



Pisiquid Canoe Club 2022 Annual General Meeting

January 26, 2022

Pisiquid Canoe Club Location
8 King Street Ext, Windsor, NS

In Attendance: Brad Carrigan, Karen Carrigan, Sheldon Hope, Sarah Jackson, Jason Frank, Tanya Foggoa, Judy Lynch, Janet Pitcher, Kris Anderson, Jenny Eisener, Cory Eisener

MINUTES

1. Called Meeting to Order at 6:35pm
2. Additions and Adoptions to Agenda – None
Motion to approve by Sheldon Hope, seconded by Jason Frank, all in favour. Agenda Approved.
3. Approval of Previous AGM Minutes of January 26, 2021)
Motion to approve by Tanya Foggoa, seconded by Sheldon Hope, all in favour. Motion Approved.
4. Annual General Report, reported was summarized by Brad Carrigan (copy of annual report attached) Additional verbal report was provided by interim Head Coach Jeff Houser. Pisiquid is currently facing continued Covid protocols with modified training groups. Overall, the program is going well, small groups are motivating, XC skiing trails have not yet been groomed and pools not yet open therefore restricting winter activities.
Motion to accept by Jason Frank, seconded by Sheldon Hope. All in favour. Report Accepted.
5. Treasurer's Report (as below):

Regular Income	\$182,970.84
<u>Regular Expense</u>	<u>\$116,680.34</u>
Net Regular Income/Expense	\$66,290.50
Other Income (non-typical)	\$20,252.00
<u>Other Expense (non-typical)</u>	<u>\$1,158.90</u>
Net Other Income/Expense	\$19,093.10
<u>Total Net Income/Expense</u>	<u>\$85,363.60</u>

Motion to receive by Sheldon Hope, seconded by Jason Frank, all in favour. Report Accepted.



6. Elections of Directors and Officers for 2022

All Directors and Executive reoffered for their current positions, and there were no additional nominations received by the returning officer, Sheldon Hope.

Motion to approve existing directors and return executive to their previous positions by Sheldon Hope, seconded by Judy Lynch, all in favour. Motion Approved.

7. Approval of 2022 Budget

Regular budget income and expense increase to \$155,000.00 for fiscal 2022.

It was noted that Pisiquid would see increased coaching costs, directly due to minimum wage increases. It would be likely that membership prices would need to be increased to match increased coaching expenses, similarly to our 2020/2021 membership increases.

Budget allocates other expenses of \$20,000 for 2022 Halifax World Championships boat purchases, and \$10,000 towards a new ACOA cost-shared boat trailer in 2022.

Motion to approve the 2022 budget by Tanya Foggoa, seconded by Sheldon Hope, all in favour. Motion Approved.

8. There was a general discussion held amongst attendees about the future location of Pisiquid for this summer. The current lake situation has parents worried. The Board of Directors is working diligently with federal and provincial levels of government to find a viable solution and will inform the membership as soon as answers are received.

9. Meeting Adjournment.



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Executive Summary

Facing the tremendous challenges of the continued Covid-19 pandemic, along with the loss of Lake Pisiquid in Windsor; the entire summer season was put in jeopardy. However, 2021 proved to be relatively successful for our Pisiquid Canoe Club as a result of the sacrifices made by our coaching staff, board volunteers, parents and our athletes that endured longer drives and relocated to Mockingee Lake for both the summer and fall seasons. The level of leadership from our coaching staff has been critical to our success over the past five years. The interest in our year-round program has continued to grow and we have been able to maintain similar membership numbers as we had in our record 2020 season. Although small in overall numbers compared to most other Atlantic Division clubs, the competitive performance of our athletes continues to improve with each year.

Winter & Spring Programs

Our 2020/21 winter programming was led by our new Head Coach Josh Nowen. Programming resumed with solid, consistent membership numbers for December through March at the canoe club facility in Windsor. With restricted Covid-19 protocols, spring programming consisted of off-water training in Windsor until April; on-water training returned for four small groups (HP male, HP female, Jr HP male and Jr HP female) from April through June at Shay Lake in Falmouth utilizing the sea container to store our boats during spring paddling. Due to the extended loss of Lake Pisiquid as a direct result of a Federal Ministerial Order by Hon. Bernadette Jordan in the spring of 2021, spring training was forced to be executed with coaches Josh, Cam Nowen and Jacob Naugler at Shay Lake until the start of the summer program. Due to pandemic restrictions, all early spring paddling competitions were cancelled.

Summer Program

Faced with the loss of Lake Pisiquid in Windsor as a result of the Federal Ministerial Order, and while still requiring the need to meet pandemic restrictions for social distancing, members of our Board of Directors were able to secure a summer rental contract with Camp Mockingee in Upper Vaughan, NS. Located approximately 20 minutes outside of Windsor (10 minutes past Ski Martock), Camp Mockingee is owned and operated by the Rotary Club of Windsor on 85+ acres of property along Mockingee Lake. This camp was only available for the summer and part of fall 2021, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and was not previously rented by the Rotary Club volunteers to other groups. Although travelling to this location twice a day for parents was inconvenient, the location had multiple outbuildings that were utilized for boat storage and daily programming, with minimal building modifications required. Modifications consisted primarily of construction of reusable boat racks, paddle racks and an accessible ramp.

A total of six summer assistant coaches were hired to work under Josh's direct supervision. In addition, Pisiquid hired a new summer club manager to assist with administrative functions for the club. All of the summer coaches were provided opportunity for virtual professional



development through ADCKC, due to pandemic protocols. ADCKC, along with the division clubs and coaches met on a weekly basis through the early summer to work with the provincial health authority to develop a plan for modified competition schedule to return for the summer months.

Our U8 program was returned to a full-day program for the 2021 summer season, after the modification to a half-day program in 2020 due to pandemic restrictions. Some of our U8 program kids were able to paddle and train with our U10 age groups; with most of our U8's competing in the two U10 regattas that were held in 2021. This U8 program continues to help recruit future paddlers into our sport at a very young age. Target membership for 2022 will be around 20 LTP camp and summer members into the U8 program, to be ran by two of our younger coaches with lifeguarding skills, if possible.

With the loosening of pandemic restrictions and with the financial assistance of a Canadian Tire JumpStart™ grant, it was decided to reinstate the 2-week Learn-to-Paddle camps for the first two weeks of July and the first two weeks of August. This CT JumpStart™ grant was utilized to purchase more than \$1000 worth of additional youth paddles and more than \$5000 worth of youth sized competitive kayaks. The intent of this program is to offer an intro canoe/kayak program to beginner paddlers, who may be unsure if they want to participate and commit to the full summer membership. We believe this 2-week program has directly supported our recruitment efforts into our full summer program. Prospective paddlers are given a boot camp of fundamentals to allow them to progress into their age division with the full-time summer paddlers as quickly as possible.

Membership		2018	2019	2020	2021
Spring	U10	10	3	8	4
	U12	3	6	9	12
	U14	1	5	11	11
	U16	2	1	4	5
	U23	0	2	0	0
Summer	U8	13	17	12	13
	U10	33	17	23	18
	U12	8	29	24	19
	U14	3	13	14	14
	U16	4	2	7	5
	U23	4	3	2	1
	Adult	7	9	14	1
	LTP	20	19	0	29
Fall	U10	7	5	0	3
	U12	16	13	8	6
	U14	9	13	10	10
	U16	2	6	5	7
Year-Round	U10	-	-	-	2
	U12	-	5	8	6
	U14	-	9	10	9
	U16	-	4	5	6
Total (Summer):		92	112	96*	100

**Covid-19 Pandemic Restricted Membership (2020)*

Our Pisiquid team had some great performances throughout the year with some of our U10 paddlers dominating their racing performances held at Lake Banook. This was an opportunity for some of our new U8 paddlers to participate in their very first regatta racing experience, and an opportunity for our graduating U10 paddlers to show they should be very successful as they move to U12's next summer.



As one of the smallest clubs in Atlantic Canada, Pisiquid’s strong performance continued with our U12 and U14 athletes at our regional regattas and U12/U14 Atlantic Championships in August. Congratulations to our athletes who made it to both A and B finals, and to all racing to gain personal bests. This year our Pisiquid paddlers finished 6th overall at ADCKC U12/U14 Champs, winning 8 medals (2 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze); scoring 129 points, which is down from 231.5 points in 2020 and 157.5 points in 2019, however up from 30 points in 2018, 9 points in 2017 and 3 points in 2016). Reinstatement of all war canoe events (that were omitted in 2020 due to pandemic restrictions) had a significant effect on the overall ranking points collected by Pisiquid, as our club continues to struggle to fill a single war canoe with paddlers at proper age levels, whereas other clubs are sometimes able to fill up to 5 boats for the same events. Pisiquid finished behind 1st Maskwa (494), 2nd Cheema (358.5), 3rd Banook (225.5), 4th Senobe (199) and 5th Mic Mac (176.5); and ahead of larger clubs from 7th Abenaki (26), 8th Sackawa (22), 9th Orenda (13) and 10th Kennebecasis (2).

Every athlete who attended the U12/U14 Champs regatta made at least one A or B final on the final day, which is extremely rare for a club with less than 40 competitive youth athletes. Making it to the finals on Sunday meant they were among the top 18 athletes or crews in Atlantic Canada.

U12 Boys	4 th Place	68 pts
U12 Girls	7 th Place	3 pts
U12 Total	6th Place	71 pts
U14 Boys	5 th Place	24 pts
U14 Girls	5 th Place	34 pts
U14 Total	5th Place	58 pts
Champs Overall	6th Place	129 pts

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With a pandemic modified format of the 2021 National Championships to include only singles events in each of 200m, 500m and 1000m distances, six Pisiquid athletes qualified for Nationals in Ottawa. With a very young male and female team of U16 athletes (four of our six athletes were underage U14 paddlers) Pisiquid had another formidable showing in the U16 kayak events at Nationals, with athletes progressing to many finals. Pisiquid’s top performance was by Carter Naugler, finishing 8th overall in Canada in 1000m K1 as a first year U16 competitor. Our Pisiquid coaches and athletes continues to have their sights set on preparing and qualifying a larger team contingent for the 2022 CKC National Championships in Shawinigan, QC and then for the 2023 CKC National Championships in Dartmouth, NS.

2021 PCC NATIONALS
Kyanna Hope (U14)
Amelia Frank (U14)
Ava Woodman (U14)
Kaden Hope (U16)
Carter Naugler (U16)
Rylan Carrigan (U14)

Our Adult/Masters program was not active for the 2021 season due to the relocation to Mockingee Lake. It is our objective is to try and reinstate a Masters recreational program in 2022 at Lake Pisiquid or at an alternative lake. Our long-term goal is to re-establish a competitive Masters program in the next 2-3 years from recreational adult members, with the hope to fill a mixed gender war canoe, along with various small boat competitors within the next 5 years.

Pisiquid Survivor Fundraiser

The club continued the Pisiquid Survivor Fundraiser for the third year in a row, to help raise funds to offset club operational costs, by having each member family sell a minimum of \$100 worth of fundraiser entries. Every Monday evening through the summer, our coaches participated in an online reverse draw. Thanks again to our member families efforts we raised



\$6,000 throughout the summer. We plan to continue to hold this same fundraiser each year throughout our summer season.

Online Auction, Fudge Sales & Picture Day Fundraisers

Our fundraising team led by Sarah Jackson continued the online auction fundraiser for the 2021 summer season. This online auction was most successful, contributing \$1,922 to our fundraising efforts. Our fudge sales through the year added \$573 and our annual picture day fundraiser added another \$445 for the club. These fundraisers are utilized to offset significant club operational costs, including insurance and equipment upgrades (NEW BOATS!) and ongoing equipment maintenance.

Fall Program

Our 2021 fall program included **23 registered year-round athletes**, plus 3 additional fall season after-school athletes (26 total) led by Interim Head Coach Jeff Houser and Assistant Coach Maeve LeBlanc. These athletes aged U10 up to U16, trained both on and off water from the first week of September until the first of November at Camp Mockingee to progress their development. The club had previously recognized the fundamental need to grow our fall and winter programs and have had an objective for at least 15 members for the fall season. For successful growth and performance by our club, our head coach and staff must continue to promote this fall program to our paddlers and families and recruit new participants by mid-summer. Our goal for 2021 will be to continue to sustain this fall training group, and plan to employ 2 coaches throughout the fall to effectively execute the fall programming.

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Interim Head Coach

After only 10 months with Pisiquid, in September unfortunately Head Coach Josh gave his notice to leave to return to his home club. Our Board of Directors was luckily able to secure interim Head Coach services of Jeff Houser, as the retired past ADCKC Division Coach and Technical Director. The experience that Jeff has brought to our athletes and club is unparalleled. It is our intention to continue our search for our new Head Coach, with the assistance and guidance that Jeff will bring to help secure the best possible Head Coach candidate moving forward. Our Board of Directors has received five resumes to date from very qualified international coach candidates, many coaching at a National Team level around the world. At this time, we are hopeful to resolve the ongoing Ministerial Order to return Lake Pisiquid in Windsor, which we hope will then allow us to attract additional domestic candidates for this Head Coach position.

Pisiquid hired Maeve LeBlanc as Assistant Coach to assist Jeff through the fall, winter and spring seasons. We are hopeful that Maeve will consider joining our coaching staff for the upcoming summer season, as she brings an abundance of coaching and canoe paddling experience and energy to our club. We feel that Maeve has the potential to provide a lot of coaching development to many of our aspiring young female athletes, akin to the development that Jacob Naugler has continued to provide to most of our rising young male athletes over the past 4 years.



2021/22 Winter Program

Pisiquid's winter program has remained consistent in size compared to last winter; currently at 24 registered winter athletes for 2021/22; we had 23 in 2020/21, 18 in 2019/20, 11 in 2018/19 and 7 in 2017/18. Continued growth of this program is essential for competitive success for our U12 and older age groups. We foresee increased participation in future years as the number of older athletes at the club continues to grow. Jeff has planned winter programming this year to include weekend swimming at Acadia University (which will be subject to prolonged pandemic restrictions) and cross-training with the introduction of cross-country skiing using the groomed trails at local Haliburton House Museum or Dill Farm when possible, in addition to regular morning (HP athletes) and after-school programming (HP & Junior HP athletes).

Equipment, Repair & Maintenance

Over the winter and early spring, Jeff and our club volunteers will plan work to arrange for the repair of our entire fleet of boats, thus ensuring that we are 100% ready for the anticipated 2022 racing season. We will arrange for coaches and a volunteer group to meet at the club to perform various maintenance and repairs to the club and equipment. We have now replaced most of our boat numbers and back numbers in 2020 to ensure that we have all the necessary equipment needed for the upcoming regatta season.

At this current time, modifications and improvements to the clubhouse in Windsor and race course in Lake Pisiquid has been abandoned, with the exception of cleaning, emergency and safety related maintenance. With the fate of Lake Pisiquid remaining in question, the Board of Directors does not feel that capital expenditure for additional improvements to property is warranted at this time. Once resolved, our plan is to continue improvements to the clubhouse and the course infrastructure. This will likely require cooperation from various levels of government, to dredge silt from Lake Pisiquid, remove the train and road bridge pillar remnants, and replace the racing lane infrastructure and lane cables, which have now all been severely corroded, broken and ultimately not reliable for future use.

The Board of Directors is actively seeking consultation from both the Federal and Provincial governments to resolve the existing Ministerial Order, to construct the new causeway aboiteau to meet applicable fish passage regulations and to return Lake Pisiquid to fresh water with a consistent water level 12 months a year, and reclaimed depth of 2-3 meters (minimum 1 meter above high vegetation level). This would make Lake Pisiquid and our club in Windsor reliable for all foreseeable future year-round training. Failing this resolution by government, we are requesting the government indemnify Pisiquid Canoe Club and our community, by committing to provision of a replacement facility within the West Hants Regional Municipality that is comparable to our existing club amenities.

Our 2022 maintenance strategy shall continue to ensure that paddlers and coaches are equipped with the tools and resources required for active growth of Pisiquid Canoe Club. We shall continue to seek maintenance and equipment improvement opportunities that can be funded through corporate sponsorship, event-specific fundraising and community donations. In summary, our maintenance plans for 2022 will include:



2022 Planned Property Maintenance

- TBA, pending resolution of Lake Pisiquid Ministerial Order

2022 Planned Boat Maintenance

- refinish our wooden Bear Mountain war canoe and our second wooden war canoe;
- repairs to holes in our fiberglass "Seagull" war canoe
- structural repairs to all club boats, including all bow/stern chips and cracks;
- repairs to kayak steering and additional foam, where required;
- replacement kayak seats and footboards; and
- repairs to canoe floorboards, knee block supports and foot supports.

2022 Planned Equipment Upgrades

- replacement aluminum trailer for boat transportation;
- addition of a competitive team boats (e.g. K2-L) for our HP athletes (Canoe '22 Worlds);
- additional club kayak racing paddles for our younger athletes;
- purchase new foam blocks and properly carve new canoe blocks; and
- annual refinish and repainting of all war canoe paddles and club kayak paddles;

Head Coach Club Goals

- Addition of group swimming and cross-country ski practices for Winter 2022
- 30+ paddlers for Spring 2022, with additional part-time paddlers for June
- Summer program membership of 80-100+ youth members, depending on lake location (includes full summer and LTP camps)
- Medal in at least one war canoe event at U12/U14 Champs
- 5th overall in club standings at U12/U14 Champs
- Win U12 Men's Burgee for most points accumulated at U12/U14 Champs
- Increase full year-round membership to 25+ for September 2022

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Conclusion

As we continue to work through ongoing issues with Lake Pisiquid and continue living and navigating through this pandemic, our club is grateful for the patience and resolve of our Pisiquid families. We are confident in our continued adaptation of our programming to meet these challenges and to meet our stated objectives for the 2022 season. Under the guidance and vision of a new head coach in 2022 and with the tireless volunteer efforts of our Board of Directors, athletes and member families, we feel that our club will continue to maintain our financial stability, and we will meet all performance objectives of our coaches and athletes.

All the best for 2022!

Brad Carrigan

Commodore, Pisiquid Canoe Club



STRATEGIC DIRECTION & VISION

- *Offer Recreational and Competitive Paddling Opportunities for All Members*
- *Provide an Affordable and Inclusive Program for our Community*
- *Ensure the Safety of our Participants and our Equipment*

OBJECTIVE #1 – Head Coach & Program Leadership

- Head coach to undertake long-term year-round sprint racing training programming
- Improve development of future coaching staff through annual succession planning
- Strengthen the technical leadership at the club
- Enhancement of the sprint racing program through multi-boat and multi-age programming
- Increase the pool of athletes being developed into “competitive” athletes
- Increase the number of members introduced into the sport of paddling
- Follow the CKC sprint LTAD technical progression model

OBJECTIVE #2 – Community Involvement & Inclusion

- Enhance profile of sprint racing to be a mainstream sport in the Windsor/West Hants region, instead of the perception as an alternative sport option
- Enhance sprint racing profile and contribution to the Windsor/West Hants region, through regular community inclusion in programming and public open-house events
- Structured annual recruitment of additional youth members into sprint racing
- Development of Masters, PaddleAll and/or Para programming at our club
- Support development of the sport of sprint racing in surrounding communities

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OBJECTIVE #3 – Facility & Equipment Improvement

- Resolve emergency boat maintenance issues as they occur
- Outsource major fleet maintenance during winter and spring
- Annual investment into minor equipment improvements; club paddles, blocks/buns, boat numbers & back numbers, etc.
- Investment into strategic competitive club boat replacement
- Investment into fundamental off-season training and dryland training equipment

OBJECTIVE #4 – Financial Responsibility

- Maintain positive cash flow with a defined minimum balance
- Undertake fundraising events with the purpose of funding specific capital improvements and programming initiatives (strategic replacement of boats and equipment)
- Undertake capital facilities and replacement equipment strategies; target potential government grants, corporate sponsorship and donations for future expansion and growth