

MEDIA RELEASE  
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

18th ANNUAL RACE ON THE RIVER MEDIA RELEASE

As things are underway for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Race on the River Dragon Boat Festival in New Glasgow on July 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> we are thrilled to announce that one of the founders and long-term supporter of Race on the River, Joanne Cumminger has been named the honorary chair of this year's event.

Joanne is a lifelong resident of Plymouth, Pictou County and is a graduate from the Aberdeen Hospital Nursing School and St. Francis Xavier Bachelor of Science Nursing Program. Prior to retiring she was a Pictou County Health Authority employee with 44 years in nursing. Joanne's most rewarding job was as a Cancer Patient Navigator assisting cancer clients through a very complex system during a stressful time in their lives.

Joanne is the recipient of numerous awards including the Princess Diana Humanitarian Award, YMCA Peace Medal, The Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee Award, the Senate 150 Medal and the Canadian Nurse of the Year Award.

"I am humbled to serve as the Honourary Chair of the Pictou County 18th Annual Race on the River. This event is very dear to my heart as I was instrumental in starting the Dragon Boating Program with the Women Alike Breast cancer Survivors 20 years ago, never dreaming it would grow to this extent."

"The Dragon Boat Races proved that under the leadership of the Dragon Boat Society, volunteers, racing teams and the cheering crowd we can achieve first class races that are family oriented and a go to event of the summer. I also know that the three deserving charities give back to communities, enhancing the lives of those involved and improving the lives of those in the future. PADDLES UP!"

Be sure to mark your summer calendars in New Glasgow for July 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> for a wonderful family event along the East River, New Glasgow. Opening ceremonies are on Friday July 26<sup>th</sup> and races begin at 8:00am Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup>. Aside from watching the races the festival offers children's activities, musical entertainment, games and great food being offered by on site vendors. This is a great event for the whole family!

Teams are encouraged to register prior to May 17<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of the early bird registration fee and registration deadline is June 7<sup>th</sup>. For more information please visit [www.raceontheriver.com](http://www.raceontheriver.com) or to inquire about registering a team please contacts Anne Baxter at [raceontheriver2019@gmail.com](mailto:raceontheriver2019@gmail.com) or **902-754-9817 or 902-752-3304**