

Report to Niagara District Council DTO's Report, March 16th, 2011

The request for a volunteer AP DEE within Niagara District remains outstanding.

During the past month, I attended the Training Department's Spring Training Meeting. So too did Lem Tamm whom I introduced formally to the Committee and informally to participants and guests. In addition, I was invited to several, non-agenda meetings with the NTO, the two ANTOs, some Committee Chairs, some Course Directors and other DTOs.

Tonight, the report will consist mainly of news from the Spring Training Meeting reported in a two-part ppt presentation: one to all District attendees and one to the STOs during a workshop. The first presentation asserts the actions needed by Squadrons to fulfill Transport Canada's new PCOC provider standards. Since CPS has signed the agreement nationally, compliance by each Squadrons and the On-Line process is paramount. A deficiency in one part suspends all Squadrons' ability to provide PCOC tests.

Each Squadron will also receive a CD with presentations or notes on the following:

1. The Recognized Instructor implementation and September 1st 2011 milestone,
2. Transport Canada's 257 knowledge requirements for all providers & CPS's compliance,
3. Transport Canada's latest Safe Boating Guide which is not a Manual,
4. Transport Canada's Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Program Testing Regime and CPS's PCOC Implementation & Declaration of Recall & Destruction of prior PCOC tests,
5. Transport Canada's new On-Line PCOC requirements & CPS's design, status & request,
6. CPS Financial situation & actions taken to March 4, 2011,
7. Social Media: Facebook & Twitter for Squadron,
8. The CPS Training Department Guidebook updates, and
9. The CPS Information Technology presentation: WBAS.

Since the Meeting, updates have been issued on the following memo and declaration:

1. Implementation of New Training & Testing Procedures Related to the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC), and
2. Declaration Regarding Recall & Destruction of PCOC Tests.

The original documents are identified as Draft, March 4th, 2011. Both replacement updates are identified as Rev 2, Draft, March 10th, 2011. The updates do not change the intent or actions based on the earlier documents. The updates have revised the date to return the Declaration from April 30th to May 31st; added that all reasonable efforts have been made to recall & destroy; and Boat Pro will be called Boating Basics.

All 40 reports from the members of the Training Committee are posted on CPS Website (CDs, CCs & DTO) and expand on the details contained in this report and CD. From the DTO Meeting it was noted that the Training Guidebook removed the WBAS references from the online version making the Nanaimo CD more valuable for new training officers and instructors. It was reinforced that Regular & Associate Members share the same privileges except flying the CPS flag.

In addition, reports were made to the Joint Committee and summarized as follows:

1. The CurCom is considering combining the three electronics courses into one. They are also awaiting the advice to be provided by the General Directors in June 2011 based on a survey of customer needs and wants.

2. The Boating course is in its third round of submission with Transport Canada. This is typical of the scrutiny received by all providers. I have obtained a copy of the Boating Slide Show for use in our Workshop tonight.
3. The Offshore Navigation course remains unchanged. French translation and additional examinations are in final stages. For those interested in the content of the course I have the presentation made.
4. The Electronic Navigation Director is considering the use of Rosepoint as it has 600 Canadian charts on CD.
5. The Weather Course Director advised that students should complete Fundamentals of or have a strong meteorology background to be successful in Global Weather.
6. Boat & Engine Maintenance is expected to be published for Fall 2011
7. Extended Cruising is expected to be published for Fall 2011
8. The Youth Education Director reported the duration of the course will likely need to be extended, perhaps from one to one and a half days. In addition, more oral questions are likely needed due to the longer Boating Basics and the more difficult PCOC examination.
9. In the domain of Maritime Radio, the Assistant National Training Officer explained one is considered to be 'operating' if the radio is turned on even to listen. It appears it is no longer sufficient to disconnect the microphone. The ROC(M) card is required to listen.

More than ten presentations were made from guest portfolios:

Mal Blann AP, Chief Commander

- Smartboater.ca is a clearing house for safe boating info (20 videos to enhance classes)
- 'Take a Course' theme prevalent
- Potential mandatory life jacket survey in summer 2011

Richard Bee, AP, National Executive Officer

- Financial results & actions, now & future
- Carlos Fuenzalida – Info Tech reported on CD
- Tony Gardiner – DVD by TC on Stay Clear Stay Alive & RVCC
- Pauline Wettlaufer – on Officer Training Chair

Catherine McLeod, AP, National Admin Officer

- Re-introducing 'Who Does It Best' on e-Promoto
- Greeting Card theme: 'Don't leave dock without ...'
- 'Spring Launch Tips' from Bill Milne
- Safe Boating Week: Craig Stewart wants Squadrons to report what's done

Paul Clissold: New website Update

Vanessa Schmidt: Social Media Networks on CD

Tony Gardiner, SN, P/C/C & RVCC Administrator

- In planning are Train the Trainer by TC & Train the Checker by CPS
- Check sheets now printed by CPS; can use 2010 sheets in 2011

Pauline Wettlaufer, AP, Officer Training Chair

- Feels it is a must for STO & Instructors
- Wants Squadrons/Districts to return agendas

Mary Ridgewell, AP, 2011 Halifax conference Chair

- Conference shirts are available
- Discount: \$220 till Sept 9th; thereafter \$245

Spencer Anderson, SN, P/N/Ed Officer, USPS

- Continue to enhance training content & experience
- Advocates seminars for experienced boaters & to enroll others in courses

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Holden, SN