



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

The Lifeguarding Experts

Get trained... Deadline for PCOC is September 15, 2009.

In 1999, a law was passed in Canada requiring operators of powered recreational boats to have a basic level of boating knowledge. Providers developed courses and tests and a proof of competency “card” was issued to those who successfully completed the test.

The Pleasure Craft Operator’s Card (PCOC) is a first step towards acquiring the skills and know-how to safely operate a motorized vessel in Canadian waters.

But time is running out. Although the requirement to have a PCOC has been phased in over several years, the final deadline is only months away. By Sept 2009, everyone operating a powered recreational vessel will need to show proof of competency with a PCOC card. Transport Canada’s website www.tc.gc.ca has a list of PCOC course providers.

Keep in mind that the PCOC is just a first step in boating education. This ‘legal minimum’ doesn’t cover non-motorized craft such as sail, canoes, kayaks or any of the passengers in any boats. To truly enjoy the boating experience, all boaters need boating safety education. It is a great activity for the entire family to take a boating safety course together.

The Lifesaving Society is committed to the safety of all boaters on the water. Get trained to ensure you have all of the knowledge and skills you need to be safe on the water. Go to www.lifesaving.ca for more information on boating safety tips.

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