



April 21, 2020

Dear All

Just when you think things couldn't get much darker, they did. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims, their families and friends of this past-weekend's mass shooting. We give heartfelt thanks for the brave men & woman of our law enforcement agencies who continue to answer the call of duty to protect our society.

Over the past few weeks, we have talked to many members and we are pleased to report that support for current Squadron policy has been overwhelmingly positive. That said, we do understand the frustration of some, as messing about with boats is decidedly more fun than staying cooped up at home or the office. The time for this and more will come and hopefully soon, but it's not now. As such, we are continuing to hold our course. Nothing has yet changed, the emergency order still stands and the directive to stay home unless absolutely necessary is still very clear. While there has been some discussion that Transport Canada will make an announcement this week specifically relating to recreational boating in Canada, there is nothing yet to report at time of writing. As we continue to communicate with you, please know that we are monitoring this situation hourly and when something changes, we will be ready to act with a variety of scenarios available, dependent on how the regulations shift. A small change could make a big difference.

Your Board and staff continue to prepare for the season, although it may not have appeared so to this point. Our House & Grounds team are preparing the property in typical fashion and you may start to see activity on the water as we begin to cautiously assemble parts of the marina system. To help us move forward together, boat-owners will soon see a survey where we will solicit your input on how you see our boating season progressing once the state of emergency is lifted and restrictions are eased. But for now, please stay with the safety protocols because they are working, we remain committed in supporting our provincial authorities to keep us safe.

As a final note, we would like to say that the boat-check visits to the Squadron have so far been very respectful of guidelines and we sincerely appreciate it.

Standing by

Sean McDermott & Scott King