

## Message from the Chair

Shortly after we went to press on the May Newsflash, we were thrilled at the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities' May 15 announcement of more than \$1.8 million in funding over the next three years for 11 boating safety awareness projects under Transport Canada's *Boating Safety Contribution Program* (BSCP). The Canadian Safe Boating Council has been awarded up to \$909,400 – the largest amount for any recipient, and close to half of the total funding available under the program. I see this as a vote of confidence in the CSBC's capacity to deliver well-managed boating safety projects that make a difference. See the article in this newsletter about the scope of our exciting three-year project, and, to see the press release, visit [Transport Canada's website](#).

On the international front as well, the CSBC has been extending its' reach and developing new partnerships. As reported in the Newsflash, we signed an agreement on International Lifejacket Wear Principles on May 1, 2013 at the Marine 13 conference in Sydney, Australia, and I participated along with Barbara Byers, Public Education Director of the Lifesaving Society and Chair of the CSBC's Educational Programs Committee, in a public International Lifejacket Forum organized by Transport New South Wales.

The CSBC was also front and centre at the Marine 13 conference itself:

- I gave a presentation on Risk Management in Boating Safety, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and partnerships, the CSBC's *raison d'être*.
- Barbara presented on Developing Interventions to Influence Safe Boating Behaviour, including our fire alarm campaign.
- Kerry Moher of Fresh Air Educators (an active CSBC supporter) focussed on Online Boating Education.

There was a lot of interest in what we are doing in Canada, and once again I was struck by how many common issues we face, even if the boating and organizational environment is different.

In Canada, marine navigation is a federal responsibility under the Constitution, but collaboration between the federal and provincial and territorial governments is key to effective compliance and boating safety on the water. In Australia, individual states are responsible for recreational boating safety regulation, which adds to the challenges and makes learning from each other all the more important. To learn more about boating safety in Australia, read the article in this newsletter on Transport New South Wales' recent report on boating incidents.

We took the opportunity while in Sydney to promote the CSBC's upcoming symposium in Whistler, B.C., from September 23 – 25, 2013. I promised international delegates 'the most fun you can have legally in Canada!' And you can be part of it too! Read the article in this newsletter and register for the symposium at [www.csbc.ca](http://www.csbc.ca).

Have a great summer, and watch for our boating season-long safety campaigns:

- Hooked on Lifejackets (July 6 – 14)
- Operation Dry Water (August 3 – 5) and
- Extending the Season (October 4 – 6).

While you are on the water, why not suggest to your friends that they join the CSBC? Individual membership costs only \$75 a year, it helps you stay connected to what's going on in the world of boating safety, and it supports the work we are doing together to make boating as safe and enjoyable as possible. As a volunteer-based registered charity, the CSBC leverages your \$75 membership contribution ten-fold. And you will get a tax receipt for your donation! Go to [www.csbc.ca](http://www.csbc.ca) to sign up. For more information, don't hesitate to be in touch with Membership Chair Bob Minielly at [miniellb@rogers.com](mailto:miniellb@rogers.com) or (705)826-2021.

*'There is NOTHING – absolutely nothing – half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats' – Kenneth Grahame, The Wind in the Willows*



*International Lifejacket Forum, Sydney, Australia, May 1, 2013*

Left to right: Peter Chennell (Royal National Lifeboat Institution, U.K), Barbara Byers (Lifesaving Society/CSBC), Jean Murray (CSBC), Howard Glenn (Australian Recreational Boating Safety Committee/Transport New South Wales), Pierre Brugnon (Société Nationale de Sauvetage en Mer, France), Alistair Thompson (Maritime New Zealand)

Jean Murray