



**To:** Community Safety Committee

**Date:** January 20, 2013

**From:** Rendall Nessel  
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

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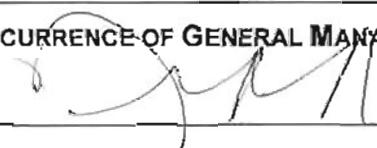


**Re:** Marine Patrol Program 2012

**Staff Recommendation**

That the report titled "Marine Patrol Program 2012" (dated January 20, 2013, from the OIC RCMP) be received for information.



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

<b>REPORT CONCURRENCE</b>	
<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b> 	
<b>REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 
<b>REVIEWED BY CAO</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 

## **Origin**

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge (OIC) will inform Council on matters pertaining to policing in the community of Richmond.

*Council's Term goals for 2011-2014 identify Community Safety as a high priority to ensure that public safety services, service delivery models and resources are effectively targeted to the City's specific needs and priorities.*

## **Purpose**

The following report was prepared to discuss the findings of the Richmond Detachment Marine Program that were conducted on the waterways surrounding the City of Richmond from October 2011 to October 2012.

The report will address:

1. Document and share statistical data garnered from patrols conducted
2. Provide rationale for the continuance of these patrols

## **Background**

The Richmond RCMP Marine Program (RMP) was created to allow a uniformed police presence on the waterways which surround the City as well as responding to marine related calls of service, and also includes, vessel safety checks, involvement in marine community events, and the enforcement of various Federal and Provincial Acts and Regulations (Criminal Code, Fisheries Act, Canada Shipping Act, and Small Vessel Regulations).

In 2011, the detachment received a donated 7.33 metre Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) as a result of a strong and long standing partnership with the Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO). As detailed in last year's report to Committee, the RMP conducted 36 patrols and checked 166 vessels in 2011.

The RMP celebrated another successful year in 2012 with the increase of 6 qualified operators to a total of 10; official naming of the vessel as the "Fraser Guardian"; and a new partnership with the Delta Police Department (DPD).

## Analysis

### Deployment and Statistics (October 2011 – October 2012)

Total patrol shifts:	77
Total vessels checked <sup>1</sup> :	218
Total marine related calls for service:	43

#### Number of Patrols:

<b>2011</b>	
October	5
November	0
December	3
<b>2012</b>	
January	6
February	4
March	5
April	3
June	16
July	15
August	13
September	<u>7</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>77</b>

The 77 patrol shifts, generally 6 to 8 hours in length, were concentrated on the weekends from June to October which is when most vessel traffic is encountered on the waters surrounding Richmond.

During the past season, there were 218 vessel checks. Each check typically lasted for approximately 15 minutes where each vessel is inspected to ensure all the required safety equipment is on-board. Depending on the results of the check the vessel was either allowed to continue or was directed to a safe location to correct the deficiency.

In 2011 most pleasure craft operators said that they had never been checked by police on the water, while in 2012, pleasure craft operators indicated that the checks were good educational experiences as well as good practical exercises to know the location of the safety equipment on board just in case there was an emergency.

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<sup>1</sup>For every vessel stop conducted, a written document is issued to the boater, indicating reason for the stop, which can be in the form of a warning ticket, actual violation ticket or a fisheries ticket or a combination of all three.

Some of the highlights of the files that the Richmond RCMP Marine Program attended include:

-Several known gang associates were checked multiple times and intelligence shared with units such as the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU) Gang Taskforce and Integrated Proceeds of Crime (IPOC) Units.

-A serious boat collision which involved an impaired operator of a vessel was attended to in the islands near Delta, BC. The Fraser Guardian attended and transported the impaired operator to Delta Police members.

-Being first on scene of an emergency landing of an aircraft in the South Arm of the Fraser River. The Fraser Guardian towed the aircraft safely to the Steveston Harbour.

-2 stolen vessels were recovered and one of them was delivered back to its rightful owner.

-Assisted in a rescue of a couple stranded on Shady Island with the Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue.

-Several body recoveries.

-The Fraser Guardian assisted with numerous tows of disabled vessels to the nearest safe dock.

### **Community Engagement**

A cornerstone of the Richmond Marine Program is for community engagement, which is one of the primary focuses of each patrol. Members patrolled local marine communities, harbours and marinas, and took part in every available marine community event that occurred in Richmond throughout the spring and summer. The boat will continue to attend any and all events throughout the year and will contribute to the safety of those events. Community events that the vessel took part in included:

- Taking part in patrols and boat launch checks for all 3 Celebration of Lights Fireworks nights
- Participating in the Richmond Maritime Festival
- Patrolling the Ships to Shore Festival
- Participating in the Dragon Boat Festival
- Patrolling the UBC Rowing Club (middle arm) Regatta.
- Name the boat contest for grade 5-7 students of Richmond schools. A media release and public event was held and the winning submission was for the name "The Fraser Guardian".

### **Partner Agencies**

New to 2012, was a trial partnership with the Delta Police Department (DPD). The partnership will continue to be assessed to determine the benefit to both agencies. Under this new partnership, the DPD agreed to share costs of the operation of the vessel and supplied DPD

members to board the Fraser Guardian. This partnership had had many benefits and is very viable as the two neighbouring jurisdictions share a large portion of the waterways that surround the City of Richmond.

Another benefit to this partnership is that it did not impact the Richmond RCMP resources as only one member is required to operate the Fraser Guardian and the DPD member serves as the second police officer aboard for officer safety reasons. DPD also agreed to pay an hourly rate while aboard the vessel which has assisted in covering the operating costs of the vessel.

In 2012, the Richmond Marine Program has continued partnerships with:

- Richmond Fire – Rescue (RFR)
- The Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue (RCMSAR) which was previously named the Auxiliary Coast Guard
- Vancouver Police Department (Marine Unit)
- RCMP Support Services (Air Services, Police Dog Services (PDS), IHIT, ERT)
- Coquitlam RCMP (Marine Unit)
- North Vancouver RCMP (Marine Unit)
- New West Police Department (Marine Unit)
- Delta Police Department
- Canada Coast Guard
- Transport Canada
- Steveston Harbour Authority
- Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

## Financial Analysis

### Revenues:

Seasonal policing contribution from E Division	\$26,498.80	
Delta Police contribution for cost sharing	<u>\$4,062.50</u>	
Total Revenues:		<u>\$30,561.30</u>

### Expenses:

Maintenance and Supplies	\$4,739.72	
Fuel	\$9,505.01	
Moorage	\$5,600.00	
Overtime	<u>\$10,716.57</u>	
Total Expenses:		<u>\$30,561.30</u>

**Total cost to Richmond Detachment** **\$0.00**

## Conclusion

The Marine Patrol Program was implemented in 2011 to conduct uniformed police patrols in the waterways surrounding the City of Richmond; to interact with the marine community and to detect, deter and investigate criminal activity in these waterways.

Given the feedback from recreational boaters and the increased deployment of the Fraser Guardian, the Richmond Marine Program has shown to be a valuable asset to the City of Richmond. The detachment has increased the levels of qualified operators to 10 police officers, the vessel was officially named the Fraser Guardian by the community, a new partnership was formed with the DPD and Marine Program has continued extensive community engagement.

A sound policing philosophy is meant to prevent crime and potential dangerous situations. Having the Fraser Guardian out on the water, educating and ensuring the vessels have all the safety equipment is one way the Richmond Marine Program is committed to enhancing the safety for the city of Richmond. The marine patrols have come to a close for the 2012 summer season; however, the boat remains available for calls for service and all marine related events.



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