



For immediate release, July 10, 2011

Bratina 3 Goldring 0

On Saturday afternoon July 9, 2011 Mayor Bob Bratina successfully defeated Burlington Mayor Rick Goldring in a three race sailing regatta on Hamilton Harbour. In doing so Bratina won the right to be the first Mayor to speak at the Opening ceremonies of the Rotary Mobility Cup, August 29.

In windy conditions and a slight chop, sailing in Martin 16 keelboats, Mayor Bratina with his companion sailor, Helen Dam, showed their stern to the team of Mayor Rick Goldring and Bob Wercholo. The Burlington team had, according to a confidential source, spent hours practicing in an undisclosed location (LaSalle Park Marina). However Mayor Bob reached back to an earlier time when he sailed on the harbour and demonstrated that skills learned 30 years ago were still fresh and his sailing ability undiminished by age or time. Helen Dam congratulated Mayor Rick and said that the competition was tougher than expected and that she looked forward to a rematch in 2012.

The organizing committee for the Rotary Mobility Cup realized early on that with the event co-sponsored by both cities that a procedural wrangle could develop over which mayor would be the first to speak at the Opening ceremonies. It could have been decided by a simple coin toss but considering the type of event – a sailing regatta – what better way to decide the first speaker than a contest on the water.

Money raised on-shore, as part of the day's events will go to supporting Able Sail programs in Hamilton and Burlington



For information on the Rotary Mobility Cup 2011:
www.mobilitycup2011.ca or Colin Jacobs 905 928-9374

For further information:

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Disabled Sailing Association of Ontario:
www.disabledsailing.on.ca/

For information on the Martin 16 boat: www.martin16.com/