



July 5, 2017

For immediate release:

Poker Runs Postponed

The 1000 Islands Alexandria Bay, St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario Poker Run events have been postponed due to local waterway conditions.

Governor of the State of New York, Andrew M. Cuomo, declared the boating region of the 1000 Islands is under a declaration of Emergency pursuant to the Navigation Law of the State of New York. He has issued a maximum speed limit of 5 mph within 600 feet from shore. Any boater exceeding this limit will be acting without reasonable and prudent regard for actual and present hazards.

Bill Taylor, President of Poker Runs America, has announced that The **2017 Alexandria Bay Poker Run**, originally scheduled for July 27-29, 2017, has been postponed until further notice. In addition, **The Bay of Quinte Poker Run**, scheduled for the July 15th weekend has been postponed until further notice as it is far too dangerous to run boats on these waters until the end of July.

"We've been following this situation for several weeks now and after several discussions with authorities, we feel this is the best course of action. This is not a decision we take lightly and it was a very difficult one to make. But, the floating debris including: tree stumps, logs, patio tables and chairs that are submerged two feet or more underwater, or even the homeowners docks attached to some boats that have been sighted drifting along the St. Lawrence river, poses a significant safety risk. This together, could cause a very dangerous incident. Especially when an outdrive, or a few propellers are torn off and full steering is lost, causing a major accident for several boats running together," said Taylor.

"We've been running these events for over 30 years without a hiccup and I don't want to jeopardize these fabulous events as well as the reputation of the entire poker run sport in the 1000 Islands region we have worked so hard to create," said Taylor.

"I'm asking you to join me to protect the future of our sport."

Even the Hydroplane races, just north of Ogdensburg NY, have been postponed to a later date in September.

Despite these unfortunate cancellations, Poker Runs America still expects to be hitting the water in Kingston, ON. the weekend of Aug 18-19 for the 1000 Islands CAN/AM Poker Run, which is sure to be a great and resounding success.

For more information, please visit www.pokerrunsamerica.com or www.powerboating.com Or contact Melanie Taylor at coordinator@pokerrunsamerica.com or 1-800-354-9145 or 905-580-5456.