



# FALSE CREEK TIDINGS



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## President's Message

Greetings to all Harbour members and users as we head into the Holiday season for most, and the off season for fishermen and boaters. Many of our Salmon fishermen are wrapping up the last of the years chum fishing as I write this. Fall fishing has been the highlight of an uneven year for much of our fleet. Solid catches of chum have helped offset a spotty Salmon season, most notable for a historically low return of sockeye to the Fraser River System. Our Tuna Trollers all safely returned home after a summer of high winds and inconsistent fishing, tempered somewhat by very strong prices. While our harbour hosted the very successful Spot Prawn Festival in May, it proved to be a difficult season for most of the local trap fleet as well. Now, the last of the longlines are coming out of the water and most activity at the wharf will consist of boat and gear maintenance as fish boats tie up amongst the sail boats and yachts for the winter, and fishermen muster up their optimism for next year.

During the summer Mike and his crew were kept busy dealing with water main leaks and parking lot excavations, which they handled with good humour. Thank you to all harbour users as well, for putting up with the inconveniences that come from working with aging infrastructure. While work on infrastructure and equipment upgrades will continue, those of us who visit many ports over the course the year know how favourably the conditions of the Fishermen's Wharf docks and facilities compare with those of other commercial harbours on the coast. Thanks to the False Creek staff for your solid work.

Project planning and stakeholder consultations are now underway and moving forward on the "Fishermen's Village" development in the open storage area. We are excited by the opportunity to create a space that benefits our harbour members and cements our reputation as a great destination for local residents. The Fishermen's Village will be a place of connection between fishing families and the public. The more we can promote the benefits of us being here, the greater we can secure the future of our harbour in its enviable location!

I hope many of you will be able to drop by the Wharf and join us for the annual Holiday celebration which will take place on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Also make sure to mark your 2017 calendars for February 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 for the Annual General Meeting. Doors open at 6:30 pm at the Granville Island Hotel, meeting begins at 7.

Have a great Holiday Season, and a safe and prosperous new year!

Shaun

### *Harbour Manager's Report*

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

This past summer was my 11<sup>th</sup> season here at the Fishermen's Wharf and it definitely proved to be one of the busiest summers to date. We hosted a variety of film productions that included a TV commercial for LL Bean Clothing to a photo shoot for a vintage car calendar to filming a horror movie "The Ninth Passenger" on a 120' mega-yacht which had the vessel moored at our facility for approximately 2 weeks. We understand the inconvenience that film productions can cause to our user group and appreciate your support in being able to have productions like these here as it provides an excellent opportunity for extra revenue.

In between the filming we had the arrival of the Sea Shepard's R/V Martin Sheen which moored with us prior to them disembarking for their Operation Virus Campaign which took a close look at the operation and impact of the fish farms along the coast. Before their departure they had a press release from our docks informing the public about their campaign and had a few notable and local celebrities like Alexandra Morton, David Suzuki & Pamela Anderson here to bolster their campaign and try to bring awareness to a variety of different demographics. Upon their return from their 6 week campaign they were greeted by Richard Dean Anderson (AKA-MacGyver) and held an open house on their vessel providing the public an opportunity to tour the ship and speak with the crew.

This year also proved to be our busiest transient season to date. We're fortunate to be able to utilize the available spaces while the commercial fishing fleet is out fishing to accommodate the summer season demand. Between the Canadian dollar being as low as it is and the new available 50a and 100a electrical service we installed last year, we saw an increase in our 50'+ sized vessels from the US which helped our bottom line!

The summer always brings upon us the time to get ourselves involved in projects around the harbour, some planned and some....well, I'm sure you get the picture. This year once again proved to keep us busier than we would like to be but some things are just out of our control, like our water main issues. At first when we noticed water coming up through the asphalt we had our contractors come in to tear up the ground to replace what we thought was a damaged feeder line from the water main out to the main dock. The feeder line was damaged but when we replaced it and turned the water back on, water was still coming up through the asphalt and we realized that our issue was bigger than first anticipated. Just over a week after we repaired the water main and re-asphalted the area, about 100' down the line....it happened again. Fortunately since the 2<sup>nd</sup> repair everything seems to be holding fine but only time will tell.

A few other things we were able to accomplish was replacing a number of old fire extinguishers throughout the harbour, rebuilding all of our backflow preventers, installed the final 2 new HD security cameras at the ends of A & C docks, purchased a new garbage compactor, constructed 6 new finger floats and upgraded the wall pack lights along the parking lot to LED.

As we start our new fiscal year I'll be working with the Board of Directors to make a plan for the coming years' projects. We have already ordered the material for 6 new finger floats which will be constructed as well as material for flotation tanks. A number of years ago we constructed around 100 flotation tanks to raise the main docks up and out of the water prolonging the life expectancy however the need is still there for us to build a few to raise low spots throughout the harbour and to also have materials on hand in case a situation presents itself where we would need to install a tank and don't have the lead time to wait for the materials to arrive. We'll also be upgrading the yellow crane and will be looking into constructing new fender logs around the wharfhead.

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.

### *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 or on weekends 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.

# False Creek Tidings

## New & Improved

As the years pass, the marine environment can be a little rough on the equipment that helps keep this facility up and running. As we keep up with rejuvenating the docks to breathe new life into our Harbour, so must we also keep on top of maintaining the equipment that helps this place operate. After an increase in service calls and a deteriorating inside, the decision was made to replace our ageing Trash Compactor, an important tool to keep this site clean and sanitary. The new machine is virtually the same, with a different closure that should stand the test of time better than the previous design. Other items we are looking to replace are the yellow crane and the fender log system that protects the Wharfhead loading area, a vital link for our Commercial Members to get their product to market.

The fender logs have been giving us problems for years, and now one has sprung a small leak, prompting us to fast track a replacement solution that has been in the plans for a while. On top of this, our yellow crane, the more versatile of the two cranes, is now in need of replacement and we are currently reviewing options with the BOD and DFO-SCH on a suitable solution. This process can take some time as we need to consider our options carefully to ensure we go in a direction that will benefit the changing needs of the commercial fleet for years to come. We are working together to keep our Harbour beautiful and functioning in a way that meets all our needs.

## Fishermen's Wharf Benefit Program

To help with the yearly burden of vessel upkeep, we have managed to set up a special contractors account with **Sherwin Williams** for you, our Users. This new account is open to all Harbour Users and gives us 30%-60% off retail prices on all primers, paints, stains, and finishes as well as 15% off all paint supplies (brushes, rollers etc.). This account can be used at any Sherwin Williams location across Canada and can be used for both home and harbour related projects. Our pricing is based upon the projected volume purchased of each product, therefore the more we use the more we save. Talk to the harbour staff for details and our full pricing catalogues which are available to you in the harbour office. Our account name is **Wharf Benefit Program** and it is open now, so remember to use this account to save on all your painting needs!



## Boat Maintenance @ the Docks

We would like to take a moment to remind all our users of the type of work we deem acceptable here at the docks. Since we are a working harbour and understand what it takes to keep your vessels functioning at optimal performance, we do allow routine and minor maintenance on-site. We discourage major repairs from taking place in the slips due to the potential risk to the environment and the impact on other users. The definition of minor and major is going to vary from person to person, but these are some things to consider when determining what category your project fits into:

<b>Minor Repairs</b>	<b>Major Repairs</b>
<b>Low impact</b>	<b>High impact</b>
<b>Short time frame</b>	<b>Longer time frame</b>
<b>Easily contained</b>	<b>Hard to contain</b>
<b>Larger project done in stages</b>	<b>Multiple contractors involved</b>
<b>Low level of hazard</b>	<b>Med to High level of hazard</b>

While this is a generalization of what may constitute a major or minor repair, it can be useful to consider where your project falls and if we can allow it to continue on-site or whether a ship yard is the appropriate place to see to your repair.

## False Creek Tidings

### Please Use Caution

As long days turn to long nights, staff would like to remind all users to be safe and mindful around the Harbour. Drive with caution in the parking lot and locker aisles. Keep in mind it can be more difficult to spot a person or animal on a wet and gloomy day, so please keep your speed down. As a rule, vehicles should keep below 10km/h while on-site as we are not a road, but a very busy, active harbour with users and the public coming and going at all times of the day.

On the water, please try to keep your speed below 5 knots when entering False Creek and approaching the Harbour. This is the law and is set for the safety of all users on the water in False Creek. Besides the risk of potential collision, higher speeds have the potential to “wake out” the Harbour or our neighbors, which can result in damage to surrounding vessels and is generally considered nuisance behaviour that can give our harbour (and you!) a bad reputation.

Please be mindful of your surroundings and act responsibly for the good of us all.



#### FCHA and Social Media

Look for us on Facebook and Twitter to stay connected with the Harbour and learn about upcoming events!

Search False Creek Fishermen's Wharf on Facebook to find our local business page or follow us on twitter @falsecreekwharf.



### Locker Aisles

It's that time again! Now that the main fishing season is coming to a close and boats are all getting winterized for the onset of the cold season, we want to ensure your locker areas don't get forgotten. We understand the fishing season is a hectic time, with short windows and long waits, so we can understand when the locker areas get a little out of control. Everything should have a home however, and we must ask that all users respect the mutual space in the locker aisles and see to maintaining some order to your locker area.

Remember that we lease the space inside of the locker you are assigned and any items outside of this space is considered in “the common area”. We ask that you make every effort to keep this common area clear of items that belong to you, inform staff when unidentified items appear, and keep any impact from your items (i.e. net mending) to a minimum. We all must share this space, let's work together to keep the peace and please, be responsible with your belongings.

### Need WiFi Help?

Still having trouble connecting to the internet? We may be able to help. Staff is working on setting up some receiving units that are configured specifically for our site. These are designed to pick up the signal reliably and bring it into your vessel through a computer, laptop or router. These will be available for rent, but there is a limited supply, so please only inquire at the office if you are having difficulty.



### Christmas Open House

The Board of Directors and Staff would like to invite all Harbour Users to attend this year's Christmas Open House. It will be held on Friday December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 1pm – 3:30pm in the Harbour Office Boardroom. We encourage everyone to attend this event as it provides a perfect opportunity for the different user groups at FCHA to connect and build on the spirit of all coming together to enjoy our beautiful piece of paradise.

We will have snacks and refreshments for all so please, come and join us!



### Harbour Policy Review

With a few new faces around site and a couple of issues that have arisen over the last year, we would like to take this opportunity to remind our Users of a few key policy items that impact everyone's enjoyment of the Harbour.

First, let's tackle our policy on living aboard your vessel. The False Creek Harbour Authority does not accept any new live aboard tenants at Fishermen's Wharf, whereas living aboard will be construed as a long term residence rather than casual usage. Anyone caught living aboard their vessel without prior authorization from the Harbour Manager may be cause for termination of their Berthage Agreement and the vessel and owner may be removed from the site.

Now, let's talk pets. You may think your pooch is the greatest, but not everyone shares your sentiments. Different people are going to react in different ways to a strange animal. Pets at Fishermen's Wharf must be leashed and under the direct control of their owners at all times. Any pet found to be running loose may be restrained and turned over to the appropriate agency. Pets shall not be allowed to relieve themselves on the docks or other Harbour property, meaning owners are required to clean up after their pets. If pets cause a disturbance to other Harbour Users, Harbour Staff or the general public, they shall be required to be removed from the site.

Lastly, let's talk garbage. With our new compactor now on-site, new signage will be soon to follow. Please read all signs and deal with all items to be disposed of in an appropriate manner. The new compactor will continue to offer the "Fishermen's Exchange" where **useful items** may be left to all comers. Keep in mind this is for useful items only, broken or obsolete items are to be disposed of by the owners in an appropriate fashion; no one wants your old toilet! Our policy states that trash, debris or polluting substances shall be placed in the appropriate, marked containers on the site, not overboard or on the docks. For the record, **DISH SOAP** is a polluting substance and is not to be poured into the waters around your vessel. Cardboard and other recyclables are to be placed into the appropriate bins and should be flattened, where applicable, to conserve space. Household, large items like furniture or other off-site waste is not to be placed in any Harbour container. No hazardous wastes are to be disposed of outside of approved storage containers. Used oil and oily debris must be placed in the oil collection areas provided. Staff may be able to assist in recycling some other forms of hazardous wastes in approved containers we keep in locked storage, but any items we cannot take in must be disposed of off-site by the user in an approved manner. Any unauthorized use or contravention of this policy may result in a fine up to \$500.00

#### OPEN TO ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER

The Harbour is open to submissions for the newsletter. The next issue of the newsletter will be published in the spring of 2017. Please remember that this newsletter belongs to the users of Fishermen's Wharf. In saying that, please consider contributing an article, an interesting boater experience or some photos to the Harbour. All will be considered and welcomed. If you are interested in contributing please submit your article/photo by April 1, 2017.



### Let's Talk Fish



Are you interested in getting involved in helping to manage and improve local fish populations? The Canadian government is looking for your input on how to better manage fisheries resources and direct conservation efforts. Follow the link below to access a wealth of information and a forum of ideas on better ways to protect and restore fish habitat along the Canadian coasts, creating a healthier environment for fish to thrive in for the benefit of us all. A simple suggestion might hold the key to save the declining populations of fish on our coast, so get involved and change the world for the better!

<http://letstalkfishhabitat.ca/>

## False Creek Tidings



Above photo

A beautiful shot of a Dahlia that Karyn planted this year in the driveway garden. Photo credit: Nicole from the office.

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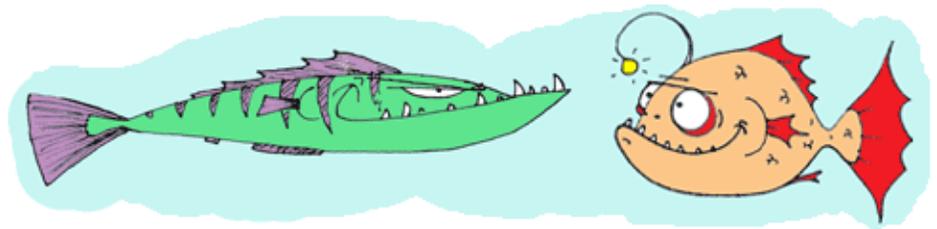
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## Ten Steps to Vessel Security

1. Lock your boat! (Doors, windows, hatches & lockers.)
2. Remove items of value from sight. (GPS, Binoculars, Laptops, Alcohol.)
3. Mark your valuables. (Use your driver's license number.)
4. Alarm your boat. Or leave a small light and radio on.
5. Secure your dinghy and outboard motor. Remove the oars.
6. Check on your boat regularly. Report any tampering to staff.
7. Talk to your neighbours.
8. Introduce yourself to the Harbour Master and security staff.
9. Inform your trade's people to check in at the office.
10. Reduce the chances of theft. Go boating!