



Coastal  
Water Protectors



**BC Métis**  
FEDERATION

# BC METIS FEDERATION CONSERVATION

JULY 2024







## **Sweeping the Shores**

A warm welcome to Crescent Beach, Surrey!

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# SWEEPING THE SHORES

WITH THE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT





On July 13th, the Department of Conservation with the BC Métis Federation hosted its highly anticipated "Sweeping the Shores" shoreline cleanup at the picturesque Crescent Beach in Surrey. This event was part of the department's ongoing commitment to preserving the natural beauty of British Columbia's coastlines and fostering a sense of community responsibility toward environmental stewardship.

The day began with a warm welcome to the dozens of local members and volunteers who gathered to make a positive impact on this beloved beach. Participants were treated to delicious scones, generously provided by the Sunflower Café. The fresh, locally baked treats offered a perfect start to the morning, energizing everyone for the important work ahead. To keep spirits high and refresh participants throughout the event, Hoochy Booch, a local kombucha company, provided a variety of their flavorful beverages.

The cleanup itself was a resounding success, thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of the volunteers who turned out in strong numbers. Equipped with gloves, bags, and a commitment to protecting the environment, participants scoured Crescent Beach, collecting debris and waste that had accumulated along the shoreline. From small pieces of plastic to larger items, every bit of litter removed contributed to the overall health and beauty of the area. The collective efforts of the volunteers not only restored the natural landscape but also helped prevent harmful materials from entering the marine ecosystem, where they could pose a threat to wildlife.

Throughout the event, there was a palpable sense of pride and accomplishment among the volunteers. The Sweeping the Shores cleanup at Crescent Beach exemplified the power of community action in addressing environmental challenges. It also served as a reminder of the importance of taking proactive steps to protect our coastal environments. The Department of Conservation is grateful to all who participated and looks forward to hosting more events like this in the future, continuing its mission to inspire conservation efforts across British Columbia.

As the day concluded, participants left Crescent Beach not only with a sense of achievement but also with a stronger connection to their community and the environment. The Department of Conservation would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers, as well as to Sunflower Café and Hoochy Booch, whose generous contributions made the event even more memorable.

Together, we made a tangible difference, ensuring that Crescent Beach remains a beautiful, clean, and safe place for everyone to enjoy.





**FREE ONLINE  
COURSES**



The Department of Conservation is excited to offer free online courses designed to equip members with essential safety and awareness skills for navigating the great outdoors. Partnering with Alert First Aid, the department has made three valuable courses available to everyone: Wood Tick Safety, Bear Awareness, and Wilderness Awareness. These courses are tailored to address the specific risks and challenges faced by those who spend time in British Columbia's diverse landscapes. By providing these resources at no cost, the department aims to empower participants with the knowledge needed to stay safe while enjoying nature and contributing to the conservation of our precious environments.

Each course is carefully designed to cover critical topics. The Wood Tick Safety course focuses on understanding the dangers posed by ticks, how to prevent bites, and what steps to take if bitten. The Bear Awareness course offers crucial information on how to safely coexist with bears in their natural habitat, including tips on avoiding encounters and how to react if one occurs. Lastly, the Wilderness Awareness course provides a comprehensive overview of staying safe in remote and rugged environments, covering everything from navigation to emergency preparedness. By offering these courses, the Department of Conservation ensures that members are not only educated but also better prepared to contribute to the protection and enjoyment of our natural heritage.



To register for a course please follow the link on our Linktree.



The Department of Conservation of the BC Métis Federation recently hosted a livestream and webinar to share the successes and milestones of the first quarter of the year. This engaging event provided an opportunity for members, stakeholders, and the broader community to connect with the department's work and celebrate the progress made in conservation efforts across British Columbia.

The webinar, which was well-attended by an enthusiastic audience, highlighted the department's various initiatives and achievements from the past three months. The team shared updates on key events, such as the highly successful "Sweeping the Shores" shoreline cleanups, which mobilized dozens of volunteers to help preserve our coastlines. Participants were also briefed on the department's educational outreach, including their presentations at school districts and the launch of free online courses in partnership with Alert First Aid, covering important topics like Wood Tick Safety, Bear Awareness, and Wilderness Awareness. These efforts, combined with the department's commitment to community engagement through festivals, markets, and other events, underscored the meaningful impact the department is making in raising awareness and fostering environmental stewardship.

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In addition to the detailed review of the first quarter's activities, the webinar also featured exciting new developments. The team recorded fresh content for their popular conservation podcast, "The Aqua Agenda," during the event. This behind-the-scenes glimpse into the podcast's production added an interactive element to the webinar, allowing attendees to see how the department's team collaborates to bring important conservation topics to life. Hosted by Angel Fisher, Zia Yazdani, and Tanner Oswald, the podcast continues to gain traction, offering biweekly episodes that delve into pressing environmental issues and keeping listeners informed on all things related to conservation.

The success of the first quarter, as showcased during the livestream and webinar, is a testament to the dedication and hard work of the Department of Conservation's team. Their efforts have not only advanced the cause of conservation in British Columbia but also strengthened the sense of community and shared responsibility among the members of the BC Métis Federation. As the department looks ahead to the rest of the year, it remains committed to building on this momentum, driving forward initiatives that protect and preserve the natural beauty of our province. The team is grateful for the continued support and participation of the community and encourages everyone to stay tuned for more exciting developments in the months to come.

