



Port Moody Ecological Society
340 Ioco Road
Port Moody, BC V3H 2V7

"Raising Salmon and Environmental Awareness for over 25 Years"

Terminal Manager
Pacific Coast Terminals
2300 Columbia Street
Port Moody, B.C. V3H 5J9

7th September, 2017

Re: 26th Noons Creek Fingerling Festival – May 6th, 2017

Dear Wade,

Well, we've had a couple of big years. In 2016, we celebrated our Society's 25th anniversary – and this year it was our iconic festival's turn to hit the quarter century! Both of those remarkable achievements and we know that without the support of our local community, neither may ever have happened.

PMES would like to graciously thank **Pacific Coast Terminals**, being one of our significant community partners that have helped make this festival what it is today. PCT has been with us for quite a few years, we sincerely appreciate the support and are proud of our continuing relationship. PCT knows the value of community and contributes significantly economically and philanthropically to Port Moody specifically and the Tri-Cities in general. PCT's generous donation of \$3,000 this year to support our Festival funding made it possible for us to explore other educational and entertaining exhibits for our visitors on the day. We cannot thank PCT enough as a community partner, and specifically Jennifer McKinnon who in her capacity as Office, HR and Communications Manager has fortified relationships with not only PMES but many community organizations. Thank you.....

Highlights of the 2017 Fingerling Festival include:

- An estimated 5,000 visitors on the day
- First Nations blessing of the fry as they were released into the creek
- 40,000 Chum Salmon fry released into Noons Creek
- Bobs & Lolo again wowed the young and young-at-heart with their singing!
- Vancouver Polish Theatre were again a huge hit with the kids!
- Our raffle table had over 35 generously donated raffle prizes including some fantastic art prints from the likes of Robert Bateman
- Our hotdog lunch this year was handled by the Tri-City Rotaractors and they did a fantastic job. This initiative made it possible for us to free up about 12 volunteer positions on the day. These could then help with more ecologically focused Festival

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activities. Sponsor support enabled us to mitigate the loss of the fundraising this normally brings.

- Jay Peachy was a hit on the day with his live broadcasting from the event with some First Nations perspectives on salmon and the importance they play in not only their culture but how critical they are to this province in general. Of fascinating interest to the kids was his puppet theatre
- Over 100 volunteers helped us to be successful on the day
- Family groups were encouraged to volunteer (a great way to introduce volunteerism to young children)
- Adults and kids learned more about community initiatives and environmental stewardship from around 60 exhibitors in the hockey rink and outside in the carpark. We extend our sincerest thanks to all our 2017 exhibitors who helped make it such a huge success:
 - Exhibitors included:
 - City of Port Moody (**presenting sponsor**)
 - Pacific Coast Terminals (**sponsor**)
 - Port of Vancouver (**sponsor**)
 - Port Moody Foundation
 - Vancouver Aquarium Aquabus
 - Mossom Creek Hatchery (BIMES)
 - Colony Farm Park Association
 - Burke Mountain Naturalists
 - Vancouver Science World
 - Fraser River Discovery Centre
 - Port Moody Railway Museum
 - Mike the Reptile Guy
 - Nature Trust of BC
 - Vancity Credit Union
 - Port Moody Farmers Market
 - And many, many more.....

A selection of photos from the day can be found at the following link (credit to Sandra Niven, Brian Wormald): https://1drv.ms/f/s!Avh_FEsfhWhP9jGtUjvWfCdZbxyA

As a registered, charitable organization, we are constantly working hard to increase our fundraising. All proceeds go directly to support the Port Moody Ecological Society's environmental research, educational and outreach programs, to help preserve and protect Noons Creek and to operate the Noons Creek hatchery and water quality testing laboratory. We recognize that these are difficult times for families and sincerely appreciate every cent that our supporting public donate through sponsoring our raffle, hot-dog BBQ or simply dropping a few coins in Mrs Bennie's donation jar near the hatchery. We hope our fantastic public's continued support will enable us to continue providing this free event for the Tri-Cities community and to raise funds to continue our volunteer work.

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The Society's aim is to provide an interactive and hands-on experience for the children that come to our festival to help foster their love of the environment and to carry this love throughout their lives. Our hope is that they will grow to become adults that are passionate about their surroundings and make decisions in their lives that will make the future brighter and greener for generations to come.

How do we measure our success? For the Port Moody Ecological Society, a key indicator of success as a volunteer run, community based organization is the attendance and the obvious enjoyment of the public at our iconic Fingerling Festival. And judging by the number of people with permanent smiles enjoying the many displays and engaged kids releasing thousands of Chum fry into Noons Creek, our 25th annual Fingerling Festival was another huge success.

There are so many things that we accomplish – salmon enhancement, water quality analysis of 6 local creeks, invasive plant removal, invertebrate studies, school programs, community outreach.....the list goes on. We feel our most satisfying time of the year is in July - when bursaries are awarded to help qualifying post-secondary students with their environmental, fish and wildlife or related studies. This is our chance to give back to the community that has supported us for so many years. You see, community is about collaboration and working together.....something we hold dear and plan to foster even further within our community partners.

Even as PCT's funding helps us to maintain educational programs, we can't do any of this however without our amazing volunteers. We would like to thank those many volunteers and board members over the last 25 years for steering the good ship Noons on a steady course to bring us to where we are today. It is with pride that we have spawned (no pun intended) many careers in Fish and Wildlife, environmental, biological sciences – and even political sciences. Christy Clark was once a volunteer at the hatchery.....

Thank you again for making our Festival one of the best of its type in the Lower Mainland. We hope your team enjoyed participating in our iconic event – as much as we enjoy hosting it. See you again in 2018!

Sincerely,

Brian Wormald – President / Relationships Manager

Dave Bennie – Vice President / Festival and Exhibitor Coordinator

Sandra Niven – Festival Volunteer and Communications Coordinator

Port Moody Ecological Society - Celebrating 26 years of environmental stewardship! Join us for our annual Fingerling Festival, held the first Saturday of each May.

300 Ioco Road, Port Moody, BC V3H 2V7 Tel: (604) 469-9106

Located to the right of the Port Moody Recreation Centre and Ice Hockey Rink

Website: www.noonscreek.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PortMoodyEcologicalSociety

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/NoonsCreek>