



with **CHERYL MacKINNON**

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# TRAVEL & lifestyles

Travel & Lifestyles is a weekly information report from Cheryl MacKinnon, Founder of 'kid friendly!' family tourism and Tourism Industry of Canada 2006 Travel Media Award Finalist for outstanding tourism promotion of Canada. Watch Cheryl on Global TV Morning News every Wednesday at 8:50 a.m. in B.C. [www.cherylmackinnon.com](http://www.cherylmackinnon.com)



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## Insider's Angle

A Weekly Profile with Tourism Leaders and Innovators

Canadian Rocky Mountain Resorts of Alberta are the respected management company operating Painted Boat. Pat and Connie O'Connor, the founders and owners of CRMR, are extremely excited about managing the Resort, sharing "This is our chance to offer our guests the opportunity to stay on the coast, while still experiencing all the luxuries and regional cuisine we're so proud of in our lodges in the Rockies. The little extra touches are what make this property so special – like the custom, Canadian-made wood furniture, and the prints and ceramics in the rooms created by area artists."



## Coastal Travel Styles

I'm a huge fan of our ferry system here in British Columbia and lately I seem to be coming across many others who feel as I do. It's still a reasonable means of travel to reach some of the most beautiful locations throughout our province, and I received great news earlier this week – effective November 4, recent fuel surcharges have dropped by 50 per cent and even better, during December 2008 and January 2009 all fares, on all routes will drop by 33 per cent. With no black out periods, this makes for terrific savings when planning your trip to the Sunshine Coast.

A SPECIAL REPORT PROVIDED BY GLOBAL TV'S CHERYL MACKINNON

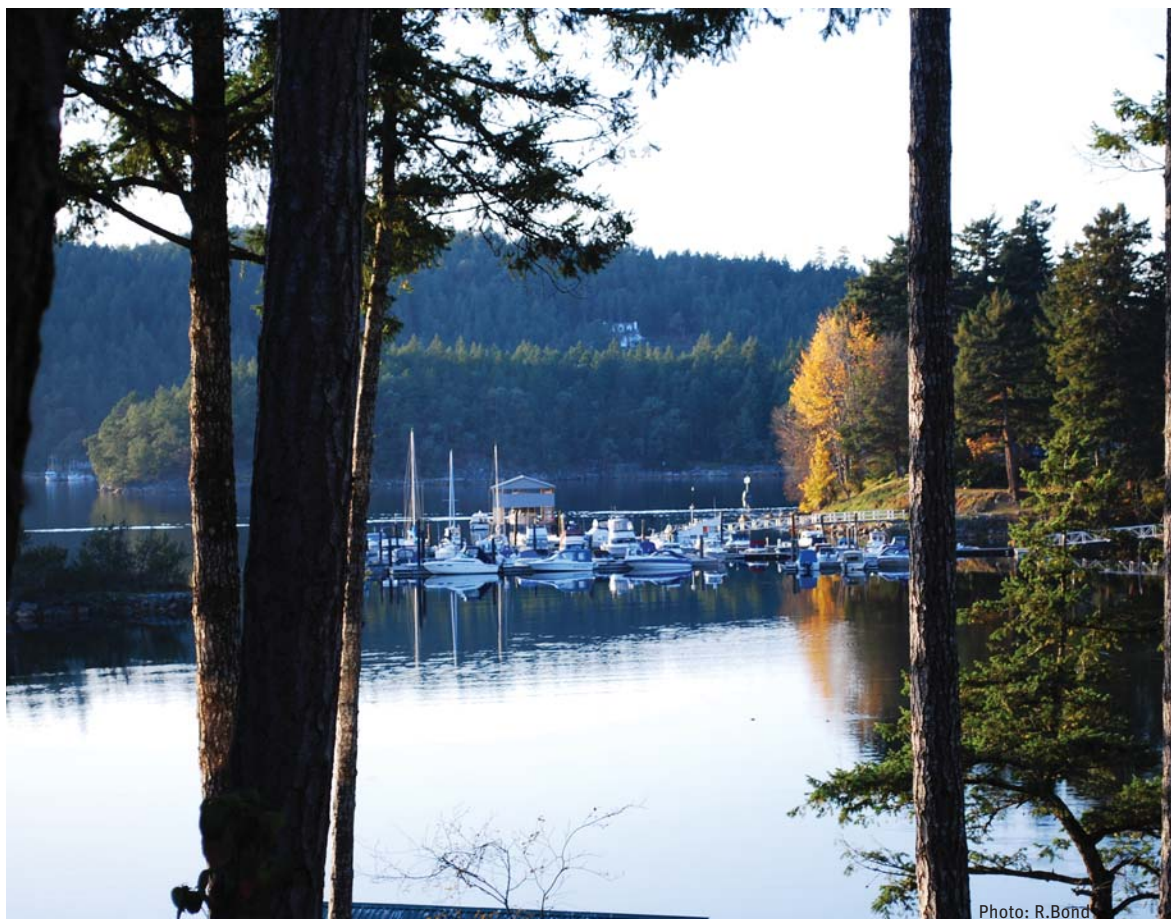


Photo: R. Bond

## A View of the Water...Please!

*I so love it when a resort development really gets it right – from the setting, to the guest rooms and the restaurant. The brand new Painted Boat Resort Spa & Marina, opened this past May in Pender Harbour on the Sunshine Coast, appears to have accomplished this. In my humble opinion, they are set to become one of the best getaways in the province. From the moment you turn into the driveway, you know you're arriving at a location which truly speaks to B.C.'s spectacular Sunshine Coast. Built predominately of wood and gleaming glass, with big, bold metal joints, the resort sits majestically along the water's edge. Each building is home to classy, modern and superbly comfortable, two bedroom, two bath villa-style condominiums...every single one of the 31 units has a breathtaking, beautiful view of water and boats.*

### What to Expect

Situated on the former site of the beloved Lowe's Resort – a popular family getaway for over fifty years – Painted Boat proudly brings the resort experience into the 21st century. It is an eco-savvy development from top to bottom, inside and out, including having recycled the wood and other materials from the former Lowe's cabins and existing structures, to utilizing regional materials where possible such as wood products from local mills and art prints and pottery from Sunshine Coast artists. When planning your visit, be sure to stop in Maderia Park town centre (Pender Harbour encompasses Maderia Park, Garden Bay and Irvine Bay) for the essentials – groceries and beverages, as your full service kitchen within the suite is perfect for preparing meals which should be savoured on your patio overlooking the marina. If you're arriving later in the day, call ahead and the Resort Concierge will arrange a fine selection for your gourmet, fresh (and almost completely organic) goody basket of fruits, smoked fish and cheeses, breakfast items – including real cream for your coffee at a small fee of \$12 per person. The kitchen is empty unless you book a special package (full details on the web site or by phoning the resort), so this is a perfect way to start your morning. Leave the car in its protected car port (incredibly convenient) and you can simply walk to shopping later in the day. Yes, they've thought of green footprints here too.



### Sumptuous Spa

Get ready for spring 2009 when the 'spa' at Painted Boat Resort Spa & Marina opens. Peter Treuhiet's architectural design definitely captures the wellness theme of this forested setting, all relaxation, peaceful ambiance and soothing elements of Mother Nature's finest. Equally exciting is the participation of Solarice Wellness Spas of Whistler, B.C. as the spa's management team. The spa, founded by owner/operators doctors Amy Rein and Lisa Skerritt, has a holistic approach to wellness that combines Western science with ancient Eastern therapies. This can be the start of your annual Sunshine Coast Getaway – spring tune ups all 'round, please!

### Culinary Trail Blazers

The Restaurant at Painted Boat is striving to become recognized as one of the top restaurants in B.C., if not Canada. Under the enthusiastic direction of Executive Chef David Cox and Manager Ryan Schmidt, the contemporary 'Yaletown' bistro dining room is decidedly complimentary to the setting. Overlooking the sparkling blue-green waters of the marina and eclectic designs of neighbouring homes nestled amongst the towering Douglas firs, red cedar and arbutus trees, is the perfect match for the tantalizing palate pleasers created by Chef and his team. In summer, water activities will no doubt entice many locals and resort guests to partake in a fabulous meal, prepared and served by a talented team; or, to simply linger over a great bottle of wine and 'appies' while enjoying the gorgeous scenery.



### See & Do in Pender Harbour

**Motoko's Fine Art Studio & Gallery** – View the vibrant works with this talented artist in her 1200 sq. foot private studio and gallery. In winter, call ahead to arrange a visit – 1.888.Motokos.  
**FibreWorks Studio & Gallery** – step inside the collection of Yurts to explore the intricate art of weaving, spinning and dyeing. To arrange a visit, call in advance to 604.883.2380  
**Garden Bay Marina and Hotel** – if you love live music, drop by any Sunday from 2p to 6p where this nautical hideaway of water, boats and glorious views, delivers great pub food and toe-tapping entertainment.  
**Pender Harbour Jazz Festival** – mark the dates of September 18-20, 2009 for the 13th Annual Jazz Festival. A fabulous late summer event to take in with friends.

### Getaway Details

Visit [www.bbsunshinecoast.com](http://www.bbsunshinecoast.com), [www.bigpacific.com](http://www.bigpacific.com) and [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com) to plan your break. A quick call to 1.800.435.5622 where a Tourism BC travel counselor will be more than happy to answer your questions. Visit [www.crmr.com/paintedboat](http://www.crmr.com/paintedboat) to book a romantic winter escape or call toll free to 1.866.902.3955 for reservations.



What's Next? Put the Late Fall Blues Behind You with a Restful Respite Up the Sunshine Coast!