



**TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL
DISCUSSION ITEM**

Committee: Committee of the Whole - Administration & Operations

Date: December 4, 2023

Department: Parks / Recreation & Facilities

Topic: Boat Launching Options 2024

Background: In the Spring of 2020 the Township was given a presentation from Nice Launch, a company that specializes in standalone units for parking lots and boat launches to allow the public to purchase tickets for launching their boats. In May of 2020 the following recommendation was presented to council, which ultimately was defeated.

Recommendation: Contract with Nice Launch on a 2-year contract to provide a Boat Launch App & Dive Site registration form at a cost of \$ 7,500, plus a 10% administration fee per booking should council wish to create a fee for non-residents and that the funding be taken from the Township Modernization reserve fund.

In May of this year the Township posted the following signs at the boat launch in Cardinal:

“Notice to Boat Launch Users, the Township will be implementing a charge for launching your boat. The launch fee/permit will take effect January 1, 2024.

The fee will be used to help reinvest in the boat launch area assets to maintain in good working order for the continued use and enjoyment.”

Staff contacted other municipalities regarding their launching fees where some have a parking lot fee but no charge to launch boats.

Brockville	Parking fee only
Gananoque	Parking fee only
North Grenville	No fee
Rideau Lakes	3 launches have a parking fee

Staff understands the focus to be more toward non-resident use than our Township residents. However, the options for discussion include both:

1. Opening weekend (\$ 20.00) fee to launch, all users (collected onsite by staff or online)
2. Opening weekend (\$ 20.00) fee to launch for non-residents (collected onsite by staff or online)
3. Have a web based system for all users to pay for launching (single day & yearly fee)
4. Have a web based system for non-residents to pay for launching (single day & yearly fee online)

The web-based option would be run in house by staff creating a template, users would scan a QR Code onsite and fill out the quick and easy form which payment would be required. This system would generate a list of users for the day that staff including By-Law would be able enforce. This type of payment option could also be used at the Galop Canal should we wish to charge overnight boaters. This QR Code system could also be done in advance of a boater coming to the launch area and would be heavily promoted on our social media platforms.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and curves, positioned above a horizontal line.

Facilities Manager