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BUREAU DE LA **SÉCURITÉ NAUTIQUE**  
OFFICE OF **BOATING SAFETY**

# Regional Recreational Boating Advisory Council

Meeting of November 16, 2011

## Minutes

Regional Recreational Boating Advisory Council (RRBAC)  
Meeting of November 16, 2011

**Salon de jeux de Trois-Rivières  
1900, rue de l'Hippodrome  
Trois-Rivières (Québec) G8Z 0A3**

**Members Present**

Guy L'Écuyer	RRBAC President - Forensic and Nautical Consultants of Canada
Yves Paquette	Association maritime du Québec
Vahé T. Vassilian	Aquanaute Training Centre
Jean-Guy Carreau	Conam
Sylvie Santerre	Canadian Red Cross – Québec Division
Jacques Hébert	Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
Dominic Dugré	Québec Outfitters Federation
André Huot	Québec Sailing Federation
Pierre Trudel	Fédération québécoise du canot et du kayak
Marc Lestage	Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary
Rachid Raffa	Ministère des Transports du Québec
Raynald Hawkins	Lifesaving Society
Johnny Drolet	Sûreté du Québec – Nautical Patrol

**Members Absent**

Julie Dyotte	Aventure Écotourisme Québec
Martin Savard	Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs
Marc Hudon	Nature Québec
Marc Thurber	Regroupement des plaisanciers du Québec
Jacques Ruelland	Regroupement national des conseils nationaux de l'environnement du Québec
Réal Desrochers	Service de police de la Ville de Montreal – Nautical Patrol
Pierre Pitre	Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (Sépaq)

## Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Transport Canada Representatives

Robert Dorais	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Hydrographic Service
Robert Jinchereau	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Coast Guard
André Tremblay	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Coast Guard
Martin Lemire	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Coast Guard
Michel Boulianne	Transport Canada, Marine Safety
Seng Kruy	Transport Canada, Marine Safety
Julie Chabot	Transport Canada, Marine Safety
Richard Jones	Transport Canada, Marine Safety
Suzanne Duchesne	Transport Canada, Marine Safety

## Observers

Luc Bernuy	Lifesaving Society
Luc Lafontaine	City of Estero

		Actions
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>  <b>Guy l'Écuyer</b> Forensic and Nautical Consultants of Canada  <b>Michel Boulianne</b> Marine Safety Regional Director, Transport Canada	<b>1.1 Word of Welcome</b>	
	<b>1.2 Opening of the meeting</b> Introduction of members, replacements and observers.	
	<b>1.3 Adoption of the agenda</b> The agenda was adopted “as is” with two changes to point 4: the point was moved to the end of the meeting and Hubert Desgagnés was replaced by Herman Goulet.	
	In order to reduce paper consumption, Michel mentioned that printed documents (agenda, presentations and minutes etc.) will be emailed prior to the meetings. The members requested that presentations be sent to them 48 hours prior to the meetings.	Julie Chabot
	Raynald Hawkins, seconded by André Huot, requested to have Internet access during RRBAC meetings, especially in order to have access to electronic presentations. The OBS will examine that possibility.	Julie Chabot

	<p><b>1.4 Adoption of the minutes from the previous meeting</b> Neither action nor monitoring. The minutes of the meeting of March 16, 2011 in Trois-Rivières were adopted as submitted.</p>	
<p><b>2. MONITORING OF THE LAST MEETING</b></p> <p><b>Seng Kruey</b> Administrator, Office of Boating Safety, Marine Safety Transport Canada</p>	<p><b>2.1 Destruction of self-igniting lights – Estimated cost</b> Further to the members' numerous suggestions such as: informing boaters, finding partners for more unloading points, displaying, distributing information brochures, etc., the creation of a working committee for the arrangement of self-igniting lights controlled by the OBS was proposed by Pierre Trudel and seconded by André Huot. The organizations which volunteered to form the committee are the following: AMQ, FQCK, Fédération de voile du Québec, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons and Lifesaving Society.</p> <p>A first preliminary meeting will be planned in December. The OBS, with the agreement of RRBAC members, will coordinate the dates of meetings to come.</p> <p>The OBS will forward documents to the members regarding the subject.</p> <p><b>2.2 Purchase of a boat and mandatory evidence of ability – Results of administrators' discussions</b> Discussions, consultations and recommendations are to be completed in the various regions prior to the adoption of a regulation. Dominique Dugré indicated that there is a drawback when it is a matter of a buyer that is a company.</p> <p>Raynald Hawkins, seconded by Vahé Vassilian, recommended not waiting for federal regulations in order to verify certain aspects of boaters' ability when they purchase a boat. That recommendation will have to be presented to the CMAC by the partners.</p> <p><b>2.3 CMAC – National standing committee on nautical safety</b> Presentation to the Canadian Marine Advisory Council (CMAC) on external service standards at Transport Canada and posted on the following Transport Canada Internet link: <a href="http://www.tc.gc.ca/fra/securitemaritime/desn-menu.htm">http://www.tc.gc.ca/fra/securitemaritime/desn-menu.htm</a>. The minimum requirements of safety equipment for pleasure crafts are also available on the following Website: <a href="http://www.tc.gc.ca/fra/securitemaritime/desn-bsn-equipement-taille-menu-690.htm">http://www.tc.gc.ca/fra/securitemaritime/desn-bsn-equipement-taille-menu-690.htm</a></p>	<p>Jean Tellier (OBS)</p> <p>Jean Tellier (OBS)</p>

	<p><b>2.3.1 Pyrotechnical lights aboard kayaks of more than 6 metres</b> During the last CMAC, the AEQ proposed that regulatory amendments (or the abolition of that part of the regulation) be made to the <i>Small Vessel Regulations</i> as it pertains to the kayaker's obligation (kayaks of more than 6 metres) to carry six pyrotechnical lights, even when they navigate with a guide and so they can at all times find themselves within one nautical mile of the shore.</p> <p><b>2.3.2 Paddle Canada Proposal – Surfboard with oars</b> Paddle Canada proposed to replace the use of the PFD with the use of a strap attached to the ankle linking the user to his surfboard. The proposal was rejected at the CMAC.</p> <p><b>2.3.3 Working Group for Study on the Use of PFD (CSBC)</b> The working group on the PFD use study presented, during the CMAC, a proposal in favour of mandatory PFD use. The co-presidents of the CMAC proposed that this motion be endorsed by all the other organizations which were not consulted in the context of that study. The CSBC and NMMA (National Marine Manufacturers Association) will develop an action plan for additional pan-Canadian consultations.</p> <p>The Red Cross urges all boaters to wear their life jackets: <a href="http://www.redcross.ca/article.asp?id=18252&amp;tid=001">http://www.redcross.ca/article.asp?id=18252&amp;tid=001</a></p>	
<p><b>3. UPDATE – OFFICE OF BOATING SAFETY</b></p> <p><b>Seng Kruy</b></p>	<p><b>3.1 Competency of pleasure craft operators</b> The new plan has been implemented as of April 2011. There was a significant increase in cards issued for a total of three million issued cards throughout Canada. A faster and more efficient monitoring for lost cards, complaints, etc.</p> <p>André Huot emphasized Transport Canada's good work regarding the conduct of new examinations on the Internet.</p> <p>A checklist on the quality of courses offered will be prepared by RRBAC members at the next meeting and will then be submitted to the CMAC of April 2012.</p>	

	<p>The OBS will forward statistics pertaining to competency to the members.</p> <p>The OBS will verify with Krista Kendall if the issuing date given on duplicates is the issuing date of the first card or if it is the issuing date of the duplicate.  Answer - The date written on the card varies from one course provider to another. That situation will be analyzed within the context of the improvement of the regulation and that, at a subsequent stage.</p> <p><b>3.2 Pollution</b>  Pyrotechnics: Bill to come.</p> <p>Further to a new philosophy of the government and a request from the population, the Safe Boating Guides will henceforth only be available on the TC Website.  A request will be brought to the National Council by Michel Boulianne on the minimum need of paper copies for the needs of police forces.</p> <p>Use of impounding reservoir: the grace period will end in May 2012. All the boats will have to comply. It was mentioned that there is no infrastructure in certain marinas.</p> <p><b>3.3 Inquiry on the perceptions and practices of fishermen and hunters aboard a craft – Dalhousie University</b>  Seng Krui invited RRBAC members to be the gateway for the study. The OBS will forward the information by Email.</p> <p><b>3.4 Other topics of current interest (new water sports (ex. kite-surfing), poker run, etc.)</b>  During the CMAC, TC-Ottawa mentioned that the regulation will have to be revised in order to include a category which would include any new water sport. A complete examination of new sports will have to be carried out by TC-Ottawa.</p>	<p>Seng Krui (DONE)</p> <p>Seng Krui (DONE)</p> <p>Michel Boulianne</p> <p>Julie Chabot (documents sent on December 7, 2011, to all the members)</p> <p>RRBAC members</p>
<p><b>4. CLOSING OF THE QUÉBEC RESCUE CENTRE</b></p>	<p>Mr. Goulet could not be present at the meeting.</p>	

<p>Hubert Desgagnés replaced by Herman Goulet</p>		
<p>5. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION All members</p>	<p><b>5.1 Plan of activities for the next season</b>  <b>Jean-Guy Carreau – Conam</b>  <a href="http://www.conam.qc.ca/index.htm">http://www.conam.qc.ca/index.htm</a>  Area of agreement, information sharing venue; CONAM conference evenings are offered on the first Wednesday of the month, from September to May.</p> <p><b>Rachid Raffa – Ministère des transports du Québec</b>  <a href="http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/portal/page/portal/accueil">http://www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/portal/page/portal/accueil</a>  The <i>Regulation respecting the transport of passengers by water</i> regulates ferry services (economic regulation restricting the entrance on the market) and cruise tours for the benefit of others. The requirements to get permits from the Commission des transports du Québec are now aligned with those of Transport Canada's regulation, which prevents any duplication and other administrative and financial burdens for operators.</p> <p><b>Marc Lestage – Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary</b>  <a href="http://www.ccgq-qcac.org/home/home_f.asp">http://www.ccgq-qcac.org/home/home_f.asp</a>  Implementation of an online training system for the volunteers of all the CCGA regions throughout Canada.  Launching of the navigation component.</p> <p><b>Dominic Dugré – Québec Outfitters Federation</b>  <a href="http://www.pourvoiries.com/">http://www.pourvoiries.com/</a>  No activity besides training. Outfitting Guide.</p> <p><b>Sylvie Santerre – Canadian Red Cross</b>  <a href="http://www.croixrouge.ca/article.asp?id=000006&amp;tid=003">http://www.croixrouge.ca/article.asp?id=000006&amp;tid=003</a>  Programs and activities aiming at reducing the number of drownings and other water-related incidents. Life jacket project specific to the Saguenay – Lac St-Jean region in collaboration with the region's health and social services agency. The life-jacket day will come back in 2012.</p> <p><b>Robert Dorais – Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Hydrographic Service</b>  <a href="http://www.cartes.qc.ca/index-fra.asp">http://www.cartes.qc.ca/index-fra.asp</a></p>	

	<p>In order to raise people's awareness for using maps and map updates, launching of a courtesy program with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron and students. To come: the evaluation and action plan in collaboration with the OBS.</p> <p><b>André Huot – Québec Sailing Federation</b>  <a href="http://www.voile.qc.ca/index.php?lang=fr">http://www.voile.qc.ca/index.php?lang=fr</a>          Very good year for sailing schools. Sea training program: awaiting a Transport Canada ruling. Customs port in Lacolle: awaiting the study.</p> <p><b>Jacques Hébert – Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons</b>  <a href="http://www.cps-ecp.ca/public_fr/">http://www.cps-ecp.ca/public_fr/</a>          Second year of courtesy visits and verifications and territory expansion. Three weeks of nautical safety.</p> <p><b>Yves Paquette – Association maritime du Québec</b>  <a href="http://www.nautismequebec.com/">http://www.nautismequebec.com/</a>          Ongoing implementation of programs with components on safety and the environment: Éco-marinas and Stations nautiques. The <i>Nautiguide</i> will be available by January 2012. The AMQ will be present in the context of nautical exhibitions in Montreal, Sherbrooke, Rimouski, Québec, Ottawa, etc.</p> <p><b>Pierre Trudel – Fédération québécoise du canot et du kayak</b>  <a href="http://www.canot-kayak.qc.ca/nouvelles.asp">http://www.canot-kayak.qc.ca/nouvelles.asp</a>          Implementation of various programs. The FQCK will be present in several shows. Pursuit of efforts on safety. Promotion of awareness thanks to the Nautical Safety Guide. The blue path "The Two Shores" is now open to canoe-kayak.</p> <p><b>Raynald Hawkins – Lifesaving Society</b>  <a href="http://www.sauvetage.qc.ca/">http://www.sauvetage.qc.ca/</a>          15 courses are offered by the Pleasure Navigation School. National Project "Active and healthy" ongoing collaboration with Health Canada and the Canadian Red Cross. Distribution of 18,000 floating devices and 1.46 million dollars which will be invested throughout Canada. Will be present at drowning prevention week at the end of July 2012. Participation in hunting and fishing evenings.</p> <p><b>Robert Jinchereau – Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Coast Guard</b>  <a href="http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/fra/GCC/Accueil">http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/fra/GCC/Accueil</a></p>	
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	<p>In 2012, two rescue stations will be moved in order to be located in a more central fashion on bodies of water. The Oka station will now be located at Pointe-aux-Anglais whereas the Valleyfield station will be moved to Banksville in Ontario. However, they will keep covering the same water bodies.</p> <p><b>André Tremblay – Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Coast Guard</b>  <a href="http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/fra/GCC/Accueil">http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/fra/GCC/Accueil</a></p> <p>Two pleasure boating projects in the Montreal sector regarding navigation lights, notably the modernization of the Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue alignment and the beaconing modification of the Cheval Blanc rapids.</p> <p><b>Vahé T. Vassilian – Aquanaute Training Centre</b>  <a href="http://www.aquanaute.ca/AQUANAUTE.CA/AQUANAUTE.html">http://www.aquanaute.ca/AQUANAUTE.CA/AQUANAUTE.html</a></p> <p>Four components: free patrol, safety campaign, course destined to jet ski boaters and attendance at special events.</p> <p><b>Johnny Drolet – Sûreté du Québec</b>  <a href="http://www.sq.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/galerie-multimedia/videos/patrouille-nautique.jsp">http://www.sq.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/galerie-multimedia/videos/patrouille-nautique.jsp</a></p> <p>A committee currently reviews the SQ's way of doing business as it pertains to recreational tourism activities (use of financial, material, human resources, etc.) and will issue recommendations to that effect. The SQ will be present at the nautical shows of Québec City and Montreal after a 10-year absence. Nine new crafts will be purchased this year. House-boat program: TC partner. Discussions are in progress with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) regarding the hosting of the Poker Runs. The objective aims at establishing similar standards.</p>	
<p><b>6. AERIAL CABLEWAYS: AN UNIMAGINED DANGER</b></p> <p><b>Richard Jones –</b>  Administrator, Navigable Waters Protection Act, Marine Safety, Transport Canada</p>	<p>The presentation was distributed to members during the meeting and entered in the minutes.</p> <p>Additional precision regarding cableways: the induction arc varies depending on the voltage and the height of the lines.</p> <p>Answer to the question of a participant: the revisions of standards are constantly modified on nautical charts.</p>	
<b>7. SAR INCIDENTS 2010-</b>	The presentation was distributed to members during the meeting and entered in the minutes.	

<p><b>2011</b></p> <p><b>Robert Jinchereau –</b> Research and rescue, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Coast Guard</p>	<p>Additional precision: the statistics presented are reported to the Canadian Coast Guard's Search and Rescue office.</p> <p>Answer to a participant's question: the 2010 statistics are available through André Audet.</p> <p>The SAR incident statistics will be sent to all the members as soon as they are made available by SAR.</p>	<p>Julie Chabot</p>
<p><b>8. UPDATE ON PRODUCTIONS</b></p> <p><b>Robert Dorais –</b> Hydrographic service, Fisheries and Oceans Canada</p>	<p>The presentation was distributed to members during the meeting and entered in the minutes.</p> <p>Additional precision: it is advised to always update nautical charts in order to navigate safely. Refer to the free Notices to Mariners service. (<a href="http://www.notmar.gc.ca">www.notmar.gc.ca</a>).</p> <p>Mr. André Huot, FVQ, expressed his appreciation regarding the new way of printing <i>Nautical Instructions</i> by gradually incorporating corrections according to the printing-on-request principle.</p>	
<p><b>CONCLUSION</b></p>	<p><b>9.1 Other business</b></p> <p><b>Rachid Raffa</b> Rachid Raffa reminded members that the International Joint Commission proposed to regulate the water levels and flows of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. To that effect, Mr. Raffa informed us that there will be public consultations in 2012 and asked RRBAC members to attend.</p> <p><b>9.2 Date of the next meeting</b> Wednesday March 14, 2012.</p> <p><b>Adjournment of the meeting: 3:00 p.m.</b> The members highlighted the retirement of Mr. Pierre Trudel from the Fédération québécoise du canot et du kayak. On that occasion, a plaque and a TC pen set were given to him to thank him for his involvement at the RRBAC.</p>	