



2019 Annual Report

LIFESAVING SOCIETY

BC & YUKON BRANCH

LIFESAVING SOCIETY
The Lifesaving Society

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The Lifesaving Society Is

The national, not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization that has been training swimmers to be Lifesavers, Lifeguards, and Instructors in Canada since 1908 and in BC since 1911.

Dedicated to the prevention of incidents and the saving of life in aquatic environments across Canada.

A member of the Royal Life Saving Society Commonwealth organization and the Canadian representative in the International Life Saving Federation.

The Lifesaving Society Aims

- Promote public awareness and understanding of the responsibility every Canadian assumes when working or playing in an aquatic environment.
- Provide educational opportunities for preparing swimmers to be lifesavers and for training highly skilled lifeguards.
- Pursue research to enhance and support the continuing development of its programs and to maintain technical excellence.
- Provide consultation services for educational, recreational and health agencies in communities throughout the country.

Lifesaving Society - BC & Yukon Branch

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President's Message

In my second and final year serving as your Branch President, I am pleased to report that 2019 was another active and productive year.

It began on a positive note at the March AGM with Branch members approving an updated version of Branch bylaws to more accurately reflect the current Branch function. The following day saw many worthy volunteers and rescuers receive awards at our 107th Honour & Rescue Award Ceremony. A special touch to the event was the distinction of having the

Yukon Commissioner, Her Honour Angélique Bernard in attendance.

In regard to Branch Board activities, thanks to the human resources expertise of our Branch Governor, Nicole Liddell, the board undertook a skills inventory to determine areas of strength and areas needing additional input or training of current board members. This will serve the Branch well in years to come ensuring a balanced talent pool at the leadership level.

Also accomplished in 2019 was the initiative to establish a Finance Committee to support the good work of our long-time Treasurer, John MacRitchie. With the financial growth of the Branch and the desire to continue pursuing alternate sources of revenue, this was seen as a prudent move.

In my role as Member Representative at the national level, I was pleased to act on behalf of the Branch while also being called upon as Chair of the national group to facilitate the resolution of some difficult issues with the national Board of Directors. I am pleased to report that the result is positive and the national Board can continue its focus on our drowning prevention mission.

In stepping away from the Branch President role, I wish to acknowledge the excellent commitment and collaboration of our Branch Board of Directors and so many other loyal volunteers that make this Branch the success it is. Our Branch staff also continue to lead the way to ensure we serve our Affiliates and members in the best way possible through excellent leadership and expertise in all areas of our operation.

As I look forward to promoting the work of the Lifesaving Society for years to come, I am confident the Branch will be well-served going forward by its Board and leadership from President Elect Jeffrey Holland. Thank you for your support!

Peter Fox, Branch President

Branch Presidents

Frederick William Burrows	1923 - 1925	Margaret Jean Lathwell	1972 - 1976
William Reid Owen	1925 - 1926	Nestor Nick Korchinsky	1976 - 1980
Frederick William Burrows	1926 - 1930	Dan E. Moon	1980 - 1982
Alfred H. J. Swencisky	1930 - 1932	Doreen Drysdale	1982 - 1987
Lestock Charles Reid	1932 - 1933	Ellen Lloyd	1987 - 1992
George Alexander Burrows	1933 - 1934	Julia Oulton	1992 - 1994
Gordon Vance	1934 - 1937	Ron Aubrey	1994 - 1996
Thomas M. Galloway	1937 - 1938	Tony Toriglia	1996 - 1998
Lestock Charles Reid	1938 - 1940	Heather Straight	1998 - 2000
John Lawrence Lugin	1940 - 1942	Nicole Liddell	2000 - 2002
Rollie S. Henderson	1942 - 1945	Ian Robertson	2002 - 2004
Gordon Vance	1945 - 1946	Dan Galazka	2004 - 2006
Edward Frank Forsyth	1946 - 1947	Sean Healy	2006 - 2008
George Alexander Burrows	1947 - 1948	Craig Amundsen	2008 - 2010
John Thomas Kelly	1948 - 1957	Len Manuel	2010 - 2012
H. Douglas Whittle	1957 - 1966	Dalyce Brandt	2012 - 2014
George Alexander Burrows	1966 - 1968	Michael Lawless	2014 - 2016
R. Gordon Edmonds	1968 - 1969	Heidi Ogilvie	2016 - 2018
James Bertram Snelgrove	1969 - 1970	Peter Fox	2018 - present
Maxwell E. Gordon	1970 - 1972		

Branch Governors

Alfred H.J. Swencisky	Dates unconfirmed
Major-General John M. Rockingham	1980 - 1983
George A. Brown	1988 - 1994
Peter Legge	1995 - 1997
Jon MacKinnon	1997 - 2008
Ian Robertson	2008 - 2017
Nicole Liddell	2017 - present



Nicole Liddell, Branch Governor



Executive Director Report

Each year brings its own set of successes and challenges that keeps our work in drowning prevention interesting and motivating. It was no different in 2019.

Early in the year, recognizing the need for more lifeguards throughout the Branch, the Lifesaving Society initiated a presence at 5 Career & Education Fairs in collaboration with Red Cross. Many Affiliates supported us with handout materials and personnel to man the booths. With the great interest shown by students attending the fairs, we hope to see more recruits and more applicants in the future for the

fulfilling jobs that aquatic recreation provides.

The program component of the Branch was overly active as always with ongoing development of leadership courses and resources as well as preparing for Bronze revisions. The Program Advisory Group has provided great support for the tireless work, expertise and energy we see from our Education Director, Brooke Cherfils in leading the group by ensuring integrity and high quality programs.

Safety management services continues to grow through the provision of an increasing number of audits as well as enhanced program offerings. We continue to benefit from Cheryl Sibany's experience and passion for safety in pools and on waterfronts. Her leadership in developing Lifesaving Sport also culminated in the Branch becoming recognized as the Provincial Sport Organization, a significant milestone.

In support of the Swim to Survive program, we were most pleased to receive a \$10,000 grant from the YVR for Kids Foundation. This allowed us to provide 12 communities with kits containing materials to provide Swim to Survive training to community members of all ages. The response was overwhelming with all recipients keen to make the most of the opportunity.

The 2019 edition of the biennial Ripple Effects Provincial Aquatics Conference was a resounding success with a record number of over 150 delegates attending. As a partner in the conference, the Lifesaving Society played a prominent role with a very active booth as well as many speakers either representing the Society or referencing our programs and safety management services.

And while we hold our collective breath each year hoping there will be no drownings, we came closest ever to that goal in 2019 with what preliminary numbers show will be under 40 drownings. We hope that people are being more WaterSmart and taking note of our public education messaging and training but whatever the reason, the trend is certainly a positive one that we hope will continue.

I wish to acknowledge the hard work of Branch office staff through 2019, especially in light of having one less full-time position and having many new challenges to address. We are fortunate to have a highly committed and skilled staff team that is very much supported by a cast of loyal volunteers. My sincere thanks to all of you as we continue to strive toward a Canada free from drowning in 2020 and beyond.

Dale Miller, Executive Director



Education Director Report

Building on past progress, the momentum of program development in 2019 was again moving at a fast pace.

March training and subsequent mentoring saw the culmination of National Trainers being certified in each region of the Branch. They are now committed volunteers representing the Branch and helping to support and mentor Instructors and Trainers in their region as we work towards a robust Leadership compliment throughout the province and territory. National Trainers additionally provide program quality assurance as well as regional program-related Affiliate support.

They are a dynamic and skilled team that will continue to ensure excellence in our program delivery.

Program Advisory Group Co-chairs, Kyle Kronebusch and Krista Mueller, continued to do an excellent job of keeping the group on track and meeting important project timelines such as launching the National Competency-based Leadership system. It was a paradigm shift for many that needed some coaching and adaptation but was mostly appreciated as a positive step based on current educational practices and encouraging instructor accountability.

We were excited to launch our new First Aid Programs on July 1, 2019 with many Affiliates picking them up to provide the lifesaving knowledge to their patrons. There is a new look and feel to the resources for candidates as well as increased teaching aids for instructors. As a result of the positive relationship built with WorkSafeBC through the process of obtaining OFA equivalency, the Branch was invited to provide input to revise WorkSafeBC Program Standards. We also provided input to the Ministry of Health during their process of updating child and residential care legislation.

In anticipation of the 2020 launch of a revised Bronze Cross to serve as Assistant Lifeguard training, this year saw a review of the National Lifeguard program to ensure it is current and aligned with the revised Bronze Family. The Assistant Lifeguard designation is an exciting step forward to help stimulate the training of new lifeguards.

An advance in the National Lifeguard program saw all NL Instructors certified as Recert Conductors, thereby eliminating the need for a separate clinic (certification). NLI recertification also included a heightened focus on scanning and observation skills as well as more emphasis on most effective lifeguard positioning and rotation.

In closing, I wish to highly commend the collaboration and teamwork shown by our National Trainers, Program Advisory Group members and so many other committed volunteers who act as champions of our work in providing the best lifesaving programs possible. We could not do it without you!

Brooke Cherfils, Education Director

Lifesaving Sport & Lifeguard Competitions

Group Chair:

Anita Chevalier

Staff

Representative:

Cheryl Sibany



In 2019 the sport of lifesaving in this Branch received a major boost by securing recognition by viaSport BC as being the Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) for Lifesaving Sport. This is a transformative event that will allow us to grow the sport with professional expertise from British Columbia's sports leader.

We invite athletes, coaches and parents to participate in exciting events during the upcoming year such as the Junior and Open Pool and Waterfront Competitions as well as the revival of the once famous Open Water Swim event. Please go to the Competition Calendar on our website to see more information on these events.

As a result of the work and promotion by the Lifesaving Sport Advisory Group (LSAG), the Branch has now registered over 20 Lifesaving Clubs for the 2019-20 season. A special thanks for the leadership of Anita Chevalier (Chair) and the LSAG team in accomplishing this objective.

Early in the year we are also looking to fill the 2020 Lifeguard Competition calendar with regional competitions as well as hosts for the 2021 events. Regional competitions were very strong in 2019 with many first-time competitors experiencing the fun and learning inherent in these events. Congratulations to all those who organized and volunteered at regional events, supported by the expertise of our Competition Chair Kim TownSchon and the Competition Committee.

Unfortunately, we were unable to run the Barnsley Branch Lifeguard Championship in 2019 despite having the City of Richmond step forward as host. As a result of feedback received, the 2020 edition will move to an early Spring date and the program of events will be condensed into a single intense day of competition. A huge thanks to the City of Vancouver for stepping up to host the 2020 Barnsley Branch Lifeguard Championship on Saturday, March 28 at the stunning Hillcrest Aquatic Centre.

Cheryl Sibany, Manager of Safety Services & Sport & **Anita Chevalier**, Sport Advisory Group Chair

Train With Purpose



Aquatic Safety Management

In 2019 the Branch continued to add to the suite of Aquatic Safety Management resources available to our Affiliates and all pool and waterfront owners and operators.

Supervision Evaluation and Enhancement (SEE) auditor training was added to all National Lifeguard Instructor courses to create a team of SEE instructors for all Affiliates. It is exciting to witness the growth of expertise in our leadership award holders.

After much development work through 2019, we will soon launch the new Aquatic Manager Training (AMT) course in April 2020. This course is designed to provide important up-to-date information to pool managers without an aquatics background and to those returning to this area of recreation management.

Through great Affiliate collaboration, we are pleased to also be able to provide a new inservice training package entitled The Impact of Drowning. It is available to Affiliates at no charge and was jointly developed through resources shared by the Ontario Branch and assistance from Kimiko Young and the Aquatic Management Team at the City of Delta.

Aquatic facilities in the BC & Yukon Branch are proactive in their approach to managing risk. In 2019 the Branch completed safety audits for 10 swimming pools, 1 waterfront, a Pool Safety Plan review and an architectural plan review, as well as completing several SEE Audits. Our thanks to all those Auditors, Inspectors and Apprentices who worked so hard to complete these projects.

The BC & Yukon Branch contributes to the National Aquatic Safety Standards Commission by participating in the development of new standards. These are available on the Lifesaving Society national website. Our thanks to Past President Sean Healy for his continued contributions to this important work and representing the Branch as a member of the National Commission.

The Branch Aquatic Safety Standards group of experts includes Sean Healy, Denise Yoroff, Past President Tony Toriglia, Ruth Depew, and Melina Sweezey led by Chair (also a Past President), Len Manuel. This group has been hard at work reviewing, revising and creating new documents in 2019 including the revised BC & Yukon Waterfront Guidelines. Their work and commitment to aquatic safety is highly valued and much appreciated!

Len Manuel, Aquatic Safety Management Advisory Group Chair

Program Advisory Group Report



Co-Chairs:

Kyle Kronebusch,
Krista Mueller

Committee Members:

Judi Ambrozaitis-Torrao, Michelle Blanchard, Pete Chen, Veronica Grusnick, Karen Hillmann, Riley Huntley, Jacob Hutton, Emma Jacobsen, James Jing, Julie Kaufman, Albert Kho, Marg Kovacs, Elaine Leong, Sasha Maleki, David Russell, Craig Short, Bethany Worthington

Staff Representative: Brooke Cherfils, Education Director

The Program Advisory Group furthers the work of the Branch in the promotion and development of Lifesaving, First Aid, and Lifeguarding programs through active participation in program development. The Program Advisory Group members were hard at work throughout 2019 with the following projects having been completed:

- National Lifeguard Pool/Waterpark Precertification/Recertification Guide (2019-2021)
- National Lifeguard Waterfront/Surf Precertification/Recertification Guide (2019-2021)
- NL Instructor Recertification (2019-2021) Resources
- NL Recertification Conductor Apprenticeship Package (2019-2021)
- Updating the National Lifeguard Pool Option Dry/Wet Time Guidelines
- Lifesaving First Aid Program Launch
 - New PowerPoints
 - New Time Guidelines
 - New Instructor Resources
- First Aid Instructor Transition/Recertification (2019-2022) Resources
- Review of the new Leadership First Aid Instructor course pilot
- Research on Lifeguard Liability

The work of this group and the expertise provided in supporting continual development and upgrading of Lifesaving Society programs is essential to ensuring their quality and value to the field of aquatics. Close collaboration with staff in accomplishing this objective is invaluable.

Thank you to all Program Advisory Group members for their volunteer efforts in the completion of our projects and initiatives. We look forward to welcoming a new term of members starting in March, 2020.

Kyle Kronebusch & Krista Mueller, Program Advisory Group Co-Chairs



Competition Committee Report

It has been another interesting year for competition with regional comps thriving, but interest at the Branch level declining. Regrettably, the Barnsley Branch Lifeguard Championship had to be cancelled in August, something we hope to avoid in the future through input from competitors and judges as well as a review of scheduling.

In discussion with Branch office staff, as well as input from athletes and judges, the Committee is continuing to make changes to improve interest and revitalize competition such as:

- All athletes and judges will continue to be required to register, either through a previous event or by pre-event registration package allowing better tracking of active participants and improved communication.
- Officials training will be rolled out in 2020 allowing them to maintain a level of certification to be considered for specific roles. Details will follow as the roll-out begins.
- The Barnsley event will now be one day event with no Preliminary situations; all events will be finals (except Individual First Aid). This should reduce the commitment required by athletes and judges in the hope of increasing participation.
- As implemented in 2018, Bronze Cross candidates will continue to be able to participate in the Barnsley Championship (some restrictions apply). This will match the roll-out of the Assistant Lifeguard in 2020 and should increase the number of potential athletes.
- The Simulated Emergency Response Circuit aggregate will continue to be based on the Barnsley event. Each 'year' of the circuit will start after Barnsley and proceed until the next Barnsley event. All eligible Regional competitions will continue to qualify for the Circuit allowing calendar space to spread out events or run them at different times of year.
- Branch competition dates will be adjusted to better align with their equivalent national championship to all Branch teams to be better prepared, such as:
 - Barnsley Championship to move to early Spring allowing teams more time to focus on regional competitions and training prior to the Branch Championship.
 - Perks Cup will run in Spring
 - Schon Cup will run in late Summer
- Junior Lifeguard events may be held to coincide with Branch Championships to help bolster participation until running a separate event is feasible. This will help both streams of competition grow and help link the progression of athletes and judges.
- A Committee will select the Team to represent the Branch at Nationals using clearer selection criteria to ensure a transparent process.

As always, the volunteers on the Competition Committee are committed to fostering competition in BC & Yukon. We are always looking for help, either with a project or by joining the Committee. If you are passionate about competition and want to help shape the future of the sport in our Branch, let us know. Send inquiries and comments to guardcomps@lifesaving.bc.ca.

Kim TownSchon, Competition Committee Chair

Lifesaving Society Core Program Stats

		2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
LIFESAVING	Canadian Swim Patrol	1,601	1,222	1,890	1,287	1,640
	Bronze Star	1,025	1,013	875	894	1,010
	Bronze Medallion	4,043	4,107	3,708	3,686	3,877
	Bronze Cross	3,401	3,385	3,065	3,182	3,275
	Total Lifesaving	10,070	9,727	9,538	9,049	9,802
FIRST AID	AED	142	531	539	633	809
	CPR	2,248	2,671	2,597	2,132	2,723
	Aquatic Emergency Care	48	126	132	97	167
	Health Care Provider/Basic Life Support Responder	1,117	1,233	1,252	687	656
	Emergency First Aid	3,408	3,812	3,257	2,412	1,657
	Standard First Aid	3,466	4,063	4,021	2,923	2,486
	Total First Aid	10,429	12,436	11,798	8,884	8,498
NATIONAL LIFEGUARD	National Lifeguard	1,834	1,645	1,525	1,675	1,568
	National Lifeguard Recert	2,362	2,644	2,287	2,474	2,309
	National Lifeguard Waterpark	399	388	333	370	382
	National Lifeguard Waterpark Recert	381	416	357	390	354
	National Lifeguard Waterfront	83	79	86	110	60
	National Lifeguard Waterfront Recert	106	118	92	99	100
	National Lifeguard Surf	23	6	7	10	0
	Total National Lifeguard	5,188	5,296	4,687	5,128	4,773
LEADERSHIP	Lifesaving Instructor	426	543	408	510	438
	Lifesaving Instructor Recert	221	589	870	565	942
	National Lifeguard Instructor Course	27	34	14	36	6
	First Aid Instructor Course	10	53	20	53	31
	Lifesaving Instructor Trainer	81	28	0	10	11
	Total Leadership	765	1,247	1,312	1,174	1,497
SAFETY MANAGEMENT	SEE (Supervision Evaluation Enhancement)	230	142	27	---	---
	AST (Aquatic Supervisor Training)	32	22	---	---	---
	Aquatic Safety Inspector	12	14	19	---	---
	Aquatic Safety Auditor	---	8	---	---	---
	Total Safety Management	274	186	46	---	---
CORE	Total Core Programs	26,726	28,913	27,388	24,258	24,643

Statement of Financial Position

		OPERATING FUND	
		2019	2018
CURRENT ASSETS	Cash & equivalents	34,223	83,423
	Accounts receivable	97,213	185,090
	Interfund receivables	760	---
	Inventory	69,186	59,748
	Prepaid expenses	485	4,061
	Total Assets	201,867	332,322
CURRENT LIABILITIES	Bank indebtedness	---	---
	Accounts payable	25,918	3,818
	Interfund payable	19,401	16,362
	Deferred revenue	54,500	84,425
	Total Current Liabilities	99,819	104,605
FUNDS BALANCE	Balance at beginning of year	227,717	83,014
	Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	(38,484)	(52,380)
	Inter fund transfers	(87,185)	197,083
	Balance at end of year	102,048	227,717
	Total Liabilities & Funds Balance	201,867	332,322
RECEIPTS	Administration	127,114	157,059
	Awards	590,000	578,435
	Donations	1,690	---
	Literature Sales	346,723	293,059
	Merchandise sales	90,158	95,934
	Outreach funding	426,425	459,938
	Total Receipts	1,582,110	1,584,425
DISBURSEMENTS	Accounting and legal	12,810	21,183
	AdventureSmart expenses	397,209	382,457
	Advertising and promotion	10,768	13,308
	Bad debts	0	0
	Bank charges and interest	14,460	12,617
	Committees and events	76,684	97,115
	Cost of sales and awards	317,039	318,703
	Equipment and repairs	6,137	7,084
	Insurance	18,858	16,712
	Office and miscellaneous	51,554	54,382
	Postage and shipping	37,872	26,918
	Premises	29,570	27,668
	Salaries and benefits	569,224	571,008
	Supplies	7,610	7,695
	Technology upgrades	20,365	24,922
	Telephone	10,645	8,384
	Travel and accommodation	39,789	46,649
	Total Disbursements	1,620,594	1,636,805
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements		(38,484)	(52,380)

Affiliate Recognition Awards

Each year the Lifesaving Society recognizes facilities that provide our programs. Certificates are issued to facilities certifying the most candidates in each program stream based on population.

2019 Affiliate Award Recipients

Bronze Program

Over 175,000	Jewish Community Centre (LIT Aquatics)
100,000 – 175,000	Walnut Grove Community Centre, Langley
50,000 – 100,000	Nanaimo Aquatic Centre
20,000 – 50,000	West Vancouver Aquatic Centre
Less than 20,000	Brennan Park Leisure Centre, Squamish

Lifesaving Instructor Courses and Recerts

Over 175,000	C.G. Brown Pool, Burnaby
100,000 – 175,000	Kelowna Family YMCA
50,000 – 100,000	Prince George Aquatic Centre
20,000 – 50,000	West Vancouver Aquatic Centre
Less than 20,000	Sam Lindsay Aquatic Centre, Kitimat

National Lifeguard Course and Recerts

Over 175,000	Jewish Community Centre (LIT Aquatics)
100,000 – 175,000	City Centre Aquatic Complex, Coquitlam
50,000 – 100,000	Four Seasons Leisure Pool, Prince George
20,000 – 50,000	West Vancouver Aquatic Centre
Less than 20,000	Cranbrook Aquatic Centre

First Aid Courses and Recerts

Over 175,000	Link2Life, Vancouver
100,000 – 175,000	Life Preservers, North Vancouver
50,000 – 100,000	Four Seasons Leisure Pool, Prince George
20,000 – 50,000	Vernon Aquatic Centre
Less than 20,000	Pacific Alpine Institute, Whistler

Seasonal Pools

Lower Mainland	Eagle Ridge Pool, Coquitlam
Outside LM	Golden & District Community Complex
Camp	Camp Hatikvah, Oyama

Individual Affiliates

First Aid	David Russell
Lifesaving	Shandy Kariatsumari

Instructor Recognition Awards

A new instructor is defined as an individual who was certified in the last two calendar years in one of the 3 program streams; Lifesaving Instructor, NL Instructor and First Aid Instructor. We recognize new instructors in each region of the Branch.

2019 Instructor Recognition Award Recipients

New Lifesaving Instructor

Aida Abboud	Lower Mainland
Kyrra Demers	North
Seth Suttill	Thompson Okanagan
Taylor Holt	Kootenays
Hugh Joly	Vancouver Island

New National Lifeguard Instructor

Sim Gurm	Lower Mainland
Kaitlan Howard	Thompson Okanagan
Jonathan Noone	Vancouver Island

New First Aid Instructor

Rachel Dvir	Lower Mainland
Riley Huntley	North
Kara Brissette	Kootenays
Shandy Kariatsumari	Vancouver Island

DB Perks Scholarship



After enjoying his days as a lifeguard in Burnaby and a national level competitive swimmer at SFU, Doug Perks continues to give back to the aquatics field through scholarships to support aquatic staff in pursuing post-secondary education. The three awards of \$1,000 in 2019 mark the 25th year of the scholarship through which Doug has contributed nearly \$50,000 to 89 recipients.

His generosity is evident not only through the Lifesaving Society scholarships, but also through many other initiatives Doug supports with several other organizations. He often expresses his appreciation for what the aquatics field has given him as his motivation to give back to others.

2020 DB Perks Scholarship Recipients

Ceilidh Robertson-Jones
Victoria

Elliott Gee
Burnaby

Natalia Lupynis
Richmond

Previous Award Recipients

2019

Katie Bowers, Victoria
Michelle Jun, Port Coquitlam
Rachel Way, New Westminster

2018

Riley Huntley, Surrey
Jamie Magrill, Richmond
Sarah Schlatter, Victoria

2017

Martin Chan, Richmond
Anthony Lee, Burnaby
Lindsay Munroe, Coquitlam
Sarah Schlatter, Victoria
Becky Tomlin, Whitehorse

2016

Timothy Bientjes, Kamloops
Matteo Ferraresso, Burnaby
Wyatt Henry, Kamloops
Sienna Joyce, Port Moody
Ryan Wilmink, Vancouver

2015

Rachel Hennig, Langley
Julie Kaufman, Vancouver
Anna Legault, Victoria
Michelle Lukas, Vancouver
Rebecca Roy, Kamloops

2014

Claire Bruce, Prince George
Marc Lacroix, Surrey
Cameron Meldrum, Chilliwack
Julia Sharma, Burnaby
Amanda Tuey, Burnaby

2013

Vanessa Butler, Surrey
Sheena Fulop, Pender Island
Melissa Gillespie, Saanichton
Colin Pistawka, Kelowna

2012

Noel Lai, Vancouver
Sasha Maleki, Coquitlam
Amanda Penny, Williams Lake
David Slade, Delta

2011

Veronica Grusnick, Surrey
Emily Hails, Coldstream
Cailey Hume, Sparwood
Ben Tettamanti, Vancouver

2010

Leo Chan, Coquitlam
Christian Gotengco, Vancouver
Brittany Hollett, Kamloops
Brittany Williams, Surrey

2009

Natasha Corewyn, Vancouver
Eric Iadarola, Kamloops
Jerry Michael, Victoria
Quinn Yu, Surrey

2008

Lisa Flegel, Bella Coola
Jamie Lee McSweeney
John-Jose Nunez
Adam Pospisil

2007

Sarah Glenn, Ladysmith
Yvonne Gomez, Victoria
Jessamyn Logan, Saanich
Amanda Lust, Penticton

2006

Janet Maxsted, Kelowna
Ashley Rota, Vancouver
Christina Smirl, Sooke

2005

Sven Bellamy, Burnaby
Jen Brett, Savona
Lois Moore, Whitehorse

2004

Natasha Files, Surrey
Janice Newkirk, Hagensborg
Ryan Radford, Vancouver

2003

Candace Brown, New
Westminster
Brian Campbell, West
Vancouver
Trevor Roy, Kelowna

2002

Sarah Canning, North
Vancouver
Nicholas Crump, Surrey
Kaitlin Pasqualotto, Trail

2001

Christine Anderson, 150 Mile
House
Robert Cousins, Port Alice
Kim Townschoon, Crescent
Beach

2000

Kelly Holman, Victoria
April Lacheur, Delta
Ryan Radford, Kelowna

1999

Jason Blood, Nanaimo
Stephanie Eby, Victoria
James Helliwell, Vancouver

1998

Michael Lawless, Victoria
Heather Marshall, Coombs

1997

Carmen De Menech, Abbotsford
Carmen Jackson, Victoria

1996

Gene Benoit, North Vancouver
Rob Evans, Vancouver

1995

Nicole Liddell, Vancouver
Dave Lyon, Burnaby

107th Annual Commonwealth Awards

The Honour and Rescue Awards celebrate the human spirit of giving. The Honour awards praise the dedicated efforts of the Lifesaving Society's volunteers. The Rescue Awards continue the celebration by rewarding people for unselfishness in putting their lives on the line during a water rescue. The selections are made from rescues reported in the news, from individual recommendations and from police reports. Awards presented at the 107th Honour and Rescue Awards Ceremony on March 9, 2019:



Honour Awards

Certificate of Thanks

Daniel Burgi
Anita Chevalier
Nicole Harrison
Riley Huntley
Sasha Maleki
Ryan Scorgie
Trevor Sproule
Cameron Stockdale

Service Medal

Peter Fox
John MacRitchie
Jerry Michael

Bar to Service Medal

Chris Cordova
Jim Davies

Honourary Life Member

Ron Aubrey

President's Plaque

Kyle Kronebusch



107th Annual Commonwealth Awards

Awards presented at the 107th Honour and Rescue Awards Ceremony on March 9, 2019:

Rescue Awards

Silver Medal for Merit

Brent Baker
Jax Burnside
Rochelle Durand
Grant Sawyer

Silver Medal for Bravery

Raymond Avanthay
Hollis Babich
Heather Brekke
Ellen Dewar
Alannah Dobell
Heather Durward
Martin Henderson
David Jensen
Amin Jivraj
Lindsay Klopp
Shaun Koopman
Keri Laughlin
Tasha Cassie (Merit)
Shauna Pearson
Shawn Lowney
Mahmoud Mojoudi
Farshid Zahedi
Amanda Steed
Mackenzie Wensauer

MG Griffiths Award

Ellen Dewar
Alannah Dobell
Martin Henderson
David Jensen
Amin Jivraj
Lindsay Klopp
Shaun Koopman
Keri Laughlin
Mackenzie Wensauer

GA Brown Memorial Medal

Hollis Babich





WaterWise Team

WaterWise Team Celebrates 20 Years with Record Numbers

The 2019 WaterWise Team members included returning 2018 member, Brock Sampson and new addition, Rebecca Robertson. Each added their flair to an impactful 20th season for this important outreach component of the Lifesaving Society's public education campaign.

Reaching thousands of people each summer, the Team travels widely from May to August providing free water and boating safety education to the public through school presentations, high profile and community events, marina visits, seminars, and media coverage.

In May and June, the Team focused on giving presentations to over 7,600 students at 37 schools throughout BC. In addition to school presentations, the Team also attended over 20 community events throughout the months of June, July, and August. When the Team was not presenting or attending events, they could be found offering pleasure craft courtesy checks with support from Transport Canada, visiting local pools in support of the Lifesaving Society Affiliates or at the office preparing for these activities and responding to e-mails.

For the first time in over five years, the WaterWise Team traveled out to the Kootenays to provide Swim to Survive public education and participate in community events in four different Kootenay communities where they received a very warm welcome.

This year the WaterWise Team attended the Richmond Maritime Festival for a day, which was a hugely successful event in the picturesque Steveston area of Richmond. There, the team connected with the Washington State Marine Law Enforcement and continued to share their safety message with the public.

Training and a joint patrol with Transport Canada also saw the WaterWise Team help to provide over 100 safety checks as part of the Pleasure Craft Courtesy Check (PCCC) program at Hayward Lake, Buntzen Lake, Cates Park and Vanier Park.

This year, the WaterWise Team also had the opportunity to partner with KidSafe to provide WaterWise Wisdom presentations at their summer camps in Vancouver to vulnerable children and youth. Many camp groups were heading to the beach later in the wee, so the presentations were very timely.

The 2019 WaterWise Team had a lot of fun meeting new people and talking about what they love --- having fun and being safe on the water.



National Trainers

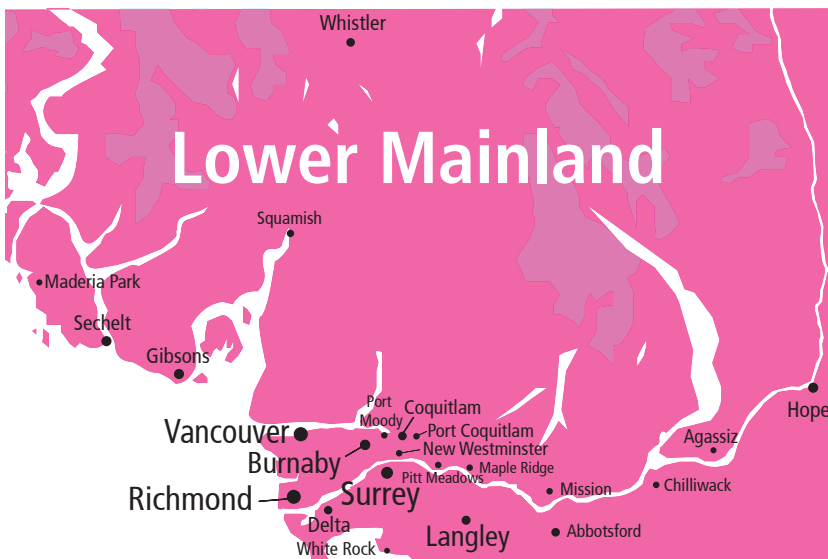
The role of a National Trainer has three key components:

1. Preparing candidates to assume a leadership role as Lifesaving Society Trainers and Instructors.
2. Regional program related Affiliate support.
3. Regional program quality assurance.

Each National Trainer is assigned to one (1) of our six (6) regions. Additionally, each National Trainer is assigned to specific Affiliates in their region so that they are able to liaise with the Branch office to offer the best support for their unique challenges. National Trainers work as a team to train, mentor and oversee the Leadership Development Plans for Instructors and Trainers in their region. For this reason, they will often be referred to as Regional National Trainers on Training Packages and in literature.

LOWER MAINLAND

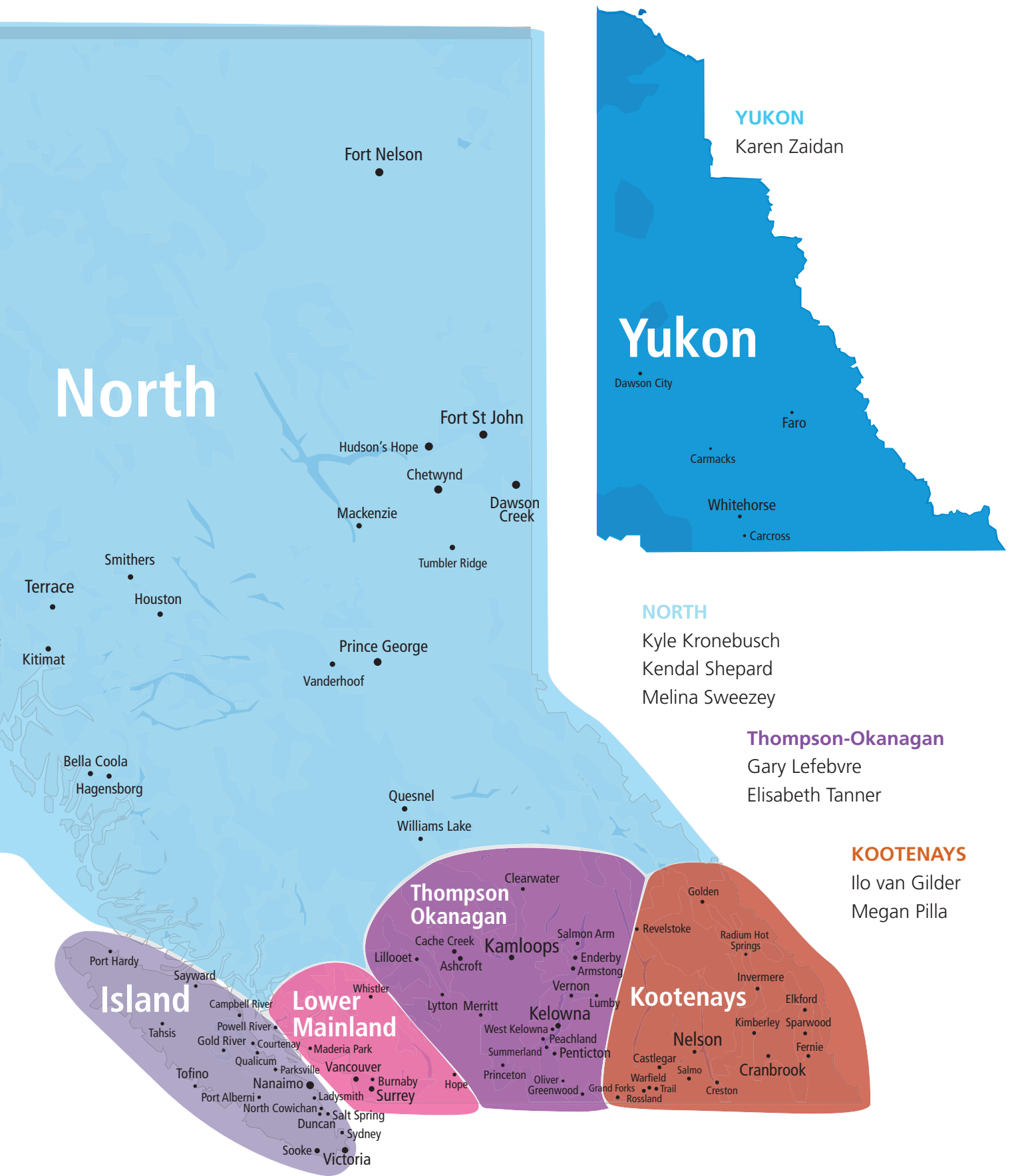
Louise Bishop	Karen Hillmann
Danny Burgi	Craig Short
Jim Davies	Michelle Wilcox
Veronica Grusnick	



Island

Ruth Depew
Denise Yoreff





Swim to Survive Day

Swim to Survive Day is an innovative and barrier-free way to offer the Lifesaving Society's Swim to Survive program to the public in a single session. No community is too big or small to host an event of this kind.

Thanks to a generous \$10,000 grant from the YVR for Kids Foundation, the Lifesaving Society was able to provide 12 communities with kits containing materials to provide Swim to Survive training to community members of all ages. The response was overwhelming with all recipients keen to make the most of the opportunity.





Lifesaving Society BC & Yukon Branch 2019/2020



Board Members, from left to right: Gail Findlay-Shirras, Vice-President; John MacRitchie, Treasurer; Nicole Liddell, Governor; Graham Esplen, Vice-President; Peter Fox, President; Tony Toriglia, Vice-President; Anita Chevalier, Vice-President; Jeffrey Holland, President Elect; Alyson Dewey, Member-at-Large; Chris Cordova, Member-at-Large.

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Nicole Liddell

President

Peter Fox

President Elect

Jeffrey Holland

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Graham Esplen

Tony Toriglia

Gail Findlay-Shirras

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Lauralee March

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Krista Mueller

ASM Services Advisory Group

Len Manuel

Sport Advisory Group

Anita Chevalier

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Kim TownSchon

G.A. Brown Fund

Lori-Ann Drew

Honour Awards

Ron Aubrey

Rescue Awards

Lori-Ann Drew

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Brooke Cherfils

Manager of Safety Services & Sport

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Member Services Coordinator

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Accounts

Stephanie Joh

Member Services

Liza Olendzskaya

Roan Wallace

Ricksa Cardente

Communications Assistant

Elan Appel

Shipping

Ken McLean



BC & Yukon Branch Vision Statement

The BC & Yukon Branch of the Lifesaving Society is an active member of the community dedicated to preventing death and injury in, on, or near the water. We search out opportunities to include everyone as driven by the needs of our community. We endeavour to collaborate with all groups and individuals with like aims. We are a dynamic organization that celebrates growth, flexibility, innovation, excellence and proactive leadership.



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts

