



PACIFIC MAINLAND DISTRICT
A UNIT OF
CANADIAN POWER & SAIL SQUADRONS
POST OFFICE BOX 53523, 984 WEST BROADWAY, VANCOUVER, B.C. V5Z 4M6

03 May 2010

D/C Don Griffin, Members of Council & Guests:

Re: **Government & Industry Liaison Report**

Advisory Committee meetings attended over the past two months include NANS/PACMAR, Regional CMAC and CCG LMAC.

1. CCG Update

As part of the Second Narrows Review, we can expect to see a number of changes to marine aids in the area. New sector lights are scheduled to be installed on Second Narrows Bridge; expected completion of this work was April 2010, however, that is contingent on the outcome of a study of excessive vibration in the bridge structure and its effect on the lights.

Installation of structures for the new Port Moody Range, henceforth to be known as the Caraholly Range, is currently scheduled for June 2010.

Demolition of the old Pitt River Bridge commenced earlier this year but was suspended temporarily by Fisheries. An update on this project will be obtained later this month. It has been noted that signage in the vicinity of the old bridge is not the best; boaters should exercise caution when navigating the area.

Users of VHF radio with DSC should be aware of a problem that exists where multiple radios are fitted. Receipt of an All Ships call could alarm all radios in a multiple installation thereby overriding or masking critical communication. Turning the additional radios off is not an option since that would end radio communication. For operational safety, it is now necessary to disable DSC in all but one VHF DSC radio interfaced to a GPS. Industry Canada and Transport Canada are addressing the problem.

It has been reported earlier that MCTS Pacific installed a CMB at Vancouver MCTS utilizing two peripheral sites for its broadcasts: Harbour Centre (VHF ch. 83B) and Watts Point in upper Howe Sound (WX-1). First broadcasts were scheduled for April 2010; the system is currently in a testing phase. Boaters should be aware that the CMB may not be receiving regular updates. A NOTMAR will be issued when it is fully operable.

Meteorological Services Canada (MSC) now issues wave height forecasts at 0400 and 1600 PST. This change gives marine forecasters more updated information and provides more timely information for Prince Rupert and Tofino MCTS scheduled voice broadcasts.

Kitsilano CCG base may be part of a strategic review. No action is currently pending but it is rumored that the current 24 hour staffing policy could be reduced to regular business hours. CCG would have to guarantee a 30 minute response time if that were to happen.

2. CHS Update

The new 2010 Chart Catalogue has been published and released. Users will note that it is one-half the size of the previous issue.

Chart 3493 of Vancouver Harbour is scheduled to be released soon. It was originally scheduled for release just prior to the Winter Olympics but that was delayed for various reasons.

At the request of DND, CHS is planning to issue a new Chart 3456 (1:30,000) which includes all of the WG area. It also proposes to cancel existing Chart 3458 (1:20,000), most of which will be contained within new Chart 3456. Chart 3447 (1:10,000) for Nanaimo Harbour will be retained. Concerns about the cancellation of Chart 3458 should be relayed to Dave Jackson at CHS (phone 250-363-6354 or e-mail: dave.jackson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

3. Other Issues

Recent concern has been expressed about the state of numerous secondary channels and small harbours in the Fraser River delta. They are silting in and creating hazards to navigation as well as limiting access to port facilities. Port Metro and a host of other agencies have agreed to look at the problem. Boaters using the Fraser River are advised that the entrance to Steveston Harbour has been recently dredged.

4. Upcoming Meetings & Events

13 – 14 May 2010: Nautical Institute (BC Branch)
Maritime Arctic Conference
Victoria, BC

20 May 2010: Ready – Set – Inflate! (Kickoff to Nat'l. Safe Boating Week)
Time: 0800 PDT. Place: Vancouver Art Gallery

26 May 2010: NANS/PACMAR meeting (Vancouver)

Respectfully submitted,

P/D/C Jerry Powers, SN
Gov't. & Industry Liaison

cc. E. Hashimoto, L. Yigit, D. Mercer, N. Cocking, N. Dyck, D. Peebles, G. Blake,
A. Rendell, C. Fuenzalida, G. Decock