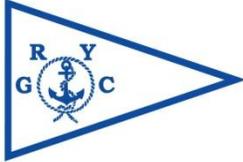


# Gatineau River Yacht Club 2019 Annual Report



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## Commodore

With the 2019 sailing season clearly in our wake and registration for the 2020 season just over the horizon, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who demonstrated their commitment to GRYC through their willingness to participate. I believe that as you read this Annual Report, you will conclude that Our GRYC is in very good shape. Where we find ourselves today is in large part due to the consistent dedication of successive Boards of Directors who take their duties as stewards of the clubs' resources very seriously. I would encourage all of

you at some point in time during your membership to seek the opportunity to share your skills and talents with your club as a Board member.

Sticking to the theme of our mission statement, I would like to focus on "the family-oriented and volunteer-driven cooperative" aspect. While this year was not different than in years past, there has been a noticeable drop off in the number of club members willing to volunteer their time to support sailing activities and in particular the Sunday series of races. The difficulty to secure consistent volunteers puts the quality of these activities at risk. For 2020 we will need to develop a more consistent approach to support these prime activities. Over the next few months, your board of directors will once again be focussed on those preparations required for the 2020 season. In doing so they will be asking you the members to do your part by participating in one of the GRYC committees that will be created. These committees will be focussing those activities that make our club what it is. Your participation will have a direct impact on the clubs ability to implement a majority of your suggestions provided in your responses to the survey conducted this summer.

I would very much like to take this opportunity to recognize those board members who will be turning over their responsibilities this evening and completing their terms. Jocelyne Burgess as Rear-Commodore, Sylvie Delisle Treasure and Brigitte Bankuti Communications Director. The level of dedication you have brought your specific roles has benefited the club and its members. Thank-you for your service.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every one of you for helping to make the 2019 sailing season a success. It was impressive to see the number of new sailors on the water this year. All the best for 2020 and I am looking forward to seeing you all at Bridge Down Saturday, May 2, 2020 and for those of you who are counting, that's 166 days from the AGM.

## Vice Commodore

Sadly, 2019's shortened sailing season has come and gone. However, as we 'round the corner towards another ski season your Board will soon begin planning GRYC's 58 th year of activities.

This programming, budgeting, staffing and operational support work never actually ends. In reality, it is this planning work that enables all Club members to enjoy an affordable and vibrant GRYC “experience”, summer after summer.

That said, succession planning is also fundamental to any healthy organization’s ongoing sustainability, where fresh ideas and new energy should always be welcomed. It is for this reason I would personally encourage members to consider participating at the Board level and would be happy to speak/meet with anyone interested in a rewarding experience to discuss opportunities that may fit your interests, skills and available time.

As the Club’s ‘Chief Safety Officer’, I am happy to report your Board authorized the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at the beginning of this season. As many of you may be aware, this is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias and is able to treat them through the application of electricity which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to re-establish an effective rhythm. More and more public venues are adding AED’s to their safety “tool kit” with proven, life saving results. While AED’s are designed to be simple to use for the layperson, the Club offered a subsidized first aid course this fall to assist those interested in becoming certified.

Finally, although fortunate in having a strong and dedicated Board, we would not have accomplished nearly as much without the excellent leadership of our current Commodore. As Tom will be stepping down after two busy years at GRYC’s helm, I want to offer my sincere thanks, as well as those of the extended Board, for Tom’s insight, guidance, new initiatives and tireless effort. It really has been a pleasure working with you Tom, thank you again for your stewardship and ongoing contribution to our Club.

***Geoff Erskine- Vice Commodore***

## **Secretary**

### **Membership**

This year we welcomed 8 new members into the Club (1 Adult, 1 Junior and 3 Families). This brings us right to our cap of 277. Our waiting list is currently at 15 applications.

Membership Renewal was conducted using our member management software, Wild Apricot. Members had the option to pay by cheque, cash or online using their credit card. Approximately 88% made use of the online payment option.

### **Membership management software**

As indicated in the 2016 Annual Report a membership management software, Wild Apricot, was purchased and implemented. As per the multi-year plan outlined last year, in 2017 the software was used for database management, and membership registration and some communications.

### **Volunteering**

Again, this year we used the i-Volunteer system for online sign-up and tracking of volunteer jobs and contributions. The system meets our needs and the member population seems to have adopted the online booking approach. T

### ***Eric Advokaat – Secretary***

## **Rear-commodore**

Another GRYC social season has come and gone, but not without a few hick-ups. The low water levels in the spring pushed Bridge Down from May 5<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>, which resulted in a condensing and re-shuffling of the social schedule. Ice Breaker occurred on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the planned Lobsterfest was cancelled due to the high cost and scarcity of lobster out of season.

Consequently, there were only 10 events celebrated in July and August. However, in spite of the condensed season, the annual GRYC Regatta co-hosted by Dan Grey and Kim Guntzel was a big success

..... great fun and great food! We had a wonderful Pig Roast organized by the Johansen's at the end of August, a successful fund raiser for the Allan Richens Fund, and a highly enjoyable year end Banquet.

Volunteers were the heart of the social program again this year, with everyone pulling together to ensure that tummies were full, and that everyone enjoyed themselves. One memorable social event was steak night, where only 60 guests were registered, but the team managed to feed 100 ! A big thank you to all volunteers.

In spite of the late start, revenues again exceeded costs for the social program, which helped support activities for the Banquet.

Thank you again to Mary Johansen for Bridge Up and Bridge Down, and to Warren Place and Soren Vandenberg for their support through out the entire season. I am relinquishing my post as Rear Commodore, and wish the new Rear a very successful 2020 social season. Thank you all for your support over the last 2 years

### **Rear Commodore**

***Jocelyn Burgess- Rear-Commodore***

### **Facilities Director**

Changes this year at the club were less obvious than last year's big splash with the new deck. Nevertheless, there is a constant buzz of activity to keep the club's facilities running, and to make select improvements. The efforts of volunteers to complete these jobs is greatly appreciated, and helps to keep costs down and to spread pride of ownership through the membership. Thanks to everyone that volunteered.

## Projects this year:

- **Roof Phase I:** A small crew came to the island to replace all the fasteners in the roof, and to hammer down bent sections. In addition, two initial and experimental improvements were made to the roof.
- **Exploratory fix – South roof valley on main level:** The roofing was completely removed from the south roof valley on the main level of the clubhouse. A waterproof membrane was laid down over the complete surface, and a new larger valley flashing was added. Minor amounts of water have been entering the valley sections of the roof over the years and led to staining and rot mostly at the central trough of the valleys. It is hoped this repair will completely seal this section, and if successful, can be repeated in the other valleys. Water-stainable paper has been installed along the inside surface of the obvious leak points on both the repaired section, and other un-repaired section both to test whether the repair has been successful, and to better understand which weather patterns cause the leaking in the roof.
- **Exploratory fix - SE Corner Flashing:** This corner of the building leaks into the framing in heavy rains and serious rot has developed over the years. An initial experimental fix was done as part of this year's once-over on the roof, the flashing on the corner was extended, re-lapped, and a new drip-edge was added to better direct water away and has succeeded about 80 %, but not completely. When the corner framing is replaced next spring, new flashing and side panels should complete the water tightness.
- **Island Dock:** A further section was added to the island dock to accommodate a few new big boats added to the club.
- **Quiet deck:** A quiet deck was built at the location of the old change-house. This is an initial step to preserve our grandfathered rights to build at that location, and to make economical use of the remaining wood from the main deck repair.

- **Environmental preservation:** Tie lines have been added to direct traffic away from sensitive areas of vegetation.
- **Sailing Shed:** The lean-to in front of the sailing shed was repaired/replaced, and other improvements have been made to the dingy storage.
- **Other Projects:** This list above are just the highlights, including the refresh of the toolshed, gardening projects, and on-going dock repair. Thanks to all involved in many of the additional projects that have kept the club facilities in good repair.

## Facilities Outlook

At the board level, we've had several discussions around the dual short term and long term nature of the facilities maintenance challenge.

Short term items often need immediate repair, and are of manageable scope and we handle them somewhat spontaneously on an annual basis. This system is running well, and leans heavily on the club manager and core volunteers.

Longer term, there are larger and more complex projects that require more advanced planning and design as well as budget allocation. We've tried to capture several of these initiatives in this facilities outlook. You'll also see a financial allocation for these items in the long term budget.

## Immediate/ongoing projects

### *Environment Preservation*

The ongoing project will see us continue remediation around the island from the High-water mark to roughly 5 meters inland.

### *Docks*

The island dock is nearing capacity, and so the next logical step to accommodate additional keel boats, is to add a few berths along the bridge. We hope to

achieve that next season, and with that initiative, the club will be at capacity for big boats. There are additional on-going repairs at various locations on the docks.

### *Inside Storage*

It has been suggested that the inside of the club could be kept more neat with the addition of some inside cabinetry.

### **Longer Term View**

The principles that guide our commitment to the long term development and maintenance of the club facilities are:

- **Clubhouse Heritage:** The clubhouse is a unique asset that reflects the club history and volunteer ethos, and so has heritage value beyond its large monetary and functional value to the club. Because of this, effort will be focused on preserving the main clubhouse rather than taking a long term view of ever replacing it.
- **Pride and Safety in the working facilities**
- **Maximize usability of the island**
- **Activity/environment balance**

With these principles in mind, there are several projects we see as imminent, important or possible over the next 3 to 5 years.

### *Clubhouse Roof, Associated structural repairs - imminent*

The strategy for repair/replacement of the clubhouse roof has evolved this year. As described in the summary of this year's initiatives, we have developed a strategy to repair the vulnerable features of the roof, rather than replace it entirely. The experiments put in place this year are intended to test whether this strategy will be effective. The benefits of this strategy are twofold: if effective, it will be significantly less expensive than a full roof replacement; it is also much

more achievable as it has been nearly impossible in the current market to engage a contractor to replace the entire roof structure in the challenging conditions of our island environment and limited repair season. The one drawback of this approach is many of the roof panels are faded or slightly dented, and will not be replaced. They can still perform their job of keeping the weather out for many years, but do look worn.

### *Clubhouse SE Corner Repair - imminent*

The SE corner of the clubhouse on the main level and into the overhang by the kitchen entrance has suffered significant water damage. The framing must be replaced, and the roofing flashing and siding repaired/replaced. We plan to carry this out in the spring of 2020 before the season gets busy and particularly before camp opens.

### *Septic - future*

Anecdotal evidence, along with testing done 6 to 7 years ago, suggest our septic system is in good health. It does have the winter to rest each year. There is no need for any action at this time, but as it is essential to the operation of the club, we are constantly monitoring its health as well as planning for eventual replacement.

Septic rules are becoming ever tighter, especially for facilities like ours that are near the water, as well as for club/commercial shared facilities vs. small residential. The evolved rules will require us to use a full "tertiary" treatment system to replace our septic when the time comes. These are systems that use contained active (powered) treatment to completely clean effluent to the potable standards so that it may be discharged to the river.

Our septic flow was monitored about 6 or 7 years ago, and it was found that our usage was within a limit comparable to that of a private family home. So, the scale of tertiary system to satisfy our needs normally costs about \$20K. We can expect an additional \$10K for our island location, and additional regulatory costs resulting from our status as a shared facility rather than a private residence.

One risk factor is that the rules for clubs/shared facilities could be tightened, and if we were forced in that direction, the costs could increase several fold. This is not a prediction, but something to be aware of.

### *Tool Shed*

The tool shed and its contents are in need of restoration. It will be most efficient to rebuild the shed.

### *Additional out-building at old change-house*

The club has grandfathered rights to build an additional out-building in the area of the pump-house, locker room collection of buildings. We are exploring various possible uses for the additional building, and this year created a deck/foundation in it's place.

### *Quiet Places*

There are several locations that can be enhanced by access paths, outdoor furniture, or even decking to allow members to enjoy their on-shore time at the club. This coming season, we hope to focus on the small beach near the lighthouse that faces up-river.

Kevin Moon  
Facilities Director

## **Fleet Captains**

Despite a delayed start to the season due to low water levels on the river, we had a great overall sailing season. The racing season started with the Summer Series in mid-July and ended with the Fall Series in late September. We had competitive and active dinghy and big boat fleets.

The Annual Regatta was extremely exciting with very good wind that challenged all who raced. It was, as always, a well planned and executed event thanks to the leadership and volunteer teams. For the second year in a row, a full complement of GRYC Instructors competed for the coveted Instructors Cup with Alex Sanchez and Renee Davies taking home the trophy. Sailors from BYC, NSC, Royal Vancouver and GRYC represented their clubs with distinction.

The Learn to Sail Program was a great success again this summer with most of the sessions “sold out”. Thank you to Richard Yeo and Geoff Erskine for their excellent instruction. The LTS program produced some graduates, including Ben S. and Marek P. who moved on to regular weekend series racing.

One well equipped race quality Opti was added to the growing Opti fleet, along with a Laser hull and three new Laser sails. Funds have been allocated to acquire a new 420 in 2020.

Safety boats are being well maintained and kept operational. One new motor was purchased to replace an aging motor in 2019. Special thanks to Marc Ranger for his dedication to repairing and maintaining these motors ensuring their longevity and keeping them humming.

With the addition of new cabin boats to the club and the exchanging of cabin boats between members, the docks are currently at full capacity with no opportunity for new boats to be added.

Thanks to all sailors for their active participation and camaraderie.

***Dan Gray and David Raymond, Fleet Captains***

## **Youth Program Director**

### **Junior Program Annual Report**

#### **Staffing**

Thanks very much to the staff of GRYC Summer 2019. We welcomed two new instructors into the program this summer, and in addition several new CIT volunteers. The CIT role continues to be a valuable program which offers older campers a glimpse of what being an instructor is all about.

Due to the summer program schedule, we were able once again introductory session in the last week of June that was run by a small group of instructors, and in conjunction with this added a test session of 'Wet Feet' for 7-8 year olds. This was well received and we plan to expand this offering next summer.

Thank you to our full-time instructors Sam Place, Tyler Gray, Gabe Sanchez, Jennifer Gagnon, Val Kapsa, Renee Davis, Alex Sanchez, Julia Gilmour and our part-time instructors Cameron MacGillivray and Timothe Yung-Hing for their time and dedication to the program. Thanks especially to Program Manager Laurence Pagé for her leadership over the summer.

### **Registration**

We continued using the Zone 4 automated registration system implemented by Amy Throop with great success. However, with the updates coming to the club's management software we will be working to integrate this process into our new framework, in order to create efficiencies for the program and the club.

### **Promotion**

This year we relied on community social media groups, word of mouth and email to promote the camp. The camp continues to fill up quickly (particularly sessions 1 and 2) and had waiting lists for some sessions. We plan to continue with this approach.

### **Grants**

We were very fortunate in the grants we received this summer. Thanks to the hard work of Marie Schingh we now have in-hand just over \$15,000 of grant funds for the junior program, to assist with our full time salary costs.

### **Camp life**

We had a total of 130 camper registrations this summer (some campers attended multiple sessions depending on the sailing level they were attempting). Sail Canada's recommended maximum ratio is seven students per coach but due to the specific conditions of our river and facilities and in the interest of providing a

better-quality learning experience for our campers we strive for a 6:1 or better ratio whenever possible.

We continued to see a decrease in non-member registrations this summer overall, with our end of season ratio shifting to 74% members vs 26% non-members.

### **Financial**

This year the JP generated \$22,169.00 in net revenue. We continue to note the trend of having a larger percentage of registrations coming from members that has led to a decline in the total camper revenue. We were very fortunate to receive \$15,000 in grant funds this year, this contributed greatly. These additional revenues will go back into the larger pool for the membership to help with shared costs. We are fortunate to receive grants but cannot count on these as the programs vary annually, and are also facing increased labour costs in the junior program due to increases in minimum wage. As a result, we will have an increase in fees for the 2020 season of 3% for members (\$7.50 increase per camp week) to reflect inflation and ensure we continue to cover our expenses and contribute our share of funds to the club for boats, maintenance, and so on as we are a significant user of these assets.

	<b>2019</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$84735.00
<b>Expenses</b>	\$62566.00
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$22169.00

### **Program delivery**

We were again very fortunate this year to have a good number of instructors who were interested in working at the GRYC. Many of our part-time instructors participated in the away events and demonstrated an excitement and keenness that was infectious to the program and campers. Due to staffing flexibility, we improved our safety supervision ratio and ended the session with no safety incidents.

We were extremely fortunate to have Laurence Pagé as our Program Manager. Due to her continued leadership and dedication, the camp ran smoothly with very few incidents (none safety related). This year Gabe Sanchez took leadership of the Race Team with the support of head coach Sam Place, and the excellent co-ordination of parent volunteer Guillaume Godbout. We had many keen racers attend events both locally and throughout Ontario and Quebec. Our staffing flexibility this year allowed for a very successful racing summer with no disruption in the daily administration, operations and safety of the sailing camp. The structure of the Summer Program consisted of an orientation program conducted for instructors. This time was spent developing lesson plans, determining special events, ensuring the vessels were in good operating condition as well as providing clear direction to instructors regarding Club & Program expectations.

Feedback from parents and campers was that the Summer Program was safe, fun, and the instructors performed well in their duties. However, there is also interest in enhancing the program for campers interested in continuing to sail but not in a race setting; we have met with parents and members for their input and are currently drafting plans for an even better 2020.

**Kim Guntzel- Youth Program Director**

## **Communication Director**

I am pleased to report back on a very busy season during which many new initiatives were rolled out and new ones commenced. I owe a debt of gratitude to the many volunteers who supported me in my role as Communications Director this past year and without whom I would not have been able to do the work that was accomplished.

### **NEWSLETTERS**

There were a total of **45** newsletters and informal notices of events which were sent to members during the year, with an average of 70% of recipients opening the newsletters. Mail Chimp was the software used to communicate newsletters.

Newsletters were scheduled on a regular weekly basis during the summer months and less frequently in the spring and fall. The newsletters allowed members to easily learn about and sign up for events and volunteer opportunities as quick links were provided to the pertinent information.

All communications were fully bilingual.

## **GYRC WEBSITE**

Future initiatives:

- There are improvements and updates scheduled for the Race Duties page as well as the Allan Richens Memorial Fund page.
- Allows users to more easily view the website from mobile devices;
- Presents information in a more modern way.
- Links to the volunteer registration site.

## **GRYC WEBSITE TEAM:**

We are fortunate to have Jean-Francois Ruel as our Webmaster- he both curated and posted content in a very effective and timely manner and continues with website updates.

## **FACEBOOK TEAM:**

Véronique Rainville posted all of the content on Facebook this summer.

Facebook was an excellent platform on which to promote upcoming large-scale events such as the concerts, year-end banquet and any special messages to members. It also reflected back the many wonderful events that were held at the Club this past summer.

I thank the membership for allowing me the honour to serve as your Communications Director this past year. I have enjoyed my four years on the Board and will be turning over the communications helm to another dedicated member,

***Brigitte Lemay- GRYC Communications Director***

## Treasurer

Club attributes:

*Safe, compliant, recreational, educational & social*

Financial goals:

- Contribute to all the above by:
  - Managing long term expenditures
  - Setting responsible annual budgets
  - Informing & engaging membership in financial management

### 2019 Actuals

2019 PERFORMANCE	Actuals
Revenue	\$ 196,643
Expenses	<u>\$ 170,741</u>
NET INCOME	\$ 25,902

What is in the Bank - As of Oct 2019	
Cash, cash equivalent	\$119,466
GIC	<u>\$140,000</u>
What's in the Bank as of Oct 31,2019	<b>\$259,466</b>

### 2020 Proposed Fees

MEMBERSHIP	2019	2020
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<b>Adult</b>	<b>\$390</b>	<b>\$398</b>
<b>Family</b>	<b>\$625</b>	<b>\$637</b>
<b>Junior</b>	<b>\$160</b>	<b>\$160</b>
<b>Retaining</b>	<b>\$140</b>	<b>\$145</b>
<b>Late Fees</b>	<b>\$45</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Non-volunteer Family</b>	<b>\$390</b>	<b>\$400</b>
<b>Non-volunteer Single</b>	<b>\$235</b>	<b>\$240</b>
<b>Initiation Family</b>	<b>\$820 - \$865</b>	<b>\$836 - \$882</b>
<b>Initiation Single</b>	<b>\$410-\$435</b>	<b>\$420 – \$445</b>

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Finger Dock</b>	\$210	\$215
<b>Island dock</b>	\$210	\$215
<b>Laser rack</b>	\$80	\$80
<b>Canoe/other rack</b>	\$65	\$66
<b>Wind Surfing rack</b>	\$65	\$66
<b>Lockers</b>	\$40	\$40
<b>Laser dolly</b>	\$85	\$80

<b>JUNIOR PROGRAM</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>

<b>Member</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$515</b>
<b>Non Members</b>	<b>\$640</b>	<b>\$640</b>
<b>After 4</b>		<b>\$50</b>

**2020 Proposed Budget**

	<b>Budget 2020</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 180,739</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ <u>179,215</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 1,524</b>

<b>Plan Capital Expenditures</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Club House</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>
<b>Docks</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Fleet Replacement</b>	<b>\$19,000</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$8,500</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,500</b>

It has been my pleasure to assist as the Club's Treasurer these past four years and will be turning the helm over to another dedicated club member.

*Sylvie Delisle- Treasurer*

## Youth Commodore

The GRYC Youth Program and race team had an exciting and action-packed summer! Our island staff and camp instructors ensured a fun, educational and safe environment for everyone who used the island.

We had an eventful four and a half sessions at the summer camp this year. Instructors actively engaged campers, teaching them new skills and ultimately preparing them for racing and a lifelong love of sailing.

This year, the GRYC offered a brand-new Wet Feet program for younger campers, ages seven and eight. This small group of eager campers grew more comfortable in a nautical environment by participating in a variety of fun water-based activities such as sailing, canoeing and swimming. Wet Feet was a success!

Our race team was determined in the pursuit of skill development and competition, attending a training camp at Nepean as well as many regattas including Festivoile, Natcaps, Fruitbowl, Opti Nationals, Fall Cork, as well as our very own Invitational Regatta and Sunday regattas.

Overall, we've had a wonderful and memorable summer at the GRYC. Our instructors eagerly anticipate the next sailing season, to welcome new and returning sailors to our beautiful island.

Val Kapsa

**Youth Commodore**