The current clubhouse features a Great Hall that hosts a range of activities from dinners and parties, to dances and meetings. Lockers for dinghy storage, which originally made up the clubhouse's ground floor, have been replaced by meeting rooms, a year-round "*Snug Bar*" and a number of locker buildings on the grounds. **A dining room was added to the clubhouse in 1964.**

Queen City has operated a Learn to Sail program for children, young people and adults for more than 60 years. **In 2013 the club completed construction of a magnificent new Learn to Sail centre**, once more member designed. An adjacent building houses 28 storage lockers for members, and quarters for the tender-captains and crew.

Getting to Algonquin Island was sometimes a challenge in the early days. As there was no bridge to Algonquin Island until 1938, members typically took the Ward's Island ferry then hailed a member on Algonquin to row across the lagoon to get them. *(Legend has it that once on Algonquin, members developed occasional deafness!)* **By the 1950s Queen City resolved the issue by operating its own "tenders" to ferry members from the Toronto mainland directly to the club.**

Queen City currently has 330 members. Many are involved in racing in intra-club races on Wednesday night in the Toronto Harbour and in inter-club regattas around the lake. Members are also active cruising the Great Lakes and many have sailed the oceans of the world.

Queen City is a dynamic club that in 2014 proudly celebrates its 125th Anniversary.

Queen City Yacht Club
A Brief History
1889 to 2014

125th Anniversary Committee

Queen City Yacht Club
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Queen City Yacht Club is the second oldest yacht club in the Toronto area, after the *Royal Canadian Yacht Club*. In 1888 a number of young men interested in sailing decided to form a Yacht Club to be called the Queen City Yacht Club. On August 15, 1889 the club was incorporated, headed by 27-year-old *Commodore Thomas "Tommy" Albert Edward World*.

The objectives of the club listed in the declaration of 1889 to the City of Toronto were: to encourage members to become efficient in the management, control and handling of yachts, skiffs and canoes; to promote yacht, skiff and canoe sailing and racing in Canadian waters.

In 1889, the club rented boathouses on Clindinning Row, a pier between Simcoe and York Streets. Racing began immediately for the World Cup, a trophy most likely donated by none other than our first Commodore.

In 1902 QCYC built a new clubhouse, designed by the famous Toronto architect E.J. Lennox, at the foot of York Street. Lennox, a member of QCYC, also designed the Old City Hall, Casa Loma and the King Edward Hotel.

During and after World War I the City of Toronto embarked on a program to dredge the harbour, using some of the dredgate to create Sunfish Island (now Algonquin Island), an extension to the Toronto Islands. Unfortunately, the dredging undermined Queen City's clubhouse. **On July 7, 1920 it fell into the harbour** and was written off, forcing the club to move the next year to the eastern end of Sunfish Island.

In addition to a new clubhouse, again designed by a member, **Queen City members constructed a marine railway** so they could haul and launch their own boats. Though it has been rebuilt a number of times and its orientation changed from East/West to North/South, the club and its members still haul and launch their boats this way.

QCYC was heavily involved in racing on Lake Ontario. Its members held executive positions in both the Lake Yacht Racing Association and the Lake Sailing Skiff Association and participated in races around Lake Ontario.