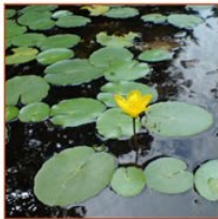


# FOCA 'Lunch-n-Learn' Webinar: New Invasive Species and Watercraft Regulations in Ontario



with speaker: Jeremy Downe, Senior Invasive Species Policy/Program Advisor  
Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 12 noon**

## Welcome Notes

- the event will begin at 12:00pm
- this event is being recorded
- you will receive a link to the recording later
- you are muted; post questions in Zoom "Chat"





# Introduction & Technical Notes

**Deanna Forgie**

FOCA Programs Coordinator

[programs@foca.on.ca](mailto:programs@foca.on.ca)





<https://native-land.ca/>



# FOCA 'Lunch-n-Learn' Webinar: New Invasive Species and Watercraft Regulations in Ontario

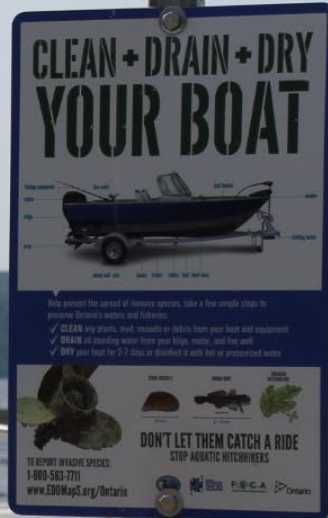
Wednesday, March 9, 2022  
at 12 noon

feature speaker:

**Jeremy Downe**

Senior Invasive Species  
Policy/Program Advisor

Ontario Ministry of Northern Development,  
Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry





# Quick poll...

Where is your waterfront property located?







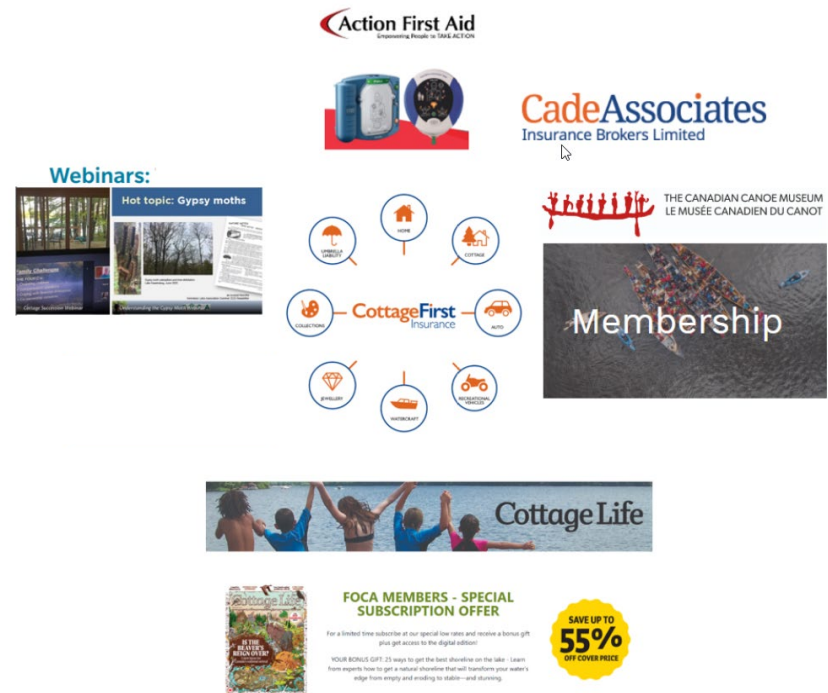


# FOCA Member Benefits include...

## Key service offerings for your **Association:**

- Free attendance or Member price on FOCA webinars and in-person seminars
- Policy updates & government advocacy on province-wide rural issues
- Articles, signs, fact sheets, videos and brochures on hot topics (septic systems, invasives, short term rental...)
- Members-only web login for access to detailed governance support, rural road information & many more resources!
- Member discount on liability insurance through the FOCA Insurance Program administered by Cade Associates
- “Legal Helpline” for the Association

## Plus, offers & discounts for all your **Member families:**



<https://foca.on.ca/benefits/>

**Need the Member Web Login? email: [info@foca.on.ca](mailto:info@foca.on.ca)**



# FOCA's Strategic Priorities



Promoting Healthy Lands,  
Lakes and Rivers



Serving Lake and  
Road Associations



Advocating for  
Responsive Government



Championing Affordable  
and Safe Rural Living



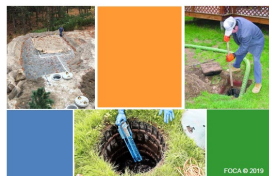
Building Organizational Capacity  
& Strategic Partnerships



Fostering Community  
in Rural Ontario



Septic Re-inspection  
Programs in Ontario  
A Guide for Community Groups



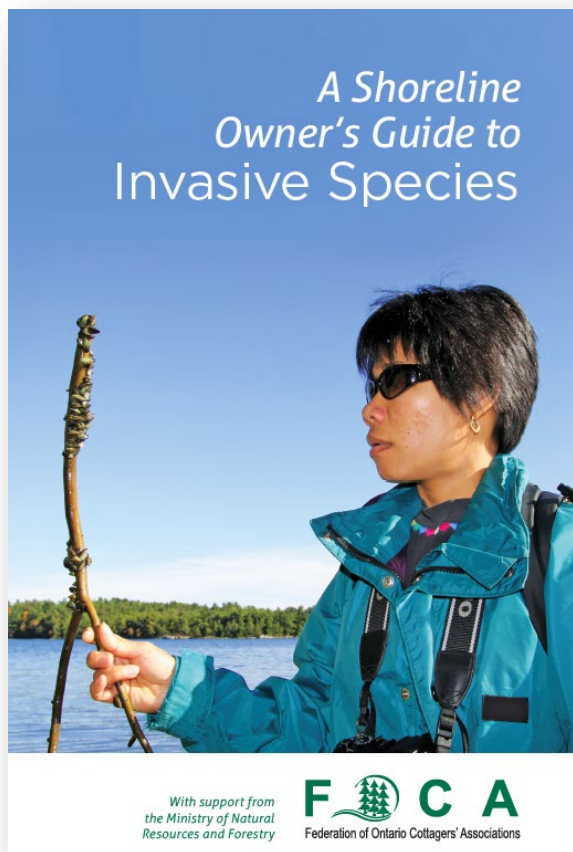
The Role of Waterfront  
Property Owners  
in Rural Economic Development  
in Eastern Ontario



<https://foca.on.ca/about/our-work/>



# Working to prevent the spread



## Top 7 actions shoreline owners can take

**1 Report all invaders**  
If you think you see an invasive species in your cottage area, take a picture, record the location and call the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711. You may also download the EDDMapS Ontario App to report an invader on the spot at [www.eddmaps.org/ontario/](http://www.eddmaps.org/ontario/).

**2 Watch for it**  
Learn what invasive species look like and then monitor your property paying special attention to areas where they may appear as the shoreline.

**3 Stop the spread**  
Before heading home from the cottage, be sure to clean your gear. Make sure your watercraft, trailers, bicycles, and camping/fishing equipment, clothes and boot boots are free of mud, material and seed-spreading mud. Put unwanted material and seed-spreading mud.

**4 Use local firewood**  
Refrain from moving firewood to or from a campground or untreated firewood to or from a campground. Buy Local. Firewood is a major source of invasive species and diseases.

**5 Keep your shoreline natural**  
A naturalized shoreline is generally considered the best for protecting the lake's edge. Removing invasive species and diseases leaves the area bare and vulnerable to invasion.

**6 Use native or non-invasive species**  
Use native or non-invasive species in your garden at the cottage. Native plants to re-vegetate bare grounds near streams, rivers and lakes and encourage native species of flowers, shrubs and trees to limit your maintenance work and provide shelter to native wildlife. Refer to Grow Me Instead Guides for more information: [www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/resources/grow-me-instead](http://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/resources/grow-me-instead)

**7 Stay informed**  
It is important to stay informed and attuned to developments in science and research and incentive programs that may affect you and your property. Sign up to receive FOCA's free monthly Eiert [foca.on.ca/](http://foca.on.ca/)

## Invasive species and your waterfront property

As a waterfront property owner it is important to be aware of invasive species that can threaten your property and your lake. Learn which invasive species may be present in your area already and how to identify them.

## INVASIVE SPECIES ALREADY IN ONTARIO

### ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSELS

Zebra and Quagga mussels are native to the Black, Caspian and Azov Seas of Eurasia and were introduced to North America in the late 1980s. It is believed that they arrived as a freshwater ballast stowaway in commercial ships.



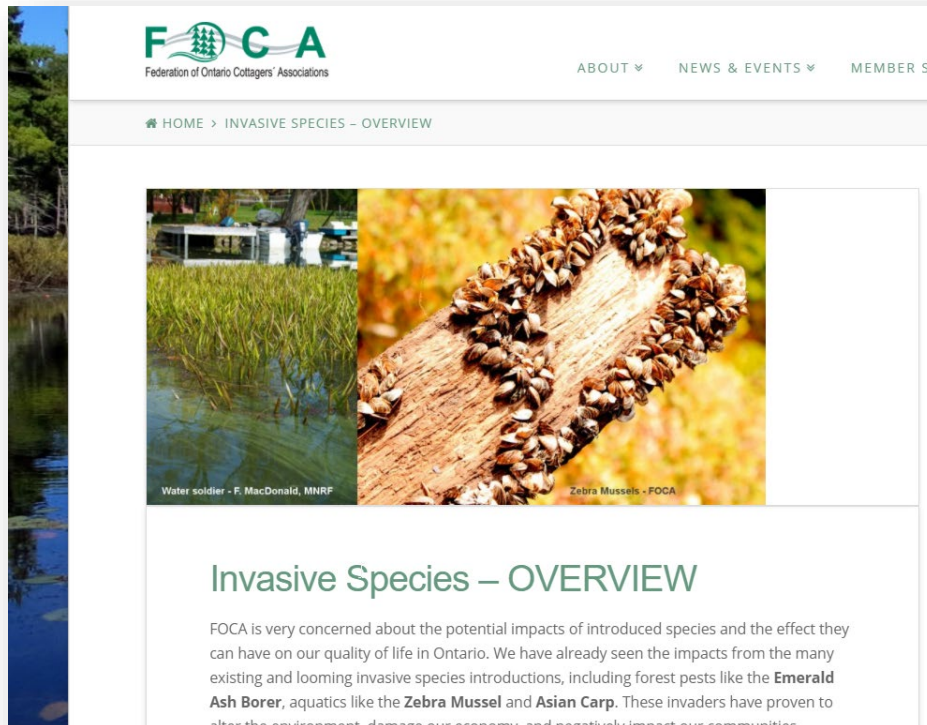
Zebra mussels on native clam. C. Parks



European water chestnut. F. MacDonald



# Invasive Species Education



<https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species/>





# **New invasive species and watercraft regulations in Ontario**

Jeremy Downe

New Invasive Species and Watercraft Regulations

March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# Invasive Species Act - Regulatory Tools



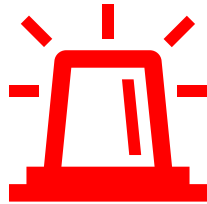
## Species

### *Prohibited*

- No person shall - Bring into Ontario, deposit, release, possess, transport, propagate, buy, sell, lease or trade

### *Restricted*

- No person shall bring an invasive species into Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves; or deposit or release in Ontario
- Additional prohibitions may be applied through regulation



## Temporary Designation

The Minister may make an order to temporarily designate an invasive species under the Act for up to **two years**.



## Carriers (Pathway)

Plant, an animal or organism, or any part of, or product derived from, a plant, an animal or organism, or any other thing, that is capable of being a host to an invasive species

Conveyance or other thing that is capable of facilitating the movement of an invasive species from one place to another.



## Invasive Species Control Areas (Regulation)

Apply measures to prevent the introduction or control the spread of one or more invasive species.



# New Invasive Species Act Regulations: January 1, 2022

## Prohibited

- Tench
- Prussian Carp
- Marmorkreb (Marbled crayfish)
- Red Swamp Crayfish
- New Zealand Mudsnail
- Mountain Pine Beetle

## Restricted

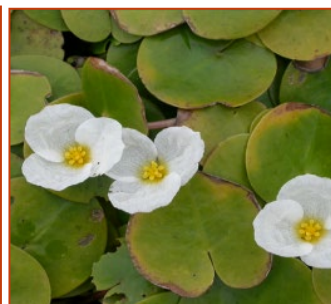
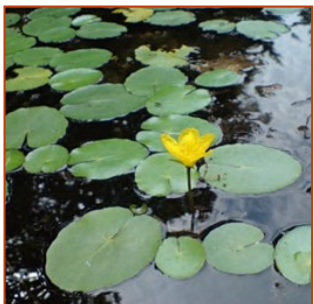
- Yellow Floating Heart
- Carolina Fanwort
- European Frogbit
- Bohemian Knotweed
- Giant Knotweed
- Himalayan Knotweed
- Pigs

## Carrier (Pathway)

Overland transport of watercraft and watercraft equipment

## Additional information:

- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/managing-invasive-species-ontario>
- [Environmental Registry Decision Notice: https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-3465](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-3465)
- [Ontario regulation 354/16: https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/160354](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/160354)





# Watercraft Pathway: Education efforts

- For over 25 years, the Ministry has been working with partners to encourage boaters to decontaminate their boats when transporting them between waterbodies.
- Starting with Zebra Busters in the early 1990's, various organizations have been educating boaters and anglers about invasive species risks and preventative actions.
- “Clean, Drain, Dry” messages are promoted in Ontario through social media, advertising and signage.





# Why regulate watercraft and watercraft equipment?

## Reduce the introduction, spread and impacts of aquatic invasive species

- The overland movement of watercraft is a widely accepted pathway for the spread of aquatic invasive species to new waterbodies.
- Despite on-going education efforts, reports of new aquatic invasive species occurrences continue.

## Current methods are effective, participation needs improvement

- Established Best Management Practices such as those encouraged through “Clean, Drain, Dry” campaigns are effective at reducing the movement of aquatic invasive species.
- Not all watercraft operators are applying these practices.

### Invasive zebra mussel larva found in lake that supplies Winnipeg drinking water



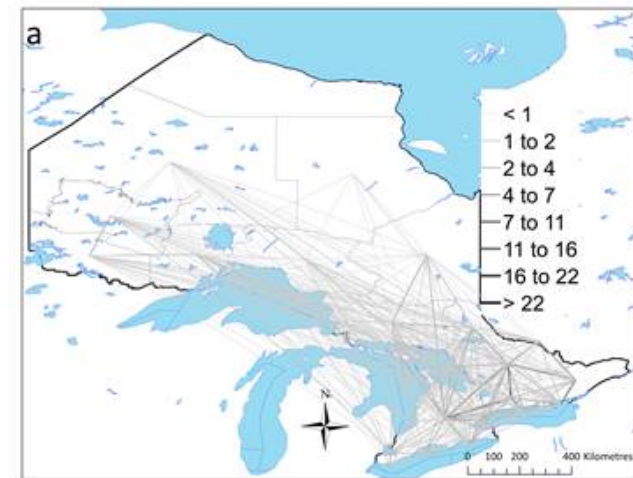
[Manitoba, Ontario governments join forces to investigate Shoal Lake discovery](#)

CBC News - Posted: Apr 29, 2019 2:52 PM CT | Last Updated: April 29, 2019



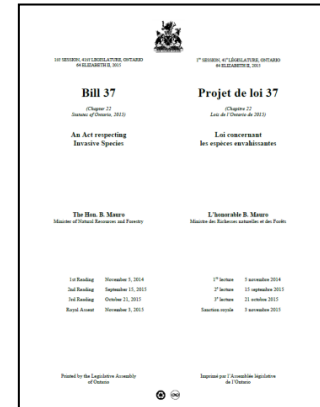
Zebra mussels washed up on Victoria Beach on Lake Winnipeg last year. (Submitted)

Credit: CBC News





# Regulation: Watercraft and Watercraft equipment



## Ontario Regulation 354/16

**14.** (1) For the purposes of section 6 of the Act, the following are prescribed as carriers to which the Act applies that are capable of facilitating the movement of invasive species from one place to another:

1. Watercraft
2. Watercraft equipment

## Definitions:

- “watercraft” means any conveyance used or designed for navigation on water, including a motorboat, rowboat, canoe, punt, sailboat or raft
- “watercraft equipment” means any thing that is used to aid in the operation, movement or navigation of a watercraft including ropes, fenders or anchors



# Leaving the lake, river, etc.

(2) A person shall not transport watercraft or watercraft equipment overland unless,

(a) any drain plugs or other devices used to control drainage have been **removed or opened** to allow water to drain out of the watercraft or watercraft equipment;

(b) **reasonable measures** have been taken to remove any aquatic plants, animals or algae from the watercraft, watercraft equipment and any vehicle or trailer used to transport the watercraft or watercraft equipment overland.

(3) Clause (2) (a) does not apply in respect of drain plugs or other devices used to control drainage of water in,

(a) drinking water systems, marine sanitary systems or closed engine cooling systems; or

(b) a livewell, if the person transporting the livewell overland is transporting live fish in the livewell pursuant to a licence to transport live fish issued under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*.





# Heading to the lake, river, etc.

## Prior to arriving at the launch site

(4) ...a person transporting a watercraft or watercraft equipment overland to a body of water shall, **prior to reaching a launch site** for the body of water, ensure the watercraft, watercraft equipment and any vehicle or trailer used to transport the watercraft or watercraft equipment does not have an aquatic plant, animal or algae attached to it.



## Launching the watercraft

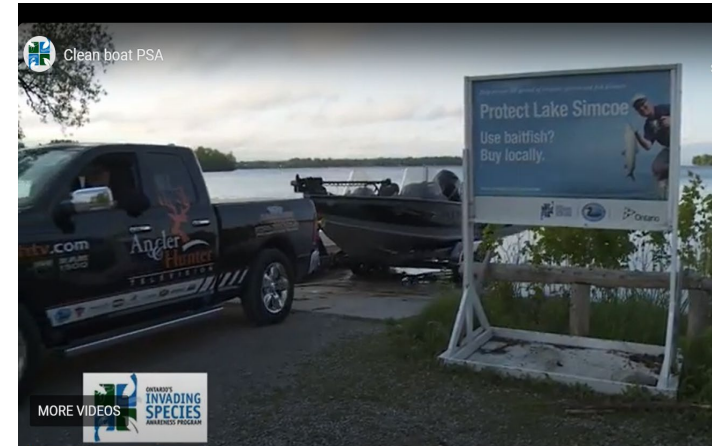
(5) **No person shall place** a watercraft, watercraft equipment or any vehicle or trailer used to transport a watercraft into any body of water if the watercraft, watercraft equipment, vehicle or trailer has an aquatic plant, animal or algae attached to it.





# Education and Compliance

- NDMNRF is working with partners including the OFAH, FOCA, Boating Ontario and the Invasive Species Centre to increase public awareness of the new rules and share information to support compliance.
- Updates are being made to the Ontario.ca Invasive Species website.
- Education efforts are planned for the 2022 boating/angling season to increase awareness of the new rules.
- Fines (Tickets) have been set and range from \$100 to \$350.
  - Conservation Officers have the discretion charge a person and issue a summons to court rather than a ticket and have the person appear before a judge where higher penalties can be applied.



OFAH: [www.invadingspecies.com/pathways/boating/](http://www.invadingspecies.com/pathways/boating/)



[www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-ontario](http://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-ontario)



# Questions?

## Contact:

Jeremy Downe

Senior Invasive Species Policy/  
Program Advisory - NDMNRF

[jeremy.downe@ontario.ca](mailto:jeremy.downe@ontario.ca)

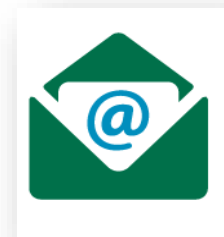
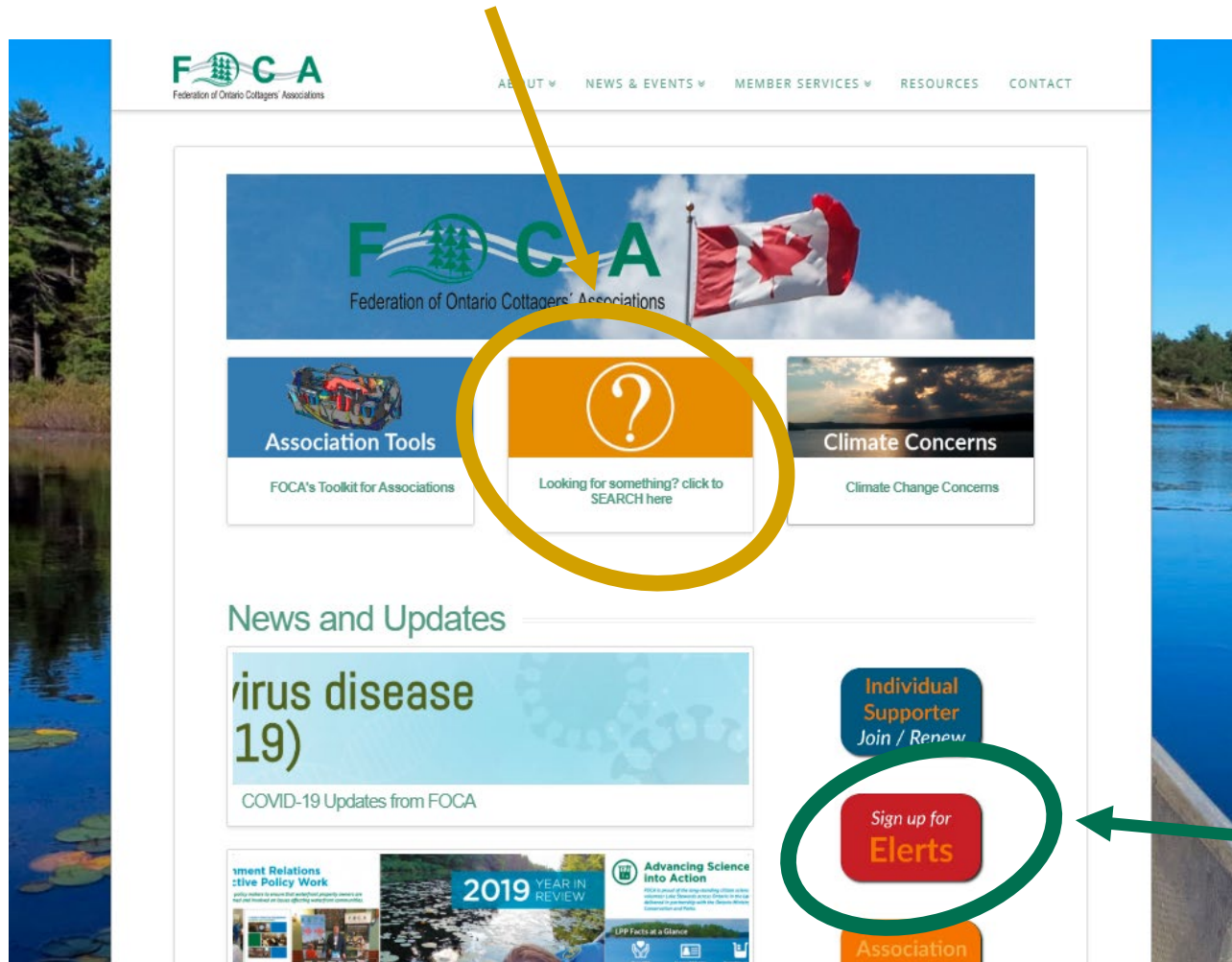
or

[invasive.species@ontario.ca](mailto:invasive.species@ontario.ca)

Image: Kirk Doughty



# Got questions? search on **foca.on.ca**



While you're there, join over 15,000 FOCA Elert subscribers!

[info@foca.on.ca](mailto:info@foca.on.ca)





# Thank You!



Upon exit, you'll be directed to a post-event summary, or scan this QR code now