

# The Skaha Story (1997-2021)

Much of this history was collected in a series of virtual interviews with Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) founding members Brent Bagnall and Don Mulhall. Additional details were provided by various False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC) alumni and many other individuals with familiarity of the events of the early years of outrigger canoeing in Canada. Official records on race results for Canada / California / Hawaii / IPCF / IVF events prior to 2000 are becoming increasingly difficult to locate in order to confirm historical events / results.

## Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Roots

This chronicle is intended to capture unwritten history of outrigger canoeing at PRCC from 1997-2021, as records from prior to 2000 are becoming more and more scarce. The history of outrigger canoeing at PRCC is linked with the growth of outrigger canoeing at other Okanagan / Interior clubs including Wailua (Kamloops) Outrigger Club (formerly River Spirit Canoe Club until 2000), Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC), and Kelowna Paddle Centre (KPC). Most Canadian outrigger canoe clubs are founded through the efforts of a single or small group of individuals with a vision. Brent Bagnall and Don Mulhall would be those individuals who would start PRCC. This chronicle begins with the relocation of Brent Bagnall from Vancouver to Penticton in 1989 followed by the relocation of Launa Maundrell / Don Mulhall from Vancouver to Penticton in 1996. There are essentially two paths that converged to lead to the development of outrigger canoeing at PRCC.



1. ***"The Burrard"* - First OC6 In Canada**
2. **Pacific Northwest Diaspora**

### ***"The Burrard"* - First OC6 In Canada**

The complete story of how *"The Burrard"* arrived in Canada in 1986 until it made its final contribution to the Canadian outrigger canoeing community in 2006 may be found in a CORA Historical Committee publication that stitches together all the threads of research from March 2020 to August 2021 and traces the growth of outrigger canoeing from the BC Lower Mainland to the Okanagan to Vancouver Island. That CORA Historical Committee publication is continuously being revised as CORA receives new information based on feedback from individuals with first-hand knowledge.

*"The Burrard"* had moved from False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) to Wailua (Kamloops) Outrigger Club to Jericho Outrigger Canoe Club (JOCC) to Pemberton Canoe Club to Victoria Canoe Kayak Club (VCKC) to Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC) from 1987-1996. It had been believed that *"The Burrard"* had spent time on Salt Spring Island, but the most recent understanding is that *"The Burrard"* had moved from Penticton to Hornby Island circa 2000.

Brent Bagnall and Don Mulhall managed to locate *"The Burrard"* and trailered it to PRCC in 1997. Much like the Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC) experience, the canoe was so heavy that PRCC members had to put it on logs to roll it Fred Flintstone style into Okanagan Lake. When PRCC had acquired their Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) in 1999, PRCC donated *"The Burrard"* to Brein Kalai Foerster on Hornby Island who was making Kalai Custom Paddles at the time and was interested in turning *"The Burrard"* into a sailing canoe.

### **Kalai Custom Paddles**

Brein Kalai Foerster was born in Rochester, Minnesota, USA. but grew up on the west coast of Canada. At age 11, he became fascinated with the Native art of the Haida native people, and began carving totem poles, and other related art forms, learning from Native teachers. After completing an Honours Bachelor of Science degree, Brien decided to take up

carving and sculpture full time, at the age of 25. In 1995 he moved to Maui, Hawaii, and was hired as assistant project manager for the building of the 62-foot double hull sailing canoe (ancestor of the modern-day catamaran) Mo'okiha O Pi'ilani (Sacred Lizard That Pierces The Heavens.) This project lasted two years.

There, having learned how to make Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddles from master carver Keola Sequiera, he started an online outrigger paddle business on Hornby Island, which flourished internationally. Brein Kalai Foerster is now living on Bainbridge Island in Washington State USA, where he continues to make high quality, lightweight outrigger canoeing racing paddles. [01]



"The Burrard" stayed on Hornby Island until circa 2004. Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC) has confirmed that "The Burrard" spent several years in retirement at the Comox outrigger canoe compound until sometime in 2006, when "The Burrard" iakos and ama formed a wedding arch at the betrothal of Jackie Bell.

## Pacific Northwest Diaspora

The first time that the IVF / IPCF (International Polynesian Canoe Federation) dictated specific criteria for the design of the OC6s and made the host organization responsible for providing the OC6s and V1s was at the 1992 Natoma IVF / IPCF 5th World Sprints Championships. This resulted in the manufacture of a large number of IPCF hulls by the Northern California Outrigger Canoe Association (NCOCA). The 1992 Natoma IVF / IPCF World Sprints was well attended by West Coast (Canada / Washington / Oregon / California) paddlers. [02]



The Pacific Northwest Outrigger Racing Canoe Association (PNWORCA) was just getting established in 1992 and the Columbia River Outrigger Canoe Club (CROCC) in Portland, OR was formed in 1992. The Gorge Outrigger Race had not yet achieved the attention that would eventually make it one of the most popular races in the Pacific Northwest. By the early 1990s, the Race Around The Island (RATI) hosted by Columbia River Outrigger Canoe Club (CROCC) in Portland, OR, had become the Pacific Northwest race for BC / Washington / Oregon / California paddlers.

There do not seem to be any written records, but PNWORCA paddlers recall that California teams trailered older OC6s (*Malias*; Bradley Racers; IPCF '92 hulls; Dennis Campbell Rhinos; Hawaiian Class Racers (HCR) to the Portland RATI race, sold them to PNWORCA clubs to help build up the Pacific Northwest OC6 fleet, then bought newer OC6s such as the Bradley Striker and Force Five to upgrade the California OC6 fleet.

We have reason to believe that Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC) took their trailer to the States in the late 1990s and brought back two Dennis Campbell Rhinos as their first two OC6s several years before PRCC had acquired their Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) via the same route as those two Dennis Campbell Rhinos.



Apparently, Brent Bagnall with PRCC made a deal with San Francisco Outrigger Canoe Club (SFOCC) at the 1998 Catalina Channel Crossing race to have a Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) delivered to the Columbia River Outrigger Canoe Club's Race Around The Island (RATI) in 1999. Kikaha O Ke Kai of Tacoma, WA did not have an OC6 at that time and had their eyes on that Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR), but someone named Dave Olds, trailered that OC6 from Portland, OR to Seattle, WA. Don Mulhall, of PRCC, drove to Seattle during rush hour and picked up the OC6 with a trailer borrowed from Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC). Don Mulhall trailered the Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) to Canada where it joined the club's loaner OC6 "The Burrard" to

become the second OC6 at PRCC.

## Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Outrigger Canoe Fleet

CORA has noted how the importance of the ongoing introduction of new canoes to clubs and regions has contributed to the growth of the sport. Don Mulhall has served as an intermediary in expanding access to canoes to other CORA member clubs through his efforts to continuously expand and upgrade the PRCC fleet

By 1999, PRCC had acquired two OC6s for their fleet. *"The Burrard"* CORA loaner canoe came from Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC) in 1997 and the Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) came from San Francisco Outrigger Canoe Club (SFOCC) in 1999.



*Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) with Hawaiian Hawk ama - Lokahi*

Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC) had acquired two Dennis Campbell Rhinos from the States in the late 1990s several years before PRCC had acquired their Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR). When Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC) upgraded their OC6 fleet with the addition of Clipper Advantages and an Outrigger Connection Mirage in the early 2000s, Don Mulhall arranged to have the two Dennis Campbell Rhinos sold to PRCC to expand their fleet to three OC6s.

Don Mulhall then arranged for PRCC to acquire a Calmar Canadian Class Racer (CCR) in the early 2000s. One of the Dennis Campbell Rhinos was then sold to a Victoria club to expand the fleet of OC6s on Vancouver Island. This first Dennis Campbell Rhino would then move onwards to Sproat Lake Canoe Club (SLCC) and then to Yellowknife and then to Prince Rupert. [03] The other Dennis Campbell Rhino was then sold to Pacific Reach in 2006 to expand their fleet of OC6s. This second Dennis Campbell Rhino would then move onwards through the Inside Passage to a new home.

### Dennis Campbell Rhino Legacy

The orange-deck / white-hull (Keahou) Dennis Campbell Rhino (R02 as per older CORA Canoe Registries) had been acquired by Pacific Reach in 2006 from PRCC after *Duel In The Desert*, unfortunately not showing the distinctive "Rhino horn" in this photo, as seen on the stern of *"The Burrard"*. Pacific Reach had the Dennis Campbell Rhino until 2009 when it was sold to a fellow from Alaska, who put an outboard motor on it and drove it from English Bay to Alaska up the Inside Passage. It took the fellow about one week to get to Alaska where he made it into a sailing canoe.







*Orange-deck / white-hull (Keahou) Dennis Campbell Rhino at Pacific Reach Kits Beach Compound*

As fate would have it, Prince Rupert Outrigger Association would acquire the last of the two Dennis Campbell Rhinos from Sproat Lake Canoe Club (SLCC) in 2009 and trailer this OC6 that had travelled from California to Vernon to Penticton to Victoria to Sproat Lake Canoe Club (SLCC) onwards to Yellowknife, where it would spend several years there until it made its way to the Cow Bay Marina at Prince Rupert in 2012. This Dennis Campbell Rhino has likely covered more distance than any other OC6 in Canada. The design of *"The Burrard"* and the two Dennis Campbell Rhinos, each with the distinctive "Rhino horn" on the stern offers credence to the theory that these three OC6s are "related" in that the Dennis Campbell Rhino mould may have been the source of *"The Burrard"* brought to Canada in 1986/1987 and the two Dennis Campbell Rhinos brought to Vernon in the early 1990s.



A visit by none other than Johnny Puakea in the summer of 2021 to the forest behind the home of Jackie Bell in Comox led to the realization that *"The Burrard"* was indeed a Dennis Campbell Rhino, the OC6 chosen for the inaugural 1984 Long Beach California IPCF World Sprints. [04]



*Blue-deck / white-hull (Ehukai) Dennis Campbell Rhino at Sproat Lake*

The blue-deck / white-hull (Ehukai) Dennis Campbell Rhino (R01 as per older CORA Canoe Registries) had been acquired by Sproat Lake Canoe Club (SLCC) Canoe Club from an outrigger canoe club in Victoria by way of PRCC, showing the distinctive "Rhino horn" as seen on the stern of *"The Burrard"*. It is believed that when Pete Hartman & Kris Terauds founded Westbay Performance Paddling Club, the blue-deck / white-hull (Ehukai) Dennis Campbell Rhino may have been their starter outrigger canoe until it was sold to Sproat Lake Canoe Club (SLCC) Canoe Club in 2003. [05]



*Tan-deck / white-hull (Ehukai) Dennis Campbell Rhino at Prince Rupert*

The tan-deck / white-hull (Ehukai) Dennis Campbell Rhino (R01 as per older CORA Canoe Registries) had been acquired by Prince Rupert from Sproat Lake Canoe Club (SLCC) presumably from Westbay Performance Paddling Club from PRCC, showing the distinctive "Rhino horn" as seen on the stern of *"The Burrard"*.

Prior to 2002, Jericho Outrigger Canoe Club (JOCC) had a variety of Surfrigger and Kaiwi Challenger OC1s for small-boat training. Open Ocean Outrigger (Ross Creasy and Melanie Whittall) had contracted Western Canoe & Kayaking to manufacture a line of one-person outrigger canoes. Jericho Outrigger Canoe Club (JOCC) had acquired three of the first generation sit-on-top C-Lion OC1s from Open Ocean Outrigger (OOO) in 2002. Jericho would sell all three of these first-generation C-Lion OC1s to PRCC in 2005 to finance the acquisition of three of the second-generation open cockpit sit-inside C-Lion ST OC1s from Open Ocean Outrigger (OOO) in 2006.

Don Mulhall then arranged for PRCC to acquire an Outrigger Connection Mirage sometime between 2007-2009, bringing the PRCC fleet to three OC6s.



*Canadian Class Racer (CCR) - Ahonui*



*Outrigger Connection Mirage - Kia Pa'a*

Between 2016-2017, Don Mulhall orchestrated a deal to sell the PRCC Canadian Class Racer (CCR) to Kelowna Paddle Club (KPC) to provide Kelowna Paddle Club (KPC) with a second Canadian Class Racer (CCR) to rig a double-hull (V12) for winter paddling. Don Mulhall utilized the proceeds from the sale of the Canadian Class Racer (CCR) to finance the acquisition of two Bradley Lightnings and upgrade the PRCC fleet to four modern OC6s.





*Bradley Lightning - Ka Makani O Skaha*



*Bradley Lightning - Holomakani*

The Bradley Hawaiian Hawk ama was included with each of the 80+ Bradley Lightnings manufactured by Pogue Sports between 2007-2012. When Canadian production of the Bradley Lightning came to an end in 2012/2013, the Bradley Hawaiian Hawk ama mould was delivered to Ron Kaschula of Calmar Fibreglass. Don Mulhall was one of many Canadian club directors to order Bradley Hawaiian Hawk amas to supplement their ageing OC6 amas.

Although it is common practice among Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, and Polynesia outrigger clubs to name their canoes and provide a page on their websites dedicated to the history of their canoes, this is a cultural tradition followed by very few Canadian clubs. Many outrigger clubs give their canoes names associated with the land and waters surrounding their location or names of departed club members. There is also a cultural tradition of a blessing ceremony by the paddling community to instill goodwill upon the canoe. Don Mulhall has played a part in ensuring this cultural tradition is ingrained at PRCC with every OC6 given a meaningful name. Hence the names for the current and former club OC6s (Keahou - Dennis Campbell Rhino, Ehukai - Dennis Campbell Rhino, Lokahi - Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR), Ahonui - Canadian Class Racer, Kia Pa'a - Outrigger Connection Mirage, Ka Makani O Skaha - Bradley Lightning, Holomakani - Bradley Lightning). [06]

# Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Events

## Duel In The Desert

Don Mulhall has a long history of volunteer effort as Race Director and registrar and timer not only for various Penticton OC6, novel small-boat, and dragon boat events, but also for events hosted by other clubs.

The PRCC Duel In The Desert inaugural event took place in 1999. Don Mulhall served as Race Director for the PRCC Duel In The Desert event for the first time in 1999 and every year through 2019. PRCC hosted the 21st annual Duel In The Desert Outrigger Canoe race at Skaha Lake in May 2019 making this the third longest continuously running outrigger canoe race in Canada. [07] This event has generally been the first race of the CORA Cup Race Series. The COVID pandemic of 2020/2021 caused a 2-year hiatus for this successful event. The Duel In The Desert OC6 and small-boat event was started in 1999 by co-founders Brent Bagnall and Don Mulhall. Don Mulhall has been Race Director all 21 times that this event had been held. This event has had a reputation for having some of the most attractive awards and prizes courtesy of a diverse set of sponsors including Lake Breeze Winery, Cannery Brewing, Summerland Sweets, and Tree Brewing. [08] [09] [10] [11] [12] [13] [14] [15] [16]

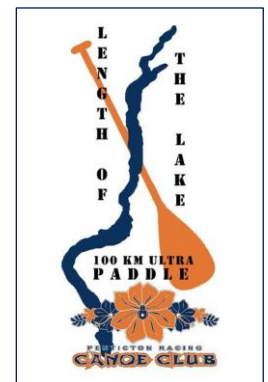


## Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance Race



Brent Bagnall had participated in dragon boat with crews coached by Drew Mitchell in the late 1980s. There are references that this event was officially established in 2000, but it is believed that Drew Mitchell and Brent Bagnall and Don Mulhall started this event informally in the late 1990s. Brent Bagnall was a stimulus in getting outrigger going in PRCC with introduction of the Duel In The Desert Iron event and the Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance (100KM) event.

2006 was the 7th year for the Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance event hosted by PRCC as per the Jericho website. [17] The Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance event was held from 2001-2006, but not in 2000. There are no records going back prior to 2000, so the 1st year for the Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance event may have been anywhere between 1996 to 1999.



PRCC and Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC) have jointly hosted the Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance event that was held for the 19th time in 2019. This event is a 100-kilometre paddle from Kin Beach in Vernon to the Peach at Okanagan Lake in Penticton for one-person, or two-person, or six-person canoes. [18] [19] [20] [21] It is cultural tradition for participants to "Kiss the Peach" after reaching the beach at Penticton. [22]



## Skaha Downwinder



PRCC has hosted a Skaha Downwind event between Penticton and Okanagan Falls for one-person and two-person boats as well as six-person outrigger canoes with direction determined by the winds to create the much sought-after waves and rough conditions that help propel the craft along the route. [23]

## Rattlesnake Island Small Boat Race

PRCC has hosted a Rattlesnake Island Small Boat Race in mid-August from Antlers Beach around Rattlesnake Island, a small island on Okanagan Lake located directly east of Peachland BC, as one of the last events of the Okanagan Small-Boat Race Series. [24]



## Channel Parkway Small Boat Race

PRCC has hosted a Channel Parkway 10KM small-boat event between Skaha Lake and Okanagan Lake designed to take advantage of the winds that the South Okanagan traditionally gets in the Autumn months where the race direction is determined by which way the wind is blowing. [25]



*Channel Parkway 10KM Small-Boat Competition*

## Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF)



GO Rowing & Paddling Association of Canada (GO) existed from 1996-2014. GO was a non-profit Amateur Athletic Association, and registered charity, dedicated to sharing the benefits of sport with Canadians of all ages and athletic abilities. Concentrating on rowing & paddling sports, GO strived to encourage participation, personal challenge and the pursuit of excellence from the grass-roots to the Olympic podium. GO

broadened access to sport by offering programs that encouraged broad participation, by producing dynamic community events and by developing new and expanded facilities. [26]

Don Mulhall, coach of the Penticton Dragon Boat Club, has been part of dragon boat training and racing in Penticton since the beginning. Don Mulhall started working for GO Rowing & Paddling Association as head coach and manager of the Penticton Paddle Centre. Don Mulhall was responsible for having GO Rowing & Paddling Association deliver a dragon boat, paddles, and PFDs to Penticton in Spring 2000.



Don Mulhall has provided race management for the Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) for 20 years from 2000-2019. Don Mulhall has acted as Race Director not only in Penticton, but also for some of BC's bigger dragon boat and outrigger canoeing events including Nanaimo, Kelowna, BC Senior's Games, and Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC). In 2014 GO Rowing & Paddling Association turned all of its operations over to the respective local groups to manage.



Originally held on Okanagan Lake, the Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) has now found its home at beautiful Skaha Lake Park. The Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) has grown to be one of Penticton's largest sporting events and festivals as many teams make the Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) the big season-ending event their teams train for all year. The Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) has attracted over 2,000 competitors from 80+ teams and generates more than \$2.3 million in direct and indirect economic impact. [27] [28]

Dragon boating began in Penticton in 2000 and Don Mulhall has been part of dragon boat training and racing in Penticton since the beginning. Although Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) was cancelled for 2020 and 2021, Don Mulhall and the Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) organizers put on a "give Dragon Boating a try" free session in early August 2021. A record number of interested people showed up that Saturday morning at Skaha Lake. The Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF) team hosted Introduction to Dragonboat lessons every Tuesday and Thursday night from Aug-10 to Sep-2.

On what would have been the weekend of the 21st Annual Penticton Dragon Boat Festival (PDBF), local paddlers came out and had a socially distanced, double-vaxed mini festival organized by Don Mulhall on a beautiful Saturday morning, all the while raising funds for Penticton's new Boathouse. [29]

## Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Venues

The PRCC canoes ("*The Burrard*" and the Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR)) were on the beach at Okanagan Lake in front of the Penticton Lakeside Resort & Conference Centre initially for several years. Depending on which day geo-mapping satellites download images to geo-mapping software, you may see the PRCC Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) on the beach at the east-end of the Penticton Lakeside Resort & Conference Centre property under the very same tree where it was parked in the early years and has been occasionally stored for outings on Okanagan Lake.



The PRCC canoes were on the beach at Okanagan Lake until Don Mulhall approached the City of Penticton Parks and Recreation in the early 2000s about converting a shed constructed in the 1960s at Skaha Lake Park East into storage for dragon boats and outrigger canoes. Penticton outrigger canoe and dragon boat paddlers have worked with Don Mulhall to convert this shed and adjacent fenced area into a compound for 3 outrigger canoes and 7 dragon boats and all manner of small-boats (30+). Since acquiring this boathouse for PRCC, Don Mulhall has invested extensive

volunteer time for many years to provide the club with an OC6 trailer, outrigger canoe and dragon boat carts, racks for small-boats, and secured donations of life-saving equipment Automated External Defibrillators (AED).



Don Mulhall collaborated with the City of Penticton from 2019-2021 on the Skaha Lake Park East Plan with stakeholders including Penticton City Council, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, Penticton Indian Band Council and staff, Skaha Marina, Protect Penticton Parks Society, Penticton, and the Dragon Boat Festival Society to assist with improvements to the park that will hopefully provide Penticton and the Dragon Boat Festival Society with a new and expanded boathouse near the existing footprint. [30]

A very identifiable orange buoy named "Jack" had been moored off a set of houses on Eastside Road and served as a reference point for at least eight years for club dragon boat and outrigger canoe 5.33KM time trials, as well as a marker known around the province by competitors for some of the longer outrigger canoe race courses. When Jack was found just off Skaha Lake beach in early 2018 following the winter ice break up, Don Mulhall went to great lengths to help get "Jack" back home to his owner. [31] [32]



## Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Achievements

PRCC crews and paddlers did well at California outrigger canoeing events and Edmonton World Masters Games in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Don Mulhall and Tina Hoebein coached PRCC competitive, recreational, and Junior crews to success at CORA Cup Series races, PNWORCA events, and Hawaii races for over a decade. Some of those successes have received significant press coverage:

- The PRCC mixed crew battled windy conditions and big water to finish first at the 2011 Freshwater Challenge 44-KM change race at Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC). [33]
- The PRCC mixed crew finished first at the 2013 National Iron Championship race at Vernon placing them as the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) National Champions. [34]
- PRCC crews topped the podium at the 2014 Canadian National Outrigger Races at Gibsons as crews battled strong winds and some of the year's strongest tide changes at a race that went out of Gibsons harbour northwest along the coast and turned back to go around Keats Island and returned to Gibsons. [35]
- Competing at the 2015 Maui-To-Molokai open ocean race in waves more than 17 feet high and winds of 35 knots and finishing OC2 Mens 3rd. [36]
- PRCC Juniors took 2015 Canadian Outrigger Race Association (CORA) Cup Junior Trophy National honours while PRCC Mixed crew earned the Canadian Outrigger Race Association (CORA) Cup Trophy for the third year in a row for top mixed crew at races held at Jericho Sailing Centre on English Bay around Passage Island and back. [37]
- PRCC crews came away with four medals from the 2017 Canadian National Championship at Harrison Hot Springs in OC6 and small-boat.
- PRCC crew took 1st place Mixed Sr Masters and 2nd overall Mixed at the 2017 Bellingham Classic OC6 Iron race where winds made for some exciting conditions on the water. [38]



### Outrigger Camps

Aside from being outrigger coach for Penticton outrigger canoe and dragon boat crews, Don Mulhall has also coordinated one-week outrigger canoe camps in 2016 and 2017 on Maui in the Winter. His promotional material provides extensive information on flights, accommodation, ground transportation, training, and sightseeing. [39]



## Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) Luminaries



Brent Bagnall had participated in dragon boat with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) crews coached by Drew Mitchell in the late 1980s. Brent Bagnall relocated from Vancouver to Penticton in the early 1990s and was a stimulus in getting outrigger canoeing going in Penticton with introduction of the Duel In The Desert Iron race and the Length Of The Lake Ultra-Distance (100KM) event. Brent Bagnall, co-founder of Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC) and 2002-2003 CORA President, [40] would trailer *"The Burrard"* to Penticton in late 1997 where it sat on the beach at Okanagan Lake to become the starter outrigger canoe for PRCC.



Brent Bagnall led PRCC mixed crews to Catalina Channel Crossing races 3-4 times from 1998-2003. It was at the 1998 Catalina Channel Crossing race, that Brent Bagnall made a deal with San Francisco Outrigger Canoe Club (SFOCC) to have a Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR) delivered to the Columbia River Outrigger Canoe Club's Race Around The Island (RATI) in 1999. Brent Bagnall relocated from the Okanagan to Vancouver Island in 2006. Brent Bagnall led PRCC on a road trip in 1999 and raced at Lake Tahoe, then the Catalina Channel Crossing race and then the Angel Island race hosted by Tamalpais Outrigger Canoe Club (TOCC), won by the PRCC mixed crew. PRCC did the 2001 Catalina Channel Crossing race, only to find themselves stranded due to 9/11 in Costa Mesa CA, where they ended up renting a van and driving home to BC as all flights had been cancelled.



The unplanned effort to collect CORA outrigger canoeing history was a spin-off from the CORA Canoe Registry initiative. Brent Bagnall agreed to sit for an interview in 2021 that resulted in a vast set of material on PRCC that would become the *"The Skaha Story"*. Brent Bagnall provided recollections of events / times / places / individuals related to Okanagan canoeing history spanning the late 1990s through present day.

## 2005 Edmonton World Masters Games

PRCC would send several competitors to the 2005 Edmonton World Masters Games. Risa Greenwood would take Silver in two OC1 events, finishing behind only Sheila Kuyper. Kathryn Ginther would take Gold and Silver in two OC1 events, finishing just ahead or just behind Sheila Kuyper. Neda Joss would take Gold and Silver in two OC1 events, finishing just ahead or just behind Rosemary (Baird) Henry. Ron Pronger would take Silver in two OC1 events, finishing behind only Bob Stewart (Mister Aloha). Neda Joss was part of the first efforts at starting outrigger canoeing at Penticton in 1996 and served on the CORA Board 2002-2003. Risa Greenwood also served on the CORA Board 2002-2003. [41] [42]



Tina Hoeben has been the long-time Head Coach of KISU Swim Club in Penticton BC. An accomplished coach who has pursued education through the National Coaching Certification Program, National Women in Coaching programs and serves as a role model and mentor to other coaches across the province. Tina was named the first ever Swim BC Female Coach of the Year. [43] Tina Hoeben as coach for PRCC was able to qualify 7 Junior paddlers for the 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints. [44] Tina Hoeben and Don Mulhall have coached PRCC crews to success at CORA races for many years. [45] [46]



Launa Maundrell / Don Mulhall relocated from Vancouver to Penticton in the 1996 and Don Mulhall is recognized as a Founding Member of Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC).

Don Mulhall has contributed to the ongoing success of PRCC as a member of the PRCC Executive since circa 1999. Don Mulhall and Tina Hoeben have composed and published countless articles on the PRCC website highlighting events hosted by PRCC and worldwide events attended by PRCC members.

Don Mulhall has been active in the local community as a liaison with the municipal government and has delivered communiques in support of the engagement processes for the future of Skaha Lake (PRCC) and Okanagan Lake (KPC) waterfront access. [47] [48]

Don Mulhall has always been committed to spreading the legacy of outrigger canoeing experiences to other paddlers. Don Mulhall as outrigger coach and director has organized PRCC paddlers for local and faraway events. Don Mulhall and Tina Hoeben have been able to generate interest within the outrigger canoeing and dragon boat paddling community by having articles regarding the experience of PRCC paddlers published by local media sites including Penticton Herald, Today In BC, Penticton Western News, Castanet, Kelowna Daily Courier, Summerland Review, Keremeos Review, and Kialoa Blogs.

Don Mulhall has contributed to the ongoing success of the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) by serving on the CORA Board in several roles from 2017-2019. The effort to coordinate the CORA Cup Series Points Results has become increasingly simplified courtesy of Don Mulhall. His diligence in composing and publishing the CORA Cup Series Rules provided clarity for CORA teams participating in the CORA Cup Series.

The COVID pandemic of 2020/2021 prompted cancellation of sports activities worldwide. Although in-person outrigger canoe racing did not resume until July 2021, Don Mulhall as outrigger director for PRCC collaborated with the CORA Board to include PRCC as a CORA Sanctioned Event host club for the CORA 2021 Spring Virtual Races. Don Mulhall was the **ONLY** one of 12 CORA Sanctioned Event host clubs who communicated to the CORA Board the appreciation of his club for the volunteer efforts by CORA.

The unplanned effort to collect CORA outrigger canoeing history was a spin-off from the CORA Canoe Registry initiative. Don Mulhall agreed to sit for an interview in 2021 that resulted in a vast set of material on PRCC that would become the *"The Skaha Story"*. Don Mulhall provided recollections of events / times / places / individuals related to Okanagan canoeing history spanning the late 1990s through present day.

## Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award



The purpose of the ***Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award*** is to recognize volunteers who have made significant and exemplary contributions to the Outrigger Canoe Racing Discipline of Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) within Canada in the Builder Category. [49]

Prior to the 2019 CORA AGM there was no formal policy / process for administering and bestowing this award upon an individual. An outcome of the 2019 CORA AGM was approval of a policy / process to administer and potentially bestow this award upon a member each year. [50]

The CORA Board reviewed nominations received for the 2021 season and recognized Don Mulhall, of Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC), as the 2021 recipient of the ***Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award***.



## References

#	Note	Link
[01]	1999 About Brien Foerster	<a href="https://www.smashwords.com/profile/view/hiddenincatours/">https://www.smashwords.com/profile/view/hiddenincatours/</a>
[02]	1992 Sacramento IVF World Sprints	<a href="http://www.ivfiv.org/1992-california.html">http://www.ivfiv.org/1992-california.html</a>
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