September 30, 2012

To Victoria Mayor and City Council

RE: Moorage and User Rate Increases at the Coast Hotel and Marina

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter explaining the situation at the Coast Hotel and Marina which in my mind should be of concern to Mayor and Council given your ongoing efforts to clean up the Gorge Waterway and the efforts at other levels of government to deal with abandoned vessels on our local beaches.

One of the root causes of boats anchoring in the sheltered waters of the Gorge Waterway and of boats washing up on the local beaches after a storm have to do with the costs of moorage in the inner harbour. More specifically, live aboard moorage,

The Victoria Inner Harbour has a long history of live aboards at marinas such as those controlled by the GVHA (Causeway, Fisherman's Wharf, Wharf St), Westbay Marina, Pier One and the Coast Hotel and Marina. Live aboards can be divided up into two categories; year round and seasonal (winter). The remainder are either short term or transient visitors usually during peak season months in late spring and summer.

I am a seasonal, winter moorage customer at the Coast Hotel and Marina and my monthly moorage rate is being increased by 36% plus a \$100 "electricity surcharge" which means that my "rent" is going to double in the middle of a global pandemic and at the beginning of the second wave just as I am starting a four year, full time program. I am not alone, there are many like me in the same predicament.

Those of us who have met with the general manager of the Coast Hotel and Marina have been essentially told, "If you don't like it, leave". The reasons given for the increase in costs was to raise rates to industry standard yet without the moorage rate increases, the Coast Hotel and Marina was already the most expensive in the inner harbour and none of the other marinas are raising rates.

People who choose to live on boats have no protections like renters do with Residential Tenancy Act so someone like the general manager at the Coast Hotel and Marina can raise rates as much and as many times as they like.

Also, there is nowhere for us to go. All the other marinas are full and have long waiting lists to get a spot. There is no such waiting list at the Coast Hotel because, I believe, the already high costs. It is my belief that the hotel is trying to recover lost revenues due to the downturn because of covid on the backs of marina residents.

One solution would be for the Victoria International Marina to open up the nearly empty marina to vessels under 65ft, which they truly wish they can do, but the harbormaster refuses to give them permission. I have written to Transport Canada, the Minister of Transportation and I'm seeking an audience with the harbormaster tom plead my case. Another possible solution would be to create protections for people like us from being financially prayed upon at any time, not just during pandemics.

Please find below links to the Coast Hotel and Marina moorage rates plus I've added links or attachments to moorage rates for Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, Westbay, Victoria International Marina and the Coast Hotel and Marina.

You'll see that in most cases the other marinas charge LESS THAN HALF and the Victoria International Marina charges less to 65 foot super yachts than the Coast Hotel and Marina.

Please hear my case and be an advocate for me and people like me and avoid a situation that will inevitably push desperate people back to the Gorge and local bays because we have nowhere else to go.

For a vessel my length the following winter moorage rates apply:

GVHA: \$10.20/foot/month plus fees equals \$566.70 plus tax per month

Westbay: \$12.50/foot/month equals \$562.50 plus hydro and taxes per month

Victoria International Marina (if allowed): less than \$15.75/foot/month for a 65 ft vessel (will be adjusted for length and less than a 65 foot vessel)

Coast Hotel and Marina: \$22.50/foot/month equals **\$887.5 plus taxes per month!!**My previous rates at the Coast Hotel cost \$560 plus tax

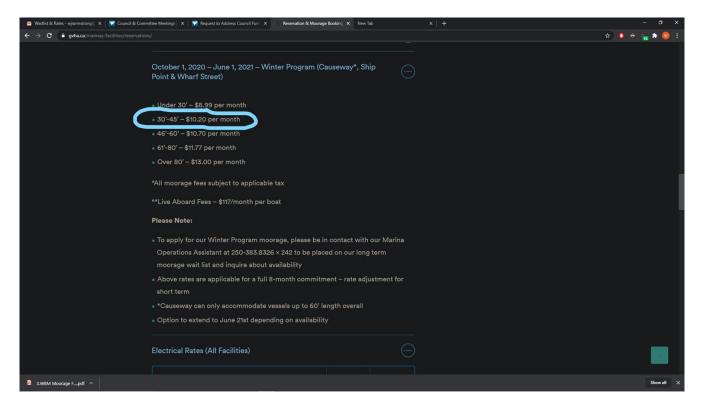
Thank you for your consideration. I available from 11:30-1 and 2:30 onward otherwise I am in class.

William Armstrong

https://www.coasthotels.com/hotels/bc/victoria/coast-victoria-hotel-marina-by-apa/victoria-marina/marina-rates/

https://gvha.ca/marinas-facilities/reservations/

https://vimarina.ca/wp-content/uploads/vim_wintermoorage2020_v4.pdf





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West Bay Marine Group April 1 2020 - end of March, 2021

Marina	WESTBAY	SAILORS COVE	MARINA PARK
Location	453 Head street,	525 Head street,	2060 White Birch Rd., Sidney
	Esquimalt	Esquimalt	
Price per foot per			
month	Up to 30' - \$11.75	\$12.00	Up to 35'-\$11.75
	31' and over - \$ 12.50	/	36' and over - \$12.25
Annual discount- must	Annual Discount	Annual Discount	Annual Discount
be paid by cash, cheque	Up to 30' - \$11.25	\$11.50	Up to 35' - \$11.00
or debit	31' and over - \$12.00		36' and over - \$11.75
Live- Aboard fee- monthly	\$125.00	\$75.00	\$125.00
(Includes 1 parking pass and mail box for WB)	7225100	Ţ.3.00	Ç225.00
Additional narking	\$100.00	\$25 First Vehicle	\$60.00

