

From: [Scott Lowell](#)
To: [Mailbox, Clerks](#)
Subject: Fwd: Opening LaSalle Park Community Marina
Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 5:51:47 PM

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Hi,

Please accept my email below in regards to item RCC-09-22 of the May 5th Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services Committee meeting. For distribution and addition to the public record.

Thanks, Scott

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Scott Lowell [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, May 1, 2022 at 5:49 PM
Subject: Opening LaSalle Park Community Marina
To: <kelvin.galbraith@burlington.ca>, <lisa.kearns@burlington.ca>, <rory.nisan@burlington.ca>, <shawna.stolte@burlington.ca>, <paul.sharman@burlington.ca>, <angelo.bentivegna@burlington.ca>, <mayer@burlington.ca>

To the Mayor and Councillors of the City of Burlington,

Hello! I am the Commodore of the Burlington Sailing & Boating Club (BS&BC) and am writing to enlist your support in addressing the issue currently blocking the opening of Burlington's LaSalle Park Community Marina and subsequent launching of some 75 boats currently stored on the pier.

It's expected that this topic will shortly be added to the agenda of your Committee meeting of Thursday May 5th. I thank you in advance for making time and intend to delegate at the same. I believe strongly that by working together we can resolve the situation but City staff need your direction to engage and do so. The following is intended to provide a brief summary of where the situation has evolved to, how we might move forward and the implications if we don't.

As I understand you've already been informed, the marina was advised with very short notice that their Commercial Marine insurance would not be renewed. As of midnight last night that policy has expired and the marina members/customers informed that it will be closed until further notice. I was directly involved with the Marina Board in their efforts to secure alternate coverage, unfortunately all attempts were unsuccessful. Additionally, BS&BC (whose insurance is fully renewed and in good standing) attempted to extend our coverage and with Parks & Recreation effectively encompass the marina operations. This too was denied by our insurers, apparently due to our known close relationship with the marina.

At this stage all marina/club based options have been exhausted. The only option for the 2022 season is for the City to assume management of the marina and together we work to quickly open. Importantly, staff have already confirmed that if City managed the marina will be insured.

To this end:

- Aside from the insurance issue the marina is ready to open. Ongoing upgrades and maintenance can continue as planned through the summer, but only if insured and open.
- The marina is not new business for the City. The city owns the marina, with management to date provided by LMPA including the Marina Manager and volunteers. These resources will continue to serve, now just more directly on behalf of the City.
- The marina is a “turnkey” operation for the City to assume and open. The Marina Manager has already indicated his willingness to become a city employee if it helps the marina open and any changes to conform to City processes can continue over the summer.

Conversely, if we don't move quickly:

- Established revenue from the marina, renters, the club will all be lost. Similarly, the public launch ramp will have to remain closed as there's no room to safely maneuver/park trailers.
- The 75 club boats stored on the pier will be unable to launch as surrounding marinas are near capacity, if not full. BS&BC Lift-In has already been deferred from May 5th to May 19th.
- Members with boats stored elsewhere are already in the water and are now paying additional docking fees while they wait for LaSalle Park Community Marina to open.
- The AbleSail program serving disabled sailors will not be able to operate, further disadvantaging those that rely on the program. After COVID they are anxious and need to return.
- The docks while vacant cannot be effectively secured from unapproved use. Without ongoing maintenance they'll deteriorate and become an additional risk and liability to the City.
- Public backlash on the recent expenditure of \$4M for the wavebreak (which works amazingly well) to only be used for a single year since completion should be fully expected.

I reiterate that together I'm confident that we can quickly open the marina but we need staff directed, encouraged and supported to do so. I understand their reluctance but we're here to make it work as we always have been.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to speaking with you directly on Thursday.

Scott

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Scott Lowell
S/V Cool Change
Commodore - BS&BC

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Commodore - BS&BC