

1942 - Requests for information

GR-0435  
Box 163  
FIC 3

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO THE COMMISSIONER

BRITISH



COLUMBIA

GOVERNMENT TRAVEL BUREAU  
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
VICTORIA

7761

OCTOBER 2nd., 1942.

GEORGE J. ALEXANDER Esq.,  
Assistant Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Buildings.

Dear Mr. Alexander,

We enclose an enquiry from James R. Wiginton, of Winnipeg (Man.),  
for your attention. We should be very much interested in having  
a copy of your reply for our own information.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "W.A. Currie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

(W.H. CURRIE)  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
**RECEIVED**  
OCT 3 1942

VICTORIA. B. C

5-29

Winnipeg, Man, Sept 23, 1942.

Vancouver Chamber of Commerce,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Gentlemen:-

This letter is being forwarded to you due to my ignorance as to the proper authorities to which it should be addressed. Perhaps you will be kind enough to forward it to the proper destination.

It is my desire to enter the Salmon fishing industry, but before doing so, would appreciate some information relative to the pursuance of this business. Enumerated below are the most important questions to which I desire an answer.

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is my understanding there are several  
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le - I desire to know the cost of such  
at - (a) Power driven suitable for  
net fishing.

(B) Power driven suitable for  
net fishing.

A general outline of the tolls &  
assessments (i.e. license fee, etc.)  
which are required in order to  
undertake this business of Salmon  
uly, fishing.

Any literature which is available  
showing the yearly catch of Salmon taken  
from the Fraser River, also the approximate  
value of these fish, insofar as the  
Fisherman is concerned. If available,

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Geo.  
Assis

it would be desirable this can be my und  
comparative basis for possibly third Jap an  
last 10 years or so. le - I desire

(4) Any general literature available - (a) Por  
covering this Primary industry. net fi

I may say that I am a  
married man who has been  
rejected from the Canadian Active A genera  
Army - but would like to establish some  
myself in an independent busi ch ave  
dentat

Yours truly,  
Jas. R. Higgins

63 Hillcrest St,  
Norwood Grove,  
Manitoba, Canada.

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W. H. Currie, Esq.,

Government Travel Bureau,

BUILDINGS.

941  
Oct. 5

2

This will serve to acknowledge your letter of October 2nd, enclosing letter from James R. Wiginton of Norwood Grove, Manitoba, for attention. In accordance with your request I am enclosing a copy of my reply to Mr. Mr. Wiginton.

GJA:CC  
Encl.

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

942

October 5, 1942.

James R. Wiginton, Esq.,  
63 Hillcrest Street,  
Norwood Grove,  
Manitoba.

Dear Sir:

Your letter addressed to the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce finally reached this office for reply and answering your questions categorically, I have to advise in respect to

No. 1. That the Japanese fishing vessels which were impounded by the Dominion Government were placed in the custody of a committee known as the Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee, with offices in the Marine Building, Vancouver, and with Mr. A. E. McMaster as Executive Assistant. It is my understanding that this fleet of vessels has been practically disposed of but in order to satisfy yourself that this is so, you may communicate with the above committee at 1528 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C.

No. 1-a. The power necessary for a gill-net fishing boat will run between 8 and 20 h.p., depending on the size of the vessel, and

No. 1-b. The power suitable for a seine boat ranges from 60 h.p. upwards, also depending upon the size of the vessel.

Nos. 2, 3, and 4. We are forwarding under separate cover, a copy of the Special Fishery Regulations for British Columbia, a copy of the report of the Provincial Fisheries Department for 1941 and a copy of a booklet entitled "The Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia." A close perusal of these three publications should give you the required information.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

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# VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ARCADE BUILDING

P. O. BOX 608

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA TELEPHONE EMPIRE 7191

JUNIOR CHAMBER  
REPRESENTATIVES

T. M. LITTLE  
W. C. MEARNS

September 23, 1942.

7743

DEPARTMENT OF  
TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
SEP 24 1942  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
VICTORIA, B. C.

V-3. E.

Mr. E. G. Rowebottom,  
Deputy Minister,  
Department of Trade and Industry,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Mr. Rowebottom:

We are forwarding herewith copy of a letter we have received from Mr. F. Oomen of given address, Montreal.

Mr. Oomen is asking for information regarding license fees for salmon fishing, etc., and we would appreciate it if you would reply direct to him. We have written to Mr. Oomen telling him of our action.

Yours very truly,

VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*George I Warren*

Managing Secretary.

1810 St. Louis  
Apt. 5  
Montreal

encl.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
RECEIVED  
SEP 20 1942

VICTORIA, B. C.

5-29

September 29, 1942.

F. Comen, Esq.,  
Apartment 8,  
1910 St. Luke,  
Montreal, Quebec.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of a request forwarded from the Victoria Chamber of Commerce for information regarding the commercial salmon fisheries of British Columbia, together with particulars of any Government supported scheme to put some of the former Japanese fishing vessels into production.

We are forwarding you under separate cover a booklet entitled "The Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia which should pretty well fill the needs of your first request. In respect to the latter, I have to advise that there is no Government supported scheme to put the so-called seized Japanese fishing vessels back into production. As a matter of fact the vessels formerly owned and operated by Japanese in British Columbia have all been disposed of and are presently producing as the property of white fishermen.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

C O P Y

Montreal, September 10th, 1942.

The Chamber of Commerce,  
Victoria, B. C.

Gentlemen:

Information on the subject of commercial salmon fishing would be very much appreciated by the undersigned.

Full particulars on any Government supported scheme to put some of the seized Japanese fishing fleet back into production as well as information on license fees, grading and marketing would be helpful.

In case you are not in a position to supply this information, kindly advise where it can be obtained.

Yours very truly,

"F. OOMEN"

1910 St. Luke,  
Apt. 8,  
Montreal.

June 23, 1942.

Geo. J. Sykes, Esq.,  
100 Highland Road,  
London, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

This will serve to confirm our conversation of recent date regarding your proposal to acquire a fleet of fishing boats in British Columbia as an investment, with particular attention to the Japanese fishing vessels recently immobilized by the Federal Government.

As pointed out to you, owing to the circumstances under which the gill-net and salmon-troll fisheries are conducted on this coast, especially the fact that these fisheries are conducted by owner-operators and the fact that these two branches of the fishery are essentially individualistic, I am, therefore, of the opinion that vessels of the gill-net troller type should not be considered as purely from an investment standpoint.

With regard to the seine-boat type of vessel the situation is somewhat different. A number of seine boats in British Columbia are owned by individuals and in many cases, the individual owner is the skipper and operator of the vessel as well. In other cases the vessel may be owned by one or two persons and operated by another person. In most cases, however, the ownership of seine boats in British Columbia is vested in the larger fishing and canning companies. In the case of a fleet of vessels owned by a fishing or canning company, you will appreciate the fact that these vessels are considered as part of the working equipment of the canning company. None of these firms are primarily vessel owners. On the other hand, there has been in British Columbia, fleets of vessels owned by individuals who were not in the canning business but in closely allied lines.

In cases where the ownership of a seine boat is vested in the fisherman himself, in most cases the fisherman owner is in

-5-29

Geo. J. Sykes, Esq. - Page 2.

no way connected with a canning company, but rather sells his fish to a company as they are caught.

From the above you will note that there would seem to be no inherent reason why one should not acquire a fleet of seine boats and engage in salmon fishing in British Columbia if the vessels can be procured at a reasonable cost, and if the management of such a company was sufficiently familiar with the intricacies of the fishing business there would seem to be no good reason why one should not expect a reasonable return on the investment. It should be particularly understood, however, that the fishing industry is a highly specialized industry and before any investment is made therein, it is strongly recommended that a thorough investigation be made as to the possibilities.

If I can be of any further service, or if you have any specific questions which you would like to ask, please do not hesitate to communicate with me.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

Canyon Creek, Alberta.

April 27th. 1942

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

RECEIVED  
MAY 1 1942 7231

Department of Game & Fisheries  
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sirs;

I saw in the papers that you still need fishermen in British Columbia.

I am a well experienced fresh water fisherman, operating a fishing outfit of my own, including a gas boat, and all.

I may do a greater service to the country by coming out there to fish.

I have fished in the Lesser Slave Lake and other northern lakes.

If you still need good strong experienced fishermen, just past military age, please let me know, so I can make other arrangements, regarding my outfit here.

Please give all the particulars regarding fare and where to go to, by return mail. Thanking you

Yours truly  
Joe W. Matson  
5-29

436

May 6, 1942.

Joe W. Matson, Esq.,  
Canyon Creek, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

This will serve to acknowledge your letter of April 27, and in respect to the inquiry contained therein, I have to advise that it is not anticipated that there will be any shortage of fishermen in British Columbia for the current season. While it is true the Japanese will not be permitted to engage in fishing in British Columbia for the duration, nevertheless it is not anticipated that a shortage will occur as heretofore the industry has been more or less crowded.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

#159, Provencher,  
St. Boniface, Man  
May 1st, 1942

British Columbia Dept. of Fisheries,  
Victoria, B.C.

227

Gentlemen:

I have been corresponding with different people within these last three months in regard to going out to Vancouver to fish salmon.

I now have a partner wishing to come along to Vancouver, and it is our intention to buy a 25 to 30 Ft. trawler.

We would like to know if it is possible, at present, to get any of those Jap boats that were interned. We both have had some experiences in fishing cod on the Atlantic Coast, but would brush up on salmon-fishing.

We are both married, and above drafting age. We have been to Vancouver before and think the city and district to be God's country.

We would therefore be much obliged if you could give us necessary information in regard to licenses and permits. By owning our boat what price could we sell our salmon-catches? Would prospective buyers be Government-canaries or private enterprises?

We can of course furnish the best of references such as police, Banks and City-authorities. Should you deem it advisable we could on short notice, go over and see you personally.

Enclosed you will find a self-addressed envelope. Thanking you for your kind attention, and in anticipation of a prompt reply, I remain,

Yours very truly,

*Geo Giguere*  
GEORGES GIGUERE

#159, Provencher,  
St. Boniface, Man.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
RECEIVED  
MAY 2 1942

VICTORIA B.C.

5-29

May 4, 1942.

Georges Giguere, Esq.,  
#159, Provencher,  
St. Boniface, Man.

Dear Sir:

I have for acknowledgment your letter of May 1st and in reply thereto I am forwarding under separate cover a booklet entitled "The Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia," together with a copy of the Special Fishery Regulations for British Columbia. These regulations are for last year but are sufficiently up-to-date to answer the purpose. New regulations should be available shortly.

In regard to the proposal that you come to the coast to fish, I would strongly recommend that before you invest any money in equipment, you investigate the possibilities as they exist on the coast, personally. By this I do not mean that you come to the coast and discuss the matter with anyone, but you should preferably see for yourself something of the industry. The salmon fisheries of British Columbia, like most other branches of the industry, are highly specialized and previous fishing experience on the Atlantic coast does not necessarily assure success in British Columbia. A perusal of the booklet, "The Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia," should give you an outline of how this fishery is conducted. I should also probably advise you that the elimination of the Japanese from British Columbia's fisheries does not in itself create a shortage of fishermen on the coast.

It is impossible at this time to advise as to the price which fishermen will receive this year for their salmon. The Government does not operate any salmon canneries. These are operated by private companies and negotiations on prices are usually conducted before the opening of the salmon season. The price varies according to species, according to the method of catching, and according to the district in which they are caught.

Georges Ciguere, Esq. - Page 2.

For information regarding the purchase of a Japanese fishing vessel, I would suggest that you communicate with Mr. A. E. McMaster, Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee, 1528 Marine Building, Vancouver. B. C.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

A. J. FALCONER  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
LAND. LOANS. INSURANCE  
DUVAL, SASK.

23rd. April. 1942.

7191

Department of Fisheries .

Victoria. B. C.

Dear Sirs.

I have been given to understand that there is an opportunity to get into the fishing industry at the present time through the Jap fishing fleet having been taken over. I would like what information you can give as regards to purchase of a boat and equipment and cost of same and what terms can be obtained. Also the seasonal fishings and possible catches that may reasonably be expected and value of same. Any information will be much appreciated as I have been considering moving to the coast but cannot afford to do so without having some occupation. I may say that while I am on the <sup>reserve</sup> list of Canadian Officers, being a veteran, it is not likely that I will be ~~called~~ called as I am 59 years of age. Please also advise me as to the likely costs of a fishing crew etc.

Yours very truly.

*A. J. Falconer*

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
RECEIVED  
APR 28 1942

VICTORIA, B. C.

5-29

April 30, 1942.

A. J. Falconer, Esq.,  
Notary Public,  
Duval, Sask.

Dear Sir:

This will serve to acknowledge your letter of April 23, wherein you request information on the possibility of entering the commercial fisheries of British Columbia.

I am forwarding you under separate cover a copy of a booklet entitled "The Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia," together with a copy of the annual report of this Department. From the perusal of these two documents you will appreciate the very specialized character of commercial fishing in British Columbia and on this account it is almost impossible to advise one who presumably has had no experience in fishing. In connection with the opportunities, however, I may say that there is no shortage of commercial fishermen in British Columbia, notwithstanding the fact that the Federal Government has immobilized that branch of the fleet which was formerly operated by Japanese. Contrary to popular belief, the Japanese were not a predominating factor in the fisheries of British Columbia. Federal Fisheries Department statistics indicate that of the total number of licences issued to fishermen in British Columbia in recent past years, the number issued to Japanese was less than 14% of the total. Heretofore the fishing industry has been overcrowded and it is expected that the elimination of the Japanese will in no manner be deleterious to production.

If you contemplate entering the commercial fisheries of British Columbia, I would suggest that before you commit yourself in any way, you should examine the proposition at first hand by making a personal visit to the coast.

A. J. Falconer, Esq., - Page 2.

In the meantime, if you desire information in respect to the purchase of a Japanese fishing vessel immobilized by the Federal Government, you should communicate with Mr. A. E. McMaster of the Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee, 1523 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GO

THE PIVOTAL TRADE POINT OF THE PACIFIC THE FINEST RESIDENTIAL CITY IN CANADA THE SUMMER AND WINTER RESORT OF THE COAST

## THE VICTORIA AND ISLAND PUBLICITY BUREAU

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND VANCOUVER ISLAND  
FREE INFORMATION BUREAU - ENQUIRIES UPON ANY SUBJECT CHEERFULLY ANSWERED  
TELEPHONE EMPIRE 7191

VICTORIA IS THE CAPITAL CITY OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
THE SEAT OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

TEMPERATURE AT NOON YESTERDAY



P. O. BOX 608

**VICTORIA**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

GEORGE I. WARREN  
PUBLICITY COMMISSIONER

April 13, 1942.

7154

Mr. E.G. Rowebottom,  
Deputy Minister,  
Dept. of Trade & Industry,  
Parliament Bldgs.,  
VICTORIA, B.C.

Dear Mr. Rowebottom:-

We are forwarding herewith copy of a letter we have today received from Mr. C. Graham of given address, whom you will note wishes for information concerning the possibilities for commercial fishing in the coastal waters of British Columbia.

We have written to Mr. Graham sending him folders and maps describing the island and its industries to some extent and have told him he will hear in more detail from you.

Yours sincerely,

VICTORIA & ISLAND PUBLICITY BUREAU,

Enc.

*George I. Warren*  
Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
**RECEIVED**  
APR 15 1942

VICTORIA, B.C.

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Toronto, Apr. 4, /42

23 Grosvenor St.

Dear Sirs:-

It has occurred to me since the rounding up of the Japs, there might be some good openings for fishermen off the coast of B.C. What is the price of a modest boat and will there be any restrictions on the use of gas? Are small sail boats practical? How does a crew work - partnership or wage? Can one work the year round? What capital would be required for a modest outfit?

I would be satisfied with a fair wage and reasonable depreciation of equipment.

Any information much appreciated.

With regards,

(Sge.) C. Graham.

April 16, 1942.

Mr. C. Graham,  
23 Grosvenor St.,  
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of April 4th, requesting information in regard to the fisheries of British Columbia has been forwarded to this Department for reply.

Answering your questions in the order given, I have to advise that unless you know the kind of fishing you intend to engage in, it is difficult to state the actual price of a fishing boat. Power boats range all the way from \$1,500.00 up, and for more direct information regarding the cost of power boats owned by Japanese which were recently immobilized by the Federal Government, I would refer you to Mr. A. E. McMaster, Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee, 1529 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C. This committee is handling the sale of these boats.

Commercial fishermen will not be restricted in the use of gas. Sail boats are not practical.

A great deal of the salmon catch in British Columbia is made by boats with a one-man crew. On the other hand, the larger boats employ as many as seven or eight men in the crew. In the latter case the crew work on a share basis and in the case of a one-man crew boat, usually the operator owns the boat and gear and sells his fish where he chooses. No fishermen in British Columbia work for wages.

If one follows the various types of fishing in British Columbia he may work the year round, although this is not generally done as it is usually necessary to lay up the boat for at least a part of the season for necessary repairs. The amount of capital required will depend altogether on the kind of fishing you propose to undertake. It may be very small or, if you go in for an elaborate outfit, especially in the matter of seine fishing, you

Mr. C. Graham - Page 2.

may spend all the way up to \$75,000.00. Before making any commitments I would warn you that there is no shortage of commercial fishermen in British Columbia, notwithstanding the fact that the Japanese are not now permitted to engage in this fishery.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a booklet entitled "The Commercial Salmon Fishery of British Columbia," which explains personally something of how the salmon are caught, also a copy of this Department's annual report for the year 1940, the last report which is available, which will give you something of the statistical background.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:CC

J.A. Mellar 12812- 125<sup>a</sup> St 7118  
Edmonton  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1942.

Dept of Fisheries  
Victoria B.C.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
RECEIVED  
APR. 9 1942

VICTORIA B.C.

Dear Sirs

I am writing  
to you, asking for information  
on the B.C. Salmon Fishing.

When the season opens.

Discines

Where fishing boats can  
be bought or rented.

Where men or instructor<sup>s</sup>  
can be got to teach this  
line of business.

and any detail  
necessary that would help  
a person; venturing in  
this line of work.

Yours Very Truly  
J.A. Mellar

5-29

April 9, 1942.

J. A. Millar, Esq.,  
12812 - 123rd St.,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

In reply to the request contained in your letter of April 3rd, we are forwarding you under separate cover a booklet entitled "Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia," together with a copy of the fishing regulations. A perusal of these two booklets should give you some idea regarding the salmon fisheries of British Columbia. I should point out, however, that, contrary to general belief in certain quarters, there is no shortage of commercial fishermen on the British Columbia coast. I should further state that fishing on this coast is a highly specialized business and one which requires considerable experience on the part of the person who intends to engage in it, which experience can only be gained by personal contact. I know of no source where you might obtain instructions as to fishing, other than actually engaging in it.

In respect to your inquiry regarding where you might purchase a fishing boat, I would advise that there is presently operating on the coast, a committee in charge of disposing of vessels owned by Japanese fishermen which were impounded by the Federal authorities at the outbreak of the war with Japan. This committee may be contacted through the secretary, Mr. A. E. McMaster, 1523 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:CC

The Alberta Pacific Grain Co., Ltd.  
CALGARY, ALTA.

**IMPORTANT**  
Do Not Write About More Than  
One Subject in One Letter.

Cowley Alberta Mar 27 1942  
STATION ALTA.

ATTENTION MR.

Dpt of Fisheries  
Victoria BC

7066

Dear Sirs:

Would you please send me any information you may have on commercial fishing (salt water) along the sound.

I would like your advice as to what chance a Canadian citizen, married with family would have making a living at fishing when he has had no experience except at fishing fresh water fish for sport.

I have already written the Custodian of Alien Property at Vancouver about a Top boat as what I had had in mind was buying one of these.

Any thing you can send me along these lines will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly  
A. Martin

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
**RECEIVED**  
MAR 30 1942

VICTORIA, B. C.

5-129

222

March 30, 1942.

Mr. K. Martin,  
Cowley, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

Complying with the request contained in your letter of March 27th, we are forwarding you under separate cover a copy of a booklet entitled "Commercial Salmon Fisheries of British Columbia," also a copy of the Special Fishery Regulations for British Columbia. You will note that these regulations are for 1941 and recent amendments will change them somewhat but they will do for your purpose.

In respect to your contemplated move to the coast to enter commercial fishing, I have to advise that commercial fishing in British Columbia is a highly specialized work and before you invest any money I would suggest that you look into the matter personally. On the other hand I would advise that there is presently no shortage of fishermen in British Columbia, notwithstanding the removal of Japanese from the industry.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA/CC

Tashota. March 10th. 1942.

The Deputy Minister,  
Department of Fisheries,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Victoria, B.C.

6993

Dear Sir,

Several friends of mine and myself are Commercial Fishermen, having spent most of our lives fishing on Lake Superior and other inland lakes in the District.

With your province moving the Japs out of your fishing industry. We are wondering if it would be worth our while moving out to your country. Would it be possible for us to pick up some of those Jap outfits? Most of us run our own outfits or at least are working outfits on shares, We are Scotch Swedes and Icelanders.

We would appreciate very much if you would give us what information you can as soon as possible where you think we might fit in.

At present we are engaged in winter fishing through the ice, this season closes here about the middle of April, and our summer fishing, tugs and other craft starts early in May. If we move at all we would want to leave here shortly after we finish our winter season.

Thanking you.

Yours very truly,

John G. McKirdy,  
Tashota, Ont.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
RECEIVED  
MAR 16 1942

VICTORIA. B. C.

5-29

March 16, 1942.

John G. McKirdy, Esq.,  
Tashota, Ont.

Dear Sir:

This will serve to acknowledge your letter of March 10th, wherein you advise that you, together with several friends who are commercial fishermen, are contemplating moving to British Columbia to engage in fisheries here and requesting information in regard thereto.

In connection with the fisheries of British Columbia, and more especially the possible effect of the removal of Japanese from this industry, I have to advise that the fisheries of British Columbia have been overcrowded for a number of years. The Japanese element, contrary to popular conception, has been a comparatively minor factor in that the last year for which statistics are available, the Japanese held actually less than 14% of the licences issued. The fact that these people will not be permitted to engage in the fisheries of British Columbia this year will not have an adverse effect on production, in fact, it will relieve some of the congestion. Under the circumstances I cannot offer encouragement to the proposal made in your letter.

Insofar as the disposal of Japanese boats which were immobilized by the Government is concerned, I would advise that the Federal Government has set up a committee to deal with this matter. You will understand, of course, that these vessels have not been seized by the Government, but are still the property of the Japanese, although the Japanese are not allowed to operate them. Persons wishing to purchase any of these vessels are required to contact the owner of the vessel and complete a satisfactory arrangement with him, after which the matter is placed before the committee. If the committee approves the deal, same may be

John G. McKirdy, Esq. - Page 2.

consummated. It is my understanding that the committee is giving preference to bona fide fishermen. In case you desire further information regarding these vessels, I would suggest that you get in touch with Mr. McMaster of the Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee, 1528 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

AGENT'S LETTER ADVICE

STATION Gunn., Alta.

DATE Mar. 3 rd. 19 42

SUBJECT OF THIS LETTER \_\_\_\_\_

REPLYING TO LETTER FROM \_\_\_\_\_ DATED \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_

COPIES OF THIS LETTER SENT TO \_\_\_\_\_ AT \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ AT \_\_\_\_\_

6964

Dept. Of Fisheries,  
Victoria, B. C.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
**RECEIVED**  
MAR 6 - 1942

VICTORIA, B. C.

Gentlemen;

We are a small group of Alberta fishermen and writing this inquiry with regard to the possibility of fishing on the pacific coast, we would like to know if it is possible for residents of Alberta to obtain fishing license in B. C. and the cost of same to fish salmon and herring, we are british subjects and mostly of scandinavian descent.

We would also like information re. purchase or rent of Jap boats, if possible to purchase, what is the average price per unit, or if leased, what are the conditions of lease.

Yours truly,

*H. Collingridge*

5-29

H. Collingridge  
Gunn, Alta.

ONE SUBJECT ONLY IN EACH LETTER. BE BRIEF.

March 5, 1942.

Mr. H. Collingridge,  
Gunn, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

This will serve to acknowledge your letter of March 3rd and in reply thereto I would advise that I am forwarding under separate cover a copy of the Special Fishery Regulations for British Columbia, which deals with the licensing of fishermen.

In connection with your inquiry re the purchase of impounded Japanese fishing boats, I would suggest that you communicate direct with the Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee, 1528 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C., attention Mr. McMaster.

Regarding the possibility of fishing on the Pacific Coast, I would advise that this is a matter which should be examined at close range by the person contemplating the move. The fisheries of British Columbia are highly specialized and on that account I feel that any advice I might be able to give you would be inadequate. I should perhaps advise, however, that there is no shortage of fishermen in British Columbia, notwithstanding the fact that a considerable number of Japanese will not be fishing for the duration.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:CC

Thicket Cartage, Mun.  
Mar. 3, 1942.

6974

Department of Fisheries,  
Victoria, B.C.

RECEIVED  
MAR 9 - 1942  
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

Dear Sirs,

I am considering moving to your province to fish at the coast, but should like to be better informed about conditions there before I take the step.

I understand that you are looking for fishermen to replace the Japanese who have been removed, and that quantities of fishing equipment are available at reasonable cost. I should like to know on what terms these are to be had - whether for sale or lease, and the approximate

cost of the variously sized boats & equipment for same; also any other details that you think would be of interest, such as wages etc.

I know other fishermen who might be interested in moving if prospects were fairly good.

I might add that I have over 50 yrs. experience, having fished various lakes in Sask. & Manitoba.

Yours truly,  
B. Balderson

March 9, 1942.

Mr. B. Baldwinson,  
Thicket Portage, Manitoba.

Dear Sir:

I have for acknowledgment and reply your letter of March 2nd, wherein you advise that you are considering moving to British Columbia to fish, as you understand there is a shortage of fishermen on the coast. In this connection I wish to advise that there is no shortage of fishermen in British Columbia. It is true that Japanese fishermen formerly employed will not be permitted to fish for the duration of the war but this, however, will not necessarily create any shortage. As a matter of fact, there has been overcrowding in the last few years.

The disposal of Japanese fishing boats impounded by the Federal Government is being handled by the Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal Committee and for full particulars I would suggest that you communicate with Mr. McMaster, Executive Assistant, 1528 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC

THE PIVOTAL TRADE POINT OF THE PACIFIC

THE FINEST RESIDENTIAL CITY IN CANADA

THE SUMMER AND WINTER RESORT OF THE COAST

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GEORGE I. WARREN  
PUBLICITY COMMISSIONER

48

P. O. BOX 608

VICTORIA

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

6924

Feb. 20th, 1942.

Mr. E. G. Rowebottom,  
Deputy Minister,  
Dept. of Trade and Industry,  
Parliament Bldgs.,  
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Mr. Rowebottom:-

We are forwarding herewith copy of a letter we have today received from Mr. F. G. Murphy of El Nido, California, who you will note is asking for information concerning commercial fishing.

We thought you might like to arrange to have the desired information forwarded direct to him.

Yours sincerely,

VICTORIA AND ISLAND PUBLICITY BUREAU

*George I. Warren*

Enc.

COMMISSIONER.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES  
RECEIVED  
FEB 23 1942

VICTORIA, B.C.

5-29

C  
O  
P  
Y

m El Nido, Calif.  
2-17-42.

Gentlemen:-

Will you please send me any information that you can about the fishing in your district this year and about those boats.

Am interested in commercial fishing around Graham Island and in the Queen Charlotte group.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) F. G. Murphy.

February 22, 1942.

Mr. F. G. Murphy,  
El Nido, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Complying with the request contained in your letter of February 17th, addressed to the Victoria and Island Publicity Bureau, this is to advise that we are forwarding under separate cover a booklet describing the commercial salmon fisheries of British Columbia, together with a copy of this Department's annual report for 1940. We have no information dealing specifically with the Queen Charlotte Islands, but insofar as the salmon fisheries are concerned, the statements contained in the booklet apply with equal force to the Queen Charlotte Islands as elsewhere in British Columbia.

I presume you wish information on those fishing vessels formerly operated by Japanese and which were immobilized by the Federal Government when Japan entered hostilities. In this connection I have to advise that a committee has been set up to deal with this matter and inquiries should be directed to Mr. A. E. McMaster, 1528 Marine Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Alexander,  
Assistant Commissioner.

GJA:GC