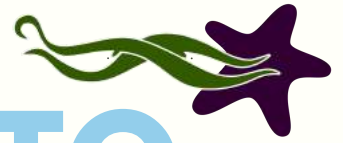


MARCH, 2019



# WATER WE UP TO

*The Ucluelet Aquarium's Kind-Of-Monthly Newsletter*



## The First-Ever Mini Aquarium Conference

A fabulous idea conceived in early 2018 finally came to fruition this past month. From February 15th-18th the Ucluelet Aquarium hosted the first ever Mini Aquarium Conference right here, in Ucluelet.

Small aquariums and marine education centres from near and far sent representatives to attend and share their backgrounds, missions, and ideas.

The goal of this conference was to create a space for similar organizations to build a collaborative and progressive community. And we succeeded. Three days of presentations, discussions, and team-building resulted in the beginnings of an international coalition. We began to establish underlying practice standards, education goals, and citizen science networking opportunities. Above all, we formed an international community dedicated to marine preservation, education, and animal welfare.

Our hope for the future is to continue growing the amazing, collaborative relationships we made during the conference and that the conference will be carried forward by each of us in turn.

The conference would not have been possible without the following sponsors: Ocean to Eye Level Consulting, Tourism Ucluelet, West Coast Nest, Piscine Energetics, Terrace Beach Resort, Archer Plastics and the Judy Grey Team. Thank you all so much.

### HIGHLIGHTS

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**A SUCCESSFUL,  
INAUGURAL MINI  
AQUARIUM CONFERENCE**

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**OPENING DAY FOR THE  
2019 SEASON**

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**ADMISSIONS: DAY PASS  
AND SEASON PASS  
PRICE UPDATE**

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**2018: A CHEESY  
SLIDESHOW**

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**WHAT'S NEW IN 2019**



## OPENING DAY 2019

March 1st, 12 pm - 5 pm

In addition to our various conference activities, the UA staff have been busily collecting for the 2019 season. We've got all sorts of exciting new critters to teach you about this year!

## ADMISSION RATES, 2019

Adults.....\$15	Students.....\$11
Seniors.....\$11	Youth.....\$8
Children under 4 are still free!	

Family season passes are increasing to \$65 + tax but locals qualify for the old rate (\$52 + tax) if they purchase their pass before April.

## 2018 IN REVIEW

2018 was, without a doubt, one of our most wonderful years to date. Throughout the season we greeted over 32,600 visitors, conducted 22 microplastic surveys, led 42 school groups, and successfully released over 4,000 animals back to their ocean homes. We had an incredible group of summer students that helped us out through the busy season, and our volunteers clocked just under 1,100 hours. There's more of course, but it won't all fit on this page. In summary, thank you to all of our staff, volunteers, board members, sponsors, visitors, and supporters for making 2018 so incredible. Here's to 2019!

P.S. If you are interested in checking out our outrageously cheesy 2018 slideshow video go to:  
<https://spark.adobe.com/video/eCGyeNjNM5uEd>

## THE UPCOMING SEASON

There's a lot to look forward to this coming season! We will continue working with the Wild Pacific Trail Society for their summer-time tide pool walks. Parks Canada will also be partnering with us for Summer touch tank talks at the R'wisitis Centre and Parks interpretation at the Aquarium. Evening events (live music, stitch-and-beach, and more) will be happening regularly throughout the year. We will also be continuing our research collaboration projects such as our microplastic initiative, sea star surveys, and water quality sampling. We are especially excited for our freshwater exhibit to be completed this year!

Our summer student job application will be on our website by March 1st. If you or anyone you know might be interested in applying, please review the application, then send a resume and cover letter to [laura@uclueletaquarium.org](mailto:laura@uclueletaquarium.org) by March 18th.

We are still looking for 2019 exhibit sponsors and project sponsors! If you are interested in become a sponsor please email our sponsorship coordinator, [keltie@uclueletaquarium.org](mailto:keltie@uclueletaquarium.org)

