

Greetings from the CSBC Chair – Jean Murray



This year's International Boating and Water Safety Summit and associated meetings were held in San Antonio in late March. I am on the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) Board and Joyce Shaw, NSBC Chair is on the Canadian Safe Boating Council (CSBC) Board. In addition, Barbara Byers, a former CSBC Chair and current member of the CSBC Executive, represents the Lifesaving Society on the National Water Safety Congress Board. While the Canadians at the Summit are always outnumbered by our U.S. colleagues, we play an active role, and among the Canadian presentations this year was one by Barbara and Ted Rankine on our very successful Women as the Influencer/Fire Alarm Campaign last summer. The Summit is a great learning and networking event, and I really appreciate our collaboration. This year the CSBC won third place in the Media Contest for our Fire Alarm Poster! Congratulations to Barbara for her great work on this.

Also on the international front, the CSBC has been invited to present at the Marine 13 Conference in Sydney, Australia in late April, and to participate in a lifejacket forum at which we will sign an international agreement on collaboration in promoting lifejacket wear. We started discussions on this agreement at the CSBC Symposium in Gravenhurst last year, and it is being referred to as the 'Muskoka Principles'. I'm looking forward to meeting up again with international colleagues Howard Glenn, Alistair Thompson and Peter Chennell, whom many of you met at our symposium last year. Also on my agenda is scouting out potential international speakers for our future symposiums!

Now is the time to make your plans to attend our next symposium in Whistler, B.C., from September 23 – 25, 2013. Already, we know it will be great! See more details in this newsletter.

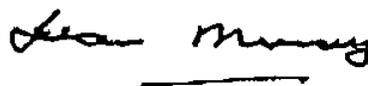
Also in this newsletter you will find an article about the CSBC's Canadian Safe Boating Awards event held in January. Our attendance was up this year, and the ceremonies went off without a hitch, thanks to our talented and tireless organizing team, led by Ian Gilson.

The upcoming boating season is fast approaching – faster in some parts of Canada than others, of course! We have been having discussions over the past several months with Canadian Power and Sail, the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Quebec Safe

Boating Council and others on how we can collaborate even more closely to deliver effective safe boating messages across the country. Read the article in this issue on North American Safe Boating Week, which runs from May 20-27 this year, and see how you can get involved!

Speaking of getting involved, if you or your organization are not a member of the CSBC, why not join us? CSBC membership connects you to many others who, like you, care about boating safety and want to make a difference. Boating fatalities have been decreasing in Canada (from an average of 190 per annum between 1995-1999 to an average of 123 per annum between 2005 – 2009, according to the Lifesaving Society), and we believe that our efforts have played a significant role. If you are already a member, how about speaking to your colleagues and friends about becoming member and supporting our work? CSBC contributions are tax-deductible. Joining is as easy as going to www.csbc.ca and signing up. If you have any questions or suggestions about membership, our Membership Chair, Bob Minielly, would be pleased to hear from you. He can be reached at minielly@rogers.com.

Finally, on behalf of all of us on the CSBC Board, we would like to say a big thank you to Cathy Sandiford, who has been working with us on a full-time basis for the past year. Cathy will be retiring from her regular Executive position at Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in April, and we very much appreciate DFO's support of this assignment. Cathy has made a tremendous contribution to a number of major strategic initiatives, as well as being a strong advocate for the CSBC wherever she goes, and the organization has greatly benefitted. Fortunately it is not goodbye, as Cathy will be continuing in her volunteer role as a member of the CSBC Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a short horizontal line.

Jean Murray