

Recreational Dock Owner Society

NOTICE 11

LATEST ACTION BY VFPA

1. You will be receiving the following message from the VFPA
As per my email below, I confirm that Licence agreement BCP.....was issued to you and we still have not received the executed copy.
Please send the executed Form C by October 5, 2024.
Failure to provide by the above date will be deemed the licence is no longer required and further action will be taken.
2. Our legal team is meeting with the senior executives of VFPA within the next two weeks to seek an equitable path in resolving our issue.
3. As previously communicated, we encourage you to not take any action under the above threat until we update you with the results coming from this meeting

The RDOS team thought it may be worthwhile to provide some context to the issue we as Recreational Dock owners face. Some frequently asked questions or comments we have received at RDOS:

- 1) Why is this taking so long and why aren't we receiving the attention we feel we deserve with respect to our dock licenses.
- 2) Why are we still receiving new licenses from the VFPA while RDOS is communicating with the VFPA around the license agreements.
- 3) I feel like I am being bullied to sign this new agreement by the person administrating on behalf of the VFPA.
- 4) When can we expect an answer

FACTS

- a) The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority trades approximately **\$305 Billion Dollars** in goods with more than 170 Trading Partners and reported **\$305 million** in consolidated revenues in 2022.
- b) The Recreational Dock Owners are numbered at 550 according to the VFPA and license fees have been \$140 per annum generating gross revenue of **\$77,000** to date.
- c) The VFPA is talking about increasing fees. Fees vary, but we have seen \$600 per annum pushing gross revenue to **\$330,000** to date and will increase again in 2025.

Answers to Frequently asked questions

- 1) RDOS feels like the Recreational dock licensing program does NOT represent a large enough dollar volume to justify significant resources from the VFPA.

- 2) RDOS is in communication with VFPA upper management and legal teams via our legal and is NOT negotiating licenses at this time, as we are still awaiting a response. **RDOS feels as a result there has been no direction given to the administrators of the new licenses to cease distribution.**
- 3) The current Real Estate assistant of the VFPA administrating the dock licenses has a very brash and straightforward approach that can seem intimidating, we recommend that RDOS members reply with the RDOS standard response at this time and if you feel intimidated or threatened by the VFPA representatives' communication then please see the VFPA code of conduct below to respond accordingly.
- 4) Our legal counsel has requested a meeting with the VFPA management and has indicated we should have confirmation by September 15th of this meeting date. In addition to this RDOS will be hosting another informational townhall meeting at the end of September to update members.

VFPA CODE OF CONDUCT

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority states that “everyone acting on behalf of the port authority, including officers, employees and contractors, must treat each other, and all of our stakeholders and members of the public, with professionalism and respect, regardless of matter or position in the organization. Inappropriate or hostile behaviour will not be tolerated”.

If you have been contacted by a VFPA Employee and feel that they have not complied with this code of conduct, you can file a complaint on line as follows:

1. Using our Confidence Line by dialing 1.800.661.9675 or submitting an electronic report through www.vfpa.confidenceline.net/, or
2. Sending an email to ethics.help@portvancouver.com. This email will be received by the director, internal audit and the vice president, people and business performance.

When reporting an instance of real or suspected misconduct under this code, provide as much information as possible about the matter. You should provide a detailed description of the incident and include relevant details such as the names of the parties involved, potential witnesses, a description of the conduct or events involved in the matter, and date(s), time(s), and place(s) of incidents to the extent possible.

YOUR SUPPORT IS REQUESTED

If you have not already joined our Society or have not donated to our legal fund, we ask that you

1. Visit our website – www.recreationaldockownersociety.com – simply select “Join Us” and commit to \$20 membership fee by e-Transfer.
2. **We also ask that you contribute to our GoFundMe fundraiser to continue building a fund to cover legal costs in negotiating a favorable new license agreement.** We ask that \$500 be considered, however any amount above or below this request would be much appreciated. We have raised over \$40,000 from over 75 contributors so far, but this is short of our needs to complete this critical work. When you consider the impact to your properties, this is a small ask even though we recognize it is a hardship for some. Here is the link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-recreational-dock-owners-society?qid=a2172e7006e4501207476a631e5b5faa>

3. Alternatively, you can send a cheque to our Treasurer in the name of our Society to RDOS care of Ken Backman, 948 Alderside Rd., Port Moody, B. C. V3H 3A6

Your RDOS Team is focused on creating an agreement that works for the VFPA, the Canadian government and the waterfront property owners.

Your RDOS Executive

Ryan Sayer / Pat Dennett / Ken Backman / Daphne Herberts / Dave Reed
Kate Fraser / Darren Ferbey / Damian Regan / Gunnar Eggertson

Please direct any questions / inquiries to recreationaldockownersociety@gmail.com