



## Emergency Preparedness Week at Delta City Hall

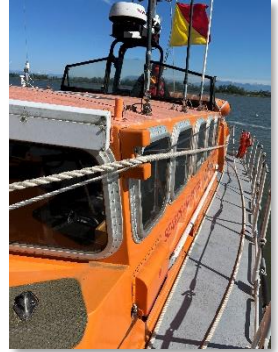
The week of Monday May 6<sup>th</sup> was declared Emergency Preparedness Week and CLI was invited to include an educational display along with the Delta fire department. CLI's Brian Cook was in attendance to pass out info to interested parties in Delta's City Hall.

A Statement from the Emergency Management Office (EMO); An emergency or disaster can occur anytime, anywhere. An earthquake, flood, power outage, and severe weather incidents are just some of the possibilities. Through the Delta Emergency Management Office, Delta strives to be a prepared community, ready to respond to disaster or emergency. With the help of Delta Fire & Emergency Services, Delta Police and Delta's Engineering, and Parks, Recreation and Culture departments, the Emergency Management Office plans, prepares and coordinates response in the event of an emergency. The CLI's Delta Lifeboat is a participating partner of city of Delta's EMO. For further information on emergency preparedness, please contact the Emergency Management Office at 604-952-3111 or by email [emergencyprogram@delta.ca](mailto:emergencyprogram@delta.ca)

## Fraser Lifeboat Training

On Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> Fraser Lifeboat practiced stern anchoring for situations where the crew must do a beach or shore rescue and extraction. The small navy anchor was used to see if there was sufficient grip to winch off from beaching. By using the bollard and safety cable guide located at the wheelhouse the anchor rode was brought from the stern to the winch on the bow. This setup worked really well but the small anchor was dragging in the mud and it was not possible to pull the Fraser from the shore. The plow anchor should be used as it has more holding power for this situation.

While beached, a shore extraction was done with the 'Oscar' our dummy and a stretcher. The shore was high enough to make this extraction work from the bow but it should be noted, when there would be a greater difference in height a ladder would be a needed for the crew to get the stretcher with casualty on the boat.



If you like what we do, donate NOW through:

You can find us on:

Like to JOIN?





## RVYC Sail Past

On Saturday, 11th May the Delta Lifeboat transited to English Bay to participate in the annual Royal Vancouver Yacht Clubs (RVYC) Sail Past. After forming up in the special group, the Delta Lifeboat sailed past the new Commodore dipping the ensign in salute. Following the Sail Past 'Delta' proceeded into False Creek to "show the flag".

Later, while departing False Creek, 'Delta' was tasked to assist a 30' sailing vessel disabled in English Bay. Arriving on scene 20 minutes later the vessel was found at anchor with a crab line fouling its propeller. The vessel was anchored approximately 75' off an anchored deep-sea ship, which, if it had swung on the tide, could have collided with the sailing vessel.

'Delta' was soon ready to pass a tow which was quickly done. Taking the strain helped the sailing vessel crew weigh anchor by hand. The vessel was then towed to the Heather Street Marina, where it was successfully secured.



During the tow it was alarming to note that one powerboat crossed close ahead of the Delta and a sailing vessel attempted to come between the Delta and towed sailboat and had to be warned off as they would have fouled the tow line!!!



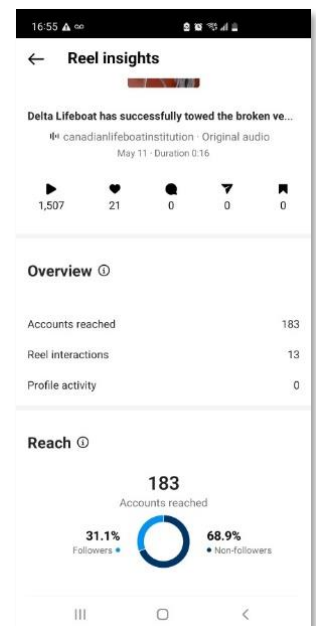
(Demonstrating poor situational awareness on behave of these boaters!)

## Instagram Posts

On Saturday a posting of a video on Instagram of the sailboat tow. On Sunday afternoon the statistics shown on the right were shared. It does show that the CLI does reach people when action videos are posted. Thank you, Monika, for the posting and the statistics.

## Northern Lights

On Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> Vancouver was treated to the beautiful Northern Lights due to a solar storm. The photo on the left was captured by a crew member looking over English Bay. According to the news the Northern Lights would also be visible on Saturday night so hopping for a repeat performance, A crew was gathered for a safety patrol along the river in case other boaters had decided on a nighttime cruise. Delta lifeboat departed at 10pm from the Ladner Station. While underway many huge logs were seen drifting in the river. Unfortunately, no Northern Lights were observed.



## Port Authority Briefing

Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup>. The Vancouver Port Authority invited CLI's to attend a briefing at its Annacis Island office to discuss escort duties in the Fraser River. The discussion was to ensure all protocols are understood and followed and that future patrols conducted by CLI continue to be safe and productive. It is recognized that over the years CLI has 'written the book' on how to conduct escort duties in the Fraser.



## Safe Boating Day

2024 Safe Boating Day was held at Granville Island on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May. Hosted by the Vancouver Port Authority (VPA), vessels from Coast Guard, VPA, RCMP, Vancouver Police and Vancouver Fire, Coast Guard Aux. and Canadian Lifeboat Institution were invited to attend. 'Delta Lifeboat' transited to False Creek to join in the event and tell CLI's story.

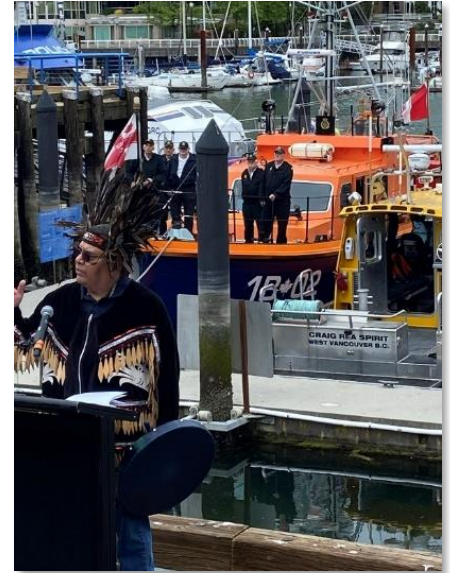
From [www.portvancouver.com](http://www.portvancouver.com) Vancouver, B.C.: National Safe Boating Awareness Week will

kick off in Vancouver this Thursday, May 16, with an event at Granville Island that will help boaters, recreational water users and paddlers stay safe on local waterways. Vancouver is home to some of Canada's most picturesque and busy waterways—with countless recreational users sharing the space with the approximately 3,000 deep-sea vessels that call the Port of Vancouver annually. As the federal agency responsible for the shared stewardship of the waters that make up the Port of Vancouver, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's mandate includes ensuring safe and efficient movement of marine traffic on port waters.

"Our focus every day is on creating a safe shared space for the countless recreational and commercial vessels that operate in the waters that make up Canada's busiest port," said Jason Krott, manager, marine operations and fleet, at the port authority. "This can include everything from escorting deep-sea vessels through congested waterways to educating recreational boaters and paddlers about the need to stay clear of large ships to their limited visibility, slower stopping speeds and potential wakes."

The port authority is partnering with the Canadian Safe Boating Council to host this year's inaugural Granville Island water safety event, which will also include the Vancouver Police Department, Canadian Coast Guard, Boating BC, Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue, Transport Canada and ICBC. The event will feature an on-water demonstration by first responders, information booths with the latest safety tips for local waterways, as well as the chance to talk to local marine responders and see response vessels such as the port authority's Takaya harbour patrol boat up close. Every year the port authority's harbour patrol team educates hundreds of recreational users in Burrard Inlet and the Fraser River on safety considerations and local rules, such as speed limits and the importance of staying clear of deep-sea vessels.

"It's not difficult to have an enjoyable and safe start to your summer," said Ian Gilson, director of the Canadian Safe Boating Council. "By behaving responsibly on the water, ensuring you have the proper safety equipment aboard and limiting your alcohol consumption so after you arrive back at the dock, you can truly enjoy this upcoming boating season."



## Fraser Beaching Exercise Follow-up

While practicing beaching on Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> it was noticed that it was challenge to get off and on the Fraser from the bow, depending on the tide and shore. David got permission to get a telescopic ladder and today it was tested in Sea Reach. The ladder works well and can also be used as a guide when getting someone in the stretcher back on board. Stern anchoring with the plow anchor was also practiced and we were able to pull the Fraser off by only the winch.



If you like what we do, donate NOW through:

You can find us on:

Like to JOIN?







## Environmental Study 24 May 2024

Once again CLI was asked to assist in an environmental study of bird and animal life in the Fraser estuary. This study gives an indication of the health of the estuary at a time when climate change is having dramatic effects on the area. The study covered the lower Fraser and Sturgeon Bank and the middle arm jetty. Even a large grey whale was sighted feeding in 20 ft of water.

## Filming Of Lifeboats

CLI has made friends with a small group interested in documenting vessels of interest on the West Coast. During the April refit of the Delta Lifeboat they filmed some of the work being carried out. On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> of May the cameramen embarked aboard the lifeboats to film various training activities. This included launching and recovery of the RHIB, a man over board recovery, a tow exercise, and deployment of the fire suppression system.



Some filming was done using a drone and more will be done in the future. Video will be posted on various social media sites and will be an extremely useful training and P.R. tool for CLI.

Again, while waiting for Delta lifeboat to take their footage the Fraser did some shore

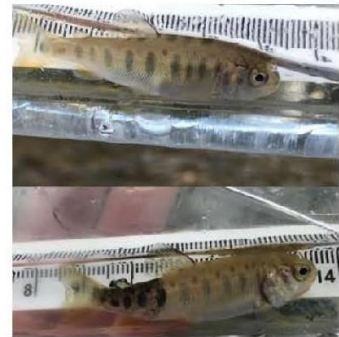


extraction at Gilligan's Island. Due to the sharp dropping tide it was a doable challenge to keep the Fraser perpendicular to the shore. All crewmembers got a try behind the helm and succeeded in getting persons on and off the shore.



## B.C. boaters ordered to remove drainage plugs to prevent spread of whirling disease

VICTORIA — British Columbia's chief veterinarian has issued an order making it illegal to transport boats or other watercraft without removing the drain plug to prevent the spread of whirling disease.



VICTORIA — British Columbia's chief veterinarian has issued an order making it illegal to transport boats or other watercraft without removing the drain plug to prevent the spread of whirling disease.

The Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship says the order takes effect on Friday and is also intended to keep invasive mussels out of B.C. waterways.

Boat operators are being required to clean, drain and dry all watercraft and remove all mud, sand and plants before leaving the shore.

Vessels will also have to dry out for at least 24 hours before entering new waters.

Whirling disease causes deformities in fish and has a high mortality rate but poses no health risk to people swimming in or drinking water that contains the parasite responsible for the condition.

The ministry says inspectors will be checking watercraft for compliance with the new orders.

The first case of whirling disease in B.C. was confirmed in Yoho National Park in December 2023 and all water bodies in the park have been closed until March next year.

There is no treatment to eradicate the disease.

This report by The Canadian Press was first published May 16, 2024.

The Canadian Press