



A Vibrant Working Harbour Economy

Jobs for Today and Future Generations

Ralmax Group/Point Hope Maritime is proposing to construct a graving dock that would be largely contained within the existing footprint of the shipyard. Introducing a graving dock means that the shipyard can accommodate/work on larger vessels up to 560 feet/170 metres. It would also create 200 new local jobs – family-sustaining union jobs.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is a graving dock?

- A graving dock is concrete basin or 'grave' structure. Vessels dock by floating into the graving dock.

How does a graving dock work?

- A vessel floats into the graving dock and the graving dock gate is closed. As sea water is pumped back into the harbour, the vessel settles in the graving dock on blocks ready for servicing.
- Work takes place within the graving dock.
- All water used during servicing is contained and collected and treated.

How big is the graving dock?

- The structure would be 174m long by 35m wide by 6m deep
- The graving dock can accommodate vessels up to 170m (560ft) and 6m draft.
- There is a provision for a mid-gate to allow for two smaller vessels.

Will the graving dock result in increased noise for neighbours?

- Point Hope is obligated to work within existing noise bylaws. This won't change with the introduction of the graving dock.
- Work takes place down in the graving dock and the structure traps sound interrupting its movement through the area.
- Point Hope is committed to the community – to the harbour – to the harbour users – and is a responsive and responsible operator.

Will the graving dock negatively impact the harbour environment?

- No. The health of the harbour is a priority for Ralmax.
- Ralmax has for more than 30 years been actively involved in the restoration of Victoria Harbour.
- Since acquiring the shipyard in 2003, Point Hope has invested significantly in environmental systems, design, infrastructure and certification to ensure that materials and water used during the operation of the business are contained, disposed of or treated. This commitment will not change with the graving dock.

How busy will the harbour become with the graving dock?

- The graving dock is anticipated to attract one large vessel every 3 weeks and vessels could remain at Point Hope for one month to three months (majority of time moored alongside).
- Protocols will be in place as they are today to communicate with harbour users to ensure safe transport and navigation during the period of docking and undocking.
- Vessels will be tied up alongside the graving dock wall adding to the visual interest of the area.

Will the graving dock negatively impact the navigation channel?

- No.

What permits are necessary for approval?

- We have applied to the City of Victoria for a development permit and we have made application with Transport Canada who will oversee a rigorous permitting process that will include Environment Canada and Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Should all approvals and permits be obtained, how long will construction take?

- Approximately 18 to 24 months.

How will construction and the increase of business activity impact Harbour Road?

- As is the practice now, during periods of heavy traffic, a traffic coordinator would oversee the access and egress to the shipyard.

What are the average wages of employees working at Point Hope?

- Employees are members of the Operating Engineers union.
- General labour = > \$90,000 including benefits; Skilled Trades - < \$110,000 - \$130,000 including benefits.

Where will you find 200 new employees?

- Ralmax is a sponsor of the Centre of Trades Education and Innovation (Camosun College)
- Ralmax has hired an Employment Coach to assist workers who are willing but may need supports in achieving their schooling (tutors, transportation etc.)
- In addition, Ralmax has committed to sponsoring 50 apprenticeships over the next 3 years through their companies.

How many other contractors and businesses currently provide services and goods to Point Hope?

- Approximately 650

