

2020 FRSCS Sturgeon Conservation Challenge

June 15th Update

Dear Teams and Guests of the **Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society (FRSCS) Sturgeon Conservation Challenge 2020**. With COVID 19 affecting us all in so many ways, we want to provide you with an update for this year's event. We hope you and your family are staying safe.

We would like to take a moment to thank all of the workers who are on the frontlines continuing to battle the COVID-19 pandemic and their efforts to finally bend the curve the right way. These are unprecedented times and, with the guidance of provincial and federal health authorities, which includes strictly adhering to 'social distancing' of a minimum of six feet, and washing hands frequently with soap and water, we can all play our part to make a difference and continue to see this global situation improve. **We monitoring the situation as we progress from Phase 2 to Phase 3, and will continue to follow the direction of the public health authorities to ensure our staff, volunteers, contractors and guests are safe and protected while enjoying the opportunity to make a difference for White Sturgeon.**

The impact of this global crisis on the Charitable Giving sector as well as environmental research is also very significant. We are working with our Directors to continue our efforts to help sturgeon and manage this new landscape. In the meantime, we have adjusted our **FRSCS Sturgeon Conservation Challenge Gala Awards Dinner & Auction** plans and are excited to share this update on the Event for 2020.

FRSCS Sturgeon Conservation Challenge - Fishing teams and the On-the-Water Sturgeon Experience

The health, safety and wellness of you and our teams, our partners, our guests, and our community are our primary concern as we continue our efforts to raise funds to help White Sturgeon. To ensure all our Conservation Challenge Teams, guests, contractors, Accredited Guides and FRSCS team remain safe while enjoying the exciting on-the-water sturgeon experience, we are implementing the following measures:

- The timeline for the fishing portion of the Event will now be extended to **April 1st, 2021**
- Hand sanitizers and cleansers will be available on each vessel
- Masks and gloves will be available to our guests
- If you know you are sick or are exhibiting any feelings of illness that make you believe you may be coming down with something, please do not join your Team and stay home
- If you have your date already confirmed, but have concerns, we work with you to reschedule your team to a later date
- We all share in the responsibility for "social distancing" or "physical distancing"; here in British Columbia the recommended distance is two (2) metres (roughly 6 1/2 feet).
- While our vessels are open-air and have large decks etc, if a 2-meter distance cannot be kept, our Accredited Guides and FRSCS Team will be wearing a mask and we ask that you consider doing the same. Should you not have a mask or face covering, one will be provided to you at no charge.
- Our Accredited Guides will ensure that all boats, fishing tackle, high-touch surfaces and all other activity related areas will also be sterilized prior to your trip and will be sanitized between trips as well.

Our health and safety measures for the on-the-water sturgeon experience are based on directions from the Provincial Health Authorities and its approval of the Sport and Recreational Fishing Industry guidelines and protocols.

Gala Awards Dinner & Auction

The **Gala Awards Dinner** is a special event where we bring together our amazing Teams, our sturgeon supporters, and keen conservationists to celebrate our Teams, honour our Sturgeon Leaders and raise funds to help Sturgeon. As we have extended the date for the on-the-water fishing portion of the Conservation Challenge, we are also making the following adjustments to our Gala Awards Dinner event:

- The Gala Awards dinner event will be held as soon as possible - stay tuned!
- The Silent Auction will be held virtually starting in July, thanks to our partners at Givergy. The bidding begins **July 15th, 2020!**

FRSCS Sturgeon Conservation Challenge and Gala Awards Dinner & Auction safety measures will be updated as health authorities provide updates and we will adapt and modify to make appropriate changes.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you for being part of the Sturgeon Family!

John

John Rissling

Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society
FRSCS Board Member
18 year tagging Volunteer, Fundraising Chair
604-290-7492
john@frasersturgeon.com
frasersturgeon.com

