

# PICKERING AUXILIARY RESCUE ASSOCIATION



**MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**  
c/o 682 Hillview Crescent, Pickering, Ontario, L1W 2R7  
Email: [info@para-rescue.org](mailto:info@para-rescue.org)  
<http://para-rescue.org>  
Charity BN/ Registration # 86802 0843 RR0001



2016 Program Detail

## PURPOSE

1. Funding of the Pickering Auxiliary Rescue Association (PARA) to facilitate the operations of its marine assets.
1. PARA is a registered charity “dedicated to helping the person in the water” through the Marine Search and Rescue (SAR) Mandate

## DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

2. Marine SAR Mandate
  - a. Provide marine search and rescue capability in the Canadian waters of Lake Ontario adjacent to the Region of Durham.
  - b. This mandate supports the national search and rescue objectives and provides the necessary sector coverage for the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG).
  - c. Assist in marine SAR, in humanitarian and civil incidents as directed by the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC)
  - d. Collaborate as part of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA) with other local CCGA units.
  - e. Provide Durham Region additional marine SAR asset to support local Fire Services and Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS).
3. PARA Capability
  - a. Operate and maintain the dedicated rescue vessel PARU based out of Frenchman’s Bay, Pickering.
  - b. Maintain and improve the rescue vessel SAR capability and operational safety.
  - c. Provide continuing training to develop and maintain volunteer competency.
  - d. Educate the public in support of the SAR Prevention objectives of the CCG and CCGA.

## DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

1. 49 PARA volunteers are currently active with the organization.
2. The membership expectation is upwards of 70 patrol hours, 10 Community hours, and upwards of 40 training hours for a minimum total 120 hour commitment.
3. Members are spread across 6 crews with patrols scheduled from May long weekend through to the end of the Thanksgiving weekend.
4. Emergency, 7x24 on call list of PARA volunteers for JRCC ordered missions during the period from late April till mid November.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. SAFETY: Target Injury rate: Zero. In 2016, there were no injuries.
2. TOTAL HOURS: 6,000 hours
  - a. Average hours per person: 122 hours
  - b. Patrol hours: 3,100 hours
  - c. Persons more than 200 hours: 11

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3. SAR MISSIONS: 11 Taskings with 2 stand downs
  - a. Total Person Hours: 211 hours of which 130 are off patrol hours.
  - b. Average Response overall is 14 mins for all taskings. 2 mins for the 6 on duty taskings versus 29 mins for the 5 off duty taskings.
  - c. Average Duration: 3.2 hours
  - d. Total mission hours: 38.1 hours
  - e. 10 persons assisted
  - f. Approximately \$100,000 in assets assisted.
4. COMMUNITY PROGRAM: 500 Hours
  - a. Participated in Whitby Harbour days, local yacht clubs events, dragon boat events, community improvements events such as Take Pride in Pickering.
  - b. PARA also hosted the annual fundraiser at Herongate Dinner Theatre to support funds for capital purchases.
5. TRAINING PROGRAM: 1800 Hours
  - a. Objective: maintain and upgrade boating skills and knowledge through classroom and on-water training activities.
    - i. On water activities include Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) training for vessel evolutions, practical evaluation of CCGA Phase 1 and 2 materials, scenario based training, co-operative exercises with other local and national SAR assets. Crew assessments and re-qualification of each member are required to be completed once every 5 years.
    - ii. Classroom activities include first aid, marine radio (Canadian Power Squadron), basic SAR concepts, vessel operations, weather and navigation
    - iii. Other training has included fire safety training conducted by Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and sea survival training at local pool facilities.
  - b. CCGA Central & Artic implemented a new training program as mentioned in the 2015 report. 16 of 49 members are undergoing or have completed the training.
  - c. Over the past 2 years, PARA implemented succession planning for Coxswains. In the that time period, there have been 3 new coxswain appointments (50%) due to attrition.
6. ADMINISTRATIVE IMPROVEMENTS: 440 Hours
  - a. Implementation of a new online calendar, time tracking and administration site.
  - b. Improved member relations and communications.
7. FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS:
  - a. PARU was relocated, from Frenchman's Bay Yacht Club, to the eastern side of Frenchman's Bay in order to provide an improved response time when exiting the harbour.
  - b. Storage facilities were installed on this eastern site. Excess equipment was removed from PARU to ensure minimize weight and storage onboard resulting in improved housekeeping and safety onboard the vessel.



8. VESSEL AVAILABILITY, MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS: 140 Hours

- a. Vessel Availability: 97.9% versus expectation of 95%.
- b. Budget expenses 52% spent of annual budget to reporting date.
- c. Maintenance activities this year included communication equipment replacements, weather station installation and other minor maintenance. A major outdrive overhaul is scheduled for late 2016 and other vessel improvements in early 2017.
- d. Communications with local fire services and DRPS via dedicated Harris radio system. This proved to a valuable asset during SAR missions on Lake Ontario where there is limited cell service available.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Cost recovery for use of the Durham Region radio system is estimated at \$2K per annum. PARA is requesting the annual budget be increased by \$2K to offset this cost transfer back to the Region.
2. PARA is looking to raise capital funds for an additional vessel in 3-4 years and subsequently a long-term replacement vessel for the current SAR asset (PARU). This may have an impact on future operational funding requests.