



False Creek Tidings

Fall 2007

Presidents Message

Welcome back from another fishing and cruising season. Hopefully, this year has been a success for all. The Board is very excited about the improvements and changes happening, at Fishermen's Wharf, and is looking forward to the coming year.

The FCHA Board of Directors 2007

President – Wally Erickson –

Joy II

Chair – Mike Emes –

Ocean's Best

Vice-Pres. – Mac Matheson-

Deductible

Treasurer – Ken Martin –

Miss Katrina

Secretary – Roy Helland –

Solita

Director – Ron Fowler –

Sundance II

Director – Barry Curic –

Western Warrior

Director – Fred Green-

Brittany Bay

Environmental Awareness

The newest addition to our seasonal newsletter, this section has been added to keep harbour members updated on environmental policies, recycling programs, and equipment upgrades that will improve our operation from the standpoint of environmental stewardship. Doing our part to keep the harbour clean and free of pollutants, chemicals, and trash is a duty that cannot be overlooked or ignored. If everyone did their own part, we would all be able to share in a beautiful, clean harbour.

To that end we have begun several new recycling programs. Accompanying our standard recycling programs (paper, plastic containers, cardboard, waste oil, etc.), we have implemented a program to collect unwanted or broken **electronics** for reuse and recycling. Any functioning/repairable pieces will be donated to local schools through a recycling company, and anything that is non-salvageable will be disposed of in an environmentally responsible way. As well, **fluorescent lights, batteries, and propane tanks** may be returned to the office for proper disposal, especially 1-pound disposable propane tanks, as these CANNOT go into the metal bin. Our metal recycler will not accept closed pressurized canisters of any sort, so these must be dealt with separately.

There have been various other upgrades around the harbour in the last few months as well. We have been replacing all of the locker aisle lights with energy efficient fluorescents, enforcing tidal grid policies to adhere to Environment Canada standards, secured DFO funding to upgrade all of our storm-water systems, and begun what we hope to be a long and healthy relationship with the Georgia Strait Alliance (GSA). The GSA has been kind enough to donate large amounts of oil-absorbent pads for free distribution to harbour users in an effort to encourage boaters to contain and dispose of oil, gas, and diesel properly. The packages also contain information about petroleum in our waters and sign up forms to become members of the GSA. Special thanks to Mike Richards of the GSA for the donation.

As always, we would like to encourage all harbour users to visit us in the office if they have any suggestions or comments. We always welcome new ideas of how to manage waste and recycling more efficiently.

Harbour Authority Association of British Columbia

History of the HAABC - The idea of establishing the Harbour Authority Association of BC (HAABC) came about in 1997, when a Board Director of Steveston Harbour Authority requested General Manager, Arnold Walter, to look into the formation of an association of Harbour Authorities. It was to create a unique opportunity for Harbour Authority Managers, Board Directors, associate Harbours and businesses in the marine industry to exchange information through on-going net-working, information sharing workshops. On April 25, 1997, a meeting of Harbour Authority Managers, Board Directors and representatives from DFO / Small Craft Harbours Branch attended. The first meeting of the HAABC was held on Oct. 17, 1997 in Parksville to review the incorporation process and establish a mandate for the association and all Harbour Authorities were invited to attend the formation meeting. This resulted in the idea of a Harbour Authority Association for BC being formalized. The very first HAABC Conference was held in Parksville on Feb.20th 1998, "To establish effective communications between Harbour Authorities, foster a good working relationship, exchange information and network, establish a professional standardized policy manual, and educate users, staff and directors." The HAABC celebrated its final incorporation In November 1998 with which the association was officially incorporated under the Societies Act of British Columbia. Each following year, a conference has been hosted in Various Harbour Authorities locations, progressively strengthening our association and increasing communication and education for all its members. We believe that our association is becoming stronger and more vibrant each year.



New HAABC logo used as a Harbour Authority identifier

Manager's Corner

Summer's over....What summer? Familiar words this fall. It may have been one of the cooler and wetter summers in recent memory, but here at Fishermen's Wharf, it was a record setting summer. We enjoyed higher than average transient vessel visits all summer long, actually filling all available transient space during the annual fireworks shows! Weather, what weather?

Fishermen's Wharf has had a busy summer in many ways, though. Starting with the hugely successful "Spot Prawn Festival" in early May (which showcased the emerging day fishery and attracted consumers in droves to the Sales Float on a daily basis), and continuing into July and August with the crab fleet's arrival, more tourists than ever came to "check us out".

In July, Small Craft Harbours chose Fishermen's Wharf as the site to announce new funding for environmental initiatives here at FCHA, as well as several other Harbours in the Pacific Region. This funding will enable FCHA to complete the second phase of a major storm water runoff management upgrade to our uplands property which will eventually see total containment of all harmful runoff water before it finds its way into the marine environment.

Many of you will have seen the arrival of the final three 75' gangways for installation at C, D, and E floats, and wondered why they sat on flotation adjacent to the Sales Float all summer. By the time many of you read this, that installation will have begun, and in fact, may be complete. As with many sectors of BC's economy, the contractor doing the work has been very busy with previously scheduled work and we've had to wait our turn, so to speak. When finished, FCHA will have the nicest, safest, and most easily navigated ramps in any commercial harbour in the area.

We are also undertaking a renovation of the washroom/shower facilities this winter, a long awaited upgrade. This Reno will see the facilities being "out of service" for a time during construction, and we are looking into replacement toilet facilities. At this time, it is doubtful if we will be able to provide temporary shower facilities. Harbour users are advised to make alternate arrangements for showering during the construction, and Notices will be posted in advance of start-up.

Work has been ongoing adding new fingers to C float, and should be complete in the next couple of months. New flotation has been added to C float as well, leveling the main float and raising the fascias out of the water, helping to lengthen the life of the dock.

This will be an ongoing rehabilitation program throughout the Harbour.

We also began an extensive upgrade of our locker aisle lighting this summer, but were interrupted by the arrival of the migratory swallow population. Several Harbour users expressed concern over the timing of this project and work eventually was stopped to accommodate the nesting and egg laying cycle. Work will commence in late September to complete the first phase of this extensive project. Users will find the aisles brighter, and the use of energy efficient fixtures and tubes combined with "night/day switching", will realize a savings over the long term.

The many upgrades to our facility will make us an even more desirable location, both for Commercial Fishers and for recreational boaters. Management instituted a "Wait List" for recreational boaters looking for long-term moorage in 2006 and the list has grown to some 250 potential clients. It is a balancing act for Assistant Manager Mike Loy to maintain space to serve our bonafide CFV's, and also provide as much space as possible for the recreational users, but we have managed to stabilize the Harbour for all users. We all know that Vancouver is in a "moorage crunch" right now, and I don't anticipate any change in that situation for the foreseeable future. No new marinas have been approved, and I haven't heard of any applications being put forward. It is a serious problem. For your information, be advised that the Board of Directors and Management will be scrutinizing claims for "commercial" status much closer to ensure that "licenses of convenience" are not becoming a problem at FCHA. I should remind all users that the Bylaws of FCHA clearly define "Commercial Fishing Vessel" and all applicants for CFV status must be prepared to satisfy Harbour Management AND the Board of Directors that the criteria are met, and that the vessel is actively engaged in the Commercial fishery. This applies to Locker space as well. I have included the applicable section for your convenience.

A. **"Commercial Fishing Vessel (CFV)** - any active CFV which is displaying a valid commercial fishing plate or decal and which satisfies the following criteria:

1. T4F slips from the most recent taxation year.
2. Valid fish slips consistent with T4F slips.
3. Commercial fishing Vessel insurance on the boat.
4. The applicants vessel must be designed and built primarily for the purpose of commercial fishing,
Harvesting or transporting of fish.

With the many changes that have taken place at FCHA in the last few years, we have resolved some serious issues to date; i.e. Derelict vessels. As we pay more attention to Harbour Policies, users may see some of the "old ways" discontinued. We regret this, but we also recognize that the Harbour is in a much better state-of-affairs than it has been since the Harbour Authority was formed.

Our ability to operate in a fiscally responsible, business-like manner is what will sustain the facility for future users. As we approach the end of our fiscal year, (October 31), it is gratifying to know that the Management team's approach is working. The evidence is all around us.

“Go Fish” – FCHA’s Own Seafood Restaurant



*Open Tues–Fri 11:30am–6:30pm

Sat–Sun 12pm–6:30pm

“Go-Fish” Seafood Emporium continues to delight visitors to the False Creek Fishermen’s Wharf, serving up Vancouver’s finest Fish ‘n’ Chips. They offer a wide variety of grilled Seafood and an inviting selection of Homemade Soups. “Go-Fish” has partnered with the local Fishermen to create a joint brochure to promote and inform people of our spectacular facility and what we have to offer our community. These brochures are located at Go-Fish and the Harbour office.



“Famous”
Halibut & Chips

I am the Sea

From deep within me came the creation of all life on earth. From the smallest of living things to the mighty creatures who rule the earth.

Evolving constantly through all time! My body full of living, things forever changing.

Mighty rivers, lakes and streams constantly flowing into me, feeding my body, keeping me healthy and strong.

Polar ice caps melting and reforming, cooling my heart and soul.

Sun’s rays penetrating deep into my body creating the wonderful gift of life!

The moon ever pulling at me, creating the tides of time. I can spawn the mighty storms, expressing my fury and might.

I can calm my body and soul giving peace and tranquility to all ever lasting!

Over time I have spread myself throughout the world, cutting deep into the lands of time.

Continents, Islands and deep fjords. A masterpiece of grandeur and beauty. I am the highway of life forever moving.

Deep currents running through my body pulsing and ever changing. I am the graveyard of time.

So many things laying at rest so deep inside of me. I will guard their souls forever.

I am constantly creating life and taking away. I create the seasons, the clouds and the winds of time.

The breath of all life comes from deep within my body and soul. I am a special part of the universe created by Gods hand.

I am the Mighty Sea

*FCHA Management welcomes
submissions from harbour users for
publications in future newsletters.*

*Fred Green
CFV Brittany Bay*

Healthy Docks

Some Harbour users may have noticed that their mats that they have placed on the docks have been removed to their vessels. Mats **are not** allowed on the docks as they retain moisture and promote rot. If you wish to keep dirt off of your boat the best place for the mat is on your vessel at the boarding point.

Storage Lockers

In good standing with our Fire & Safety regulations, we would like to thank all locker users for the co-operation in removing all items that were hanging off of the sprinkler lines and by keeping all the fire lanes open, located at the end of each locker aisle.

Open Storage

The open storage area is now charged at a minimum of \$20 +GST per month, per owner of combined items. Any total combination of items that is over 14m² will be charged at \$1.50/m². As a reminder the open storage area is to be used for gear pertaining to commercial fishing and any current items not pertaining to commercial fishing will be asked for removal. We would like to remind everyone using the open storage area to please identify your belongings with your CFV # and vessel name. Items currently in the open storage area that are unmarked will become property of FCHA and disposed of at our discretion. We do encourage anyone needing assistance to retrieve any items, please ask at the Harbour office.



Tidal Grid

With Environment Canada enforcing the new policies pertaining to all Tidal Grids on the BC Coast, we have been doing our best to comply. For anyone wishing to use the Tidal Grid please inquire at the Harbour office during regular business hours, to sign a Tidal Grid Agreement form, make a payment and receive a current copy of regulations provided by Environment Canada.

FCHA Pump Out Service



The sewage Pump Out System installed by Inner Harbour Technologies has been a great success to our facility. It's located at the end of the Fish Sales Float and is FREE to ALL Harbour Members. For use of the Pump Out System please inquire at the Harbour office.



False Creek Harbour Authority Fishermen's Wharf

Address:

1505 West 1st Ave.
Vancouver, BC V6J 1E8

Phone:

604-733-3625

Fax:

604-733-3628

E-mail:

Manager@Falsecreek.com

Account Inquires:

Office@Falsecreek.com

Moorage Info:

Info@Falsecreek.com

Vessel Identification

This is a reminder to all Harbour users that ALL vessels must have a name to identify the vessel that is clearly visible from the dock to assist staff when doing our daily boat check. An emergency contact number posted in the cabin window is also a good idea to ensure a maximum level of security & safety for your vessel. Thank you for your support with helping the staff.

Waste Net & Rope

With our garbage compactor being unable to discard of any net & rope, we have set up bins next to the compactor to hold the waste material. If you find that the bin is full please inquire at the Harbour office for assistance. It also gives an opportunity for others to reuse the waste material for various other projects.

Website

The Harbour Website has been a great addition to FCHA, as we receive a large number of emails from people inquiring about our facility. The Website has been renewed and updated, adding a fresh look by uploading new pictures of the Harbour and its surroundings. If anyone has any pictures that they would like to see on our website please inquire at the Harbour office. www.falsecreek.com

Security & Security Cameras

As many of you know due to theft and vandalism, we have locked the washrooms after dusk. For after hour service please ask the security officer on duty for entrance. For any suspicious activity please call the Harbour cell

24hr/7days @ 604-834-1140

Ten Steps to Vessel Security

1. Lock your Boat! (Doors, Windows, Hatches & Storage Lockers)
2. Remove items of value from sight.(GPS, CD's, Binoculars & Alcohol)
3. Mark your valuables (Use your Drivers license number.)
4. Alarm your boat. Or leave a small Light and radio on!
5. Lock, Secure your dingy & motor.
6. Check on your boat frequently and report any tampering to Staff.
7. Talk to your neighbors.
8. Introduce yourself to the Harbour Manager and Security Staff.
9. Inform your trade's people to check in at the Harbour office.
10. Reduce the chances of theft

"Go Boating"

We actively encourage all harbour members and users to take precaution with their belongings to ensure a maximum level of security!

Thanks to Chris Barnett, Harbour Master,
RVYC, COAL HARBOUR