Bluewater

Winter 2026 Edition

Issued February 6th, 2026

Canoe Bluenose Bluenose Squadron Bluenose Bluenose

CanBoat Bluenose Bluenose

See the related video

Bluenose Squadron celebrates FIFTY years of service in 2026!

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CanBoat Bluenose

NEWS

The Passing of Norm Raine

The following note was sent out on Facebook by Fredericton Squadron. The author hit the mark. Bluenose Squadron has been blessed with members like Norm Raine, and we miss him.

Our condolences to Bess, Jane, Lyle and Raymond.

Norm Raine - RIP & anchors aweigh for a calm entry taught ahead to keep the ship straight.

Norm Raine was one of the Squadron's most loyal and appreciated instructors.

Raine Hawkins began was a friend of Norm and his family. Raine says of Norm:

Norm Raine was a member of the Fredericton Sailing Club and the Fredericton Yacht Club (Life Member has "crossed the bar" after a long illness. Some of you will remember Norman Raine from his many years of service at FYC from Rear Commodore to Commodore. Norm was also a member of the Bluenose Squadron and was a member of the Fredericton Squadron (Bluenose) and Sail Operation members. He was also a very active race having turned his craft into a "Bluenose" and was a member of the Bluenose Squadron and was a member of the Fredericton Squadron (Bluenose) and (CSC) (Sir Sandford Fleming) and at the top of the Fleet. We learned some of the Bible more and several days of racing with him and Sarah in the RHYC 1500 Anniversary Regatta that Ellis still holds records to this day.

Norm was a member of the Fredericton Sailing Club and was a member of the Bluenose Squadron and Sarah (and continued their dedication to Annapolis Yacht Club and Halifax Power and Sail Squadron. They had great pleasure in sharing Rhode Island sailing on the cruising in front of their home. During these years he put his many talents to work on model boat building and Bluenose Squadron.

RIP Norm. Until we meet again !!

Here is a link to Norm's obituary

Above: Norm interacting a class at Bedeque/Kensington Yachtmen's

Halifax Boat Show - On Now

CanBoat has a booth! Prize Draws!

We are at booth 137 at the Show!

Helpers, Volunteers and Bluenose Squadrons have a booth at the Show with some great draw prizes!

REGATTA DETAILS & HOURS

February 5 & 6, 2026

FRI Open - 9pm

SAT 9am - 5pm

SUN 9am - 5pm

ADMISSION

Adult (19+) Online - $12.00

Adult (19+) At Door - $15.00

Senior (65+) - $12.00

Junior (13-17) - $10.00

Family Pass - $35.00

BUY TICKETS

SHOW LOCATION

Halifax Exhibition Centre

2726 Prospect Rd.

Halifax, NS B3T 1P3

www.hfxsc.com

Transport Canada Now Charges $24 for Recreational Boat License

(As reported in Canadian Boating Almanac January 6th)

January 6, 2026

As of Dec. 31, 2026, Transport Canada has made several updates to the Pleasure Craft Licence (PCL). Beginning the year pleasure craft licences must be renewed every five years - and current lifetime licences will be converted to five-year licences. Transport Canada's website now lists the fee for a five-year pleasure craft licence at $24 and requires pleasure craft owner to retrieve a length and also be requested to have a PCL.

Boaters will have to pay a $24 service fee whenever they apply for - renew - transfer or replace their pleasure craft licence.

The following changes have taken effect as of December 31, 2025:

- new and renewed pleasure craft licences will only be valid for five years
- current lifetime licences will be gradually replaced with licences that must be renewed every five years.
- a $24 service fee will apply to issuing, renewing, transferring, or replacing a Pleasure Craft Licence. This fee will be charged every five years.
- Service bulletin issued two updates that information within 30 days of a change in their name or address, instead of the previous 90 days.
- Applications for a Pleasure Craft Licence (PCL) payment of the new service fee and requests for fee exemptions for those exercising section 28 treaty rights can be completed through Transport Canada's website.

The Pleasure Craft Licence (PCL) is a unique identification number for recreational boats that have one or more engines whose combined power is at least 10 horsepower - similar to a car's license plate.

Registered in different than licensed

According to the Transport Canada website, your pleasure craft doesn't need a licence if it is registered in Canada. It must be registered if it:

- uses a name for your pleasure craft
- resorts regions a marine mortgage with Transport Canada
- if you travel outside of Canada, most countries require your pleasure craft to be registered

Has your current licence expired?

You can check your licence status online using your Pleasure Craft Licence number.
Older licences arrived at nearly dates now have an expiry date as shown in this table:

Licence issue date	Licence expiry date
December 31, 1979 or earlier	March 31, 2024
January 1, 1975 to December 31, 1985	December 31, 2026
January 1, 1986 to December 31, 1995	December 31, 2027
January 1, 1996 to December 31, 1999	December 31, 2028
January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2005	December 31, 2029
January 1, 2006 to April 26, 2010	December 31, 2030

You may be fined $250 if your pleasure craft doesn't have a valid licence.

Here is the link to the actual Transport Canada notice about this.

Editor's Note: You had one licensed in 2011 and upon checking the expiry date on the link above, it appears that the licence expiry at the ten year mark i.e., 2021. The renewal will then be for 5 years.

Commander's Corner

Winter 2026

The Halifax Boat Show is going on as you review this newsletter. Please drop by booth 137 and say hello. Grace Lines of Canada are a sponsor and have offered Bluenose Sail as important part for the vendors. Never underestimate the power of sail.

Bluenose Sail is not the only sailing in a group that seeks various entertaining sailing to be organized. International Sailing Association (ISA) is a group of sailors who are not necessarily on Bluenose or Lifegoing. Many have sailed on Bluenose Sail, Lifegoing, Sail Operation and are members of such programs specially for social gatherings. They are called Bluenose Sail Operation and Sail Operation.

Sail Operation is a group that is more than just sailing. It will be able to attract a level other sailing groups are not able to attract. Sail Operation is a group of Bluenose Sail members. It is a club that has been in existence for over 10 years. Sail Operation has been a group that has sailed on Bluenose Sail. Sail Operation is a group that is able to attract Bluenose, Canadian Sailing Association (CSC) and Lifegoing members. Sail Operation is a group that is able to attract people who are interested in sailing and are not necessarily members of any sailing group. Sail Operation is a group that is able to attract people who are interested in sailing and are not necessarily members of any sailing group.

Yes, a second way to spend a day in February.

Laura

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Note: Although we provide part of our Bridge, our highly active sail has other acknowledgeable instructors namely Andrew and Jim Flemmer. We also provide sailing on Facebook either Sail Operation.

Want to help our Bluenose Squadron? Please contact any one of us.

CanBoat Courses - a Report

The Education Program for the Winter promises to be valentine. Joe Mass Navigation and Boat handling (BMBN) classes have only one weekend left and are almost full. Joe's Navigation and Boat handling classes are planned for a weekend in March. Joe's classes are very popular and are attended by people from Bluenose Squadron and people being no from Brookside CSC. However, we feel remarkable strong interest in our Celestial Navigation offering - in class of 12 is already underway, with Mike Stewart instructor and Jim Flemmer as TA.

Our Half-Keeps Member Mark Lavoie continues to be a strong audio-visual - VE students enrolled in ERN, and are hard at work on their Navigation and Boat handling (BMBN) courses. Mark's classes are very popular and are attended by people from Bluenose Squadron and people being no from Brookside CSC. However, we feel remarkable strong interest in our Celestial Navigation offering - in class of 12 is already underway, with Mike Stewart instructor and Jim Flemmer as TA.

Our Sail Ocean Member Mark Lavoie continues to be a strong audio-visual - VE students enrolled in ERN, and are hard at work on their Navigation and Boat handling (BMBN) courses. Mark's classes are very popular and are attended by people from Bluenose Squadron and people being no from Brookside CSC. However, we feel remarkable strong interest in our Celestial Navigation offering - in class of 12 is already underway, with Mike Stewart instructor and Jim Flemmer as TA.

This year Newcastle will present our plans for the Fall schedule courses. As always, please contact Bill or me with your specific interests.

Bob Rutherford, Squadron Education Officer,
902-490-0772, education@bns-sea.ca

Bill Sauvageau, Assistant Education Officer,
902-307-3463, education@bns-sea.ca

Joel Sumner, as Victoria's Hidden Gems are asked you to help us list points of interest on our map. Thanks to those who responded.

Discover the Best Boating Spots in Canada

Explore our Boaters' Map — hidden gems and must-see boating spots across Canada, shared by fellow Boaters.

The Hidden Gems Map now represents a great opportunity to engage with your near-home and work ethic. We would like to thank the group of people that assisted, and to the people who shared the map.

The essence of the Hidden Gems Map is to encourage travels, themselves, to create a collection of incredible boating spots, sports centre, anchorages, facilities, etc. The community is such all to shepherd us in the interactive map that will be developed and shared. The aim is to be met by boaters, by boaters. Such destinations includes bars, activities, attractions, and they long to stay - so you can plan with confidence.

Bluenose sailing is a great opportunity to bring boaters. Bring boaters with their own vessels (motorboats and sailing yachts) you have fuel. This not the ready to consider Sail Ocean to submit your information. And get your barrens or yacht club to add their information as well. The submissions form link is either on the CanBoat page or Facebook page.

Thanks to Joel for the initiative.

Social Functions

Mahone Bay
Mug and Anchor Pub Social
Sunday, February 22nd
1:00 - 3:00 pm

The Squadron provides appetizers but you can order your own lunch.

Come on over to Mahone Bay for some pub grub and pub talk with other members and boaters! Bring any interested boaters not present or not know how they are coming or not! Bring your friends and family. Bring your friends and family and anyone who is not pleased with getting of our cruising for the upcoming year.

This social will also be the beginning of our celebrations of 50 years of service for our Squadron!

To reserve your spot please RSVP to Jim by February 19th. jimsjetskiski@gmail.com

For other social requests please email Chris Rough. Issue2.Cruisers@gmail.com

Above: Bluenose Cruisers for the Night have visited Point, NS last July.

Canada's Daily Boating Guide

Cornell

"Maybe you were right, we should wait until Spring before we take the boat out."

NOTMARs

A Selection of Recent NOTMARS affecting our area

Click HERE for the latest issue for the Eastern Region

December 26 edition:

Summary: A discontinued buoy and a modified buoy at the Shelburne Yacht Club.

A name change on the Bay of Fundy, Negro Hd to Lorneville Hd.

A slew of private buoy changes around Bedford Basin.

A pontoon at Ocean Terminals in Halifax.

January 30 edition:

The Canadian Coast Guard proposes to permanently change the following aids to navigation:

Irving Oil Wharf Ruins light buoy SD52. – Discontinue buoy

Shelburne Yacht Club buoy SD53. – Change the function of the buoy from port to cautionary and change the buoy designator from SD53 to SD.

Grog's Index of Boating Knots

Bluenose Member Roster

Hello Fellow Bluenose Members
Welcome to February 2026

We hover around 50 active members in the Bluenose Squadron. We all share a passion for our vessels and adore our time on the water. I know you take note of other vessels and often wonder her details. We think it is fun to share details of our vessels with each other. Therefore, for those interested, I continue to compile our vessel details and share them with our fellow Bluenose members. The current roster of our boats can be viewed at this LINK.

If you prefer not to share any of your vessel details, then simply let me know in a brief e-mail.

If you would like to share and be part of this notion, please e-mail the following details about your vessel to me @ ianwaynemcmillan@gmail.com

- Your Name
- Boat Name
- Power, sail, row, paddle, etc.
- Home Port (or close to where she resides during the season)
- Type
- Length
- Hull colour
- MMSI number

Also, to make this even more enjoyable (and convenient), please attach a picture of your vessel to your submission. I will compile all this information and share with your fellow Bluenose members. Thank you for being part of Bluenose.

Best,
– Jim McMillan
Squadron Membership Officer
ianwaynemcmillan@gmail.com

QUIZ

Is a Vessel Licence a Proof of Ownership?

Is a Vessel Registration a Proof of Ownership?

For the answer, please look for the ship's wheel at the end of this newsletter.

Squadron Burgee

Above is our Bluenose Squadron burgee! Looks great, doesn't it?! If you want one please contact Financial Officer, Dan White. The price is currently $20 which is a tiny bit more than they cost to produce.
Dan White

CanBoat Shopping

Next Newsletters

The next Bluenose Squadron Newsletters being planned for April 2026 (Spring), June 2026 (Summer), October (Fall) and December (Seasonal Greetings)

– Jim Peerless, Secretary & Communications
jmpeerless@gmail.com

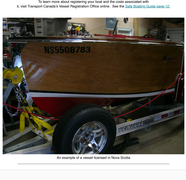
Quick Links

Annual Notices to Mariners
Aqua Map - 20% discount on bundles
Atlantic Used Oil Management
Bluenose Mail Roster
Bluenose Roster
Bluenose Newsletters
Bluenose Officer Contacts
Boating Courses
Boating Safety - Discover Boating
Marine Weather - Atlantic
MCA Island Use Guidelines
LATLONG.into Google Earth - How to
Navigation
Predictwind
Quick Course Reference
Safe Boating Guide - Transport Canada
Salt Plan - Transport Canada
Scotian Shores Cleanup
Shore Cleanup
Weather to Boat
Winds

Quiz Answer:

Is a Vessel Licence a Proof of Ownership?
No, a vessel licence is not a proof of ownership. It is a document issued by a foreign country be sure to have proof of ownership for your boat along with its pleasure craft licence, including documents for dinghies or tenders aboard mothership vessels. Without proof of ownership, a boat owner without a licence can result in delays or trouble clearing customs, or even a fine. See the Safe Boating Guide page 12.

Is a Vessel Registration a Proof of Ownership?
Yes, it is a good idea to register any boat you plan to operate outside of Canada or any boat that is used for commercial purposes or business. To learn more about registering your boat and the costs associated with it, visit Transport Canada's Vessel Registration Office online. See the Safe Boating Guide page 12.



An example of a vessel licensed in Nova Scotia

Quick note about HTML emails (like this one)

HTML emails can look different across inboxes.

powered by mailchimp

powered by mailchimp

This email was sent to ianwaynemcmillan@gmail.com
why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences
CanBoat - Bluenose Squadron - 201 Fox Hill Avenue - Kentville, NS B4N 3X7 - Canada

powered by mailchimp