

## Kayak Maintenance and Repair Workshop — Blackline Marine, Canoe Cove – Sat Feb 24, 2024



The kayak maintenance and repair workshop with Andrea Morrison last Saturday was filled with attentive paddlers!

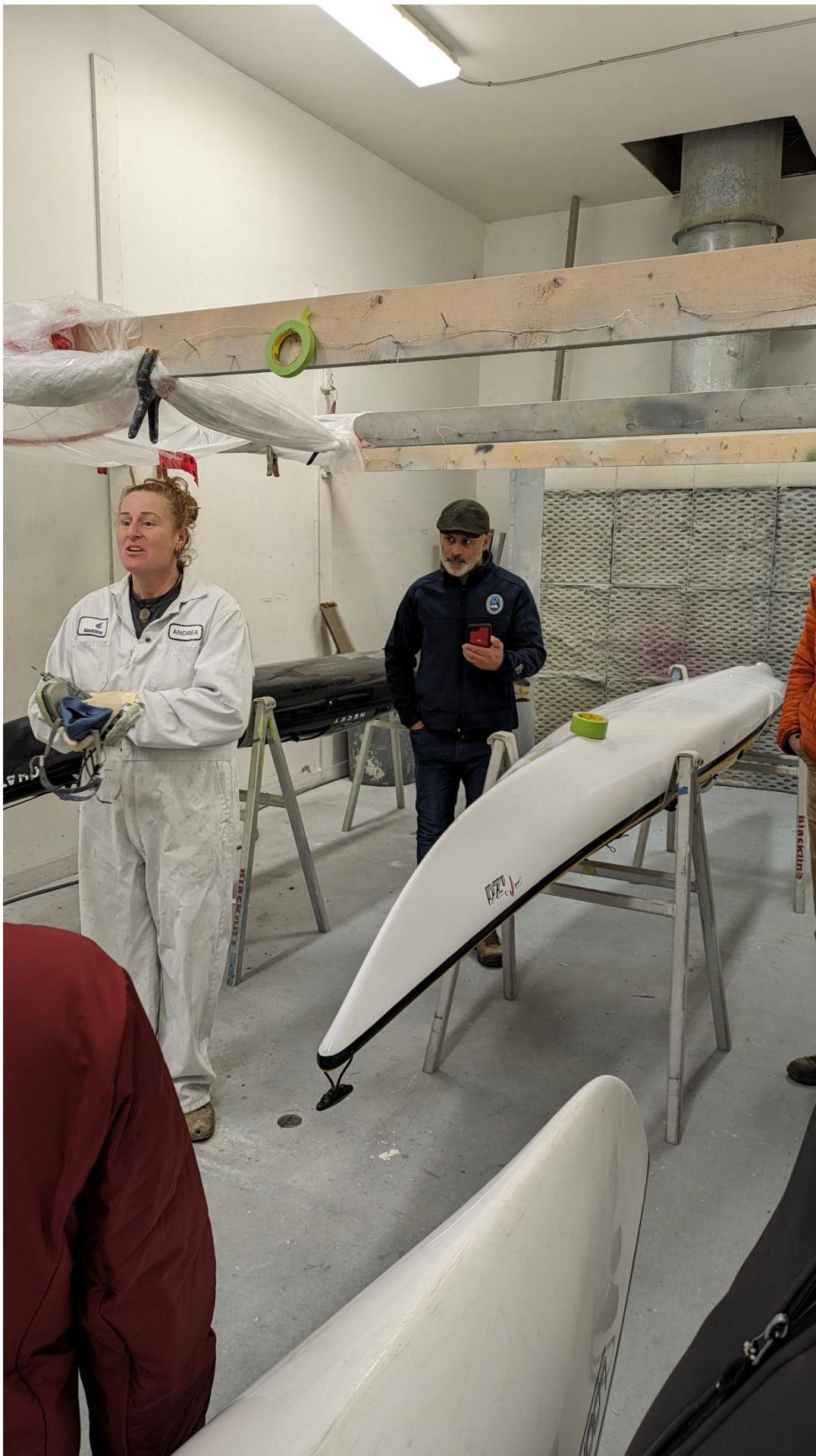
Andrea is a highly skilled and experienced Marine Service Technician (MST), a specialist in kayak manufacture and repair at [Blackline Marine Inc.](#) and an instructor at the affiliated Quadrant Marine Institute nearby. She has 15+ years experience in the industry and enjoys keeping up with changes in technology.

This full-day, information-packed workshop began with a morning classroom session on kayak materials, fabrication, maintenance practices and repair techniques including cables/lines, leaks, gelcoat and more. Over lunch Andrea completed assessments of attendees' kayaks, and the rest of the day was spent in and around the Blackline Marine repair shop where she ably demonstrated effective repair and maintenance techniques.

SISKA members who attended are certainly not MST-qualified! But they are much more knowledgeable now about what is a structural/safety vs a cosmetic problem, how best to address these and keep their kayaks in good shape.

Thanks so much, Andrea!!





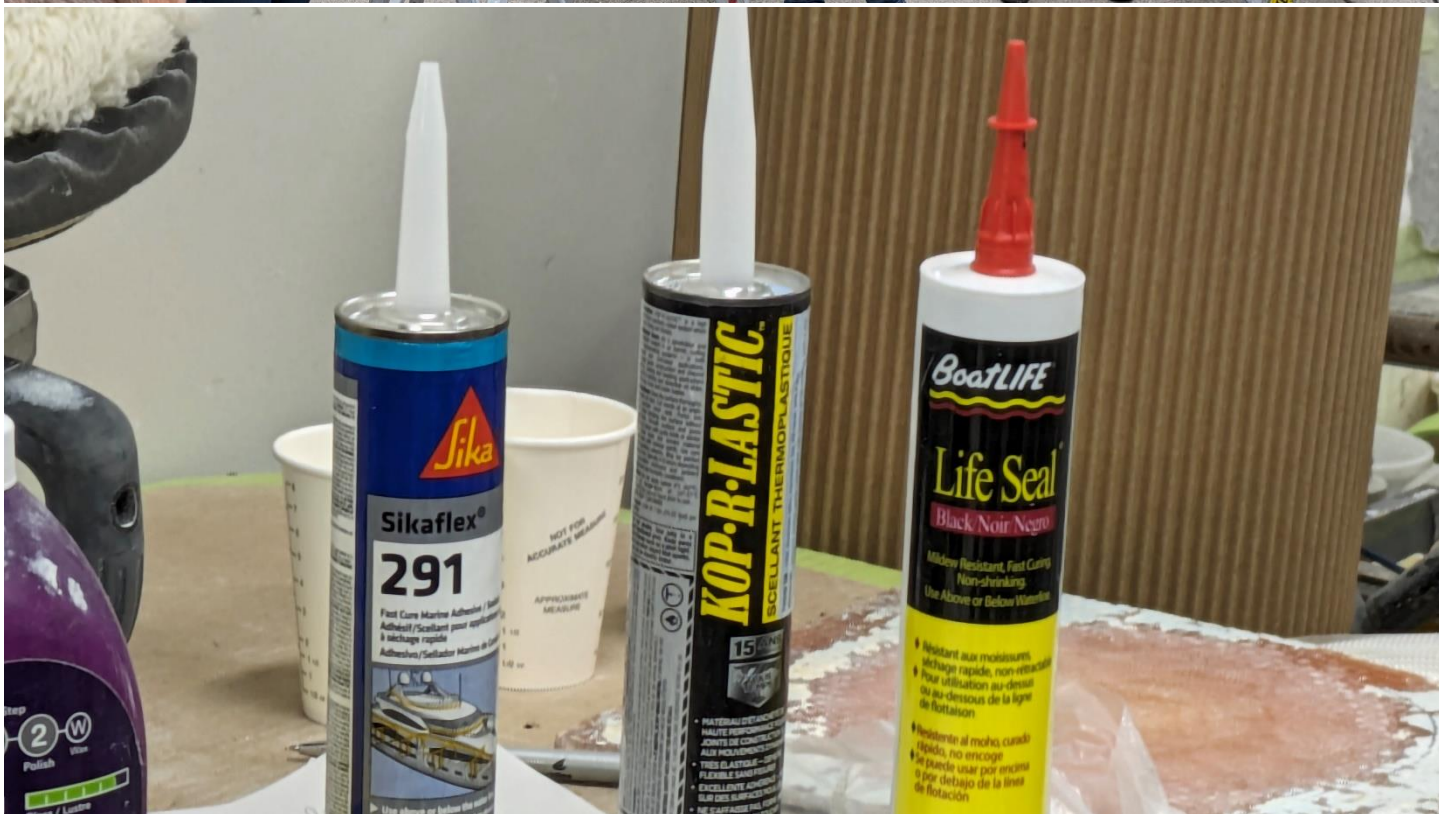
















### **Kayak Check**

- Assess the bond of the cockpit coaming.
- Assess the rudder/skeg cables for fraying or signs of rust.
- Assess the rudder up/down-haul, lifelines and bungees for signs of fatigue.
- Remove any debris from under seat.
- Water test the day hatch compartments to check bulkheads, external seam and hatch seal for leaks.
- Assess the gel coat for fracturing.
- Assess the gel coat for wear on keel at bow and stern.

### **Preventative Maintenance**

#### **Do's**

- Polish and wax 1-2 times per year.
- Flush rudder and/or skeg guides with every use.
- Flush under seat with every use.
- Drain on end for 5 min with every use.
- Store out of direct sunlight or with a cover.

#### **Do not:**

- Do not overly compress hull/deck when transporting.
- Do not use silicone based products for any kayak repair.
- Do not over sand the gel coat.
- Do not store outside with the deck facing up.
- Do not store under load.

#### **Consider**

- Installing brushed gel beaching shoes or Dynel laminated keel shoes.