

## 'Discover a Career in Boating'

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Are you interested in pursuing a hands-on, skilled trade based career? Do you want a career where you will be in demand and can work anywhere in the world? Do you appreciate working in a friendly environment where you can maintain a great lifestyle while building a rewarding career? It's time you considered a career in boating!

The rate of baby boomer retirement in Canada is steadily climbing. The boating industry has already felt the effect of this apparent shift in the workforce, and is experiencing an industry shortage of trained, skilled workers. This shortage has made it difficult for marine businesses to attract, recruit, and maintain a sustainable workforce.

There are approximately 2.9 million boats in Canada, all of which require some level of service on a regular basis. This means that trained, skilled workers are in high demand now and will be in the future. Marine Engine Technicians are the focus of this shortage within the marine industry. Many marine operators are continuously lacking skilled technicians to service and repair boats, and this is ultimately due to the fact that the new age of this trade is slow to be produced to fill the void.

Boating Ontario, the association that represents recreational boating in Ontario, sustains an awareness and recruitment program called 'Careers in Boating' to address the relevant skilled labour shortage in the industry. The program website-[www.careersinboating.com](http://www.careersinboating.com)- is an informative source for information on the various skills shortages in the boating industry. The website explores the various opportunities the industry has to offer. It also provides a detailed list of the training options for prospective Marine Engine Mechanics, such as the one year post-secondary certificate and apprenticeship training programs offered at two colleges in Ontario- Georgian College and Sault College. There are also promotional brochures, DVDs, and information on government apprenticeship training incentives available for employers, employees, and prospective students and apprentices.

Marine Engine Technician training is an excellent way for those who are new to the industry to get started on their career path. The Ontario College Certificate full-time training program is suitable for all ages and backgrounds. People are beginning this training immediately following their high school education, while others begin the training in hopes of creating a new career.

Not interested in a skilled trades career choice? There is a need for qualified workers in all areas of operation in the boating industry, including: management, sales, distribution, human resources and many more! If you are interested in pursuing a career in the recreational boating industry there are several things you could do. You could speak with a local marina or dealer and ask them about opportunities, or you could attend a boat show or boating event. You could also contact your local Employment Ontario office, check out the Boating Ontario job board and skills training section of [www.boatingontario.ca](http://www.boatingontario.ca), or contact the Boating Ontario office at 705-549-1667 or [info@boatingontario.com](mailto:info@boatingontario.com) for any additional information.

Experience a career in a dynamic and exciting industry; pursue a career in boating!