



WATER WE UP TO

The Ucluelet Aquarium's Monthly Newsletter



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

With opening month behind us, April was a fantastic time to focus on some fun events and start planning for the upcoming summer season.

On March 13th local musical legends, Left at the Junction and Glass Half Full, played in the Aquarium for an incredible evening event. It was a fantastic night - we saw so many familiar faces and some new ones as well! A huge thank you to everyone who came out to support the musicians and the Aquarium. Stay tuned for more music events!

The Ucluelet Aquarium and West Coast Nest worked together to offer a Sustainable and Ethical Marine Harvesting Course. This full day course offered knowledge and useful tools for sustainable and ethical harvesting options on our coast. Our Curator, Laura Griffith-Cochrane, taught biology, ecology, euthanasia, and animal care. Department of Fisheries and Oceans were available for questions about licensing and legalities, and Josh Charleston shared his knowledge about traditional and current Nuu-chah-nulth harvesting practices.



CONTENT

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMER STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS

LIVE MUSIC IN THE AQUARIUM

DESCENDING DEVICES

SPONSORSHIP

MICROPLASTIC SURVEY DATES



The aquarium hosted an easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday. The staff hid eggs around the aquarium while locals and visitors alike searched them out, baskets in tow.



Our freshwater exhibit is in it's final stages of assembly! Come check out our new animal tracks and slug tank.

SUMMER STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

We are excited to introduce our newest seasonal staff members and volunteers who will be working with us throughout the summer months. They're an amazing group of ocean-loving people and we're so happy to have them join us for the season!

A huge thank you to our local MP Gord Johns, Canada Summer Jobs, and the Canadian Conservation Corps for enabling us to create these working and learning opportunities! Your support has been a huge benefit to the community, our organization and to our ocean awareness and conservation efforts. With this help we have been able to schedule free outreach and education programs for the Tofino and Ucluelet area, enabling responsible visitorship and increasing respect for the ocean environment.



Lisa



Clare



James



Sophie



Linnea

SURFRIDER OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS CAMPAIGN - WE'RE CERTIFIED!

We are very pleased to announce that the Ucluelet Aquarium is now officially a Surfrider Ocean Friendly Business!

What does this mean? Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Business Campaign works to register 15 new businesses in Tofino and Ucluelet each year as Ocean Friendly, by helping them transform their current operations to eliminate single use plastics, implement progressive recycling practices, and increase sustainable initiatives in businesses operations.

The Ucluelet Aquarium has worked hard to eliminate unnecessary plastic and material waste from everything from aquarium operations, to animal care and our retail section. Thank you, Surfrider Pacific Rim, for acknowledging our hard work!





DESCENDING DEVICES

Send that fish down! Rockfish are prone to barotrauma when pulled up from depth. The decrease in pressure causes their swim bladder (an air-filled organ) and eyes to inflate. Fish with these symptoms are unable to return to depth on their own and will die floating at the surface. If returned to depth, however, their chances of survival increase. Descending devices can be used to do just this. By clipping a descending device to the lip of the fish and setting the proper depth gauge, fish can be lowered to the appropriate pressure and released.

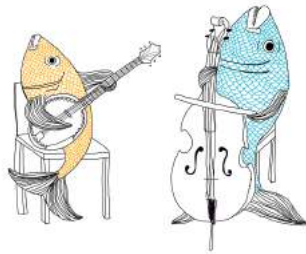
The Aquarium now has Seaqualizer descending devices for sale in our gift shop. We have standard (to 150 ft) and deep water (to 300 ft) models. To encourage responsible fishing practices we are selling them at cost (\$68) plus tax.

LIVE MUSIC IN THE AQUARIUM

Saturday, May 11th, 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Swing by the Aquarium for a relaxing evening of live acoustic roots music.

Admission is by donation.
19 + event.
Please bring ID!



SPONSORSHIP

We are still looking for sponsors for our tanks, programs, and other exhibits. While our admission covers a portion of our operational costs, sponsorship is a huge part of how we keep our doors open. If you are interested in becoming a Ucluelet Aquarium Sponsor please email patrick@uclueletaquarium.org.

Thank you so much to all of the sponsors who have already contributed for our 2019 season!



MICROPLASTIC SAMPLING

Our quest for data continues! Join us for our monthly microplastic surveys as we continue to learn about the distribution and composition of microplastics on our local beaches.

May 24, 10:45 am, meet at the Wickaninnish Beach, Kwisis Centre parking lot

*** Date is subject to change due to weather conditions. Check our Facebook page, call, or email us for up-to-date information.*

Wear clothes that are weather appropriate and that you won't mind getting a bit sandy. Gumboots are helpful but not required.

