



# Lifeline

Aquatic News for British Columbia & the Yukon

## Multicultural Drowning Prevention

A recent study commissioned by the Lifesaving Society shows that new Canadians are over four times more likely to drown than those born in Canada, emphasizing the need for water safety education targeted to reach new immigrants. For the full report and to access boat safety tips in 33 languages, check the home page at [lifesaving.bc.ca](http://lifesaving.bc.ca)

## Did You Know...

...We are pleased to welcome the new Communications Coordinator, Sandra Ferguson. This position is new and includes coordination of the WaterWise Team, representing the Lifesaving Society through media, at tradeshow and community involvement. She successfully coordinated the AdventureSmart program for the past 5 years while working at the B.C. & Yukon Branch office.



Each summer the WaterWise Boat Safety Team educates the public about the importance of boating and water safety. With continued support from the BC Marine Trades Association and their Discover Boating campaign, the Team provides safe boating information to elementary students, by attending community events and being on the water. The Team attended the first annual 'Ready, Set, Inflate' event on May 20 in support of setting the world record of inflatable lifejackets. Over 60 participants graced the steps at the Vancouver Art Gallery joining hundreds of others around the world. Follow the WaterWise Team's progress this summer on their website, [waterwiseteam.ca](http://waterwiseteam.ca) or on Facebook, type in WaterWise Boat Safety Team.

## LANGARA COLLEGE RECREATION LEADERSHIP

Recruiting for the September 2010 term of the two-year Recreation Leadership Diploma Program is now underway. Langara College is looking for people who are grade 12 graduates and are passionate about making a difference in their communities through recreational activities and services. Further information can be obtained by calling Vince Kreiser, Assistant Department Chair (Ph.604-323-5276) or by viewing their website at; [www.langara.bc.ca/](http://www.langara.bc.ca/)

## HEAD LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

The Head Lifeguard course is designed as entry level training for lifeguards that are or will be responsible for the front line supervision of deck staff. You can contact the office for more information, e-mail [assistant@lifesaving.bc.ca](mailto:assistant@lifesaving.bc.ca)

## BACKYARD POOL SAFETY

Summer is a time for fun in the sun, but it's important to protect everyone in backyard pools. The fence surrounding your pool should be a minimum of 2 metres high with a self closing gate that locks. All pool areas should have posted rules, lights that penetrate to the bottom if used at night, depth markers and buoy line to divide deep & shallow sections, easily accessible reaching assists and an emergency telephone within sight with emergency numbers posted. Always supervise pool use, especially children and make sure weak swimmers remain in shallow water, watching them closely.



For more information, visit the Lifesaving Society's website, click on Be WaterSmart, Summer Safety!

## NATIONAL DROWNING PREVENTION WEEK - JULY 17-24

From water safety behavior, open water swimming, safe boating and fishing to ice safety, cold weather incidents and water rescue, YOU can make a difference. Refer to the National Drowning Prevention Week Activity Guide or contact the Branch for more information.

## NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Congratulations to members of teams representing this Branch at recent national lifeguard competitions. Barnsley winners, Fantastic 4 of Surrey, competed in the Canadian Lifeguard Emergency Response Championship and a Vancouver Lifeguard Association team showed very well in the Canadian Pool Lifesaving Championship.



## 2010 COMPETITIONS

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| July 17 - UBC Competition, UBC   | August 14 - 9th Annual Langley Lifeguard Competition, Walnut Grove Community Centre |
| July 24 - Schon Cup Waterfront Lifeguard Competition, Kitsilano Beach, Vancouver | August 21 - VLA Lifeguard Competition, Vancouver                                    |
| August 7 - Surrey Lifeguard Competition, Surrey Sport & Leisure Complex          | August 27-28 - Barnsley Branch Championship, Coquitlam                              |