



December 1, 2022

## Boat Launch Survey Summary

Council had directed Administration to develop and distribute a survey to ratepayers regarding boat launches in the RM. The purpose of the survey was to assess demand and usage and to determine if more launches and/or parking is needed. 113 surveys were completed, that is approximately 13% of eligible participants.

Overall, the existing boat launches seem to be meeting current demand. Its worth noting that Shore Acres is considered the busiest boat launch, with Collingwood second. Key take-aways from the survey results include:

1. Residents would like to the boat launch in Collingwood repaired and maintained better. Statements included, the ramp is too steep, water is too shallow at end of summer, rocks need to be removed from within the water. Residents would also like the dock at the boat launch repaired or replaced.
2. Shoreline and Clearview boat launch were also mentioned numerous times for repair and maintenance. Residents would also like a dock in the water alongside the boat launch, for securing boats and standing on.
3. There were concerns regarding MacPheat Park's boat launch and parking. There is very limited parking for launch vehicles and trailers. This is of particular concern for a participant because of a proposed subdivision nearby that may increase usage.
4. Participants commented that Hamlet residents are not always welcoming to others using a boat launch within their hamlet. Some people believe Hamlet boat launches are only for hamlet residents. There are signs at many boat launches stating residents only.
5. The survey results made it very clear that ratepayers are not interested in paying user fees for lake access (105-8).
6. There appears to be misinformation circulating within McKillop that the RM is considering building a boat launch at Fox's Point. This is not true, there has only been limited discussion of a boat launch near the point. Ratepayers made it very clear that they do not want a boat launch at Fox's Point.
7. Some surveys commented that boat launches and docks could/should be made more accessible to people with disabilities and mobility issues.

## Boat Launch Survey

### Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

1. Do you live in a Hamlet, either part-time or full-time?	No- 28	Yes-85
2. If yes, which Hamlet do you live in?	SA-4 AV-5 SPB-6 CV-8 SH-2 MB-6	MP-3 SB-6 SC-3 NC-9 CW-22 Other-3
3. Do you own a boat?	No-9	Yes-104
4. How often do you use a boat on Last Mountain Lake?	Never-3 1-3/y-	1-3/m-26 1/wk-23 More-45
5. How do you store your boat when not in Use, on a parked	Trailer-53 Other-9	Dock/Lift-39
6. Do you use RM/Hamlet Boat Launches to access Last Mountain Lake with your boat?	No-22	Yes-85
7. If yes, in which Hamlet is the boat launch located?	SA-36 AV-0 SPB-8 CV-8 SH-6 MB-7 RR-	MP-4 SB-9 SC-14 NC-1 CW-21 RV-3 Other-2
8. How often do you have to wait more than 15 minutes at a boat launch?	Never-65 Sometimes-44 Always-1	
9. Does the number of users and wait times ever deter or prevent you from using a boat launch?	Never-85 Sometimes-21 Always-0	
10. Which boat launch(es) do you find the busiest?	SA-66 AV- SPB-2 CV-3 SH-2 MB-6 RR-	MP-2 SB-6 SC-8 NC-0 CW-18 RV-0 Other-4(SD)
11. Would you like to see more boat launches within the RM?	No-77	Yes-29
12. If yes, where would you like to see a boat launch(es) constructed?	SA-1 AV- SPB-1 CV-1 SH-2 MB- RR-	MP- SB- SC-1 NC-1 CW-5 RV- Other-14

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13. How often is there sufficient parking available for your boat trailer and vehicle at the boat launch?	Never-27 Sometimes-44 Always-40	
14. Would you like to see more parking near boat launches?	No-73	Yes-38
15. If yes, near which boat launch would you like to see more parking?	SA-2 AV- SPB-3 CV-1 SH-2 MB-1 RR-	MP-2 SB- SC-7 NC- CW-7 RV- Other-5
16. Would you be willing to pay a user fee to access the RM boat launches?	No-105	Yes-8



## Boat Launch Survey Comments

1. Some of taxes our family already pays goes towards the upkeep of the boat launch at Sorensen's Beach.
2. Provincial money was used for Glen Harbour's boat launch, but no one is allowed to use it, unless they live in Glen Harbour.
3. Not at foxes point. This will take away from the natural preserve and natural land.
4. Leave foxes point alone . It's fine the way it is . If you want to add a boat launch put it in the public access beside Dixon's place or the other public access beside the Reeves farm!
5. There was always lot of traffic. This year we bought a track and dolley system. Very pricey to make it better and faster to launch our boat. Some people take way to long to launch there boat.
6. I've also used the boat launch at Glen Harbour and Shoreline. I do not have a waterfront lot, but I am willing to put a dock alongside the boat launch in Clearview, that could be used by anyone using the launch in Clearview.
7. RATE PAYERS SHOULD NOT PAY A USER FEE TO USE A BOAT LAUNCH. WE LIVE INCOLLINGWOOD AND THE DOCK HERE IS UNSAFE AND DANGEROUS. OUR BOAT HASBEEN DAMAGED BY USING THIS LAUNCH. SINCE THEN WE DRIVE THE DUSTY GRAVELROADS TO ROWAN'S RAVINE TO LAUNCH IT SAFELY AND WITHOUT DAMAGING IT. ANIMPROVED DOCK AT COLLINGWOOD IS LONG OVERDUE.
8. Residence of the hamlet need to be informed that you don't have to be from the hamlet to use the launch. I have been yelled at a few times that it is a private launch.
9. Clearview boat launch is in desperate repair as cement pad is torn away and rebar sticking out. This launch has not been repaired in way too many years.
10. No looking for more boat launches but would like to see improvements to Collingwood boat launch. The slope of the pad into the water is too steep.
11. Collingwood boat launch needs to be dredged out as silt is filling in and at low water we are not able to launch as it is too shallow.
12. Sundale boat launch is not run by the RM and is a private boat launch. Current members pay and support this boat launch. RM should consider taking this over similar to other communities.



13. I think our dock should be walker and wheelchair assessable with poles to hang onto while walking. I have trouble walking due a permanent disability and sometimes need assistance walking on and off the dock.
14. Those individuals using the boat launch who are not residents of the Hamlets should be required to pay a fee.
15. Seems like locals think that it is their boat launch.
16. We pay enough in property tax, I would not like to pay a fee.
17. If our RM tax dollars are being used to install and remove docks, maintain the roads they should be accessed by residents only. Non-resident boat owners should use the provincial park. Or buy a launch pass such as the one used at the regional park near Govan.
18. Number 10 will be difficult to answer for most.
19. If Sundale launch is public why is there a locked chain gate across it? Some winters the ramps have been pulled up making it unpassable so the public just drives around the launch, what is the purpose of that.
20. If we could make the current boat launches better - better cement pads, better upkeep, some docks, some other modernization which you find at lakes in the USA. I would be willing to pay a user fee for better services.
21. We do not necessarily need more boat launches, but rather much better maintenance and upkeep of the ones we have. We would not have to go look for other places to launch if the ones we have were taken care of. That is the real problem.
22. It is impossible for the Rm to police this question and remain a public area.
23. At Mohr's beach we have a small amount of room to accommodate the residents , you take your boat down and there are six or seven trucks and trailers down there that don't have a cottage here , and most of them can't read signs and don't know how to park , I pay a lot of taxes to not have a parking spot at the lake.
24. The boat launch at Clearview Resort is in need major repair as well it is very difficult to launch boats without a dock.
25. If this boat launch is being proposed for Fox Point. I am completely against it. This is supposed to be preserved land. Now you want to add a parking lot, boat launch and have all that traffic down there killing the natural environment. If this is the case there needs to be a public meeting for this proposal. There is a provincial boat launch that can be accessible to anyone who is not in a community. People with boats in a community have their own boat launches. We don't need to



have people from all over that are not ratepayers using that area and not looking after it. Which we always see happening at foxes point. Adding a bait launch and parking lot would absolutely destroy that beautiful natural area.

26. As a full-time resident of this RM I would not be interested in paying more as our taxes are already excessive with very little service provided. As far as which boat launch is the busiest is difficult to answer I'm sure for most people as most people use the same one every time.
27. I would have picked "Unknown" or "N/A" for #10 if possible as I can't compare how busy the boat lifts are. Also, even though we are willing to pay a fee it would need to be reasonable and perhaps by "per use" to keep it fair?
28. With the amount of visitors we get at our boat launch there is a need for additional launches so where along the lake. With easy access and parking.
29. A lot of the questions don't apply to us at this time as we use Rowans as were told by a councillor a couple years ago that the boat launches in the resort are for the cottage owners only! When boat launches were discussed at a meeting this was clarified that they are open to the public. This particular councillor never said a word during the discussion.
30. I think users outside the RM should pay user fees to launch their boats. Taxpayers to the RM shouldn't be expected to pay user fees.
31. We definitely need more parking at the Macpheat Park dock. We currently have enough space for 2 vehicles and trailers.
32. Sufficient number of boat launches exist at this time, unnecessary development of the shoreline is a needless destruction of the ecosystem and a waste of money. Just my opinion.
33. Many rm launches are marked "residents only" or no parking so makes it difficult to want to use them when residents of hamlets think they own them and make it uncomfortable to use.
34. would be nice if the launches were maintained and kept safe for users with the concrete pads inspected and kept looked after, this expense should be allocated to all hamlets in RM not just the one its located at. User pay should be for none tax paying users. RM residents already pay, why pay twice for others to enjoy.
35. It would be really nice to have a dock at the Shoreline boat launch. I have been told the residents beside the Clearview boat launch cut up the dock that was there. We have never felt we could even use the Clearview boat launch.
36. The parking at Mohrs beach is very limited there is not enough space for residents let alone visitors and strangers do that is the problem more boat launches would help solve that problem



37. I don't think we need more launches but the ones we do have need work/maintenance.
38. There are enough boat launches in the RM, but there are some issues with existing launches that need to be addressed prior to anything new being considered. Also, some communities with launches are not always receptive to boat traffic in their communities, ie negative behaviour towards boaters and boat traffic, "private" signage, making access to the launch in their communities difficult by not providing any parking, or not having parking anywhere near the launch. Also, some launches can be difficult to use, having to back up a great distance down a slope without the ability to see, or by having large rocks near the launch. Until all launches are fully utilized, there is no way to address if another launch is required. Therefore, no new boat launches should be considered or funded at this time until such time as the existing launches have been fixed up, and parking and other issues addressed.
39. The boat launch is fine at Sorenson beach as we just had a new one constructed recently. Paid for out of our taxes so I don't think a user fee would be fair to residents.
40. In SB we don't have additional land to provide parking for other to use the launch.
41. I would like to know who would police users to see if they paid a fee to the RM to use a boat launch.
42. Best if folks park away from Boat-launch at a cottage. Passengers can get picked up there as well. That is usually the case at Clearview. There is no practical parking near the launch at Clearview Resort. I find the current launch to be working well.
43. So few are being used, why put more in.
44. Nearly all of these launch's have signs up that say residents only. I have had many unpleasant experiences dealing with the people of these hamlets that feel as tho they are entitled to tellme I cannot use their launch. I feel like these signs should be removed if the launch's are in fact for anyone to use. It creates another spot where the farm vs lake community becomes a problem
45. JUST IMPROVE THE BOAT LAUNCHES AVAILABLE. BTW many of the local residents make you feel very unwelcome when trying to access a boat launch near them!
46. We use the park boat launch. We heard the hamlet boat launches are only for hamlets and they are not happy with people using them.
47. Why do we need more boat launches. As a rural resident Iv'e already payed for launches I can't use. We have a perfectly good provincial park with a launch as well as the launches already within the RM. Maybe concentrate your spending efforts on secondary roads instead of recreational items.



48. It would be advantageous to have a dock at Shore Acres to assist with loading and unloading boats.
49. I would be willing to pay an access fee for boat launches not located at my home hamlet where I pay taxes.
50. The challenge is for residents in Regina and elsewhere that don't have cottages etc. they have a boat and want a place to launch and park their trailers for the day. They then load up and travel home. We see an increasing number of these folks use the boat launch at Mohr's beach. Parking is very limited and with the growth of cottages in the hamlet parking space for boat trailers is very limited and it gets crowded. Day visitors to the lake should have a reliable place to launch and park for the day. We don't need conflict. Everyone should be able to access the lake for boating purposes.
51. I would not want to see a boat launch created at Foxes Point. It is a beautiful natural area enjoyed by beachgoers, fishermen, paddleboarders, boaters and kite surfers. A boat launch would interfere with many people's enjoyment of the area. My brother visits often in the summer and launches at Rowan's Ravine with no complaints. Beautiful boat launch with lots of parking less than 10 mins away.
52. Improve existing Collinwood can't be used if water is low and is poor ramp. Also RM needs to ensure ice shacks are removed from RM property around launches.
53. The RM has not taken any responsibilities for Collingwood boat launch, they leave it to hamlet volunteers. They should be clearing the area and bring launch up to better standard.
54. Docking needs to be re-evaluated and allow more user friendly and 'public' access. Waterfront is supposed to be public access I always thought.
55. I sure hope you're not planning to charge cottage owners to use the boat launches. I can't tell the intent of this survey but if best not be to squeeze more money out of us. I pay more than enough for the services I get. And I'm not looking for anymore services. Do not build anymore boat launches and increase our expenses. Improve the ones we have and live within our means. Thx.
56. I feel there are enough public and private boat launches within the RM. More launches also take away from the natural beauty of the lake shores.
57. The Shore Acres boat launch is quite narrow, especially considering that a turn is required just before the ramp and there is a pile of rocks adjacent to the road at the turn which makes backing the boat straight onto the ramp quite difficult. There is no reason to have the turn. There is plenty of room for the road to lead straight into a ramp.





58. Upgrades are needed at the Collingwood launch because it is too shallow when the water levels are low and the trailers hit the rocks.
59. I don't think we need more just improve the ones we have with better parking and accessibility.
60. Boat launch costs should continue to be covered by taxes. That should be cheaper and easier than administering a fee and managing launch access, and it would preserve public access to a public resource. Thanks for the opportunity to do the survey!
61. I am a tax payer at Sorensen so do not want to pay a user fee. But non residents of Sorensen Beach should have to pay per use.
62. I would like to see a BETTER boat launch at Collingwood. The one there scratches your boat. The launch area is poorly kept up.
63. Collingwood is a growing community especially the back lots with no boat lifts so the launch is busier. The launch is also used by Strasbourg people a lot. The dock there is old and rickety and narrow. There is only bumpers on one side of the dock. It is also poorly kept up, lots of vegetation growing where there should be none. The water is also very shallow and there is large rocks.
64. I use a small launch at Maple Grove. It is into the slough and only has rock as a base.
65. Launch improvements at existing launches -for example - docks are not available at some launches like Clearview for example it is impossible to launch a a boat by oneself or if the driver of the vehicle is also the driver of the boat -no one can wait in the water with the boat while the vehicle driver parks. If there was a dock it is safer as the boat can be secured and entering and exiting the boat is after for all -also no stepping on a slippery pad in the water - can a dock be installed at Clearview ? Who is responsible for this ?
66. There MUST be a new launch and beach added with the proposed RV park (between Glenn Harbour and MacPheat Park) if the RV park is being seriously considered. Our community boat launch at MacPheat would be over-run because Glenn Harbour's is in-accessible and ours is already barely able to accommodate our own residents. Please do not do that to the property owners and tax-payers of MacPheat part.
67. Build closer to south end of the lake. This would allow the day trippers to access water sooner, rather than travelling through the rm and going to the provincial park marina.
68. We are very close to the best marina in the area - Rowan's Ravine. We would not use any other launch unless this one gets extremely busy. But I have heard others complain about the launches and parking. But so far we don't have any issues, we pay for a park pass anyways so we would keep doing that.



69. Ours is not an RM launch as the Rm does not contribute money in any way. Totally funded and maintained by private residents
70. The Collingwood boat launch becomes shallow towards the end of the summer. We need to remedy this for those who trailer their boats and pontoons. As well the ramp is very slippery and needs attention as well.
71. Do not add a boat launch at Foxes point. This is a bad idea. Because it is a quiet area used by many families to enjoy the beach, swimming, and fishing in a safe manner. A boat launch will bring unwanted traffic, noise, and pollution. It will damage the natural area, and prevent the enjoyment of the area by many residents. There are already sufficient boat launches in the area.
72. I have a year round cottage in North Colesdale. I do not use other boat launches and cannot speak to how busy they are or what their parking is like. Other cottage owners can do the same. If non-cottage owners are not happy with the parking they can use the marina at Rowans Ravine. I use the South Colesdale boat launch several times per year. I take my trailer back to the cottage after launching so parking is not a problem for me nor do I take up space that others might use. I do not support a user fee for RM boat launches for any cottage owner in the RM. Our taxes are ridiculously high for the services we receive. A user fee to use a boat launch would add insult to injury.
73. I am very hopeful that Foxes Point is NOT being considered for the site of anew boat launch. We believe that would go against the wishes to preserve the land and keep it natural.
74. The parking at MacPheat park is not good. There are quite a number of folks not from MacPheat that use the launch. The problem is there is not enough parking and people park along the roadway making it difficult to access the beach. It becomes cluttered with vehicles and sometimes we end up going to Rowans to launch boat. Sad when we have a place a MacPheat park.
75. I don't think we need more boat launches, but we need to have the existing ones upgraded, better maintained or replaced. As we only use an RM boat launch usually only twice a year, to put our boat in the lake in the spring and take it out in the fall, we would use Rowan Ravine Provincial Park boat launch if there were no RM boat launches. Because of low water levels some years we have had to use the Rowan Ravine Provincial Park boat launch.
76. Item 10 forces you to select a hamlet. I don't find any of the boat launches busy and it is a waste of time and money to add any additional boat launches. I especially don't want anything added to Fox point. Fox point is a gem on the lake and should be left as is.
77. There is very little parking at MacPheat Park and we are not allowed to park in the roadways. I think parking in the roadways for up to 4 hours should be accepted
78. We use Rowans boat launch. Spring out and fall in.



79. The launch at Shoreline is in terrible shape. The dock needs repair and hasn't been put in the water for a few years. Also there are large rocks in the water that you have to back over.
80. The boat launch at Clearview is broken up and dangerous, it's not long enough and there is no dock to tie up to while you get your vehicle. Shoreline has no launch pad it is mud and rocks, the pier is always too high for boats and there is no parking.
81. If new boat launches are built in the hamlets, the hamlets should be paying for them. We already have boat launches in hamlets that others are not welcome to use we don't need more. You can say these boat launches are for everyone but in reality the signs stating for residents only and the angry people you encounter, who would even want to use them. Doesn't the RM have other priorities like funding road equipment that benefits everyone not just the hamlets?
82. Boat Launch construction locations - cant answer that, have not looked into other locations.
83. Would not need parking if there was a boat launch at Heritage Valley.
84. The boat launch at Heritage Valley needs improvement to be used.