

2023 Piers Island AGM Report Southern Gulf Islands Harbours Commission

Overview of Responsibilities

The Southern Gulf Islands Harbour Commission (SGIHC) is a volunteer committee under the purview of the CRD, the Commission represents 12- Gulf Island dock facilities located on Galiano, Mayne, Piers, Pender, Saturna and Vancouver Island (Swartz Bay).

As the Piers Island Representative, the Commissioner works in tandem with the Wharfinger responsible for the management and maintenance of both the Piers Island and Swartz Bay facilities.

I have stepped down from the Commission and the process for appointing a new representative has begun.

Facility Upgrades & News

- In 2022, the Government dock at Swartz Bay received a vital new float upgrade.
- Petty crime remains an issue on the Swartz Bay dock, the CRD and RCMP are aware of the issue and are looking at long term solutions. In the meantime, be aware and don't leave anything of value in your boat if you are leaving it overnight. If possible, plan ahead and pay moorage by cheque rather than by cash.
- The planned small addition to the government dock on Piers remains tied up in a multi-jurisdictional approval process. The future of this twice approved project is unknown at this juncture.

Wharfinger

The sudden and tragic passing of Mike Smart has left us without a Wharfinger. The CRD is initiating a process to find a replacement for Mike.

These will be big shoes to fill, Mike worked tirelessly behind the scenes keeping both docks functioning, safe and free of squatters. If there was ever an issue with either dock, Mike was always ready to tackle it and make it right.

Further information on this process should be forthcoming shortly.

Dock Etiquette

- Both the Swartz Bay and Piers docks are well **over capacity**.
- Both government docks are working docks, they are not intended as places to 'park' boats without regular usage.
- Rafting is a reality of using the Government docks. If you are the outside boat in a rafting situation, please ensure you have enough line to tie your boat to the dock, and not the

boat next to you. It is recommended that you carry a line that is 20-25 feet long and both port and starboard bumpers.

- The yellow bullrail is for Emergency Services and quick drop offs only.
- Moorage on both Piers and Swartz docks is not free. Be sure to deposit your payment in the payment box at the time of use.

Submitted by

John Hall
Outgoing SGI Harbours Commissioner