



Coastal Water Protectors



COASTAL CONSERVATION

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WHY THOMPSON OKANAGAN?

The Thompson Okanagan region is a popular destination in British Columbia, Canada, known for its stunning natural beauty, diverse landscape, and rich cultural heritage. Recently, the department of Coastal Conservation has expanded its reach to include region three of the BC Metis Federation - Thompson Okanagan district. This expansion highlights the importance of the region and its unique natural resources.

The Thompson Okanagan district is located in the southern interior of British Columbia and is home to a wide range of ecosystems, including mountains, valleys, lakes, and forests. The region is known for its biodiversity and is home to many species of plants and animals, some of which are endangered or threatened.

In addition to its natural beauty, the Thompson Okanagan is also rich in cultural heritage. The region is home to several First Nations communities, as well as many Métis people who have lived in the area for generations. The expansion of the department of Coastal Conservation to include the Thompson Okanagan district recognizes the importance of protecting the region's natural and cultural heritage.

Overall, the Thompson Okanagan is an important region in British Columbia, with a unique combination of natural beauty, biodiversity, and cultural heritage. The expansion of the department of Coastal Conservation to include this region highlights its significance and the need to protect and preserve it for future generations.





LOUISE LAMBERT

Louise has specialized in the area of health care for international organizations including Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore Maryland Graduate Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, Conference Board of Canada and the Canadian College of Health Service Executives, Ottawa. Engaged in both countries United States and Canada, her focus was occupational and environmental health dealing with aspects of health in the workplace, primary prevention of hazards. Louise also worked in Wellness and Dermatology Practices.

Louise then established Med Market Solutions, where she guided medical practices to improve their organizational structure throughout Canada. Frequently, she requested to be featured presenter at several health care conferences and well as a facilitator and mediator.

Louise received her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Brock University and pursued her postgraduate education at the Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania.

Louise currently resides in beautiful Kelowna, British Columbia, where she owns and operates Wine Country Studios. She conducts art workshops that have won the attention of the Pacific Canada and have been awarded for "Create Your Animal Spirit" for combining Metis Culture with visual art. Furthermore, Wine Country Studios sells British Columbia inspired art, along with Louise's creations "The richness and diversity of Louise's palette and artistic style reflects From her early exposure to the Algonquin art of her forefathers, to her time spent learning from American and European masters" Louise brings her own unique blend of color and experiences to her art.

Louise currently is on the Board of Directors for the BC Métis Federation and has become a recent member of the Coastal Water Protectors, where she provides inspiring workshops to its members.

Her myriad of past positions from recruiting and managing organizations consisting of leading business, and government throughout Canada to foster education and shape public policy has provided her the experience needed to obtain consensus and move forward. Louise has a passion for the environment and the preservation of our natural resources, primarily our water sources and natural wildlife. You will see this passion in her waterscape painting capturing beautiful BC.





**COASTAL MANAGER
ZIA YAZDANI**



It is with great pleasure that we announce Zia Yazdani as our newest addition to the BCMF team. Zia will be joining us as the Coastal Manager for the Coastal Conservation Department.

Zia brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this role, having worked tirelessly in the field of wildlife and wilderness conservation. As an engaged member of the Coastal Water Protectors with BCMF, Zia has been actively involved in various tasks ranging from spill management development, ocean conservation, and aquatic habitat restoration planning.

Zia's passion for coastal conservation and his dedication to the cause has been an inspiration to many. We are confident that he will bring his expertise, enthusiasm, and innovative ideas to his new role as Coastal Manager, and help us to further our mission of protecting and preserving the delicate coastal ecosystem.

Please join us in welcoming Zia to his new position and wishing him all the best for success in his new role.

World Earth Day: Cate's Park

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who joined us for the beach clean up event on April 22nd in honor of World Earth Day. Despite the inclement weather, we were thrilled to see such an outstanding turnout of two dozen committed individuals who share our passion for keeping our coastlines clean and preserving our planet.

Your dedication and hard work are truly appreciated, and we could not have accomplished such a successful event without your invaluable support. Your efforts have made a significant impact in protecting our environment and promoting sustainability, and we hope that you feel proud of the positive change you have helped to create.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your commitment and dedication to our cause. We hope to see you again at our future events, and together we can continue to make a difference and create a brighter, more sustainable future for all.



The annual 'Earth Day' at Glen Canyon Park event was a tremendous success, drawing in a diverse range of attendees from across the community.

One of the most popular features of the event was the button-making table, where people of all ages were able to unleash their creativity and design their own unique buttons. Attendees were able to proudly wear their personalized buttons throughout the day, displaying their commitment to environmental sustainability and raising awareness for this important cause. With a variety of images and designs available, there was something for everyone to choose from, making it a fun and engaging activity for all.

In addition to the button-making station, attendees were also given a pocket-sized laminated guide of the plants and animals within the Okanagan area. This valuable resource allowed hikers to identify local wildlife and vegetation as they explored the park, deepening their understanding of the area's rich biodiversity and natural wonders. The river that runs through Glen Canyon Park also proved to be a fascinating feature. We learned that it is the starting and returning point for the salmon during the fall season, which was a valuable lesson for attendees. This highlight demonstrated the importance of preserving our environment and protecting the natural habitats of the animals that call it home.

The event was an unforgettable, and brought people together to celebrate our planet and raise awareness of the importance of environmental conservation. We are grateful to all who attended and look forward to future events that continue to inspire us to take action to protect our world.



World Earth Day: Glen Canyon Park





Vancouver School Board: Sustainability Conference 2023

On April 24th, Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School was the proud host of the highly anticipated Vancouver School Board: Sustainability Conference 2023. The event brought together students from grades 10, 11, and 12 from all over the district to engage in discussions and activities centered around "Zeroing in on Sustainability."

The Coastal Water Protectors team visited Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School and participated in the day's events, including facilitating two engaging workshops and presentations. The team's passion for environmental protection and sustainability was evident throughout their presentations, and their enthusiasm and expertise resonated with students of all ages, providing a deeper understanding of the importance of environmental sustainability and the role that they can play in making a positive difference in their communities and beyond.

Overall, the Vancouver School Board's Sustainability Conference 2023 was a fantastic event that highlighted the importance of taking action to protect our planet and inspired attendees to work towards a more sustainable future. The visit from the Coastal Water Protectors was a valuable addition to the conference and helped to reinforce the critical importance of environmental stewardship and conservation.



Get Involved This Month

Are you ready to make a difference in your community and help protect our precious natural resources? If so, then join the Coastal Water Protectors for an upcoming beach clean-up event at Jericho Beach on Monday, May 15th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.!

This is a fantastic opportunity to take action and make a positive impact on our environment, while also enjoying the beautiful surroundings of one of Vancouver's most beloved beaches. The Jericho Beach clean-up will be done in collaboration with the Trek Outdoor Education Program, a youth-led team dedicated to promoting sustainability and environmental education among young people.

In addition to the chance to do some good for the planet, participants in the Jericho Beach clean-up will also have the opportunity to be part of a film project by Vancouver's prestigious 'The Cinematheque'. The event will be documented on film, offering an exciting opportunity for participants to have their efforts immortalized on screen for future generations to appreciate.

All necessary tools and supplies will be provided, ensuring that each participant can safely collect trash and debris from the beach. As an added bonus, Kits Beach Coffee will be on hand to provide complimentary goodies to keep everyone fueled and energized throughout the day.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a difference in your community and help protect our environment for future generations! Join the Coastal Water Protectors at Jericho Beach on May 15th and take the first step towards a cleaner, more sustainable world.



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