

## Canadian Marine Advisory Council – “Let’s talk” and “What we heard”

This includes a full list of all current actions and the status of each. The process is to identify issues in the Spring and Fall CMAC meetings. Then, there will be a “Let’s talk” website inviting comments and later, a report “What we heard” reporting on the results and input. Subjects are then discussed in the further CMAC meetings and information is updated.

Where appropriate, the subject will be updated on the “What we heard” forum and will again be discussed in a later CMAC meeting before finally being listed in Canada Gazette Part 1 (for last round of public comment and further adjustment of the proposed legislative change) and finally in Canada Gazette Part 2 prior to being passed into law.

For the issues currently under discussion, check here first to see the big picture of everything that is now in process.

The following are specific issues now under review and at various stages of becoming regulations:

### Context

The Minister of Transport regulates navigation on Canada’s lakes, rivers and waterways to ensure safe recreational boating and protect the marine environment (Footnote 1. Transport Canada officials work with local authorities to address water safety concerns like excessive speed and risks to the environment like shoreline erosion and water quality.) We do this with measures like restrictions on speed, hours of operation, the type of propulsion allowed to operate, and the type of activities. These measures become part of the Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations (VORR) under the Canada Shipping Act, 2001.

Each year, local authorities submit requests for new or amended VORR restrictions to Transport Canada. This process is outlined in the Local Authorities’ Guide. The draft regulations must be pre-published in the Canada Gazette, Part I to allow the public and interested parties to comment on the proposed new restrictions. They are published in their final form in the Canada Gazette, Part II. This process can take up to four years or more. One or two boating seasons can often pass before a requested restriction comes into effect.

**The Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations: Providing provinces and municipalities with a greater role in managing their waterways – closing December 11 2023**

- <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/consultations/vessel-operation-restriction-regulations-providing-provinces-municipalities-greater-role-managing-their-waterways-0>

**Canadian Marine Advisory Council (CMAC) Engagement opportunity: Marine safety and security regulations – OPEN** - <https://tc.canada.ca/en/marine/canadian-marine-advisory-council-cmac-engagement-opportunity-marine-safety-security-regulations>

**Let’s Talk Small Vessels Noise Emissions – now closed.** <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate->

[services/consultations/let-s-talk-small-vessels-noise-emissions](#)

**Let's Talk Pleasure Craft Safety** - Closed June 17 2019 - <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/consultations/let-s-talk-pleasure-craft-safety>

**Let's Talk: Engine cut-off switches** – closed May 19 2023 - <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/consultations/let-s-talk-engine-cut-switches>

**Let's Talk: Long-term anchoring** – closing Dec 11 2023

**Let's Stop UNSARs!!! (TP 2228E-26)** – from 2018 but seems to be ongoing

**Fee proposal for Pleasure Craft Licensing Program** - <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/consultations/public-consultation-modernizing-pleasure-craft-licensing-program/fee-proposal-pleasure-craft-licensing-program>

What we heard: Public consultation on modernizing pleasure craft licensing – Next Round of Consultations when proposed regulatory changes are pre-published in Canada Gazette Part 1.

**Marine initiatives planned for April 2023 – April 2025 – planned regulatory initiatives that TC expects to bring forward in the next two years.** <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/acts-regulations/forward-regulatory-plan/marine-initiatives-planned>

**Public consultation on modernizing the Pleasure Craft Operator Competency Program** – status Closed - <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/consultations/public-consultation-modernizing-pleasure-craft-operator-competency-program>

**Oceans Protection Plan priorities: What we heard (2020 infographic)** – closed- <https://tc.canada.ca/en/initiatives/oceans-protection-plan/oceans-protection-plan-priorities-what-we-heard-2020>

**What we heard: Propeller-driven surfboard-type vessels** - <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/consultations/changes-small-vessel-regulations-allow-operation-propeller-driven-surfboard-type-other-similar-vessels-regulate-their-construction/what-we-heard-propeller-driven-surfboard-type-vessels>