



## ***Ship Point Makes Space for Next Wave of Pleasure Vessels***

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***Victoria, B.C., Monday, March 26, 2007....***

Whether you call them large yachts, mega-yachts, or super-yachts, it is clear that the boating industry is poised for explosive growth with an ongoing shift toward larger, more sophisticated vessels with higher performing, cleaner-burning marine engines. As a boating destination and marine service centre, Victoria has a lot to offer this expanding market including moorage steps away from Victoria's downtown core. This is why the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA) is installing three new finger floats on Ship Point this week. These floats will offer moorage opportunities for the larger vessels (over 100' in length). An integrated Customs facility will provide convenient access for boaters to customs clearance and will improve vessel safety on the harbour.

GVHA operates a diversity of marina options for pleasure vessels including Fisherman's Wharf, the Causeway floats and Ship Point, as well as the Wharf Street and Johnson Street marinas that accommodate overflow during the peak season. The economic impact of this market in Victoria is vast with direct spending alone of \$2 million estimated for the 2006 summer season.

The new floats at Ship Point will also offer additional moorage for the marine adventure tour operators. The crescent float which was installed in 2005 will continue to be available for the smaller zodiac vessels while the new floats will accommodate the larger vessels these operators are moving toward.

*The Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA) was incorporated as a not-for-profit society in February 2002, and began operating its four port facilities (Wharf Street, Ship Point/ Government Street, Fisherman's Wharf and Ogden Point) divested from Transport Canada in the spring and summer of 2002. The GVHA's Board is comprised of Directors representing the Authority's Member governments and organizations (Esquimalt Nation, Songhees Nation, Provincial Capital Commission, City of Victoria, Township of Esquimalt, the Victoria/Esquimalt Harbour Society, Tourism Victoria, the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, and the Capital Regional District), and four Community Directors.*

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### **For more information:**

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