

TBC Message to Members

Hello everyone. I hope you have all had a great summer and are looking forward to returning to the Toronto Beach Chorale when we start up rehearsals on September 7th.

As those of you who were at the AGM already know, there will be some changes in the approach this season to help ensure that TBC remains financially viable and that all of the necessary roles and tasks are accomplished without putting an undue burden on any one or small group of people.

It has been decided that the choristers fees have to increase to \$240.00 for the season (participating in all 3 concerts). We hope everyone will participate in all 3 concerts, but for those who for whatever reason cannot, the fee for each individual concert will be \$100.00. We all love to sing and it would be great if we could offer the opportunity for free. However we have fixed costs that go up every year, and our concert revenues have not fully covered the concert costs themselves, let alone the other costs for rehearsal space, music, our wonderful conductor and accompanist, and insurance which we have to provide on our own. At \$240.00 for the season, it still comes down to less than \$10.00 per session, which is pretty good for the kind of music training we get, and less than most of us pay for coffee for a week. We will still be needing a post-dated cheque for \$25.00 from everyone, as a deposit on your music. It will be returned at the end of the season when your music is returned.

For those who have not yet chosen a participation team for the season, we will be looking for you to sign up for one at the first rehearsal. Every member is expected to participate in at least one team during the choir season. Each team has at least one member of the executive committee as a member, and our executive committee meetings will include hearing from team leaders about things their group are doing. Our new team approach will let TBC expand our presence in the Beach Community, and improve our financial and chorister strength. A summary of each of the teams and their mandates is attached and has been included on the TBC Website.

To enhance the singing experience all singers are asked to commit to sectional rehearsals to work within your sections on the concert music (it helps to make the full choir rehearsals a lot more productive and a lot more fun). As a special opportunity for all members, Maestro Mervin Fick will be conducting a workshop in September for everyone, so stay tuned for more details on that.

We hope that everyone will be returning in September, and in order to ensure that we have sufficient scores for our fall music, please email Verena to confirm that you are returning. We are also welcoming new singers in all sections, so please let your singing friends know about the opportunity. See you on the 7th of September with your pencils and water bottles.

Peggy Rintoul