



## **MICHAEL RUSHTON**

**Boating at Newport Since May 2010**

**Board member since November 2013**

**Director Marketing & On-Water Activity 2014**

**Secretary Treasurer 2015 to 2017 Seasons**

### **Commodore – 2018 Season**

2017 is my last year as Secretary Treasurer, as mandated in our By-Laws. I have been nominated to be our next Commodore by Barry Stringfellow who I have enjoyed serving under for the past two seasons. I will continue the work begun to help our club improve and ensure a growing and vibrant club. In the 2018 season, I look forward to working with the new Board on the two major initiatives that are critical to our future – *GROWTH* of Boating Members & a *NEW* Clubhouse.

Continued membership support is needed to see both initiatives come to fruition.

I firmly believe that increasing member involvement and volunteerism is the way our club will succeed. I have met many great people and made new friends volunteering for our club. As Marketing Director, I formed the first Marketing committee and lead 6 volunteers to establish new outreach initiatives to increase membership.

When I was first elected Secretary Treasurer; I immediately made a call for members to assist with the first club “finance committee”. My wife Shirley has been an integral part of the finance committee. Without Shirley’s ongoing support as club bookkeeper, I could not have served this demanding volunteer role while working in a challenging professional role often requiring travel.

The Finance Committee was comprised of a very experienced professional group that was challenged to present to the board a strategic business plan and long-term financing plan. The long-term financing of our club was previously privately held at PRIME + 3% -- today that equals 6.2%. Earlier this year I worked with a few banks and secured a loan for \$500,000 with the TD bank at a fixed rate of 3.9% for 5 years.

We can afford to build a clubhouse of a yet to be finalized size and style within the ability to repay from our current cash-flow. We must also maintain our docks and water depth. The 2017 Board has approved a significant increase in spending on maintenance of the docks and electrical in the 2018 budget.

**NYC-SC**; a not for profit corporation owns the land – the docks and all facilities. Very few clubs in Ontario can make this statement. As your Commodore in the 2018 season, I am asking that all members contribute time and talent to the many tasks that keep our club running. Keeping our boating costs low and enabling growth of our club will only happen with the support of all our members.