

The False Creek Story (1981-2000)

Much of this history was collected in a series of virtual interviews with Canada Games 1977 C1 Medalist and Pan Am Games 1982 / 1983 C1 / C2 Medalist Drew Mitchell. Additional details were provided by various False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Lotus Sports Club 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

Major Revision

The original "*False Creek Legacy*" was published in early-2021, but many events / trends have transpired between early-2021 and late-2025, such that a Major Revision was in order before the CORA Historical Committee concluded their mandate as of early-2026. Some of the key points that are documented in various sections through-out this document are as follows:

- Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Inductions: Drew Mitchell was a recipient of the Hugh Town Builder Award in 2020. Alan Carlsson and Cheryl Skribe and David Boulding and Don Irvine and Drew Mitchell and Heather Taylor and Hugh Fisher and Jackie Webber and Melanie Whittall and Rick Nu'u were inducted into the Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame in late-2021. Andrea Dillon and Kamini Jain were inducted into the Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame in late-2022. Daphne Ann Brockington and Jacinta Sheridan and Linda Daigle were inducted into the Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame in late-2025. Their Hugh Town Builder Award and Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bios have been included / referenced in the **Luminaries** section.
- Various False Creek Racing Canoe Club alumni provided a wealth of photos from the early days of False Creek Sports Club, and these photos have been incorporated into this document in various sections.
- CORA adopted a standard template for Club Legacy documents several years after the original "*False Creek Legacy*" was published, and this standard template with a table of References (with updated links) instead of inline links has been applied to this Club Legacy document.
- The CORA Canoe Registry Initiative that ran from early-2020 through early-2026 provided an up-to-date record of the OC6s / OC4s that had been acquired / transferred by clubs and a fairly accurate timeline of those acquisitions / transfers / dispositions, such that much of the information originally captured on club outrigger canoe fleets was incorrect and/or outdated.

Roots / Threads / Chapters

This chronicle is intended to capture unwritten history of outrigger canoeing at False Creek from 1981-2000, as records from prior to 2000 are becoming more and more scarce. increasingly more difficult to locate. The history of outrigger canoeing at False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) is linked with flatwater / marathon sprint canoe / kayaking and dragon boat racing. There are essentially four paths / threads / chapters that converged to lead to the development of outrigger canoeing at False Creek.

1. California / Hawaii Outrigger
2. Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club
3. Calgary Canoe Club
4. Expo '86



California / Hawaii Outrigger

Based on an article by Doug Mancell of Lotus and a series of interviews with Grace Morissette of Lotus, there is a very high level of certainty that there were no OC6s in Canada until after a California Malia mould was brought across the border

circa 1986 and a group of individuals from Lotus manufactured the first Canadian Malias in 1987 in the Nimbus Kayaks fibreglass shop owned by Steve Schleicher. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, there were no outrigger canoe clubs in Canada. Canadian paddlers who were interested in participating in the Catalina Channel Crossing race or the Molokai Hoe needed to join a US crew participating in these races or form crews with other Canadian paddlers.

Hugh Fisher was one of the first Canadian paddlers to participate in the Catalina Channel Crossing race and the Molokai Hoe. The Molokai Hoe has long been considered the world outrigger canoe racing championship. The Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame website indicates that Hugh Fisher is a four-time world outrigger canoe racing champion. The Canadian Encyclopedia notes that Hugh Fisher was 1979 and 1980 outrigger world champion. [101] [102]

Both Drew Mitchell and Grace Morissette have provided information that Hugh Fisher raced in the late 1970s and early 1980s with Blazing Paddles in Southern California led by Billy Whitford. There are records that show that during the late 1970s and early 1980s. Imua Outrigger Canoe Club of Newport Beach CA led by Dennis Campbell was the dominant club in the Catalina Channel Crossing race. [103]

However, mens and womens teams led by Billy Whitford including Blazing Paddles and Offshore Canoe Club were the only California clubs to win the Molokai Hoe and Molokai Na Wahine races during the late 1970s and early 1980s. [104] [105] [106]

Assuming that Hugh Fisher was indeed a four-time world outrigger canoe racing champion, then it is highly likely that Hugh Fisher raced with Blazing Paddles in 1978 and with Offshore Canoe Club in 1981, 1982, and 1984 or 1989. There were several False Creek and Lotus paddlers who formed or joined crews to participate in the Catalina Channel Crossing race in the early 1980s prior to the first Canadian Malias being trailered by Lotus Sports Club to California for official weighing by Bud Hohl. It is highly likely that it was shortly after the 1986 Catalina Channel Crossing race that David Boulding of False Creek arranged to have Bud Hohl load the California Malia mould that had been in some fellow's backyard for quite a while onto the Necky trailer to be towed to Sumas, WA.

Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club

Canoe Kayak BC introduced a program in 1982 to support Olympic flat-water sprint canoe kayak racing. [111] [112] [113] [114] [115]

Drew Mitchell, with Canoe Kayak BC, was responsible for organizing Olympic flat-water sprint canoe kayak racing at various Canoe Kayak BC sites including Nanaimo, Penticton, Maple Ridge, and False Creek. Ridge Canoe & Kayak Club would give rise to Pan Am Games Jr C2 medalist and future False Creek paddler Sean McBeath. [116]

In Canada, a racing class exists for the C-15 or WC or "War Canoe". There was a time when the sight of war canoes throughout the Okanagan in Peachland, Summerland, Penticton, Naramata, Kelowna, and Vernon was not uncommon. The sport attracted both men and women and continued full force from the 1920s until the outbreak of World War Two before its popularity waned. Part of the intent of this program was to restore flat-water sprint canoe kayak racing to areas where it had gone dormant. [121] [122] [123] [124] [125]



Regatta No. 2 mural of "War Canoe" event on July 28, 1910 on west wall of the Naramata Museum

Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club already had an established flat-water sprint canoe kayak racing program with a number of athletes who would go onto participate in the Olympics, World Championships and Pan Am Games. These athletes included Hugh Fisher, Colin Shaw, Don Irvine, Sheila Taylor, and Drew Mitchell. [126]

Anthony (Tony) Hall (future Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame) landed a position coaching paddlers in British Columbia at the Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club for a few years before returning to Nova Scotia to lead Orenda Canoe Club to a national championship in 1987. [127]

Many of the Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club paddlers joined the False Creek Sprint Canoe Club (Society). A Canoe Kayak BC website article notes False Creek Sprint Canoe Club being founded in 1981 with the help of False Creek Community Centre Director (and National Nikkei Museum & Heritage Centre Director) Carol Sogawa. It was founded in the early 1980s by Sprint Kayak Olympic Gold Medalist Hugh Fisher together with Heather Taylor, Don Irvine, Andrea Dillon, firefighter Bill Cowie, and Patrick Couling (a board member of the False Creek Community Centre for 30 years). The Canoe Kayak BC website article has photos of the False Creek Sprint Canoe Club (Society) boat compound when Carol Sogawa advocated for the club to get some more space. [128] [131] [132] [133] [134]



False Creek Sprint Canoe Club (Society) boat compound early 1980s



Alder Bay dock outside False Creek Community Centre as-is since 1980s except for occasional winter freezes



1980s



1990s



2000s

Calgary Canoe Club

We know that Calgary Canoe Club in the late 1980s had formed one of the top sprint canoeing clubs in Western Canada including Kamini Jain, Paul Dever, and Jackie Webber, led by captain Dan O'Donovan. There are several web articles that mention these paddlers in the 1987 Western Canada Summer Games. Sometime between 1987 and 1992, this group of sprint canoe paddlers moved to Vancouver to join the False Creek Sprint Canoe Club (Society). [136]

Calgary Herald
Editor: George Blych
CALGARY, AUGUST 16, 1987

Hall's canoeists make big splash

By Vance Oliver
(Herald staff writer)

City officials need not worry. Orenda's head coach Tony Hall says he was ivory-clean when team members threw him in the Glenmore Reservoir on Saturday to herald the club's supremacy at the national canoeing championships.

Hall led his Lake Echo, N.S., team to the Aggregate Burgee victory with 177 points, easily outdistancing second-place Mississauga by 22 points. Rideau Canoe Club of Ottawa finished third with 123 points while the Calgary Canoe Club finished 15th — among 38 clubs — with 16 points.

"It's a dream come true," said the 27-year-old Hall. "There are only 700 families in our community at Lake Echo, but everyone, I mean everyone, works together for this club."

Hall was launched into the Reservoir's cold water after his senior men's war canoe entry finished sixth in the last competition of the day.

"We had already won (Aggregate Burgee)," a jubilant Hall said after the race. "We were just going out there for fun."

The war canoe events, consisting of 14 paddlers and a captain, are particular to Canadian Canoeing. No other country in the world trains for that event.

Calgary Canoe Club's entry in the junior women's war canoe 500 metres captured a silver medal in their event, but they were far from happy.

The 14-woman crew and captain Dan O'Donovan shed enough tears to overflow the Reservoir.

Calgary led throughout the race until the last 10 metres, when the Mississauga crew's last three strokes propelled them ahead across the finish line in two minutes, 6.56 seconds. Calgary finished second in 2:07.00.

"I didn't even see them coming," said O'Donovan, who led his crew to second place in the nationals last year as well. "They must of come on strong in the last 10 metres."

"It's too bad because we blew everybody away at the start."

"We just died in the end," added sobbing crew member Lara Gorman. "We were really going for the gold."

"I guess there's always a next year."

Earlier Gorman, along with teammates Kamini Jain, Gillian Hamilton and Susan Bornemann, picked up a silver medal in the junior women's K-4 (kayak four-person) 500 metres, completing the course in 1:28.92.

Orenda's Joanne Trider, Zanée Bahinger, Leslie Ann Young and Jennifer Kilgar finished first in 1:56.33.

"We're especially happy with that finish, since we were competing out of our age category," said the 17-year-old Gorman.

Meanwhile, Steve Wastney and Tim Hodgson of Ottawa's Rideau Canoe Club captured gold in the senior men's C-2 (canoe pairs) 1000 metres in 4:04.94 — almost two seconds ahead of Vancouver's Drew Mitchell and Peter Liljedahl.

Later in the day, Wastney and Hodgson teamed up with Peter McColgan and Tom Hulew to finish second in the senior men's C-4 1000 metres.

On Friday, Wastney and Hodgson won the senior men's C-2 500-event.

NOTES: More than 700 paddlers from 38 canoe clubs across the country took part in the three-day regatta.



Brook Skelton, Calgary Herald

Winner Lisa Stott gets big hug from brother Rob



Orenda's Bryan Burns and Glen Girard push hard en route to victory in the C-2 1,000 metre juvenile men's event

Western Canada Summer Games Glenmore Reservoir Calgary AB August 1987

We have taken the liberty of preserving the Calgary Herald clipping of that 1987 event as web articles all too often disappear. [137] [138]

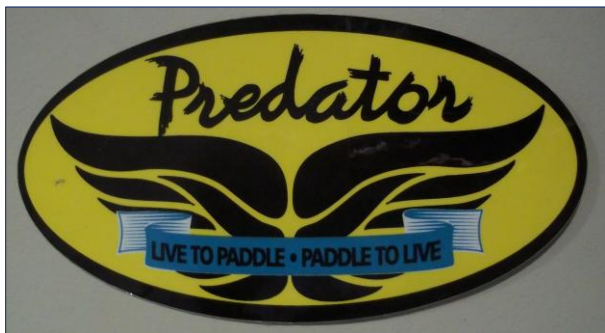
CALGARY, AUGUST 16, 1987 Hall's canoeists make big splash By Vance Oliver (Herald staff writer) City officials need not worry. Orenda's head coach **Tony Hall** says he was ivory-clean when team members threw him in the Glenmore Reservoir on Saturday to herald the club's supremacy at the national canoeing championships. Hall led his Lake Echo, N.S., team to the Aggregate Burgee victory with 177 points, easily outdistancing second-place Mississauga by 22 points. Rideau Canoe Club of Ottawa finished third with 123 points while the Calgary Canoe Club finished 15th among 38 clubs with 16 points. "It's a dream come true," said the 27-year-old Hall. "There are only 700 families in our community at Lake Echo, but everyone, I mean everyone, works together for this club." Hall was launched into the Reservoir's cold water after his senior mens war canoe entry finished sixth in the last competition of the day. "We had

already won (Aggregate Burgee)," a jubilant Hall said after the race. "We were just going out there for fun." The war canoe events, consisting of 14 paddlers and a captain, are particular to Canadian Canoeing. No other country in the world trains for that event. Calgary Canoe Club's entry in the junior womens war canoe 500 metres captured a silver medal in their event, but they were far from happy. The 14-woman crew and captain **Dan O'Donovan** shed enough tears to overflow the Reservoir. Calgary led throughout the race until the last 10 metres, when the Mississauga crew's last three strokes propelled them ahead across the finish line in two minutes, 6.56 seconds. Calgary finished second in 2:07.00. "I didn't even see them coming," said O'Donovan, who led his crew to second place in the nationals last year as well. "They must of come on strong in the last 10 metres. "It's too bad because we blew everybody away at the start." "We just died in the end," added sobbing crew member Lara Gammon. "We were really going for the gold. "I guess there's always a next year." Earlier Gammon, along with teammates **Kamini Jain**, Gillian Hamilton and Susan Bornemisza, picked up a silver medal in the junior womens K-4 (kayak foursome) 500 metres, completing the course in 1:59.92. Orenda's Joanne Trider, Zandra Rubinger, Leslie-Ann Young and Jennifer Kilgar finished first in 1:56.33. "We're especially happy with that finish, since we were competing out of our age category," said the 17-year-old Gammon. Meanwhile, Steve Wasteney and Tim Hodgson of Ottawa's Rideau Canoe Club captured gold in the senior mens C-2 (canoe pairs) 1000 metres in 4:04.94 almost two seconds ahead of Vancouver's **Drew Mitchell** and **Peter Liljedahl**.

| WESTERN CANADA SUMMER GAMES - TEAM ALBERTA | | | | | | |
|---|------------|----------|----------|---------|------|--|
| Use the drop down arrows to sort the list by sport, name, hometown, role or year. | | | | | | |
| First Name | Last Name | Hometown | Sport | Role | Year | |
| Susan | Bornemisza | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Jon | Davies | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Paul | Dever | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Lara | Gammon | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Gillian | Hamilton | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| John | Jackson | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| David | Jaeger | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Kamini | Jain | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Brad | Kilb | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Doug | Luijckx | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Daniel | O'Donovan | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Bridget | Saunders | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Sean | Tosh | Alberta | Canoeing | Athlete | 1987 | |
| Henryk | Rek | Alberta | Canoeing | Coach | 1987 | |
| Deidre | Richardson | Alberta | Canoeing | Manager | 1987 | |

Western Canada Summer Games 1987 Alberta participants (Paul Dever, Kamini Jain, Dan O'Donovan, etc.)

The growth of False Creek Racing Canoe Club and Jericho Outrigger Canoe Club in the early 1990s has origins going back to a core group of members of the Calgary Canoe Club in the late 1980s including Kamini Jain, Paul Dever, Jackie Webber, and team captain Dan O'Donovan. Calgary Canoe Club had the top "War Canoe" or C-15 or WC crew in Western Canada during the late 1980s. Calgary Canoe Club would take second place in "War Canoe" at the Canadian Canoe Championships in 1986 (Toronto), 1987 (Calgary), 1989 (Montreal). Kamini Jain and Jackie Webber would medal in K1 / K2 / K4 year-after-year with Calgary Canoe Club between 1984-1989.



This core group of Calgary Canoe Club flat-water sprint canoe kayak paddlers who would make contributions to both "*The False Creek Story*" and "*The Jericho Story*" began their move to Vancouver in 1987. Paul Dever was the first to arrive in 1987. Paul found himself paddling flat-water with False Creek Racing Canoe Club by virtue of working at that time with Don Irvine of False Creek, as Don was doing custom wood-working / finishing on the Red Robin chain of restaurants in Western Canada. Paul Dever was also very close friends with Matt Kelly, owner / operator of Granville Island based Predator Performance Designs. Matt Kelly had started a business of

initially distributing dragon boat and eventually outrigger canoe paddles to the paddling community that was growing rapidly by virtue of the ongoing success of the Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival.

Kamini Jain was the next to arrive in 1990 and became part of a very large shared household along with Paul Dever. Kamini was in the early stages of her training in K1 / K2 / K4 with False Creek Racing Canoe Club for the PanAm Games, World Championships, and eventually the Olympics.

Dan O'Donovan was the next to arrive in 1991, after successfully landing a job with the Vancouver Police Department (VPD). The VPD and Vancouver Firefighters had been fielding crews for the Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival since the inaugural event in 1986. Dan found himself joining the VPD dragon boat team and becoming friends with fellow VPD members Paul McNamara and Peter Alfred.

Jackie (Jacqueline) Webber was the next to arrive in 1992, and joined the growing ranks of flat-water sprint canoe kayak paddlers at False Creek Racing Canoe Club. Two years after she arrived in Vancouver, Jacqueline (Jackie) Webber would win gold in the Master Womens V1 category at the 1994 Western Samoa IPCF World Sprints - the first Canadian woman to achieve this accomplishment.

When Dan O'Donovan arrived in Vancouver in 1991, the only clubs in BC that had outrigger canoes were Lotus Sports Club with two *Malias* and False Creek with two *Malias*. False Creek was many years away from having an outrigger canoe facility at Burrard Marina. The False Creek OC6s were stored at the canoe compound behind the False Creek Community Centre. Launching the OC6s before practices involved carrying the unrigged OC6s underneath the wooden bridge at the east end of Sutcliffe Park to the mudflats adjacent to the Alder Bay dock and there rigging the ama / iakos to the hull with inner tubes - and reversing that process after practices. Dan O'Donovan and Paul Dever and Matt Kelly participated in this OC6 practice tradition with False Creek for several years.

Expo '86

The introduction of dragon boat racing to Canada on False Creek at Expo '86 was a pivotal moment for paddle sports in North America. Prior to Vancouver's first dragon boat festival in July 1986, Canadian paddlers had been limited to K1 / K2 / K3 / K4 (International Canoe Federation Sprint / Marathon sitting boats), C1 / C2 (Olympic Class Sprint / Marathon kneeling boats), and the C-15 or WC or "War Canoe" (unique to Canada). Thirty teams registered for the 1986 Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival in five categories. [141] [142]



In 1986, the "Lotus Eaters" and a team from False Creek, drawn from athletes across various paddling backgrounds, were introduced through a demonstration dragon boat race during Expo '86 in Vancouver. These two teams quickly became fierce yet friendly competitors in dragon boats, a competitive spirit that was transferred to outrigger canoe racing in the BC Lower Mainland.

| <u>FIRST ANNUAL VANCOUVER DRAGON BOAT RACES 1986</u> | |
|--|--|
| Registered Teams | |
| COMMUNITY SERVICE | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Danish Brotherhood ("Vikings") 2. Yee Mah Athletic Association 3. Shon Yee Benevolent Association 4. Chau Luen Kon Sol 5. Chinatown Lions Club 6. Rotary Club of Vancouver |
| PUBLIC SERVICE, & ATHLETICS | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Vancouver Firefighters 8. Royal Cdn. Mounted Police 9. "Canadian Coast Guard Cutters" 10. Trojan Rugby Club 11. False Creek Racing Canoe Club I 12. Vancouver Police Dept. |
| CORPORATE | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Cathay T. V./Success 14. Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce 15. M. K. Wong & Associates ("Lotus Eaters") 16. Ray Leung 17. "Team Komodo" 18. Liddle, Burns, Beechinor, & Baker |
| MIXED "A" - CORPORATE & OTHERS | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 19. Far East Soc. of Architects & Engineers 20. Veronica Smith 21. Shrum, Liddle, & Heberten ("Shrumbleton Clippers") 22. Vancouver School Board I 23. Burnaby Teachers/ C.W.S.R.A. 24. Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce II |
| MIXED "B" - SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. Chinese Cultural Centre 26. Cordova House 27. Britannia/Strathcona Community Centres 28. Vancouver School Board II 29. St. John's Ambulance 30. False Creek Canoe Racing Club II |

1986 Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival Registered Teams

The competition for the 20 seats in the mens / womens / mixed dragon boat crews in the late 1980s and early 1990s would generate a pool of male and female Canadian athletes that would provide the basis for outrigger canoe crews at several clubs.

In 1986, the Chinese Cultural Centre Dragon Boat Association (CCCDDBA) of Vancouver organized and hosted the first authentic dragon boat festival in North America. The local committee contacted the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) and, with the financial assistance of businesses connected to Hong Kong (Cathay Pacific Airways, Sing Tao and Empire Stevedoring), brought six teak wooden dragon boats built in Hong Kong to Vancouver for Expo '86. This committee maintained a fleet of nine teak dragon boats after three more were purchased under the leadership of Dr. Wallace Chung and Dr. S. Wah Leung. Part of this group of founding volunteers included David See-Chai Lam, Milton K Wong and David Lam, who would reorganize the Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival as the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival in 1988. [151] [152]

After Expo '86, the Chinese Benevolent Association organized dragon boat races for a few years (1987, 1988) before the Dragon Boat Festival was founded with Milton K Wong as its chair. In its 1989 inaugural year, with David Y. H. Lui organizing, 32 teams competed. [161] [162] [163]

The Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival began as an exhibition event in 1986, and is now the largest dragon boat festival in North America, attracting over 190,000 people and 190 dragon boat teams each year. [171]



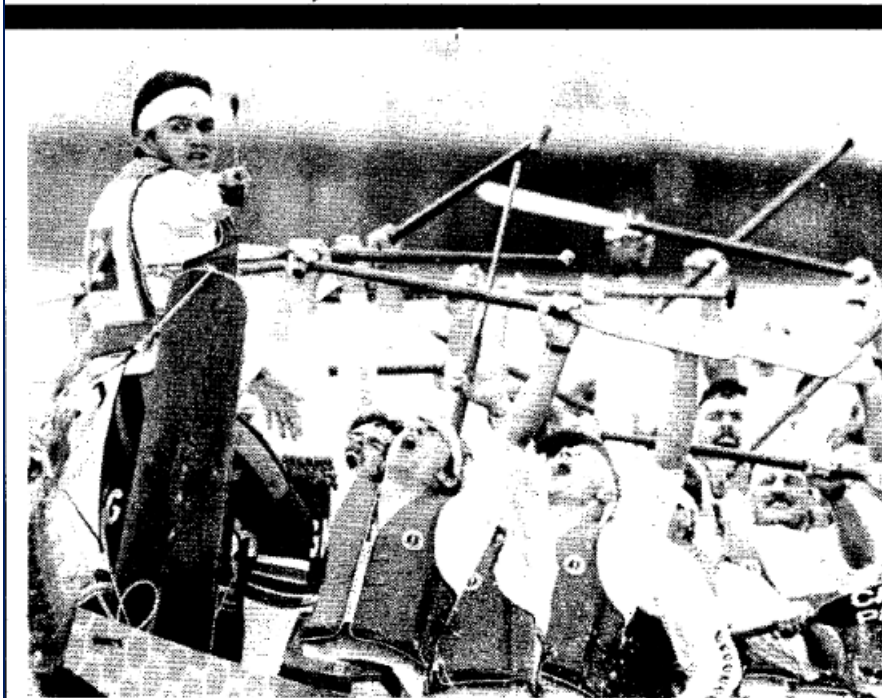
City of Vancouver Archives' Database, File F22 - 1986 Dragon Boat Races [172]

Keep in mind that this historic event took place in the midst of Expo '86 which ran from May 2 to October 13. [173]



Expo 86: When Vancouver Wooed The World — 30 Photos, 30 Years Later [174]

July 10, 1986



UBC makes the team! Seven UBC medical students and a UBC firefighter were members of the Dragon Boat Racing team that placed first in the Vancouver Dragon Boat races held at Expo last month and went on to represent Canada in the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival International Races 1986. The team, captained by Hugh Fisher, a UBC student and 1984 Olympic gold medalist in the Kayak K2 event, placed second in Hong Kong. Team members included UBC medical students Peter Tonseth, Steve Sotherland, Bob-McGraw, Mike Flesher, Jamie Johnston, Howard Joe and UEL firefighter Bill Cowie.

UBC Reports July 10, 1986 [175] [176]

The inaugural Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival in 1986 was won by False Creek Racing Canoe Club Mens team. Expenses to participate in the following year's Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival International Races were covered by the Vancouver International Dragon Boat Festival organizers. The FCRCM Mens team would represent Canada at the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival International Races in 1986, 1988 and 1990; Lotus Sports Club's Mens team would represent Canada at the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival International Races in 1987 and 1989.

China captured first place in the 11th annual Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races in 1986 but, to everyone's surprise, the False Creek Racing Canoe Club of Vancouver, British Columbia, placed second. [177]

The FCRCM Womens team would win the Vancouver Dragon Boat Festival from 1986 to 1993. They would continue onto win the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival International Races in 1989, 1990, 1992 and 1993. [178]

False Creek Racing Canoe Club Outrigger Canoe Fleet

In the mid-1980s (pre-Expo '86), a number of False Creek and Lotus paddlers trained together at False Creek for international outrigger canoe races. Over the course of several interviews with Lotus, there arose a question as to what canoes False Creek and Lotus paddlers were using to train in for California / Hawaii races. There was a line of thought that False Creek had an OC6 before the Canadian Malias were manufactured. Discussions with Drew Mitchell (FCRCC alumni) indicate that Hugh Fisher may have modified a rowing hull with struts and an ama to provide a 6-person outrigger canoe in the early to mid-1980s. This line of thought was no longer relevant after the 20-year tale of "*The Burrard*" had been documented in the CORA publication "*The Burrard*" - First OC6 In Canada. Billy Whitford had a 600-lb hull cut in half at the midsection and loaded onto the roof of Annie Boulding's whitewater instructors (Brian Creer) motor home and Annie Boulding brought the two halves of the hull of "*The Burrard*" north to Canada. Several False Creek paddlers including Hugh Fisher, Heather Taylor, Don Irvine, David Boulding, and Patrick Couling reassembled the two halves of the hull brought to Canada by Annie Boulding and "*The Burrard*" launched in early 1987 for the first time from the rocky shore under the wooden bridge walkway next to the Alder Bay Dock.

Based on an article by Doug Mancell of Lotus Sports Club, we know that David Boulding of FCRCC raced the Catalina Channel Crossing after Expo '86 and, while in California, learned about a Malia mould that had been stored in some fellow's backyard for quite a while. David arranged to have Bud Hohl load the California Malia mould onto the Necky trailer to be towed to Canada from California, but the trailer was left on the Washington state side of the border.



History of the Catalina Channel Crossing [181]

The story of how the California Malia mould became the foundation for the first Canadian Malias is most accurately related in an email message from Bud Hohl (SCORA Historian) to Lynda Roberts (Calgary Canoe Club) forwarded to Grace (Lotus Sports Club):

"It was nice meeting you last weekend. I'm happy to see the organization is still thriving.

David Boulding was the fellas name I was trying to remember. I met him at Catalina race in the early 80s. My side-business, since 1968 was California Outriggers. The main purpose was building Malia canoes for the clubs of KOA and Hawaii. It (Malia design) had found it's maximum saturation in the early 80s. I offered the Canadian group led by Hugh Fisher and David the loan of that mould.

Billy (Whitford) & I have known Hugh since the 70s when Hugh was down in Newport, training for his next Olympics. Billy had taken a group of Olympic hopefuls, from the area, and was training them. Actually, Hugh participated on the Blazing Paddles team that won the 1978 Molokai race, Billy was the steersman for that crew.

Because the IPCF had just been formed officially, we felt it our obligation to help spread the sport where we could do the best good. Hugh, being of Olympic stature, we felt however we could help Canada out, we would do that. We had just had a long waterline canoe designed and built. But the club was looking at Bradleys at the time. So rather than it sit on the beach, we offered it to Hugh, for Canada's starter fleet. The boat name was Keoni, Hawaiian for "John"

Rader, our (Offshore CC) sugar daddy. It was 45' long. It was specifically designed for tall paddlers, that was a tough call. Hugh felt that any boat fleet would be needed. They decided that the Malia design would be the class for the new association, they were forming."

We do know that it was only for a few days that the California Malia mould was left in Sumas, WA on the Necky Kayaks trailer that Mike Neckar towed from California. David Boulding invited Grace to join him for a drive across the border to pick up some paddling gear and met with Canada Customs to import the California Malia mould into Canada.

David's explanation to Grace about what happened that Autumn day in 1986;
"I drove to Sumas with you the next day, hooked up the trailer and drove to the border crossing. I parked at Customs, walked into office and said I had a boat mould I had borrowed from California and had to get to Albion....home of Nimbus Kayaks (borrowing from one club to lend to another paddling club). I filled out all the forms and the smiling guy waved us into Canada."



When the Lotus Sports Club finished using the mould for its Malias, the California Malia mould was delivered to Ron Kaschula of Calmar Fiberglass and made available to paddlers from FCRC who made at least two and possibly many more Malias. We know of seven Canadian Malias in Western Canada. The first two Canadian Malias from Lotus Sports Club were sold to the Pitt Meadows Paddling Club in 2016. As of 2019, Powell River had two Canadian Malias that are believed to have originated with FCRC. Pearson College, as of 2019, had one Canadian Malia that was acquired from Powell River (Powell River obtained it from Gibsons but it is believed to have originated with FCRC). In 2019, Pemberton had one Canadian Malia that may have originated with FCRC given the Hugh Fisher and FCRC connection. In 1993, Jericho owned a Canadian Malia but this first Jericho boat was subsequently irreparably damaged and then demolished.

FCRC had at least three Canadian Malia OC6s beginning in 1988. It is known via *"The Sunshine Coast Story"* that three FCRC Canadian Malia OC6s moved onto Gibsons Paddling Club to help them get established as a club and then moved onto Powell River Outrigger Canoe Society (PROCS) to help them get established as a club and then moved onto Pearson College in Victoria to help them get established as a club. A 2017 Pearson College web article noted that the yellow Canadian Malia OC6 was 25 years when it was acquired from Powell River Outrigger Canoe Society (PROCS). If this was the case, then FCRC would have acquired this canoe in 1992. It is unknown exactly how many Canadian Malia OC6s that FCRC owned, but by 1994 they had moved onto a new class of OC6s. [182] [183]



Pearson College Canadian Malia acquired from Powell River acquired from Powell River via Gibson's via False Creek

In the early 1990s, CORA and PNWORCA clubs struggled to acquire OC6s to support the growing number of outrigger canoe clubs. Ron Kaschula of Calmar Fiberglass had shops in North Vancouver, East Vancouver, and New Westminster and was manufacturing / repairing just about anything fiberglass since before 1990. Sometime around 1992, a Canadian Class Racer (CCR) OC6 started appearing at BC clubs - referred to as a "Calmar". It was discovered that when the Canadian Malias overturned, they rode low in the water. David Boulding, Hugh Fisher, Don Irvine, and several others had input into designing a canoe that would increase paddlers' safety in colder BC water. The Canadian Class Racer (CCR) was designed with more flotation, a bumpy front nose to hold the covers, and more strength in the seats which resulted in a stiffer boat with more flotation in the rear. In the 1990s, there were several BC Lower Mainland outrigger clubs with Canadian Class Racer (CCR) OC6s: Lotus Sports Club acquired two in 1992; FCRCC acquired four by 1994; Dragon Canoe Club (DCC) at Burrard Marina acquired two by 1995; Jericho acquired four by 1997.

To say that FCRCC has had an interesting evolution in their six-person and four-person Outrigger Canoe Fleet, would be an understatement. As a club, FCRCC has had the most diverse set of OC6 classes in Canada. From 1988 to present day, FCRCC has had the Canadian Malias, the Calmar Canadian Class Racers (CCR), Outrigger Connection Mirages, an Outrigger Connection Mirage 2, a Pogue Sports Bradley Lightning, a Clipper North Beach OC4, Puakea Malolo Unlimited OC6s, a Giblin Vortex Unlimited OC6, ARE Matahina OC6s, and Kai Wa'a Hydra OC6s. [184] [185]

The CORA Canoe Registry and Club Legacy documents have provided the following approximate timeline of FCRCC OC6 / OC4 acquisitions / transfers / dispositions:

- CORA now knows that FCRCC acquired "*The Burrard*" as their first OC6 in 1987 until it moved onwards in the early 1990s to other clubs in BC. FCRCC then acquired three Canadian Malia OC6s (Red; Blue; Yellow) beginning in 1988 until those three Canadian Malia OC6s moved onwards in the early 1990s to other clubs in BC. FCRCC then acquired four Canadian Class Racer (CCR) OC6s by 1994. FCRCC steadily moved their Canadian Class Racer (CCR) OC6s onto other clubs.
- The red-deck / white-hull Calmar named "Herenui" was sold to Fraser Valley Paddling Club (FVPC) in 2017. The white-deck / white-hull Calmar named "JD Boswyk" in honour of a FCRCC member who was sadly lost in the October 1995 Manzanillo earthquake, was sold to Kelowna Paddle Centre (KPC) in early-2020. Please note that there was a 2022 FCRCC social media posting that was lacking in clarity regarding the transfer of their two remaining Calmars to support a Cultus Lake club at-risk youth program. It has since been confirmed that the green-deck / white-hull Calmar named "Ke Kumu O Ke Kai" and the yellow-deck / white-hull Calmar named "Ke Kumu O Ka La" were sold to Sudden Impact Paddling Club (SIPC) at Cultus Lake in 2022.
- The FCRCC website notes that their first Mirage named "Hokupa'a" (which carries the CORA canoe designation G02, indicating that this was the second ("02") Mirage ("G") in CORA), was acquired in 2003 as the first in Canada. However, Jericho acquired a Mirage in 2002 from the Karel Tresnak distributor Current Designs in Victoria and this Mirage carries the CORA canoe designation G01, indicating that this was the first ("01") Mirage ("G") in CORA. It maybe that FCRCC acquired their Mirage from a USA distributor. The FCRCC website notes that their second Mirage named "Kai Hohonu" (which carries the CORA canoe designation G04, indicating that this was the fourth ("04") Mirage ("G") in CORA, was acquired in 2004.
- The FCRCC website does not make mention of their Clipper North Beach OC4 (unnamed). The only available online reference to the Clipper North Beach OC4 indicates that it was manufactured circa 2007 through circa 2021. It is unknown when FCRCC acquired their Clipper North Beach OC4, but it is one of approximately 20 Clipper North Beach OC4s in BC.
- The FCRCC website notes that their M2 (Mirage 2) named "Naia" was acquired in 2015. The FCRCC website is out-of-date, as they do not yet note that their M2 (Mirage 2) was sold to Sudden Impact Paddling Club (SIPC) circa 2021.
- The FCRCC website notes that their Bradley Lightning (unnamed) was acquired in early-2012 prior to the 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints.
- The Hardy Bus Chickens Mixed crew raced as a separate program (consortium) with FCRCC for several years. The Hardy Bus Chickens acquired a Giblin Vortex Unlimited OC6 named "Mou'a Tamaiti No Papara" in 2018, and stored their canoe in various locations until they permanently stored their canoe in the FCRCC Burrard Marina compound.

- The Womens Mens Outrigger (WMO) Mixed crew raced as a separate program (consortium) with FCRC for several years. The Womens Mens Outrigger (WMO) acquired a Puakea Malolo Unlimited OC6 (unnamed) in 2019 just before the onset of the COVID Global Pandemic, and stored their canoe in various locations until they sold their canoe to FCRC in 2024, and permanently stored the canoe in the FCRC Burrard Marina compound.
- The FCRC website notes that their grey-deck / white-hull Puakea Malolo (unnamed) was acquired in 2021 (before the Womens Mens Outrigger (WMO) Puakea Malolo was acquired by FCRC).
- The FCRC website notes that two white-deck / white-hull ARE Matahina Unlimited OC6s (unnamed) were acquired in 2022, prior to the 2022 London IVF World Sprints.
- The FCRC website does not yet note that one green-deck / white-hull (325) Kai Wa'a Hydra Unlimited OC6 (unnamed) and one yellow-deck / white-hull (326) Kai Wa'a Hydra Unlimited OC6 (unnamed) were acquired in 2026, prior to the 2026 Singapore IVF World Sprints.



FCRC to Kamloops to Vernon to Jericho to Pemberton to VCKC to Comox to Penticton Dennis Campbell Rhino "The Burrard"



FCRC Yellow Canadian Malia to Gibsons Paddle Club to Powell River Outrigger Canoe Society to Pearson College



FCRCC Blue Canadian Malia to Gibsons Paddle Club to Powell River Outrigger Canoe Society to Pearson College



FCRCC Red Canadian Malia to Gibsons Paddle Club to Powell River Outrigger Canoe Society to Pearson College



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull (JD Boswyk) Canadian Class Racer OC6 to Kelowna Paddle Centre (KPC)



FCRCC Red-Deck / White-Hull (Herenui) Canadian Class Racer OC6 to Fraser Valley Paddling Club (FVPC)



FCRCC Green-Deck / White-Hull and Yellow-Deck / White-Hull Calmar Canadian Class Racer OC6s to Sudden Impact



FCRCC Green-Deck / White-Hull and Yellow-Deck / White-Hull Calmar Canadian Class Racer OC6s at Sudden Impact



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull Clipper North Beach OC4



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull Outrigger Connection Mirage OC6 Hokuopa'a (G02 / 943)



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull Outrigger Connection Mirage OC6 Ku Kanaka (G04 / 944)



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull Bradley Lightning OC6 (629)



FCRCC (Hardy Bus Chickens) Yellow/White-Deck / Yellow-White-Hull Giblin Vortex Unlimited OC6 (624 / Mou'a Tamaiti No Papara)



FCRCC (Private Consortium) Black/Red/White-Deck / Black/Red/White-Hull Puakea Malolo Unlimited OC6 (315)



FCRCC Grey-Deck / White-Hull Puakea Malolo Unlimited OC6 (1331)



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull ARE Matahina Unlimited OC6 (1335)



FCRCC White-Deck / White-Hull ARE Matahina Unlimited OC6 (1336)



FCRCC Green-Deck / White-Hull Kai Wa'a - Hydra Unlimited OC6 (325)



FCRCC Yellow-Deck / White-Hull Kai Wa'a - Hydra Unlimited OC6 (326)

False Creek Racing Canoe Club Events

False Creek Small-Boat Racing Winter Series

The PNWORCA / CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series has been running since at least 2004. Jericho had the honour of being the first Canadian club to host a PNWORCA / CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series Event and in that year of 2004, Jericho hosted Event #2 and Event #5 of the seven event Winter Series. False Creek became the second Canadian club to host a PNWORCA / CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series Event as of 2005 and has steadily hosted the PNWORCA / CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series FCRC event sometime between January and March each year. [191]



PNWORCA / CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series FCRC Event Starting From Vanier Park

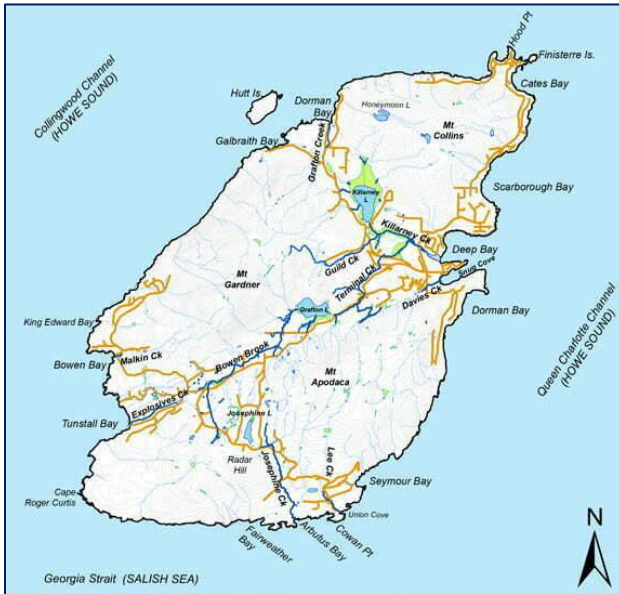
False Creek March Madness



Rosemary Henry with Ocean River Paddling Club (ORPC) introduced the ORPC Bridges Mid-Distance OC6 Race Bridges Race (6KM) in 1996 in the protected waters of the Gorge Waterway. The event format has been very successful and has been one of the longest continuous running OC6 races in Canada. False Creek March Madness was introduced in 2009 as a one-day mid-distance OC6 event with mens / womens / mixed crew heats where False Creek as the host club provided most of the OC6s, with nearby clubs such as Pacific Reach and Vancouver Ocean Sports (VOS) and Dragon Zone Paddling Club (DZPC) providing enough OC6s to have 8-9 boats per heat. The mens / womens / mixed crew heats format mean that attendees could participate in multiple events on the same day. False Creek as the host club providing most of the OC6s meant that attendees did not need to bring OC6s from their own club. The False Creek March Madness event was so successful that it grew to be a two-day event with Junior / Novice / Open / Masters 40+ crews racing on Saturday with Masters 50+ / Masters 60+ / Masters 70+ crews racing on Sunday. The 15th Annual False Creek March Madness event was held in 2026, as their were several years during / after the COVID Global Pandemic where the event was cancelled.

"March Madness" is an informal term that refers to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I mens and womens basketball single-elimination tournaments that begin each March and the attendant fan interest and media coverage of the events. [192] [193]

False Creek Bowen 360 (Round Bowen)



Bowen Island is a picturesque municipality in British Columbia, located in Howe Sound just a 20-minute BC Ferries ride from Horseshoe Bay in West Vancouver. Known for its rugged emerald coastline, hiking trails, and small, independent shops, it serves as an incredibly popular and accessible day trip from Downtown Vancouver. The False Creek Bowen 360 Iron / Relay OC6 and small boats race is a circumnavigation of Bowen Island in Howe Sound, north of Vancouver, and may be raced as an iron or as a 2-leg beach change-out relay. The start is at Snug Cove on the east side of the island with a change-out on the west side of the island at Tunstall Bay. The full course is 33km, while the southern leg (A) is 15km and the northern leg (B) is 18km. False Creek Bowen 360 (Round Bowen) was introduced in 2017 as a OC6 Relay event. The 2019 False Creek Bowen 360 (Round Bowen) event introduced a small-boat relay for the first time. The False Creek Bowen 360 (Round Bowen) event has not been consistently held during / after the COVID Global Pandemic as the event is occasionally cancelled for

various reasons. [194] [195] [196]

FCRCC Granville Island Venue Historical Significance

The facility and surroundings at Granville Island that would eventually comprise the original FCRCC flatwater / dragon boat / outrigger canoeing venue has an extensive history going back to the 1910s. [201] [202]

What is now Granville Island was once nothing more than two sandbars, that would appear and disappear with the tide. The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR), government and local businessmen fought over the sandbars and water rights until 1916, when it was transferred to the National Harbours Commission (NHC). Vancouver alderman Harry Stevens persuaded Ottawa to develop the mudflat into an island, the new property to be under federal control. He succeeded: In 1915, the federally-administered Vancouver Harbours Commission (VHC) awarded a contract to the Pacific Dredging Company a build a seawall around the sandbars and create land to be used by industry. NHC also built a wooden road and railway to the island from False Creek South.

Almost 760,000 cubic metres of fill was dredged largely by a man named Alvin Kingston, from the surrounding waters of False Creek to create the island under the Granville Street Bridge. The original area of the new island, built from fill sucked up from the bottom of False was 34.28 acres. This was later increased to the present 38 acres when a bridge to the island was dismantled and extra fill was put in to join the island to False Creek South. The area that is now called Alder Bay was in-filled to make a fishing terminal that was never built and the "island" was no more. Although much of the in-fill was later removed, the area that is now Sutcliffe Park remains to tie Granville Island to False Creek South.

The island was divided into 80 lots and the Vancouver Harbours Commission (VHC) leased parcels of land to tenants who built their factories and mills in post and beam structures clad in corrugated tin. The very first tenant, B.C. Equipment Ltd., set the standard by building a wood-framed machine shop, clad on all sides in corrugated tin, at the Island's western end - today the same structure houses part of the Granville Island Public Market. Ocean Concrete is the longest-established tenant on the island, having set up shop there in 1917. For 40 years, industry thrived on the island while the city of Vancouver grew around it. In the 1960s, many of the industries began to move away due to changing market conditions.

By the 1970s, it was clear something had to be done about neglected Granville Island. In June of 1973, the Canadian government transferred the management and redevelopment of Granville Island from the National Harbours Board to Central Mortgage and Housing, now Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Redevelopment of Granville Island commenced in 1975.



Spear & Jackson Saws / Tyee Machinery Co. circa 1975

The public sector was invited to bid on development opportunities relating to specific sites. The old post and beam tin clad buildings were turned over to the successful bidders in an as-is condition. CMHC imposed strict requirements for design and use of space to ensure that efforts to create a "people place" were not compromised. These design requirements ensure that the industrial maritime heritage is respected. The centrepiece of Granville Island is the Public Market, one of the first buildings to reopen, in 1978. It is made up of six old industrial buildings, including BC Equipment Ltd, the first tenant on the island in 1917, and Wright's Ropes, which was nearly destroyed by a fire in the 1950s. Early tenants included those from the public sector (the Emily Carr University of Art and Design, False Creek Community Centre),

those from the not-for-profit sector (Arts Club Theatre), and those from the private sector (The Creekhouse, Granville Island Brewery, Bridges Restaurant, Maritime Market, Kid's Only Market, and the Granville Island Hotel).

Opened in 1980, the construction of False Creek Community Centre was one of several public facilities planned by the City of Vancouver who had developed this former industrial area located on the southern shore of False Creek. The False Creek Community Centre is housed in the former Spear & Jackson Saws and Tyee Machinery Company quarters. The Spear & Jackson Saws sign is just barely visible on the backside of the False Creek Community Centre, facing Sutcliffe Park.



False Creek Community Centre circa 2019 (Lind Hall / Tyee Hall)

FCRCC Burrard Civic Marina Venue Historical Significance

The facility and surroundings at Burrard Bridge Civic Marina that would eventually comprise the FCRCC outrigger canoeing primary venue has an extensive history going back to the 1920s that is captured in extensive detail in this article compiled by Sean S. Smith, with assistance by J. Gallagher. This online article has since disappeared, but there is a downloaded PDF in the CORA Historical Archives. [211]

This article covers the full history of the Northwest side of False Creek from 1869-2015 including:

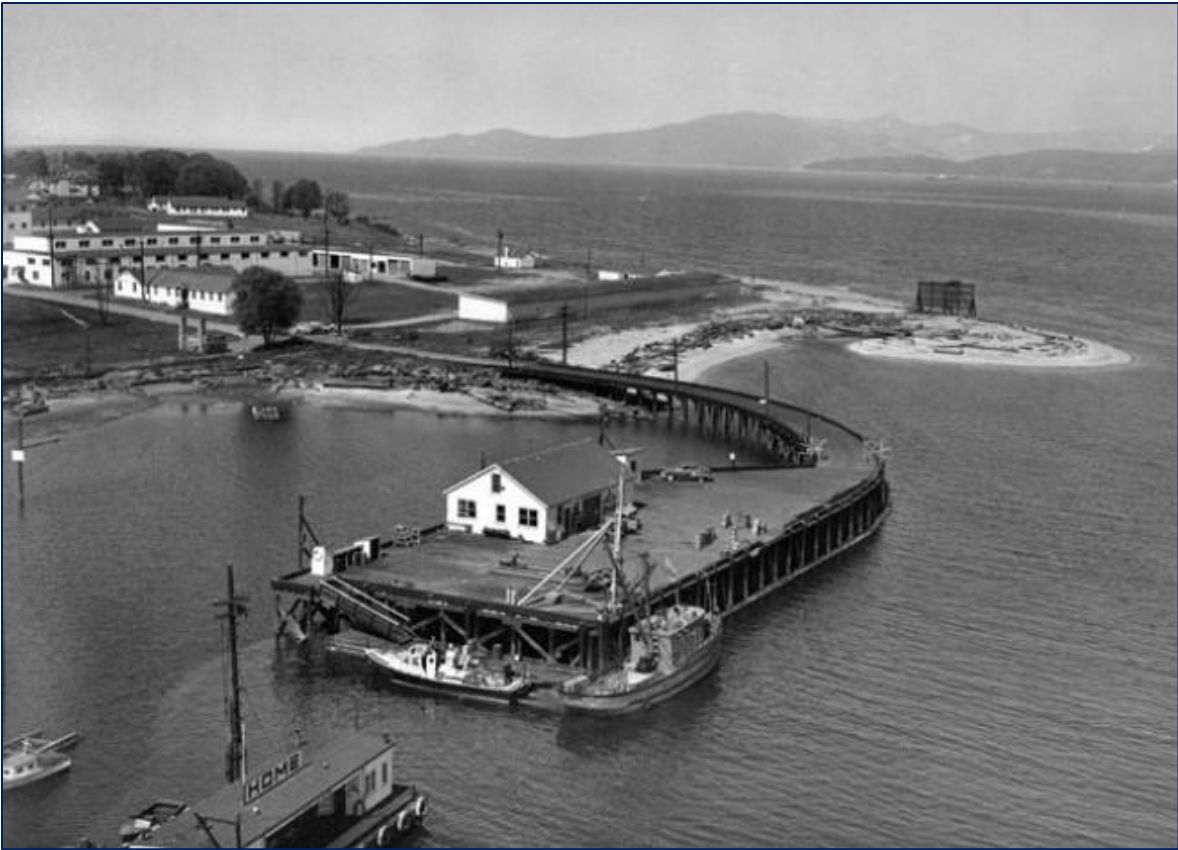
| Dates | Events |
|-----------|---|
| 1886 | CP Railway builds fixed-span Kits Trestle across False Creek to Kits Point blocking most vessel traffic |
| 1889 | First Granville Bridge built |
| 1902 | CP Railway installs steel pivot -pan in Kits Trestle |
| 1916 | National Harbours Board constructs Granville Island using fill dredged from False Creek |
| 1928 | Federal government buys Indian Reserve lands at Vanier Park |
| 1932 | Burrard Bridge constructed with right-of-way through Kitsilano Indian Reserve |
| 1942 | Kits Point developed as RCAF barracks and Department of National Defence (DND) dock built to later become Coast Guard station |
| 1955-1957 | Kitsilano streetcar line ceases operation and back channel of Granville Island filled in |
| 1958 | National Harbours Board opens False Creek Fisherman's Wharf and Vanier Park leased from federal government |
| 1963-1964 | Burrard Civic Marina built with financing from Woodward's family |
| 1966-1967 | Vanier Park established by City on former federal lands and 308 parking stalls placed |
| 1968-1972 | False Creek leases expire and CMHC takes ownership of Granville Island and South Shore lands |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 1980-1983 | Burrard Civic Marina renters and City in extended negotiations over needed renovations |
| 1983-1984 | Kits Trestle removed |
| 1991 | Kitsilano Coast Guard Station / dock destroyed by fire |
| 1991 | Kitsilano Coast Guard Station / dock rebuilt after fire |
| 2004 | Burrard Civic Marina enclosed parking stalls (65) allocated to canoe clubs |
| 2013 | Kitsilano Coast Guard Station closed by the federal Conservatives and docks removed |
| 2016 | Kitsilano Coast Guard Station reopened |

Note that several clubs had outrigger canoes and dragon boats stored inside the fenced parking area behind the Burrard Civic Marina prior to 2004. It was in 2004, when the Burrard Civic Marina allocated sectioned areas of the fenced parking area to several outrigger canoeing and rowing clubs, that a major expansion of boat storage and paddle sports events occurred at this venue. [212] [213]



Burrard Bridge / Kits Trestle pivot-span bridge / Granville Bridge circa 1950



RCAF barracks and Department of National Defence (DND) dock circa 1957



Burrard Civic Marina 2005 with multiple canoe clubs at enclosed parking area northside perimeter

False Creek Racing Canoe Club Achievements / Milestones

The False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) itself and many of the club members have notable achievements. False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) members and alumni have provided a wealth of material on their achievements in terms of participation in Canadian or International paddling events. Much of this material was collected during the COVID Global Pandemic shutdowns, as the CORA Historical Committee and the CORA Awards Committee were updating the outdated CORA Canoe Registry, compiling the first of many Canadian outrigger canoe club legacy documents, collecting background for Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award candidate Bios, and collecting background for Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame candidate Bios. The following is a chronological table of known achievements is based on a timeline of events that have been documented from 2020-2026:

- 1986 ~ FCRCC founded as only the first outrigger canoeing club in Canada
- 1986 ~ The FCRCC Mens team would win the Vancouver Dragon Boat Festival in 1986 and then again in 1988 and 1990
- 1986 ~ The FCRCC Womens team would win the Vancouver Dragon Boat Festival from 1986 to 1993
- 1987 ~ False Creek launches "*The Burrard*" as the first OC6 in Canada
- 1988 ~ False Creek acquires the first of three Canadian Malia OC6s
- 1990 ~ FCRCC Womens crew would finish in 7th place Open Fibreglass at 1990 Molokai Na Wahine
- 1991 ~ FCRCC Womens crew would finish in 15th place Open Fibreglass at 1991 Molokai Na Wahine
- 1992 ~ False Creek acquires the first of four Calmar Canadian Class Racer (CCR) OC6s
- 1992 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 1992 Sacramento IVF World Sprints Championships
- 1992 ~ Lotus Sports Club members David Boulding and Hugh Fisher with newly formed CORA Board of Directors, files Articles of Incorporation for CORA
- 1993 ~ FCRCC Womens crews (12 paddlers per team) would finish 10 minutes apart in 10th and 13th place Open Fibreglass at 1993 Molokai Na Wahine
- 1994 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 1994 Western Samoa IVF World Sprints Championships
- 1994 ~ FCRCC Womens crew would finish in 6th place Open Fibreglass at 1994 Molokai Na Wahine
- 1996 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 1996 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints Championships
- 1998 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 1998 Fiji IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2000 ~ FCRCC paddlers with the BC mens provincial team delivered finish Spec 1st place Open and 1st place Overall in the 2000 Catalina Channel Crossing race
- 2002 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2002 Tahiti IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2003 ~ False Creek acquires the first of two Outrigger Connection Mirage OC6s
- 2004 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2004 Hilo IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2005 ~ False Creek Small-Boat Racing Winter Series inaugural event took place in 2005
- 2006 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2006 New Zealand IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2008 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2009 ~ False Creek March Madness inaugural event took place in 2009
- 2010 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2012 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2016 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2016 Australia IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2017 ~ False Creek Bowen 360 (Round Bowen) inaugural event took place in 2017
- 2018 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2018 Tahiti IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2020 ~ Drew Mitchell recognized as Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award recipient
- 2021 ~ Alan Carlsson inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ Cheryl Skribe inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ David Boulding inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ Don Irvine inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ Drew Mitchell inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ Heather Taylor inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ Hugh Fisher inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2021 ~ Jackie Webber inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame

- 2021 ~ Rick Nu'u inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2022 ~ Andrea Dillon inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2022 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2022 London IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2022 ~ Kamini Jain inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2024 ~ FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada attend 2024 Hilo IVF World Sprints Championships
- 2025 ~ Daphne Ann Brockington inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2025 ~ Jacinta Sheridan inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame
- 2025 ~ Linda Daigle inducted into Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame

International Polynesian Canoe Federation (IPCF) / International Va'a Federation (IVF)

IPCF / IVF World Sprints events for 1984 IPCF 1 Los Angeles, 1986 IPCF 2 Tahiti, 1988 IPCF 3 Hawaii, 1990 IPCF 4 New Zealand, 1992 IPCF 5 Sacramento, 1994 IPCF 6 Samoa, 1996 IPCF 7 New Caledonia, 1998 IPCF 8 Fiji, 2000 IVF 9 Australia, and 2002 IVF 10 Tahiti have minimal at best event results. The most detailed reference for IPCF / IVF World Sprints events from 1984-2002 can be found at the KANUculture Vol 10 2004 web article. Snippets of this document specific to IPCF / IVF World Sprints events from 1984-2002, have been saved to a separate document. The original content can be found on Pages 69-81 at this link: [231]

Canadian paddlers competed in the World Sprints for the first time in 1992. At the **1992 Sacramento IPCF World Sprints**, Don Irvine would win silver in the Open mens V1 category (to this day, this is the best ever finish in this division by a non-Tahitian), and Hugh Fisher would win bronze in the Open mens V1 category. [232]

At the **1994 Western Samoa IPCF World Sprints**, Jacqueline (Jackie) Webber would win gold in the Open womens V1 category. [233]

At the **1996 New Caledonia IPCF World Sprints**, Heather Taylor would win gold in the Master womens V1 category, and Hugh Fisher would win silver in the Master mens V1 category. [234]

FCRCC paddlers with Team Canada would attend 2006 New Zealand IVF World Sprints Championships, and 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints Championships, and 2012 Calgary IVF World Sprints Championships. [235] [236] [237]

While Tahiti again led the field in overall V1 medals, the races saw an even distribution of the gold among Tahiti (Jr 16 Women), New Zealand (Jr 16 & 19 Men), New Caledonia (Jr 19 Women & Master Men) and Canada (Master Women). Tahiti's Karyl Maoni, led the only medal sweep in the Open Men's race, and Canada's Jacqueline Webber took the Women. Canada had 4 winners, superior in the Masters Women, with V1, V6 1000M & V12 victories. New Zealand dominated the Juniors, especially the crew events, winning all except the V6 Jr 16 Women (they had no entry) and the V12 Jr 19 Men, where Tahiti edged them out by .27 seconds.

Canadian paddlers would have their best showing in 2008 after participating in several World Sprints, and this high performance would continue into 2010 as well as 2012. At the **2008 Sacramento IVF World Sprints**, Hugh Fisher would win silver in the Sr. Master mens V1 category. Many False Creek paddlers including Kamini Jain would race with Canadian crews that would win gold in Master Women - V6 1000, silver in Golden Master Men - V6 500, silver in Master Men - V6 500, silver in Master Women - V6 500, silver in Open Women - V12 500, silver in Open Women - V6 1500, silver in Open Women - V6 500, bronze in Golden Master Men - V12 500, bronze in Golden Master Women - V12 500, bronze in gold in Master Women - V6 1000, bronze in Golden Master Women - V6 500, and bronze in Sr. Master Men - V6 500. [238]

False Creek Racing Canoe Club Outrigger Canoe Program Growth

Many factors contributed to a surge in the popularity of Canadian outrigger canoe racing in the early 1990s. Much of the credit goes to the introduction in 1986 of dragon boat races that led to a large increase in the pool of paddlers. This is true for outrigger canoe paddling in general, but there were several factors that contributed to the growth at FCRCC in particular. FCRCC had acquired several Canadian Malia OC6s from the California Malia mould brought to Canada by David Boulding that led to readily available and affordable outrigger canoes to train in. It was not always possible to create the California / Hawaii racing conditions, but it was possible to create the training exercises. FCRCC had a number of paddlers with racing and coaching experience at the international level including Hugh Fisher, Don Irvine, and Drew Mitchell. FCRCC had a base of paddlers with sprint and marathon training and racing experience at the national and international level

including Kamini Jain, Heather Taylor, Hugh Fisher, Don Irvine, and many of the paddlers who had competed in multiple Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival International Races.

The Mens outrigger canoe program had been a Provincial Program drawing from paddlers across the BC Lower Mainland. The Womens outrigger canoe program was a Club Program from the outset. Don Irvine was leading program management. Hugh Fisher was leading testing and time trials. Drew Mitchell was leading physio training.

The early 1990s saw an initiative to deliver a womens outrigger canoe program that would be competitive at the international level. FCRC had recruited 40+ women in 1993 to fill two Molokai Na Wahine crews with a Catalina Channel Crossing race as a precursor.



FCRCC Womens Malia Water Change-Outs August 1993 Prior to Catalina Channel Crossing race

The 1993 womens outrigger canoe program brought in paddlers including Cheryl Scribe, Andrea Dillon, Allie Johnstone, Kamini Jain, Heather Taylor, Jacinta Sheridan, Jackie Webber, and many more. There is a Vancouver Sun article from August 21, 1993 that covers the FCRC Womens 1993 Molokai Na Wahine crews. [241]

The two FCRC Womens 1993 Molokai Na Wahine crews (12 paddlers per team) would finish 10 minutes apart in 10th and 13th place Open Fibreglass. [242]

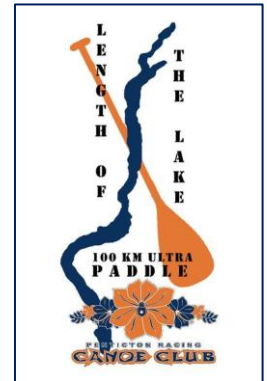
The 1994 womens outrigger canoe program focused on a single crew (12 paddlers per team). That FCRC Womens 1994 Molokai Na Wahine crew, with Cheryl Scribe and Andrea Dillon switching steering, would finish in 6th place Open Fibreglass, for the best ever Molokai Na Wahine showing for a Canadian womens crew. [243]

Note that a 1990 FCRC Womens crew would finish in 7th place Open Fibreglass. [244] Note that a 1991 FCRC Womens crew would finish in 15th place Open Fibreglass. [245]

False Creek Racing Canoe Club Alumni

Several FCRC paddlers contributed to further outrigger canoeing endeavours after moving on from FCRC.

Brent Bagnall had participated in dragon boat with crews coached by Drew Mitchell in the early 1990s. Brent was a stimulus in getting outrigger going in Penticton with introduction of the Duel In The Desert Iron race and the Length of the Lake Ultra-Distance (100KM) event. Penticton 2006 was the 7th year for the Length of the Lake Ultra-Distance event hosted by Penticton Racing Canoe Club (PRCC). The Length of the Lake Ultra-Distance event was held from 2001-2006, but not in 2000. There are not 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. [251]



The BC mens provincial team delivered a first for Canada in 2000. A crew of paddlers racing as "Team BC" from Jericho, Pemberton, and False Creek including Hugh Fisher, Rick Nu'u, and Don Irvine would finish Spec 1st place Open and 1st place Overall in the Catalina Channel Crossing race - the best ever showing for an all Canadian crew at Catalina. It was a major upset, especially as sponsorship for outrigger racing in Canada is nonexistent: unlike their well-financed foreign rivals, local crews have to raise all their own travel and expense money through fundraisers and other events. [252] [253] [254] [255]



Dan O'Donovan had "retired" from outrigger canoeing by 2000 and was with the VPD Marine Unit between 2006-2011. This career move to patrolling Vancouver's waters and the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics provided the synchronicity for a reunion between former Calgary Canoe Club members Dan O'Donovan and Kamini Jain.

The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay culminated it's 106-day journey across Canada in Vancouver BC on February 12, the day of the Opening Ceremony. FCRC members Don Irvine, Andrea Dillon, Bob Stewart and Rob Magus steadied the boat while Kamini Jain (2004, 2000 Olympian) stood at the bow of a Voyageur canoe. Hugh Fisher (1988, 1984, 1980 Olympian) stood at the bow of a dragon boat and passed the Olympic Flame onto Kamini Jain. What is not immediately apparent in the photo, is that Dan'O had the honour of providing escort for the boats carrying Hugh and Kamini, onboard the VPD Marine Unit black inflatable in the background. [255]



Hugh Fisher stood at the bow of a dragon boat and passed the Olympic Flame onto Kamini Jain

False Creek Racing Canoe Club Luminaries

Please note that many False Creek Racing Canoe Club Luminaries have made significant and exemplary contributions to other clubs:

- Cheryl Skribe has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Vernon Racing Canoe Club (VRCC) and Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC). Cheryl Skribe has been noted as a Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club Luminary.
- Don Irvine has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC). Don Irvine has been noted as a Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club Luminary.
- Heather Taylor has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC). Heather Taylor has been noted as a Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club Luminary.
- Hugh Fisher has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Pemberton Canoe Association (PCA). Hugh Fisher has been noted as a Pemberton Canoe Association Luminary.
- Melanie Whittall has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Delta Outrigger Kanu Association (DOKA) and Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC). Melanie Whittall has been noted as a Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club Luminary.
- Rick Nu'u has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) and Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club (CVCRC). Rick Nu'u has been noted as a Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club Luminary.



Drew Mitchell has a 40-year legacy of selfless volunteer effort to paddlesports in general and outrigger canoe racing in particular. He has made contributions to support Canadian paddlers at the international, national, provincial, and club level. He has been part of the Burnaby Canoe & Kayak Club that was the source of paddlers for both False Creek Racing Canoe Club and Lotus Sports Club. He has been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club since its inception in 1985. He has made significant contributions to the FCRCC dragon boat and outrigger canoe programs as a head coach for 15 years. He served on the False Creek Executive for many years and was FCRCC Chairman for 1996 and possibly longer. See Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award Bio for Drew Mitchell. [311]



Alan Carlsson has coached high-performance athletes in a broad spectrum of disciplines including dragon boat, canoe / kayak, outrigger, surfski, running, cycling, swimming, and triathlon for over two decades since graduating from University of Calgary in 1996 with degrees in sports science. Alan volunteered many years with CORA as President, IVF as General Secretary, and Canoe Kayak Canada as author of several publications. Alan operated Engineered Athlete Services where he offered private coaching services and authored countless blog articles on technical aspects of training. Alan was employed by various organizations in a lead coach capacity including False Creek Racing Canoe Club, Canadian Blind Sports Association, Leading Edge Triathlon Club, Triathlon Canada, and High-Performance Sport New Zealand. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Alan Carlsson. [312]



Andrea Dillon has 38+ years of coaching and instructing experience, contributing her extensive knowledge in marathon canoe, sprints / distance outrigger canoe, and dragon boat to the development of paddlers in the FCRCC Premier Dragon Boat (FCPDB) program. A member of FCRCC Womens program since its inception in 1987, Andrea has seen the continual growth and accomplishment of athletes in the program both nationally and internationally. Andrea was a paddler on the National Dragon Boat Womens and Mixed teams for 20 years in both Open and Masters categories and a member of Team Canada Outrigger Canoe Sprints crews for 4 IVF World Sprints Championships, all with multiple podium finishes. She was also National Dragon Boat Womens team coach for 5 IDBF World Championships, winning medals in each of the championships. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Andrea Dillon. [313]



Daphne Ann Brockington had notable canoeing achievements in the pre-digital era of the 1980s-1990s. Online references during this time are sparse, making it a challenge to compile a Hall Of Fame Profile that fully represents the accomplishments of Daphne. Personal accounts collected via in-person and virtual interviews during 2020-2025 from individuals such as Andrea Dillon, Drew Mitchell, Annie Boulding, Hugh Fisher, Heather Taylor, Bob Stewart, and Ruth Matson, who were part of the Canadian paddling community for many decades, which have been captured in Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bios, Hugh Town Memorial Bios, and Canadian Outrigger Canoe Club Legacies, have provided much of the Canadian outrigger canoe history from the 1980s-1990s, including background on Daphne. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Daphne Ann

Brockington. [314]

What is known is that a FCRC social media post paying respect to Daphne conveys her spirit. *"We are heartbroken to share our sad news that Daphne Brockington, often referred to as "Scrappy", passed away on October 18 after a 14-month battle with cancer. In true Daphne style, she fought with strength and courage to beat the odds just as she approached every boat she ever paddled. Her paddling career included 12 World Sprints Championship races and many long-distance outrigger competitions. Too many medals to count. And then there is her marathon achievements mostly with her good friend Barb Willson. We have lost a very special person who we remember as a good friend, a teammate and damn good paddler. She touched so many lives in the paddling community, in her work, and in all parts of her life. We will remember her for her quick wit and sense of humour. She leaves a forever legacy of determination, commitment, and team support with each of us."*



David Boulding has a place in Canadian outrigger canoeing history rarely noted in online articles. David is known mostly for his role as a criminal / family lawyer from Vancouver BC and his commitment since 2000 to the topic of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and the law. David is among a group of individuals responsible for introducing the first two generations of six-person outrigger canoes to Canada. The Canadian *Malia*, the Lotus Hawaiian Class Racer (HCR), and the Calmar Canadian Class Racer (CCR) are part of Canadian outrigger canoeing history due to significant contributions by David. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for David Boulding. [315]



Drew Mitchell has been involved in sport and fitness for 40+ years as an athlete, coach, administrator, volunteer, developer and manager. Drew was a C1 / C2 national medalist between 1982-1986. Drew had been with False Creek Racing Canoe Club (FCRCC) as a co-founder since its inception in 1985. Drew made significant contributions to the FCRCC dragon boat and outrigger canoe programs as head coach for 15 years, including an initiative to deliver a womens outrigger canoe program that would be competitive at the international level. Drew continued to work extensively in the sport system as an educator and developer of programs for 20 years since moving on from FCRCC. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Drew Mitchell. [316]



Jacinta Sheridan had notable canoeing achievements in the pre-digital era of the 1990s. Online references during this time are sparse, making it a challenge to compile a Hall Of Fame Profile that fully represents the accomplishments of Jacinta. Personal accounts collected via in-person and virtual interviews during 2020-2025 from individuals such as Andrea Dillon, Drew Mitchell, Annie Boulding, Hugh Fisher, Heather Taylor, Bob Stewart, and Ruth Matson, who were part of the Canadian paddling community for many decades, which have been captured in Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bios, Hugh Town Memorial Bios, and Canadian Outrigger Canoe Club Legacies, have provided much of the Canadian outrigger canoe history from the 1980s-1990s, including background on Jacinta. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Jacinta Sheridan. [317]

What is known is that Jacinta had established herself as an exceptional competitor between 1996-2024 in outrigger canoe sprints / distance, OC2 racing, marathon canoe racing, and ultramarathon long-distance running. Jacinta would race with Team Canada Women who would take multiple Gold and/or Silver and/or Bronze medals at 1996 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints, 2002 Tahiti IVF World Sprints, and 2004 Hilo IVF World Sprints. Jacinta would then somehow become connected with many legendary Vancouver Island paddlers (Annie Boulding; Heather Taylor; Helen Currey; Julie Kippen; Laurel Archer; Lisa Robertson; Lyse Fortin; Melanie Conard; Michele Genge; Rani Johns; Shannon Brenner), with whom Jacinta would participate in the 2007 Molokai Na Wahine and the 2011 Hamilton Island Outrigger Cup. Jacinta would travel to Australia / Belize / Hawaii for top place finishes racing OC2 and marathon canoe with Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Famer Laurel Archer.



Jackie (Jacqueline) Webber had a paddling career that spanned 35+ years. Jackie was a K1 / K2 / K4 national medalist many times between 1984-1989 before relocating to Vancouver from Calgary. Jackie would be Canada's first and only IVF V1 500M Open Womens Gold medalist and compete with FCRCR outrigger canoeing teams at the international level for many years. Jackie would co-found Waters Edge dragon boat service company and provided championship caliber outrigger canoe and dragon boat coaching until her passing. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Jackie (Jacqueline) Webber. [318]



Kamini Jain as a 2-time Olympian represents 30+ years of success as both an athlete and coach in a multitude of paddlesports. Her approach has been developed from a 20-year full-time devotion to sprint kayaking in combination with many years of high-performance dragon boat, outrigger canoe, surfski and kayak competition. Combining high-level training and full-time coaching in a variety of paddling disciplines has allowed Kamini to examine paddlesports in a way that few people have had the opportunity to do. Her experiential knowledge is supported by master's degrees in both physiology and leadership. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Kamini Jain. [319]



Linda Daigle had notable canoeing achievements in the pre-digital era of the 1980s-1990s. Online references during this time are sparse, making it a challenge to compile a Hall Of Fame Profile that fully represents the accomplishments of Linda. Personal accounts collected via in-person and virtual interviews during 2020-2025 from individuals such as Andrea Dillon, Drew Mitchell, Annie Boulding, Hugh Fisher, Heather Taylor, Bob Stewart, and Ruth Matson, who were part of the Canadian paddling community for many decades, which have been captured in Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bios, Hugh Town Memorial Bios, and Canadian Outrigger Canoe Club Legacies, have provided much of the Canadian outrigger canoe history from the 1980s-1990s, including background on Linda. See Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Bio for Linda Daigle. [320]

What is known is that Linda was one of the founding members of the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association. Linda would race with Team Canada Women who would take multiple Gold and/or Silver and/or Bronze medals at 1992 Sacramento IPCF/IVF World Sprints, 1994 Western Samoa IVF World Sprints, 1996 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints, and 1998 Fiji IVF World Sprints, while serving as IVF Member Representative and Area Coordinator for Canada.

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