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2025 BC Seafood Festival Postponed as Industry Faces Increased Challenges

Comox Valley, BC – [April 23, 2025]

The BC Seafood Festival has made the difficult decision to postpone the 2025 BC Seafood Festival, originally scheduled for June 20 - 22, 2025, at Mount Washington Alpine Resort, Vancouver Island.

The largest seafood event in Western Canada has weathered recessions and COVID over its 16 history, but the growing economic uncertainty affecting BC's seafood industry, including the impact of international tariffs and broader disruptions to the food, beverage, and export sectors. The Festival is comprised of a partnership between seafood industry associations and producers, and acknowledges that current economic headwinds are putting significant pressure on seafood producers, suppliers, and associated businesses across the province.

The Festival recognizes the importance of celebrating BC's world-class seafood, producers, and culinary excellence, and at this time, its priority is to stand in solidarity with the seafood community and advocate for the support they urgently need.

While the Festival is exploring a potential fall 2025 edition of the BC Seafood Festival, the organization is also actively considering smaller-scale pop-up events in partnership with industry and culinary associations. A recent example includes the sold-out "Shucked Vancouver" oyster bar pop-up on Granville Island earlier this year, which highlighted local British Columbia oysters and producers, and showcased the strength of BC's culinary scene even in challenging times.

If pop-up events occur, notices will be sent to the Friends of the Festival attended and interested participants, partners and seafood lovers can <u>sign up here</u> and on the on the BCSeafoodFestival.com

Organizations interested in partnering on a future event(s), please reach out to info@bcseafoodfestival.com.

The BC Seafood Festival will continue to advocate to both Provincial and Federal governments for sector support through programs that help promote the incredible fresh seafood from BC's west coast.