



Quinte SailAbility

Celebrating 24 Years of Inclusion

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Quinte SailAbility is a sailing school for persons with a physical or developmental disability, regardless of age or degree of disability. Founded in 2001 and serving the greater Quinte area, it has grown to be the second largest school of its type in Ontario. Quinte SailAbility is co-located / independently operated out of the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club (BQYC), Belleville. Its goal is to be accessible, affordable and active. Through the use of technology, barriers are eliminated, providing the therapeutic benefits of sailing on one's own. Our core product is self-esteem and confidence. Quinte SailAbility is a member of the following organizations



OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

Quinte SailAbility had 2 terrific full-time staff members on board, and assistance of amazing volunteers, the program ran full-time, 9am-3pm, Monday to Friday from July 2 – August 31.

25 participants received a total of 279 hours of sailing instruction!

Participants came from all over the Bay of Quinte Region, and beyond. There also was an increase of interest in the 'Try It' free service!



STAFF

The staff included Yasmyn Hamilton, Sailing Instructor and Madison Boulitier, Dock Supervisor. Staff did an outstanding job, **working a combined 558 hours!**

Duties included:

- On-off water sailing instruction
- Rigging/preparing vessels
- Preparing dock lift / equipment
- Greeting sailors and guests
- Assisting sailors when needed
- Maintenance/repairs
- Having fun!



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SAILOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Quinte SailAbility Sailor Receives Prestigious Award

Nicole Flynn, an accomplished speaker, sailor, author, entrepreneur and advocate for disability justice, received the **Hugh P. O'Neil Outstanding Alumni Award** at Loyalist College's 58th annual Convocation ceremonies in June.

A graduate of Loyalist's General Arts and Science program, Nicole Flynn is the founder and CEO of Nicole Flynn Enterprises. As a person with Trisomy 21 Down syndrome, she brings her lived experience to the forefront of her writing, photography and speaking engagements, delivering powerful messages about equity, inclusion, and the importance of confronting systemic barriers.



OPERATIONS

Throughout the season, and off season, the condition of the fleet is regularly monitored with ongoing repairs and maintenance completed as needed. With the fleet now being 20+ years old, the cost of repairs has significantly increased and locating compatible parts is becoming a challenge.

In 2025, the adaptive Hansa Access Dinghy 2.3's required parts which came directly from the manufacturer located in Australia!

Volunteers have been a tremendous asset in assisting with repairs.

Thank you!



SAILING FLEET

- 4 Access 2.3
- 4 Martin 16
- 2 Coach Boats
- 1 Challenger Trimaran



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FINANCIAL

In 2025, Quinte SailAbility received generous financial support from private donors, corporate grant programs, local service clubs, and government grant programs including the Canada Summer Jobs Grant Program. Quinte SailAbility doesn't receive core funding of any kind and research into funding resources to support eligible expenses is ongoing.

Thank you for supporting Quinte SailAbility!



FUNDRAISING and RAISING AWARENESS

Quinte SailAbility fundraising includes volunteering monthly at Belleville Lions Hall Charity Association Bingos as well attending events to network, educate, and celebrate what we are all about! See below activities:

- Monthly volunteer fundraising at Belleville Lions Hall Charity Association Bingos
- Attended the City of Belleville OLG Community Appreciation Event
- Attended the Brian Todd Memorial Community Fund Grants Presentation Event
- Presence at the 6th Annual Wheelchair Rugby Tournament
- Active and Engaged on Social Media
- In-person presentations providing updates on activities



VOLUNTEERS

A tremendously important component to the success of Quinte SailAbility, volunteers **have provided over 973 hours of assistance since November 1, 2024. WOW!**

Volunteer assistance/activities include:

- Assist sailors get in and out of boats
- Sailboat maintenance/repairs and rigging
- Sailboat cleaning
- Small engine/Coach boat maintenance/repairs
- Boat trailer repair/maintenance
- Dock maintenance/repairs/cleaning
- Season setup / Season teardown
- Posting updates to Facebook and Website
- Administrative/Marketing
- Presence/Assisting with fundraising and at in-person events



Teenage volunteers are also a valuable part of the program. Volunteering with Quinte SailAbility is an excellent opportunity for high-school students to earn volunteer hours, which is mandatory for post-secondary school graduation!

Quinte SailAbility received the following feedback:

Forever grateful to the organizers, sponsors, and volunteers of the Quinte SailAbility program that enables amazing individuals like our Hunter to be able to develop their talents and seek joy out on the water."

Interested in learning more about volunteering with Quinte SailAbility? Contact us today!



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