



## PRESS RELEASE

*For immediate release*

### **Renaissance Brome Lake recommends the implementation of a Boating Zone for Wake and Surf boats**

**Brome Lake. May 26, 2022** - After two years of pandemic restrictions, Renaissance Brome Lake (RBL) is reconnecting with its members, partners, local governments and the other environmental organizations in the region. We want to share our recent achievements and our priorities for 2022.

"At the top of our priorities is an initiative to limit the effects of boats designed to create large wakes. Working in concert with the Town of Brome Lake, RBL wants to protect the lake's ecosystem from the negative impacts of Wake Boats and Surf Boats." H el ene Drouin, RBL's president, noted, "While Brome Lake is a good-sized lake, it is shallow and has many fragile areas." The 'Boating' file was on the agenda of RBL's Annual General Meeting held on May 14th and its cocktail party, which took place on May 26th at the Th eatre de Lac-Brome.

During these meetings, RBL announced its recommendation that the Town of Brome Lake establishes a zone for the operation of Wake and Surf boats on the lake's northwest side. The latest studies recommend that boats designed to generate wakes operate at least 300 meters from shore and in water at least 7 meters deep to minimize environmental impacts. The current rules for all boats on the lake limit speeds to under 10 km/hr (clutch speed) within 150 meters of shore, conditions much less protective than experts recommend.

H el ene Drouin took the opportunity to review RBL's 2021 results and the many projects completed by its volunteers and interns under the guidance of resident biologist and Project Manager Ana ıs Renaud. Despite the pandemic, RBL reported positive results. Nevertheless, she pointed out that many waterfront residents were not taking advantage of the Town of Brome Lake's 'Lakeshore Revegetation Program.' Revegetation curbs erosion. To support the initiative, "RBL completed a shoreline evaluation and is sending the results to the Town to help with the Program's implementation."

There are many projects and studies planned for 2022; supporting the recommended Wake and Surf boat operating zone, water quality monitoring, surveys of private ponds in the watershed, and the control of invasive exotic species like the Eurasian milfoil and the Rusty Crayfish. In addition, the president informed members and partners that the board of directors had decided to select a new name and a new logo by the end of the year. "It's time for our name to reflect our mission," she said, "Renaissance" was chosen many years ago, and that name no longer represents the organization's *raison d' tre*. Attendees responded positively to the news at both events.



# Renaissance Lac Brome Lake

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Association for the conservation of the lake and its watershed



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