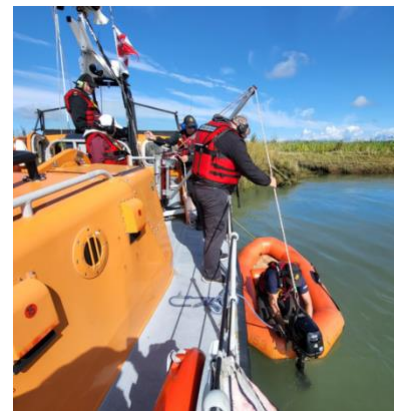




Training On the River

On Saturday 29 Aug crew from Fraser Lifeboat practiced beaching, transferring fire pump to shore, and training a potential new member how to handle the X-boat. In the main channel, conditions got quite rough, Delta Lifeboat crew practiced rough weather RHIB operations. Great training for all crews.



The CLI was asked on very short notice to provide an escort to the Fraser Riverkeeper event. Vancouver Fraser Port Authority had referred us to the event organizers and they were thrilled that we could participate.

From August 6th to September 4th 2026, a swim relay, a marathon walker, and teams of paddlers travelled through the Fraser Rivershed, highlighting the urgent need for protection. CLI would escort the canoes and all women swimmers for the last two days of the event.

On 03 Sep, Fraser Lifeboat was tasked to participate and headed up the Fraser River past the Port Mann Bridge to the Colony Farms area. Along the way, we saw a lot of activity ranging from tugs, sawmill boom boats, pleasure craft, commercial boats, as well as derelict vessels and the sunken ex-dredger Fraser Titan with a spill boom around it.

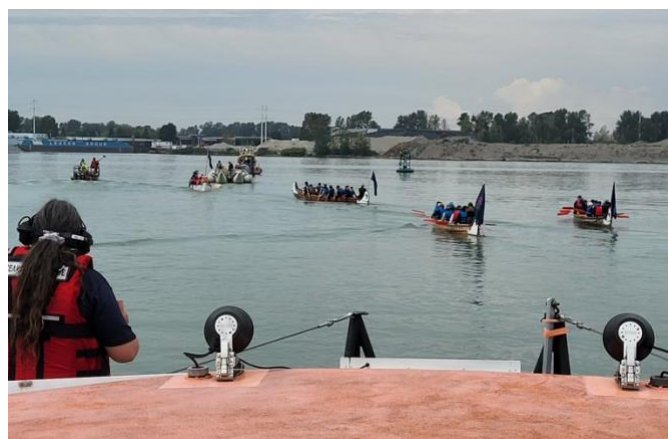


At 11 am the event started with RCM-SAR 6 in the lead, then the event boats, New Westminster Police (NWPD) RHIB, and finally ourselves in the rear. The swimmers had quite a challenge with currents around the bridge pilings, but were well protected by the escorts. Only the large canoe took part on this day. We continued out of Queens Channel and headed downriver into Sapperton Channel. At this point, the canoe and NWPD took a different route, and we would eventually all meet up in New Westminster. During this time, the swimmers had one person in the water who did a fairly long leg, then would get out, and a new swimmer would enter.

The event kept our crew busy as lookouts, and we lowered our mast to get under the New Westminster Railway Bridge due to the tide. At New Westminster, we were asked to lead the large

canoe and their support vessel to Dease Island Park. Our route took us through Annacis Channel, and we barely squeezed under the Annacis Island Bridge with another mast lowering that had the canoers in awe. We continued to lead them past Shelter Island Marina and into the main channel at Lafarge, maintaining the North side of the river. Fraser Lifeboat conducted the traffic broadcasts for this part of the event, and tugs and Seaspans Ferries gave us a slow bell as they passed us.

As we got closer to Dease Island Park, we crossed to the South shore and escorted them to the entrance of Hampton Cove Marina / Ladner Reach. The canoers thanked us and gave us a ceremonial salute, with all members holding a raised paddle in gratitude. At this point, we departed company and headed back to Steveston lifeboat station.





On 04 Sep, Fraser Lifeboat sailed from Steveston Station to Hampton Cove Marina, where we were joined by the swimmers, Richmond RCMP, RCM-SAR 6, Rivertec support vessels, the large canoe and 5 voyageur canoes. Fraser Lifeboat took up the rear safety position as the flotilla headed out. RCM-SAR 6 made the traffic calls, and we watched from astern. Our AIS and RCM-SAR 6's AIS were used to make commercial vessels aware of our position; a NAVWARN had been issued for both days.



We did meet a large container ship heading upriver, which slowed down and blasted its horn to the delight of the participants. The swimmers were kept on their vessel until we reached Shady Island. At this point, the Rivertec support vessel approached us and provided our crew with a delicious boxed lunch, which we really appreciated.

It was decided that the swimmers would head onto the beach first at Gary Point Park, followed by the canoes. RCM-SAR 6, Fraser Lifeboat, and RCMP RHIB blocked the entrance / exit of the harbour from all directions until everyone was safely ashore.

At that point, we were thanked and released, and we headed back to Steveston Lifeboat Station. The crew were invited to come to the park for the celebration and also receive a salmon burger with chips and a drink.

The Fraser Rivershed is one-quarter of British Columbia, home to over 70 First Nations and three-quarters of the province's population, described by WWF-Canada as the world's largest wild salmon-producing river — and the only landscape that connects the coast to the mountains:

- But the rivershed is in crisis.
- Salmon populations are collapsing.
- Wildlife habitat is being destroyed.
- Harmful pollutants still enter the river

As of September 2026, only 17,6% of the Fraser Rivershed is protected. The Fraser Riverkeeper project aims to get 30% protected by 2030. If you wish to sign a declaration of support, it can be done so at: <https://fraserriverkeeper.ca/take-action>

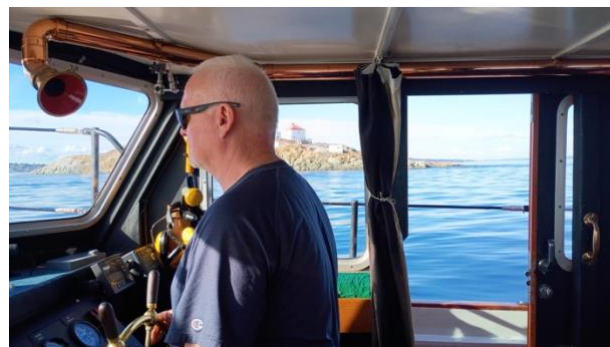
CLI 2026 Victoria Classic Boat Festival

The Delta Lifeboat departed her Delta Lifeboat Station at 1100 hours on Thursday 3rd September bound for Victoria City Harbour where she would again assume the role of medical boat for the annual Classic Boat Festival. A crew of 8 enjoyed a peaceful transit even though rough conditions had been forecast, with an excellent opportunity to conduct normal ship routine, through for some, unfamiliar waters. Delta Lifeboat secured in Victoria inner harbour at 1800 hours. Unlike regular shore training periods this deployment proved the value of long hours spent together – a chance for what some like to call “bonding” when crews learn about each other's individual characteristics. They learn a lot and they laugh a lot.



Prittie then returned alongside. Delta Lifeboat hosted 3 of the Maritime Museum of BC's volunteers as a treat for them. The Delta lifeboat again was open to visitors many of whom were from overseas. Many were very aware of lifeboat services in their own countries and offered praise for what our crews achieve. Thanks to the hard work of CLI volunteers.

Sunday evening was highlighted by the annual dinner in the Union Club. The crew of the “Delta Lifeboat” were very surprised to receive the award for “Best Work Boat”. This award is shared with all the crews and volunteers who over the years maintain and ensure the vessel is sound, clean and able to conduct our duties. Thanks too you all!



During the Festival hundreds of visitors were welcomed on board, where they learned of CLI's work and role in search and rescue. Many generous donations were gratefully received. CLI was again assisted by members of St. John Ambulance who took the lead and attended several minor incidents.

On Saturday evening Delta Lifeboat hosted a Reception on board attended by about 40 guests including Rear Admiral David Patchell, retired Vice Admiral Bruce Donaldson, plus many friends and supporters. Many guests were from the Canadian Coast Guard and the Canadian Navy. Sunset was observed with Lt. Van Slyke sounding “sunset” on the trumpet. Guests remarked how moving the ceremony was.

On Sunday morning most of the beautiful vessels participating in the festival sailed in line past the honorary Commodore, Don





Delta Lifeboats sailed from Victoria Harbours at 0900 hours on Monday and it was decided to sail a more convoluted route back to Ladner Lifeboat Station as this presented an excellent navigation training opportunity. With the crew closed up in rotating watches it was planned to use a route through the Gulf Islands to Porlier Pass rather than the more direct route through Active Pass. Very good coms were conducted between the Officer of the Watch (OW) and Navigations / communications (NAV/COM) and the lookouts which formed the basis for developing an excellent "Bridge Team". The exercise was well carried out.

Delta Lifeboat had to slow down off Sand Heads as many orcas were active amongst many recreational anglers, some of whom were not following the rules by travelling too close to the whales and going too fast! A very happy and satisfied crew secured in Ladner Lifeboat Station at 1730 hours following a very worthwhile deployment.



Fraser Refit

On Tuesday September 8 Fraser Lifeboat was hauled out at Shelter Island for a refit scheduled to last approximately 3 weeks. Crewmembers worked hard to get her ready for launch as can be seen on these photos.



If you like what we do, donate NOW through:



pay@cli.vr-sar.org



You can find us on:



Like to JOIN?





Receive a mug for a Donation

A new batch of ceramic mugs have arrived with the painting "In the nick of time", made by maritime artist and CLI coxswain John Horton. It depicts the rescue of a fishing

vessel without power getting blown on the rocks during the 2025 herring fisheries. See us at our Public events for to get your coffee mug!



Delta Emergency Program

On Thursday September 10th a meeting was held with the Community Services Manager, at the McKee house in Ladner. All crew members who didn't have a valid BC Emergency Management Card were required to attend this meeting. The Emergency Program Manager and the Emergency Planning & Operations Manager, were at the start of the meeting to introduce themselves and to reiterate the importance of the program and the role of the CLI.

After they left Kate took over and explained the Emergency Support Services and specifically the role of the lifeboats and its crew.

At the end of the meeting John H handed Kate a CLI pin and mug as a thank you for all the work she does for the City of Delta and CLI.



Kids Fest North Vancouver

Families are back in town, school has started, the days are still sunny and warm, so a transit accessible and free child friendly event is a much-needed way to bring families together on the weekend. Here is Kids Fest at the North Vancouver Shipyards, ready to entertain and educate.



The Delta Lifeboat made the journey the day before the festival to ensure timely arrival. The seas were notably rough, so crew got to experience what felt like meter long drops. Though being tossed around by the ocean like grains in a rattle can be unpleasant, it's important for gaining skills.



Some crew slept aboard and started the morning with a quick breakfast before cleaning the boat to make it sparkle for our guests. More crew soon arrived to set up the pop-up tent and table with children's activities.



There was: knot tying games that educate on the types of knots and ropes used by mariners, nautical flags, their meanings, and which ones are used most often on the water, an interactive - place the correct buoy on the map game, personal flotation device talks that cover types of PFDs and why it's important to make sure one is using a PFD, and all children doing a tour of the Delta Lifeboat were outfitted with

appropriate PDFs before being sent down to see the boat.

The festival was packed. We got many compliments for being a moment of peace and calm on the boat, as well as compliments for having the best games and overall were many people's favourite station. Given that there were so many excellent booths, well known performances and activities around, it's impressive to be a highlight.

The return voyage was graced with pizza to fuel a ravenous crew, and a showing of whales against the sunset. During the night portion, the FLIR added another level of awareness in the watch for deadheads and small obstacles that wouldn't necessarily show up on radar. The search lights were deployed in particular areas of concentrated hazards.

All in all, an amazing experience. Thank you to everyone who helped out. Many people put in so many hours of effort to make this happen.

Board of Directors Corner

Thanks to the many crew who have been on the boats over the past month participating in the various shows and events and more importantly, the Fraser Lifeboat refit at Shelter Island. John O and Ron have been instrumental in keeping the Fraser Lifeboat work moving forward. Great work by all, we should be back in the water by month-end; hours put in by the crew is about 420 hours for the refit.

As we get to the end of Summer, we have a few shows and events that we attended; the Victoria Classic Boat Festival, Riverkeeper Swimmer and Canoe Escort, North Vancouver Kids Fest, Hampton Cove Fall Marina Show and the Lucille Johnston Workboat Parade. Each event is unique and crew comments are very positive of the crew's experiences.

Coming up, we have the Emergency First Aid course, training for ROC(M), training for Chartwork, Remembrance Day Ceremonial Sail, Ladner Carol Ship Parade and the Annual Fundraising Dinner - December 11 at Beach Grove Golf Club. Please check the SAR site Calendar for events and posted dates.

As we wrap up the year, fundraising becomes an important activity, October, November and December are the absolute peak time for charitable giving. Not only do donors feel generous during the holidays, many individuals and companies rush to make tax-deductible gifts before December 31 to obtain income tax credits for the current year (.. no-one likes paying taxes 🙌).

How can you help CLI:

Be Our Anchor

By taking advantage of Canada's charitable tax credit system a charitable donation will reduce the amount of income taxes payable. For us in BC, this is a 45.8% combined Provincial and Federal tax credit. To obtain this level of credits you must first have a minimum of \$200 of charitable donation in a given tax year. This base amount of \$200 will increase all additional donation amounts to the 45.8% credit level. Contact us for more information. For example;

Donation	\$200	\$600	\$1200
Tax Credit	\$40.12	\$223.32	\$498.12
Calculation 45.8%		\$40.12 + 183.32	\$40.12 + 458.00

 **Annual Fundraising Dinner:**  Come and join the fun, food, drink ... and silent (at times - not too silent) auction.

If you or your company wants to add to the excitement and support CLI - please consider providing an item for the silent auction. Everyone is welcome; family, friends, ...

CLI.board@canadianlifeboatinstitution.org

Board of Directors

If you like what we do, donate NOW through:



pay@cli.vr-sar.org

You can find us on:

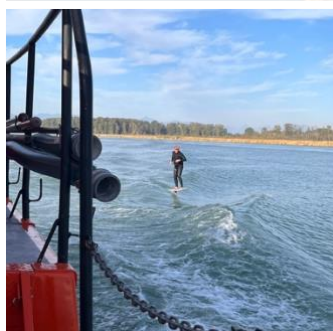


Like to JOIN?



On Friday September 18 the Delta Lifeboat sailed to the Hampton Cove marina to participate in the Vancouver International Boat Show – Fall Marina Show & Sale. This was the first time it was held, organized by BC Boating Association. Crewmembers prepared the Delta for visitors with the galley transformed to information hub.

Thanks to a sunny weekend many interested boaters visited the Delta Lifeboat who were amazed that an 82-year vessel looked that great and was still being used as a Search and Rescue vessel.



Workboat Parade New Westminster

On Saturday September 26th, the Delta Lifeboat departed from Ladner Harbour towards New Westminster. We anchored in a sheltered area and enjoyed a splendid repast together until it was time to join the procession of boats coming out through the open swing bridge. We did a couple of circuits while various boats created waves to show off in. Some of the feats of showmanship included "wrestling matches" where tugboats would try to push each other, and "jousting" style maneuvers of passing each other very closely at high speeds right next to the veritable wall of onlookers. During the transit, crew continued to work on building their seamanship skills and did minor maintenance of the boat.



The workboat parade is the waterside entertainment component in a Riverfest festival that celebrates the multiple facets of the river. There are many residential towers overlooking the river as well as a quay of shops and a long greenway park. Nestled in the new developments are 100+ year old working docks. Tug and barge tie ups, industrial areas, marine industry all thrive on the river and provide livelihoods and goods distribution for many. Underneath the human infrastructure is the estuary habitat that provides the fish and wildlife we pride ourselves on as a world class destination. The shoreside attractions celebrate and educate on all these aspects of the river and provide a destination for families to enjoy the last bits of summery warmth before the rainy season starts. There was a large happy crowd enjoying the festival.

The parade itself was named after a woman worth knowing about. Mrs. Lucille Johnstone was awarded the Order of Canada in 2003 and posthumously inducted into the Business Laureates of British Columbia Hall of Fame in 2014. She was born in 1924, and she quickly rose to become president and chief operating officer of the Rivtow Group. She has many notable



accomplishments, including being a founder of an interpretive centre for the Fraser River. The Workboat Parade is a highlight in the year, as well as a great way to carry the marine industry into the future while honouring memorable founders.

Fraser Lifeboat Refit

After 3 weeks of working hard by crewmembers, the Fraser Lifeboat went back in the water on Monday September 28. Thank you to all who have helped making this possible. A special thanks goes to John O for leading this project.



A total of 652 hours spread over 21 days has been spent on the Fraser Lifeboat refit, 36% of our crewmembers helped with the refit.

Mark your calendars: the Annual CLI Christmas Dinner & Fundraising Event is scheduled for Friday December 11th at the Beach Grove Golf Club in Tsawwassen!

We hope to see you there!!

Tickets: CLI.board@canadianlifeboatinstitution.org

Christmas Cards – Get yours Now!!

This year's Christmas card is the painting "In the nick of time", the latest painting by maritime artist and CLI Senior Coxswain John Horton. It depicts the Delta Lifeboat rescue of a fishing vessel in distress getting blown on to the rocks during the 2025 herring fisheries.

The cards are \$5 each or 5 for \$20

See us at our Public events or contact us at:

CLI.board@canadianlifeboatinstitution.org



If you like what we do, donate NOW through:

You can find us on:

Like to JOIN?



pay@cli.vr-sar.org

