



## City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee  
**From:** Rendall Nasset, Superintendent  
Officer In Charge,  
Richmond RCMP

**Date:** March 28, 2011  
**File:** 05-1810-12/2008-Vol 01

**Re:** RCMP Marine Vessel Report – Supplemental Information

### Staff Recommendation

That the OIC's reported entitled "RCMP Marine Vessel Report – Supplemental Information" dated March 28, 2011 be endorsed.

Rendall Nasset  
Superintendent  
Officer In Charge  
Richmond Detachment  
(604)278-1212

Att: 3

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

## **RCMP Marine Vessel Report – Supplemental Information**

### **Origin**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with additional information regarding the RCMP Marine Vessel Program, as requested at the Community Safety Committee meeting of March 15, 2011.

### **Background**

In the waterways surrounding Richmond, there are some organizations with marine vessels that may appear to the public to have similar purposes to that of the proposed RCMP Marine Vessel.

Canadian Coast Guard (CCG): is a Special Operating Agency of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) with no law enforcement mandate or capability.

The Canadian Coast Guard operates the following programs relevant to Richmond's waterways:

- Aids to Navigation
- Environmental Response
- Information to Mariners
- Marine Communications & Traffic Services
- Search and Rescue
- Waterways Management

Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA): is an autonomous non-profit organization dedicated to Search and Rescue and safe boating activities.

Safe boating activities include marine safety equipment demonstrations, safe boating courses, and participation in boat shows and safe boating displays.

The Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary is not a partner of Transport Canada, and no longer offers Office of Boating Safety authorised Pleasure Craft Courtesy Checks.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO): is the federal ministry responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs in support of Canada's scientific, ecological, social and economic interests in oceans and fresh waters.

DFO Enforcement Officers, primarily responsible for enforcing the *Fisheries Act*, conduct regular patrols on the land, on the sea and in the air.

RCMP – West Coast Marine Service: consists of 4 High-speed Patrol Catamarans, responsible for policing the territorial waters of Canada from the Alaska border to the Washington State Border. As well, the West Coast Marine Service provides policing and support for the majority of the 17,000 kilometers of BC coastline that is not accessible by road.

Patrol vessels are based in Pat Bay, Nanaimo, Campbell River, and Prince Rupert.

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA): now known as Port Metro Vancouver, is a crown corporation responsible for the operation of 28 deep-sea and domestic marine terminals, servicing automobiles, breakbulk, bulk, container and cruise sectors.

The Port operates five harbour patrol vessels, offering on-water services including emergency response, vessel inspections, harbour monitoring and various support services to the marine community.

## **Analysis**

As described in the previous section, several organizations have vessels that may be in the waterways of Richmond. However, these organizations either have mandates which differ greatly from the RCMP, or the vessels are not readily available when required by Richmond Detachment.

Specifically:

- The Canadian Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary do not conduct law enforcement. The Shipping Act and Small Vessel Regulations are addressed through education only.
- Although Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is primarily responsible for enforcement of the Fisheries Act, it does not have the resources for an expanded mandate.
- RCMP West Coast Marine Service does not have the resources available for any regular presence in Richmond's waterways.
- The Port Metro Vancouver corporation has limited resources, and Harbour Patrol are primarily concerned with asset security.

Therefore, the following are services not currently or regularly provided by other marine agencies:

- Enforcement of the Canada Shipping Act and Small Vessel Regulations for pleasure craft and small commercial vessels.
- Transport Canada (Office of Boating Safety) Pleasure Craft Courtesy Checks.
- Response to calls for service for Criminal Code offenses.
- Patrols of local coastline and waterways, focussed on crime reduction strategies, including vessel and person checks.

For comparison, Vancouver Police Department's (VPD) Marine Unit is run 7 days a week, year-round. In 2009, the Marine Unit conducted 1112 calls for service (7.3 calls per day) during the period of May to September.

In addition to marine-based calls for service, the VPD Marine Unit conducts regular vessel checks. The primary purpose is to increase compliance with Small Vessel Regulations through education, and subsequent enforcement if necessary. Ensuring increased compliance with safety equipment and licensing regulations is targeted to reduce marine injuries and fatalities.

Other common occurrences include theft of boats, theft from boats, impaired operation of a vessel, and provincial liquor regulations.

Marine vessels are also increasingly used for other criminal activities, such as for transport of illicit goods, or as locations that offer relative seclusion. A regular police presence is important to deter such activity.

### **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact associated with the report.

### **Conclusion**

The availability of a marine vessel would allow the Richmond RCMP to provide enhanced marine law enforcement, including all relevant federal acts, regulations and the Criminal Code of Canada.

A vessel operated by the Richmond RCMP would be used for:

- Regular checks of vessels to:
  - provide education/enforcement as required to ensure compliance with Small Vessel Regulations (Safety Equipment); including conducting Transport Canada Pleasure Craft Courtesy Checks
  - provide education/enforcement as required to ensure compliance of the Canada Shipping Act (Licensing and Operator's Cards)
  - provide education and increase awareness of the Coastal Watch program with active mariners
  - enforce the Criminal Code, CDSA and Liquor Act, as required
  - conduct person checks
- Response to marine-based calls for service from the public, or other agencies
- Respond to and provide on-water police support to other agencies for:
  - persons/vessels in distress
  - critical incidents
- Provide regular patrols of Richmond coastline, including all islands within City limits
- Provide police presence and support for marine festivals and activities that impact Richmond's waterways.

This vessel will allow the Richmond RCMP to expand Crime Reduction Strategies to include the marine community.



Steve ILOTT  
RCMP Auxiliary Constable Coordinator  
(604-278-1212)





# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee  
**From:** Rendall Nessel  
Officer In Charge,  
Richmond RCMP Detachment  
**Re:** RCMP Marine Vessel Program

**Date:** February 25, 2011  
**File:** 09-5000-01/2010-Vol  
01  
(11.13)

### Staff Recommendation

That the OIC's report entitled "RCMP Marine Vessel Program" dated February 25, 2011, be endorsed by Council.

Rendall Nessel  
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment  
(604-278-1212)

Att: 2

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CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

## **Origin**

The Officer In Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment acknowledges and supports that the City of Richmond should be kept informed on matters pertaining to policing in the community.

## **Analysis**

The report "RCMP Marine Vessel Acquisition" was prepared by Richmond Detachment to report the acquisition/program of the RCMP Marine Vessel.

The impact to the City of Richmond will be beneficial on three levels:

- uniformed presence on the waterways, marinas and surrounding shores
- engagement with and in the local marine communities
- partnership opportunities with multiple local businesses, individuals and community groups

## **Financial Impact**

None associated with this report.

## **Conclusion**

Richmond Detachment has a long, successful partnership with the Steveston office of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and this will continue into the future. The DFO and the Richmond Detachment are regular partners in the efforts of marine related activities, including conducting joint marine patrols throughout the summer of the 2010.

DFO has offered to donate a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) to Richmond Detachment for future marine patrols. With this acquisition, and a small amount of operating costs borne by the Detachment, marine patrols and community events will continue to have a marine-police presence.



Lainie Goddard  
Manager, RCMP Administration  
(L.4767)

**RCMP**



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

# **Marine Vessel Acquisition Richmond RCMP Detachment**

**Cpl. James Lunny  
NCO - B Watch  
Richmond Detachment**

**February 9, 2011**

## Background

The City of Richmond is an Island City with a population of over 190,000. Historically, the Richmond RCMP Detachment has not had a readily available marine resource to answer calls for service or conduct marine enforcement patrols in the waterways surrounding the Island. Throughout the summer of 2010, a joint marine patrol project between the Steveston Office of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and Richmond Detachment was conducted. The results were very positive and are included in the body of this report.

The concept of operations for the project was such that our front line members were able to conduct enforcement patrols in conjunction with the DFO (utilizing their vessel) providing a uniformed presence on the waterways surrounding Richmond. These patrols were conducted in the interest of public safety in river based activities, and in the interest of improving the interoperability of our detachment with DFO and to provide a level of law enforcement on the waterways, namely, enforcement of Fisheries Acts, Criminal Code and Provincial Statutes of BC. A tertiary benefit of the patrols was to provide an "as available" resource for calls for service for the City of Richmond where marine aspects were present.

## Opportunity

DFO is in the process of upgrading their fleet, and due in large part to the strong partnership and the between DFO and Richmond Detachment, they have offered to donate a 7.33 metre Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) "Peregrine" to Richmond Detachment at no cost. (See photo attached to the report.) The intention of the offering is to allow marine patrols continue between the two agencies, strengthening this partnership, providing enforcement on the waterways and serving the marine community of Richmond and the surrounding areas.

On October 13, 2010, members of RCMP West Coast Marine Section (WCMS) attended Steveston village and conducted Sea Trials of the "Peregrine" and provided a report of their findings, determining the vessel to be in very good condition for it's 16 years of service, with minimal servicing or equipment needed in order to bring it into the RCMP fleet and that it would be a good acquisition for RCMP, Richmond Detachment and for the City of Richmond.

## Analysis

The impact to the City of Richmond will be beneficial on three levels:

- uniformed presence on the waterways, marinas and surrounding shores
- engagement with and in the local marine communities
- partnership opportunities with multiple local businesses, individuals and community groups



## *Area of Marine Operations*

Richmond has a rich and diverse marine community, which includes 4 boat launches, numerous marinas and countless parks that have a marine setting. The location of the project (patrol) delivery is the waterways surrounding the approximately 128 square kilometres of Richmond's shores and the adjoining areas and islands.

Richmond Detachment also provides policing services to the Vancouver International Airport (YVR), which is situated on Sea Island, and is also an integral part of the marine patrols. Patrols will encompass the North, Middle and South Arms of the Fraser River. Patrols will take place throughout the aforementioned areas, but will not preclude patrols with local municipalities and federal agencies with shared and common goals.

Marine Patrols will remain locally-based and (marine) community minded, primarily reinforcing Richmond Detachments' strategic priorities of "Community Engagement". Secondary and tertiary focus will be through the very nature of the patrols, that being on enforcing traffic (boating) safety; thwarting property (marine) crime; engaging youth and where present, identifying and interacting with organized crime transiting through the areas.

## *Acquisition Schedule*

Presently, the new DFO vessel is being manufactured at a local facility, Zodiac Hurricane of Delta, BC, and is scheduled to be completed by the end of April 2011. Once DFO receives their newly built vessel, Richmond Detachment will then be able to take ownership of the "Peregrine".

Upon successful acquisition of the vessel, scheduled marine patrols will commence (projected to start between the beginning to middle of May) and will continue throughout the summer and autumn. Marine patrols will take place during community events that have a marine element to them and for calls for service throughout all 4 seasons, however, the majority of marine patrols will take place during the main boating season months.

Richmond Detachment is currently involved in a partnership with the Steveston Harbour Authority for covered moorage, and is scheduled to have the details in place by acquisition time, or shortly thereafter.

### Vessel Details:

Manufacturer: Zodiac Hurricane Tech Inc.  
HIN: XDC73387B494  
Length: 7m 03cm  
Breadth: 1m 83cm  
Depth: 1m 83cm  
Gross tonnage: 4.75  
Licence period: 2007-03-21 - 2012-03

### Engines:

Twin Mercury: Opti-max 150HP-2 Stroke  
Port S/N: OT748586 @ 197hrs  
Starboard S/N: OT790560 @ 198hrs

A trailer for the vessel is required for occasional on-shore transport, such as for maintenance. RCMP Marine Services Fleet has committed to provide a trailer on an on-loan bases, at no cost, for the use by Richmond Detachment.

The trailer, with the vessel loaded, can be towed with a current Richmond Detachment Tahoe, already equipped with the trailer package. Costs associated to the trailer are already included in the maintenance and fit-up costs detailed below.

### *Deployment and Statistics*

Richmond Detachment conducted a pilot marine project in the summer of 2010. The project consisted of both marine and land based patrols throughout the months of July through September 2010, with the following results detailing the patrols made and actions taken:

Total dates worked:	18 (out of a possible 26 dates available)
Total shift positions available:	30 (some shifts were single others 2 member)
Total shift positions worked:	24
Total shifts canceled:	3 dates due to inclement weather, etc
Vessels checked:	141
Street checks:	189
Persons checked:	243
Violation Ticket's issued:	44
Files generated:	23
Files dispatched:	16
Total files associated:	39

### *Files of note:*

Recovered stolen vessel	(2010-29573 – Aug 22)
Theft of vessel in progress	(2010-29591 – Aug 22)
2 vessels in distress	(2010-28701 – Aug 15 & 2010-25832 – July 24)
Serve driving prohibition	(2010-29245 – Aug 19)
Possible shots fired in Garry Point park	(2010-28471 – Aug 13)
Pursuit of stolen vessel by RCMP Air 2	
Impaired operation x 2 Motor Vehicle (Land)	
24hr suspensions (215) x 2 Motor Vehicle (Land)	
Seizure of liquor and illicit drugs – multiple patrols, including vehicles at boat launches	
Boat launch checks for Celebration of Lights Fireworks (July 21, 24, 28, 31)	
Steveston Maritime Community Festival (Aug 21, 22)	

### **Financial Information and Impact**

Richmond Detachment has funding available in the RCMP contract budget for the operation of the vessel being transferred to them from DFO. Additionally, funding is being sought through the Lower Mainland District "Seasonal Policing Fund", which provides funds for initiatives related to seasonal policing programs. Finally, an



application for funding has also been submitted to the Transport Canada "Safe Boating" program. Through the positive relationship with the Steveston Harbour Authority (in the historic village of Steveston), covered moorage is being arranged and is in the final stages of being secured. Richmond Detachment will assume financial responsibility for the operating costs (fuel, oil, maintenance), moorage at the Steveston Harbour, general maintenance and future operations of this vessel.

#### Project Costs Impacting Detachment Operating Budget:

Annual Fuel Cost	\$ 9,000
Spring Maintenance	2,500
Fall maintenance	2,500
One time fit up cost (radio fit, decals etc)	3,000
Annual misc expenses (life jacket upkeep, flares etc)	<u>3,000</u>
Total 2011 projected operating costs:	\$16,500
Less Partnership Funding:	<u>3,500</u>
Total Richmond Detachment Budgeted Contract Cost:	\$13,000

#### **Partnerships**

This patrol program was a concept based on a partnership between DFO and Richmond Detachment of the RCMP. This partnership continues, and now includes the following agencies: Canadian Coast Guard, Steveston Harbour Authority, Richmond Fire & Rescue, local municipal police forces (Vancouver Police Department, Westminster Police Department, Delta Police Department), federal and provincial sections of the RCMP, RCMP West Coast Marine Section, BC Ambulance Service, Transport Canada, Vancouver-Fraser Port Authority and more. When conducting patrols and attending incidents, members are sensitive to these partnerships and their mutually beneficial relationships and benefits. It is expected that these agencies call upon us to assist, as we will be calling upon them for the same.

#### **Conclusion**

Richmond Detachment has a long successful partnership with the Steveston office of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and this will continue into the future. The DFO and RCMP are regular partners in the efforts of marine related activities, including conducting joint marine patrols throughout summer 2010. DFO has offered to donate their 7.33 metre rigid hull inflatable boat to Richmond Detachment for future marine patrols. With the acquisition of the "Peregrine", marine patrols will continue, and future community events will be attended, such as the "Sails in Steveston" Event scheduled for June of 2011 and the Steveston Maritime Community Festival during August of 2011.

Further patrols, both marine and land based, will be conducted at boat launches and during events such as the "Celebration of Lights" fireworks displays during the summer of 2011 and onwards into the future. The partnership with DFO and other local agencies, such as Transport Canada (Office of Boating Safety), Vancouver - Fraser Port Authority, Steveston Harbour Authority, Vancouver Police Department Marine Section and the

local base of the Canadian Coast Guard is testament to the relationship building that is taking place and how, with the addition of this vessel, will only add to the contributions and efforts to be engaged with the marine community surrounding the City of Richmond.

Furthermore, the 2010 marine pilot project goals to detect, deter and investigate criminal activity, were obtained as evidenced by the actual number of interactions that took place that resulted in liquor and drug seizures; impaired investigations conducted; and criminal acts such as pursuit of a stolen vessel, thefts in progress and recovery of stolen vessel files that were responded to. The marine patrols will remain locally based and (marine) community minded, reinforcing the Detachments' strategic priorities of "Community Engagement", by taking part in local community events that have a marine element to them.

Lastly, the intangible and immeasurable aspect of being available to assist the marine community in incidents such as vessels in distress, or assisting during festivals and community events, such as the Celebration of Lights (fireworks boat launch checks) and the Steveston Maritime Festival with continue to provide rewarding benefits and community engagement on an ongoing basis.

Throughout these interactions with the marine community, only positive responses are observed having the RCMP involved in this endeavor, and are encouraged to keep the Police presence on the water, as the seafaring community enjoyed having the presence visible, available and able to respond to calls for service.



Cpl. James Lunny  
NCO - B Watch  
Richmond RCMP  
(604-278-1212)



