

CLI Presentation to the Tsawwassen Legion

On Thursday 1st June CLI received a cheque for \$5,000.00 from the Tsawwassen branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. In return they were presented with a beautifully decorated paddle in gratitude, which will hang prestigiously in the Legion.

In recognition to supporters of the CLI a decorated paddle was created. The paddle displays the CLI crest and has a plaque detailing the event.

Thursday Evening Training



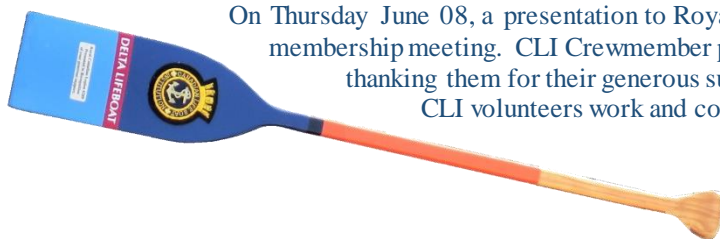
Thursday June 1. Towing is one of the “rescues” the CLI does most often and therefore it is important to do this exercise regularly as a refresher for the experienced and the training of the new crewmembers. The towing exercise was held on the north side of the Fraser River near the BC Ferries Fleet maintenance yard in Richmond. The Fraser Lifeboat was the vessel in need of aid and the Delta Lifeboat provided the tow. Various towing methods are taught, and skills developed, such as heaving line throwing on target. The tows employed in this session began with a stern tow and ended with a alongside tow requiring the rigging of fenders and attaching docking lines.



Once ‘attached’, the Delta performed a number of figure 8 patterns to assess the behaviour of the vessels with the goal of behaving as one vessel. The complicated exercise went well but it did show the crew the mechanics and techniques required to perform a towing operation on the water.

CLI Presentation to the Ladner Legion

On Thursday June 08, a presentation to Royal Canadian Legion Branch 61 (Ladner) was made at their summer break membership meeting. CLI Crewmember presented the Legion with the CLI paddle bearing the CLI crest and plaque thanking them for their generous support to the CLI. The paddle was well received, they were appreciative of CLI volunteers work and commitment in the Delta area.





CLI Supports RNSA Single Handed Race 2023

The 49th annual running of the RNSA (Royal Naval Sailing Association) Single Handed Race was held on Saturday June 3rd and Sunday June 4th, 2023. The weather was perfect with 10-15 knot SE wind on Saturday and 20-25 NW knots on Sunday. 27 yachts were registered, and the 'Delta Lifeboat' deployed as the Safety & Race Committee boat. With a crew of five plus four Race Committee members aboard, 'Delta' has set up both the start line at Point Grey and the finish line at Snake Island (Nanaimo). Only 1 yacht failed to finish within the time limit. 'Delta' monitored the radios as well as a visual watch throughout the race in case of any accidents. A race dinner was held in the Nanaimo yacht club and was enjoyed by all.

The Sunday return race was more of a challenge owing to the stronger winds and 3 yachts retired even before the start, owing to gear failures and one medical situation. 'Delta' again anchored south of the Point Grey bell buoy for the finish. All participants had an exciting return leg with a quartering sea of 4 to 5 feet.

As 'Delta' was preparing to weigh anchor, a Coast Guard Dispatch (CGD) tasking was issued for 'Delta' to assist a 21-foot power boat low on fuel in 5' seas not sure if they could make a safe harbour. The position given was off the North Arm. 'Delta' began to weigh anchor but found it fouled on the bottom. Even though there



was a strong flood tide and a five-foot sea running, 'Delta' worked around 180° with the engine reversing the pull on the anchor. Luckily this worked and the fouled anchor was freed. 'Delta' then proceeded to assist the 21' power boat. Ten minutes later CGD radio advised that the position given was wrong and that the vessel was off Passage Island. 'Delta' changed course for West Vancouver to then being advised the vessel had made into Fisherman's Cove.

'Delta' proceeded to the West Vancouver Yacht Club where the race committee disembarked. Delta returned to Ladner transiting the North Arm to New Westminster and down to Ladner. Good safe deployment by all and some excellent training.

Coast Guard SAR Audit

On Monday 5th June, CLI was visited by the Canadian Coast Guard members who were conducting a national audit of all available Search and Rescue resources. The Fraser Lifeboat was brought over to Ladner in the morning and securing alongside the Delta Lifeboat so both lifeboats could be assessed at the same time. CLI gave an overview of its operations and the capability of CLI as a SAR partner. A presentation consisting of a slide show and film were shown. It was obvious that CLI's approach to accident prevention hit a favourable chord and was welcomed. A tour of both lifeboats gave a more in-depth view of CLI's capability. On conclusion, being included in the audit was clear approval of CLI's contribution to search and rescue and an acknowledgement to CLI volunteers.





Blessing of the Fleet at False Creek

Saturday June 19. The Fraser Lifeboat departed Steveston harbour at 8am to support the Delta Lifeboat at False Creek for the “Blessing of the Fleet”. The Delta had arrived already in False Creek the previous evening due to its RNSA engagements. The weather was cloudy and hazy but the sea was calm. During the trip a simulated electronic chart plotters failure occurred. The charts, compass and GPS coordinates were used to determine position and to steer a course to False Creek. After half an hour and the exercise deemed successful, the equipment became “operational again”.

Between Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and English Bay many vessels were on the water with BC’s kids with Special Needs and their families who were treated to a day of pirate-themed adventure on the high seas at Boat for Hope, a fundraiser in support of Variety – the Children’s Charity. Together the local boating and business community create an unforgettable experience for 450 children, their families and caregivers totaling as many as 1,200 participants. For the hundreds of kids who participate every year, the day is a fun-filled opportunity to get out on the water with marauding pirates never far away and enjoy a barbecue in the park with outdoor activities, games and entertainment.



After maneuvering through all the “pirate” boats the Fraser came alongside the Delta at the Fishermen’s Wharf in False Creek, just in time to receive the blessing of the fleet together with fishermen and other boaters.



Like previous years, there was musical entertainment on the dock with an excellent buffet lunch. CLI presented the harbour master with one of our decorated paddles as a thank you for donations received. While moored at the dock both vessels had open house and crewmembers guided visitors in and around the vessels with their usual enthusiasm. At around 1400 both vessels departed in formation for their journey back to their Lifeboat stations. Our presence was well received by the fishermen, harbour authorities.

Dead Head Hazards



Thursday June 10, dead head clean-up. Dead heads in the Fraser River are a danger to the boating community. They move down river and eventually end up in the Strait of Georgia. Dead heads get embedded in the mud around Ladner Reach and Sea Reach. The dead Heads get trapped in the deeper water usually in the middle of these channels. CLI will mark and at times pull them out of the mud and tow them to a location where they are not a hazard for the boating community. During this Thursday evening training session, Delta crewmembers towed some of these dead heads to safer waters.





Tug on the Rocks near Sand Heads

On Friday June 9 a tug with an experienced skipper going upriver probably lost its maneuverability, while there was a good tidal stream running at high water, and as a result ran aground on the rocks near Sand Heads. Some larger ships were aware and nearby but were not able to render assistance. Eventually it floated off the rocks and towed into Steveston for inspection. No injuries were reported. As mentioned above, CLI trains for these types of towing assists and would assist if nearby.



Amateur Radio Field Day Exercise

On 24 June 2023 the CLI participated in the annual Amateur Radio Field Day exercise. This simulates an emergency where radio equipment is deployed to remote locations, and then radio stations attempt to work as many contacts as possible over a given specified period of time. Are group worked 20 metre digital using FT8 mode. The station ran by solar and battery power, using an ICOM IC7300 radio and 2 buddy pole antennas in a reflector configuration. We managed to work 115 stations across North America. CLI partnerships with Delta Amateur Radio Society. The event concludes with a fabulous BBQ.



AGM Annual General Meeting



The first AGM post COVID was held at the Chinese Bunkhouse at Britannia Shipyards Chinese Bunkhouse in Steveston. The meeting started with pizzas and time to socialize with Society members who haven't seen each other for a while. 25 members, 1 guest and 4 board members attended the meeting. All agenda points were moved, second and approved.

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Delta Spotlight



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Recently the Delta Lifeboat Station received a generous cheque from the Tsawwassen Legion to help with the operating costs of this valuable Ladner based Delta Lifeboat. In return John Horton produced a thank you presentation piece - a paddle with the CLI logo and a thank you plaque for Legion branch 289 in Tsawwassen. Pictured left to right Jodie McDonald, Tanya MacNeill, Ken Harvey from the Legion and Brian Cook and John Horton from Delta Lifeboat.



Ladner Legion Branch No. 61 recently presented a cheque for \$5,000 to the Heron Hospice Society. Pictured left to right: Rob Gardener, Sergeant at Arms, Al Ridgway, Legion president, Brian Reid, legion executive, Wayne Peace, Heron Hospice Society treasurer, Chris Pettypiece, president Heron Hospice Society, Russell Ford, Legion treasurer and Gerry Bramhill, Legion past president.



Norm Sayfy, president and David Bliss, vice president, of TOOB present a cheque for \$3,000 to Shari Barr, Annual Giving Manager from the Delta Community Health Foundation. The Tsawwassen Order of Old Bastards have donated more than \$44,000 since 1995 to support priority needs at the Delta Hospital Campus of Care.

NEWS RN

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LNG protesters target MLA

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"Protect B.C.! Go frack-free! Stop Tilbury LNG!" were some of the chants heard along Steveston's waterfront last Tuesday.

About a dozen community members gathered outside Richmond-Steveston MLA Kelly Greene's office on June 20 to protest the proposed expansion of FortisBC's Tilbury LNG.

The \$3 to \$3.5 billion Phase 2 expansion in Delta will include a new marine jetty and a twelve-fold increase in production capacity.

Municipalities including Richmond, New Westminster and Port Moody, along with local environmental groups have opposed the project, citing potential danger to salmon habitat in the Fraser River Estuary and the risk of accidents and spills with liquefied natural gas (LNG) just across the river from the jet fuel tank farm.

Some protesters were also concerned about the environmental impact caused by fracking, the process used to extract natural gas, as well as potential health concerns for those living near the sites.

Fracking is used in 91 per cent of the province's gas production, which entails pumping gallons of pressurized, chemically treated water into shattered rock formations.

Peter McCartney, spokesperson of the Western Canadian Wilderness Committee and organizer of the event, said the aim of the protest was to urge the provincial and federal governments to reject the project. The marine jetty portion is currently awaiting approval from environment and transportation ministers.

"One of the big reasons we're here is because of the climate impacts of the terminal. This is a fossil fuel expansion in an era where we're already seeing deadly heat waves and record wildfires," said McCartney. "We cannot keep building fossil fuel infrastructure and expect to meet our climate goals."

McCartney told the *Richmond News* Steveston was chosen for the rally because it is



Local resident Dianne Milsom was one of the attendees at the rally. *Vikki Hui photo*

one of the communities at risk.

"If one of the tankers has an accident, it goes right through the area," he explained, adding many community members in the area are opposed to the project as well.

One such community member is Dianne Milsom, who is a supporter of the Wilderness Committee.

"I felt it was important for me to be an active person in this issue. I live here. I also boat up and down the coast. And I understand the huge implications there would be for accidents and fracking itself, the damage that it does to underground supports and to communities," she said. She added that she was thrilled with the turnout from Richmond, which can be "pretty conservative."

Greene voted against the project in 2020 while she was a city councillor, stating it was the "wrong project for here," but has since refused to clarify her position.

Greene's office was not open during the protest, but McCartney told attendees he met with Greene last week.

"She knows that we are out here and that she will be bringing her constituents' opposition to the provincial government," he said.

The *News* reached out to Greene's office for comment but was told she was "away out of town and unavailable for comment."

— With files from Maria Rantanen, Valerie Leung and Chuck Chiang