

• Harbour Views •

Collins Bay Marina Newsletter

2010 – Our 40th Season

HST is Coming

The Ontario and Federal governments are introducing a “harmonized” sales tax (HST) of 13% that will replace the current GST (5%) and PST (8%). Currently, marina services are exempt from PST and you pay only the 5% GST. On July 1st of this year all marina services will become subject to a full 13% HST tax for any services delivered after that date.

There is a way to avoid paying the increased tax rate for this summer. The new tax rules stipulate that services that are billed AND PAID prior to May 1, 2010 will not be subject to the new tax, even if a portion of the services are used after July 1st.

To allow you to take advantage of this opportunity, we have changed our summer confirmations to be an invoice and confirmation form permitting payment prior to the April 30 deadline. If full payment is not received by then, we are required to issue a new invoice bearing the 13% rate for all services that are delivered after or span across July 1st (ie: dockage, cradle storage, etc.).

New Walkway & Landscaping

We have received many requests for a walkway across the lawn to help keep your feet dry while

crossing a wet or dewy lawn. In response to your requests, we started installing a cobblestone path from the washrooms across the lawn to the docks this fall and will complete the project in the early spring. We are also putting in a rock parking barrier to replace the old concrete blocks along the roadside. We hope you enjoy these improvements.

Boat Show Tickets

We are sending our customers a pair of tickets to the Toronto International Boat Show held on January 9 to 17 at Exhibition Place. It is a fine time of year to get together with boating friends and check out the new boats and gear that are available this season.

Catch Duma, the incredible waterskiing and boat driving dog! Duma, the famous Jack Russell terrier promises to make waves as she waterskis and drives a boat on Canada's largest indoor lake for boaters and "hot dogs" for spectators!



Get Your Pleasure Craft Operator Card at the Toronto Boat Show



The deadline to obtain your Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) was September 15, 2009. Many companies exhibiting at the Toronto International Boat Show are authorized by the Canadian Coast Guard to provide testing and educational programs for boaters. Don't delay in acquiring the knowledge to write the test—the Boat Show is the perfect time and place. For more information on writing your Pleasure Craft Operator Card or boating safety courses visit any of the following booths at the show:

- ASM Safe Boating, Booth E326
- BoaterExam.com, Booth G314
- BoatSmart! Canada, Booth G326
- Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, Booth 1828
- Forensic & Nautical Consultants of Canada Inc., Booth E128

- Service Canada, Booth G104
- The Safe Boater Training Program, Booth S3

Summer Happenings

No matter the season, there's never a shortage of things to do in Kingston.

When the warm weather shines upon us, Kingston features a regular schedule of Art Shows, Music in the Park, Movies in the Square and Canada's longest continually running farmer's market resumes its regular operating schedule. As summer hits full stride, entertainers from around the world call Kingston home for a week in July as visitors and residents alike are wowed by the annual Kingston Buskers Rendezvous.

In August, Kingston hosts the 1000 Islands Poker Run and the Canadian Olympic Regatta Kingston (CORK), showcasing Kingston's premier position as a recreational hotspot and freshwater sailing capital of the world. The Kingston Sheep Dog Trials and Wolfe Island Music Festival are everyone's favourites. But before we officially call summer to a close, The Limestone City Blues Festival takes to the streets, patios and nightclubs to bring the best of the blues to Kingston.

There's no let down for autumn in the city - spice things up at Chilifest or feel the heat of professional dance at the Canada DanceSport competition. The Kingston Jazz Festival takes the stage and the season's

schedules begin for the Kingston Symphony Orchestra and OHL Kingston Frontenacs. Check out Kingston's Event Schedule to start planning your summer vacation at

www.downtownkingston.ca/experience/events.htm

Water Levels

The International Joint Commission (IJC) includes in its responsibilities the regulation of water flows to the St. Lawrence River and hence the water level of Lake Ontario. In 2000, the IJC established a study board to consider whether regulation should be modified to address a range of new issues. Since receiving the study findings, the IJC has been unable to find an approach to regulating levels and flows that satisfies all interests. In effect, a single small vocal group of property owners on the south shore of Lake Ontario has prevented the implementation of an approach that enjoyed wide support from all other interested parties.

As a result, an ineffectual IJC has turned the problem over to the politicians and bureaucrats for a solution by creating "The Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River

Working Group". It is an ad hoc group made up of members from the federal governments of Canada, the United States, the governments of Quebec, Ontario and New York, and the International Joint Commission. What we get is more talking and still no action in sight to address the low water levels in Lake Ontario that plague boating in the fall.

The International Water Level Coalition is a strong advocate for recreational boating interests. We continue to support individual membership in IWLC by offering to enrol our customers and pay the fees for their first year of membership. Those of you who are not yet members can join by checking the box on your Summer Confirmation. We urge you to learn more and stay informed at www.iwlc.org.

Quick Tip - Waterline Stains

Cleaning waterline stains can be a difficult job unless you use the right "tools". I have found a cleaning product, Davis FSR, that does the job effortlessly and effectively – brush it on and wipe it off a few minutes later. You can find it at most chandleries.

– Hub

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