



Office of Mayor George V. Harvie
City of Delta



MAYOR'S OFFICE

Delta

May 26, 2021

The Honourable Bernadette Jordan
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Jordan,

Re: Illegal Crabbing and Harvesting of Bivalve Shellfish

We have noticed an increase in illegal crabbing and harvesting of bivalve shellfish in Delta, including at Centennial Beach and in Boundary Bay. Without the jurisdiction to conduct enforcement ourselves, we are requesting that the Federal Government increase enforcement and add multi-lingual signage to discourage illegal shellfish harvesting.

Bivalve shellfish in the area can be contaminated with dangerous toxins, which unassuming harvesters may be consuming, putting themselves and their families at risk. In addition, while crabbing is legal with a licence, illegal crabbing appears to be on the rise this year. We are seeking your assistance to curb both of these practices to protect people's health and reduce the environmental impact on local ecosystems.

Thank you for your attention to this issue, I look forward to your response and action. If you have any questions, please contact me at mayorharvie@delta.ca.

Yours truly,

George V. Harvie
Mayor

cc: Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion
Timothy Sargent, Deputy Minister, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Rebecca Reid, Regional Director General, Pacific Region, Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Delta Council
Sean McGill, City Manager