



FRIENDS OF CHERRY BEACH & OUTER HARBOUR
powered by people and nature

Dear Members of the Executive Committee,

RE: EX30.2 - Toronto Personal Watercraft Safety Plan (Ward All) - Cherry Beach

Friends of Cherry Beach and the Outer Harbour (FoCBOH) is a coalition of clubs and groups with thousands of amateur aquatic-recreation enthusiasts of motorless watersports based in Toronto's Outer Harbour. We represent sailors, windsurfers, paddlers, swimmers, kites and rowers. Our mission is to promote the preservation and improvement of safe and enjoyable motorless aquatic recreation in Toronto's Outer Harbour.

Friends of Cherry Beach and the Outer Harbour conducted a water usage study of the Outer Harbour in 2022. The findings indicate that, when accounting for all water sport clubs and organizations, there are over 8,000 non-motorized aquatic users of the Outer Harbour on a seasonal basis (see select slides with usage maps below, full study available upon request).

In 2021/2022 FoCBOH also conducted an Outer Harbour Safety Survey. There were 290 respondents representing all forms of motor-less activity. The top two safety concerns were Presence of Motorized Watercraft (39%) and On-Water Crowding (18%). The FoCBOH Water Safety Survey slides are attached to this email.

Further, the City's recent ThoughtExchange Survey (part of the PWC Watercraft Safety Plan) indicated that Cherry Beach ranked third highest by survey respondents in terms of Waterfront areas or beaches people were most concerned about.

It is FoCBOH's belief that the presence of motorized watercraft used for purposes beyond teaching and supervising watersports activities in the Outer Harbour poses a considerable safety risk to all non-motorized users.

We are writing to formally request EX30.2 Recommendation be amended to include Cherry Beach and the Outer Harbour. The amendment should request that City Council direct the Port Authority to implement a Motorized Watercraft Exclusion Zone for Cherry Beach and the Outer Harbour.

The Outer Harbour is one of the busiest waterways in the City and certainly the busiest waterway for clubs teaching and coaching water-based activities to children, youth and adults. It is our firm belief that an MWEZ at Cherry Beach & Outer Harbour will significantly improve on-water safety for all!

Sincerely,

Friends of Cherry Beach & Outer Harbour (FoCBOH)

Jessica Campbell (swim, paddle)

Jane Anderson (swim, paddle)

Jennifer Penney (windsurf)

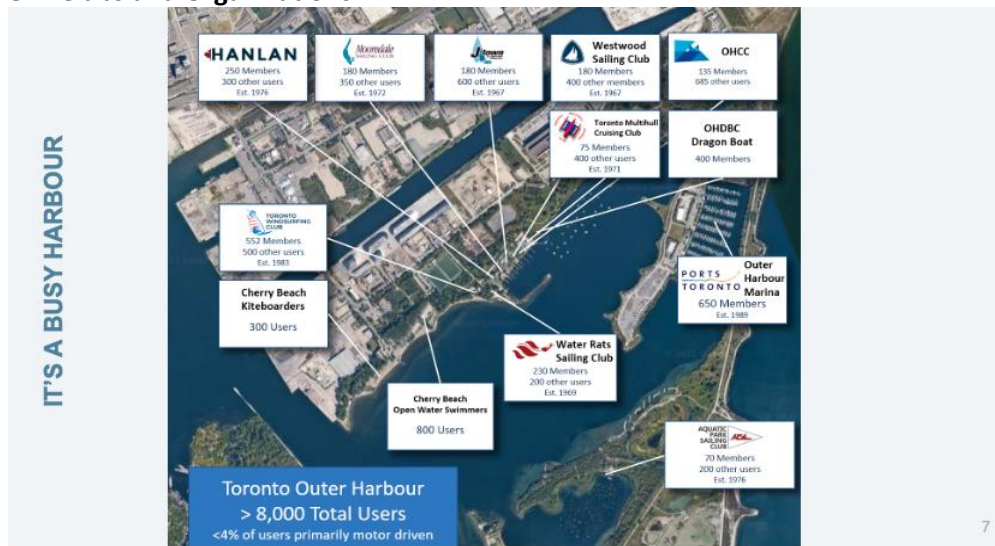
Alan Lysne (kiting, winging)

Steve Hulford (swim)

cc: Councillor Paula Fletcher
Commodore of the Outer Harbour
FoCBOH Steering Committee

Attach:

Usage Slide 1: Clubs and Organizations



Usage Slide 2: Usage Zones in the Outer Harbour



Outer Harbour Safety Survey