

Tillsonburg Rowing Club Position Statement

It has been brought to our attention that the roof and structural integrity of the boat house is in question. The building is in poor repair and we urge you to make these necessary improvements in order to allow the Club to continue with it's operations. Repairing the roof would be a good start, since it is the leaking water through the ceiling that is the major contributor to the mould issue.

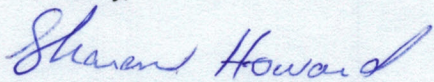
The Tillsonburg Rowing Club was established in the early 1980's by the Gibson and Parson families, together with contributions from various service clubs including the Kinsmen and Rotary Club. Over the years, the club has seen a lot of changes with the ebb and flow of it's various members. Historically there have been great successes with the high school program. At present we are enjoying a strong adult program with the goal of re-establishing a junior program for the upcoming year.

In 2012, the Tillsonburg Rowing Club, together with the Lake Lisgar Revitalization Project committee were responsible for obtaining the Trillium grant that funded the new community dock that was placed beside the rowing club on the west side of the lake. The dock has been an amazing improvement for the club since the old dock was no longer usable in its rotten condition. Additionally, the dock has been an amazing addition for the community since it is used frequently for fishing and enjoyment.

We hope that similar improvements can be made to the boathouse to allow us to continue to operate the rowing programs we currently run. We are in need of the storage space to keep our boats and equipment sheltered from the elements and protected from theft and vandalism. The boathouse also provides us with washroom facilities and water for washing our boats before we put them away. The replacement value of our numerous club and privately owned boats, oars, coach boat, and additional equipment would exceed \$120 000. For these reasons, I'm sure you can see the importance of maintaining our facility in working order.

We are open to suggestions for sharing the space with other groups if such a collaboration would aid with the allocation of finances. The building has been used in the past for the community centre summer camp. In addition, the Sea Scouts have approached us in previous years about storage of their sail boats. Perhaps we could share our newly renovated space to make it more useful and affordable for everyone.

Sincerely,



Sharon Howard
President, TRC