



www.vankayak.org

membership@vankayak.org

P.O. Box 19513, Vancouver, BC V5T 4E7

March 2009

Dear Paddler,

We invite you to renew your membership in the Vancouver Kayak Club for the 2009/2010 season. Sign up online at www.vankayk.org or use the new membership form on the back of this letter. Please note that membership renewals are due by March 31st. Let's get ready for a new and exciting paddling season!

Check out our 2009 trip schedule online. Join us for another year with lots of trips to all-time favorites like the Wenatchee, Similkameen, Clearwater and Thompson or to some new destinations, but always with plenty of company and lots of fun. Beside the set dates for all-time favorites, we're trying something new this year. For some trips, we've posted a general region 'Squamish/Whistler' or 'Fraser Valley' instead of a specific river. We're hoping that will not only give people signing-up an idea of a region, but the trip leader the flexibility to change the river according to water conditions as the trip date approaches. VKC trips are organized by VKC members, which means that we rely on volunteers to step forward and offer to organize and support club trips and events. The satisfaction of helping others get on the river is well worth the effort! We welcome suggestions for club trips and are always on the lookout for new organizers and support boaters. If you would like to help out in any way, please contact the VKC Trip Coordinator, Laani Uunila. The club will also provide various training opportunities from beginner courses to safety and rescue or first aid courses, depending on demand, so let us know by contacting our Training Coordinator, Philip Morley. But it's not all paddling – meetings, socials, the BBQ and the Christmas party will provide opportunities to socialize, exchange river stories, watch slide and video shows, or chat about the latest news. Our Social Coordinator Jason Wong is open to any ideas.

In 2008, we celebrated the 50th birthday of the VKC with our first whitewater festival on the Chilliwack River. This festival turned out to be a great success, which has motivated us to organize another one this year! The 2009 VKC Whitewater Festival will take place May 1st to 3rd. Planning is well under way, but there are still lots of opportunities to help out – please contact any of the VKC executive if you are interested!

The online VKC Forum has turned out to be one of our major information, planning and communication tools. If you haven't signed up for it, make sure you do. Please check it regularly for news and to keep in touch with us and your fellow paddlers! For questions and comments, contact our webmaster, Philip Morley. The Eddyline, our club newsletter, is another important form of communication with our members. We send out one hard copy per year and the other issues will be available in digital format. Our editor Megan Leslie is doing a great job - don't forget to send her your trip reports and pictures.

Our club is only as good as we, its members, make it! Give us some feedback! Let us know which events and trips you liked, which you didn't, and how we can improve on last year's festival. We're always open to new ideas! If you've got some extra time to help with the club, considering taking on a task as a club volunteer; either by organizing trips, taking on a special project or joining the executive!

We're all looking forward to another great season of paddling!
Your VKC Executive