



Annual Meeting Moves To June

The NLSARA for the first time ever has moved its Annual General meeting to June 8 & 9, 2007. A number of factors came into play to cause this move. Funding from the Province and Transport Canada Office of Boating Safety was delayed this year, this combined with a lack of meeting space and the need to bring in representatives from Halifax prompted the change. There is a positive aspect in that the weather will indeed be better but we hope the lateness won't affect the number of people attending. As always the coordinator or their representative should attend. The first day will involve meetings with Transport Canada Officials while the second will be dedicated to NLSARA business and election of Officers. Hope to see everyone there.

Helicopter Rescue Teams Complete Training

Six Helicopter Teams located strategically throughout the province have now completed their training. Each Team has a basic amount of equipment. This will enable them to perform a rescue in a remote area where the victim cannot be loaded into a helicopter on site and cannot be transported by ground without further injury to them. A number of the Teams have used their new equipment and training to perform some search patterns in hilly terrain, rescue an individual from a cliff and retrieve a body from a mountain side. The NLSARA is hoping to continue this training with other Teams throughout the province so they can assist the already established Teams should their services be required in their respective areas.

Ocean Guardian III Exercise

The Canadian Coast Guard is conducting a training exercise in the Bay Of Islands this year. Representatives from many federal and provincial agencies will be participating in this three day exercise to be held in October. Members of the NLSARA will also be taking part in this exercise. Plans are in the preliminary stages and meetings are ongoing with all the players. Harry Blackmore of NLSARA will be conducting an information session with all Teams on the West Coast May 3/07 at the Bay of Islands SAR Building, Corner Brook. More information will be forthcoming as the plans are finalized. This hopes to be a great event and all involved should make a real effort to attend.

RCMP Members Complete Searcher I & II Training

On April 10-13 the first RCMP SAR Liaison Officers in the province completed Searcher II Training. The RCMP Training Section has formally recognized the Training Standards of the NLSARA and members will receive the same credit for this course as any other they complete. This has effectively changed history in this province as now SAR is providing instruction to both Police Forces instead of the Police providing the training to SAR Teams. It should also be mentioned that many RCMP members throughout the province are taking Searcher II training on their own as teams in their respective areas are training its own members. This is certainly a positive step having more Police trained in Search & Rescue.



RCMP/ Park Warden Trainees / Searcher II April 2007.

Association Issues New ID'S

The NLSARA can now produce its own ID's. Each Team has to take their digital pictures using your red boating safety table top display back ground. Head and shoulders shot, preferably with a dark shirt, no hats. Save it as a jpeg image and rename it to the members name. Copy these pictures to a disc and forward it to Barry Nash at P.O. Box 581, Stephenville Crossing NL A0N 2C0. Remember this is an official Government ID and must be returned should a member quit or leave your Team.