues.
 - a. The Boating Safety Guide will be updated and will be available on line. No further copies will be printed. (It was suggested that if hard copies were wanted by any organization for 2013 season, they should be requested soon. There is only a limited supply and it won't be reprinted.)
 - b. Marine Safety lost 25% of its funding for 2013.
 - c. Streamlining of recreational boating programs,- no public outreach programs, vessel licensing procedures are being revised, and recurring licensing fees introduced. (Any proposal for fees will go through a consultive process. -No timeline)
2. Stand up paddle boards, -regulations have not been changed yet, but wearing a life jacket with whistle will be accepted.
3. OPP gave a report on fatalities. This report may be available in our next newsletter, if released by OPP.
4. Water Levels, - Discussed at length, awaiting IJC report on action if any.

Transport Canada is operating on a reduced budget. It is my observation that recreational boating is not on the priority list and TC is attempting to offload programs or find fee for use funding. (Licensing)

FOR:

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News Events: Did something different/exciting happen at the cottage last time up?

Memories of cottage life past.

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