



Halton Outdoor Club Update from your Interim President 27 July 2020

We are underway with hiking and cycling activities and so far, the response has been fantastic. I would like to thank all the Trip Leaders and participants for following HOC's COVID-19 Safety Guidelines. Early events have demonstrated that it's not easy to do so - I applaud you all for your efforts! Please remember that we are following these Guidelines in order not only to keep ourselves and our friends safe and well, but also to protect our families and extended families back home – those whom we will return to and mix with following our event.

COVID-19 is far from being over!!! Hence, it's a privilege to undertake the events we have held to date and the many more to come this fall and through the winter! Please speak up to your Trip Leader if for any reason you feel uncomfortable during your event.

Paddling will be starting up in early August with an inaugural trip on the Welland River. There are still spaces so please consider getting the boat out and cruising the river.

Please stay tuned to the **Updater**, as shortly you'll find a note outlining a small change we'll be making in the event registration process to ensure all our members are aware of and follow HOC's COVID-19 Safety Guidelines while participating in HOC activities.

In addition, we have recently updated the Club's 'Release and Waiver of Liability...' document in relation to privacy notifications. Hence, please review and update your Member profile according to the instructions contained in the *Updater* article.

Your Board continues to work hard on its Strategic Planning initiative, and with the help of Linda Martin we expect to have made considerable progress by the fall.

Earlier, your Board forwarded you the Club's AGM package, including financials with our accountant's independent report. We continue to look at ways that we can still hold an AGM this fall, either virtually or through a combination of virtual/in person. We hope to then provide you with considerably more information about our active fall and winter programs as well as our thoughts about Club directions over the next 1-3 years.

I know that each of you has to determine for yourself when it's best for you to return to full and active participation with HOC. We have undertaken to operate within all the recommended Government guidelines in order to keep our members as safe as possible within this COVID-19 environment. However, we also understand the benefits afforded all of us by being outside and as active as possible during these times. We are here and we are anxiously waiting for your return!

If you have any questions about HOC, our sport activities, COVID-19 safety guidelines, etc please forward them Bonnie at info@haltonoutdoorclub.ca and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible...

Don Logan
Interim President