



Welcome to the Ladysmith Maritime Society April 2021 Newsletter!

LMS BOARD REVIEWS STRATEGIC PLAN

In late 2019, LMS developed its first ever strategic plan and presented it to members and to Town Council. Since then, the Society has weathered a year of COVID-19 with reduced income, closure of heritage displays, and shutdown of public events on the docks. With four new directors on board, it was time to review the plan.

In February-March, the new Board set a long-term vision for LMS, and refined the five areas of focus and their goals. Specific actions to be accomplished in 2021 and 2022 were also identified and will be reported in future newsletters.



VISION TO 2040

Through 20 years of collaborative working relationships with the Stz'uminus First Nation, the Town of Ladysmith, The Ladysmith and District Historical Society (LDHS) and others we are an integral partner in preserving our maritime history, a significant contributor to our local economy and a vital partner in the waterfront development. Working with hundreds of volunteers, LMS is regarded as a leader in education and stewardship of the Ladysmith harbour and the Town's rich maritime heritage.

AREAS OF FOCUS and GOALS:

- **COMMUNITY COLLABORATION:** To foster collaborative relationships within the community, with the Town of Ladysmith, with the Stz'uminus First Nation and with other organizations to develop and realize mutually beneficial opportunities.
- **BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITY WITH VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS:** To ensure we have an adequate pool of volunteers to sustain the governance and operation of LMS and to provide engaging and rewarding opportunities for individuals and groups to support our facilities, programs and initiatives.
- **OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE:** To have quality infrastructure and facilities that are safe, secure and sustainable over the long term and to achieve operational excellence in all our systems, processes and services.
- **COMMITMENT TO OUR MARITIME HERITAGE:** To reinforce our commitment and obligation to preserve the maritime heritage of Ladysmith, to focus and integrate our heritage activities and programs and to foster partnerships with others.
- **PUBLIC ACCESS, PARKING AND SECURITY:** To provide marina visitors with safe and secure parking and safe road access integrated with the waterfront development plan and to have the ability to manage and enforce parking rules and regulations associated with the marina.





WHAT DO VISITING CANADIAN BOATERS SAY ABOUT LMS?

While COVID-19 eliminated all visits from our American friends in 2020, COVID did provide the opportunity to hear from our Canadian friends. From mid-July to mid-September, 153 visitors responded to the LMS Guest Moorage Survey, 80% of our 2020 boater guests were repeat visitors, with 7 years being the average of repeat visitors, and 20 years being the record holder. Fully half of our Canadian visitors come because of word-of-mouth recommendations.

When asked what LMS does well, responses were unanimous on the friendly, knowledgeable staff, followed by cleanliness, cleanliness, and cleanliness! Many positive comments were also received on the overall facilities, including “perks” such as the banners and flowers, the heritage displays, the Purple Martins, and the Oyster Bay Café.

Here are some typical quotes from our visitors which should make LMS staff, members, and volunteers feel proud:

“Welcoming efficient courteous staff, lovely café, interesting museum and child area, group picnic area with BBQ always well maintained. This marina is unique and so appreciated it would be great to invite people from other community (municipal) marinas to see what can be done and how they might be able to take advantage of your model.”

“Class Act, clean, love the common areas, BBQ and picnic tables, washrooms clean. Cinnamon buns in Town aren’t bad either. Nothing else like it in the Gulf Islands.” “Clean, attractive, good amenities, overall great marina and we will be back!” “Excellent. Great amenities. Love the community feel/vibe. Helpful friendly staff”

THANK YOU to our guests for these lovely comments and a special thank you to our Marina Manager, Patrick McEvoy who conducted the survey.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Debbie Loewen, Operations Manager, reminds everyone ... If you haven’t already done so, please submit your membership fees. Membership dues, both new and renewals, may be paid in person, at the Marina Office inside the Welcome Centre, by cheque or most conveniently online by clicking the “Here” –Button at <https://www.lmsmarina.ca/about/membership-benefits/>.

TORQEEDO HAS ARRIVED

We will start trials and experimenting with the Torqeedo 3hp electric outboard on one of LMS' heritage dinghies during April. For the techies among our readers, the model used is a Torqeedo Travel, 1003CL, 3HP with a 915Wh high-performance lithium battery.

Electrification

The purpose of the test program is to establish safe operating procedures, endurance, reach and recharging protocols for this electrifying propulsion mode. As close to zero-impact on the water as one can get we hope to be able to offer the electric dinghy for self-guided excursions in the Ladysmith Harbour and vicinity during the next months. LMS Members will be offered a preferential rental rate and we are working with our insurance provider to adequately address all risks of such an endeavor.

No fumes and little noise are the key advantages of the technology that will be equally appreciated by operators, boaters and the marine environment. Don't hesitate

to contact LMS or any comments or questions you may have (richard.wiefelspuett@lmsmarina.ca).



Soon to be enjoyed at LMS



A TRIBUTE TO OUR VOLUNTEER

It is with sadness, that LMS recognizes the passing on March 28, 2021, of Ed Heyes, a wonderful person, great friend, and outstanding volunteer. Ed's interest in preserving history and helping with heritage displays was most appreciated. His display of ship badges in the LMS office foyer was excellent. A hard worker, Ed enjoyed the school groups and LMS festivals. He was absolutely great in every way, able to see what needed to be done and he would do it. He is survived by his wife Vinessa. We will all miss him dearly.

LET'S MEET ELLY

Elly Smith recently joined LMS as our part time Volunteer & Events Coordinator. She and her husband Wayne have been in the Caribbean and Mexico for the past 11 years owning and operating a liveaboard diving and sailing business. They returned to BC this past summer and are living aboard at the marina. Stop by SV Zeppelin and say hello!



ACTIVITIES AT LMS MARINA

Elly jumped into her new role with the **February BC Heritage Week** and Family trail walk that was organized by the Ladysmith & District Heritage Society. LMS Marina displayed our Heritage vessels on the final day of Festival. Trail walkers were greeted by our Volunteers and the hot chocolate, coffee and goodies were a big hit on that cool February day.



Baby It's Cold Outside...

You may recall the Heritage week became a two-week event as the trails were covered in snow with the February 13th snowstorm. Once again, our wonderful Volunteers showed up in their finest snow suits to shovel the docks at the Marina while Marina Manager Patrick maneuvered the snow blower. It was quite the winter wonderland!



Such a great turn out for the **Marina Clean Up** March 27/28. We had 29 Volunteers show up and spiff up the Museum, Sea Life Centre, Bill Adair Boat House and we even had the pressure washer out on the docks and windows washed at the Welcome Centre. A big job for the volunteers scrubbing the life jackets.



HOIST THE TENT MATES

The last day of March the terrific volunteers from the 'Car Shop' hoisted the Marina tent over the social dock. It's beginning to look like Spring around here!



CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS WEEK

Coming soon is National Volunteer Week April 18th to 24th and we look forward to participating and celebrating our LMS Volunteers. BC has almost 1.5 million volunteers who dedicate over 114 million hours to help others. The theme for this year is – The Value of One, The Power of Many, and reflects on the awe-inspiring acts of kindness by millions of individuals. Despite the pandemic, volunteers continue to deliver essential services. Volunteers make our communities stronger, especially during times of need. If you know of a LMS member or marina moorage customer who you think is an exceptional volunteer in our Ladysmith community, by all means let us know. Elly will be featuring volunteers during the April 18th week on our Facebook page.

We are so incredibly grateful to all our Volunteers who come and help with the LMS and Marina projects. We couldn't do it without YOU!

LOOK WHO'S READY!

After almost 5 years in the 'Car Shop' (Heritage Boat Restoration Workshop) LMS members and volunteers will be celebrating the launch of the C.A. Kirkegaard on Tuesday April 20th.

Recently awarded by the Ladysmith & District Historical Society for... "long time dedication to the restoration of heritage vessels of local importance, most recent projects including the JOAN and the C.A. KIRKEGAARD" the car shop team are especially excited and looking forward to this very special day. Marina Sacht from Take 5 will be joining us as videographer and capturing the big SPLASH!

The Kirk was acquired by Ladysmith Maritime Society in 1992 and relaunched in 1993 after a significant restoration. She was used by LMS, for harbour tours up till 2016 when she was moved for repairs, to the historic "Car Shop".

Since then, volunteers have logged about 10,000 hours rebuilding the Kirk. Work has included replacement of the horn timber, stern timbers, stern gunwale timbers and caps, many new planks, ribs and beams, refastening of existing planks, restoration of the pilothouse windows, new cockpit combings to meet Transport Canada overflooding requirements, new cockpit deck and seats, new interior bench seats in their original configuration and new wiring. The engine was moved aft to make room for a head forwards and all new exhaust, cooling and propeller shaft connections were made. It will not be long now before you can once again, take a tour on the C.A. Kirkegaard.

Keep your eyes on our LMS Facebook page for the upcoming details, time and place if you are in the neighborhood April 20th, please join us! Visit us - facebook.com/LadysmithMaritimeSociety Also, If you are out on the water or in the Transfer Beach area, the C.A. Kirkegaard, and other LMS heritage vessels will be participating in the Ladysmith Yacht Club Opening Day & Sail Past on Sunday May 2nd.



COMING IN MAY

As mentioned, the Ladysmith Yacht Club is having their annual Opening Day & Sail Past on Sunday May 2nd from 1:00pm to 3:00pm and while there won't be any on shore activities, there will be a number of boats in the harbor. Keep a watch out for a few of our LMS Heritage boats motoring around, cruise by and say hello or give them a wave from Transfer Beach.

Stay tuned for another volunteer day at the Marina (mid May) – as it warms, we are planning another marina work party to sand, paint and plant. It will also be the month for the remaining beautiful banners to be installed. Elly will be in touch with more information and the details.

We are also planning YOGA on the social dock with all the proper social distancing protocols in place. With such a large deck space, fresh air and sunny mornings, it will be a very special place to enjoy a yoga class. More details coming.

ALFRESCO AT THE OYSTER BAY CAFÉ



As the weather is getting warmer who isn't looking forward to the wonderful atmosphere of the out-door setting of the Oyster Bay Café (OBC) at our Community Marina.

Building on the experience gained during the 2020 summer we are working with In the Beantime Café of Ladysmith on a best way to operate the OBC this year in a viable and attractive way. Safety of the café's patrons and staff, visiting boaters and the LMS community are paramount considerations.

Needless to say, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related public health orders will require a great deal of flexibility from all involved. At this stage we're planning to open the OBC from June through August with exact dates and daily opening times still under discussion.

We'll keep you informed via Facebook, our website and posters.



AHOY ME HEARTIES!

Behind closed doors down in the bilge there are several Pirates and Scallywags plotting and scheming for this year's **Kids Pirate Days** – going virtual on **May 31st**, showing 3 videos that week with a finale day **Sunday June 6th** at Transfer Beach, with all COVID protocols in place. You might even notice a few pirates roaming the marina docks on Saturday April 17th as we begin the filming. Gather those Scallywags, Seadogs and Buccaneers to join in the fun for Kids Pirates Days and stay tuned to the KPD web site www.kidspirateday.com. and Facebook pages for updates!

SUMMER FESTIVALS

Also in the planning stages are the annual **Heritage Boat Festival** and **Sea Life Festival**. Keeping COVID practices in mind, we are finding creative ways to keep these festivals alive for the community. With the assistance of Marina Sacht from Take 5, and our LMS Volunteers we will be capturing on video the history, stories and restorations behind the LMS Heritage vessels. We look forward to sharing this event with you and we are hopeful that by the summer we will have our vessels on display for all to come and visit. Upcoming information on these Festivals and more coming soon!



You have received this newsletter from the Ladysmith Maritime Society because you have indicated interest in our Society in one way or another. We're happy you're here but if you no longer wish to hear from us, please email us at info@lmsmarina.ca.

Built by volunteers!

[You don't need to be a member to Volunteer! ~ Click here now if you are interested.](#)

MAILING ADDRESS

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