



Plan for a Safe and Memorable Experience on the Water During National Safe Boating Awareness Week

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Vancouver, BC - There is no better way to experience BC than on a boat, and in recognition of National Safe Boating Awareness Week (May 18-24), those planning to engage in water-related activities are encouraged to take the time and prepare for a safe and memorable experience.

Don Prittie, President of Boating BC Association says the ultimate goal should be to have fun with family and friends, but it is also important to be a responsible boater.

“As temperatures rise, it’s an invitation to get out and enjoy the magic of being on the water in BC, whether that involves the 27,000 kilometers of coastline or the thousands of lakes and rivers across the province,” said Prittie. “Whatever your boating preference or level of experience, it can’t be emphasized enough that an informed and confident boater is a safe and happy boater – and that means anything that floats: kayaks to catamarans, power, sail or stand up paddleboards.”

Here are some guidelines to help you stay safe this boating season:

- First and foremost, always wear a properly fitted personal flotation device.
- Ensure your boat or watercraft has all required safety gear.
- Never boat while under the influence of alcohol or recreational drugs.
- Check weather conditions and patterns before leaving and during your trip.
- Create a float plan before you leave so friends or family know where you’re going.
- Take a course – there is one available for every skill level and type of boating.

Boating BC Association is also reminding water enthusiasts that we share our waterways with large and small recreational and commercial watercraft and to be considerate of others, and the environment.

Boating BC wishes everyone a safe and enjoyable boating season!

For more information about how to get started in boating and tips on boating safety visit:

www.boatingbc.ca.

Boating BC Association represents the recreational boating industry across British Columbia and is comprised of more than 300-member businesses. The Association offers counsel on business and governance issues, as well as representing and advocating on behalf of the boating industry to all levels of government.

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Because BC is better on a boat!™