

# Tidal Currents

September 2025

The latest news, views, and announcements

## INSIDE

---



### Warehouse Lien Act

Update on the new Commercial Liens Act

---

Greetings HAABC Members!

September came quickly this year, so i hope I'm not the only one who can't believe we're moving into autumn already. Give yourselves a pat on the back, you did it. Here is to surviving the busy season!

### Zone Meeting Dates

Save the date for your Fall Zone Meetings!

---

Your Harbour Authority Association board representatives have been plugging away since our Spring address, and the past few months have presented many hurdles. Our latest triumph has been signing a new Contribution Agreement (CA) with the Small Craft Harbours branch of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Pacific Region (SCH-DFO). Our thanks go out to Terri Bonnett and the SCH-DFO team for their support in achieving this!! We have many new faces that have joined us over the period of the past Agreement, so I would like to take a moment to summarize this pivotal agreement and what it means for all of us HAABC members.

### Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2025 Dick Maughan Memorial Scholarship Recipients

---

The Contribution Agreement is a contract between SCH-DFO and the HAABC that provides funding to our organization in exchange for successfully reaching pre-stated milestones of interaction with our membership. For example, our Spring and Fall zone meetings are a required event that facilitates communication between Harbour Authorities, the Association, and SCH-DFO. All of our roving training courses receive funding as well, such as Fire Training, Spill Response, and smaller training courses like WHMIS and First Aid.

### Upcoming Conferences

Updates on the upcoming HAABC seminar

This funding is combined with HAABC funds in a predetermined split (typically 80% of the money comes from the CA, 20% comes from HAABC annual membership dues). These Federal dollars support and amplify our programs and are essential to the way we operate the HAABC. Without the CA, the HAABC would not be able to employ a full-time administrator, which would shift a huge burden onto the shoulders of the volunteers that make up this board.

Long story short, if we didn't have the CA, this organization would look very different.

The reason I highlight this successful agreement signing is that the process this year was very different from past signings. A Federal election was called in March which hampered the ability of SCH-DFO to execute the agreement, and the resulting negotiations and edits dragged through the Summer. This period of time brought the question to the forefront of my mind: What would the HAABC look like without these Federal funding dollars?

If you keep up with the news you will already know that international geopolitical events have kept this question highlighted on my To-Do lists. Some day soon we may need to quickly action a plan to run this organization by ourselves in a manner akin to how it operated in the early 2000s. Having a plan before that point will be the

## Tidal Currents

---

difference between stripping down the HAABC to bare bones and successfully making the leap into a fully financially independent association.

To this end, I'm posing questions to you now that will inform many decisions in the coming years. Information is critical to our long term success, so please give the following some thought so that we can discuss them at the Fall zone meetings (schedule of zone meetings follows in this newsletter).

*What are the core functions of the HAABC in your mind? What programs do you rely on us for? Which of our operations do you see the most benefit from, and which may be difficult to find and deliver for your harbour on the strength of your own organization?*

Now that the CA is signed and filed, the board has turned our attention to the planning of the 2026 Seminar. We are way behind our usual process for the reasons stated above, but we hope to deliver one heck of an event. More news on this to follow!

Thank you to all the membership for your support and engagement. You truly are the lifeblood of this organization that I have come to be so proud of. Keep up the good work, and I hope to see you all for the 2026 Seminar!

Cheers,

- Chris Lougheed (he/him/his)

I am honoured that I live and work on the unceded territory of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation).



---

## Tidal Currents

---

### 2026 HAABC Seminar:

Seminar 2026 will be held in Richmond. Get ready for another amazing week of information, networking and fun. Ensure your attendance at the Zone Meetings to learn more about this team building event.

---

### The HAABC 2025 Board of Directors and Executive are:

**Chris Lougheed**, President and Sunshine Coast Director, GLHA

**Anika Tarata**, VP and North Coast Zone Director, PHHA

**Catherine Lee-Smith**, Secretary/Treasurer and Lower Mainland Zone Director, HAS

**Jean Miserendino**, Director at Large. FCHA

**Janet Rooke**, South Island Zone Director, THA

**Cecilia Addy**, Mid Island Zone Director, PAPA

**Keri Dybhavn**, North Coast Zone Director, PEHA

## Fall Zone Meeting Dates

**We will be having hybrid meetings again, a combination of live and virtual. Links and agendas will be sent 2 weeks prior and again 2-4 days prior as a reminder and to accommodate any agenda changes. Let us know if you are attending live to ensure your lunch order!**

Sept 23-26 North Coast in Masset tba


October 7<sup>th</sup> - North Island in Port McNeill

October 8<sup>th</sup> - Mid Island in French Creek

October 15<sup>th</sup> - Sunshine Coast in Powell River

October 21<sup>st</sup> - Lower Mainland in Squamish

October 22<sup>nd</sup> - South Island in Sidney




**HOP ABOARD!**

**CLEAN BC MARINE**

Working with recreational boaters, marinas and boating facilities to minimize impacts on local waters and coastal communities.

250.753.3459  
GeorgiaStrait.org  
cmbc@georgiastrait.org  
Twitter @CleanMarineBC



**Contribution to this newsletter is open to all and there is a "Submit your Story" on the news and events page of our website**

---



## Dick Maughan Scholarship

**Congratulations to the successful recipients of the 2025 Dick Maughan Scholarship:**

**Mahynour Saleh** is continuing her Master's degree in Oceans and Fisheries at UBC. She is passionate about protecting our waters and wants to continue her education to help support fishers and other coastal populations maintain access to their local marine resources.

**William Lea-Smith** is a passionate, life-long boater and is currently attending BCIT in the Nautical Sciences Cadet Program while accruing sea hours, with a goal of earning his Captains ticket and pursuing a career as a 'Master Mariner'.

Granted in memory of his contribution to the formation of the Harbour Authority Association of BC, the Dick Maughan Memorial Scholarship is awarded to deserving post-secondary students in BC who are enrolled in, or planning to take a marine based program.

Harbour Authority Association of BC  
Dick Maughan Memorial Scholarship  
**Marine Education \$500**

Interested in a career on the water?  
Are you enrolled or planning to enrol in a BC post-secondary education program in marine education or harbour operations and development?

HARBOUR AUTHORITY ASSOCIATION OF BC  
\$500 Scholarship awarded annually in memory of Dick Maughan in recognition of his contributions to the formation of the Harbour Authority Association of BC  
Deadline for application: June 30  
To apply visit [www.haa.bc.ca](http://www.haa.bc.ca)

**Aqua Can Floatation Ltd.**

604-315-8000



The perfect floatation choice for environmentally friendly, durable, and easy to maintain floatation **without Styrofoam.**



100% Canadian owned and manufactured, look no further for your floatation device needs! Contact us today for a free quote.

[www.aquacanfloatation.com](http://www.aquacanfloatation.com)

604-315-8000  
[aquacan2006@gmail.com](mailto:aquacan2006@gmail.com)

### Spill Response video:

Rob Clarke and Component Media are currently working on a new training video for the HAABC. This video will cover spill kit items and how to deploy a boom. Watch for that coming in late fall.



### **New BC Commercial Liens Act:**

Darren Williams is almost ready to share a new moorage agreement template and memo for HA's to use. A deeper look into the Commercial Liens Act will be their presentation at the next seminar. Don't miss that and be on watch for the new template to be shared through the forum.

New rules will make it easier for businesses to collect debts for services they provide to repair, store or transport goods.

The new Commercial Liens Act came into force on June 30, 2025, creating one clear set of lien rules for anyone who repairs, stores or transports goods. It replaces a patchwork of outdated laws, which created different rules for different services.

The change reduces risks and costs, meaning service providers will be less likely to lose their liens and the payment that liens secure. Updated rules and processes that are easier to understand benefit businesses and their customers.

Once in force, the act gives service providers flexibility by allowing them to keep possession of goods or to register the lien in B.C.'s Personal Property Registry. This allows owners to keep using their vehicle or equipment to make money and pay off the debt. It means that liens can be registered on big items that cannot be easily moved or stored.

The Personal Property Registry, an online system that tracks legal claims on personal property, will be updated on June 30 to so that commercial liens can be registered.

The changes will also make it easier to enforce liens without going to court, which helps businesses get paid and cuts legal costs.

The act replaces the Repairers Lien Act, Warehouse Lien Act and Livestock Lien Act. Any existing liens under those acts will continue as commercial liens.

The changes respond to the B.C. Law Institute's recommendation to follow Saskatchewan's lead in adopting the Uniform Liens Act. It uses similar rules used by secured lenders across Canada to collect on loans against personal property.

This brings B.C. closer to the goal of having one set of lien rules across Canada so businesses that provide services in different provinces do not have to keep track of different rules.





# COASTAL MARINE

## MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

Coastal Marine Maintenance and Repairs offers full service Marine Structure Repairs and Harbour Maintenance Service packages. From new construction to wharf heads, decking and floatation we can take care of any harbour repairs or maintenance project. Contact [Rob@coastalmarine.ca](mailto:Rob@coastalmarine.ca)

# Desolation Dive Services<sup>LTD</sup>

### **Proud New HAABC Associate Member - Desolation Dive Services**

We're excited to have recently joined the Harbour Authority Association of BC as an Associate Member and to share some of our recent work with the HAABC community.

This spring, our team led a **significant seafloor cleanup at Lund Harbour**, removing a large volume of debris to improve safety and protect the marine environment. We also completed **mooring line inspections for the Port Hardy Harbour Authority**. Over the summer, we responded to numerous calls from recreational boaters and yachters in need—freeing vessels tangled in debris, retrieving lost anchors, refloating boats stranded at low tide, clearing lines from propellers, and performing in-water hull cleanings.

We're proud to provide services that support harbour operations and the wider marine community, including search & recovery, inspections & surveys, ROV services, mooring and anchor line assessments and installations, aquaculture maintenance, seafloor cleanups, and a range of custom marine projects. From preventative maintenance to emergency response, our goal is to help keep BC's harbours safe, functional, and ready for all who rely on them. [Desolationdiveservices.ca](http://Desolationdiveservices.ca)

+1 (778) 678-0929