* [Nanaimo’s chief administrative officer finds new job in Sechelt](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/nanaimo-s-chief-administrative-officer-finds-new-job-in-sechelt-1.23161567)
* [B.C. cardiac survivor and the man who saved him hail new app](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/b-c/b-c-cardiac-survivor-and-the-man-who-saved-him-hail-new-app-1.23161376)
* [Castro freezes Cuban private sector, throws future in doubt](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/world/castro-freezes-cuban-private-sector-throws-future-in-doubt-1.23161210)
* [Coho to resume sailing today, with beefed-up Wi-Fi service](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/coho-to-resume-sailing-today-with-beefed-up-wi-fi-service-1.23160995)
* [Woodwynn Farms sale looming, treatment centre ending](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/woodwynn-farms-sale-looming-treatment-centre-ending-1.23160990)
* [Two charged in Sooke shooting put in same cell at courthouse, court hears](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/two-charged-in-sooke-shooting-put-in-same-cell-at-courthouse-court-hears-1.23160987)
* [Approved funding just the bee’s knees for three projects in citizens’ budget](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/approved-funding-just-the-bee-s-knees-for-three-projects-in-citizens-budget-1.23160986)
* [If you like it wet, you’ll love the forecast into next week](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/if-you-like-it-wet-you-ll-love-the-forecast-into-next-week-1.23161011)
* [$1 million more from B.C. for Victoria bike lanes would be ‘a perfect fit’](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/1-million-more-from-b-c-for-victoria-bike-lanes-would-be-a-perfect-fit-1.23161004)
* [New bridge will have a blue hue at night, with fish-friendly accent lights](http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/new-bridge-will-have-a-blue-hue-at-night-with-fish-friendly-accent-lights-1.23161019)

**New bridge will have a blue hue at night, with fish-friendly accent lights**Bill Cleverley / Times Colonist February 1, 2018



With its major components in place, the new Johnson Street Bridge is making a splash as Victoria Harbour's new centrepiece, although thereÕs still lots of work and testing required before the scheduled March 31 opening. Unlike the oid bridge, the new span wonÕt be painted blue. But it will take on a blue hue at night with accent lighting used in a way that will minimize harm to the fish below.

Photograph By ADRIAN LAM, Times Colonist

Victoria is developing strategies so that accent lighting planned for the new Johnson Street Bridge doesn’t affect the fish below, says project director Jonathan Huggett. The new bridge will not be painted blue like the one it is replacing but will take on a blue hue in the evening with the use of accent lighting.

The issue of lighting was raised by Coun. Jeremy Loveday during the latest bridge construction update.

He noted that lights installed on other bridges that shine downward into the water make the salmon easier prey for seals. Potential impacts of the lighting are being studied, Huggett said. He pointed out that there is already significant light pollution in the area. Further, he said, studies by U.S. Fish and Wildlife on Cedar Creek in Washington State found that moonlight can also have an effect and is clearly something that cannot be controlled, he said. Possibilities include either turning off the bridge lights during critical periods or installing shields that might reflect the light, Huggett said.

Huggett said he is in constant contact with federal fisheries officials about the project at any rate and that there are several factors at play. “Moonlight we cannot do anything about. “Number two there is already a significant light pollution in that area. “Number three is we can turn the lights off at critical times of the year if we work with the Fish and Wildlife people to find out when those times are. “And then, four is we can put shields in, if necessary, to direct light more upward than downwards,” Huggett said.

The Cedar Creek study found that nighttime lighting can have a strong effect on fish behaviour and increase the vulnerability of fish fry to predation by seals that will wait and watch for the salmon fry. Loveday stressed the importance of protecting the salmon.

“There’s an incredible community effort to restore the salmon spawning grounds in the Craigflower and Colquitz Creek and I’d hoped we’d been working collaboratively to make sure we don’t set back those efforts in any way.“We want the bridge to be “beautiful and well lit up to help it achieve that iconic status that was being looked for when this was approved but not at the cost of the spawning salmon so if that means making adjustments during spawning season then that’s what we should do.”