



Join us for fireworks and fun at Cruising Into History

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Victoria, B.C., Tuesday, August 12, 2008...

On August 23, 2008, a celebration will be held at Ogden Point to commemorate the history of the terminal, the unveiling of upgrades to the facility and the arrival of the 150th cruise ship in honour of BC's 150th Anniversary as a Crown Colony. Cruising Into History will include more than 30 arts and craft vendors, live entertainment, historical characters, food, an Island Farms kid's tent, and a grand finale of fireworks to the south of the breakwater, sponsored in part by Seaspan, and BC150.

The Ogden Point Terminal has been central to the shipping and tourist industries in Victoria. The vision of Victoria as a major industrial centre and cargo terminal began early in the 20th century, as the city anticipated a massive increase in sea trade from deep-sea vessels using the Panama Canal. Preparations for the expected increase in shipping included building a 2,500 granite block breakwater, which was finished in 1916, two piers, and a cargo warehouse which were completed in 1918. In August 1977, a fire destroyed the Ogden Point facility. The Daily Colonist headline from Tuesday August 9, 1977 read "Spectacular blaze rips dock, warehouse". Following the great fire, in which residents in Port Angeles wondered whether the entire city was on fire, a 100,000 sq ft warehouse was built on Pier A, including a lounge for cruise ship passengers.

The Ogden Point Enhancement Society (OPES) began in 1996 to find ways to beautify the terminal while maintaining its functionality as a cruise and shipping port. The founding members of the OPES were Jim Munro, Gerry Lutz, JC Scott, C. Paul Ridout, Mark Scott, Susan Sowden, Thomas Mayne, and Timothy Van Alstine. The OPES guided the upgrades that are nearing completion today. Paul Servos, GVHA CEO, commented that, "As a gateway to British Columbia, Ogden Point has a long, rich history. Cruising Into History is an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution this property has made to the Province's well-being." The upgrades to the Ogden Point terminal are being unveiled at Cruising Into History. We hope these will be enjoyed by the cruise guests and the neighbourhood. In a recognition ceremony, the OPES will acknowledge two members, Jim Munro and Bob Cross, for their vision and outstanding contribution to the improvements at Ogden Point.

Cruising Into History is presented by the Ogden Point Enhancement Society, Victoria AM Society, Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, King Bros. Limited, and Western Stevedoring. With the help of Ellice Recycling, this is a zero waste stream event.

Schedule:

5:00 pm	Night Market opens	8:30 pm	OPES Recognition Ceremony
6:00 pm	Sweet Adelines	8:45 pm	The Randy Tucker Band
7:00 pm	Ain't Dead Yet	9:50 pm	Fireworks
8:00 pm	Esquimalt Dancers & Drummers		

Please note that the Saturday night Ship Point market will be relocated to the Ogden Point Terminal on August 23, 2008.

Avoid the parking congestion and take the free shuttle bus from the corner of Menzies and Superior Streets to Ogden Point beginning at 7:00 pm.

For more event details go to www.victoriaharbour.org

The Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA) owns and operates deep water, marina and upland holdings throughout Victoria's harbour including the large vessel Ogden Point port facility, Victoria's

renowned Fisherman's Wharf, and the inner harbour's new luxury yacht and marine tourism facility at Ship Point. GVHA's vision is a harbour where people live, learn, work and play; a spectacular gateway into Victoria's past and into its future, monumental in look and feel, linking communities and all people together. GVHA is incorporated under the BC Society Act and is governed by a board of directors representing key stakeholders and the community at-large.

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For more information:

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