

2020 Annual Report
LIFESAVING SOCIETY
BC & YUKON BRANCH



AQUATICS

COVID-19 Swimming Guidelines for Customers

Maximum Bathers: 50

- Do not enter if you are sick or required to self-isolate
- All customers are required to register for admission
- Physical Distancing in progress of 2 arms lengths from others (2 metres)
- Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer upon entry
- Wear a bathing suit prior to coming to the pool to limit time spent in the change rooms
- Do not share personal items
- Wearing goggles in the water is encouraged
- Personal pool equipment is prohibited
- Do not spit, urinate, or blow your nose in the water
- Personal face masks must be worn in change rooms and corridors and not worn while swimming
- Shower before and after using the pool
- Spectators are not permitted- viewing area closed

**Follow Directions Provided
from Aquatic Staff and Posted Rules**



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts

BC & Yukon Branch Vision Statement

The BC & Yukon Branch of the Lifesaving Society is an active member of the community dedicated to preventing death and injury in, on, or near the water. We search out opportunities to include everyone as driven by the needs of our community. We endeavour to collaborate with all groups and individuals with like aims. We are a dynamic organization that celebrates growth, flexibility, innovation, excellence and proactive leadership.

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President's Message

It has been my honour to serve as the BC & Yukon Lifesaving Society Branch President for the past year, and I am pleased to present the 2020 Annual Report.

This time last year, we assembled for the 108th Annual Commonwealth Honour and Rescue Awards Ceremony, joined by the Honourable Angélique Bernard, Commissioner of Yukon and other distinguished guests. There we recognized the commendable contributions of the Society's volunteers and honoured the courageous efforts of those who have endeavoured to rescue a person in distress, often at great personal risk.

It was very shortly thereafter that the Society, along with affiliates, swimmers, lifeguards and lifesavers throughout British Columbia and Yukon, were confronted with the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Faced with widespread closures of aquatic centres, the Society's core business objectives turned to supporting affiliates in recovering services and maintaining a strong drowning prevention message. While much work remains to restore many of our programs and services, we can reflect on the successful reopening of aquatic centres and waterfronts across British Columbia and Yukon, driven by clear recommendations and strong, considered support from the Society, both from our Branch and from coordinated national efforts. I would like to recognize the outstanding contributions of the many Lifesaving Society staff team members and volunteers who contributed to this success.

There have been other notable accomplishments in the last year. The Society successfully provided lifeguarding services at BC Hydro's Buntzen and Hayward Lake beaches for the first time ever. We are hopeful that this sparks a shift toward greater supervision of other busy public beaches as well. Our Governor Nicole Liddell has revived the Governor's Council comprised of Past Presidents and other long-standing contributors, with the goal to draw on the expertise and leadership of this group in supporting Branch business. Finally, the Board of Directors has approved the Society's Business Plan for 2021-2023, providing a strategic framework to guide operations.

I have hope for the year ahead. As we move to recover more services, there will be much work to be done, but we can lean on the strength of our volunteers and staff team. With limited pool access to aquatic facilities for children and youth, the drowning prevention message is as important now as ever. Each of us can be a set of eyes on the water and a voice for drowning prevention in the community.

I would like to share my thanks to our Governor, Nicole Liddell and to fellow board members Anita Chevalier, Graham Esplen, Gail Findlay-Shirras, Peter Fox, John MacRitchie, and Tony Toriglia for their continued service to the Society, and to the many volunteers that work tirelessly to further the Society's drowning prevention message. Your efforts are the foundation of the Society's success.

Jeffrey Holland, Branch President

Branch Presidents

Frederick William Burrows	1923 - 1925	Margaret Jean Lathwell	1972 - 1976
William Reid Owen	1925 - 1926	Nestor Nick Korchinsky	1976 - 1980
Frederick William Burrows	1926 - 1930	Dan E. Moon	1980 - 1982
Alfred H. J. Swencisky	1930 - 1932	Doreen Drysdale	1982 - 1987
Lestock Charles Reid	1932 - 1933	Ellen Lloyd	1987 - 1992
George Alexander Burrows	1933 - 1934	Julia Oulton	1992 - 1994
Gordon Vance	1934 - 1937	Ron Aubrey	1994 - 1996
Thomas M. Galloway	1937 - 1938	Tony Toriglia	1996 - 1998
Lestock Charles Reid	1938 - 1940	Heather Straight	1998 - 2000
John Lawrence Lugin	1940 - 1942	Nicole Liddell	2000 - 2002
Rollie S. Henderson	1942 - 1945	Ian Robertson	2002 - 2004
Gordon Vance	1945 - 1946	Dan Galazka	2004 - 2006
Edward Frank Forsyth	1946 - 1947	Sean Healy	2006 - 2008
George Alexander Burrows	1947 - 1948	Craig Amundsen	2008 - 2010
John Thomas Kelly	1948 - 1957	Len Manuel	2010 - 2012
H. Douglas Whittle	1957 - 1966	Dalyce Brandt	2012 - 2014
George Alexander Burrows	1966 - 1968	Michael Lawless	2014 - 2016
R. Gordon Edmonds	1968 - 1969	Heidi Ogilvie	2016 - 2018
James Bertram Snelgrove	1969 - 1970	Peter Fox	2018 - 2020
Maxwell E. Gordon	1970 - 1972	Jeffrey Holland	2020 - Present

Branch Governors

Alfred H.J. Swencisky	Dates unconfirmed
Major-General John M. Rockingham	1980 - 1983
George A. Brown	1988 - 1994
Peter Legge	1995 - 1997
Jon MacKinnon	1997 - 2008
Ian Robertson	2008 - 2017
Nicole Liddell	2017 - present



Nicole Liddell, Branch Governor



Executive Director Report

The BC & Yukon Branch of the Lifesaving Society has had many challenges in the past but none more impactful than the global pandemic we all experienced in 2020. Like so many other not-for-profit organizations who have struggled, we saw our program activity shut down completely when pools closed in mid-March. Knowing that many aquatic staff were still working, we continued to maintain customer service as everyone waited to see how long the impact would last.

In early March we were very fortunate to squeeze in our 2020 AGM and Honour & Rescue Award ceremony, but since then all in-person events we typically enjoy have been cancelled and we have become all too familiar with Zoom and other methods of online communication.

Instead of a slowdown in activity, by mid-April pool operators were looking for guidance on how to prepare to safely reopen their facilities when the time was right. Thanks to the commitment and hard work of 15 BC & Yukon staff and volunteers as part of a national effort from over 30 people, the 50-page *Guidelines for Reopening Pools and Waterfronts* document was released in mid-May. It was used by many Affiliates as their reference for adjusting operations to ensure staff and public safety.

The financial impact on the Branch was immense and although we were eventually able to access federal subsidy funding, there was a need for temporary and permanent staff lay-offs. Lost program revenue was partially replaced through the sale of PPE as well as management fees for new lifeguard services provided at Buntzen and Hayward Lakes in conjunction with BC Hydro and their contractors.

The venture into managing lifeguard services proved very successfully. For the first time in many years, previously unguarded waterfronts saw lifeguards on their beaches. And due to COVID-19, the June training sessions provided an opportunity to develop safe lifeguarding, rescue and treatment knowledge that was then passed on to other jurisdictions looking to open their waterfront lifeguard services.

That was also the start of providing standardized lifeguard and instructor training to ensure appropriate precautions were being taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The demand accelerated our entry into providing courses online in a blended learning format, which continues and will expand in the future.

Now a year after the pandemic hit, some pools remain closed but there is optimism that the months ahead will see a return of activity close to previous levels. The Lifesaving Society is preparing for that by ensuring that trainers and instructors are ready for the high demand expected due to the lack of training courses over the past year.

As we optimistically anticipate a brighter future, I wish to express much appreciation to our Branch board, staff and volunteers for persevering through a difficult time by continuing to perform the important work of ensuring safety in and around the water. And as always, we thank our Affiliates for your ongoing support; we look forward to getting back to a near-normal world in which we can again jointly provide the lifesaving training that makes work in the aquatics field so fulfilling and rewarding.

Dale Miller, Executive Director



Education Report

The early thought of a break in activity due to COVID-19 shutting down aquatic facilities was quickly dashed with the need to provide modified learning opportunities for all aquatic staff. The challenge of collaborating with Lifesaving Society colleagues across the country

to provide pool & waterfront operating guidelines resulted in the mid-May release of the comprehensive *Guidelines for Reopening Pools & Waterfronts*. The BC & Yukon Branch is proud to have contributed extensively to the work thanks to the tireless efforts of staff and volunteers in various areas of expertise. Many thanks to the following BC & Yukon based personnel for their involvement:

Dr. Steve Beerman
Danny Burgi
Brooke Cherfils
Ruth Depew
Veronica Grusnick

Sean Healy
Karen Hillmann
Riley Huntley
Kyle Kronebusch
Dale Miller

Craig Short
Cheryl Sibany
Ilo van Gilder
Denise Yoreff
Karen Zaidan

In order to ensure lifeguards and instructors received appropriate training related to COVID-19 precautions, COVID-19 Online Instructor Updates and COVID-19 Skills Adaptation Charts were provided in early July along with a sample inservice outline and Guidelines for Delivering Lifesaving Society Training. New skills such as the use of a bag-valve-mask were also introduced as part of the Airway Management & Oxygen Administration training modules.

With the increased need for more online than in-person training, we transitioned many educational components to a blended learning format.

In mid-December, the new Lifesaving Instructor Recertification was launched with a quick uptake by over 700 instructors in the first two weeks. Changes address the much-anticipated early 2021 launch of the new Bronze Family program. A lot of work went into the development and production of the online and in-person content, videos and manuals required to ensure a smooth delivery of the new course. Many thanks go to our National Trainers and members of the Program Advisory Group who contributed with a special shout-out to Riley Huntley who put in hundreds of volunteer hours using his technological expertise to provide high quality results.

We were most pleased to be able to bring Kyle Kronebusch on board as Education Assistant in mid-November to support and enhance all of the ongoing and future work of providing excellent programs as well as supporting Affiliates, Trainers and Instructors in their delivery.

And although it was a difficult year in so many ways, the 2020 experience will serve us all well as we persevere and grow toward a healthy and safe 2021!

Brooke Cherfils
Education Director

Kyle Kronebusch
Education Assistant



Advisory Group Members: Len Manuel (chair), Denise Yoreff (vice-chair), Craig Amundsen, Ruth Depew, Sean Healy, Melina Sweezey, Tony Toriglia

Staff Representative: Cheryl Sibany

The Aquatic Services Management (ASM) Advisory Group has completed a very challenging year to successfully prevent water-related incidents before and during the COVID-19 pandemic through: advanced training, facility audits, public and staff education, recommended standards and major incident management.

Advanced Training:

The Advisory Group has initiated the development of blended learning programs for the Aquatic Supervisor Training (AST) program and the Aquatic Management Training program (AMT) to be launched in 2021. AST provides the deck supervisor with knowledge to effectively supervise aquatic operations and train lifeguards and swim instructors. AMT provides Recreation Directors, Managers, and Aquatic Programmers who do not have a current aquatic background, with the information needed to implement effective aquatic operational procedures and training.

Audit Program:

Some facility audits were completed in 2020 however, the audit program, which has seen significant growth in the past few years, came to a sudden halt when the ability to safely conduct in-person visits ended with the closing of aquatic facilities. The Advisory Group is currently modifying the audit system to more efficiently record audit data. Safety audits will continue when it is safe to do so.

Public Access Liferings and Safety Education: This year, Public Access Liferings (PAL) were distributed to more aquatic settings with no lifeguards on duty. For example, a unit was set up by a dock in memory of a teenage boy who previously drowned. The family and community installed it to allow anyone to save a life and as a reminder of the danger.

Standards and Major Incident Management: The Advisory Group developed recommendations for the safe use of major aquatic inflatables which are now being distributed to industry operators to help reduce the risk of water related incidents.

I would like to thank the ASM Advisory Group members and Cheryl Sibany, our staff representative, for their tireless work during this past year as we look forward to a successful 2021. Also, on behalf of the Advisory Group, I want to congratulate and thank the BC & Yukon Board of Directors, volunteers and staff for their extraordinary efforts during this unusual and challenging past year.

[Len Manuel](#), Aquatic Safety Management Advisory Group Chair

Program Advisory Group Report



Julie Kaufman



Kyle Kronebusch
Co-Chairs



Krista Mueller

Committee Members:

Judi Ambrozaitis-Torrao, Michelle Blanchard, Pete Chen, Veronica Grusnick, Karen Hillmann, Riley Huntley, James Jing, Albert Kho, Marg Kovacs, Cindy Larson, Sasha Maleki, Dan Marcotte, David Russell, Kendal Shepard

Staff Representative: Brooke Cherfils, Education Director

The Program Advisory Group is a committed group of members that actively participates to support program development within all streams of the Lifesaving Society. Despite the challenges and uncertainties that 2020 presented, the Program Advisory Group still had a successful year in program development in the following areas:

- Updated the National Lifeguard Candidate Supplement to include the new OFA First Aid items
- Drafted a National Lifeguard Instructor Guide for Pool and Waterpark Options
- Created and revised instructional resources to support the new Lifesaving Instructor program launch including new Bronze Medal Instructor Guides
- Updated Bronze Medal Candidate Workbooks
- Reproduced the Canadian First Aid Manual for future revision
- Researched online learning tools to help support our programs as we made the transition to blended learning

We would like to thank all members for their dedication, patience and understanding during this challenging year. It looked a little different than previous years, but we would have not completed these projects without your strong volunteer contribution; your commitment to the group and to Lifesaving Society programs is highly valued. We look forward to welcoming new members this Spring!

[Julie Kaufman](#), [Kyle Kronebusch](#) & [Krista Mueller](#), Program Advisory Group Co-Chairs

Lifesaving Society Core Program Statistics

		2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
LIFESAVING	Canadian Swim Patrol	425	1,601	1,222	1,890	1,287
	Bronze Star	205	1,025	1,013	875	894
	Bronze Medallion	935	4,043	4,107	3,708	3,686
	Bronze Cross	919	3,401	3,385	3,065	3,182
	Total Lifesaving	2,484	10,070	9,727	9,538	9,049
FIRST AID	CPR/AED	1,221	2,390	3,202	3,136	2,765
	Health Care Provider/Basic Life Support	989	1,117	1,233	1,252	687
	Emergency First Aid	1,709	3,408	3,812	3,257	2,412
	Standard First Aid	1,362	3,514	4,189	4,153	3,020
	Airway Management/Oxygen Administration	2,311	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Total First Aid	7,592	10,429	12,436	11,798	8,884
NATIONAL LIFEGUARD	National Lifeguard Pool	451	1,834	1,645	1,525	1,675
	National Lifeguard Pool Recertification	1,821	2,362	2,644	2,287	2,474
	National Lifeguard Waterpark	64	399	388	333	370
	National Lifeguard Waterpark Recertification	168	381	416	357	390
	National Lifeguard Waterfront	20	83	79	86	110
	National Lifeguard Waterfront Recertification	46	106	118	92	99
	National Lifeguard Surf	0	23	6	7	10
	Total National Lifeguard	2,570	5,188	5,296	4,687	5,128
LEADERSHIP	Lifesaving Instructor	135	426	543	408	510
	Lifesaving Instructor Recertification	59	221	589	870	565
	National Lifeguard Instructor Course	10	27	34	14	36
	First Aid Instructor Course	5	10	53	20	53
	Trainer	6	81	28	0	10
	COVID-19 Instructor Update	539	---	---	---	---
	AMOA Instructor	187	---	---	---	---
	Total Leadership	941	765	1,247	1,312	1,174
SAFETY MGMT.	Safety Management	32	274	186	46	---
CORE	TOTAL CORE PROGRAMS	13,619	26,726	28,913	27,388	24,258

Statement of Financial Position

<i>For the year ended December 31</i>		2020	2019
CURRENT ASSETS	Cash & equivalents	54,220	34,223
	Accounts receivable	42,122	97,213
	Interfund receivables	760	760
	Inventory	88,976	69,186
	Prepaid expenses	6,265	485
	Total Assets	192,343	201,867
	Accounts payable	15,035	25,918
	Interfund payable	55,845	19,401
	Current portion of long term debt	36,864	---
	Deferred revenue	87,930	54,500
Total Current Liabilities	195,674	99,819	
FUNDS BALANCE	Balance at beginning of year	102,048	227,717
	Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	(87,892)	(38,484)
	Inter fund transfers	(60,355)	(87,185)
	Balance at end of year	(46,199)	102,048
	Total Liabilities & Funds Balance	192,343	201,867
RECEIPTS	Administration	45,630	109,114
	Awards	226,314	590,000
	Donations	13,967	1,690
	Literature sales	112,667	346,723
	Management fees	68,000	18,000
	Project revenue	154,987	---
	Merchandise sales	124,277	90,158
	Outreach funding	404,620	426,425
	Federal wage subsidy	109,226	---
	Total Receipts	1,259,688	1,582,110
DISBURSEMENTS	Accounting and legal	12,334	12,810
	AdventureSmart expenses	348,999	397,209
	Advertising and promotion	7,477	10,768
	Bank charges & interest	8,440	14,460
	Committees and events	32,995	76,684
	Cost of sales and awards	147,154	317,039
	Equipment and repairs	2,450	6,137
	Insurance	18,694	18,858
	National levy	59,858	102,867
	Office and miscellaneous	66,788	51,554
	Postage and shipping	7,677	37,872
	Premises	25,642	29,570
	Project costs	160,088	---
	Salaries and benefits	405,281	569,224
	Supplies	7,610	7,610
	Technology upgrades	21,759	20,365
	Telephone	6,493	10,645
	Travel and accommodation	7,841	39,789
	Total Disbursements	1,347,580	1,620,594
	Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(87,892)	(38,484)

DB Perks Scholarships



After enjoying his days as a lifeguard in Burnaby and a national level competitive swimmer at SFU, Doug Perks continues to give back to the aquatics field through scholarships to support aquatic staff in pursuing post-secondary education. The three awards of \$1,000 in 2021 mark the 27th year of the scholarship through which Doug has contributed \$52,000 to 92 recipients.

His generosity is evident not only through the Lifesaving Society scholarships, but also through many other initiatives Doug supports with several other organizations. He often expresses his appreciation for what the aquatics field has given him as his motivation to give back to others.

In 2020, Doug also donated \$5,000 to establish the Brenda Cumming Memorial Bursary in memory of his late wife.

2021 DB Perks Scholarship Recipients

Fred Smith Award:

Rachel DeCicco, Coquitlam

Mike Powley Award:

Julie Kaufman, Surrey

Derek Laverty Award:

Jasmin Schlick, Prince George

Previous Award Recipients

2020

Elliott Gee, Burnaby

Natalia Lupynis, Richmond

Ceilidh Robertson-Jones,

Victoria

2019

Katie Bowers, Victoria Michelle

Jun, Port Coquitlam Rachel

Way, New Westminster

2018

Riley Huntley, Surrey

Jamie Magrill, Richmond Sarah

Schlatter, Victoria

2017

Martin Chan, Richmond

Anthony Lee, Burnaby

Lindsay Munroe, Coquitlam

Sarah Schlatter, Victoria

Becky Tomlin, Whitehorse

2016

Timothy Bientjes, Kamloops

Matteo Ferrarosso, Burnaby

Wyatt Henry, Kamloops

Sienna Joyce, Port Moody

Ryan Wilmink, Vancouver

2015

Rachel Hennig, Langley

Julie Kaufman, Vancouver

Anna Legault, Victoria

Michelle Lukas, Vancouver

Rebecca Roy, Kamloops

2014

Claire Bruce, Prince George

Marc Lacroix, Surrey Cameron

Meldrum, Chilliwack Julia

Sharma, Burnaby Amanda

Tuey, Burnaby

Previous Scholarship Recipients

2013

Vanessa Butler, Surrey
Sheena Fulop, Pender Island
Melissa Gillespie, Saanichton
Colin Pistawka, Kelowna

2012

Noel Lai, Vancouver
Sasha Maleki, Coquitlam
Amanda Penny, Williams Lake
David Slade, Delta

2011

Veronica Grusnick, Surrey
Emily Hails, Coldstream
Cailey Hume, Sparwood
Ben Tettamanti, Vancouver

2010

Leo Chan, Coquitlam
Christian Gotengco, Vancouver
Brittany Hollett, Kamloops
Brittany Williams, Surrey

2009

Natasha Corewyn, Vancouver
Eric Iadarola, Kamloops
Jerry Michael, Victoria
Quinn Yu, Surrey

2008

Lisa Flegel, Bella Coola
Jamie Lee McSweeney
John-Jose Nunez
Adam Pospisil

2007

Sarah Glenn, Ladysmith
Yvonne Gomez, Victoria
Jessamyn Logan, Saanich
Amanda Lust, Penticton

2006

Janet Maxsted, Kelowna
Ashley Rota, Vancouver
Christina Smirl, Sooke

2005

Sven Bellamy, Burnaby
Jen Brett, Savona
Lois Moore, Whitehorse

2004

Natasha Files, Surrey
Janice Newkirk, Hagensborg
Ryan Radford, Vancouver

2003

Candace Brown, New
Westminster
Brian Campbell, West
Vancouver
Trevor Roy, Kelowna

2002

Sarah Canning, North
Vancouver
Nicholas Crump, Surrey
Kaitlin Pasqualotto, Trail

2001

Christine Anderson, 150 Mile
House
Robert Cousins, Port Alice
Kim TownSchon, Crescent
Beach

2000

Kelly Holman, Victoria
April Lacheur, Delta
Ryan Radford, Kelowna

1999

Jason Blood, Nanaimo
Stephanie Eby, Victoria
James Helliwell, Vancouver

1998

Michael Lawless, Victoria
Heather Marshall, Coombs

1997

Carmen De Menech, Abbotsford
Carmen Jackson, Victoria

1996

Gene Benoit, North Vancouver
Rob Evans, Vancouver

1995

Nicole Liddell, Vancouver
Dave Lyon, Burnaby

108th Annual Commonwealth Awards

The Honour and Rescue Awards celebrate the human spirit of giving. The Honour awards praise the dedicated efforts of the Lifesaving Society's volunteers. The Rescue Awards continue the celebration by rewarding people for unselfishness in putting their lives on the line during a water rescue. The selections are made from rescues reported in the news, from individual recommendations and from police reports. Awards presented at the 108th Honour and Rescue Awards Ceremony on March 7, 2020:



Bagpiper Rebecca Mair followed by RCMP escorts Cst. Dennis Bell (L) and Cst. Gurpreet Arora (R).



Chris Cordova receives President's Plaque from President Jeffrey Holland (L) and Branch Governor, Nicole Liddell (R).

Honour Awards

Service Medal

Louise Bishoff
 Veronica Grusnick
 Emma Jacobsen
 Julie Kaufman
 Kyle Kronebusch

Bar to Service Medal

Alyson Dewey
 Heidi Ogilvie
 Melina Sweezey
 Kim TownSchon
 Tia Town-Schon

Service Cross

Jeffrey Holland

Bar to Service Cross

Lori-Ann Drew
 Graham Esplen
 Len Manuel
 Sheila Polard

President's Plaque

Chris Cordova

108th Annual Commonwealth Awards



Yukon Commissioner, Honourable Angélique Bernard brings greetings and congratulations.



Juliana Santana, Flavia Nascimento & Flavia Mandic (L to R) listen to their story of pulling a man from the bottom of a Vancouver apartment pool.



Erin Kang (L), Priya Sadher, Jordan Skinner and Cole Notter (L to R) receive Silver Medals for Bravery from MLA for Burnaby North, Janet Routledge, for their rescue of a friend from the bottom of Sasamat Lake in Port Moody.

Silver Medal for Merit

Sokha Eang
Erin Kang
Kyle Klint, Karlie Wilson
Ronald Tait
Alexis Tone

Silver Medal for Bravery

Sokha Eang, Adam Nelson
Melicia Ebanks
Marc Helman, Christopher Rolfe
Cole Notter, Priya Sadher, Jordan Skinner
Cassandra Ladyka

Flavia Mandic, Flavia Nascimento,
Juliana Santana
Donovan Ray, Steven Spurr

The COVID-19 Effect

As with so many other organizations, the COVID-19 pandemic had a dramatic effect on Lifesaving Society events and activities. The following were cancelled in 2020:

- Regional Affiliate meetings
- Regional, Branch, national and international lifesaving and lifeguarding competitions including the Barnsley Branch Lifeguard Championship
- WaterWise Safety Team
- Due to the low volume of courses run in 2020, Affiliate and Instructor awards were not presented



Pacific Lifesaving Club member gets temperature check

2020 Vision to Expand Aquatic Job Opportunities

Understanding that a year with very few lifeguard training opportunities (Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, National Lifeguard) will create a gap in the stream of potential employees, the following Lifesaving Society actions will serve to mitigate the impact on BC & Yukon Affiliates:

- Bronze Cross as Assistant Lifeguard certification - The curriculum has been revised to provide candidates with the knowledge, skills, judgement and fitness needed to assist with lifeguard duties. Assistant Lifeguards do not replace the need for National Lifeguards and the number of Assistant Lifeguards on deck cannot exceed the number of National Lifeguards on deck. Assistant Lifeguards must be a minimum of 15 years of age.
- Adoption of 15 year olds as being eligible for National Lifeguard training. Candidates must be at least 15 years of age as of the final day of the course; all other award prerequisites remain unchanged. This change means more candidates can participate in the training needed to be ready for employment. It also means that employers can tap into a larger talent pool and begin staff recruitment efforts earlier. The Society's minimum age for certification has no impact on the regulatory minimum age for employment for lifeguards, still being 16 years of age, but it does allow more youth to prepare for work in aquatics as soon as they reach the age of employment.
- Participation in Education and Career Fairs - Going online in 2021, the Society is able to reach thousands of high school students to encourage them to pursue aquatics as a job and career.
- Dedicated National Lifeguard website - NationalLifeguard.ca is designed to promote the advantages of becoming a lifeguard. It directs interested viewers to the Branch website to search for course listings.

Lifesaving Society - BC & Yukon Branch 2020/2021



Board Members, from left to right: Chris Cordova; Member-at-Large; Nicole Liddell, Governor; Graham Esplen, Vice-President; Lauralee March, Member-at-Large; Anita Chevalier, Vice-President; Jeffrey Holland, President; Alyson Dewey, Member-at-Large; Gail Findlay-Shirras, Vice-President; Danny Burgi, Member-at-Large; Peter Fox, Past President; John MacRitchie, Treasurer; Tony Toriglia, Vice-President

Governor

Nicole Liddell

President

Jeffrey Holland

Past President

Peter Fox

Vice-Presidents

Anita Chevalier

Graham Esplen

Gail Findlay-Shirras

Tony Toriglia

Treasurer

John MacRitchie

Members-At-Large

Danny Burgi

Chris Cordova

Lauralee March

Alyson Dewey

Lifesaving Chair

Sheila Polard

Legal Advisor

Ryan Scorgie

Medical Advisor

Dr. Adam Lund

Archives

Nicole Harrison

Program Advisory Group

Julie Kaufman

Kyle Kronebusch

Krista Mueller

ASM Advisory Group

Len Manuel

Sport Advisory Group

Anita Chevalier

Competition

Kim TownSchon

G.A. Brown Fund

Lori-Ann Drew

Honour Awards

Ron Aubrey

Rescue Awards

Lori-Ann Drew

Staff

Executive Director

Dale Miller

Education Director

Brooke Cherfils

Education Coordinator

Kyle Kronebusch

Mgr of Safety Services & Sport

Cheryl Sibany (to Sept. 30, 2020)

Member Services Coordinator

Carla Pruner

Bookkeeper

Stephanie Joh

Member Services

Liza Olendzkaya

Roan Wallace

Ricksa Cardente (to March 17, 2020)

Communications Assistant

Elan Appel

Shipping

Ken McLean



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

The Lifeguarding Experts

THE LIFESAVING SOCIETY IS

The national, non-profit, voluntary organization that has been training swimmers to be Lifesavers, Lifeguards and Instructors in Canada since 1908 and in BC since 1911.

Dedicated to the prevention of incidents and the saving of life in aquatic environments across Canada. A member of the Royal Life Saving Society Commonwealth organization and the Canadian representative in the International Life Saving Federation.

LIFESAVING SOCIETY AIMS

- Promote public awareness and understanding of the responsibility every Canadian assumes when working or playing in an aquatic environment.
- Provide educational opportunities for preparing swimmers to be lifesavers and for training highly skilled lifeguards.
- Pursue research to enhance and support the continuing development of its programs and to maintain technical excellence.
- Provide consultation services for education, recreation and health agencies in communities throughout the country.

Lifesaving Society - BC & Yukon Branch

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