



Vice-Commodore – Harbour Master

Annual Report 2020

By: AL MALO

My third year as the Vice-Commodore was especially challenging. We were fortunate not to have a repeat of the Spring 2019 flooding, but this year brought a completely unexpected challenge in the form of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Despite the uncertainties around the health restrictions and some of the related delays, our Harbour Manager, Andrew, and his team including Jordan and Quinton, did a fantastic job getting all the boats launched in a timely manner. Job well done!

This year saw many new boaters join the Club. Some of these members brought in boats that were new to the Club while others bought boats from members retiring from boating or getting a new boat. Everyone worked very hard to welcome these new boats and find everyone a place to moor. With these new arrivals, the harbour was very full this year and we are forecasting a very full harbour for next year.

The Covid restrictions made it difficult to manage projects from a financial planning perspective let alone project planning and execution. Given these difficulties, the previously approved Harbour projects were put on hold and we focussed all our efforts on providing the best possible harbour operations and services during this challenging time. We have not forgotten our projects but will return to them as soon as is practical.

Members have been asking me all summer about the weather station. We lost our weather data early in the spring. Due to Covid and border restrictions, the company, Weatherflow, that supplies our weather data was not able to send technicians to Canada to service the equipment. Despite that, the company worked with us all summer to ship replacement equipment for us to use to try to resolve the issues. We kept UPS busy over the summer shipping equipment back and forth four times. Turned out to be a communication problem as the cellular networks switched from 3G to 4G and they had to switch networks and re-program the equipment. I'm happy to report that as of November 12, the weather data is once again available on the members side of the BYC website and we'll have wind data for the next boating season.

We had planned to install more dock in the main basin this year but with the uncertainties of the Covid restrictions, the program was postponed. Responding to demand from members for dock moorings, we are working with the dock supplier to acquire two new pods for early 2021. There will be a pod on the south wall from the marine railway to the west providing 7 dock mooring and a pod at the eastern end of the north wall providing 6 dock moorings.

This summer, Andrew and his team spent time reorganizing the boat storage areas at the east end of the property. This has allowed us to free up space in the central boat storage areas near the Blue Crane and along the roadway. This has facilitated a much more efficient storage of the boats when it came time for haulout as these boats could be parked closer to the crane with less distance covered with the hydraulic trailer. This will also help with the efficiency of the launch next spring. The reorganization of the storage area has also helped with storage of trailers and allowed us to keep the roadway and grassy areas better organized. Thanks to this project and many maintenance tasks the harbour team undertook this year, the Club grounds looked great.

It's been a privilege for me to serve as your Vice-Commodore and Harbour Master. I hope you had an enjoyable boating season and wish you a safe and healthy winter.