

As a member for 47 years, I have witnessed many members contributing their talents and expertise to CIYC but Paul Cairoli's contributions stand out and have greatly added to the wellbeing of the Club. Therefore, I would like to nominate Paul Caroli for the "Bob & Lee Gurr Founders Award."

His most significant contribution was spear-heading the Youth Sailing program which began in 2018.

Paul's background

Paul joined CIYC in 2013 after serving 4 years as Commodore at Cook Bay Yacht Club near Barrie. He was a very successful businessman in the Toronto area and along with sailing he raced motorcycles professionally for BMW Racing. Sports is his passion!

Contributions to CIYC

In 2016 Paul began serving on the Club's executive. He began in the position of Vice Commodore due to his accumulated experience at other clubs and his love of sailing. One of his first tasks was assisting the Commodore in developing a Strategic Plan for the Club. In 2016 at the AGM the Strategic Plan was introduced to the members .

In 2017 when Paul was Commodore, he presented the Strategic Plan for the Implementation of a Youth Sailing Program. It included his vision and methodology creating a successful program which began the summer of 2018.

In our first year, permission was granted by members to spend \$29,000 to build new docks suitable for the sailing school. Because of Paul's contacts and drive, a grant was received from the Town for \$10,000, approx. \$4,000 worth of cedar from Truax Lumber, four paid spots by the OPP through COP Camp and donations from Club members. Despite depleting the Club's cash by approximately \$4,600, the Club gained almost \$16,000 in assets. The year was completed by graduating 28 students.

In 2020, during COVID, Paul negotiated with Ontario Sailing to purchase our own fleet of RC Quba sailboats, chase boats with motors and a trailer for storage and transport from them. We hired our own instructors in 2021 and we continued to receive support from the Town of Kingsville and

Ontario Sailing. Because of the success of the program, Youth Sailing has been able to contribute to the success of the Club.

In 2019, we were voted Club of the Year by Ontario Sailing thanks to Paul's initiative.

This year we are going into our fifth year for Youth Sailing and the program has met and exceeded all targets of the Strategic Plan in respect of students enrolled, monies raised, equipment purchased and the overall success of the program. To date the Youth Sailing program has attracted 127 young people from the community with 74 more joining this summer. All will be able to say that they are sailors, thanks to the dream of Paul Cairoli.

I don't want to give Paul all of the credit for the success of the Youth Sailing Program. He has a Committee of 7 enthusiastic members that are inspired by Paul and are excited about the program to almost the same degree as he is.

But the bottom line - Cedar Island Yacht Club has received approximately \$40,000 in fixed assets and \$25,000 in cash due the program that Paul spearheaded.

All this in a short period of time. This is why I believe Paul is deserving of this award.

Respectfully submitted

Dennis Graham
Commodore 1980 & 2007