



# FALSE CREEK TIDINGS



## FCHA Board of Directors 2009

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## President’s Message

Welcome back from another season of fishing and cruising the beautiful waters of the Pacific Coast. The False Creek Harbour Authority – Fishermen’s Wharf, Board of Directors is very excited about the improvements and changes that have happened over this past summer, with structural upgrades that will benefit all of the Harbour Members and its Users for many years to come. The Harbour is looking forward to completing the Clean Marine Program this winter and become the first Harbour Authority in British Columbia to be certified. The Board will also be discussing new ideas as we move into the New Year and hope that the Fishermen’s Wharf can improve on every aspect of being known as the Best Harbour along the British Columbia Coast. Finally we remain “Committed to providing safe, affordable moorage for Commercial Fishers and the preservation of the Commercial Fishing Harbour as a valuable asset for the citizens of Vancouver”. That is our mandate.

Barry Curic, CFV - Western Warrior

## Payments and Charges

This is a reminder to all vessel owners that if your account is in Arrears when monthly charges are processed, the Daily Rate will apply. We will do our best to remind and give advance notice to all Harbour Users when their moorage is due, however it is ultimately up to the vessel owners to be responsible for their own accounts. The harbour is also set up to receive payments over the phone to help simplify the payment process as we understand that some Harbour users live out of town or work during regular business hours. For any account inquiries please contact Alison at the Harbour office.

## Berthage Agreements and Vessel Insurance

To ALL Vessel Owners, a Current Berthage Agreement must be filled out for each calendar year. Also for ALL Pleasure Craft Vessels, as a condition of moorage at FCHA you must provide the Harbour office with a current copy of your vessel insurance. As well, we ask that when your vessel insurance expires if you could have your insurance provider fax us an up-to-date copy to ensure your continued moorage with FCHA.

## FCHA - Parking

The new 2010 annual parking passes will be available at the Harbour office for all homeport vessels in early to mid December. We appreciate everyone’s cooperation with the parking restrictions this past summer, (1 vehicle per vessel) and hope that all Harbour Users understand the harbour only has 105 parking spaces with 260 vessels, which limits parking availability. As we are heading back into the winter season we will be permitting annual vessel owners to have a second vehicle onsite while visiting FCHA.

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### Harbour Manager's Report

Summer 2009 will likely be remembered as the year of the downturn in the economy, whether that's earned or not, if you're fiscally minded, or possibly, the year we got some payback for those horrific winter storms we've endured by finally getting a record setting summer, (and beyond at time of writing!), if you're a sun worshipper like so many on the west coast. Either way, we received better than the predictions would have had us believe. Many would say the recovery has begun, months or even years ahead of the doom and gloom guys' estimations. And this weather!! Quite a run, indeed.

The Management and Staff at Fishermen's Wharf were cautiously optimistic going into the summer season. We were prepared for a slowdown in transient visits, but felt it wouldn't be anywhere nearly as dire as others felt. Boat owners will use their boats, maybe a bit less frequently and shorter distances, but use them they will. When it became apparent that the economy wasn't taking nearly the beating we expected, and the weather showed a strong spirit of cooperation, we knew it was likely going to be a pretty good year. We should have known when the Annual Spot Prawn Festival kicked off in May with record setting attendance AND temperatures! What a party! I heard estimates of 5000 attendees. I don't know, but there were an awful lot of smiles when the first boats showed up! Big, juicy, spot prawns, fresh from the sea, were the number one menu item in many Vancouver homes for the next 8 weeks.

As the summer progressed, we saw a steady transient vessel flow through our Harbour. We welcomed several large yachts, a strong indicator that our name and reputation are getting out to a wider client group. Attracting a strong transient customer base is crucial to our efforts to maintain inexpensive rates for our long term clients. Many will remember that FCHA didn't have a rate increase in 2009, in an effort to soften what was predicted to be a tough year. Without that 'cost of living' increase, our transient customers took on an even higher importance. Happily, they didn't let us down. We continue to see many repeat customers, and many of them brought friends! Early indications are that, although likely to not be one of our better years financially, it certainly isn't the disaster many in our industry predicted.

The Annual Celebration of Light fireworks nights were busy, busy, busy. I think the Harbour was at capacity at least one, and maybe two, of the nights. Again, the weather was stunning, drawing out even the most jaded Vancouverites. At FCHA, we take a lot of heat for our parking policies during the fireworks, but we've never turned away one of our Annual pass holders in 5 years, and we've always managed to accommodate all of our users, even if it's offering some 'local knowledge' on parking. The incredible rush for reservations at Fishermen's Wharf for that whole period tells me it's the right approach.

Ongoing through much of the summer was a major float rehabilitation project that began on 'D' Float and has been suspended half way through 'C' Float. This has been a partnership project with DFO Small Craft Harbours, and will start up again in the spring, aiming for completion of 'C', 'B', and 'A' Floats by next Fall. This project should easily add 10-15 years to the life expectancy of our main floats, maybe even more if we're lucky. In the long term plan, repair and rehabilitation is often far less expensive than replacement.

As the summer draws to a close and the leaves begin to turn, I'd like to say 'Thanks' to all of our Harbour Users, Long Term or Transient, Commercial or Recreational. 2009 will be remembered for many reasons, some good, some not so good, some downright bad, but I'll remember our customers who have stood by us and been supportive of our efforts when others doubted us. With that support, Fishermen's Wharf has become one of Vancouver's premiere destinations for both local and visiting boaters alike.

# False Creek Tidings

## Environmental Awareness

Over the last several years there has been a lot of discussion over waste holding tanks on vessels and more specifically, regulations governing the use of these tanks. As of September 27, 2007, the Canadian Government amended the *Canada Shipping Act* (Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and for Dangerous Chemicals) to reflect their new attitude towards disposal of waste from vessels, including but not limited to, human waste. The new regulations conform to international standards for disposal of human waste and were largely created to regulate cruise ship activity through waters along the British Columbia coastline however they will affect every vessel on the water throughout Canada.

The current regulations requiring all vessels to have a holding tank or marine sanitation device apply to new vessels built after May 2007, but the law only grants leniency for all other vessels until 5 years after the law has been written. This means that as of May 2012, ALL VESSELS that have a marine head will need to be fitted with a holding tank or marine sanitation device. The territorial limit for pumping sewage into open water has been set at 3 nautical miles from the closest land mass, except for areas where the distance from shore to shore is less than 6 NM AND there is no pump-out service. In that case, the discharge has to be as far from shore as possible into a current running away from shore. This amendment was put in place to allow vessels to continue using the Inside Passage and Johnston Strait without placing themselves in a position of illegal activity.

The False Creek Harbour Authority has had a policy in place for several years of not allowing vessels to pump out sewage in the harbour, but now with the revisions to the Canada Shipping Act, we will be taking a hard line approach in enforcing this regulation. This means that anyone caught depositing sewage into the waters of False Creek Fishermen's Wharf will be reported and dealt with accordingly. This will benefit not only the harbour users, but all boaters throughout False Creek.

As always, our pump-out system is available for use for anyone who wishes to continue using the holding tank aboard their vessel while in the harbour. This is a free service that is provided to harbour members. The charge for non-harbour members is \$5.00 per cycle of the pump-out, meaning \$5.00 each tank or if a tank requires multiple cycles (set at 4 minutes per cycle) then the charge applies to each cycle. The pump-out station is operated by harbour staff only and is open for use from 8:30AM until 3:30PM every day of the week. Please ask FCHA staff if you have any other questions regarding its use.

There is now 'zero tolerance' under the Canada Shipping Act for pollutants discharged into the water. The FCHA and vessel owners are required by law to report pollutant spills. As a vessel owner, YOU are responsible for any discharge into the water and the associated cleanup costs. These costs and/or fines can be substantial. Any cleanup costs incurred by the FCHA will be recovered from the party responsible for the pollution. Be informed on what is required of you; information is available at the Harbour Office.

The differences between cleaning a vessel, cleaning a car or truck, or even your house are very striking. Any cleaning done on terra firma has a distinct advantage over cleaning on water: any cleaners or chemicals you use for your car or truck will fall to the ground and be filtered by the earth (not completely) before reaching ground water sources. This is not the case on water. Everything you use to clean your vessel is deposited directly into the ocean without filtering of any sort. This can affect marine mammals, crustaceans, fish, and even sea birds. The biggest concern for this type of pollution is definitely petroleum products, but with the amount of phosphates, acids, emulsifiers and other assorted chemicals in cleaners these days, the total cumulative effect can be just as disturbing. Use a bilge sponge to keep your bilge water clean and be aware of potential spills when working on your vessel. When working with fluids, put down absorbent materials to catch any spillage. Use a tarp to catch paint scrapings while scraping your boat. These are just a few easy steps towards helping everyone enjoy our waters for years to come.

We have also been actively attempting to guide both our membership and staff in our efforts to become more environmentally friendly. The most effective tool at our disposal in these efforts is not more recycling programs or stricter regulations, but education and information. If everyone understands the importance and reasons behind environmental regulations, then we can all begin to work towards the same goal: a beautiful, CLEAN harbour.

## Of Interest to Mariners

On October 17, 2009, Robert Ostrom, a long time fisherman (CFV-Rob) and Past Board Member at False Creek Harbour Authority will be on hand at Fishermen's Wharf demonstrating a model of a passive free-surface stabilizing tank system for stabilizing a vessel against roll. Although widely used on the East Coast, these systems haven't been publicized as much on the West Coast. Robert will be able to answer any questions you may have about this interesting and effective method of roll-damping.



## Harbour Ambiance

A Special Thanks to Karyn and Steve on the "Long Trick" for their continuing care of, and attention to the flower baskets, displays and the "GREEN" areas.

# False Creek Tidings

## Product Care Recyclers!

An important issue was raised at the Annual General Meeting this past February regarding recycling programs and the accessibility of convenient locations to recycle hazardous substances. This issue is one that all of the False Creek Harbour Authority staff have been trying to find a solution to for over a year. The recycling of paint, anti-fouling paint, solvents and other chemicals has been a problem that, until recently, had no clear cut answer. However, we have just discovered a non-profit stewardship association that is funded through the Eco-fees that companies include on the purchase price of any of their products. The service is free to use and all that you need to do is take the unwanted product to one of their recycling depots, the closest of which is at # 7 - 2286 Ontario Street (corner of East 7th Ave.) in Vancouver.

There are programs in place to recycle paint, sealers, varnishes, stains, primers, acetone, kerosene, strippers, thinners, pesticides, and even gasoline that has been contaminated with water. Specific locations will even accept Marine antifouling paints! Some depots have a reusable paint supply where you can pick through leftover cans of paint if you don't need much!

You can contact Recycling Centers of British Columbia by phoning 604-732-9253 inside Greater Vancouver or 1-800-667-4321 toll free throughout BC. They also have a website at [www.productcare.org](http://www.productcare.org) where all of the depots are listed as well as a full list of the products they accept and helpful tips to keep in mind when buying, using, or disposing of recyclable materials! Informational brochures will also be available at the Harbour office.

## Garbage & Waste Recycling

There are certain materials that Metro Vancouver disposal facilities do not accept, either because there are already disposal programs set up for these items, or because they are hazardous to waste collection workers, the public and the environment. At disposal sites, garbage loads are inspected for banned, restricted and recyclable materials. Loads that arrive at the disposal sites in contravention of the banned articles are assessed a 50% surcharge. Loads that arrive at the disposal site with restricted items will be refused disposal privileges.

### **Banned materials**

Newspaper, drywall, batteries, tires, electronic waste including computers, printers, TV's, paints, solvents, yard trimmings and green waste, plastic, metal, glass, oil, oil filters, empty oil containers, blue box recyclables (plastic containers 1, 2, 4 & 5, metal food and glass containers)

### **Restricted Materials**

Appliances (washers, dryers, refrigerators,) Asbestos, compact fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, propane tanks, sod

Join us in our goal to eliminate banned and restricted materials from entering the waste stream. Operation Safe Waste is a program that partners our employees with our customers with a focus on eliminating prohibited materials in our landfills through education and participation. We would also like to remind all Harbour Users that the garbage compactor is for Harbour Waste Only. Please do not bring any large furniture items from home as it creates a disposal problem for the staff. Anyone seen discarding any offsite garbage will be warned and possibly fined by Harbour Management.

Please refer to the following links for more detailed information on proper disposal procedures.

Metro Vancouver Banned and Restricted Materials list:

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solidwaste/disposal/pages/bannedmaterials.aspx>

BC Hydro Waste and Recycling Guide:

[http://www.bchydro.com/buyersguide/Waste\\_And\\_Recycling.html](http://www.bchydro.com/buyersguide/Waste_And_Recycling.html)

Metro Vancouver Disposal Facilities

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solidwaste/disposal/pages/disposalfacilities.aspx>

Metro Vancouver Hauling Services

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/about/publications/Publications/HaulersDirectory.pdf>

Electronic Recycling Association (National):

<http://www.era.ca>

Recycling Council of British Columbia:

<http://www.rcbc.bc.ca>

## Waste Net & Rope

Our garbage compactor is unable to process any waste net & rope, therefore we have set up bins next to the compactor to hold the waste material. If you find that the bins are full please inquire at the Harbour office for assistance. These bins give others an opportunity to reuse the waste material for various projects. The Harbour will have a large bin on site sometime this fall to discard any large amounts of net and rope. There will be signage posted for the dates the bin will be on site. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mike at the Harbour office.

# False Creek Tidings

## Harbour Happenings



### Go Fish - Seafood Restaurant

“Go-Fish” Seafood Emporium continues to draw 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 the community. These brochures are located at Go-Fish and the Harbour office. In a rush? No need to stand in line, phone in your order @ 604-730-5040.



### Storage Lockers

In good standing with our fire & safety regulations, we would like to thank all locker users for their co-operation in removing all items that were hanging off of the sprinkler lines and by keeping all of our fire lanes open, located at the end of each aisle. Please keep all gear inside of your locker as it creates access problems for other lockers users and can encourage theft when items are seen lying around. We would also like to remind all users that the storage of hazardous materials in storage locker is strictly prohibited.

### Pacific Coast Fishermen’s Mutual Marine Insurance Company

#### Damage Control Kit:

Here is a list of items that were purchased and acquired, along with where they came from. We have included the tax so we know what the actual cost to make up the kit is.

1. Rubbaweld tape	(NIKKA FISHING)	\$13.94
2. Seine twine 1lbs	(NIKKA FISHING)	\$11.07
3. Utility knife	(Canadian Tire)	\$4.24
4. 12” Crescent Wrench	(Canadian Tire)	\$19.03
5. 12” Channel Locks	(Canadian Tire)	\$11.19
6. 11” 25 Pack Ties	(Western Marine)	\$5.37
7. 2 x Oilsorb pads	(Western Marine)	\$2.44
8. Gorilla Tape 12 Yds.	(Western Marine)	\$5.99
9. S/S Multi bit screwdriver	(Western Marine)	\$23.15
10. 4oz Epoxy Stick	(Western Marine)	\$21.20
11. 4oz Epoxy/Alum stick	(Western Marine)	\$21.20
12. 4 Cedar Plugs: 4”,6”,8”,10”	(Western Marine)	\$13.20
13. 8 Hose Clamps: 5”,1”,2”,3”	(Western Marine)	\$8.99
14. Hacksaw	(Summit Tools)	\$10.07
15. Gloves rubber palm	(Summit Tools)	\$2.22
16. Nut Driver 5/16”	(Summit Tools)	\$6.71
17. 16” 100 pack ties	(Summit Tools)	\$6.71
18. 18” Pipe wrench	(Summit Tools)	\$22.37
19. Head Lamp	(M.E.C.)	\$22.58
20. Hatchet	(M.E.C.)	\$7.56

Note items were bought PST exempt where practicable. Items that were acquired:

1. Bucket & lid	(Great West Containers)	\$5.58
2. Yoga mat, wedges, bike tubes	(Lee) approx value	\$35.00
3. Plywood, screw, tie wire, 4 HD ties	(Keith Chauvel)	\$5.00
4. Oakum	(Tom-Mac) approx value	\$3.00

A Special Thanks to Ron Fowler CFV – Sundance II for providing this helpful information. These items can be very useful in an emergency situation and being prepared is always a good idea.

### Weather Woes & Healthy Docks

Don’t let weather make you woeful. Strong winds and heavy rain can have a negative impact on vessels. Ensure your vessel tie up lines are strong, secure and that your batteries are fully charged. Some Harbour users may have noticed that the mats 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 your boat, the best place for the mat is at the boarding point of your vessel. Furthermore, the Harbour would appreciate vessel owners keeping vessel debris to their boats, as the docks are not for storage. Please coil up lines and hoses when not in use to prevent tripping.



FCHA Staff and Board of Directors would like to wish wharfinger Chris Lougheed the very best in his new position as the Harbour Manager for the Ladner Harbour Authority.

It’s been a pleasure to have you on our team these past four years, your hard work and dedication will be missed.

# False Creek Tidings

## 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. All CFV's must display a CFV # and current CFV tags.



## Website

The Harbour Website [www.falsecreek.com](http://www.falsecreek.com) 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. This past year the website had 362, 493 hits and 27, 809 visits and it seems to be catching on, with more visits every year. If anyone has any pictures that they would like posted on our website please inquire at the Harbour Office or email them to [fchaf@telus.net](mailto:fchaf@telus.net).

False Creek Harbour Authority  
Fishermen's Wharf

Address:  
1505 West 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Vancouver, BC V6J 1E8

Phone:  
604-733-3625

Fax:  
604-733-3628

E-mail  
[Manager@falsecreek.com](mailto:Manager@falsecreek.com)

Account Inquires:  
[Fchaofc@gmail.com](mailto:Fchaofc@gmail.com)

Moorage Information:  
[Info@falsecreek.com](mailto:Info@falsecreek.com)

## Safety & Security

As many of you know we have recently upgraded the bathroom doors with a push code locking system. Between the hours of 11am-7pm the bathroom doors will be open to all of the Harbour users and to the public. For use of the facilities after hours please inquire with the harbour staff to retrieve the access code. Also as a reminder, we encourage everyone to get to know your neighbors and help us fight against theft and other related incidents.

**To report 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, 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 dinghy & 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.



*Lock it or  
Lose it*

“Go Boating”