



# THE Ottawa Tri-Star

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## Lots of Changes!

2023 is a year of transition. There are many changes taking place in our Section as well as at MBCA HQ.

We have a number of new members on the Club Board of Directors and Executive. The good news is that the Club is well managed and will continue the tradition of holding interesting and fun events for its members.

This will be my last issue as Editor of the Tri-Star Newsletter. I will be handing over the reins to Richard Orawiec who has volunteered to take on the role of Newsletter Editor. I will continue to assist Richard in the transition to his new role. I am extremely grateful for Richard to offer his service in helping to prepare the newsletter.

Here's hoping for sunny skies and another great driving season.



### Stay Safe

Mike McKinnon  
Past President &  
Ex Ottawa Tri-Star  
Editor

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# Presidents' Messages

By Mike McKinnon and Tom Lang



## Mike McKinnon

At last year's Annual General Meeting, I announced that after serving as Vice President during Larry Loma's tenure as President, and then serving four years as Club President, I would be stepping down as President of the Ottawa Section. I asked for volunteers to take on that role. Nobody offered their services at that time.

Diane and I spent several months in Florida this past winter and decided to make some lifestyle changes which included downsizing and building a new home in place of our cottage. With these tasks ahead of us and the start of the 2023 Driving Season looming, the need to hand over the Presidency to someone became more urgent. Fortunately Tom Lang, who has been serving as our Membership Director, agreed to step up and take on the role of President and I thank Tom for taking over as President. I am

sure he will do a great job. I will be glad to help him however I can.

I have enjoyed serving on the Board and Executive. It gave me the opportunity to work with great folks and more importantly meeting so many of our wonderful members. I will continue as a member of the Club and look forward to participating in as many events as possible.

## Tom Lang

I would like to start off by thanking past President Mike McKinnon for capably leading our club for as long as I have been a member. Having only joined five years ago, I still think of myself as a newcomer, and intend to rely heavily on Mike for guidance in this new role. Fortunately, our successful leadership recruitment drive in the spring means I now have a complete executive team and a full roster of directors to assist me. This will be incredibly helpful for carrying

out club business, including the all-important planning and organization of social events for the 2023 driving season. We will introduce the new Executive and BOD to the membership in the next issue of the TriStar. Our first priority, as always, will be to plan and carry out a season of driving events that are popular with our members. I think we made a great start with the BBQ lunch at the Carleton Golf and Yacht Club, organized by Bob Mather, and we have other interesting events in the pipeline that you will see announced in due time. There are also a few other things for the executive team to deal with, some of which you can read about in this issue. I hope you will bear with me as I try to steer our club into the future as capably as Mike and his predecessors have done in the past.

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## Opinicon Luncheon

By Mike McKinnon

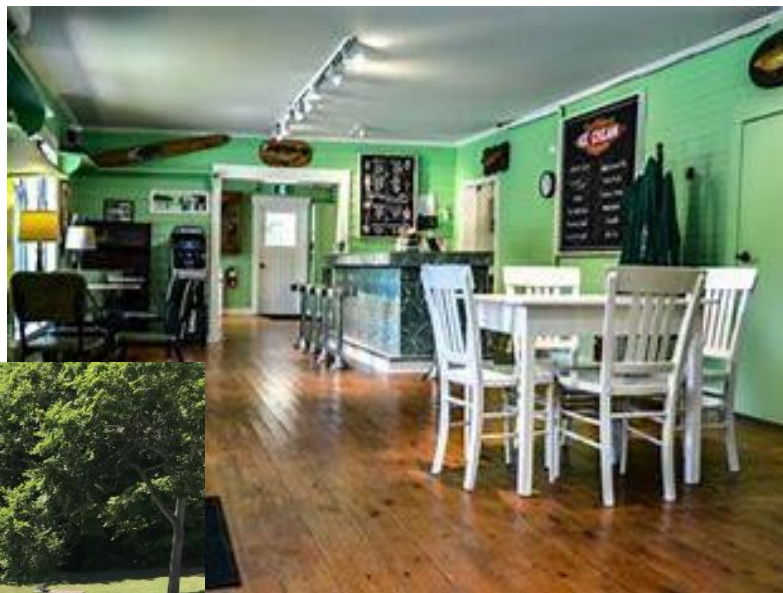
On August 13, 2022 thirty two of our members met in Smiths Falls to do a group drive for lunch at The Opinicon restaurant at Chaffey's Lock on the Rideau Canal.

The Opinicon has turned out to be a popular place to visit as this was our second time going there as a Club event.

In addition to a great lunch, a visit to their vintage ice cream shop was a fantastic place to try some delicious ice cream!

After lunch members wandered around the resort grounds and visiting the locks to watch the boats pass through on their journey along the Rideau Lakes system.

The weather once again cooperated and we had a great time. I'm sure we'll be back the The Opinicon again in the future.



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# Cars at Montebello

By Mike McKinnon

October 23, 2023 was a beautiful fall day. Seventeen cars from our Section met in Gatineau and drove as a group to Chateau Montebello.

After enjoying some social time by our members, we moved into the Chateau's dining room for a delicious lunch.

Afterwards members were able to enjoy seeing the chateau and walking around the beautiful grounds before heading home. A great time was had by all.



The trip to Montebello has been a tradition for many years. This year we were allowed to park on the lawn in front of the Chateau which allowed our group to proudly show off our wonderful cars to all the Chateau guests.



# Annual General Meeting

By Mike McKinnon

Our Section Annual General Meeting was held on November 24th at the Carleton Yacht and Golf Club. Thanks goes to Bob Mather for helping to make this venue available for us.

Twenty-nine members participated in the meeting and as usual enjoyed socializing before dinner.

The meeting was chaired by Mike McKinnon who did a recap of the 2022 club events. There were several jokes interspersed with that presentation!

Bob Richer presented the Club's Financial Statements and reported the Club was in good financial standing. It was noted that MBCA is no longer providing rebates to the Sections so there may be a need to raise funds independently in the future. For now we have adequate reserves to support the Club activities.

Tom Lang gave an update on the Club membership. The membership has remained fairly consistent over the last year but with the persistence of Bob Richer's recruiting efforts we were able to attract several new members.

Mike McKinnon provided a summary of the highlights from the MBCA National Board Meeting including the change of National

President from Julie Bruggner to Doug Geganto.

We are also looking at updating our Club Bylaws which are quite out of date.

Mike McKinnon announced he would be stepping down as Section President and put out the request for volunteers. After several years of service, Peter Kolassas and



Mel Roy resigned their positions on the Board. Members were asked to volunteer to participate on the Board to backfill those positions.

The evening wrapped up with the award of several prizes.



# Carleton Yacht and Golf Club

By Mike McKinnon

The first event of the 2023 season started out in the same place our 2022 season ended - at the Carleton Yacht and Golf Club. Once again thanks goes to Bob Mather for arranging to let us park our cars on the back lawn at the club.



On a beautiful sunny day, nineteen cars and almost forty club members came out to kick off the 2023 season and enjoy reconnecting with friends and having lunch on the CYGC patio.

offered ideas. Information on these events will be sent out to members once details are confirmed.

Tom Lang introduced himself as the new Section President and Richard Orawiec as the new Tri-Star Newsletter Editor.

It was great to see such a good turnout for the first event and it bodes well for the rest of the season!

Tom asked for suggestions for upcoming events and several folks





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## Updating the Club Bylaws

By Tom Lang

Ottawa section currently operates under the Bylaws that were drafted for it when the section was registered as a not-for-profit corporation in the Province of Ontario at its founding in 1994. These Bylaws were drafted in compliance with Ontario's Corporation Act. On 19 October 2021, the Ontario legislature passed the new Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act (ONCA) into law, giving affected corporations like our club three years to comply with this new legislation. Non-compliant corporations will be "gifted" default bylaws by the government, which our club executive

did not consider desirable. Therefore, earlier this year the club executive stood up a Bylaw Committee, led by Bob Mather capably assisted by Hubert Drouin, to update the club Bylaws to comply with ONCA, and to reflect current club practices. Bob and Hubert are currently busily drafting the updated Bylaws. When they are finished, the new Bylaws will go to the club Board of Directors for review. The new Bylaws will then be presented to the club membership for ratification at the Annual General Meeting to be held later this year. A copy of the ratified Bylaws will be sent to

MBCA for their records. The final step will be to submit the updated Bylaws to the Government of Ontario well in advance of the deadline of 19 October 2024. Hopefully that will put the club in good legal standing for the next thirty years!

