



FALSE CREEK TIDINGS

FCHA Board of Directors 2014

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Vice-President – Stewart McDonald - Lormax

Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Emes – Ocean’s Best

Director – Mike Lupis – Adriatic

Director – Steve Johansen - Blackheart

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Director – Duncan Cameron - Flicka

Director – Corey Erikson – Windrift II

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President’s Message

Greetings, to all False Creek Fishermen’s Wharf Members and Harbour Users.

I would like to thank departing directors Brian Kohn, Jim Hurford and Peter Muursepp for their time and commitment to the board meetings and their input into several committees. They were a part of many great discussions to the benefit of the Harbour. I’d also like to thank returning director Mike Lupis, for again volunteering his time for the Harbour and welcome back Stewart McDonald for his re-commitment as a director. We also have two new directors Corey Erikson and Duncan Cameron, fresh faces with new perspectives; we welcome their input to the board.

This year, False Creek Fishermen’s Wharf is planning a “Harbour Appreciation Day” to coincide with the 3rd Annual "Blessing of the Fleet" sometime near the end of May or early June. We’d like to create more events that bring us all together, Members and Users alike, to share in this great facility. We haven’t finalized the details yet but we will be serving Salmon & Tuna Burgers and harbour staff will post notices around the Harbour with the details and events, so keep your eyes open to get in on the fun! The spot prawn season is set to begin on May 8th, so the “8th Annual Spot Prawn Festival” will be held on the following Saturday, May 10th. It’s always good fun, music and food, so come enjoy the festivities.

At the AGM we had some good discussion regarding the bylaws in transition to the new NPO act. Anyone with concerns should feel free to drop by the Office during business hours and either the HM or AHM would be happy to discuss those concerns. There also appeared to be some interest in joining the different committees created to help Fishermen’s Wharf take the next steps in its evolution. I would like to extend an invitation to all Fishers from False Creek Fishermen’s Wharf to be a part of these committees. Make an impact, be part of the discussion of this site’s future, find out how you can help! See Harbour Manager Mike Loy for details on the various committees and how you can get involved.

Thanks,
Donnie Sananin

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 interested, please send an email to:

office@falsecreek.com

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

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Harbour Manager's Report

With the arrival of the sunshine and warmer weather the Harbour is once again preparing for another busy boating season. This is my favorite time of year, when the tarps get pulled off the boats and the deck brushes start to scrub away a winters worth of neglect. I always look forward to seeing the Harbour come alive after a cold, wet winter. The Fishermen start to haul their boats for the annual bottom painting and zinc replacement. The Salmon Fleet have been busy mending nets in anticipation of a successful season and the Prawn & Crab traps are being pulled out from storage to be repaired for the upcoming season's catch.

At the Fishermen's Wharf we always seem to have a few projects on the go, some which will wrap up prior to the busy summer season and others that will carry on throughout the summer. The Harbour will continue with the construction of 6 new finger floats which will replace some of the older ones. So if you think that yours' needs to be replaced please come and let me know.

As the year continues, we're always looking at ways to improve the harbour. Sometimes our priorities may vary from what you may think the priorities should be and I would like every Harbour User to know that 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 continue to make the Fishermen's Wharf a destination for all. So please stop by my office to talk or even to just say hi.

In other news, over these past few months the Fishermen's Wharf has been working in conjunction with the Squamish Streamkeepers on a project to help boost the survival rate in herring eggs spawning on the harbours creosote piles. In late December Jonn Matsen from the Squamish Streamkeepers came in and wrapped approximately 20 piles on A-Dock with an enviroliner which he found to be attractive for herring to spawn on and, at the same time, dramatically reduce the exposure of the eggs to creosote damage. The study has proven that the survival rate is much greater when the eggs spawn from the wrapped piles. With the survival expectation far greater on the wrapped piles, we will continue to work with the Squamish Streamkeepers in the coming years to institute an annual program to keep the numbers on the rise. Herring are one of the main sources of food for seabirds, marine mammals such as dolphins, porpoises, orca, whales, seals, sea lions, tuna, salmon, cod and halibut. With our commitment we will continue to help our oceans and wildlife for years to come!

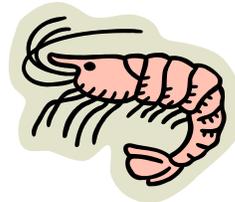
We should all be excited because if the early signals are correct, the Fraser River could have the biggest salmon run in B.C. history this summer, with up to 72 million sockeye returning. That would be more than double the record number that came back in 2010, when about 32 million sockeye flooded into the Fraser River, overwhelming fish plants with such bounty they ran out of ice and storage boxes. The news could not be any better for our fishermen and recreational boats as we hope we'll see fishing this year better than we've seen in our lifetime. The Fraser is expected to get the biggest return because the sockeye coming back are the offspring of the 2010 run, which was the largest in nearly 100 years. The forecast ranges from a low of 7.3 million to a high of 72.5 million. If it is at the high end, it will top anything seen in the Fraser for as long as records have been kept. Even at a conservative estimate of 23 million sockeye, it would be a bountiful run in a river where stocks have declined dramatically for nearly two decades, with runs of two to four million common. The run hit a low of 1.3 million in 2009 before bouncing back unexpectedly the next year in what many thought was a "one off" event. In 2010, DFO saw signs of a good year and predicted four million to 29 million sockeye would return. As the season advanced, managers realized the high end would be reached. Let's hope this year is one for the record books!

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.

False Creek Tidings



8TH Annual Spot Prawn Festival at the Fishermen's Wharf



Put on by the Chef's Table Society of B.C., the Annual Spot Prawn Festival has been growing each year. Rain or shine, crowds flock down to Fishermen's Wharf to get a taste of the sweet, succulent and sustainable local delicacy as a testament to the festival's success. We're excited to see (and taste!) what kind of offerings Vancouver's Top Chefs bring to the table!? Each year we have 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.

The 6 – 8 week Spot Prawn season will be getting under way a little later this year. Set to begin around the 8th of May, this year's festival is planned for Saturday, May 10th. 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) for up to date information on the boats coming in at our "Weekly Fish for Sale" page.

Go Fish restaurant will be serving up Spot Prawn specials throughout the season, 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".



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Recycling & You

The FCHA is happy to help you, our customers, take the necessary steps to dispose of your used goods and unwanted junk. We provide the Blue Bins for easy recycling of your everyday items, the cardboard bin for large boxes and packing materials, a paint bin to take in unwanted paint supplies, our oil recycling tanks along with drums to store unwanted or contaminated fuels and anti-freeze. We now take broken/unwanted electronics and make sure they are recycled appropriately as well as dry/wet cell batteries and light bulbs. We ask that you do your best to use the resources provided to help us do our part and protect the environment!

If you are unsure where to put your recyclables, ask at the Office, or speak to one of our friendly wharfingers and they'll be glad to point you in the right direction. Please refrain from dumping unwanted items at the compactor unless they may be useful to others. The Fishermen's Exchange is not for garbage, but items that can be re-used again by others. If you have old junk you're looking to dispose of, there are local depots that will take it off your hands **free of charge!** See Turk for details, and bring us your old unwanted marine gear and we'll make sure it goes to the right place. Please don't make us crawl through the garbage...



PLEASE, HELP US HELP YOU!

Video surveillance has helped us reduce the fines incurred from illegal materials in the trash by making dumpers accountable for their careless behavior.

Smile, you're on camera!



OIL DISPOSAL



The FCHA recently installed a new oil disposal tank at the West Oil Shed between F + G locker aisles. The tank's containment had failed due to water accumulating inside the tank, which corroded the inner containment layer, causing the tank to lose vacuum pressure and become unsafe for the storage of petroleum products. It is important to remember that oil contaminated with water should be disposed of in the "Oily Bilge Water" tank located outside of B locker aisle, to keep our tanks up and running for as long as possible.

All oil that is disposed of in our approved containers is recycled and reused at no cost to the Harbour. We do pay a nominal fee for the disposal of our oily debris and used filters, but the plastics are also free to recycle if placed in the appropriate containers for staff to collect. When used oil containers, full or empty, end up in our waste stream (read: Compactor/Blue-bin recycling) the Harbour ends up with a hefty fine. So, we can go green and save the Harbour and you, the user's money, or we can pollute and receive a financial penalty of \$50/Item per incident.

*****Fines include placing oily plastics in the recyclables*****



Clean Marine – 5 Anchor Rating!!!



The staff here at FCHA have worked very diligently over the last several years to put our best foot forward as environmental stewards for False Creek. Our industry, perhaps unfairly, is known as a source of pollution for the lakes, oceans and waterways that we all hold dear as a source of employment and enjoyment. A part of that is the nature of our location where land and water meet, an important ecosystem for fish, mammals and birds alike.

Clean Marine is a program run in partnership with the Georgia Strait Alliance (GSA) that looks at participating harbours and their associated industries, then assesses their environmental impacts through a detailed audit of our facility and waste streams. Re-audits take place every 3 years after enrollment. When we first enrolled in 2010, the GSA was quite impressed at the level of protection we already offered, and through their input and our own efforts, we've managed to impress them once again! They even chose to rework the audit process to better demonstrate the commitment we put into this process.

When all was said and done, the GSA honoured us with a **5 anchor rating**, the highest possible rank! We are also *the only Harbour on the coast* with this rank. They presented us with our new certification at the recent HAABC conference in February, in front of the other Harbour Authorities as well as several DFO employees. Not only does this high rating shine a spotlight on us here at Fishermen's Wharf, it shows the other HA's what can be accomplished as well as proving to the higher ups in Ottawa that we who make our living plying the waters are every bit as interested in doing our part to keep the oceans clean and full of fish! Changing our image from a source of pollution to a part of the solution is a step in the right direction, and to do so as a working harbour full of Commercial craft is a great way to strengthen our footing in the community. Thank you for helping us achieve 5 Anchors, keep up the good work!

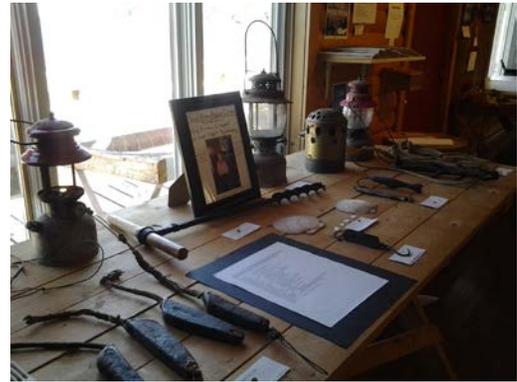
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Fishing Museum

The FCHA Board of Directors (BOD) has been working on ideas to increase local interest in what we do down here at our Harbour. One thought the BOD have is to work on creating a small scale, volunteer-run museum dedicated to the history of fishing on this beautiful coast. We would look to put it in the Open Storage area and we have resourced some info on Atco trailers, the kind you see in schoolyards, which can be had for a reasonable price. The idea is to create a site specific place where visitors can peruse relics from time gone past and see pictures/film of your trips up and down the coast, to get a feel for what was once a thriving local industry.

What we'd like from you, our Users, are any mementos you can bear to part with. We want: Old fishing gear; Relics from your travels; Pictures and film of your voyages, anything fishing related that you can think of that might tell a good story, besides an "Old Salt"! We want the local community and the guests who come to visit us to have a place where they can learn of the history of our coast and the role this Harbour played in the industry.

Let's show the world the passion we share for the ocean and its bounty! Any interested party should speak with Office staff for further information. Any and all feed-back about this idea is welcomed.



Boating Safety

The Sea Island base now services the busy waterways around Howe Sound, with support from the volunteer run Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue (RCMSAR) out of Granville Island during the summer boating season. This change will affect response times, so we all need to prepare our vessels accordingly. Do you have the necessary equipment on board to handle all potential incidents we can encounter while out boating? Whether you're heading out for a leisure cruise or planning an extended trip, don't leave yourself short on the supplies you'll want in the event of an accident.

Here are a few quick steps you should take to make this season safe and fun for everyone. Preparation can make or break a Captain and crew in the event of a disaster out on the water, so take the time to go over your supplies. Having the necessary items is good, but if we don't check on them regularly, they can fail us when we need them most! Check your back-up batteries; the expiry dates for medicines, flares and other sundries. Check all your supplies, alarms and back-up systems *before* you need them; you'll thank yourself if you ever do.

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. With response times being somewhat unpredictable, the right equipment can 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 things 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.

Visit this link for more detailed info:

<http://www.boatingsafety.com/boats/cgchecklist.asp>

Please remember to wear your PFDs!



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Inspection Day at FCHA



On April 16th 2014, the FCHA will be hosting both DNA fire doctors and Mill Log Equipment Co. on site to offer their services.

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.

They will be down at the Harbour starting at **9:30am on Apr. 16th**, and we will have sign-up sheets for any interested parties, so be sure to get your name on the list! They will service everyone they can, no need to enroll, but they will see to those on the list first so avoid the wait!



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

Pump-out Station

The sewage pump-out system installed by Inner Harbour Technologies has been a great addition to our facility and is available for use to anyone who wishes to continue using the holding tank aboard their vessel while in the harbour. It's located at the end of the Fish Sales Float and is **FREE to ALL Annual Harbour Users**. The charge for non-harbour members is **now \$6.00** per cycle of the pump-out, meaning \$6.00 each tank or if a tank requires multiple cycles (set at 4 minutes per cycle) then the charge applies to each cycle.

We currently have a number of boats using the pump out on a regular basis but we would like to encourage more vessels to use this service to assist us in keeping the waters False Creek clean and healthy.

FCHA has had a policy in place for several years of **not allowing vessels to pump out sewage in the harbour**. Now, with the revisions to the Canada Shipping Act, we will be taking a hard line approach to enforcing this regulation. This means that anyone caught depositing sewage into the FCHA waterlot will be reported and dealt with accordingly. This will benefit not only the harbour users, but all boaters and marine life throughout False Creek.

Parking

The new 2014 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 260 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.

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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. 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 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



The new sign installed at Sales Float

New Dock Signs

The BOD have been working to strengthen the image of our site as "Fishermen's Wharf". We have always been (and hopefully always will be!) known as Fishermen's Wharf, but we felt the public is not as aware of that fact as they could be. We wanted a more recognizable and iconic location, akin to Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, though we can't quite compare to their size or offering. The board thought a great way to get this message out to the public was new signage, to proudly display our name and heritage to the thousands of people who pass by our site each day.

We had custom signs hand painted by a professional artist, Witold Ciach, who we found through former director Jim Hurford, to place at the bottom of each ramp so they would be visible to people walking by on the seawall. We also had a larger sign designed for the Sales Float to catch the eye of the patrons of Go Fish, to spread the word of our site and welcome guests down to purchase fish straight from the boats that caught them. We didn't want them to be too flashy or loud, so we went with a simple and elegant design that we feel represents our Harbour well. Let us know your thoughts and feelings on our new signs' we'd love to hear some feedback.

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The 'Denman Isle' heading out to sea



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 community. We get numerous comments about the wonderful garden areas from the community at large. They do a great job with the limited funding provided, so please take the time to thank them for their hard work!

False Creek Harbour
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Fishermen's Wharf

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Account Inquires:
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Internet Access

We received several complaints regarding slow/no internet connections on the docks over the last year. It was suggested that the surrounding buildings were "stealing" our unsecured wireless signal and high-jacking our connection speeds. The more likely culprit in this digital age are the handheld devices that have become so common we almost forget what life was like before their existence, smart phones and tablet computers!

The BOD discussed this issue at length and decided the best course of action was to secure our Wi-Fi network with a password, which we have now done. If you or a guest would like internet access, please speak with either staff or security at the Harbour Office or on the docks and they'll be happy to let you know the password. I'd also like to remind everyone our system was designed mainly for emails/web browsing, not heavy downloading or live streaming, which takes up a lot of data.

Website

The Harbour Website www.falsecreek.com is going great, as we receive a large number of emails from people inquiring about our facility. We'd like to see more pictures from our users up there, so please feel free to send us some of the shots of you and your friends enjoying the Harbour and the surrounding areas. Help us promote this wonderful community and Vancouver's only Fishermen's Wharf!

We keep an up to date list of the fish boats on our Sales Float and what catches they're offering so people know what to expect when they arrive. We also keep an archive of our recent newsletters in case there's something you missed! Any comments, suggestions or photos; inquire at the Harbour Office or send to turk@falsecreek.com



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