

# TIDAL CURRENTS



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am finally settling in to the usual routine after a busy February and March. The 2018 HAABC Seminar was a success and the Board of Directors is already starting to plan for next year. We take the results of our surveys and requests from the membership to help us develop our agenda and workshops. Please contact Seija Laukkanen or your zone rep if you have a topic or an idea you would like to see addressed at next year's Seminar. I hope all who attended learned something new or picked up an idea from someone else; after all our mandate is "to maintain effective communication between Harbour Authorities through information exchange, networking and education." The location of next year's Seminar has not been confirmed yet, but I encourage you to start planning and budgeting. We welcome the attendance of both staff and directors.

Moving forward the Board of Directors will be implementing the new Contribution Agreement with Small Craft Harbours and creating a plan on how to deliver our objectives. These objectives include training, mentoring, legal assistance, policy development and communications. Our mentoring program has assisted many harbours in developing best management practices, policies and maintenance programs. We look forward to working with some First Nations along the coast who are interested in becoming new Harbour Authorities. If you feel like you have strength in a particular area and would like to mentor other Harbour Authorities, please contact Seija. We can always use more mentors. Our Legal Assistance program is helping Harbour Authorities tackle some tough issues. Lawyers can be intimidating. If your Harbour Authority has an issue that needs some legal advice contact Seija before calling a lawyer. We can help.

I have had the pleasure of visiting a few Harbour Authorities and assisting them with the development of a maintenance program. Protecting harbour infrastructure is key to the long term viability of a Harbour Authority. A simple dock walk, an inspection and a review of the Harbour Authorities maintenance program is all that is usually needed to assess the programs effectiveness.

Your zone rep will be contacting all Harbour Authorities over the next month, to plan our next round of zone meetings. If you have an issue you would like to see on the zone meeting agenda, contact Seija. These meetings continue to be a great opportunity to meet Harbour Authority staff and directors from your area. We will try to include some training whenever possible. The HAABC offers training in Oil Spill Response, Fire Training, Workplace Hazardous Materials Informations Systems (WHMIS), Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG), First Aid, Radio Operators and many others.

I look forward to getting out to as many Harbour Authorities as possible over the summer months and meeting the staff and directors.

Thank you,

Robert Clarke  
HAABC President

[directoratlarge@haa.bc.ca](mailto:directoratlarge@haa.bc.ca)



## 2018 SEMINAR RECAP

Thank you to the Sooke Harbour Authority for being the host harbour for this year's seminar. One of the highlights included a visit from Denise Frenette, the Director General, Small Craft Harbours, and Bonnie Antcliffe, the Associate Regional Director General, Small Craft Harbours, Pacific Region. It was great to have the support of Karen Calla, the Regional Director, Small Craft Harbours, Pacific Region and a large contingent from the Small Craft Harbours Pacific Region. Guests from the Central and Arctic Region attended to share information and we had our friend Edwin McKie from Prince Edward Island attend.



The agenda was full, full, full. The hopes of having such a jam packed agenda is to appeal to as many of our members' needs as possible. One of the favourites was a presentation from Dr. Vic Murray on Board Governance and Effectiveness. Always well attended, were the legal presentations by Darren Williams. It always seems like there is never enough time during his question and answer periods, but he still manages to respond to each inquiry. In the mix of the agenda was an informative and thorough presentation from the Campbell River Harbour Authority on Policy Development. Amy Lashek from ADL Consulting gave us a presentation on Risk Analysis and Management Protocols. With so many new members there were many information sessions on "the basics" of the HAABC, SCH, PRHAAC, NHAAC and HAC. All of these were very

informative and will continue to be a part of our program. Marie Burgess gave us her last presentation on Environmental Management Planning, but she brought her successor Amanda Madro with her. The HAABC looks forward to more workshops from her as these are always very popular with our members.

A major part of the seminar is networking and there were a couple of fun sessions that allowed people to mingle and meet new contacts. The Port Edward Harbour Authority hosted the Murder Mystery Evening, which was a fun event for those that attended. Thank you to the many that embraced their characters, it was good for many laughs. The host harbour tour was a nice afternoon break (and included a wee bit of sun) which took members to the Sooke Government Dock for a tour of the facility, which include the Royal Canadian Marine Search And Rescue station. From there, guests were taken to the Sooke Region Museum for an informative tour of the Moss Cottage and Triangle Island Light House. The final evening was filled with our banquet, some time to relax and socialize and topped off with karaoke and dancing.

Small Craft Harbours presented Regional Distinction Awards to the following:

Garrett Newkirk - Bella Coola Harbour Authority  
Dwayne Nielsen - Dodge Cove Harbour Authority  
Ron Gates - Delkatla Slough Harbour Authority  
Ben Maberley - Whaler Bay Harbour Authority

**Congratulations to all of the award recipients!**



## **Congratulations to Seyem' Qwantlen Harbour Authority on being the 2016 Prix d'Excellence recipient!**

**Sooke, British Columbia** - The Prix d'Excellence is one of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's most prestigious awards, honouring teams and individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the success of the Department's Harbour Authority Program for small craft harbours.

Harbour Authorities are responsible for the day-to-day harbour operations. They have strong links to the fishing industry, a cornerstone of our Canadian culture and economy, which depends on safe, accessible and well-managed harbours.

Denise Frenette, Director General, Small Craft Harbours Program, on behalf of the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, presented a 2016 Prix d'Excellence in the category of National Harbour Authority Achievement to the Seyem' Qwantlen Harbour Authority.

The Government of Canada is pleased to recognize the volunteer members of the Harbour Authority and their dedication and commitment to the community of Fort Langley in British Columbia.

The Seyem' Qwantlen Harbour Authority was formed in 2013 by the Kwantlen First Nation to manage the McMillan Island small craft harbour in Fort Langley. It has demonstrated success in several areas, including significantly improving harbour safety and operations through actions such as increasing commercial fishing moorage, upgrading security systems and installing signage. In support of its long-term plan for the harbour and surrounding area, the Harbour Authority is also negotiating with provincial agencies to remediate the former Translink ferry terminal in the adjacent water lot.

The Harbour Authority has demonstrated exceptional harbour management skills and strong leadership while proactively planning for the future of its harbour, its users and local community.

### **Quotes**

"I am very pleased to recognize the Seyem' Qwantlen Harbour Authority with the National Harbour Authority Achievement award for its incredible and ongoing commitment to those who depend on a safe and secure harbour. Harbour users and the community benefit from its leadership and abilities." Denise Frenette, Director General, Small Craft Harbours Program, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

“We are proud to honour the efforts and accomplishments of the Seyem’ Qwantlen Harbour Authority. Harbour Authorities across Canada are the cornerstone of service delivery for small craft harbours and provide an undeniably high level of service to fish harvesters and other harbour users, which is essential to the livelihoods of Canadians in coastal communities.” The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

“Seyem’ Qwantlen Harbour Authority is extremely honored to receive this award. We are a small Harbour Authority with big dreams, run by volunteers. We work hard to find a balance supporting Kwantlen’s Aboriginal Fisheries and Commercial Fisheries. As Fraser River Salmon runs continue to decline we see the impacts to the fishing community. Seyem’ Qwantlen Harbour Authority is committed to seeking creative ways to maintain Harbour Authority assets for sustainable benefit to the greater community.”

Drew Atkins - Lands & Resources, Seyem’ Qwantlen Business Group

## **ZONE MEETING SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ZONE</b>	<b>MEETING LOCATION</b>
April 25th	Sunshine Coast	Lund HA (Laughing Oyster)
April 26th	Mid Island	Comox Valley HA
April 27th	North Island	Port McNeill HA
April 30th	Lower Mainland	Steveston HA
May 1st	South Island	Ladysmith HA
TBD	North Coast	

Agendas will be sent out prior to the zone meetings. Please get in touch with Seija or your zone director if you would like any topics addressed on the agenda.

### **ZONE DIRECTORS:**

Sunshine Coast	Darlene Denholm	<a href="mailto:sunshinecoast@haa.bc.ca">sunshinecoast@haa.bc.ca</a>
Mid Island	Gail Davis	<a href="mailto:jagada@shaw.ca">jagada@shaw.ca</a>
North Island	Robert Clarke	<a href="mailto:directoratlarge@haa.bc.ca">directoratlarge@haa.bc.ca</a>
Lower Mainland	Mike Loy	<a href="mailto:manager@falsecreek.com">manager@falsecreek.com</a>
South Island	Janet Rooke	<a href="mailto:tha@shawcable.com">tha@shawcable.com</a>
North Coast	Keri Weick	<a href="mailto:northcoast@haa.bc.ca">northcoast@haa.bc.ca</a>

### **Did you know?**

The Pacific Region includes the province of British Columbia and the transboundary northern rivers the Yukon. It encompasses more than 27,000 kilometres of coastline and 105 river systems. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is responsible for management and protection of marine resources on the Canadian west coast in addition to inland salmon fisheries.

**HAABC LEGAL FUND:** Funds are available for HAs that require legal consultation. In order to make sure that the funds are used fairly and appropriately we ask that you follow the proper steps to get the legal assistant that your HA needs. The steps will be:

1. Contact the HAABC office for approval.
2. The HAABC office will send authorization to the marine law office of your choice.
3. Once approved, contact the law office for your consultation.

You must get approval from the HAABC office before proceeding so that we can account for the budget. In most cases, your HA will be able to get approval. Scenarios that may be denied are a HA using the fund for the same issue multiple times, or an HA not contacting the HAABC office before seeking consultation.

Please call Seija at 250-339-3970 for more information and how this program may assist with any legal issues your HA is facing.

## **COMOX VALLEY HARBOUR AUTHORITY NEWS**

Winter is over and it's time to look forward to summer. The Comox Valley Harbour Authority has just finished another Roe Herring Fishery and it was a busy one. With over 70 extra boats and 32 extra herring skiffs in the harbour for a couple weeks it is now repair and clean-up time. We are looking forward to the spring months to paint and prepare for the busy summer. Our facility empties in the summer as most of our commercial vessels travel North and West and some go South. Upcoming projects for the Comox Valley Harbour Authority include the installation of security cameras. Thanks Mark from Blanchard Security! We will also purchase new washers and dryers and some wharfhead guard rail replacement. We are also working on a staff training plan which includes enrolling in some University of Alaska South-East courses as well as bullying and harassment awareness training, as required by Worksafe BC. During the summer months we see approximately 3000 transient boats come through. The BC Seafood Festival ([www.bcseafoodfestival.com](http://www.bcseafoodfestival.com)) is hosted in the City of Courtenay every year, and the CVHA puts on tours of our facility to educate the public on the life of a fisherman, the costs associated with being a fisherman as well as explaining the different vessel types and methods of fishing. Each year the event is getting bigger and better. Over the BC Day long weekend the CVHA hosts a Harbour Hole-In-One Competition raising money for Project Watershed. We install a float over a mudflat and set up a tee-box in our parking lot. As the tide comes in our "green" floats and we sell golf balls for your chance at a number of donated prizes. The next morning I cruise the mudflats collecting approximately 1000 balls. If you are around over the BC Day weekend come on down and give it a try!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**OKEOVER HARBOUR AUTHORITY:** The Oyster Farmers in Okeover Inlet are having their annual Inlet Cleanup on Saturday April 28. Every year they have volunteers join them in this whole day event. Anyone interested in joining please call Lynn at 604 414 3787.

### **BC SEAFOOD FESTIVAL WEEKEND June 15 - 17 2018**

Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park, Comox, BC

Don't miss the largest seafood and ocean celebration on the West Coast of Canada! The Signature Weekend will feature the BC Shellfish Growers Assn. Gala Dinner (June 15), and several other ticketed dinners & receptions, plus the Signature Weekend Day Pass events (June 16 & 17) showcasing Chef Demonstrations, new and enhanced competitions, incredible seafood tasting stations, live entertainment and interactive sea-life touch tanks. Each event will be outlined below in more detail.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY SPRING OR SUMMER EVENTS COMING UP, PLEASE POST THEM TO THE FORUM SO THAT WE CAN ALL SEE WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR HARBOUR.**

### **DICK MAUGHAN SCHOLARSHIP - Deadline for Application is June 30, 2018**

Please follow the link for more information or contact Seija at 250-330-3970 or email [contact@haa.bc.ca](mailto:contact@haa.bc.ca)

<http://haa.bc.ca/dick-maughan-scholarship/>



## TALK ON THE DOCK

The following articles are current news releases from the Government of Canada that are important to the Pacific Region.

### **Small Craft Harbours Abandoned and Wrecked Vessels Removal Program**

Overview

In November 2016, Canada launched a \$1.5 billion national Oceans Protection Plan. The plan aims to:

- protect Canada's marine environment;
- improve marine safety and responsible shipping; and
- offer new possibilities for Indigenous and coastal communities.

The plan includes a comprehensive program to reduce abandoned and wrecked vessels and to minimize the associated risks of environmental harm.

The Government of Canada has launched 2 programs to address legacy vessels of concern: Transport Canada's Abandoned Boats Program, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' Small Craft Harbours (SCH) Abandoned and Wrecked Vessels Removal Program.

#### Program summary

The SCH Abandoned and Wrecked Vessels Removal Program will provide up to \$1.325 million over 5 years to Harbour Authorities and other eligible recipients to remove and dispose of abandoned and/or wrecked vessels located in small craft harbours owned by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Eligible recipients may receive up to 100% of their total eligible costs for gaining legal possession of a vessel and for assessing the cost of removal and disposal of the vessel, and up to 75% for activities to undertake the removal and disposal of an abandoned and wrecked vessel in a small craft harbour.

Follow this link to find out more about the program

<http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sch-ppb/vessels-bateaux/index-eng.html>

Follow this link to check out some completed projects with this program

<http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sch-ppb/vessels-bateaux/projects-projets/index-eng.html>

## **Government of Canada provides new funding to protect whales through the Oceans Protection Plan**

### **News Release**

**From: [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#)**

**Ottawa, Ontario** – The Southern Resident Killer Whale is one of Canada's most iconic species and faces threats including environmental contaminants. The Government of Canada is investing in science to aid in its protection and recovery.

Under the Oceans Protection Plan, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, today announced an additional \$72,000 to support the Vancouver Aquarium's PollutionTracker, a monitoring program that will help identify the sources of contaminants in British Columbia's marine environment. In total, the Government of Canada has contributed approximately \$470,000 towards the implementation of this program.

Minister LeBlanc also announced the release of the [What We Heard report on the Southern Resident Killer Whale Symposium](#) held in Vancouver, British Columbia in October 2017. The report outlines the main ideas put forward by experts from Canadian and U.S. governments, academia, environmental non-governmental

organizations, industry and Indigenous communities during the 3-day symposium. Suggestions were provided in four key areas: Prey Availability; Contaminants and the Food Web; Noise and Physical Disturbance; and Integrative Action.

For the 2018 salmon fishing season, the Department will take additional fishery management measures to increase chinook availability in key Southern Resident Killer Whale foraging areas within their Critical Habitat. These measures will be designed to increase access to the whales' food supply and to reduce physical and acoustic disturbance from commercial and recreational fishing activities. DFO will be engaging with stakeholders on these new measures in the near future.

The Department will implement these measures on a trial basis in 2018. Monitoring of these key foraging areas will be designed to assess the effectiveness of proposed measures and build in flexibility to make adjustments as required for longer-term fisheries management measures to benefit Southern Resident Killer Whales.

The Department is also undertaking work to increase critical habitat for Southern Resident Killer Whales to include important winter foraging habitat off the West Coast of Vancouver Island in and around Swiftsure Bank.

Helped by the concrete suggestions put forward during the symposium, and building on extensive science work and consultation, the Government of Canada is working hard to lay out a path forward for the Southern Resident Killer Whale with key actions for the immediate and longer term.

#### **Quotes**

“Our Government is making significant investments into real tools to help our endangered whales. We look forward to continued collaboration with all sectors to protect and recover this iconic species.”

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., Q.C., M.P., Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

#### **Quick Facts**

- The \$1.5 billion Oceans Protection Plan is the largest investment ever made to protect Canada's coasts and waterways. Through this plan, the Government of Canada is creating a world-leading marine safety system that provides economic opportunities for Canadians today, while protecting our coasts and waterways for generations to come. This work is being done in close collaboration with Indigenous peoples, local stakeholders and coastal communities.
- The Southern Resident Killer Whale is listed as an endangered species under Canada's Species At Risk Act, and faces threats to recovery including reductions in the availability and quality of prey, physical and acoustic disturbance, and environmental contaminants.
- In October, the Government of Canada announced \$7.2 million in funding to support the increased use of world-renowned digital hydrophone and oceanographic technologies which will benefit our coastal environment and will help us better understand the underwater acoustic environment and inform mitigation strategies to protect marine mammals, including killer whales.



- In August, we announced \$388,000 in funding to the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to support a Vessel Slowdown Trial in Haro Strait, B.C. – an important summer feeding area for the Southern Resident Killer Whale. The Government of Canada has been working closely with the Vancouver-Fraser Port Authority’s Enhancing Cetacean Habitat and Observation (ECHO) Program to conduct these studies and the results are being analyzed.

## **Government announces new initiatives to protect whales under the Oceans Protection Plan**

### **News release**

**From: [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#)**

**Vancouver, British Columbia** - The Government of Canada is committed to protecting the iconic Southern Resident Killer Whale. As part of the Oceans Protection Plan, an historic \$1.5-billion investment to make our coasts healthier, safer, and better protected, the government is taking action to protect marine mammals.

Today, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, announced \$9.1 million in new science funding to develop and test technologies able to detect the presence of whales. The ability to capture near real-time information could help alert mariners of whales in a particular area, reducing the risk of collisions.

Minister LeBlanc also announced over \$3.1 million for four research projects to study the impacts of underwater noise and reduced availability of prey on marine mammals including the Southern Resident Killer Whale.

- The University of British Columbia will receive \$1.1 million to examine how changes in the food web in areas of the Southern Resident Killer Whale affect the abundance and quality of Chinook Salmon, which is the whale’s primary food source.
- Ocean Wise will receive over \$942,000 for a comprehensive health and condition assessment of Southern and Northern Resident Killer Whale populations to better understand the impact of environmental stressors, particularly noise and prey limitation.
- The University of Victoria will receive over \$935,000 to better understand the behaviour and vulnerabilities of Southern Resident Killer Whales and their prey.
- The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority will receive \$200,000 to continue operating the underwater listening station in the Strait of Georgia, measuring and monitoring noise levels from commercial vessels and the presence of Southern Resident Killer Whales in the Salish Sea.

In addition to these significant investments under the Oceans Protection Plan, Budget 2018 includes \$167.4 million over five years to help protect and recover endangered whale species in Canada, notably the Southern Resident Killer Whale, the North Atlantic Right Whale and the St. Lawrence Estuary Beluga. This includes funding for science activities to help better understand factors affecting the health of whale populations, as well as actions to help address the threats arising from human activities.

This Budget 2018 investment builds on a science-based review undertaken by Fisheries and Oceans in 2017 which engaged governments, Indigenous groups, stakeholders and the public on how to further protect the North Atlantic Right Whale, the St Lawrence Estuary Beluga and the Southern Resident Killer Whale. Feedback received during the engagement informed planning and decision making for enhanced recovery efforts for these whale populations, The “[What We Heard Report](#)” is now available online.

The \$1.5 billion Oceans Protection Plan is the largest investment ever made to protect Canada’s coasts and waterways. Through this plan, the Government of Canada is creating a world-leading marine safety system that provides economic opportunities for Canadians today, while protecting our coasts and waterways for generations to come. This work is being done in close collaboration with Indigenous peoples, local stakeholders and coastal communities.

**Seija’s Closing Notes:** Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. Sometimes when we are busy, we push things like this to the side. I am hoping that the info in this newsletter and future editions will be relevant and important to you. I appreciate any feedback that you can give me to continue on making this a valuable tool for you. Cheers!

