



Greetings from the Chair

This is the time of year we have been waiting for – sun and summer breezes, long daylight hours, and, for many Canadians, the chance to get out on the water. It's not all relaxation, of course; for those in the boating industry, this is the busiest time of the year. And at the Canadian Safe Boating Council (CSBC), we are in high gear as we put the final arrangements in place for the CSBC Symposium, to be held in Gravenhurst, Ontario from September 23 – 25, 2012. After our very successful Montreal and St. John's symposiums, you might think that this year's symposium couldn't be any better, but we're working hard to make sure it will be! Already, we know there will be: a stronger international presence than ever before; thought-provoking presentations (changing boaters' behaviour, the influence of women on boating safety, and future boating safety trends and strategies); and the opportunity to spend time on and around the water. Read more about it in this newsletter, register for the symposium, and book your accommodation in the beautiful Muskokas soon!

Thanks to all of you who were involved in the CSBC's Safe Boating Awareness Week activities in May. New this year was an innovative 'fire alarm' poster campaign aimed at encouraging lifejacket wear, and based on a partnership between the CSBC, the Lifesaving Society and Pattison Signs. How many of the posters have you spotted, and in what locations? Let Barbara Byers know in Gravenhurst – fame awaits the one with the greatest number of sightings!

On a less exciting but important note, the CSBC Board has been working on key initiatives to ensure that our business processes are efficient, effective and in line with modern governance standards, and to ensure our governance fully meets the requirements of new charities legislation.

Over the past year the CSBC has been trying to reach out more broadly and expand collaboration and links across the boating community. With government cutbacks and changes, partnerships are becoming even more important in ensuring that boating is as enjoyable and safe as possible. While the CSBC has been fortunate in competitive processes to obtain government financial support for specific boating safety projects, did you know that we receive no government subsidies for our ongoing operations, and that the CSBC is run entirely by volunteers? If you are already a CSBC member or sponsor, we really appreciate your support. If not, as you are out on the water this boating season, please think about the importance of boating safety, and consider supporting the CSBC. Find out how in this newsletter. Together, we can make a difference!

See you in Gravenhurst!

Jean Murray