



# FALSE CREEK TIDINGS

## FCHA Board of Directors 2016

*President - Shaun Strobel – Omega V*

*Vice-President – Jim Hurford – Sea Otter Rock*

*Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Emes – Ocean’s Best*

*Director – Duncan Cameron – Flicka*

*Director – Mike Featherstone – Lady Jay II*

*Director – Stewart McDonald – Lormax*

*Director – Don Sananin – Ocean Tigre*

*Director – Corey Erikson – Windrift II*

## President’s Message

Greetings fellow Fishermen’s Wharf members, users, and staff. It’s Spring and lots of activity is taking place in the harbour. Herring gear has been stowed, while prawn and crab traps are being readied. Nets are being hung in the locker bays and many of our pleasure boat users have been getting out and taking advantage of the great Spring weather we’ve been enjoying. It’s great to see the efforts that some members are taking to improve their lockers to help with the marketing of their catch. For any members planning to make locker modifications, such as freezer installation, please apply in writing to the Board of Directors for approval, bearing in mind that our mandate from the Department of Fisheries is to promote “prosperous fisheries.”

In keeping with our mandate, planning continues for the development of the open storage area. The plan, as approved in principle by the last board, is the construction of a “fishermen’s village” consisting of traditional style fish and seafood shacks for the sale of harbour members’ catch in various forms. Also included in the plan is a cutting room to enable licensed dockside processing and further facilitate sales. Importantly, a fishing and harbour museum as well as a fishermen’s memorial are key components of the plan. Although we are early in the planning phase, further information about the scope of the project should be available in the near future after we meet with our Department of Fisheries Program Managers for their input and approval.

Anticipation is building for the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> annual Spot Prawn Festival which will take place on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>. This event sells out each year and is a highlight of the Spring calendar. Later in May we will host the annual Blessing of the Boats and Harbour Appreciation Day. This centuries-old tradition was revived and brought to False Creek five years ago through inspiration and hard work of Past President and continuing Harbour Director, Don Sananin. The event is scheduled for Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup>. More information will be posted around the harbour soon.

Finally congratulations are due for Harbour Manager Mike Loy and staff for hosting the Spring membership conference of the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbormasters & Port Managers here in Vancouver. This association covers harbours on the entire length of the West Coast of North America with our own Manager, Mike, currently serving as President. A lot of work went into organizing and running the conference which was, by all accounts, a great success.

I look forward to working with everyone at the Fishermen’s Wharf over the next year and wish you all smooth sailing and prosperous fishing!

Shaun

## Inside this Issue

FCHA Board of Directors 2016	1
President’s Message	1
Harbour Manager’s Report	2
10th Annual Spot Prawn Festival	3
Blessing of the Fleet & Harbour Appreciation Day	3
FCHA- A Brief History	4
Meet the “New Boss”	4
Keeping Locker Aisles Clean	5
Return of the Coast Guard	5
Boater Safety & Industry Update	5
Parking, Payments & Charges, Pumpout Station	6
Public Fish Sales Float & Courtesy Customs Dock	7
Inspection Day	7
Harbour Ambiance	8
In Remembrance	8
New Website	8

## Help us go PAPERLESS!

The FCHA would like to extend an invitation to all Members & Users to send us your email addresses so we can put them in your file. As another means of contacting you regarding your account or vessel, it is also a ‘paperless’ way to correspond with our clients regarding invoices and mail-outs. Help us reduce costs and waste! If you’re interested, please send us an email to: [office@falsecreek.com](mailto:office@falsecreek.com)

Be sure to include your Name + Vessel so we can identify you! Ps. We promise, NO spam!

# False Creek Tidings

## Harbour Manager's Report

Hello Harbour Members and Users of the False Creek Harbour Authority – Fishermen's Wharf,

Over the past 5 years, dedicated BC Commercial Fishermen have made a commitment to help kids with cancer through the Fishermen Helping Kids with Cancer (FHKWC) herring sale charity. The core founding principle of FHKWC is that 100% of the money is for the kids (this is written directly into their governance document). I would like to thank all of our False Creek Fishermen who volunteer their time to make this fundraiser a successful event. So far, FHKWC has raised \$225,000 and this past fall the FCHA Board of Directors made a commitment to FHKWC by making a \$1000 donation. Job well done!

In late November I received a phone call from a representative from the Georgia Strait Alliance - Clean Marine BC Program Manager informing us that we have not only been nominated but have been selected as the award winner for the Province of BC's National Clean Marine Program. The awards presentation was a great opportunity to recognize a facility in each of the 3 Provinces in Canada, BC, Quebec and Ontario that participate in the Clean Marine Program for the accomplishments they have achieved in protecting our environment. Quebec presented their top award to Le Club Nautique de Roberval and Ontario's top award was presented to Lefroy Harbour Resorts. It was truly an honor to be recognized with this distinction and the widow of the founder of the Clean Marine Program was in attendance and was brought to tears hearing about what some facilities have done towards environmental stewardship since the program was instituted 20 years ago. We will continue to *stay the course with our continued commitment to the Clean Marine Program and the Environment.*

As the temperature rises, the warmer weather always brings upon our project season, and this year we will be no different from years past. We will continue with the replacement of 6 new finger floats. The materials will be arriving shortly and we will be out walking the docks selecting which fingers to replace. We will also be finishing our HD security Camera project we started last year, so far the cameras have been working great but we ran into some minor problems when we tried to install the new HD cameras at the end of A & C docks. We have since worked out those issues and will be completing the installation in the coming months. Another project that has been currently approved by the Board of Directors is to address some low dock areas throughout the harbour so we will be purchasing materials to build some custom flotation tanks that will be installed to those low lying areas. Other projects we are currently working on is the replacement of our garbage compactor and 1.5 tonne yellow crane. We are nearing the end of the life expectancy and with both the crane and compactor being so close to the ocean the salt air has had a bigger impact on the wear of the units and has forced us to address these problems sooner rather than later.

This past year was my first year as President for the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbormasters & Port Managers (PCC). It was a busy year with the False Creek Harbour Authority – Fishermen's Wharf hosting the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual conference here in Vancouver in early April. We had Port, Harbour & Marina Managers from California, Oregon, Washington, BC and Alaska attend. During this conference, we were awarded with another Environmental Stewardship Award by the PCC and was a great honour for our staff and past Board President Don Sananin to receive this award in front of our friends and family in our City!

I would like to take this time to thank our past President Don Sananin for all of his hard work and dedication to the success of the Fishermen's Wharf during his time as President. He worked diligently on reinstating the Blessing of the Fleet and added the Harbour Appreciation Day so not only wishing our commercial fishers a safe and prosperous fishing season but to also include all of our harbour users in showing our thanks for their continued support to our harbour. I would also like to welcome Shaun Strobel as the President to the False Creek Harbour Authority – Fishermen's Wharf. It's been a pleasure getting to know him over the years, working with him on the Board for the past year and I know that Shaun will continue to bring a strong diverse work ethic to continue with our goal in making this the best place to moor your vessel on the BC coast. I'm excited to be working with Shaun and the rest of the board and please let us know if we can be of any assistance in all Harbour related issues or concerns.

As we head into another busy boating season I would like to introduce the current Harbour Staff that help keep the Harbour moving forward. Assistant Harbour Manager – Michael Turkington, Office Manager – Nicole Persak, Accountant - Maribel Steffl, Wharfinger II – Dylan Craig, Wharfinger I – Morgan MacMath and our part-time weekend Wharfinger I – Emily Paterson. At any point throughout the year please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the staff about any issues or concerns regarding you or your boat. Remember, we're here to help you!

As most of you who have spoken with me know, I am open to all suggestions or comments, whether in the form of positive feedback or constructive criticism. The input from our Harbour users plays a significant role in helping us plan for the future, and hopefully, we can build on this spirit of collaboration, and make the Fishermen's Wharf a destination for all mariners.

In closing, the False Creek Fishermen's Wharf is committed to preserving the Fish Boat Facilities as a valuable asset for the citizens of Greater Vancouver by providing long-term, affordable, safe and secure moorage and services for Commercial Fish Boats in an environmentally responsible manner.

### 10<sup>TH</sup> Annual Spot Prawn Festival @ Fishermen's Wharf



Put on by the Chef's Table Society of B.C., this year's Spot Prawn Festival is sure to bring something special to the table. It is the 10 year anniversary of this fun event and we want to make it one to remember. Rain or shine, crowds will flock down to Fishermen's Wharf to get a taste of this sweet, succulent and sustainable local delicacy, a testament to the festival's continued success. We're excited to sample the delicious offerings Vancouver's Top Chefs are creating?! Each year, a number of local culinary artists help out with the festival by crafting tasty samples for the two thousand+ people who come down for the fun.



The Spot Prawn Festival is a great family event, with informational booths and games for all to enjoy. Many local organizations like to get involved as it is the perfect setting for getting their message out to the right people. They provide a fun learning environment and teach our children about the importance of sustainability, ecological cycles and all sorts of related topics in an interactive way that kids love. Hop on your bikes and ride on down, or bring the family pet along to peruse the smells as all are welcome for the festivities.

With the 6 – 8 week Spot Prawn season to begin around the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, this year's festival is set for **Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**. The Prawn boats will be in 7 days a week for the duration of the season to offer their fresh product, alive and kicking, to the general public at affordable prices. **\*Boats usually arrive between 1-2pm\*** Check our website ([www.falsecreek.com](http://www.falsecreek.com)) for up to date information on the boats coming in at our "Fish for Sale" page.



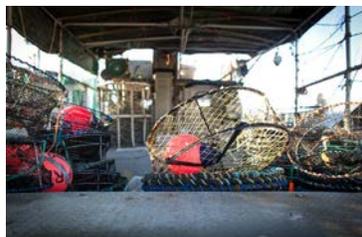
Go Fish restaurant will be serving up Spot Prawn specials throughout the season (depending on availability), offering up new and exciting ways to enjoy them. Come on down and sample this year's specials, along with their ever popular menu items sourced from the local Fishermen. The Chef's Table Society usually brings some merchandise to sell to the public on the date of the festival so come take a look for t-shirts, hats and books and become a "Prawn Star".



### 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Blessing of the Fleet & Harbour Appreciation Day

Join us for our annual event, the Blessing of the Fleet & Harbour Appreciation Day. This is an event to help grow our community, a day to celebrate all this Harbour offers and to give back to the people that make this place great, you! We will have fresh cooked food and live music along with a few guest speakers to touch on what commercial fishing means to this coast. Father John will once again bless the fleet before they leave for the season, a long standing nautical tradition meant to bring a safe and bountiful season to the hard working men and women who ply their trade on the unpredictable seas.

We hope to grow this event into as much a success as Prawn Fest has become. We plan to bring new ideas to the festival and encourage you, our users, to let us know what you would like to see at events like these. **This year's festival will be held on Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> 2016 and runs from 11am-3pm.** We encourage you to attend this fun event and see what it's all about, grab a salmon or tuna burger and enjoy the sights and sounds of our Harbour gearing up for the busy boating season.



## False Creek Tidings



### FCHA – A Brief History

After 8 years of lobbying for new fish boat facilities to service the local Vancouver Fishermen, 1940 finally came with approval for a lease in False Creek, right next to the Canadian National terminals and the trestle bridge across the mouth of false creek. This was pitched as a facility to one day rival the already famous “Fisherman’s Wharf” in San Francisco, CA. with 25 new floats to house up to 1,500 vessels, a large building to house net and storage sheds, offices for the Union as well as the Harbour office, a general store and a large seafood restaurant to create local access to the fresh product arriving daily. False Creek was proposed as the ideal locale as it was closer than Coal Harbour to the Fraser River, still an abundant fishing ground at the time, and was favoured over chasing the tides to cross the narrows at the mouth of the Burrard inlet. Sadly, this proposal never saw the light of day as war became the focus of the nation.

When the dust had settled it was 1950 when the Federal Government became involved and voted to spend \$100,000 on a new Fish Boat Facility in Vancouver. This plan didn’t make it off the desk for four years until the Fishing Vessel’s Owners Association successfully lobbied for the Government to honour their commitment and construction began, with the facility opening on Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 1957 at a final cost of roughly \$1,000,000. This new facility was well received, though it did not live up to the original proposal, with only 5 floats, moorage for a total of 150-200 vessels, and little in the way of upland amenities. This was designed purely as a Fishing Harbour accepting no vessels under 40’ in length at a cost of 35 cents per foot, though the lack of amenities was keeping many of these vessels away, forcing them to eventually open the doors for Pleasure Craft moorage.

Over the years, major improvements have come along as gear and net storage was built along with an office for administration, uplands parking and an open storage area for large items. Additional finger floats were installed to allow for more vessels and a sales float was added as a way for the Fishers to connect directly with the local populace, close to the world renowned Granville Island Market. Many challenges come from running a working harbour in the heart of a busy metropolitan city. By engaging the changing demographics of our area, we hope to stay relevant and remain a social and economic hub for the citizens of Vancouver. We have and will always serve the Fishing Fleet as our main objective, though as before, we must continue to embrace Pleasure Craft moorage as the changing dynamics of commercial fishing in BC affects us all and our ageing infrastructure continues to need attention.

### Meet the “New Boss”



For those who haven’t met her yet, this is Walker, our new office member. We found her hiding out in our locker bay and she had seemed to have settled in for the long cold winter we had at the end of 2014. She was collared but seemed to have nowhere to go. She was not very friendly when we first met, but we couldn’t just leave her cold and alone?

We supplied a warm, comfy place to sleep and made sure she had plenty of fresh water and food to eat. Over the next several months, she warmed up to our care and attention until late last year when she decided she’d be staying and began to come inside of the office. Now she spends her days sleeping in comfort and earns her keep as a professional pest exterminator. She has become very friendly too, but her claws are still sharp as ever!



### Keeping Locker Aisles Clean

We would like to remind Locker Users that belongings must be placed inside of your leased locker for the convenience of other facility users. The office receives numerous complaints each month regarding items being left in the aisle-ways for extended periods of time and in many cases blocking other users from entering their own rented storage space.

We offer commercial storage space to provide gear storage for our Fishers at a very reasonable rate, and we understand that as a working harbour, sometimes extra space is needed to prepare for each season. That being said, we can tolerate users taking extra space to mend nets or while re-organizing their belongings inside of their lockers, but must ask that leasees be respectful and try to limit the impact on other users as much as possible.

Extra space may be available for the temporary storage of large items. We will decide on a case by case basis what items we will take, depending on length of time desired and available space, and only through the Harbour Manager's approval.

### Industry Update

There have been a few changes to WorkSafe BC regulations when it comes to reporting workplace incidents. These changes affect our Commercial Fishers as there are new standards in reporting incidents, along with Employer Incident Investigations, mostly regarding the appropriate timing for submitting your reports. If you are curious how these changes can affect your operations, please inquire at the office for some detailed information. You can also look up these changes for yourself at: [www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com)

### The Return of the Coast Guard

For those of you who haven't heard yet, the Kitsilano Coast Guard base will be re-opening as early as this summer. This is great news for those of us that make a living in and around the waters of English Bay and the surrounding areas. Not only should this result in safer local waters, it should result in better protection for the environment as well. There is little doubt that improved response times in dealing with distress calls, oil spills, and other vessel emergencies truly creates a sense of relief for the boating public.

In November of 2015, newly elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau ordered his new Fisheries Minister Hunter Tootoo to re-open the closed base as one of his first official actions. Since the building had sat vacant for the last several years, there were serious issues with mould among other things that need to be addressed before the station can get up and running. There is no official launch date set, but as the building is remediated and the floats replaced, there should be a manned presence at the Kits station by the start of the busy summer boating season.



### Boating Safety

Do you have a first aid kit on board and is it adequate to preserve life in the event of a catastrophic injury? Band aids are a nice thing to have for cuts and scrapes, but they do little in the event of a major gash or puncture wound. A triangle bandage or tourniquet can save your life. The Coast Guard will be returning, but the right equipment can still mean the difference between life and death. Do you have survival suits aboard your vessel, and are the crew familiar with how to put them on? Things can happen very fast when situations go sour, so be ready for it! Hypothermia can set in within 30mins of being in the waters off English Bay, even quicker if under duress (like your boat sinking!). Do you have an evacuation plan and do you practice it with crew to ensure everyone is on the same page and knows their role in the event of an accident at sea? These are just some of the things we need to think about to keep ourselves safe and sound while out on the water.

**Please remember to wear your PFDs!**

# False Creek Tidings

## Payments and Charges

This is a reminder to all vessel owners that if your account is **in arrears** when monthly charges are processed, the higher **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 Nicole at the Harbour Office or email: [office@falsecreek.com](mailto:office@falsecreek.com)

## Calling all Fishermen!

The Greater Vancouver Food Bank is in need of some old totes to sort through the donations of cans and bottles they receive to supplement food donations. Do you have any old totes that are still water tight on the inside that no longer meet your needs? Please speak with Turk at the office or Shaun Strobel out on the docks to see if we can give it a new life to some folks in need who can really use some help.

## Pump-out

The sewage pump-out system is located at the end of the Fish Sales Float, is staff operated and is **FREE to ALL Annual Harbour Users**. The charge for non- annual harbour users is **\$6** per cycle of the pump-out. Each cycle runs approx. 4 minutes and pumps around 35 gallons. Vessels with larger or multiple tanks and those looking to flush their systems clean should expect to pay more to offset the extra load on the pump as well as the extra staff time involved.

We currently have a number of boats using the pump out on a regular basis but would like to encourage more vessels to use this service to assist us in keeping the waters of False Creek clean and healthy. FCHA has a policy in place of **not allowing vessels to pump out sewage in the harbour** made stronger by the revisions to the Canada Shipping Act. The Harbour will be taking a hard line approach to enforcing this regulation, meaning that anyone caught depositing sewage into the FCHA water lot will be reported and dealt with accordingly. This will benefit not only our harbour users, but all boaters and marine life throughout False Creek.



## Parking

The new 2016 annual parking passes are available at the Harbour Office for all homeport vessels. We appreciate everyone's cooperation with the Harbour's parking restrictions, and hope that all Harbour Users understand the **Harbour only has 75 parking spaces with 250 annual vessels**, which limits parking availability. During the busy cruising season we will be restricting annual vessel owners to have only 1 vehicle onsite whether it's an annual pass or a temporary pass. As we are still in the off-season we will be permitting annual vessel owners to have a second vehicle onsite while visiting FCHA permitting space is available. The Harbour will post the peak season parking restrictions as we approach the summer. Please ensure that when you or your guests are onsite with their vehicles that a proper valid parking pass is displayed.



The pump-out station is operated by Harbour staff and the hours of operation are **7 days a week from 8:30am to 3:30pm**. For use of the Pump-Out System please inquire at the Harbour office.

## False Creek Tidings



### Go Fish - Seafood Shack

Go Fish Seafood Emporium continues to draw visitors to the False Creek Fishermen's Wharf, serving up Vancouver's finest Fish 'n' Chips. They also offer a wide variety of grilled seafood creations and inviting house-made soups. Are you in a rush? No need to stand in line, phone in your order @ 604-730-5040.



### Public Fish Sales Float & Courtesy Customs Dock

The Fishermen's Wharf - Fish Sales Float is provided for the benefit of the community and the fishers who sell their catch. Today, the Sales Float is carefully regulated to ensure that the general public receive top quality product. Commercial Fishing Vessels using the facility may only sell species which they are licensed to catch. In addition, they must hold a Provincial Fish Vendor License obtained through the Ministry of Agriculture. We would like to encourage any and all Commercial Fishing boats who are thinking about selling at the Fish Sales dock to do so. The Harbour also provides a pamphlet which covers regulations, guidelines and standards for freshness. Members of the public are encouraged to visit the Public Fish Sales Float. Nowhere else in the city can you obtain truly "fresh" seafood, meet the Fishermen, see the boat that caught the product, find out where the product was caught and handle the gear responsible for harvesting such a fine assortment of seafood products.

For any information about Canada Customs please call Them directly at 1-888-226-7277 or 604-666-0272 or visit their website at [www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)



### Inspection Day @ FCHA

The Harbour has set up a date for our annual Inspection Day here on site. We are a little behind schedule on our regular start to spring due to hosting a conference for the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbor Masters and Port Managers (PCC) here in Vancouver, but we don't want our boaters to miss out on this great benefit. DNA Fire Doctors along with a few Techs from Mill Log twin disc inspections will be here on **Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2016 starting around 9:15am.**

DNA offers fire extinguisher service and inspections. They normally charge \$10 to service and recharge an extinguisher, but they offer us a **discount rate of \$5/per** so make sure to come down and take advantage of this great offer to keep your vessel and crew safe in the event of an on-board fire.

**Mill Log Equipment Co.** will be here offering **FREE** twin disc gear inspections for any interested party. They will also be here to talk tech about gear and transmission options, repowering and how to maintain your systems to help them last longer and go farther. There will be some demos among other things at their booth.

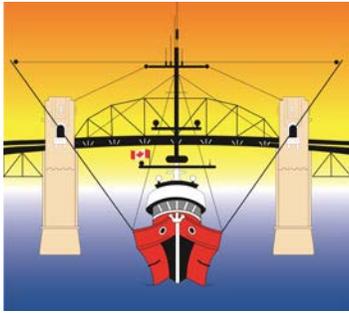
Don't miss this great opportunity



## False Creek Tidings



A beautiful shot of the Harbour from our new website



### How do our gardens grow?

We can all thank Karyn for the lovely ambiance created by her "green thumb". With help from Steve on the "Long Trick" these two are always looking for new ways to spruce up our Harbour. They do a great job with the limited funding provided, so please take the time to thank them for their hard work!

### In Remembrance

It is with heavy hearts that we bring the news of a Fisherman's passing. Robert Black, Bob to his friends, passed suddenly at home with his wife at his side. Bob and his vessel, the Pacific Marl, were a regular sight down on the docks in the off-season and he had been an active member of the Harbour for many years, fishing the northern waters for salmon every summer. Bob had captained the 1927 built Pacific Marl since 1975.

### FCHA's Brand New Website

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:  
[Office@falsecreek.com](mailto:Office@falsecreek.com)

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

We are very proud to announce that we have updated our website to keep up with the changing technology around us. The site is now live and we would like to encourage you to take a look around and see the changes we have made. We feel that the new site gives us more control over the content that we showcase to the world and puts a better foot forward when trying to make a first impression to new clients.

The site is now mobile friendly and the custom designed layout presents a clear and consistent picture of who we are as an organization. We have added a few new sections to better describe our role as a commercial fishing harbour and to educate the public about our efforts in environmental stewardship. It is also easier to navigate, with clear section headers and some interactive parts.

Our gallery section is now full of beautiful pictures of our harbour surroundings done by a professional photographer specifically for the new website. We would also like to include pictures taken by our Harbour Users, so please feel free to send us some pictures of you, your vessel, your family and friends and the Harbour in action. We would love to grow this section to show off the great community we have here.

We have also updated the 'Fish for Sale' page to be more fluid and we have added some links to connect local Fishers directly with consumers. If you are interested in being added to this section, please let us know and we will be happy to get you linked in! You must have a working website or on-line presence for us to connect with directly for this to work.

The Harbour is considering hosting a course to certify any commercial fishers who may be interested in a Level 1 First Aid. If we can make this worthwhile, we would really like to see it happen, so please come in and see the Office Staff to sign up!

