



Memphremagog  
Conservation inc.

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Attention Publicity Directors**

## **Boating: For tighter regulations on Lake Memphremagog**

**Magog, June 15, 2021** – The vast majority of the 643 boaters who answered Memphremagog Conservation Inc.'s (MCI) survey of boating activities on Lake Memphremagog feel that boating activities are under-regulated.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, recreation activities on Lake Memphremagog saw a large spike in 2020. To find out the opinion of the public regarding this issue, MCI carried out a survey of boating activity among recreational boaters on the lake.

Boat waves inconveniencing other users, motorboat noise, the re-suspension of bottom sediments in the water column, and shoreline erosion were the issues of most concern to the respondents.

Memphremagog Conservation insists: *Canada's lakes belong to all Canadians; the problem we are experiencing is a lack of regulations. By comparison, Québec's autoroutes belong to all Quebeckers, but, thankfully, they are well regulated, with the responsibility to enforce the rules falling on the government,* insists Robert Benoit, Volunteer President of MCI.

In fact, the majority of respondents would like to see increased presence of peace officers on Lake Memphremagog, not surprising when we consider that 30% of respondents feel that their security is compromised by the activities practiced by other boaters.

Remember that in Canada, navigation is a federal jurisdiction, and for many years now, it has been difficult to better control this activity. To highlight the problem, MCI has published a position paper, *Naviguer en eaux troubles : Le cas du nautisme au lac Memphremagog*, which takes a critical look at the legislative framework surrounding navigation and proposes a number of recommendations to governments.

The [survey results](#) on boating on Lake Memphremagog as well as the position paper [Naviguer en eaux troubles : Le cas du nautisme au lac Memphremagog](#), are available on MCI's web site at [www.memphremagog.org](http://www.memphremagog.org).

**Memphremagog Conservation Inc. (MCI)** is a non-profit organization working for the protection, conservation and improvement of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed for the benefit of present and future generations.

MCI works in collaboration with various other organizations, governments, and citizens to carry out concrete actions.

MCI relies on scientific data to make aware, inform and empower the various actors to ensure the environmental health of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed.

#### **Source**

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