



FEB./MAR. 2008

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Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Canadian Sportfishing Industry Association is hosting their Annual General Meeting in March and is encouraging all their members, as well as exhibitors at the show and other interested individuals, to attend this exciting meeting. The meeting will take place on:

**Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.
at the Toronto Sportsmen's Show,
Direct Energy Centre, in Salon 105
Exhibition Place, 100 Princes' Blvd., Toronto, Ontario**



**Special Guest Speaker
The Honourable Donna H. Cansfield
Minister of Natural Resources**

Join us in welcoming the Minister as she speaks to our sportfishing group and answers some of your questions.

Take this opportunity to learn about what your industry association is doing on your behalf as it relates to important issues. The Annual General Meeting is also a great time for the association to honour individuals in the industry by presenting the Chairman's Awards to some deserving recipients. Help us in applauding their contributions by attending this exciting event.



National Fishing Week Planning for 2008 and 2009

- 2008 **July 5-13, 2008**
9th Anniversary
- 2009 **July 4-12, 2009**
10th Anniversary

Special Celebrations

The theme over the next 2 years will revolve around "Catch a Memory" and will have a nostalgic feel. Think back to the 50's, 60's and 70's, get your plaid shirt and take someone special fishing. Stay tuned for a walk down memory lane ! Start thinking about how you can create some new memories.

**The CSIA welcomes new member:
The Angler's Atlas**



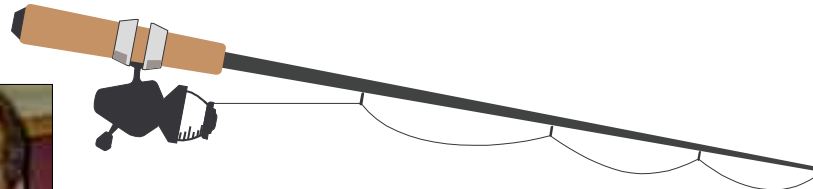
PASS IT ON

Don't trash this newsletter
- Pass it on to someone who may be interested in the content of our newsletter.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Important dates to remember

- Wed., June 18, 2008** **8th Annual Golf Fore Fish Tournament** (CSIA's only fundraiser for the National Fishing Week program)
- Wed., July 30, 2008** **2nd Annual Rick Amsbury Memorial Pro/Am** (a competitive fishing tournament where an amateur angler is paired with a pro)
- Wed., August 13, 2008** **4th Annual CSFL Industry Pro/Am Fundraiser** (a friendly competitive fishing tournament between the fishing and boating industry representatives to raise money for the fishing industry.)
- Sat., July 5 - 13, 2008** **National Fishing Week**





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Kim Rhodes

I REMEMBER YEARS AGO in my youth when my family camped every summer weekend in Omemee, Ontario at Emily Provincial Park on the Pigeon River. My Dad had a cedar strip canoe from which my older brother and I were introduced to fishing for musky, largemouth bass and mudcats. Kids back then didn't have the internet, Wii and XBOX computer games and satellite TV to occupy their leisure time. Family sizes have decreased since and the number of single parent homes has increased. Competition has definitely increased for the attention of our younger generation's participation in the sport of recreational fishing.

For the 2008 National Fishing Week, we have adopted the slogan "Catch a Memory" to promote the sport of fishing among Canadian families. Non-profit organizations across our great nation play a major role in hosting an abundance of fishing events involving the education of water aquatics and angling techniques for new anglers. The number of fishing related events during the National Fishing Week and Provincial programs have been gaining popularity over the past several years. Provincial Licence-Free Fishing Weekends that promote family fishing are posted in this newsletter.

Please join me by taking someone special on a one day, weekend or full week fishing adventure this year to celebrate Canada's National Fishing Week. I urge you to get someone special out, "Catch a Memory" and enjoy our vast resources for fishing. You won't regret the memories you'll Catch.... Good Luck !

Kim Rhodes



Kim's Catch-1959

2008 LICENCE-FREE DATES

Licence-free fishing does not apply to non-residents in all provinces. When fishing any body of water provincial and federal fishing regulations apply.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Alberta | July 5-6 |
| British Columbia | June 13-15 |
| Manitoba | June 7-8 |
| New Brunswick | June 7-8 |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | Residents year round |
| North West Territories | no |
| Nova Scotia | June 7-8 |
| Ontario | July 4-6 |
| Prince Edward Island | May 16-19 |
| Québec | June 13-15 |
| Saskatchewan | July 12-13 |
| Yukon | no |



Mark your calendar NOW to attend the Golf Fore Fish Tournament !

8th Annual Golf Fore Fish Tournament

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

- WHO:** Fishing industry supporters, manufacturers & guests
- WHAT:** Golf Tournament, Dinner and Prizes
- WHEN:** Wed., June 18, 2008, 12:30pm shotgun start
- WHERE:** Hidden Lake Golf Club, Burlington, Ontario
- WHY:** Support the only CSIA fund raising event for National Fishing Week and the Catch Fishing awareness programs.





Phil Morlock, Angela Darraugh and Bob Izumi receiving a personal tour of the House of Commons from former MP Barry Turner, now with Ducks Unlimited.

Government Affairs Update: The largest caucus in Parliament

A raging snowstorm did not prevent keynote speaker Bob Izumi and over 50 Members of Parliament and Senators from attending the December 4, 2007 Outdoor Caucus meeting held in the Parliamentary dining room. CSIA sponsored the breakfast with unprecedented additional outdoor industry and media support from coast to coast from Pure Fishing, Normark, Zebco, Shimano, Ducks Unlimited, Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, LeBaron's, Ontario Out of Doors, Outdoor Canada, Real Fishing, BC Outdoors, Outdoor Edge, Western Sportsmen, Izumi Outdoors and Hay Lake Lodge.

The details of what was accomplished during the breakfast appear in the information which follows, and as a result of this breakfast meeting an additional 17 members joined the non-partisan Outdoor Caucus. The total membership now stands at 95 from all political parties (84 MP's and 11 Senators) making this the largest caucus on Parliament Hill. Caucus Co - Chairs Hon. Garry Breitkreuz and Hon. Larry Bagnell made a special presentation to CSIA representatives Phil Morlock and Angela Darraugh in recognition of their ongoing efforts on behalf of the caucus.

Outdoors Caucus comes indoors on Parliament Hill

M.P.s give unanimous approval for new heritage foundation

Ottawa – December 21, 2007 – The Parliamentary Outdoors Caucus came indoors on December 4 when some 50 members of Parliament and senators voted unanimously to endorse the creation of an independent, all-party Canadian Outdoor Heritage foundation.

At a breakfast meeting on Parliament Hill, M.P.s and senators agreed to support a foundation that will act as a liaison between the Canadian hunting, fishing, trapping and recreational shooting community, related business sectors, and the Outdoor Caucus. The foundation will also keep the public and media informed of Outdoor Caucus activities and efforts related to federal legislation and policy.

Garry Breitkreuz, Conservative M.P. and Outdoors Caucus co-chair explains, "This unprecedented evolution will provide a permanent means for the Outdoors Caucus to ensure the outdoors community has a conduit directly into Parliament. Together, we can protect our outdoors heritage."

The foundation will play an important communications role by keeping M.P.s and senators apprised of the legislative, policy and issue priorities that arise in the outdoors community. Created in March 2006, the non-partisan Outdoors Caucus is evolving as part of an information network to receive recommendations from the outdoors community and provide legislative updates in return.

Bob Izumi, the gregarious television host of The Real Fishing Show, was guest speaker at the Parliament Hill breakfast. He stressed that the millions of Canadians who fish and hunt are a significant constituency for members of Parliament in every region of the country. They contribute millions of volunteer hours to fish and wildlife conservation. Izumi's TV career spans 24 years and together with

his brother, Wayne, he has created Fishing Forever, a non-profit organization committed to preserving and enhancing Ontario fisheries.

"It was great to see the support from Bob Izumi and the outdoors community for this important meeting," says Larry Bagnell, Liberal M.P. and Outdoors Caucus co-chair. "Urban and rural citizens of all regions, political affiliations, ages, backgrounds and abilities take part in these outdoor sports. Parliament is a vital link in promoting and monitoring management of public lands, waterways, fish, wildlife and habitat."

Phil Morlock, representing the Canadian Sportfishing Industry Association and a proponent of the new Canadian Outdoors Heritage foundation, addressed the crowd at the December 4 meeting: "It is up to us to inform our federal representatives in Parliament of the significance of the outdoor heritage community as a major constituency, as leaders in fish and wildlife conservation and as a significant national economic entity. We promote safety, conservation and the enjoyment of Canada's great natural beauty.

"Millions of Canadians from coast to coast spend more than \$10 billion a year on these outdoor heritage activities," he adds. "No one takes a greater active role in conserving our natural heritage than those who use it responsibly. Improved communication between the Outdoors Caucus and the outdoor community made possible through a permanent foundation is a major breakthrough for all Canadians who hunt, fish, shoot and trap."

For further information contact:

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Misinformation Campaigns can Affect the Future of Our fishing Heritage

Background: The CSIA brings to your attention the following statement from Minister Hearn (DFO) and the CSIA response to it. The 'professional activists' mentioned here are from the same groups who attack recreational fishing and hunting at every opportunity, using the same methods and misinformation perfected in challenging the east coast seal hunt. Forewarned is forearmed.

ANNUAL SEAL HUNT MISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN STARTS AGAIN

**Statement by Loyola Hearn,
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans**

OTTAWA, ONTARIO--(Feb.2, 2008) - It's that time of year again when certain groups begin distributing misinformation about Canada's harp seal hunt, which tarnishes the reputation of Aboriginal and Atlantic sealers. As Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, I want to make sure the facts are clear.

Canada's commercial seal hunts are humane, sustainable and economically important, based on sound conservation principles and regulations that are carefully monitored and enforced. Our quota levels ensure the continued health and abundance of seal herds, and with more than 5.5 million harp seals just off Canada's shores it's wrong for anyone to suggest that their population is at risk. This number is triple what it was in the 1970s.

Yet each year professional activists who earn their living protesting the seal hunt descend upon Atlantic Canada, enjoy its hospitality, then attack the integrity, cultural heritage and livelihoods of these same coastal citizens and

their communities.

These groups arm themselves with carefully crafted misinformation, including photo opportunities with celebrities and young "whitecoat" seals -- seals that it has been against the law to hunt in Canada for more than two decades.

Their claims of how the hunt is run fly in the face of independent, peer-reviewed veterinary reports that show seals are harvested in a humane manner. Even a December 2007 study by the European Food Safety Authority on the hunting practices of global seal hunts affirmed that humane hunting practices exist, and upheld the legitimacy and humaneness of Canada's techniques.

Seals have been harvested for food, fuel, clothing, shelter and other products for hundreds of years and sealing remains an important part of Canada's cultural heritage.

The Government of Canada will continue to speak up in support of the hunt and in defence of our sealers who carry out a legal, humane, and sustainable hunt that has been part of our culture for centuries.

To our neighbours in the international community, I would encourage you to get the facts on the seal hunt before you accept the arguments being put before you from any organization seeking your hard-earned dollars to fund their campaigns.

CSIA RESPONSE TO MINISTER HEARN'S STATEMENT on Feb. 22, 2008

Dear Minister,

Re: Annual Seal Hunt Misinformation Campaign Starts Again and EU BAN

On behalf of the Canadian Sportfishing Industry Association I am writing to offer our congratulations on your recent statements regarding misinformation campaigns concerning the seal hunt and EU ban.

We applaud your assertive posture in issuing this pre-emptive statement prior to the hunt. It is refreshing to have a Minister clearly state the "facts" on the seal hunt and render valid observations regarding the modus operandi of "professional activists". In this age of misinformation, it is encouraging to see a leader like you confront the issues head-on with scientific facts.

Like the seal hunt, recreational fishing is also impacted by similar campaigns by the same anti-use groups. We encourage this level of support from you in the future when organizations that regularly denounce fishing and publicly oppose all fishing activities attack OUR sportfishing heritage. We thank you for your support of the Parliamentary Outdoor Caucus, a very positive development for our fishing heritage.

As our guest speaker at last year's CSIA Annual General Meeting, you expressed the importance of recreational fishing to the Canadian economy. Over 8 million Canadians of all ages enjoy fishing coast to coast to coast. As leaders in conservation efforts, anglers greatly value science based management and harvest of our fish and wildlife to ensure the sustainable future of our outdoor heritage. With your support as a recreational angler and Minister of Department of Fisheries & Oceans, threats by activists misinforming the public about our heritage will be challenged directly with the facts.

On behalf of all our members in the sportfishing industry and anglers coast to coast, we encourage you to participate in issues concerning the fishing community and we congratulate you on your statement.

Kindest Regards,

(Mr.) Kim Rhodes, CSIA President Phil Morlock, CSIA Government Affairs Committee

YOUR WEST COAST REPORT

By Bill Otway

FIRST 2008 IS A VERY SPECIAL YEAR for British Columbia in that we are celebrating our 150th anniversary. Second, our oldest and still operating tackle manufacturing plant "Gibbs Tackle" is celebrating their 100th year of operation in B.C. and Third, this is the 100th anniversary of the birth of one of our great fishermen, conservationist and writer extraordinaire, Roderick Haig-Brown.

The outlook for the saltwater fishery for 2008 is very much a mixed bag with some serious concerns for Chinook stocks on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, some of the Strait of Georgia stocks and a few of the Upper Fraser River Thompson stocks. Many of our Chinook stocks are now past the impact of the 2005 ocean conditions and these along with the fact that almost all of the Southern U.S. stocks have to pass through our waters should ensure a generally good fishery for most of the coast. With regard to Coho, our now long term problems with stocks produced in the Strait of Georgia remains. For the rest of the coast however, the outlook is for good to excellent fishing for this species.

The one really bright note for the 2008 tidal recreational fishery is the fact that through the cooperative work between staff at Fisheries and Oceans Canada, (DFO) and the Sportfishing Advisory Board, (SFAB), proposed very restrictive regulations in our Halibut fishery were averted. Catch may be down but opportunity has been preserved. For the past number of years the regulations for the recreational Halibut fishery on the West Coast have allowed a daily catch of 2 with a total possession of 3. These limits were enshrined in a specific regulation which made it very difficult to alter. In fact the initial advice from DFO was that while they could change the daily limit, they could not change the possession limit without a regulation change.

The upshot of this was that we were facing either some major total closures of our fishery or a reduction in the daily limit to 1 per day while the possession limit remained at 3. As the majority of the fishing for Halibut means a long run offshore, a catch limit of 1 per day would have had a devastating impact on our charter fleets as well as on the general angling population. Simply put, for both, the cost of getting there and back far exceeded the benefits of one Halibut.

A further look at the whole situation by the SFAB and analysis by DFO staff showed that by reducing the possession limit to 2 a good portion of the savings needed would be achieved. The DFO staff also pressed their legal branch to review the whole situation more closely and to advise if the possession limit could be altered by "a condition of licence". In short, the current regulation would be overridden by inserting a statement on each tidal fishing licence that a "condition" of that licence was that the possession limit on Halibut would be 2 for all of the 2008 fishery. The legal advice was received that indeed this could be done and so our fishery will go ahead with the limits now being 2 per day, 2 in possession. This should ensure a continuance of all aspects of this fishery along with the attendant economic benefits for B.C. and Canada.

This whole situation came about because the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, in his wisdom, allocated 88% of the Canadian Halibut Total Allowable Catch, (TAC), to the commercial fishery and 12% to the recreational fishery. Then to compound the situation, he played Pontius Pilot, and washed his hands of his duty to allocate the resource in a manner to bring the most benefits to Canadians. Instead he decreed that any future changes in allocation would have to be done through a "market based" mechanism that was to be worked out between the recreational sector and the commercial sector. Neither the Minister, DFO, the commercial and recreational sectors were after 3 years of negotiations, unable to identify any "market based" mechanisms other than purchase or lease. In short

the Minister has given ownership of 88% of the Pacific Halibut resource, formerly owned by all Canadians to the commercial Halibut fishery.

Under this formula we have now reached the stage where the recreational sector has exceeded its allocation in 2007, and due to an overall cut in the Canadian TAC it is estimated that we will exceed our 2008 quota by some 400,000 pounds. Under directions of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans a committee of the SFAB has been working steadily with the commercial sector for the past 6 months in an attempt to find a solution to this problem. The recreational sector has identified that in order to hold themselves blameless and ensure the ability to stay within their allocation in the future their share must rise by 8% to 20%. The estimated cost to achieve this goal is in the order of \$30 million dollars. The money is to be used to purchase the quota back off of the commercial sector. Having no ability to raise funds themselves, and given the fact that the Minister has directed that they must buy back what he has given away, the group was left with no option but to put forward a proposal that the government advance the money to purchase the public resource and the sector would repay this through increased licence fees.

The Minister's staff has also informed the recreational sector through the SFAB that the situation with regard to the Halibut allocation will be applied to salmon and all other species in the future. The Minister currently has his DFO staff busily working at providing Individual Transferable Quotas to the commercial sector in every fishery on this coast. To date with Halibut alone he has provided a \$300 million dollar windfall profit to the commercial Halibut fleet for a resource he gave them for nothing in the first place. The privatization of the balance of our fisheries is not likely to be any less expensive for the recreational sector and the people of Canada.

But for the moment at least it appears our 2008 Halibut fishery will go ahead with minor interruptions, 2009 however is another story as more cuts in the TAC are expected.

This brings us to two pieces of legislation currently before the House of Commons that if passed without change will move the apparent plans of the government to privatize the public fishery one step closer to success.

I am referring specifically here to legislative Bills, C -32 the proposed new Fisheries Act and C -34 an Act to implement the Treaty Agreements for the Tsawwassen and Maa-nulth Indian Bands in B.C.

The former is but a rehash of last year's Bill C -45 with some very minor changes. The ability for the Minister to privatize all our fisheries remains the core of the Act and certainly to the West Coast Anglers, such a move is not acceptable. Not only does this Act allow the Minister to provide ownership of quotas in the fishery, but over and above that, and over and above any fees and regulations the Federal Government establishes for fishing, the Minister can still give over the management and control of the fishery to private enterprises who will have the power to decide who may fish and what fees they will pay the enterprise for the privilege of being allowed to exercise their constitutional right to fish.

Bill C -34, as noted is legislation intended to adopt the Treaties signed off by the government representatives. There has been more than enough information in the press over the past months to indicate the flaws in these Treaties, many which affect our fisheries. In the view of this writer however, the biggest threat comes from the Commercial Harvest Agreements that are attached to the Treaties and come into being at such time as the government signs off on the Treaties. As I have noted before, these Commercial Harvest Agreements provide the specific Indian band with a specific allocation of the commercial TAC for various species, the primary one being salmon but also Halibut and many others that are

important to the recreational fishery. These allocations to the Bands are in perpetuity, removing access to them forever from the non-Indian community. In short our current problems with regard to Halibut are going to be compounded and expanded when all the commercial allocation is transferred to the Indians. And given the expansion of the current agreements to the rest of the Bands throughout B.C., there is every chance there will not be enough commercial TAC to go around and then we suppose this Minister will turn to removing fishing opportunity and fish from the recreational sector.

And for those who think this is only a British Columbia issue, I strongly urge you to obtain and read the submissions your provincial governments make in the Supreme Court of Canada appeal in the Kapp case last

Our Canadian Right to Fish is under attack and without a concerted joint action plan, we are slated to lose.

December. Without exception, every province spoke out in favour of greater allocation of our fish to the First Nations and never once indicated any thought or concern for the recreational fishery.

Our Canadian Right to Fish is under attack and without a concerted joint action plan, we are slated to lose. The other option open to us, as indicated by our current government and Minister of Fisheries, is to raise the billions of dollars to buy back our own resource, that they have given away to ensure a future for our sport and our industry.

Remember our recreational fishing industry far outstrips the commercial fisheries in economic returns to Canada and Canadians, a fact that the current administration seems to be making every effort to ignore.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name of Business _____

Contact Person _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Category of Membership _____ Rate _____

Payment Options:

Cheque enclosed Bill me Visa

Visa #: _____

Expiry: ____/____

Name on card: _____

CSIA CATEGORY AND FEE STRUCTURE

Effective January 1, 2007

| Category | Fee | Conditions |
|----------------------|-----------------|--|
| Independent Retailer | \$100 per store | Cap at \$1,000 |
| Mass Merchant | \$2,000 | To provide NFW content in flyers and other promotional materials, and provide one SKU for CSIA product per yr. |
| Manufacturer's Rep. | \$200 per rep | Cap at \$500 |
| Regional Distributor | \$200 per rep | Cap at \$1,000 |
| National Distributor | \$5,000 | |
| Jobber | \$200 | |
| Manufacturers | \$300 | Cottage Industry level |
| | \$1,000 | Larger National or Regional |
| | \$5,000 | Major |
| Media, Shows | \$200 | |
| Associates | \$200 | |
| Funding Member | Variable | Sales related: cap at \$25,000 |



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