

Salish Sea Symposium



Welcome to the Salish Sea Symposium

Hello!

We are looking forward to welcoming you virtually and in person to the first Salish Sea Symposium!

Our web portal will guide you with agenda times, venue details, and links to virtual meeting rooms. Leading up to the symposium, and during the event itself, we hope you can reflect on the goals of the Ocean Protection Plan's Salish Sea Strategy, which include:

- Establishing long-term ways to bring people together and share information, including Indigenous engagement processes, a joint planning committee, and advisory groups.
- Fostering collaboration on shared interests, goals, and projects.
- Building an inventory tool that captures relevant activities within the Salish Sea to support analysis, improve the effectiveness of existing work, and inform priorities for those operating in the region.
- Analyzing shared research to determine the best way forward that balances environmental impacts with economic benefits.

AGENDA

2024
SALISH SEA
SYMPOSIUM

Day 1 - January 23, 2024

Plenary Room (Hybrid*)			
9:00am	Welcome and Opening Remarks		
9:45am	The Importance of the Salish Sea Region: Building on the Past, Advancing the Future <i>(Panel)</i>		
10:45am	Refreshments Break & Coffee Chat Networking		
	Plenary Room (Hybrid*)	Breakout Room 1 (Hybrid*)	Breakout Room 2 (In Person)
11:15am	Collaborative Approach to Response Planning <i>(Panel)</i>	Applying Maritime Data to Support the Shipping and Ocean Conservation Integration (SOC-I) Program <i>(Presentation)</i>	Cumulative Effects in South Coast B.C.: Co-developing Collective Approaches, Tools and Understanding <i>(Workshop)</i>
12:15pm	Lunch, Networking, & Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Discovery Centre Tour		
1:15pm	Clam Garden Restoration <i>(Panel)</i>	The Coastal Response Program: Integrating Communities into Spill Response <i>(Panel)</i>	Enhanced Maritime Situational Awareness <i>(Presentation)</i>
2:15pm	Refreshments Break & Coffee Chat Networking		
2:45pm	Equity in the B.C. Ocean Economy <i>(Panel)</i>	Deterrence Measures for Southern Resident Orcas: Updated techniques, collaborations and opportunities for coordinated oil spill response across the international waterway <i>(Fireside Chat)</i>	Information Management for the Salish Sea Strategy <i>(Workshop)</i>
3:45pm	Transition Break		
Plenary Room (Hybrid*)			
4:00pm	Day 1 Debrief Session		
4:30pm	Closing Address & Graphic Artist Overview		
5:00pm	Day 1 Close		

Day 2 - January 24, 2024

Plenary Room (Hybrid*)			
8:45am	Welcome and Opening Remarks		
9:00am	Collaboration & Partnership in the Salish Sea (Panel)		
10:00am	Transition Break		
	Plenary Room (Hybrid*)	Breakout Room 1 (Hybrid*)	Breakout Room 2 (In Person)
10:10am	Transboundary Collaboration in the Salish Sea (Panel)	Maritime Shipping - Economic, Environmental and Social Dimensions (Fireside Chat)	Vessel Remediation Fund and Turn-in Program Pilot (Workshop)
11:10am	Refreshments Break		
11:30am	Innovative Approaches to Addressing Underwater Noise Impacts (Panel)	From Salinity and Sound to Salmon Survival: Partnerships for Data Collection in the Salish Sea (Presentation)	A Coastal Marine Strategy for B.C. (Presentation)
12:30pm	Lunch & Networking		
1:15pm	Transboundary Data Sharing: Supporting Decision-Making in the Salish Sea (Panel)	Managing Vessel Traffic in Marine Protected Areas (Fireside Chat)	Coastal Protection Workshop: Identifying and Protecting Coastal Sensitivities from Oil Spills (Workshop)
2:15pm	Refreshments Break & Coffee Chat Networking		
2:45pm	Collaborative Work and Decision Making in Relation to the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping Initiative in the South Coast of B.C. (Presentation)	Marine Plan Partnership: A Decade of Collaborative Planning and Implementation (Fireside Chat)	Active Vessel Traffic Management & Anchorages in the Salish Sea (Fireside Chat)
3:45pm	Transition Break		
Plenary Room (Hybrid*)			
4:00pm	Day 2 Debrief Session		
4:30pm	Closing Address & Graphic Artist Overview		
5:00pm	Event Close		

*Hybrid rooms noted indicate the availability of livestreaming for virtual participants.

About the Salish Sea

Here are some interesting facts about the Salish Sea where we reside. Let us know if we missed anything by leaving a comment in the photo post on the Whova app or [website](#).

ABOUT THE SALISH SEA

The People

- 8.76 million people, and projected to increase to over 10.5 million people by 2040, live near the Salish Sea
- Over 40 Indigenous communities border the Salish Sea; this area has provided these communities with food, medicine, and trade for generations

Marine Traffic

The increase in marine traffic in the Salish Sea in the coming years is expected to be driven by population growth, leading to increasing transportation needs between coastal communities, and increasing tourism and recreational boating as well as importing and exporting of goods to local and international markets and communities.

The Economy

Five major ports (Vancouver, Seattle, Tacoma, Victoria, and Nanaimo):

- Contribute over \$116 billion (Cdn) annually to American and Canadian Gross Domestic Product
- Employ almost 200,000 people in the region
- Connect Canada and the U.S.A. to over 170 trading economies

The Wildlife

Thousands of species of wildlife call the Salish Sea their home, including more than:

- 37 species of mammals
- 172 species of birds
- 3,000 species of invertebrates
- 113 threatened or endangered species, including the Southern Resident killer whale

The Geography

- 7,470 km of coastline
- 419 islands
- Traditional boundaries
 - North: Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada
 - South: Olympia, Washington, USA

Did you know?

- The North Pacific Giant Octopus is the largest octopus in the world
- There are nine different species of salmon and trout in the Salish Sea

The Water

- 17,000 sq km of sea water
- Average depth 130 meters
- Maximum depth 670 meters

Childhood dreams become an everyday reality for Eunice Charles



Thanks to the Oceans Protection Plan, across the country and in the Salish Sea, actions are being taken to make marine shipping safer and marine ecosystems better protected than ever before. Over 170 student graduates are now working in the marine industry after graduating from the Marine Training Program with the British Columbia Institute of Technology and Camosun College.

We have so many stories to tell from these graduates and others at institutions across Canada, including:

- [Eunice Charles, who has always had a passion for and interest in our oceans](#)
- [Morgan Lynch, who went from a career in the finance industry to a career on the water; and](#)
- [Lauryn Delaney, who hadn't planned on becoming a mariner, but changed the whole direction of her career after one day on a tugboat.](#)

Interested in more stories like these? [Subscribe to Tidings, the Oceans Protection Plan e-newsletter](#). We will bring you in-depth stories about the many Oceans Protection Plan initiatives, the people behind them, and the communities that benefit from them. It will also let you know about any consultation and/or engagement opportunities, where your feedback is invaluable to informing OPP and driving it forward, and opportunities to apply for funding.

Safer waters



To keep people safe in the Salish Sea, dozens of actions have been taken through the Oceans Protection Plan, including:

- Collecting seafloor data throughout the coast of British Columbia, including Haida Gwaii and Vancouver Island areas, to improve navigation charts.
- Developed prototype dynamic tide and current models for Kitimat and Vancouver to improve safety for mariners on the water.
- Improving weather services for mariners through the deployment of two new state-of-the-art weather buoys in the Strait of Georgia with near real-time access to observations and more detailed and precise weather forecast information through an online portal.
- Developing local forecasts for 12-to-24-hour periods to reduce weather-related risks to mariners.
- Installing new radars at Seymour Narrows and the northern Strait of Georgia to provide a more reliable and accurate picture of vessel traffic in the waters of the Salish Sea.

These are a few concrete examples, but more can be found on the Oceans Protection Plan website dedicated to [safer marine traffic](#).

Oil spills

The Government of Canada has launched an [Oil spill prevention and response in Canada website](#) to share what we do together on this important topic.

Visit the [Oil spill prevention and response in Canada_website](#) to learn:

- [How oil spills are managed in Canada](#)
- [Reporting an oil spill](#)
- How we prevent, prepare, respond, and recover from an oil spill from [marine oil tankers in Canada](#) and what compensation is available
- [The partners involved in oil spill prevention and response in Canada](#)
- The [science and innovation](#) related to oil spill prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery
- [how oil is transported](#) in Canada

In the Salish Sea specifically, dozens of actions have been taken through the Oceans Protection Plan to enhance emergency response and recovery, including:

- Increasing marine search and rescue capacity by ensuring 24/7 operations at the Regional Operations Centre
- Co-launching the Coastal Nations Coast Guard Auxiliary with eight First Nations and opening a Search and Rescue station in Victoria
- Developing ocean models in the South Salish Sea, Vancouver Harbour, and the Lower Fraser River to improve navigation safety and support incident response

Related links

- [Oceans Protection Plan](#)
- [Salish Sea Strategy](#)
- [How the Oceans Protection Plan is investing in the Pacific Region](#)

Contact your event organizer with any questions you have about this event at:
PACSalishSeaStrategy-strategieDeLaMerDesSalish@tc.gc.ca