



## **The Decibel Coalition**

### **Enhance Existing Legislation to Include Decibel Limits**

#### **Excessive boat noise is a persistent and pervasive problem on Canadian waterways**

Muskoka, Lake Simcoe, Okanagan, Shuswap, Big Rideau, Memphremagog

67% want muffler laws enforced, 61% want decibel legislation (SQL 2017 survey of 3,300 participants)

#### **Canada Small Vessel Regulations (SOR/2010-91)**

Muffler law only, no noise limits

Police cannot and will not enforce

Waterways are federal jurisdiction - Municipalities and Provinces cannot legislate

#### **US and EU have had decibel legislation for many years**

Decibel levels are consistent across US States

Legislation has been effective in US

#### **Preliminary support is strong**

National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), Georgian Bay Association, Big Rideau Lake Association, OPP – working with many other organizations across Canada

#### **Proposed Legislation Enhancement**

Based on National Association of State Boating Legislators Association (NASBLA) Model Noise Act

Straight forward / uncomplicated for law enforcement

Measurement procedures are simple and use SAE standards

Equipment and training costs are low

Exemptions for sanctioned practice/racing only

#### **Compliance for most current excessively loud boats is not difficult**

US market must comply (27 states already have similar legislation)

Numerous vendors offer relatively low cost solutions to adapt mufflers - Costs \$500 +

Extreme/high performance boats may require more sophisticated/costly solutions

#### **Decibel Coalition**

Safe Quiet Lakes to gather broad federal coalition in support of marine decibel legislation

Police, cottage and lake associations, marinas, boat manufacturers, tow-boat sport associations, Municipalities, Transport Canada

Target for passing into law Q3 2021 - Q2 2022

#### **How Can You Help**

Communicate about this project to your friends and neighbours

Encourage them to sign up for SQL newsletters here: <http://safequiet.ca/your-role/stay-informed/>

Donate to Safe Quiet Lakes here: <http://safequiet.ca/donate/>