

# COASTAL WATER PROTECTORS


2023 IN REVIEW



Coastal  
Water Protectors



BC Métis  
FEDERATION



The department of Coastal Conservation recognizes and acknowledges it is located on the traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk<sup>w</sup>xwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

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# CONNECTION. CHANGE. COMMUNITY.



# BC MÉTIS FEDERATION

The BC Métis Federation (BCMF) is a non-profit association dedicated to the well-being of Métis communities across British Columbia. Through grassroots efforts, BCMF advocates for its members, who are spread throughout the province. The federation's vision is to cultivate a strong and engaged Métis population that is deeply rooted in Métis knowledge, language, and culture, and actively contributes to the well-being and prosperity of Métis families, youth, women, elders, and veterans.

Driven by integrity and collaboration, BCMF works to advance Métis knowledge, language, culture, wellness, and self-determination for current and future generations of Métis families. The federation has identified core values that form the basis of its work, honoring and respecting the grassroots Métis culture that serves as its foundation.

By working closely with Métis communities and partners, BCMF strives to uphold these values and achieve its vision of a vibrant and empowered Métis population in British Columbia.



# COASTAL CONSERVATION



COX BAY BEACH, TOFINO

The Department of Coastal Conservation within the BC Métis Federation has been a driving force in conservation efforts for nearly six years. Supported by the BC Métis Federation, the department oversees key initiatives such as the First Responder Initiative, Coastal Pups, Coastal Sea Wolves, and land and sea cleanups. These initiatives are pivotal in preserving and restoring the aquatic ecosystems and the land surrounding them.

As we enter our sixth year, the Department of Coastal Conservation and the Coastal Water Protectors remain steadfast in their dedication to preserving the natural beauty and ecological diversity of British Columbia's coastal areas. Through ongoing projects and community engagement, they continue to make significant strides in safeguarding these vital ecosystems for future generations.

# COASTAL WATER PROTECTORS

The Coastal Water Protectors, an integral part of the department, began with a team of eight members and has since grown significantly, now comprising a team of over 100 members.

Committed to coastal conservation, the Coastal Water Protectors actively engage with communities through interactive activities, surveys, and events.

The Coastal Water Protectors remain steadfast in their dedication to preserving the natural beauty and ecological diversity of British Columbia's coastal. Through ongoing projects and community engagement, they continue to make significant strides in safeguarding these vital ecosystems for future generations.



# COASTAL PUPS



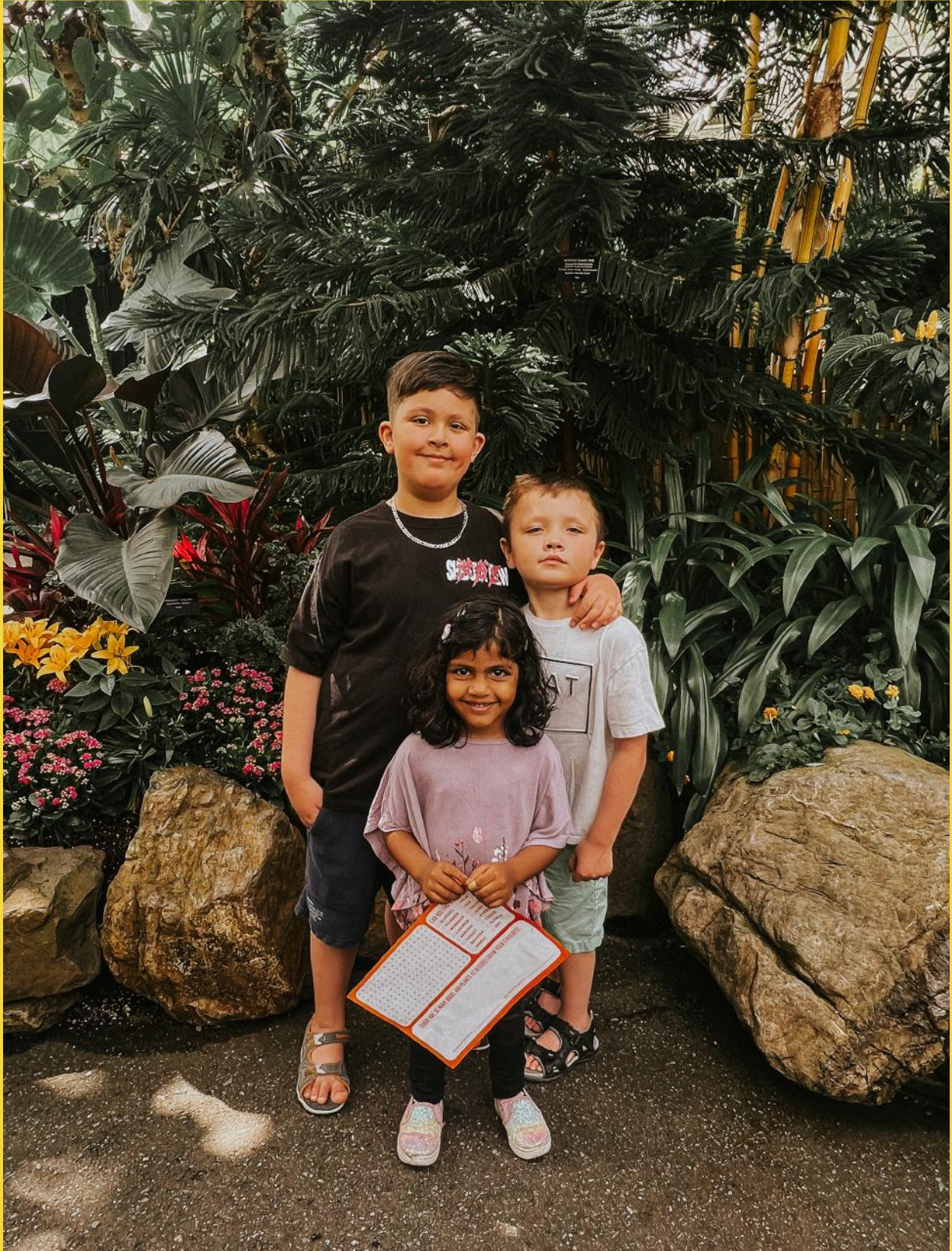
In 2023, we launched the Coastal Pup initiative, with the goal of creating safe and engaging activities for children aged five (5) to eleven (11) to get involved in conservation, both in-person and virtual. The activities aimed to provide education that would foster a love for the environment.

This initiative included a variety of interactive workshops, nature walks, virtual presentations, and educational games designed to teach children about the importance of preserving our environment.

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By offering both in-person and virtual experiences, the Coastal Pup initiative sought to accommodate different preferences and ensure accessibility for all children, aiming to inspire the next generation to become advocates.





“ The Coastal Pups program is very nice, I love it! “

- Valentino Ahmadzai-Fisher, BC Métis Federation member





# COASTAL SEA WOLVES



DEEP COVE, NORTH VANCOUVER

In 2023, we launched the Coastal Sea Wolves initiative with the goal of developing day-long events that incorporated outdoor adventure, balanced with educational components aimed at creating environmental awareness and an interest in conservation. These events were designed to provide participants with hands-on experiences in nature, allowing them to explore coastal ecosystems while learning about their importance and the threats they face.

Through activities such as guided nature walks, interactive workshops, and wildlife observation sessions, the Coastal Sea Wolves initiative aimed to instill a deeper appreciation for the natural world and inspire a sense of responsibility towards its preservation. By engaging participants in fun and educational experiences, we hope to foster a community of individuals passionate about protecting British Columbia's coastal and aquatic areas for future generations to enjoy.



**“ I asked her in the car which part of the day she enjoyed the most, she said “all of it”! That is pretty hard from a teenager to get that comment”**

**- Donna Lee, BC Métis Federation member**





FRASER VALLEY TROUT HATCHERY, ABBOTSFORD



CWPMAG 15

# FIRST RESPONDER INITIATIVE

MAXIMUM OCCUPANCY PER PERSON





The First Responder initiative, launched in 2023, with the goal of equipping members with the tools, education, and safety awareness needed to confidently and effectively respond to an oil spill incident while on British Columbian waters.

Accidental spills can have devastating impacts on marine life. Being aware of the potential risks and taking preventative measures, like having a spill kit, helps to minimize environmental damage and allows for a quick response in case of a spill.





“There are thousands of pleasure boats in British Columbia. Every single boat with a fuel tank has the potential for a spill; even small spills have a detrimental effect on the marine environment.

Unlike personal flotation devices, which are mandatory, spill kits are not required for pleasure boats.

Spill kits are your first defense in containing a spill. By following the directions in the spill kits, you will be able to protect the waterways by preventing harmful fuel and chemicals from affecting the delicate ecosystems of our oceans and lakes.

I have personally been involved with a medium-sized fuel spill that occurred at a project situated on the ocean shore. The actions that took place taught me the importance of containing a spill from the initial response to the final clean-up. This experience has never left me and, in fact, has led me to initiate a spill kit project with the Coastal Water Protectors. Our goal is to see every single pleasure boat in BC outfitted with a spill kit.”

-Brad Giroux, BC Métis Federation



# LAND & SEA CLEANUPS





NECK POINT PARK, NANAIMO

Our land and sea cleanups are dedicated to making a positive impact on the environment through organized community cleanup events.

Maintaining a clean environment is vital for our health, wildlife well-being, and ecological balance.

Trash accumulation in coastal and aquatic areas pose a significant threat to wildlife. Through our land and sea cleanup initiative, we organized events to actively involve local communities in restoring the cleanliness and health of these areas.





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





Community and connection are of utmost importance to the Coastal Conservation department. In 2023, our dedication was to visit as many communities as possible, strengthening connections, building bridges, and making memories.

Our goal is to foster a sense of belonging and collaboration among diverse groups, recognizing that our collective efforts are essential for the sustainable management and protection of our coastal and aquatic environments, and the land surrounding them.

In 2024, we are continuing this commitment by expanding our reach and deepening our impact within communities.

Through our initiatives, we aim to not only preserve the natural beauty of our coastal and aquatic regions, but also to enhance the well-being of the communities that depend on them.





CATES PARK, NORTH VANCOUVER



RAIN...

# OR SHINE...



# FRIENDS...



VICTORIA



VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTER



BC MÉTIS FEDERATION, VANCOUVER

28 CWP MAG



VICTORIA

# & FAMILY



NECK POINT PARK, NANAIMO



NECK POINT PARK, NANAIMO



BURNABY



NORTH VANCOUVER



BURNABY

30 CWPMAG



PITT MEADOWS





# QENTOL, YEN

WSÁNEĆ Marine Guardians



## WSÁNEĆ Marine Guardians

The name QENTOL, YEN was chosen by the WSÁNEĆ Language Committee. QENTOL, YEN Derives from 3 words: QEN - Watching out to sea, TOL - Out at sea, YEN - Comes from the word QENÁLYEN which means reef net capture.

WSÁNEĆ Marine Guardians logo was designed by... The design... A wolf trans...







# PROVINCIAL EXPANSION



## COASTAL CONSERVATION 2023 PROVINCIAL TOUR: EVENT LOCATIONS

Vancouver  
West Vancouver  
North Vancouver  
Surrey  
Langley  
Burnaby  
Pitt Meadows  
Victoria  
Nanaimo  
Tofino  
Ucluelet  
Thetis Island  
Parksville  
Black Creek  
Campbell River  
Qualicum Beach  
Terrace  
Prince Rupert  
Fort St. John  
Prince George  
West Kelowna  
Abbotsford  
Saanichton  
Nicola Valley



PRINCE RUPERT

In 2022, it became apparent that there was a demand and deep interest from BC Métis Federation members, community members and the public to expand the work of the Coastal Conservation department and Coastal Water Protectors team to include the entire province of British Columbia.

In 2023, we accomplished that goal. The department of Coastal Conservation visited over 20 locations within the province of British Columbia and expanded our in person presence to the Thompson Okanagan, North Central, North East and North West areas in the province.

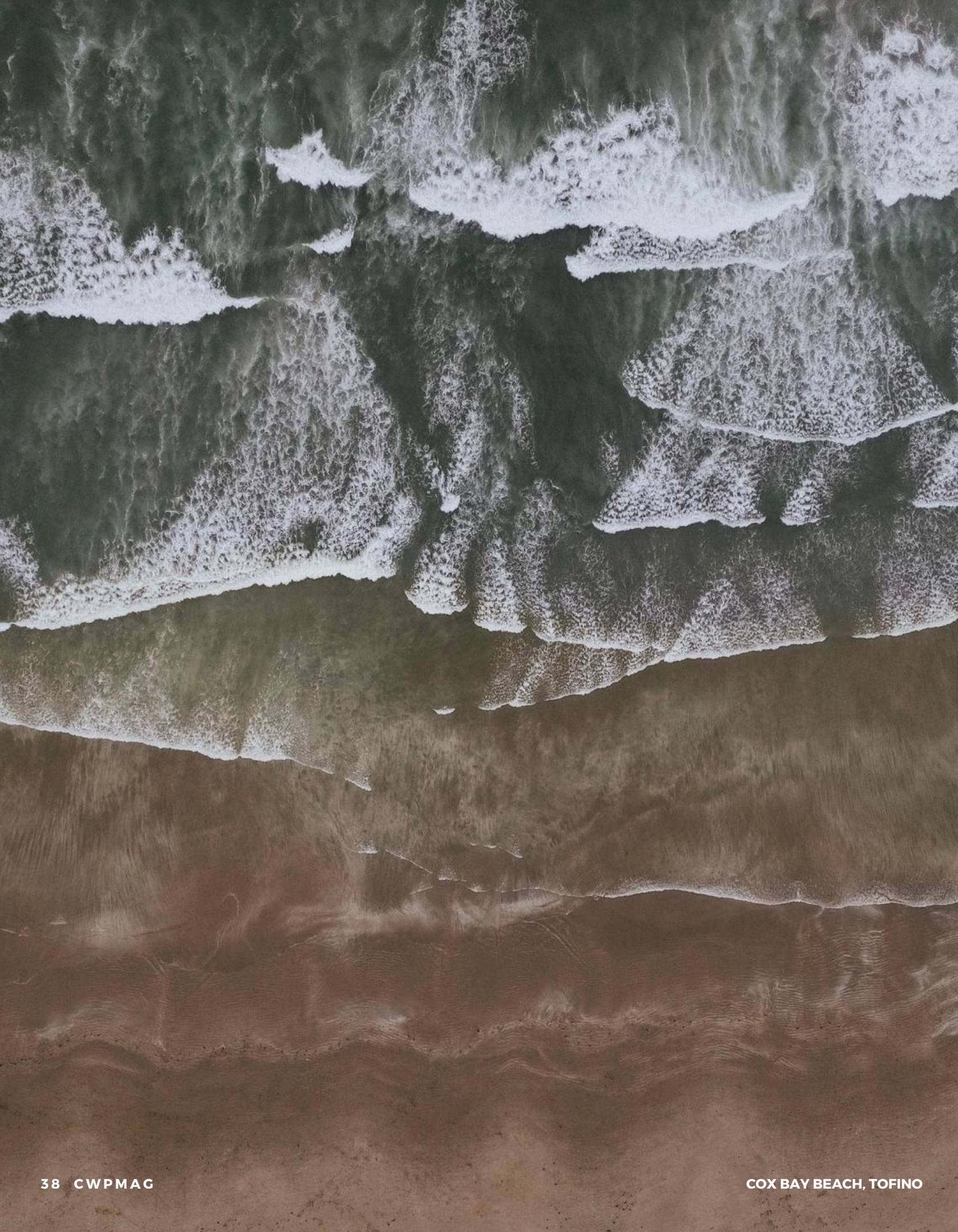




WEST KELOWNA



TERRACE



# SUPPORT US

THOMPSON OKANAGAN

Your contribution can make a world of difference! As a non-profit conservation department, we rely on the generosity of individuals like you to continue our vital work in protecting our environment and wildlife. Your donation helps fund our ongoing projects, educational programs, and community outreach efforts, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

Simply scan the QR code to make a donation and join us on our journey towards a greener, healthier planet. Thank you for your support!





**Coastal  
Water Protectors**



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