



# THE MONTHLY UPDATE

## COASTAL CONSERVATION

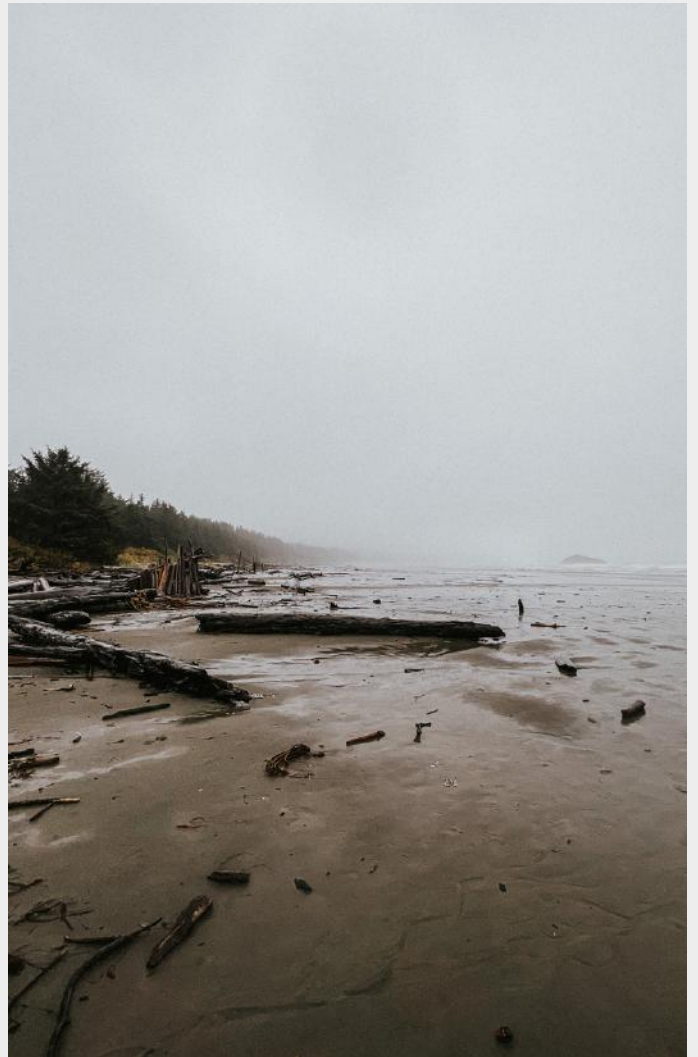
The Coastal Conservation department and the Coastal Water Protectors have had a busy last month and there are many new updates for November.

The department had a table set up at O.R.C.A Festival in Vancouver and the team is now featured as a 'Coastal Champion' with Sea Change Canada.

The Coastal Water Protectors have their own Instagram account now [@coastalwaterprotectors](https://www.instagram.com/coastalwaterprotectors) where you can find weekly updates on the team, department, culture, and environment.

Tune in to Métis Coffee Talk on Thursday November 24th to hear an update from the Director of Coastal Conservation, Angel Fisher.

The Coastal Conservation department is excited to announce a new pilot project - 'Coastal Pups'. Rolling out in January 2023 for children aged 5-10 in the Lower Mainland.



# COASTAL CONSERVATION

O.R.C.A FESTIVAL

BC Métis Federation's Coastal Water Protectors were a vendor at the O.R.C.A Festival in downtown Vancouver. The festival, in its first year, was held at Milton Wong Plaza, just steps away from the harbor.

O.R.C.A (ocean conservation | reform | climate optimism | action) Festival hosted many environmental organizations, as well local and sustainable businesses.



“ O.R.C.A Festival was very informative, the youth that were there are very inspiring in their conservation efforts. It was an enjoyable experience to be able to participate and help with this event. I look forward to next years. ”

- Betty Fisher, BCMF elder





# COASTAL CONSERVATION

A WORD FROM OUR MEMBER



“

Ever since moving to BC and spending more time near the sea, I've been increasingly concerned about the state of our oceans. As essential components of the Earth's ecosystem and the world's economy, our oceans must be treated with care and protected from human contamination. Unfortunately, as humans continue to overproduce and generate huge amounts of waste, too much of that waste is ending up in the ocean, affecting the Earth's biodiversity in an irreversible way. Reducing the amount of garbage left on beaches is one small way we individuals can have a positive impact on the future of our planet, as is bringing attention to the issue through media coverage and advocacy. I was so thrilled and proud to be a part of the community effort organized by the BC Métis Federation this summer and I plan to continue to be involved in future endeavors!

”  
- Melodie Langevin, BCMF member

# COASTAL WATER PROTECTORS

SEA CHANGE CANADA

"Sea Change works with global partners on the ground in coastal communities to support environmental leadership, community development and capacity-building. We share stories of action and hope to inspire others to become partners in positive change. We foster connections from local community to local community so that the opportunities we face in the future can be met in solidarity; struggles and stories of success become real to more than just the immediate people they touch, and instead, positively transform our global community."

- Sea Change Canada

"Sea Change Canada works with organizations and individuals in coastal communities to support environmental leadership, community development, and capacity-building."

They focus on 'Coastal Champions' whom are working at a grassroots and community level to change their relationships with the earth and make positive impacts on the environment.

BC Métis Federation's Coastal Water Protectors are proud to be a 'Coastal Champion' with Sea Change Canada.





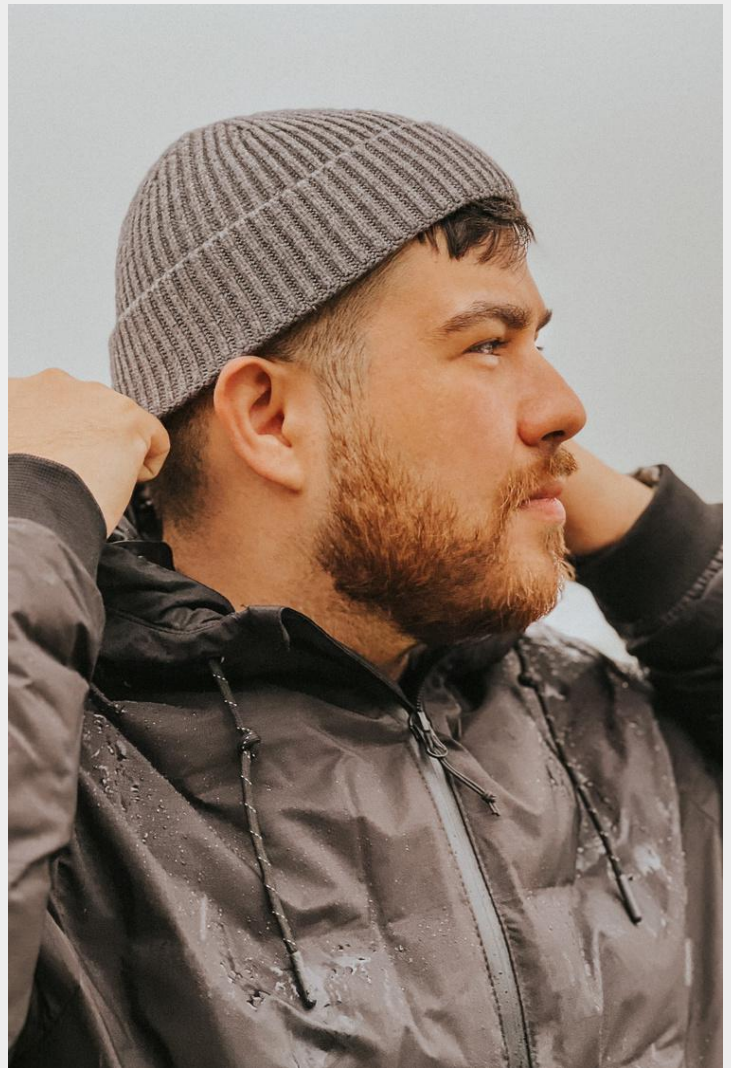
## MEET YOUR COASTAL WATER PROTECTOR

# ZIA YAZDANI

Zia Yazdani is a proud and active Coastal Water Protector who resides in the Lower Mainland. His neighborhood is located on the traditional and unceded territories of the hə́hqəmíhə́h and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples.

Zia moved to British Columbia, a place which has made it possible for him to grow as an individual and to pursue his studies and goals. He began his journey in Vancouver by taking the law enforcement diploma program through the Justice Institute of British Columbia and various courses through other institutes and organizations.

As a person with a strong passion for wildlife and wilderness conservation, he joined BC Métis Federation and became an engaged member of the Coastal Water Protectors with BCMF, working on various tasks ranging from spill management development, ocean conservation, and aquatic habitat restoration planning.



# MEET YOUR COASTAL WATER PROTECTOR

# ZIA YAZDANI



Throughout his time in Beautiful British Columbia and while being employed as an emergency response senior dispatch officer and an active member of Coastal Water Protectors, he has completed extensive training and courses, such as; First Aid level one and two, WHMIS, Bear Safety Resources and Stay Safe in Bear Country, PAL and RPAL licenses, Incident Command System 100, Introduction to Emergency Management, and SCAT with Environment Canada.

Zia has a strong passion for animal conservation and will always stop to help an animal in distress, having rescued and fostered countless animals. When not at work Zia can be found participating in a wide range of outdoor activities. His hobbies include hiking, camping, fishing, hunting and visiting new places in the province.



# COASTAL PUPS

## PILOT PROJECT



Throughout the summer months many community engagement sessions were held along the coastline and as it grew there was a noticeable attendance in children. While conversing with them they would mention that they didn't mind waking up early on a summer weekend because they enjoyed helping the environment and wished more kids would be involved.

One BC Métis Federation member, Valentino, asked "don't you think it would be fun to have a group that is just all kids learning and helping the ocean"?

The Coastal Conservation department will be piloting the project 'Coastal Pups' in the Lower Mainland for children aged 5-10. If you have a child who would be interested in participating in learning about ocean conservation please contact Angel at [a.fisher@bcmetis.com](mailto:a.fisher@bcmetis.com)



# WHAT TO DO IN NOVEMBER

## 'CELEBRATING OUR COAST'

WED. NOV. 23RD

BC Métis Federation

Suite 350 - 3665 Kingsway, Vancouver

Come down to the BC Métis Federation head office and have a tour of the new Coastal Conservation office and spend the evening learning about the project and create your very own coastal driftwood art piece. Sign up with Angel at [a.fisher@bcmetis.com](mailto:a.fisher@bcmetis.com)

Refreshments and supplies provided.

### Register for ICS - 100

ICS - 100 is the introduction to 'Incident Command System' and provides a basic understanding and foundation for higher level ICS training. Learn the history, features, principles and the organizational structure of the Incident Command System. Contact Angel at [a.fisher@bcmetis.com](mailto:a.fisher@bcmetis.com)

