

## Well done mayor, let's welcome fish farms

**Craig Orr**

Alberni Valley Times

*Tuesday, June 08, 2010*

Re: "Fish farm welcomed," (Alberni Valley Times, June 2)

Kudos to Mayor Ken McRae and Port Alberni for recognizing that we should be growing salmon in ways that do less harm to wild fish, and more good for local economies.

It's a pity industry spokesperson Laurie Jensen missed an excellent meeting on land-based aquaculture recently hosted by Simon Fraser University, the Save Our Salmon Marine Conservation Foundation and Tides Canada. She would have learned that some entrepreneurs already raise salmon on land, without harming the local environment, while still earning an honest profit.

Sockeye salmon have long been raised to marketable size in closed systems, entirely in freshwater, just outside Vancouver. Overwaitea recently agreed to sell coho salmon raised entirely on land and with no harm to the local environment. The news helped Overwaitea's bottom line and staff morale. Other retailers, recognizing the problems with current farming practices, would like to follow suit and are really only limited by a lack of product and the slow rate of change.

Resistance to change is unfortunately part of human nature, especially when we continue to give social licence to industries that subsidize corporate profit at the expense of wild salmon, ecosystem services and other key interests.

Craig Orr, Ph.D.

Executive Director Watershed Watch Salmon Society

Coquitlam

© Alberni Valley Times 2010

**CLOSE WINDOW**

---

Copyright © 2010 CanWest Interactive, a division of [CanWest MediaWorks Publications, Inc.](#). All rights reserved.

CanWest Interactive, a division of [CanWest MediaWorks Publications, Inc.](#). All rights reserved.