



Spring 2021

# FALSE CREEK TIDINGS



## FCHA Board of Directors 2021

*President - Mike Emes – Ocean’s Best*

*Vice-President – Don Sananin – Spinaway*

*Secretary /Treasurer – Mike Featherstone – Lady Jay*

*Director – Bill Rockliffe – Allouette Lady*

*Director - Fraser MacDonald – Little Kathy*

*Director – Steve Taylor – Moon Child*

*Director – Doug Tufnail – Plan Eh*

*Director – Mel Hart – Sierra Bullet*

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## Message from the President

Hello to all Members, Users, and friends of False Creek Fishermen’s Wharf.

As a long-standing member of the FCHA Board, I would like to start by welcoming the new members of the FCHA Board of Directors, Doug Tufnail (CFV Plan Eh), and Mel Hart (CFV Sierra Bullet), and returning members, Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Featherstone (CFV Lady Jay), Vice President/Chair – Don Sananin (CFV Spinaway), and Directors – Bill Rockliffe (CFV Allouette Lady), Fraser MacDonald (CFV Little Kathy), Steve Taylor (CFV Moonchild),.

It has been a difficult year for everyone. I have found it especially challenging to still be meeting via Zoom, as I am sure many of you are feeling as well. Technological difficulties aside, I miss the personal interactions with my fellow board members and associates here at the docks, and anywhere else for that matter. As vaccinations continue to roll out in BC, we can hope to see a return to some form of normalcy as the 2021 fishing/boating season comes to a close. Most of you likely share my feelings that an end to this madness can’t come soon enough!

On the business side of things, we have ordered another load of wood to continue with improvements on the docks. We have a number of flotation tanks on order to bring the remaining sections of the docks up out of the water and preserve the longevity of dock fittings holding the facility together. We have also approved a number of capital projects that will continue the theme of bringing the harbour up to date while staying on top of some major infrastructure needs to maintain healthy docks and users.

As we move forward, be safe out there. Continue to wear a mask and keep a safe distance when interacting with staff on site or friends and colleagues down on the docks.

Yours truly,

Michael G. Emes

## Harbour Manager's Report

Hello Members and Users,

I want to start off by saying how much the staff and I appreciate everyone's cooperation while adapting to the ever-changing regulations surrounding Covid-19. With the support of the Board of Directors, Membership, and User Group we were able to provide a safe level of service for everyone. Not to say that we haven't had to deal with a few issues that arose, but we ultimately carried on and were able to push through the earlier setbacks we experienced and ended up completing a variety of projects.

The Board has approved a capital expenditure for the current fiscal year and some of the projects that have been approved are; construct and install another 12 flotation tanks, new office windows, the completion of the E-Dock electrical project along with the replacement of the noisy transformer located at the end of C-Dock, new security cameras in the lockers bays for added security and to catch individuals dumping items in the aisle ways as well as the replacement of the dryline fire suppression system on the docks in conjunction with the HDPE dock water project. We are still actively working with Small Craft Harbours to address our ageing watermain and water leaks in our storage locker area from the park located above. The Board has also approved the direction of the murals along the lockers and will be looking forward to having a finished product once the weather allows it.

The herring recovery project is still going strong and doing well. So well in fact that we are trying something new this year where eggs were laid on nets here at our Harbour and then were transplanted to the Burrard Inlet with the hopes that they will once again return to that area as successfully as they did here in False Creek. We will keep you posted on the progress.

The Harbour Authority Association of BC (HAABC) held a virtual conference back in February and after serving a term as the Vice President I was elected as the President of the Association. I appreciate the support of our Board of Directors in allowing me to fill this important role and I'm excited to lead the HA program and be working with Small Craft Harbours towards a shared goal in improving all of the HA's up and down the coast.

I'm excited to announce a few recognition awards that some of our Staff and Members received over the past year. Congratulations to our accountant Maribel Lazaro-Steffl for her 10-year Service Award from the FCHA, former Director and Past President Shaun Strobel for his 6-year Board Service Award from the FCHA, Michael Turkington for receiving the Made A Difference Award from the Pacific Coast Congress of Harbormasters & Port Managers and to Don Sananin for receiving a Department of Fisheries & Oceans/Small Craft Harbours Pacific Region Individual Commitment Award.

I can't thank and commend our staff and Board of Directors enough for all their hard work and dedication over the past year during these unusual circumstances. I would also like to recognize the commitment and cooperation of our Harbour Members and Users, we greatly appreciate your support.

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 continue to make 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.

We look forward to continuing to serve your needs!

Mike Loy - Harbour Manager

### Lock-Down 2.0

Here we are, over a year later, and not much has changed. There is a light at the end of the tunnel now, but it seems recently like things are getting worse, not better? We implore you to stick with the program, as difficult as it has become, and we will all come out of this on the other side better for having borne the struggle with humility and grace. Now is not the time to relax our caution, be mindful of the protections put in place to keep customers and staff safe and healthy, continue to social distance when outside your bubble and limit or avoid unnecessary travel.

With that said, we want to encourage you to come down to the Harbour to use and enjoy your vessel, just be mindful of the restrictions in place and keep your interactions with other boaters and staff to a minimum. Getting out on the water is a great way to have a “safe vacation”, but it is important to remember boaters are coming from all over the province/country, so keep your social distance and limit your interactions to avoid the potential spread of these newer variants that are proving to be more contagious and therefore more dangerous!

Here at the harbour, we are still offering all the services you are accustomed to. We are, however, still maintaining safety protocols for staff and customers. Keep your distance when interacting with staff on-site and keep visits to the office at a minimum. Masks are mandatory in all harbour facilities (Office, Washrooms and Laundry). We are happy to help, but please remember we can offer many services and answer any questions over the phone or via email communications. We have maintained public access to the site but have tried to reduce unwanted or unnecessary visitors by keeping the seawall gate closed and placing additional signage discouraging those without business at the harbour to avoid entering the premises.

The Fishers are busy working away, gearing up for another season of uncertainty. Please give them a wide berth when visiting the site. We appreciate your patience as they get ready for the upcoming seasons. We still hope to see Spot Prawn sales at the dock when the season gets underway, but the management team is keeping a close eye on any changes to restrictions and will adjust as needed. There will be no festivals again this summer, current guidelines do not permit this type of activity and even if things begin to open up, there won't be enough time to get anything up off the ground, unfortunately. We hope to welcome you all back to celebrate this little gem of ours, but we must wait until it is safe to do so.

The washrooms remain closed to the public until restrictions are lifted, and we ask that you do not give out the codes to anyone not with you or known to you in order to maintain a safe environment for our Users. Laundry facilities have remained open for use, and while we regularly sanitize these areas, be mindful this area sees interaction from many different groups so use the facilities wisely. We are regularly sanitizing all public use items like dock carts and forklifts and we maintain sanitization stations in the rental areas so you can sanitize these items yourself before and after use. Be sure to take advantage of these precautions, we hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

Maintaining our sanity when shuttered off from the world has been difficult. Many people are finding some solace out on the water, where you can leave some of your troubles behind and test your mettle against mother nature's wrath. It is not yet the time to relax our guard, but we are hoping by the end of summer to see the majority of BC residents having received the COVID vaccine and some semblance of normalcy creeping back into our lives. We'll see you on the other side of this madness and share a cold beverage and a sigh of relief!

### Furry Friends @ FCHA



We would like to remind all our Users about the FCHA pet policy for animals here on-site. While most of us love to meet your furry friends, please be reminded that some people have a fear of strange animals, hence all animals on-site should be leashed, and under the control of the owner **at all times**, as per harbour policy and CoV bylaws.

On a related note, there have been numerous complaints recently regarding dog droppings being left behind on the docks and in the parking lot. Part of the reason we request you have your animal under control is to ensure you are there to clean up after them when they make a mess on site. It is your duty as an animal owner to clean up after your pet when they leave an unwanted mess behind.

The last thing any of us want is to clean up after someone else's pet waste, or worse yet, to step in it and bring it onto their vessel or into their vehicle with them, making a mess of everything. If you are unable to follow these simple guidelines when you bring your furry friend down to the docks, they soon won't be welcome here. Repeated violations may also impact your ability to moor with us for breaking Harbour Policy.

### Neptune Wave Power

Some of you may have noticed the large metal cylinder parked on the edge of the wharfhead for a few weeks in April. This item is a wave attenuator used in a pilot project to test the viability of its design to generate power through wave action. The attenuator broke loose and landed on shore, resulting in some minor damage. The unit was towed here with the assistance of a few of our fishermen and repaired on site. It was all ready to be launched and re-installed, but they ran in to a snag due to a low tide and were unable to make it work. As this unit is very large and heavy, they have had to wait until they could schedule the right crane during a favourable tide and construction crews are very busy in the city.



Located off the shore from Point Grey, this power generation test station is looking to figure out the science around the potential for wave generation to work in partnership with offshore wind generators to increase the electrical output through green initiatives. Check out the website here: <https://www.neptunewave.ca/>  
To see the data that has been compiled and learn all about this project and what it is hoping to achieve.

We are happy to support these types of initiatives to make a greener future. Check out their website, outside of the technical data this project is very interesting!

### Network Updates

As most of you are aware, we have upgraded the wifi service on the docks throughout the entire harbour. While our previous system worked well for many users, there were still some problem areas and the speed was very up and down. We had run a trial run of the new system on A dock for a year to test the viability, and most people were very happy with the new system. We have now spread this new network across the whole harbour and a few key points on site and users have been very happy with the improved signal strength. We are also offering both 2.4 GHz and 5.8 GHz bands for broader coverage.

If you are having difficulties connecting to the 5.8 frequency, try using the 2.4, which has a better time penetrating through walls and hulls to get inside the vessel. We have also upped the caps on speed thanks to our new gigabit service from Shaw. There will still be periods of slow down on the system, but the new speeds and network are much more robust to handle our level of users and their demands on the system. See the office for connection information.

In related news, as we move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have now discontinued our fax line in the office. Moving forward, we are no longer able to send or receive faxes, so please be sure to inform all necessary parties to send any forms or information via email to [office@falsecreek.com](mailto:office@falsecreek.com)

### Congratulations, Don!

We would like to congratulate FCHA Vice President, Don Sananin, for being honoured with a 2021 Regional Distinction Award for Individual Achievement from the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans - Small Craft Harbours. Don has been a very visible member of our BoD, getting the Blessing of the Fleet and Harbour Appreciation Day festival rolling out, and participating in many seminars and workshops to further his understanding of the daily workings of a commercial harbour.

Keep up the good work, Don!



### Boating Safety

When heading out to enjoy some time on the water, please remember these important items to ensure everyone makes it home safe and sound.

- **COVID-19** – As smaller communities have taken various measures to protect their citizens, be sure to come ready with a mask and a good stock of gloves if planning to make a visit to your favourite spots this summer, even when restrictions begin to ease.
- **Marine First Aid Kit** – Better to be safe than sorry in the event of an unforeseen emergency.
- **Flares and Emergency Beacon** – Don't forget to check the expiry dates and ensure your emergency equipment will work if needed.
- **Float Plan** – Make sure someone knows where you are going and when you should be home.
- **Emergency Supplies/Rations** – A necessity for any boater to have on board. Check supplies at least once per season for condition. Replace back-up batteries regularly and ensure the pack stays free from moisture.
- **PFDs/Life Jackets** – The best way to prevent accidental drowning. Stay safe on the water!

**Please remember to wear  
your PFDs!**

# False Creek Tidings

## Payments and Charges

We are still accepting payments for moorage and power during the various stages of these quarantine measures.

The best ways to contact us for payment are over the phone via credit card or through email with an e-transfer to maintain your account in good standing. We are still taking in-person transactions at the office if necessary, but best to try and avoid this means, if possible, to keep everyone safe until we can put this all behind us.

For questions or concerns regarding your moorage, reach out to [turk@falscreek.com](mailto:turk@falscreek.com). For any account inquiries please contact Nicole at: [office@falsecreek.com](mailto:office@falsecreek.com)



## Pump-Out

The pump-out station is still operational during regular hours 8:30am-3:30pm. We are trying to keep a hands-off approach and will open the equipment and turn on the pump but it will be up to the boater to handle things on the vessel side as staff should avoid boarding your vessel to maintain a safe “social” distance.

The service remains free of charge to all annual users of Fishermen’s Wharf and costs \$6.00/cycle (approx. 35 gal) for any guest boaters to reduce the reliance on your holding tank, but we are here to help if needed.

The mobile pump-out operated by Skookum and the CoV will be active as of May 21<sup>st</sup>. Please call 778-683-7868 or email them [pumpout@skookumyachtservices.com](mailto:pumpout@skookumyachtservices.com) and more info is available at <https://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/sewage-pump-outs.aspx>



## Parking

The parking situation has returned to normal circumstances here on site. We expect all vehicles parked in the lot to carry valid insurance that is up to date and display a valid annual or temporary parking pass issued by the office. Vehicles in non-compliance take the risk of being towed at the owner’s expense. We have noticed a **few uninsured vehicles** as well as many displaying expired or no pass in the parking lot over the past few months and want to remind our Users that summer is coming, along with an increased demand for parking at the harbour. We will be identifying problem vehicles over the coming weeks and having them removed from the site if not brought into compliance.

**All vehicles parked on FCHA property must carry valid Road Insurance, we do not authorize uninsured vehicles or those with storage insurance to be left on site at any time.**



*LOCK IT OR  
LOSE IT!*



## False Creek Tidings



### Go Fish - Seafood Shack

Go Fish Seafood Emporium continues to operate during this quarantine, serving up Vancouver's finest Fish 'n' Chips. They also offer a wide variety of grilled seafood creations and inviting house-made soups. Call ahead to place an order

@ **604-730-5040**. **\*\*DINE-OUT ONLY\*\***



The Fishermen's Wharf - Fish Sales Float is provided for the benefit of the community and the fishers who sell their catch. During this current crisis, fish sales will still be permitted at the dock in a limited capacity. We will be placing signage and info regarding social distancing procedures and do our best to maintain a minimum distance and encourage people not to gather in crowds while looking to purchase fresh seafood direct from the boats that caught it.

Any vessel looking to sell fresh seafood to the public in 2021 will be subject to strict handling and sanitation procedures and this activity may be stopped at anytime if given direction to do so by Health Canada, CDC, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority or any relevant agency concerned with Public Health/Policy

**The Courtesy Customs Dock will be closed during this period of quarantine to non-essential vessels.** No recreational vessels entering from US waters will be authorized to tie at Fishermen's Wharf until further notice.

For any information about Canada Customs please call them directly at 1-888-226-7277 or visit the website @ [www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)

### Public Fish Sales Float & Courtesy Customs Dock



### Safety at Sea for Working Fishermen



With recent changes to the stability assessment tools and requirements, we want to remind our commercial fishers to stay safe while working out at sea and to be prepared for the worst while hoping for the best the season can bring. Please follow the link so you can refresh yourselves on the necessary precautions to take while out at sea.

More than just ensuring you are compliant if stopped while out on the water, we want you and your crew to come home safe. Take a minute to go over your safety supplies and first aid kits. Click the link for all the information you need to stay safe and come home this season.

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/industries/fishing-marine/types/commercial-fishing>

## False Creek Tidings

### How Do Our Gardens Grow?



Please remember to take a moment and thank Karyn for the hard work she puts in to keep our green spaces healthy and beautiful. With help from Steve on the Long Trick, these two put in a fantastic effort with limited funds and deserve our thanks. We get numerous compliments throughout the year and are always excited to see what comes up next.

Thank you both!

### In Memoriam



**Jim Hurford 2/20/47 - 2/3/21**

It is with heavy hearts we mention the passing of our Board President, Jimmy Hurford, after a lengthy battle with Cancer. We will always remember Jim's infectious energy and passion for the commercial fishing industry. May the good lord judge him big enough to keep!

False Creek Harbour  
Authority -  
Fishermen's Wharf

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**No Longer Available**

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### Boating Info During the Ongoing Quarantine

We have been committed to remaining open while still taking as many steps as possible to protect our Employees and Users from harm during the pandemic. Here in the big city, this may seem natural, but in smaller and more remote communities, each facility has had to take a long hard look at how they operate and what services they can offer to the boating public while preserving the health and safety of their communities. As such, you should expect that this cruising season will be much like last year. Extra planning will be required to see if you will be welcome at your favourite stop on the coast, and if they are accepting guests there may still be barriers in the community. The US border is still currently closed to all recreational travel and there have been no indications this is going to change any time soon.

Plan accordingly and be safe out there.

Here are a few links to some resources regarding facilities on the coast for both recreational and commercial boaters and what to expect when out on the water or selling your catch this summer:

- Facility Access Restrictions - <http://waggonerguide.com/covid-19/>
- DFO Covid Guidelines for Fisheries Workers - <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/covid19/industry-industrie/index-eng.html>
- Updates from Ministry of Agriculture - <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/covid-19-response>