

BC MÉTIS FEDERATION CONSERVATION

JANUARY 2025 BEYOND THE BLUE RECAP

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On January 18th, 2025, the BC Métis Federation's Conservation Department hosted the third annual Beyond the Blue: Conservation Conference at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond, BC. This landmark event brought together conservationists, sustainability advocates, and community members to engage in dynamic discussions and collaborative efforts aimed at advancing environmental stewardship.

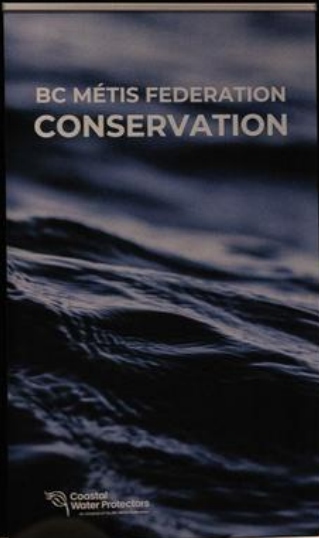
ENGAGING SPEAKERS AND WORKSHOPS

The conference featured six distinguished guest speakers, each offering unique insights into various aspects of conservation and sustainability. Attendees participated in the interactive workshop "Kelp in Hand," which provided a hands-on exploration of kelp ecosystems, emphasizing their ecological importance and the role they play in marine conservation efforts.

INNOVATIVE EXHIBITS AND LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

A highlight of the conference was the presence of the Sea Dome, an immersive experience presented by Ocean Wise. This state-of-the-art, inflatable dome offered attendees a 360-degree visual journey into the depths of the ocean, showcasing marine biodiversity and the impacts of human activity on aquatic life. The Sea Dome experience left participants with a deeper appreciation for marine ecosystems and the urgent need for their protection.





Complementing the presentations and workshops was a convention room featuring 18 small, local sustainable businesses and informational tables. This marketplace allowed attendees to engage directly with local entrepreneurs and organizations dedicated to environmental sustainability. Products ranged from eco-friendly household items to sustainable fashion, providing tangible examples of how individuals can incorporate sustainable practices into their daily lives. Informational tables offered resources on topics such as renewable energy, conservation initiatives, and community programs, further empowering attendees to take actionable steps toward sustainability.

Community Impact and Future Directions

The Beyond the Blue: Conservation Conference served as a catalyst for networking, education, and inspiration among those passionate about environmental stewardship. By facilitating conversations between experts and community members, the conference fostered a collaborative atmosphere aimed at developing innovative solutions to pressing environmental challenges.

The event underscored the BC Métis Federation's commitment to conservation and highlighted the critical role that community engagement plays in achieving sustainability goals.

As the conference concluded, attendees left with a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness between human actions and environmental health. The success of the Beyond the Blue: Conservation Conference sets a promising precedent for future initiatives, reinforcing the importance of collective action in preserving the natural world for generations to come.





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