

Who we are

The **Burrard Inlet Marine Enhancement Society** (BIMES) is a charitable organization committed to providing environmental education and stewardship activities in the Burrard Inlet area, including managing the Mossom Creek Hatchery & Education Centre located in Port Moody, BC. Our programs focus on salmon enhancement activities and stream, watershed and marine educational opportunities in the Port Moody Arm of Burrard Inlet.

Mossom Creek Education Centre provides hands on experiential learning opportunities to students and the community. The opportunity for kids to interact with nature in a real and tangible way has meant that thousands of students have actively experienced stewardship activities in local forest, watershed and marine environments. Over the past 5 decades, volunteers and stewardship leaders have taken an active role in providing outdoor nature experiences to the local community. We have an outstanding education centre that offers a home base for watershed and stream to sea explorations.

Mossom Creek Hatchery is a salmon enhancement project supported by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. It was started in 1976 by high school volunteers from local Centennial School in Coquitlam and teachers Ruth Foster and Rod MacVicar. They formed the Centennial School Salmon Project. It received much recognition for its unique and longstanding work.

Volunteer with us

Mossom Creek Hatchery is run by volunteer community members. If you would like to join us, we invite you to visit us at Mossom Creek. We are open to the public every Sunday from 11:00am to 1:30pm. If you're interested, let's discuss what volunteer opportunities are the best fit for your skills, availability and aspirations. Our forest location's street address is 12 Mossom Creek Dr. Website: mossomcreek.org

How to donate

Your donation will help make a difference through local environmental stewardship each and every day. Donate online at mossomcreek.org

Our history

When the project began in 1976, there were no salmon to be seen in Mossom Creek. What began as a high school club grew into a large and vibrant community organization managed by the Burrard Inlet Marine Enhancement Society. After the original building was devastated by fire in December 2013, donors & community members stepped up to help volunteers rebuild and re-open the hatchery and education centre in May 2015.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of volunteers, there is now a strong run of Chum salmon and an increasing run of Coho and Pink salmon in Mossom Creek. We also restore salmon runs in other Port Moody streams, to reinvigorate the biodiversity of these watersheds.

With countless young people mentored towards rewarding environmental careers, Mossom's educational legacy is nationally recognized.

In 2025, an endowment fund was established to safeguard against future challenges.

Our Board of Directors

Co-Founders and Directors:	
Ruth Foster	Rod MacVicar
Directors:	
Kevin Ryan	Neil Laffra
Brian Woods	Howard Davies
Greg Frank	Serena Moore
Jennifer Madoc-Jones	Alisa Preston
Kamil Szlachta	

Contact us

Burrard Inlet Marine Enhancement Society
Mailing address: 300 Ioco Rd, Port Moody, BC V3H 2V7
info@mossomcreek.org

Mossom Creek Hatchery Strategic Plan 2025 - 2030



This strategic plan sets out the organization's purpose, vision and goals.

- Help us bring this plan to life by...
- sharing your thoughts
 - volunteering with us
 - donating to support our mission



Awards associated with Mossom Creek Hatchery

- > Awards to Centennial School Salmon Project, Mossom Creek Hatchery, Ruth Foster, Rod MacVicar
- > City of Port Moody Environmental Awards: 1992 Foster and MacVicar, 2000 Mossom Creek Hatchery, 2005 Jim Mattson, 2009 Ruth Foster, 2012 Rod MacVicar, 2016 Neil Laffra, 2019 Kevin Ryan, 2020 Aniela Guzikowski, 2024 Jennifer Madoc-Jones
- > City of Port Moody Peter Hulbert Accessibility Award 2017 to Mossom Creek Hatchery
- > City of Port Moody Exemplary Civic Service Award to 2015 Pat Dennett
- > North American winner of the N.B.A. Team-Up Award via Vancouver Grizzlies 1993
- > BC Minister of Environment Award 1993
- > BC Gas Environment Award 1997
- > VanCity Environmental Educator Award 1998
- > Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal 2013
- > Fisheries & Oceans Award of Excellence in Salmonid Enhancement 1992
- > Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in Math, Science and Technology 1994
- > Canadian Environment Award, Gold Recipient, for Environmental Learning 2006
- > Murray A. Newman Award, Vancouver Aquarium, for excellence in marine education 2001
- > Blanche Hornbeck / Roger Tory Peterson International Award for Environmental Education 2010
- > Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Gold Certification 2024
- > Tri-Cities Spirit of Community Award 1997
- > Tri-City Reach Award for Mentoring Youth in 2008
- > Kees Vermeer International Award 2001
- > Paul Harris Community Awards, Rotary Club 2016



Mossom Creek Hatchery Strategic Plan



A tradition of awards:
Canadian Environmental Award
Prime Minister's Awards & more...

For decades, we have been great at inspiring a life-long love of nature with hands-on experiences, developing environmental champions, engaging youth in volunteerism and nurturing inquisitive minds. We have mentored many young people who have gone on to rewarding environmental careers.

Our Vision: *We inspire environmental awareness, enrich community life and protect ecosystems.*

Governance

- Succession planning
- Consider paid positions
- Nurture new volunteers
- Focus on new retirees / youth
- Clearly define volunteer roles
- Advertise staff / volunteer needs
- Provide reference letters for students
- Recognize volunteers at special events
- Conduct stewardship activities
- Educate developers
- Science-based advocacy with all levels of government
- Expand volunteer base



Financial Viability

- Endowment fund initiated June 2025
- Target: stable source to support programs, operations & administration
- Leverage revenue sources
 - Programs
 - Facility rentals for meetings, private celebrations, etc.
 - Tours
 - Grants
 - Film location rental
 - Annual fundraising dinner
 - Family movie night
 - Rentals: programs, yoga, painting
 - Swag: T shirts, colouring books, cards
- Show value for \$ donated
- Feedback to donors



Our three Pillars

Education

We educate youth, developers and the public with SD43 school programs, project reviews seminars and workshops about aquatic ecosystems and their conservation.

Salmon Enhancement

We protect and enhance the environment by conserving and restoring aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity in Burrard Inlet.

Research

We undertake important research projects with scientific partners.

Coho smolt acoustic telemetry tracking with UBC Pacific Salmon Conservation & Ecology Lab and Dr. Scott Hinch, 2023 (published research paper) / Coho PIT tagging study on release sites and returns with UBC and DFO, 2024-2029 / Parental-based DNA tagging coho spawners 2024-2030 / Mossom 2nd Bio Blitz 2023 / Real time Water quality monitoring on construction sites and in stream, a partnership with Flowlink Environmental / Road Salt & Salmon Project 2022-2027 with in-stream data loggers measuring conductivity and temperature plus fry trapping and benthic invertebrate inventories / Water quality monitoring of Mossom and Schoolhouse North Creeks since 2019 with data added to DataStream national database / Trail cam project with 6 cameras capturing wildlife activity and sharing to social media / Dungeness Crab larvae study.



Top Priorities

- Succession planning
- Financial viability
- Newsletter, Instagram, Facebook
- Keep website updated
- Clarify roles & time commitment
- S.O.P's & laminated checklists for key roles: Finance, Hatchery, Operations, Water Quality, Membership
- Mentorship for new volunteers
- Train tour guide hosts
- Keep strategic plan alive
- Hydrology assessment, geology
- Advocate for urban bio-reserve of mudflats

Partnerships

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- School District 43
- City of Port Moody
- Universities (UBC, SFU, BCIT) to collaborate on research projects
- Pacific Salmon Foundation
- Hakai Institute
- Corporations and Industry
- Seniors
- MEDUSA, Marine Educational Services
- Pacific WildLife Foundation
- Heritage Woods Secondary - students assist with spawner counts
- Invite City environmental staff to participate in field activities



Communications

- Website rebuilt 2024
- On-line membership system
- On-site point of sale terminal (Square)
- Monthly or quarterly newsletter
- Increase use of social media
- Add blog to website
- Increase community outreach
- Attract retirees & youth
- Recruit hosts for Salmon Sundays
- Mossom endowment fund brochure
- Maintain contact with local media
- Host Ministerial & other VIP visits
- Speakers at workshops & Sundays
- Participate in Farmers' Markets, Fingerling Festival, etc.
- Mossom general info brochure and business cards



Committees – Priorities

Finance

- Management team
- Fundraising team

Major Events

- 10-year anniversary 2025
- 50-year anniversary 2026
- Bioblitz 2028

Operations

- Facility upkeep team
- Salmon rearing team: needs to expand

Communications / Marketing

- Need to create communications & marketing team
- Publish regular newsletter and blog

Education

- Programs – on site & at schools
- Community outreach and Salmon Sundays – need hosts

you only care about what you know about