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1924 Morris Launch "Kelpie II"

80,000 CAD



LOA 30' 0" Beam 6' 7"

Draft 1' 5" Fuel 32 gallons Passengers 8 Cruise Speed 7 mph

Hull Type: Displacement

Power 1932 Kermath Sea Prince 6 cyl, 85 hp, Rebuilt 1984

Classic "Roaring Twenties" Mahogany Motor Launch Built by Hamilton's Legendary Morris Boat Works of Prohibition Fame

Having graced the waters of the Muskoka Lakes for 100 years, the much loved "Kelpie II" is for sale by her second owners who acquired her from the original owners in 1983. She was commissioned in 1924 by the Callahan family of Lake Muskoka, Ontario. They asked the Morris Boat Works Company of Hamilton, Ontario to build a custom launch suitable for cruises in Ontario's cottage country. Morris Boat Works was famous as a speed boat builder, building boats for both the police and the rum runners of the 1920's! This classic launch harkens back to the halcyon days of wooden boat lake cruising during an era that saw the introduction of cinemas, automobiles, radios and airplanes, bootleggers, booze, flappers, jazz, and of course the iconic ahooga horn!

After decades of enjoyment, the original family stored Kelpie II in a shed where she was neglected for many years. The current owner tracked her down and purchased Kelpie II in 1984. Extensive restoration work was performed by Butson Boats of Port Carling, including a complete new bottom build. The upper deck frames were lovingly reworked to maintain as much of the original craftsmanship as possible. Hardware was re-chromed or was manufactured or cast to match the original period hardware as closely as possible. The original 12-cyclinder Kermath engine was replaced in 1932 with a newer, more reliable Kermath Sea Prince, which was also totally rebuilt in 1984 by Pal engines of Orillia, Ontario. The canvas bimini top was replaced in 1986. The Kelpie II has been regularly maintained and operated since the restoration.

The Kelpie II comes equipped with burgundy leather helm and rear seat upholstery, four wicker chairs with matching leather cushions, a carpet for the cockpit, rope weave fenders, a custom-made mahogany boat hook and two custom mahogany paddles, all of which are in excellent condition.

If you are interested in acquiring a unique period motor launch, Kelpie II is right here on the Muskoka Lakes ready for your family to add the next chapter to her already long and rich 100-year history.

Available for viewing by appointment