

## HOPA Ports

2022 PARTNERSHIP UPDATE



- ▲ *A new project by Brock University students encourages people to think about Great Lakes ports as more than just industrial spaces. The PortCities website explores the port of Hamilton (pictured) and its connections to geography, transportation, recreation, environment, health, industry, and culture.*

On January 22, 2020, HOPA Ports and Brock University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to solidify their collaborative partnership to enhance the life and vitality of the region. Both organizations are committed to working together to produce mutually beneficial outcomes that will strengthen the future of Niagara's economy. The agreement will see Brock and HOPA Ports provide experiential learning opportunities, including co-op placements, and to pursue research collaborations that support marine and industry needs. This collaboration further enhances Brock's ongoing commitments to community engagement, knowledge mobilization, experiential learning and building mutually beneficial partnerships that support Niagara's social and economic development.

## Projects and Initiatives in 2022

Brock and HOPA Ports have worked on several successful collaborations over 2022, including experiential learning opportunities and co-op placements that support marine and industry needs. This partnership continues to strengthen the connections between academia and the sectors HOPA Ports supports in the marine and shipping industries.

### Research

HOPA Ports and Brock University collaborated on research in 2022, including:

- Brock's Goodman Group prepared a Harbour West Marina Market Research Project Proposal for HOPA Ports. While the City of Hamilton owns the Harbour West Marina, HOPA Ports is the operator, and are hoping to initiate a market study to determine the need for possible expansion of the slips. The proposed market study aims to look at the demand and capacity for potential expansion.

### Service

HOPA Ports and Brock University supported each other through acts of service in 2022, including:

- HOPA Ports participated in Brock's Professional and Continuing Studies external market scan, both the survey and the roundtable discussion.

### Student Experiential Learning

Student experiential learning provides unique opportunities for student to gain real world experience as part of their studies. The partnership between HOPA Ports and Brock University provides opportunities for students to apply their skills in an industry that plays a critically important role in Niagara's economy.

#### **In 2022:**

- HOPA Ports collaborated with Brock's Goodman School of Business to take on a BBA student as a Marina Marketing and Operation Co-op Associate during the Spring/Summer 2022 term.