

# FRASER SQUADRON MINUTES

Date: October 24, 2019	Time: 1900 hrs (7pm)	Location: Steveston Harbour Authority
Minutes: KV		Chair: Cleve Pryde

**Attendees:** Cleve Pryde, Anne Marie Vermeer Pryde, Bob Juulsen, Bill Hawryluk, Les and Jan Muller, Bob Everson, Peter Lefroy, Byron and Donalda Buie, Kathleen and Paul Vanderwood

**Regrets:** Jack Tang, Tyler Dahlman, Michael Lee, Sherwin Wang, Chao Haung, Dave Mellis, Meredith Williamson, Vidas Vitkus, Gouri Chinnappa

**Guests:**

**Chair:** Cleve Pryde

**Minutes:** Kathleen Vanderwood

## Call to order – 1900 hours

- 1) **Roll Call** – Welcome to Bridge members
- 2) **Previous Minutes – Motion to Accept:** Les Muller; **Seconded by:** Bill Hawryluk
- 3) **Officer Reports**
  - a) **Commander's report – (Cleve Pryde)**

Seems like the end of summer is upon us; cloudy skies, rain and of course, the National Conference. I'll get right to it.

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE...

The conference format was quite different than Ottawa essentially resulting in less content than Ottawa. I was a bit disappointed that I wasn't able to schedule any "education" type sessions. I did attend the Squadron Commanders session; only about 35 people attended. Chuck came by for a quick intro and then Joe Gatfield took over talking about the current Strategic Plan and indicated we were wrapping up year 4 of the 5 year plan; so time to do up another one for 2021 - 2026. He indicate that a lot was accomplished: up to date products, shorter courses, improved ability to deliver the courses; I'm sure all arguable. He set the stage for the development of a new plan for the next 5 years. He indicated the squadrons will play a bigger role and in fact, Squadrons may perhaps develop their own strategic plans under the watchful eye of the District Commanders (yes there is a move afoot to refocus the Districts into different functions. Joe did indicate that reporting on the plan to squadrons hasn't been that good and he will pull a report together detailing progress that has been made.

\*\*\*Districts and Squadrons will hopefully put out a 5 year plan regarding the outlook and goals of CPS-ECP

There were a number of topics raised for the Commanders meeting prior to the conference:

- Fee structure:
  - o National = \$37

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- District = \$ 5
- Squadron = \$10
- Total \$52
- With this structure our understanding is the new structure will cover Squadron levies that we used to pay. Pacific Yachting magazine is an additional \$10 for PMD members.

\*\*\*(35 Commanders (across the country) attended the Squadron Commanders' meeting)

- New members and retention
  - Although this was really the theme of the overall conference. Declining enrolment is of course a very common challenge amongst most squadrons although after saying that there are some squadrons that are doing well.
  - Usual conversation on how to be relevant to young people, how to reel in people for the bridge, name change, Women on Water (WOW) – I'll explain, join on the spot (perhaps with a gee wiz mobile application
  - CPS not that well known, especially to the younger population; one squadron is convinced the use of Facebook was extremely helpful in reaching out to younger people
  - Perhaps include member application and benefits right in with the course notes
  - We are too focused on teaching old stuff and not addressing real modern techniques but this theme didn't get a lot of time
- Other news from the conference:
  - New IT system is just about ready, final stage is to complete testing of the financial aspects; a Nov 25 date was stated.
  - A name change is not in the cards in the near future; the energy is going to go into market development; in the interim, National wants to issue a toolkit to the Squadrons while a bigger plan is developed.
  - The hope is to "utilize our volunteers to help more".
  - The web page "boatingcourses.ca" is reliable and it was encouraged that bookings should be made via this website
  - Dave Peebles talked of the initiative to provide National help to squadrons that are in distress in order to come up with solutions instead of blindly accepting warrant surrenders.
  - One squadron talked of issuing course material via a single chandlery; chandlery loves it and offers discounts on sales.
  - Course venues included credit unions, city police stations, yacht clubs, grocery stores, city works offices.
  - We should get a notification by Nov end re flare disposal as a partnership with a retailer (any type of recreational flare)
  - Jackie Hilderling presented an insight on her research with whales / mammals describing the plight of these animals; did learn though that the humpback is returning
  - National ran a deficit
- A bit more on marketing:
  - Chief Commander (Chuck) has formed a committee to address marketing

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- Currently digesting a consultant report regarding branding and marketing
- Currently not allot of funds available for this effort as the IT system development has stressed the finances; branding is definitely on the back burner for now so looking at some marketing ideas to invoke in the meantime
- Foundation:
  - Our name did not appear on the list of contributors so we may have missed the contribution

## PMD ITEMS and OTHER...

Given I have already issued a brief re the Oct 2 meeting, I'll stick to the significant highlights.

- The **re**-certification seminar is on for Nov 3 at the Justice Institute.
- Remember I said the formula re harmonizing of membership fees is simple. Well, I screwed it up. I indicated \$15 goes to the Squadron; that's not accurate as 5 of those dollars goes to the District with \$10 going to the squadron. A 2nd family membership is at 50%. In the west, there will be an additional \$10.00 levy for each recipient of Pacific Yachting essentially making the membership fee \$62.00. The 2nd family member can elect whether or not to receive PY and incur the fee.
- I understand National is going out to life members as a group asking if they would like to continue receiving PY. The majority vote of the group will rule (yes or no). Not sure why this can't be done individually with each life member.
- The new IT system needs to be live for all this; so we are being asked to make a record of what members we expect renewals from between now and Jan. Paul has an enquiry to Harvey to see if they can come up with something. I haven't heard anything since on this.
- Speaking of IT systems, now that we have a go live date (be nice) there is talk of a blackout for a period of time, I don't have any particulars. We are being encouraged to backup our data!! I believe we will have to depend on National for that exercise.
- Understand each squadron will score a copy of Windows 365 as a part of the IT upgrade; will allow up to 5 users

\*\*\*Next year's National AGM will be in Windsor, Ontario.

### **b) Executive Officer –**

#### **c) Multicultural Executive Officer - Chao Huang**

absent

#### **d) Multicultural Officers – Jack Tang**

absent

#### **d) Treasurer – Meredith Williamson**

absent

#### **e) Membership Officer – Paul Vanderwood**

## **1. From the previous minutes:**

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Members that do not have email and as a result do not receive our Squadron 'Fairlead'. There are currently 32 members that do not have an email address. I will be handing out a list at the Executive Meeting. Please review this list and return it to me noting any persons that I DO NOT NEED TO CONTACT.

I plan to contact these members with the questionnaire that is attached in draft format. This questionnaire will include a stamped self-addressed envelope for its return.

Cost estimates:

- a. for the questionnaire: approx. \$64.00
- b. Monthly mailings of the Fairlead \$ 32.00 / month (assuming minimum weight).

## **2. Still outstanding:**

*Recommendation: That we develop a follow-up letter and questionnaire to be send to 'lapsed' members over the Commander's signature.*

## **3. Current membership count:**

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**Fraser Squadron – Membership Numbers – Monthly  
Year 2019**

**Month 10**

**Membership Count:**

**Associate 4**

**Former Associate 0**

**Honorary 0**

**Regular Lady 24**

**Regular 176**

**Regular Life 19**

**Total 223**

Draft Letter to Members without email addresses is attached at the end of these minutes.

**f) Multicultural Membership Officer – Michael Lee**  
absent

**g) Secretary – Kathleen Vanderwood**  
no report

**h) Education Officer – Peter Lefroy**  
**Assistant Education Officer – Byron Buie**

We had only two PCOC students for the first set of classes this fall. After some confusion on my part and with WBAS I was able to contact the students and ended up teaching them in my home. The classes went very well and I am confident that when they take the exam this Wednesday with Kathleen that they will both pass.

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We have three students registered so far for the PCOC class starting on November 7<sup>th</sup> in Ladner and none for the class in Richmond. I am in the process of contacting those students and hopefully we will have more in the next week.

I have just returned from the CPS-ECP National Conference which took place in Victoria this past weekend and here is my report.

CPS continues to develop one day seminars on a wide range of topics some of which are, Weather, AIS, Collision Regulations, Propane Systems, Paddling and Canoeing, VHF, and Marine Engine Maintenance. The total number of seminar subjects is 12 and these are supported by brochures and other course material. These are designed to be simple three to four hour seminars touching on just the basics. The hope is that if a student takes the seminar they will be motivated to learn more and sign up for a CPS course. There is a cost from CPS and therefore a fee may or may not be charged by the Squadron.

An "Outreach Committee" has just been formed by National and a new Chairman for that committee appointed. He is very dynamic and if he does what he says that he is going to do it should be a great help to all squadrons. It is something that we at Fraser should definitely pursue as it is my opinion that we are weak in this area.

A revamped PCOC course is being worked on by John Gullick and should be available in the next year. This would include five new subject areas two of which are Operating close to Marine Mammals and Responsibility of boat owners for abandoned vessels.

During the open discussion portion of the Education meeting the following subjects were discussed, the division of Boat and Engine Maintenance into two separate courses, the problems with [www.boatingcourses.ca](http://www.boatingcourses.ca) which I have experienced personally since taking on this job, and of course the inevitable question about when the "New IT" system will be implemented? I will leave that answer to Commander Cleve.

With the new IT System will come a new office operating system and each squadron will be given one free license for this system with 5 members having access to this license.

There was then a very dynamic presentation from Jackie Hilderling who operates the Marine Education & Research Society based on the north end of Vancouver Island. She has been doing research mainly into Humpback whales for more than twenty years and is very passionate about her subject. She has also recently become a member of Cape Lazo Squadron and has partnered with CPS-ECP as she believes that we are uniquely placed to bring the message of conservation to the boating community. In this regard an environmental initiative has been launched called "Boat Blue." The launch of there work has already begun with the "See a blow? Go slow!" posters, three of which Fraser Squadron put up. A website will be launched [www.BoatBlue.org](http://www.BoatBlue.org) which should be connected to the Fraser website. Also two pamphlets are in the works about Plastic Pollution and Marine Mammals and Boaters. There will be much more as we go forward.

Finally a presentation was made regarding teaching methods and upgrading our instructor's skills. In that regard an all day seminar is being held on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Justice Institute in New Westminster. So far we have four Fraser members attending. If any one else would like to attend please let me know at once. \*\*\*(This seminar has been held as of the writing of these minutes)

The theme will be;

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“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I may remember. Involve me and I learn!”

Respectfully submitted.

Peter Lefroy

\*\*\* (For anyone wishing to follow up on Hackie Hilderling's presentation, please check out the website at [www.mersociety.org](http://www.mersociety.org). Also [info@mersociety.org](mailto:info@mersociety.org))

**\*\*As of the meeting on October 24, 12 students had registered for the VHF course on Saturday, November 30. \*\*Mike Pearson has expressed interest in teaching VHF.**

**\*\*Harvey Lee is interested in getting involved in the teaching of 'boating'.**

**\*\*the VHF program is the #1 generator of course revenue across Canada.**

**\*\*Peter has ordered 50 VHF books and 6 Boating Basics books. (All ordering of materials is asked to be done online.**

## **i) Multicultural Training Officer – Sherwin Wang**

absent

## **j) Admin Officer – Anne Marie Pryde**

We held a social function in October, the meet and greet barbeque. It was attended by 23 Squadron members. Many thanks to Donnie and Byron for arranging and providing a great venue.

Planning is underway for the Christmas party to be held at the Richmond Yacht club on November 22. Bob Everson has the web site up and running; the purchasing application is working. Vidas has sent out the initial notification. So far the response is light. We should send out another notification soon. The caterer needs to know the numbers by the morning of November 19. The ticket price has been set at \$45 / person. (\*\*\*) As of the writing of these minutes, another notification for the Christmas party has been sent out by Vidas).

## **k) Multicultural Communications -**

### **l) Cruise Master – Dave Mellis**

absent

### **m) Regalia Officer – Donalda Buie**

Donnie has a bill for the Treasurer for some regalia items.

### **n) Environmental Officer – Les Muller**

no report

### **o) Fairlead Editors – Vidas Vitkus, Gouri Chinnappa**

absent

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**p) Historian – Bob Juulsen**  
no report

**q) Supplies and Training – Bill Hawryluk**  
everything is going well

**r) Port Captain – Tyler Dahlman**  
absent

**s) Webmaster – Bob Everson**  
7 people have registered for the Christmas party.

**t) Public Relations – Jan Muller**  
no report

Byron indicated who the new committee members were at the National level. It is felt that Peter Bolton was a good choice for the position of Chief Commander.

Squadron's \$1 donation (per member) to the Foundation will be checked out to ensure we have sent in the required amount. (**Cleve** will verify this with our Treasurer). Peter moved and Donnie seconded that this donation be verified and sent in, if it hasn't already been sent in.

## **4) Business arising from previous minutes**

Operation Life-jacket: there are 100 life-jackets that have been collected/donated and are currently being stored at PMD.

Christmas party: The caterer is confirmed; the MC is confirmed. **Donnie** will take care of getting an individual to serve as bartender. **Peter** will apply for the required liquor licence. **Anne Marie** will take care of the wine, beer and soft drinks. Dinner will be at 7:30pm. **Bob Everson** is looking after door prizes. **Les and Jan** will take care of the 50/50 tickets. **Byron** will invite Norm Dyck, Shirley Shea and Bob Yakamoto.

## **5) New Business**

**a) Education Items**  
no new items

### **b) Pacific Yachting for Life members**

There was considerable discussion around this topic with the Bridge suggesting that our Squadron look after compensating our Life members. This will continue to be discussed with PMD.

### **c) Cruises for 2020**

The Bridge suggested that the 'cruise' to Telegraph Harbour be a 'regular' or 'staple' as well as the Labour Day 'cruise' to Maple Bay. These cruises continue to be successful drawing a good number of boating (and non boating) participants.

## **FRASER SQUADRON MINUTES**

\*\*\*The next meeting of the Fraser Bridge will be December 9 at 1900 (7pm) at the Vanderwood's. There will be a 'quick' meeting covering the reports and any important business, followed by refreshments. This invitation is extended to the Bridge members and their partners / spouses. Thank you in advance for any 'sweet' or 'savory' dish that you would like to bring.

### **6) Adjournment**

- **Time:** 8:55pm

- **Motion by:** Paul Vanderwood and seconded by Donnie Buie