

December 7, 2016

LMS AGM Notes - Kids Pirates Day

Presented by Gerry Beltgens

As I am sure you are aware the 2016 Kids Pirates Day was a huge success. We don't have an official count but it was in the thousands and our biggest event yet. Our main challenge was having enough life jackets available for all the little kids. We need get a handle on how many people are attending and we need to make sure we continue to have a safe event.

I want to thank all of the people who volunteered for the event. Your hard work and commitment make this event the success it has become. Your main reward is the smiles of the kids and parents who have so much fun. Your other reward for your hard work is that we will be calling on you again soon...

I have a very special thanks for Cliff Fisher who carried the ball when I was sick. We may not have had a Kids Pirates Day if not for Cliff. I also want to thank Cliff and Dianna for their many years of committed service to this event. I hope that I can continue the tradition and honour the event that Cliff has created!

I want to confirm the we have scheduled June 3, 2017 as Kids Pirates Day. We hope you are available for that day.

At this point we have probably maxed out the amount of traffic we can handle on the docks. So our focus will be better organisation and safety. I am in conversation with Captain Jack on using his presence better.

Rather than trying to draw bigger crowds on Kids Pirates Day, it makes more sense to spend more energy in growing the Heritage Boat Festival the weekend before and have couple of Pirate related events on the Friday before Kids Pirates Day.

We are planning the Pirates Walk for Friday the 2nd and plan to work with the LDBA to get more businesses involved. We are talking about handing out treasure maps with locations for participating businesses. Kids would be able to collect doubloons and win prizes. We will continue to visit LaFF and the primary school.

We are planning a "Feast of the Pirates" down on the dock on the Friday night as a theme night for "Dine on the Dock". I have no doubt that this will be a sell out.

We are looking at better coordinating the marketing for the Heritage boat festival with Pirates events and the Rotary Garden Tour as a Ladysmith Festival Week.

As usual we are going to need lots of volunteers available for the set up and running of the Kids Pirates Day. I am sure we can also continue to get support from the Kinsmen, Rotary and this coming year the folks from LaFF.