



October 2021

It's been a good year on the waters in and around Nova Scotia in 2021!

In January the Sail NS Board adopted a new Strategic Plan that will guide the Association for the next 4 years. Using the plan, we identified a number of strategic initiatives that will be of benefit to clubs over the next 12 months and after a 2 year absence will be resurrecting our Mobile Sailing School.

In February we launched our new 29er skiff program by hiring Stephen Waldie and purchasing 3 brand new 29ers. The program quickly became a success with clubs across Nova Scotia either purchasing 29ers or exploring the option.

May saw much of the training season put on hold thanks to COVID-19 but when June hit clubs and programs were raring to go.

A number of keelboat and dinghy regattas were back on the schedule after a one-year absence. Close to 200 sailors participated in the July Bay Wind Dinghy Regatta and more than 100 boats took part in Chester Race Week – Canada's largest Keelboat Regatta. It was so nice to see everyone out on the water again.

Club membership grew by 9% over last year and registrations in the CANSail programs were up almost 40% compared to 2020. In fact many clubs are reporting they are at or near capacity.

Some firsts in the province this year included:

Armdale Yacht Club launching their Broader Reach program to introduce New Canadians to the sport of sailing.

Lunenburg Yacht Club hosting the Women's Keelboat Provincial Championships after a close to 10 year hiatus.

Development of the first Sail Nova Scotia Diversity & Inclusion Module and Policy.

Hosting the first ever Nova Scotia High School Team Racing Championships.

And of course, all Nova Scotians were proud of Jacob Chaplin-Saunders and Oliver Bone when they represented Canada at the Tokyo Olympic Games and when sisters Georgia & Antonia Lewin-LaFrance captured the bronze medal at the 2021 49erFX European Championships.

We look ahead to 2022 with hope that the pandemic will be behind us and that we will all be able to gather in Halifax in person for the 2022 annual meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Denis  
Executive Director