



Lake Ontario Catalina Association

Draft Minutes of the 2026 Annual General Meeting

January 17, 2026 | Enercare Centre, Room 110 East

Executive Board in Attendance:

- **Jose Halupa:** Commodore
- **Terrina Fitzgerald:** Treasurer, Membership, and Acting Secretary
- **Ron Hosking:** Past Commodore

Members in attendance:

- Total of 24 including guests

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Commodore opened the meeting by thanking Glen and the team at **Port Whitby Marine Center** for providing passes and hosting the meeting space. The current executive board was introduced, and Carolyn was thanked for her efforts over the past year, particularly for regaining access to the association's Facebook pages.

2. Approval of 2025 AGM Minutes

The minutes from the 2025 AGM were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was passed without the need for a full reading.

3. 2025 Annual Report (Recap of Events)

- **Sail-in and Drive-in:** Held at the Whitby Yacht Club. Despite the extremely cold weather, the event was successful and well attended.
- **Membership & Communication:** Transitioned to an online membership form and launched a new website.
- **Events:** A "haul out breakfast" was held for members in the Oakville area.
- **Cancellations:** The annual Rendezvous was canceled due to low participation.





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4. Treasurer's Report

Terrina presented the financial update:

- **Balance:** The opening balance was \$2,052 and with a closing balance of \$1,501.
- **Deficit:** A deficit occurred regarding the *Main Sheet* magazine due to exchange rates and delivery issues. As a result, the association issued full refunds to members for their subscriptions.
- **Major Expenses:** \$600 for the new Wix website system, \$600 for Sail-in and Drive-in catering, and \$111 for Google Workspace.
- **Approval:** Irwin moved to accept the financials; Frank seconded. The motion carried.

5. Vacant Positions and Volunteers

The board identified three vacant positions: **Vice Commodore Memberships, Vice Commodore Events, and Directors at Large.**

- **Dahlia** volunteered to assist with upcoming events.
- Members were encouraged to contact the board via email to volunteer for specific tasks without committing to full committee meetings.

6. Technology and Communications Update

- **New Website:** A mobile-friendly site has been launched, featuring print-on-demand merchandise and RSVP capabilities for events.
- **Social Media:** A new Instagram account (**@loca.sailing**) was introduced to encourage photo sharing via the hashtag **#stayLOCA**.
- **Discussion Boards:** The board is exploring adding discussion boards to the website to facilitate communication between members while cruising.

7. 2026 Event Planning

- **February/March:** A new social event, "Boats, Beverages, and Ballasts," will be held at the new Port Whitby Marine Center facility.
- **June:** The **Sail-in and Drive-in** will be moved to the first two weeks of June to ensure warmer weather. Members voted in favor of this change. Yacht Club Sail Pass event dates must be verified to avoid scheduling conflicts.





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- **August 21st–24th:** The **Rendezvous** will be held at the Whitby Yacht Club (WYC). Chris Maze from WYC offered free berthing starting Thursday and access to club facilities including kayaks, patio, bar and newly renovated showers and lockers.
- **November:** A post-haul out brunch is planned for mid-month.

8. Sponsor Update: Port Whitby Marine Center & Catalina Yachts

- **Catalina Yachts:** Glen shared a letter from the new owner, Michael Reardon. The factory is moving to a 270,000-square-foot facility in Florida and is expected to be fully operational by March 1st. The focus will be on modernizing designs and introducing hybrid drives.
- **Marine Center Services:** Port Whitby Marine Center has consolidated brokerage, maintenance, and retail services. New initiatives include financing for boat repairs, extended warranties for used boats, and "assessment" services to help boat owners with insurance valuations.

9. New Business / Open Forum

- **Main Sheet Magazine:** Members will receive a digital subscription to the magazine as part of their 2026 membership. Note: membership must be paid in full by January 31, 2026, to receive this perk.
- **Cruising Communications:** Michael suggested an informal communication system for sailors to alert others when they are heading to specific clubs or anchorages. The board will look into integrating this into the website or a dedicated app.

Adjournment: The meeting concluded with a reminder that the presentation slides and notes would be posted on the new website.

