



MEDIA RELEASE
January 24, 2020

Port Leases Riverside Marina to Windsor Yacht Club in 60-year Deal

(Windsor, Ontario)

The Windsor Yacht Club has entered into a 60-year deal to lease and operate the Riverside Marina from the Windsor Port Authority commencing for the 2020 boating season. All Port Windsor Marina customers from last year (2019) will be guaranteed their boat well in 2020, should they choose to stay with the marina.

“The agreement between the Windsor Yacht Club and Windsor Port Authority is a historic one that will serve the needs of boaters in our region. This is a long-term relationship that holds much promise. The Windsor Yacht Club has long been considered a gem of the Great Lakes and the addition of Riverside Marina makes this an exciting time. On behalf of all WYC Members, I would like to welcome everyone for what I’m sure will prove to be a successful 2020 boating season.”

(George McMahon, Commodore, Windsor Yacht Club)

The Windsor Port Authority has operated the Riverside Marina since the 1990s, and previously leased the site to Anchor Inn Marina for several decades dating back to the 1960s. As Crown land (the riverbed) and part of Port Windsor’s Harbour, the Authority has always had jurisdiction and control of the site. Boasting 104 slips, with direct access to the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair and overlooking Peche Island, Riverside Marina has been a popular boating destination and marina for decades among Windsor and Essex County boating enthusiasts.

“The Windsor Port Authority has always recognized the importance of marina services and access to the waters that surround us. The Windsor Yacht Club has a proven record of delivering first-rate marina services. We are confident that this new beginning for Riverside Marina will mean only a bright future for our customers, and the Windsor-Essex region.”

(Steve Salmons, President and CEO, Windsor Port Authority)

Background: Windsor Yacht Club

Only two years after the amalgamated City of Windsor was formed, the Windsor Yacht Club was born. The club was incorporated on May 9, 1937.

The Club has an interesting and storied history.

In the spring of 1938, the Canadian Power Squadron was started at the Windsor Yacht Club with G. William Bowman as its first Commander. Since its inception, the squadron has spread from Windsor across the nation and been involved locally, regionally and nationally in providing leadership and education regarding safe boating.

The Club's first major expansion occurred after the war, when in 1945, kitchen and dining facilities were added.

In 1949, the first Maple Leaf International Classic race for power boats was held. In 1972, the Canadian Club Regatta for sailboats began and continues until this day.

In 2001, the clubhouse was reconstructed as it stands today. And, in 2016, the harbour was reopened after an \$850,000-upgrade, which means it can now accommodate boats up to 60 feet in length. The Club has a long tradition of welcoming boaters from around the Great Lakes and belongs to the Inter-Lake Yachting Association and the Detroit Regional Yacht-Racing Association.

The Windsor Yacht Club, in 2020, joined in an agreement with the Windsor Port Authority to operate Riverside Marina, located immediately adjacent to the Club overlooking Peche Island on the Detroit River at the opening of Lake St. Clair.

Background: Windsor Port Authority

Ontario's third largest port, each year the Port Authority receives more than 600 ships, delivering more than 5 million tonnes of aggregate, salt, steel and grain to Windsor-Essex, ports across the Great Lakes, and into Europe. It also hosts Ontario's largest ship fueling depot.

Each day, 846 people come to work in Port Windsor, and another 1,400 jobs depend upon activities of this port. Wages total more than \$40 million annually, in addition to local purchases of goods and services in excess of \$42 million.

The Windsor Port Authority is a federal Corporation under the Marine Act (1999) as one of just 17 national ports established to promote the growth, competitiveness and prosperity of Canada's economy.

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