Vice President Recreational and Masters Report 2017

While the season got off to a late start, it was wonderful to see all of the members eager to pitch in and get the club ready for the 2017 season. What a season it was!

By the time we pulled the docks out in November, 124 powerful rowers had been a part of the recreational and masters programs. Together with their coaches (3 main with additional help from at least 4 others throughout the season) they practiced diligently on the river and took part in a number of regattas across the region/province/continent. Members of the Masters and Recreational programs could be found racing in the following regattas: Row Ontario Masters, Henley Masters, Head of the Madawaska, Head of the Rideau, Head of the Trent, Head of the Charles, and the Head of the Fish. The ORC crews were a force to be reckoned with on the water this past summer! If the winter training is anything to go by the 2018 season will be even more intense!

Rowing alongside our full season crews, we also had 128 Adult Rowing League members out during June and July. These individuals were either learning how to row or returning back to the sport after being away. They practiced once a week during June and in July they all met up on Thursdays to race between the bridges and enjoy delicious food from a variety of food trucks. Some also had the opportunity to meet Olympians and race in a boat with them which is a memory they will not soon forget. Helping all of the crews make it down the river each week were 31 patient and encouraging coaches. During the race nights we had over 20 volunteers making sure that the boats started and ended safely. Huge thanks to Melissa, Liliane and David who helped organize ARL. You were amazing! Thanks to everyone else who helped make ARL 2017 such a success!

Along with representing rec, masters and arl rowers at the Executive table I also responded to a variety of enquiries. Over this past year there have been close to 200 odd emails and responses from people interested in joining our club, renting boats at regattas, coming to the club while on vacation/business and interested in getting a row in (thanks to everyone who made our guests feel so comfortable), regatta logistics and boat allocation emails, coaching emails and finally Executive emails.

It has been a busy and exciting year.

As this is my last AGM, I wanted to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be representing you all on the Executive for the past 8 years either as secretary (secret Rec supporter) and then as VP rec and masters! I have had the pleasure of representing some pretty amazing individuals! Watching you grow in skill and size has been amazing! I look forward to watching the progress continue in the years to come. I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their passion and dedication to their respective files. You have made sure that every time an issue came to the table it was given immense thought and we looked at it from many angles before any decisions were taken. Thank you for teaching me so much. I will treasure it and I wish you all the best in the next season.