

# Port crews earn high praise for role in gill net herring fishery

Guiding deep sea vessels through busy, narrow local waterways during the recent gill net fishery has earned the Port of Nanaimo a letter of commendation from the British Columbia Coast Pilots Ltd. (BCCPL).

Dave Willows, Licensed Pilot, Master Mariner with the BCCPL, was the pilot on the Panamax bulk carrier Efraim A on October 24, and thanked Coxswain Luke Letham and Seaman Cam Ferguson for their work on the NPA Osprey.

“After delivering me to the ship, Luke and Cam continued to help by keeping fishing vessels from setting their nets close to the Efraim A while we heaved anchor,” said Willows. “Once under way, they ran ahead and provided an escort both talking to vessels to ensure they knew we were coming, and assisting in spotting the end of nets. The work of Luke and Cam was of great assistance in keeping everyone on the water safe on Wednesday morning, and I recognize them for their work and professionalism.”

“The Port is proud to work with all our seafaring friends and help to keep everyone safe as they travel through Nanaimo Harbour,” said Port of Nanaimo Chair Michelle Corfield. “The Marine Domain Awareness (MDA)



**Port of Nanaimo dock facilities were at full capacity before the launch of the season**

system enables Port of Nanaimo real time video of all activity on the water that enables us to pinpoint issues as they occur and respond in a timely manner,” Corfield added.

As part of their basic marine training, Marine Patrol staff have first aid and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training for medical responses. During the fishery opening in Nanaimo harbour, patrol staff were first responders to a medical alert and applied CPR and an AED on one patient who was transported to Nanaimo Regional General

Hospital by ambulance.

Ongoing training ensures safe passages for freighters and ferries. Port of Nanaimo’s two patrol vessels, the Eagle and Osprey, attend to each in-bound and out-bound Deep-Sea vessel that utilizes the Port’s anchorages and works with the BC Coast Pilot if needed for the anchorage location.

Vice-Chair Donna Hais says Port of Nanaimo staff are trained to recognize security risks and threats within their work station and around the Port.

## Helijet supports salmon restoration

Helijet International and the Pacific Salmon Foundation have a new partnership to generate donations to fund wild salmon restoration projects. The partnership will generate an annual donation based on the number of one-way flights sold on Helijet’s scheduled passenger service between Vancouver and Nanaimo harbours.

The program could see annual donations of \$24,000.

In September, Helijet donated a helicopter and pilot for an egg-take on the Chuckwalla and Kilbella rivers in Rivers Inlet. Eggs and milt were collected from returning Chinook in both rivers and flown to the Percy Walkus Hatchery also in Rivers Inlet. The fertilized eggs will become 130,000 salmon fry that will be released into the rivers to enhance those stocks.

## Harbour Air marks 10 years of carbon neutrality

B.C.-based Harbour Air Seaplanes is celebrating its tenth anniversary as North America’s first carbon neutral airline. Harbour Air partnered with local company Offsetters Climate Solutions in 2007 to calculate and offset its carbon footprint. Since then, 100 per cent of its emissions associated with seaplane fuel use and corporate operations have been offset.

“We know that a huge part of our success is the beauty of the West Coast experience that we offer. That is why we are deeply committed, and proud, of our sustainable accomplishments to date,” says Randy Wright, President, Harbour Air. “This year marks two incredible milestones for us: 35 years that Harbour Air has been operating in BC; and 10 years since we committed to being 100-per-cent carbon neutral.”

The #FlyCarbonNeutral program has resulted in more than 108,000 tonnes of annual carbon offsets to date. In addition, the airline has reduced its total emissions per revenue dollar by 21 per cent.

Harbour Air has been named one of Canada best-managed companies for eight consecutive years.

## Foreign Trade Zone creates new opportunities

Port of Nanaimo’s participation in the new Foreign Trade Zone-Vancouver Island creates new opportunities in imports and exports.

The Government of Canada has granted Foreign Trade Zone Point designation (FTZ-VI) to the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance (VIEA). The Port of Nanaimo is a participant in the initiative.

An FTZ Point is one of Canada’s strategic locations for international trade where an organization with a mandate to promote local trade and foreign direct investment is uniquely supported by a single-point of access to information on relevant government policies and programs.

FTZ Point designation is just the beginning of a pivotal time during which Vancouver Island will assume its role as a prominent component in Canada’s Asia Pacific Gateway.

The Vancouver Island Economic

Alliance is a non-government, registered non-profit society with a singular mandate to help ensure a vital and sustainable economy for all of Vancouver Island including the Gulf Islands.

An FTZ Task Force with representatives from various government departments will be co-ordinated by FTZ-VI to solve problems and facilitate easy access to a suite of programs that make up the FTZ advantage:

Duty Relief Program - Relieves the payment of duties on imported goods that will eventually be exported either in the same condition or after being consumed, expended or used in processing other goods. This can have significant cash flow benefits for Island manufacturers.

Duty Drawback Program - Refund of customs duties paid for imported goods that will eventually be exported or used in manufacturing and then

exported. This benefits businesses that have already paid duties and wish a refund.

Customs Bonded Warehouses - Companies participating in the Customs Bonded Warehouse Program qualify for complete deferral of duty and taxes. When goods exit the warehouse, taxes are applicable. If goods are re-exported, there are no duties or taxes. The definition of a warehouse is quite broad. It can be part of your office building, a stand-alone facility, or even a hotel conference room, and can be located anywhere within the FTZ Point which can be anywhere on Vancouver Island.

Export Distribution Centre Program - Provides relief of cash flow cost incurred by export businesses that add limited value when processing or distributing goods such as relabelling, repackaging, assembling or disassembling, inspecting, and cleaning.