



# FALSE CREEK TIDINGS



## FCHA Board of Directors 2017

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- Vice-President – Brian Vogrig – Nita Maria*
- Secretary / Treasurer – Mike Emes – Oceans Best*
- Director – Blake Kohn – Five Kings*
- Director – Duncan Cameron – Flicka*
- Director – Mike Featherstone – Lady Jay II*
- Director – Stewart McDonald - Lormax*
- Director – Corey Erikson – Windrift II*

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## President’s Message

Greetings to all Harbour Members and Users.

I hope everyone had a successful and enjoyable fishing, sailing and cruising season. As I write this, a few early flakes of snow have fallen on our docks and most of the fleet is now idle. With the end of most fishing, the Board of Directors has again been able to meet and plan for the upcoming months.

We are still committed to moving forward with the long planned “Fishermen’s Village” in the open storage area. Although progress has been much slower than we would like, we are now entering the community consultation phase. To adhere with the direction of the DFO, any potentially affected parties such as harbour users or community members will be informed and consulted about our plans. Informational materials are being printed and will be circulated shortly. Please be on the lookout for this incoming information. We welcome your input as we plan to develop a destination for the Harbour to be proud of.

The Harbour will be getting a facelift in the New Year! Following up on an initial proposal by past director Jim Hurford, we are planning to make the bare concrete face of the locker bays a lot less drab. As picking colours and engaging artists is beyond most of us without art school training, we are pleased that local community member Stu Ross has agreed to help steer the project. Prep and painting is planned to begin in March of 2018 and should have the facility sparkling for next fishing season.

As the Holiday season approaches, plan on dropping by the open house at the harbour office on December 8<sup>th</sup>. I’ll be there and look forward to meeting many of you and hearing your opinions and contributions to our planning process.

Best of the Season,

Shaun

### *Harbour Manager's Report*

Hello Members and Users, welcome back from another fishing and cruising season!

I hope you all thoroughly enjoyed your summer as much as we did here at the Harbour. Once the beautiful weather arrived we seemed to quickly forget the long, snowy winter we had just endured. With the extended warmer temperatures over the summer and into the fall I'm sure most of you had the chance to take your boats out and enjoy the pristine waters of the BC coast, whether engaged in a fishery or just for a leisurely cruise.

I know I've said this before but this year once again proved to be our busiest transient season to date. We're fortunate to be able to utilize the available space while the commercial fishing fleet is out fishing which provides us with a fair number of available slips for transient boaters. This year in particular brought in numerous large mega yachts. These yachts ranged in size from 80' to 172' and kept things interesting for us. One of these mega yachts (Aspen Alternative 164') came in for a week to do some filming for the movie remake of "Overboard" that originally starred Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell. The Captain of the vessel was so impressed by our facility that he ended up staying here for another 22 nights. Once that yacht departed for Florida, the largest vessel (Big Eagle 172') that we've ever accommodated arrived for an enjoyable stay with us.

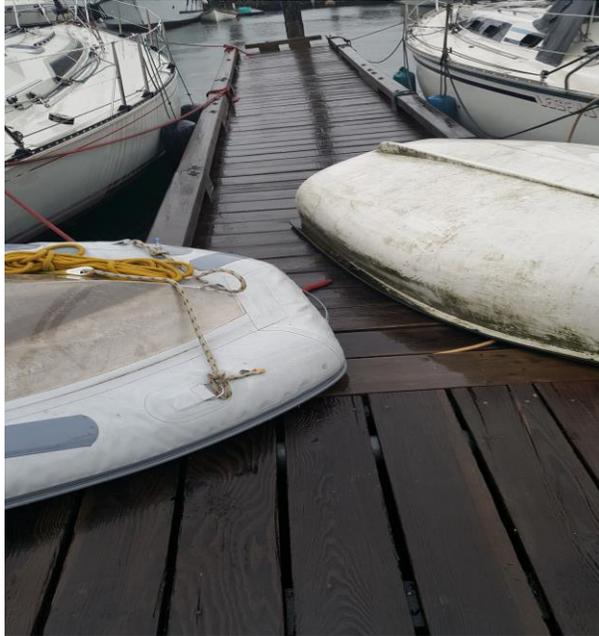
Last month we had a film production (Once Upon a Time – TV Series), who had been previously filming out in Steveston for the past 8 years, finally come over to our Harbour to film some scenes for episode 10 of season 7. We were excited to finally have them film onsite and hope that they will come back for some more filming here in the future. We understand the inconvenience that film productions can cause to our user groups and appreciate all of your support in being able to have productions like these here as it provides an excellent opportunity for extra revenue, and with some of the upcoming projects we'll be working on this year, it's welcomed.

In between accommodating the transients and the filming, we had the arrival of the Sea Shepard's R/V Martin Sheen which moored with us prior to disembarking for their 2<sup>nd</sup> 'Operation Virus Campaign' which takes a close look at the operation and impact of fish farms along the coast. Last year we had celebrities like Pamela Anderson and Richard Dean Anderson here raising attention to their campaign. This year, the man himself, Martin Sheen was here to send the vessel off for another successful campaign.

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 12 new finger floats which will be constructed and installed in early 2018. Once we complete the construction and installation of these 12 finger floats, the finger float replacement project will be finished. Over the coming months staff will be coming around adjusting foam that has shifted and will straighten out any listing fingers. We'll also be upgrading the yellow crane, as the engineering design for the crane and steel pile have been completed and the fabrication of the new crane will commence in mid-November. The fender logs around the wharfhead are also on our project list for the coming year. We've done some initial investigating of materials and design and have made progress to the final design we would like to go with. The metal grating on the tidal grids have been slowly deteriorating over the years and we felt that it was time to purchase new grating to prevent the possibility of someone falling through and getting hurt. Over the next few weeks, depending on daytime low tides, we'll be installing the new grates. As many of you have seen, bright yellow safety ladders have been installed throughout the site. These ladders are there to assist anyone getting out of the water. I would recommend that you become aware of the ladder closest to your boat in case you need to access it in an emergency.

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 Fishermen's Wharf a destination for all mariners.

In closing, 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 & secure moorage and services for Commercial Fish Boats in an environmentally responsible manner.

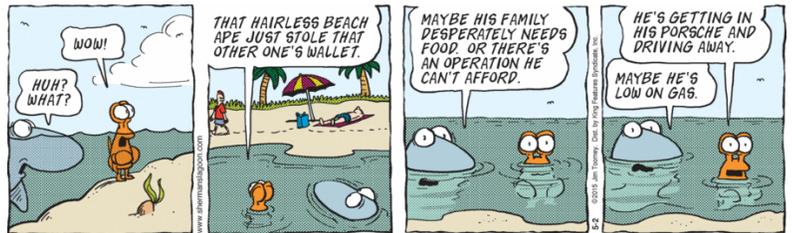


## Dinghies on the Docks

FCCHA Staff would like to remind all users that storage on the docks and fingers goes against harbour policy. We can understand short term storage when you are organizing your vessel or just back from an extended cruise, but we expect your belongings to be stowed away and not left on the dock long term. This extends to dinghies, as we have noticed they are becoming a problem throughout the harbour. Tenders should not be left indefinitely on the docks or across the fingers as they become an eyesore when left unattended. This issue also poses a safety hazard and often impede staff from doing routine maintenance and the necessary cleaning of the docks. We also note users are sometimes locking them in place and even hiding items under their dinghies as a storage option, including diesel/gas jerry cans, which can cause serious issues if a fire develops on the floats and we must insist that this behaviour stops.

With snow on the horizon, staff would like our users to see to their tenders this off season and store them appropriately on their vessels. Items and tenders left on the main float will be tagged for removal starting the first week of December and staff will be working to clean the main floats of excess clutter before winter truly sets in. We need clear safe access to your vessels in the event of a weather related emergency or other issues that can befall a vessel stowed away for the winter and we would appreciate your help in this area.

Please tend to your belongings and ensure they are dealt with appropriately before you head away in search of the sun!



## A Green Boating App?!

It's about time someone has put together an app to help us boaters do the right thing when it comes to the environment. The new *OceanSmart* app from the T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation is a great innovative tool that puts the power to protect the environment and vital marine habitat into the hands of users like you.

This new app connects you with the best practices to use when on the water to reduce your impact and avoid polluting the pristine beauty of the ocean. It provides quick access to green boating guides and resources including maps, disposal locations, and info on how & where to get involved. It also features quick tools to report spills and other infractions on the spot with detailed info like lat/long & time so recovery efforts can be efficiently directed and problem vessels can be quickly identified. Download the app today <http://www.bucksuzuki.org/> and help us protect fish habitat for generations to come.



If you have any questions or are looking for more info about the app and it's features, please contact **Darah Gibson** with the T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation

Phone: 604-695-2045  
Email: [darah@bucksuzuki.org](mailto:darah@bucksuzuki.org)

## 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.

### Locker Aisle Clear Out

Staff will be hard at work getting the locker aisles cleaned and organized this December. We have put up notices that we expect any wanted items to be placed in your lockers by **November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017** or they will be removed and disposed of as directed by the Board. The FCHA has been very lenient permitting belongings to be “temporarily” stored outside of your lockers, but we can no longer turn a blind eye to the constant abuse of space that has been taking place in several of the locker aisles. Not only does this disorder often snowball into a larger and larger mess, but staff often finds clutter obstructing vital tools that needs unfettered access, like fire extinguishers, electrical panels, and the breezeway along the back walls. In the event of an emergency, we won’t have a few extra minutes to move your belongings to prevent disaster.

The aisles are a shared space meant to provide access to the storage lockers along with the emergency protective measures and are to remain free of clutter, not used as a storage option for locker overflow. We can understand when work is underway that temporary short term storage in front of your locker is sometimes necessary. When non fishing related items or even fishing gear are hanging around month after month, impacting other users, we start dealing with a steady stream of complaints and rightly so! Gear and personal belongings should have a place in your lockers or be moved to a suitable storage option when not in use. Harbour staff will be keeping a closer eye on this situation moving forward from December 1<sup>st</sup> and will be regularly tagging items for removal. If you have an item you are looking to keep, you better find a way to get it in your locker or it won’t be hanging around for long!



### 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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 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!

### 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 2018. 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, 2018.



### 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.

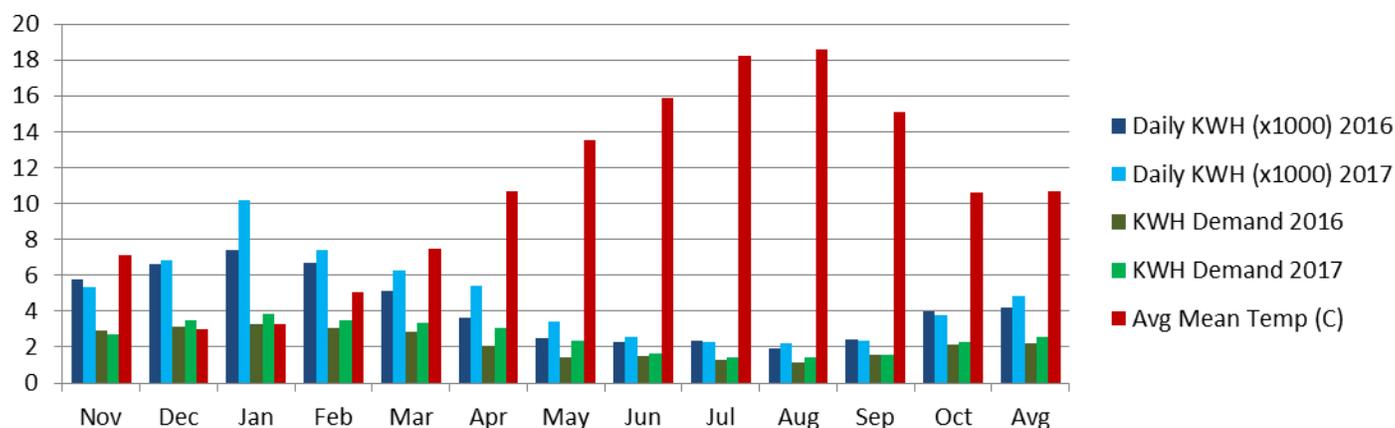


# False Creek Tidings

## Clean Marine Update

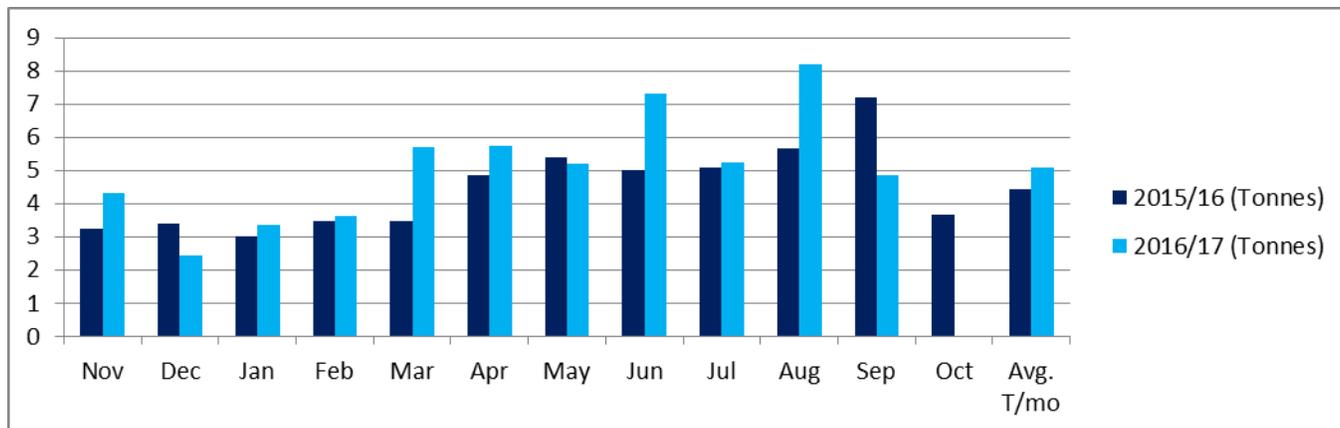
2017 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> renewal of our Clean Marine certification, and we are pleased to announce we've maintained our 5 anchor rating, still the highest on the Pacific coast! We have identified a few areas where we can still improve, and one of these areas involves help from you, our users. We have started to graph our power consumption and waste streams to identify trends and areas where to focus our efforts. It is too early to form a concise plan of attack as the current data is lacking, but as the years go by we will be tracking these items and hope to share our findings with you so we can all work together to keep False Creek Fishermen's Wharf a shining example of environmental stewardship.

Take a look at the data we've collected for the last two years. There are some interesting trends to notice immediately, most notably the correlation between temperature and power consumption. Mean temperature is the average between high and low for the month. We hope that sharing this data with our users will demonstrate your impact on these figures and get the gears turning on ways you might be able to lessen the load on the system. Harbour staff are always looking for new ways to recycle and re-use products, reduce our electrical consumption and generally shrink our waste output. Now we are asking you, our members and users, to step into the game and help us work towards a better tomorrow by thinking about today. It's never too late to start, and there is always more to do.



**Above:** Comparison between average daily power consumption in kilowatt hours (KWH) and Demand in 2016 & 2017. Daily KWH is how much power is consumed in an average day whereas demand tracks the volume of flow needed at any given moment, in KWH (x100). The average mean temperature is the average daily temperature for the month between 2016 and 2017. You can observe our daily average is up 604 KWH from 2016 which means we used more power per day in 2017.

**Bellow:** Comparison between the monthly totals of on-site waste (garbage) from 2016 and 2017. Our average monthly tonnage has risen by 0.64 tonnes in 2017 so this is an area we will be looking to make improvements for 2018. Data for Oct '17 N/A



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### Above photo

The summer of mega yachts has come and gone. These two vessels took up all of D dock for a week this summer, with the larger of the two, the 165' "Aspen Alternative" hanging around for a combined total of 29 days!

## Green Spaces

Karyn continues to do a wonderful job keeping the Harbour looking green and beautiful throughout the changing seasons. With help from Steve on the 'Long Trick', these two are always looking at different ways to bring this place to life with floral arrangements, hanging baskets, growing gardens and seasonal flair. We hear from customers and guests year-round who love our garden spaces.

Please take a moment to thank them for their hard work!



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## Help False Creek

The city of Vancouver, along with the Vancouver Parks Board, are working towards improving the water quality in False Creek. This past summer, the City sent divers into the waters of each facility in the creek to test for any anomalies and observe the sea floor under our water lots, looking for signs of vessels illegally pumping into the protected waters of False Creek. This is the first step they are taking to identify potential problem areas, as they believe the illegal pumping of holding tanks is contributing to the low water quality and high coliform counts.

Another measure that has been undertaken by the City is to offer free pump-outs directly at your boat under a pilot project that ended Mid-October. It was posed that accessibility to available resources regarding holding tank pump-outs was an issue, so they have looked to remedy that situation by offering mobile pump-outs free of charge. The two civic marinas in the creek have already been offering free service at their facilities, but they decided more was needed to be done. They contracted Skookum Yacht Services to operate a mobile pump-out boat for this pilot program and it seemed to work well with the boating public, so we hope to see this program and others like it gather steam and carry on into the future.

More work needs to be done, so keep an eye out for future initiatives. Fishermen's Wharf wants to remind our users that dumping in the creek is prohibited and punishable by a fine up to \$5,000. We ask that you all do your part and avail yourselves of our pump-out station to deal with your holding tanks appropriately.