



Whiff of Grape

Toronto Chapter

Join us for Great Speakers, Great Fellowship, Great Fun!

July 5, 2021

Greetings Fellow Whiffers

Before we break for the Summer, we wanted to let you know that your Junta is excited about the 2021/22 Campaign and is busy planning for the year ahead.

We want to thank all of you for making this past year a success for the *Whiff of Grape, Toronto Chapter*. Under the stellar leadership of John Paterson, we introduced virtual meetings in September and with your patience, technical enthusiasm, and understanding, we successfully completed eight meetings. We say successfully because you, our Members, showed up faithfully, often bringing guests, family members, new prospective members, or alumni. Over the course of the campaign, you grew our Membership from 54 Full and 23 Associate Members to 103 Full Members.

A major factor of our successful campaign was our 'A Team' of technical wizards: Ian Brown and Ron Foreman. With their assistance, we all became more comfortable with Zoom technology, moving from break-out rooms to main sessions, and learning the value of the 'mute' button.

As we enter a new Campaign under the capable direction of **Mac Borden**, we are pleased to report that many of the pieces are already in place. Brian Westlake has masterfully arranged [speakers for September, October, November and January 2022](#) and our list of prospective guest speakers for the remaining meetings is lengthy.

In light of the continuing concerns about Covid-19 and its variants, we plan to hold all of our Fall 2021 meetings as **Whiff@Home** events, i.e., virtual meetings via Zoom.

But we want to emphasize that we do plan to return to our traditional dinner meeting format, as soon as it is safe to do so. Stuart McKay and Peter Baines continue discussions with the *Badminton & Racquet Club* and the *RCYC City Clubhouse*, respectively, as venues for our in-person gatherings as soon as circumstances and restrictions allow for them. In regard to that traditional format, we are also exploring the possibility of holding hybrid meetings where some members attend "live" dinner meeting as well as others joining remotely via Zoom.

Our Treasurer, Charles MacRae, will be sending a separate note late in the summer regarding payment of dues for the new Campaign. Membership dues will remain at the same modest annual rate of \$100 to cover expenses. When we do return to in-person meetings, dinners will be paid separately.



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While we take a break for the summer, please consider your friends and acquaintances who would welcome the experience of stimulating presentations, lively exchanges, and the camaraderie we all enjoy as members of the *Whiff*. Jim Cairncross will be delighted to hear from you.

If you have any comments or suggestions at any time, please let a member of your Junta know. You can reach us at Junta@Whiff-of-Grape.ca. Read about our upcoming speakers and stay up-to-date with membership details via the Whiff's website – www.Whiff-of-Grape.ca.

Our next communication with you will be around the end of August. In the meantime, your Junta wishes you a safe and healthy Summer. We look forward to seeing all of you, virtually, in the Fall.

Your Junta,

Mac Borden (Chair, 2021-2023)
Peter Baines (RCYC Logistics)
Ian Brown (Technology)
Jim Cairncross (Membership)
Ron Foreman (Technology)
Charles MacRae (Treasurer)
Stuart McKay (B&R Logistics)
John Paterson (Chair Emeritus, 2019-2021)
Brian Westlake (Speaker Program)



Communiqué posted to the Whiff website [here](#)