



Delta Lifboat Boat Show Preparations

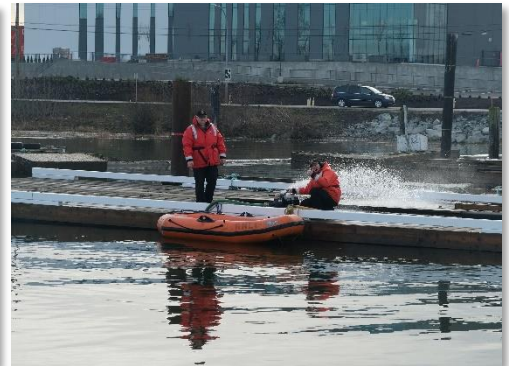
On Saturday January 28 it was all hands on deck to get the Delta in tiptop condition for the upcoming boat show. Vacuuming, mopping, polishing, storing items not needed at the boat show.



Fraser Lifboat on the Water Training

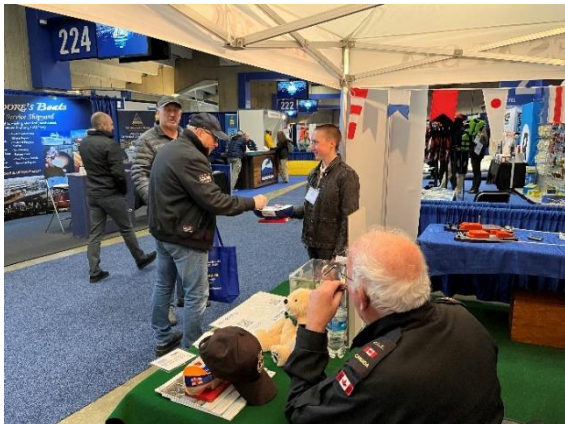
Saturday January 28. The Fraser Lifboat went upriver to practice plotting a route using the TimeZero navigation software and using the information to steer a course thus giving the crew confidence in using our electronic equipment.

At the docks near Shelter Island crewmembers simulated a vessel taking on water and transferred the portable salvage pump to the dock using the X-boat. This was the first time crewmembers used the X-boat to do this and it went very well. All in all, it was a good training day.



Vancouver International Boat Show

Wednesday February 1 – Sunday February 5. On Wednesday the CLI started the show with crewmembers manning the booth at the show in BC Place and the Delta Lifboat at the Show docks. The first day was not overly busy but the crew was still able to collect about \$700.00 in donations. At 6:15 pm John Horton gave a seminar called "Cruising our coast in Captain Vancouver's wake".



Vancouver's wake" which was well attended.



As in previous years, our top fundraiser, Tim, was able to join the crew every day to show us rookies how fundraising was done. Although the crew didn't have a TAP possibility, they did have signs with QR codes for "Canada Helps" and "PayPal". It took some explaining and it was not as easy as tapping, but the crew did in the end get some donations through these 2 organizations.



The second and third day the visitor numbers started to increase as well as the donations. Thursday, the crew collected about \$850.00 and Friday about \$1,250.00. On Friday evening John Horton did another talk called "History and Industry of the Fraser River".





Saturday was the peak day in visitors and donations. The Delta, at dock, received a good number of visitors and at the booth crewmembers heard from many visitors how impressed they were with the Delta. On Sunday, the last day of the show, crewmembers who have been at the show for multiple days were ready to call it a day but kept on informing,



educating, and fundraising till the end. The tally at the end of Sunday was about \$900.00. During the whole show, both the Delta and at the booth, the CLI received a lot of interest of interested in join. We will follow up the coming weeks and hope to see some new faces on the lifeboats. A big thank you to all crewmembers who helped the CLI make this boat show a success.

If you like what we do, donate NOW through:

You can find us on:

Like to JOIN?



pay@cli.vr-sar.org

SAR joint
February
Horton



exercise
by John



Delta and Fraser Lifeboat on Extended Training

Over the years CLI has conducted extended training periods that may run over a weekend or even as longer as 10 days. Such training has proven most valuable and helps develop skills, trust and comradeship between crew members. An extended training period was conducted from 1800 on Friday, 10th February, 2023 until 1630 on Sunday, 12th February, 2023.



The Delta and Fraser Lifeboats sailed in company on the 10th of February for Howe Sound. Night operations were conducted en route which included watch keeping, navigation and negotiating considerable commercial traffic. Both lifeboats secured at 2200 alongside Gibsons for the night. Accommodation ashore was arranged for Fraser's crew courtesy of the RCMSAR unit 14 for which CLI is most grateful.





Saturday February 11th and all victualing was provided aboard Delta. A full program was planned with joint training conducted with the Coast Guard hovercraft Moytel.

The following exercises were conducted successfully:

1. Recovery of a person in the water by both lifeboats followed by transfer of the patient by stretcher to the hovercraft.
2. Transfer of a tow from the hovercraft to each of the lifeboats in turn. This exercise was to assist crews understand the manoeuvres required as this must sometimes be done in the Fraser River when there is limited sea room.
3. Both lifeboats secured alongside the hovercraft for a multi vessel search pattern briefing. This also gave crew members a chance to tour the hovercraft.
4. The lifeboats formed up with the hovercraft and practiced maneuvering and station keeping in company that simulated a multi vessel search. This went very smoothly and underlined the fact that the protocols and orders for maneuvering developed by CLI really work well.

On conclusion of the morning's training the hovercraft returned to base. Sincere thanks go to our Coast Guard colleagues for their participation and help in these worthwhile exercises.

Following an excellent debrief and lunch, the afternoon's training with both lifeboats involved conducting shoreline searches. For some crew members this was totally new exercise. Also, on Saturday both lifeboats practiced taking each other in an alongside tow and docking the towed vessel. Learning how to maneuver with another vessel secured alongside takes practice but is an essential maneuver that CLI is often called upon to do.



Another early start on Sunday the 12th prepared the crews for training in company with the RCM SAR 14 zodiac. Just before 0900 the lifeboats were tasked (for exercise) to a latitude and longitude position off Keats Island where a kayaker was reported missing. Arriving on scene Delta was instructed to conduct an expanding box search while Fraser set up a barrier search. With subject located RCM SAR 14 practiced recovering a victim from the water. After recovery the RHIB went alongside Delta where the patient was hoisted aboard in a stretcher using the boom.

RCM SAR 14 also conducted a pacing exercise with Fraser followed by an alongside towing exercise. Following debriefs and coffee aboard the Delta, RCM SAR 14 returned to base with our grateful thanks for all their help and participation.

With lunch completed by 12:30 both lifeboats sailed independently for their bases in the Fraser River. Training continued en route. Both lifeboats were secured by 16:30 and CLI's volunteer crews were able to go ashore well pleased with what had been achieved and lessons learned. All crew members performed well and proved they are up to the task. Special thanks must go to the new recruits involved who showed great keenness and a willingness to learn.

All planned events were carried out safely and efficiently and once again the value of such extended training was clearly demonstrated.

