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Photo – Courtesy of Tim Stubbs

Message from the Commodore – Brad Barber:

Hi EVERYONE and welcome to the 2023 sailing season. My name is Brad Barber and I have the privilege of serving as your Commodore this year. My wife Jillian and I have been at SBYC for 8 years. WOW how time flies! We just want to say hello to all the new members this year and welcome back to the rest of you. Our boat is located on “A” dock and is named Healingtime (you’ll see the name is hard to miss). Please stop by and say hello.

This season I am sure we are all looking forward to some amazing sailing, interesting educational sessions, and of course our infamous social events. We have some important tasks ahead of us this year that will require volunteer time. Some tasks are already completed such as the 5 refurbished/new docks. It can be a great time working together to get things done. Lee (Facilities) will be sending out a spreadsheet that will have several volunteer opportunities to choose from.

Our first Social Event is the Meet and Greet/Sail Past. A fun way to kick off our sailing season and hope to see you there! Your SBYC Board will be hosting this event. For anyone new, you will soon discover that SBYC is the best kept secret around!



Brad

Board of Directors for the 2023/2024 Sailing Season:

Ahoy there, mateys!

As we set sail on another exciting adventure on the high seas, it's time to introduce you to the scurvy crew of our yacht club. But hold on to your hats and peg legs, because these aren't just any ordinary sailors - they be pirates!

So hoist the Jolly Roger and set sail with us, as we embark on a thrilling journey with our pirate crew!



Vice Commodore- Tim Stubbs

I started sailing in the UK at age 10, when my dad bought a small roof top dinghy and we would head out to the local reservoir when time allowed. I got a taste of sailing yachts when my friend bought "Dreamfinder" C & C 29Mk II, and we moved it back from Niagara on the Lake to Wabamun. He became a member of SBYC in 2008. I became a shareholder in 2015.

My current boat, a Catalina 250 "Dream Catcher" is easy enough to manage single handed and allows the freedom to trailer launch and retrieve to suit my schedule. My wife Julice is a fair-weather sailor, so

is usually out with me on calmer summer days and social events when time permits. I was SBYC Membership Director in 2020/2021 and both Membership and Communications Director in 2022 and having worked with the board over that time span, I have become quite familiar with a lot of aspects of the club operations and felt ready for the next challenge and stand for Vice Commodore.

Having renewed our land use agreement last year and waiting for registration of the MoA an AoA currently, my primary task this year, in addition to normal duties, will be to update, the rules and regulations to align with the above and make other revisions as required.

Looking forward to another great sailing season and see you at the club and on the lake

Happy Sailing! - Tim



Secretary- Marvin Abugov

Marvin started sailing at the club in 1994 as a Second Skipper on another member's boat for two seasons. He took advantage of the Northern Alberta Sailing College courses that operated out of EYC for those two seasons as well. He then bought his current boat in 1997, joined SBYC, and has sailed at the club ever since. Over a 10-year period, he has served Board in numerous positions including Commodore. After a multi-year hiatus, he returned last year to serve as the club's Secretary that he decided to extend into 2023/24.

After several years of Covid restrictions, I am beginning to see the club rebound with the enthusiasm it had before the pandemic. Club racing has always been a special feature and a particular club delight. One year I served as crew on another club boat, and our team won the Fall Series! If you have any interest at all, be sure to attend the upcoming seminar by our own Honorary Member and international sailing coach Lawrence Lemieux. Regardless of your skill set, let me assure you — attending this seminar will be well worth your time!

- Marvin



Treasurer- Richard Schlachter

Hello, I'm your Treasurer again for 2023. For those who don't know me I started sailing on windsurfers in my 20's and sailing continues to be a passion that I enjoy now into my retirement (semi) starting this year. My wife Kate and I enjoy the club immensely each year and practically live on our boat for most weekends of the season.

This winter we bare boat chartered with 7 other crewmates in the BVI's (we're all still talking) along with other club members there as we enjoyed warmer Caribbean

temperatures and sailed 20 knot winds 24x7. We arrived safely home with almost no incidents except for one bump in the night, and a frozen car at the Edmonton airport.

It's an honour to be your treasurer again this year and I look forward to meeting you all on the docks. While I, and the board, continuously look for creative ways to sustain revenues and reduce expenses, I ask each of you to openly offer me your thoughts and ideas.

- Richard



Fleet Captain- Brian Fitzgerald

I have been racing on keel boats since 1986 on Lake Ontario on the following: Express 30, Sprinta Sport 23, Kirby 25 and Schock Santana 3030. I've also raced on Lakes Erie on a Cataline 35 and Huron on a Beneteau 10R. I've been sailing on Wabamun since 2015. I tried a 2.5 week cruise in the San Blas with a friend and did not really enjoy it. The excitement and teamwork of racing is sort of like crack cocaine to me.

I have never taken a sailing safety course. Our mantra back in Ontario was that if anyone fell off the boat, they were responsible for swimming to shore:)

Here on Wabamun as well as racing my Santana 525 whenever I can, I have also been crewing with Dan and Danny Meade on their J boats.

I am married a second time and have two adult children 28 and 31 back in Ontario.

I look forward to the racing season and seeing more volunteers and participation in this area of the club.

- Brian



Dockmaster- Andy Minty

Hi! I am Andy Minty, your Dockmaster. I am looking forward to my second term as Dockmaster. It is great to be retiring old docks and seeing the new or refurbished ones take their place. See you on the lake!

- Andy



Facilities Director - Lee Chrystal

I've been sailing since I was 6 when I turned an old car seat I found from back when they were covered with thick clear plastic upside down. I dragged it across a big farmers field and launched it in the HUGE puddle behind the asian man's grocery store in Calgary. I recall holding up a really big piece of Cardboard box for a sail and I spent all day trying to sail all the way across the swamp.

I was in big trouble from Mom as It was really late getting home, apparently she didn't know you can't sail on a schedule. I also got my gumboot stuck in the mud and inadvertently scuttled it and walked home without it. I mean BIG TROUBLE !!

Fast forward about 55 years:

I'm happy to be a part of the SBYC Family and I look forward to doing my best to be a good steward of everyone's investment. With the help of all of us volunteers I see a very sustainable YC far into the future. I am proud to be a part of this amazing Org.

There's no place like Home away from Home!

Best regards,

-Skipper Lee



Membership Director/Communications- Nicole Sikora

Well, what do I say:) I learned to sail with my partner Ralph about 6 or 7 years ago when he thought we should learn something new together. Of course we had to buy our first boat, a Siren 17 and quickly acquired Current Obsession and joined the SBYC family to further our sailing skills.

I have served on the board as the Onshore Events Director for the past 3 years (yes, through Covid...very challenging to be social!) I am excited to be moving on to the membership/communications role and welcome the new challenge. Feel free to stop me on the docks or in the clubhouse to say hi and offer suggestions to bring to the board.

See you on the lake!

- Nicole



Past Commodore - Pat MacDonald

Pat has been around the club forever. He has served on the board in several capacities and most recently, Commodore. Its been a few years of huge changes on the board and we have been fortunate to have him at the helm for part of it. Pat can be seen on Mojo along with his beautiful wife Rena. I am sure there is plenty more to say, but I could not find the last “blurb” we did like this!

I know Pat will be around to help keep the new board in line and feel free to stop him at the club when you see him to ask for directions!

Happy racing everyone!

Volunteers:

One of the great things about being part of Sunshine Bay Yacht Club is the feeling of family and belonging! It seems we have plenty of help to committee events and do chores and errands around the club. The board members are all volunteers and work countless hours to help keep our club running smoothly while maintaining fun and racing for all.

This year we are working without an Onshore Events Director. While we have had a few people express their willingness to help out, there has not been anyone to step up to run any one event. Without someone to head a committee, events will not run. We are looking for people to do this, whether it be for one single event or for all of them. Events include The Big0, several events surrounding Pirate Days, a fun September event and our Winter Social. Contact Nicole at membership@sunshinebay.org for more information.

SBYC 2023/24 Season Initial Events Schedule

| Date | Activity | Other Info | Host Club |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| April | | | |
| Tues 11 | Board Meeting | | SBYC |
| Sat 29 | Facilities Open/Docks in (Tentative)* | | SBYC |

| May | | | |
|---------|---|--|------|
| Sat 6 | Facilities Open/Docks in (Alternative)* | | SBYC |
| Sat 6 | Boats In (Tentative)* | | SBYC |
| Tues 9 | Board Meeting | | SBYC |
| Sat 13 | Boats In (Alternative)* | | SBYC |
| June | | | |
| Jun 3/4 | Lawrence Lemieux Clinic (Tentative)* | Coaching Clinic | SBYC |
| June 10 | Sail Past | Meet and Greet and Wine and Cheese | SBYC |
| Tues 13 | Board Meeting | | SBYC |
| Wed 14 | Pursuit Series Race #1 | Start Time 19:30 | SBYC |
| Sat 17 | Down the Lake Race | Start Time 10:00 Awards 1-hour after the last finisher | EYC |
| Wed 21 | Pursuit Series Race #2 | Start time 19:30 | SBYC |
| Sat 24 | Spring Series Race Day #1 | Start Time 1100h | EYC |
| Sun 25 | Spring Series Race Day # 2 | Start Time 1100h | EYC |
| Wed 28 | Pursuit Series Race #3 | Start time 19:30 | SBYC |

* Tentative dates Only – go to www.sunshinebay.org for most recent post

Office of The Environment <https://www.sunshinebay.org/environment>



Doing our Part for the Health of Wabamun Lake

My name is Sue Styles- Accreded Interest: Brian and I have been SBYC members since 2008; I am currently honored to be the SBYC Liaison to the [Wabamun Watershed Management Council](#) (WWMC), as well as Chair of the WWMC Board of Directors.

Congratulations to the 2023 SBYC Board of Directors---thank you for your commitment to serving our club in this way; all the very best to you as you orchestrate the governance of yet another successful sailing season at SBYC. Many thanks also to the outgoing SBYC Directors for your contributions to making SBYC, Alberta’s Sailing Community of Choice.

This is the time of year when excitement really builds for the new SBYC sailing season. The guesses are made about when the ice will be off the lake (always the earlier the better for the

keeners), planning and execution of docks-in and boats-in happens, preparation of the clubhouse and club grounds takes place, and the calendar of racing and social events gets filled in for the upcoming year. And all of this excitement and activity happens because the community of SBYC members pitch in and make it happen!

In spring, amidst all the excitement of a new sailing season, it is important also to pause, reflect upon, and always be mindful of what it is that brings you/us to sail on Wabamun Lake. A big part of the sailing experience on Wabamun Lake (aside from the people, proximity to Edmonton, and good winds) is the naturalized setting of the Sunshine Bay and lake area, the water quality, and the biodiversity of wildlife on/in/and around the lake. Wabamun Lake is a prairie headwaters lake (no mountain river feed) with a small catchment/watershed area and a water residency of many decades (minimal outflow).

While the Lake is in fair condition, it is demonstrating signs of stress from a century of increasingly intense human use/misuse. Absolutely everything we do in/on/and around the lake matters to the health of the lake. As sailors on Wabamun Lake in 2023, we have a responsibility to ensure the naturalized setting and health of the lake is maintained for future generations of sailors (and others) on this lake.

The Wabamun Watershed Management Council (WWMC) vision is as follows:
The Wabamun Lake Watershed is a healthy ecosystem with a community that shares its **collective responsibility** to be the best stewards of that environment. As part of supporting our **collective responsibility**, links to two different green boating guides are provided here for your review and consideration. It is certain that in these guides you will find green boating practices that YOU can **apply to your sailing routines in this spring season** and throughout the sailing year(s). (Note: these green boating guides are in an ocean context but may easily be extrapolated to our lake context).



At SBYC, each one of us can and must do our part to support the health of Wabamun Lake and its watershed.

[SBYC Environment webpage](#)

[Practical Guide to Green Boating \(2019\)](#)

[Green Boating Guide: The Go-To Guide for Eco-Smart Boating \(2021\)](#)

Wabamun Watershed Management Council (WWMC) update - for an update on current WWMC focuses and activity, please see the latest WWMC Newsletter - [Spring 2023 Lakescape](#) Please visit [WWMC.ca](http://www.wwmc.ca), Contact us info@wwmc.ca, Follow Us On [Facebook](#), Tweet Us [@WabamWMC](#)

Summer Moorage Available

We have moorage slips available this summer – Some of these could be available to potential Provisional members or as season rentals – contact for membership for more details

Camping Trailer Sites Available

We have 1 camping trailer site available for shareholder members with a boat on the dock this summer – contact facilities or membership for more details

The Main Sheet is published 4 times a year. March, April, July, October.

The Jib Sheet is published 2 times a year. June and August

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, or have feedback, please send to membership@sunshinebay.org



[Nicole Sikora](#)