

# SOAR

In-flight  
Magazine for  
Pacific Coastal  
Airlines

The  
*infinite*  
coast

**Bella Bella &  
Bella Coola**

The land without limits

**Cocktail hour  
in Vancouver**



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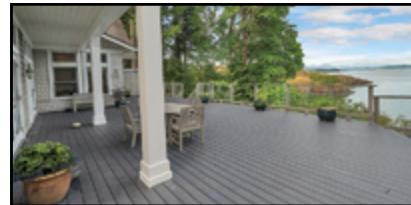


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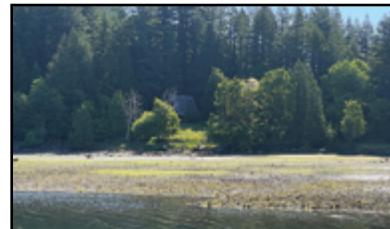
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**Echo Bay Oceanfront Residence**

Watch the whales from this coastal retreat! A turnkey oceanfront 1150sqft modern home with power and water on a 99-year lease that includes moorage at **Echo Bay Marina** just a short walk from the home. Great access to boating and kayaking areas around **Gilford Island, Broughton Archipelago**. So much to explore here!

**\$474,900**

**Mainland Coastal Wilderness**

116 undeveloped acres in **Kingcome Inlet** with approx. 2,915ft of tidal shoreline at the mouth of **Kingcome River**. Varied topography, two water courses, mostly forested. Water access only. This is a magical coastal region, known worldwide for its wildlife, natural beauty and rugged landscapes.

**\$677,000**

**Quadra Island Oceanfront**

3.96 acre property with approx. 1200ft of shoreline in **Granite Bay**. Two titles, power to the lot, domestic water license. Stunning views, gradual slope away from the oceanfront, partially forested. Road access from **Quathiaski Cove** ferry terminal plus there's a community dock in **Granite Bay**. Old A-frame cabin on site not usable.

**\$1,120,000**



**Port Hardy Development Property**

11.5 acres of prime residential land, providing ocean views over **Hardy Bay** and great access to town amenities. Zoning allows for a variety of development opportunities, or for the property to be used as a large rural residential estate. Undeveloped, partially forested, road access, waterfall in NW corner.

**\$599,000**

**Quadra Estates**

Pastoral acreages on the southern shores of **Quadra Island**. Part of a private and peaceful 77 acre development.

SL3: 5 acre highbank oceanfront lot **\$795,000**

SL4: 5 acre highbank oceanfront lot, cleared building site **\$838,000**

SL7: 29.9 acre forested inland lot **\$882,000**

**Campbell River Ocean View Home**

0.76 acre property with modern, welcoming residences, and inviting ocean and mountain views. 2525sqft 3 bed/3 bath main residence built in 2018; 1625sqft 3 bed/3 bath carriage house built in 2020. Extensive lawn, lots of outdoor parking, plus garages on both buildings. Main house has stunning views over **Discovery Passage**.

**\$1,850,000**

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Photo credit: Destination BC/Taylor Burk

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Photo courtesy Botanist Bar



Photo credit: Mount Washington Alpine Resort/Jenn Dykstra

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Kelowna honoured with UNESCO designation

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The image shows a large cable-stayed bridge spanning a wide river, likely the Columbia River, with a town visible on the far bank. In the bottom left corner, there is a small inset map of British Columbia with the city of Trail highlighted in blue and marked with a yellow star. The main text "Explore your TRAIL" is overlaid on the right side of the bridge image.

## AVIATION MILESTONES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**T**he February–March period marks an important time of momentum as we continue to build on the year ahead. With longer daylight hours and a renewed sense of energy, our focus remains clear as we continue to strengthen connections, enhance our services, and support the communities we proudly serve.

Thank you to our valued passengers for the continued trust and support you show us year after year. We are grateful to be part of your journey and remain focused on delivering safe, reliable, and outstanding service every time you fly with us and beyond.

February and March also hold special significance for Canadian aviation. On February 23, we recognize National Aviation Day, a time to honour the past, present, and future of aviation in Canada. This day commemorates J.A.D. McCurdy, who piloted Canada's first powered flight in 1909. As a proudly Canadian airline, we celebrate our aviation pioneers and take great pride in providing safe, reliable air travel throughout British Columbia. Whether you are flying with us for the first time or are a frequent passenger, please know that you are an important part of an industry that continues to grow and evolve. I would also like to sincerely thank our dedicated staff, who carry this aviation legacy forward every day, both in the skies and on the ground.

Shortly after, we observe Women in Aviation Week, taking place from March 2 to 8. At Pacific Coastal Airlines, inspiring girls and women to pursue careers in aviation is something

we are committed to year-round. This week, and always, we proudly reflect our gender diversity through the incredible women across our organization, including pilots, flight attendants, customer service agents, ramp agents, aircraft maintenance engineers, administrative professionals, and many more. It is an honour to be home to such talented and accomplished women, and to celebrate the historical and ongoing contributions women make to the aviation and aerospace industry.

As we reflect on these important aviation milestones, we would also like to thank our passengers and the communities we serve. Thank you for your continued trust and support of Pacific Coastal Airlines and the aviation industry. You are the reason we are proud to do what we do, decade after decade!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Quentin Smith".

Quentin Smith



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# MEET A PACIFIC COASTAL EMPLOYEE: TRACE



**Location:** YVR South Terminal

**Time with PCA:** 2 ½ years

**Position:** Ramp Supervisor

## Job description:

Oversee all ground operations including scheduling of agents, baggage loading, marshaling aircraft, assigning inbound/outbound gates for aircraft, de-icing, and towing all aircraft to apron and to the hangar when needed.

## Where were you born and raised?

I was born and raised in Langley, BC

## What path did you take to get to this job?

Initially I wanted to be a pilot, so I applied for a position as a ramp agent, where I developed key skills that prepared me for learning all aspects of the job. I eventually took on more responsibility and continued learning, which led me to my role as Supervisor.

## What do you like best about this job?

I enjoy working with everyone on the team. We work hard to get the job done!

## What are your hobbies outside of the job?

I enjoy golfing, fishing, playing guitar, flying airplanes, working on cars and riding my motorcycle.

## What is your favourite thing to do in your city?

I love discovering new places; restaurants, events, and cool spots. There's always something new to try.

## Anything else you'd like to share?

I enjoy what I do, and look forward to continuing my career here, with the goal of one day becoming a pilot. 



## Kelowna becomes 1st Canadian city with UNESCO honour

by Black Press Media Staff

**K**elowna's food scene is being recognized on an international level.

Kelowna has become the first city in Canada to be designated as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Creative City of Gastronomy.

"Kelowna is honoured to be the first city in Canada designated as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy," says Mayor Tom Dyas. "This recognition confirms what those in the Okanagan Valley have known for decades – Kelowna is a world-class centre for agriculture, culinary arts, and beverages. These industries boost our vibrant local scene, strengthen our economy, and inspire others across the country."

"It is yet another reason for visitors to come to Kelowna, experience all our region has to offer, and sample the flavours of the Okanagan Valley for themselves."

In addition to being the only Canadian city with the honour, it's also only the third city in all of North America, joining San Antonio, Texas, and Merida, Mexico.

"This designation honours Kelowna's commitment to harnessing the creative field of gastronomy as a powerful driver of sustainable local development," says David Schimpky, director of secretariat, Canadian Commission for UNESCO.

"We anticipate this recognition will elevate current initiatives and further ignite collaborative action. Crucially, joint



efforts will be guided by the knowledge of the Syilx people regarding the stewardship of lands and waters, and drive the development of equitable food systems and sustainable tourism that delivers shared economic benefits to the community."

The honour is also an acknowledgment that the local Indigenous community is excited about.

"Situated within the traditional territory of the Syilx people, Kelowna is an agriculturally diverse region. The traditional foods and medicines within our territory reflect a deep connection and shared responsibility to the land and the water," says Chief Robert Louie, Westbank First Nation.

"Joining the UNESCO Creative Cities Network is an opportunity for the City of Kelowna to uphold this shared responsibility on a global scale by prioritizing protection of traditional foods, medicines, lands, and waters for generations to come."

Across the city, there are more than 500 restaurants, contributing \$394 million annually. Each year, the gastronomy industry alone attracts over two million visitors and generates \$1.17 billion in tourism revenue. 

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BELLA BELLA/BELLA COOLA

The land  
*without*  
*limits*

**Bella Bella and Bella Coola  
remind travellers what  
calm feels like**

by Natalie Bruckner



PHOTO CREDIT DESTINATION BC/YURI CHOUFOUR

**T**here are few places where wilderness feels so rugged yet remains so easily within reach as Bella Bella (Waglisla) and Bella Coola (Nuxalk) on B.C.'s Central Coast.

Here, glaciers descend toward dense rainforest, rivers run cold and clear and the ocean presses close, shaping a landscape that is sure to leave you breathless.

Within moments of arriving, you feel a shift move through your nervous system. Your mind clears and your body steadies; a natural response to a place truly in balance. Long before wellness became a trend, landscapes like this were already doing the work.

For those drawn to quiet over crowds, late winter and early spring reveal Bella Bella and Bella Coola at their most contemplative. Tourism has yet to fully stir, and the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast carries the last traces of winter while hinting at what lies ahead. Snow still lingers in the upper elevations and the landscape feels perfectly poised between seasons. It is a time of contrast and possibility, setting the stage for the adventures ahead.

## GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST

From Bella Bella and Bella Coola, the land opens outward into the Great Bear Rainforest, less a destination than an immersion. Stretching over more than 400 kilometres of B.C.'s coastline, this vast temperate rainforest unfolds across fjords, river valleys and ancient trees, forming one of the largest intact ecosystems of its kind on Earth.

Life here moves on a grand scale. Grizzly bears trace shorelines, grey wolves slip between forest and beach, humpback whales surface nearby, and the rare cream-coloured Kermode bear (known as the 'spirit bear') moves quietly inland. Be patient and you may even be lucky enough to spot one. While many guided tours begin in May, early-season visitors enjoy fewer crowds and lingering



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winter landscapes. Travellers can rent a vehicle in Bella Coola or Bella Bella to explore remote trails at an unhurried pace, moving with respect for the land and the communities who have lived here for generations. For a truly unforgettable experience, take the short and easy walk to Clayton Falls or the slightly more strenuous jaunt uphill to Schoolhouse Mountain Falls.

Conditions at this time of year can be cool and changeable. Waterproof outer layers, sturdy footwear and warm clothing are essential, particularly at higher elevations. Weather shifts quickly along the coast, so checking with local tourism offices before setting out is wise.

## SNOW BUSINESS

In winter and early spring, the most natural way to move through this landscape is also the oldest. Long before modern roads and mapped routes, snowshoes and cross-country skis carried people through forests and across frozen ground.

Today, travellers can follow in these footsteps, gliding along trails where only wildlife tracks break the hush—mule deer,

foxes, snowshoe hare and the occasional wolf or moose. A network of maintained routes allows visitors to move at their own pace. The dñyás tx (Red Cedar Trail) and Túqvs (Narrow trail) are two beautifully designed trails recently built just outside the community of Bella Bella, offering immersive forest experiences. Elsewhere, Nordic ski tracks laid by locals follow the Nusatsum Forest Service Road, extending that same quiet way of moving into winter. Visitors are encouraged to travel WildSafe by carrying bear spray, moving in groups when possible, and making their presence known while on the trail.

To the west, Tweedsmuir Provincial Park opens into alpine forests and frozen lakes. Here, a community-run ski area offers Nordic ski trails, snowmobile routes and even an overnight cabin. Operated by Bella Coola locals, it remains as much a gathering place as a recreation area. For some visitors, winter travel here leads even higher. Guided heli-skiing offers access to untouched powder and remote mountain terrain, drawing advanced skiers and riders to operators such as Bella Coola Heli Sports and Great Bear Heli Skiing.



PHOTO CREDIT CARIBOO CHILCOTIN COAST/JONNY BIERMAN

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### WELLNESS & CULTURAL CONNECTION

Wellness here is not so much an escape from the world, but a deeper way of entering it. Rest and restoration unfold at a pace set by the land with lodges and retreats that offer spaces to slow down, while the surrounding landscapes—and the people who have lived here for generations—offer perspective that settles the mind.

At the Sacred Cedar Spa at Indigenous Shearwater Resort, just a hop across the narrow strait east of Bella Bella, spa treatments are paired with beautifully serene water views. Owned and operated by the Heiltsuk Nation since 2021, Shearwater incorporates Indigenous history and culture into the resort's operation, sharing the traditional knowledge of the Heiltsuk People with guests from around the world.

Yoga, forest bathing and guided programs rooted in Indigenous knowledge help visitors tune into their surroundings rather than retreat from them. Tallheo Hot Springs, a short boat ride from Bella Coola, is a hidden gem tucked into the rocky shoreline of the North Bentinck Arm. Nearby, Eucott Hot Springs offers another place to pause, accessible by private boat or through local operators. Sacred to the Nuxalk Nation, these hot springs carry deep cultural significance, and access is carefully managed through guided visits and fees overseen by local tour operators. To rejuvenate the mind, the Heiltsuk Nation in Bella Bella shares their living culture through guided Big House tours through

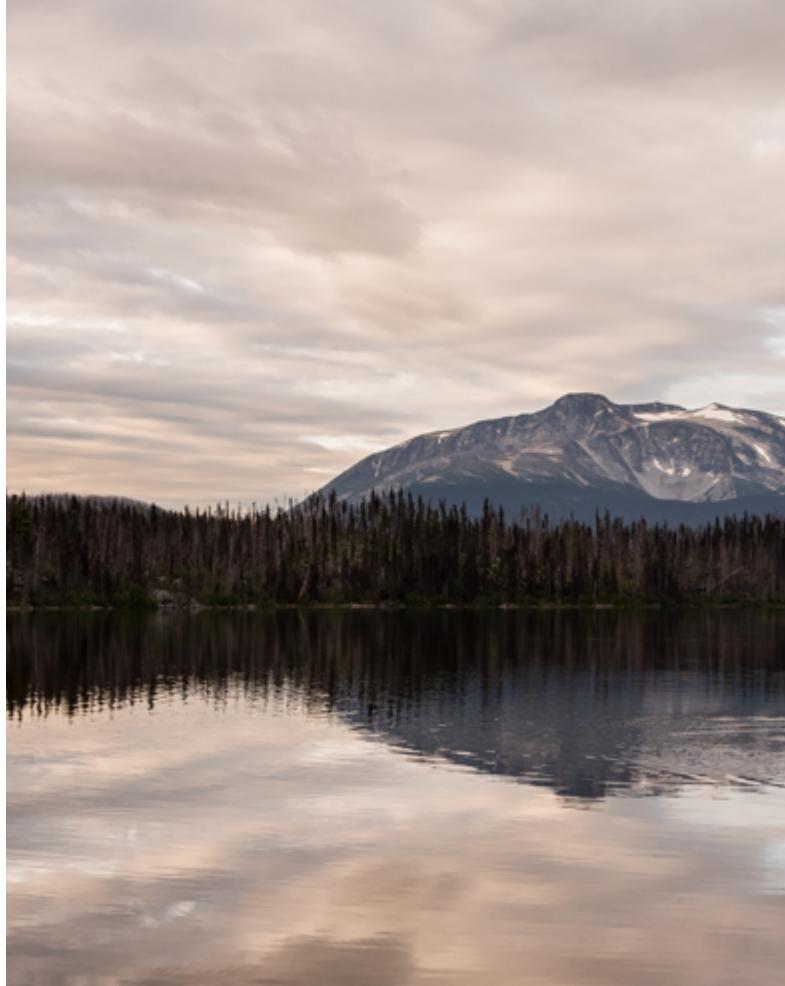




PHOTO CREDIT DESTINATION BC/KARI MEDIG

Qatúwálas, the Heiltsuk Cultural Education Centre. In Bella Coola, the Nuxalk Nation continue their stewardship through seasonal ceremonies, community-led cultural experiences, and storytelling that invites visitors to move thoughtfully through the valley.

Food is another vital part of this experience and seen as nourishment for the body. Locals will tell you that eating in Bella Bella isn't just about where you go, it's about who you connect with... and those connections often lead you to the best meals in town.

Bella Bella's informal, local scene includes pop-up takeouts and home-based cooks offering made-with-care meals, alongside daily favourites like Aftershocks Café, known for its healthier options. Seasonal harvests—from clams and herring eggs to the early salmon runs—reflect tradition and stewardship, often shared through prepared meals or takeouts. In Bella Coola, the Liquid Sunshine food truck reopens in March with fresh, wholesome lunches and coffee, providing yet another taste of the coast's vibrant community.

Immersion in Bella Bella and Bella Coola is holistic: listening to stories, sharing a meal, and moving mindfully through the land all contribute to a sense of renewal. Visitors leave carrying not just memories of the natural beauty, but an understanding of the people and rhythms that make this part of the world feel profoundly alive. 



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# BEYOND THE SHORELINE: DISCOVER THE INFINITE COAST

ALONG THE INFINITE COAST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, OCEAN ROUTES, WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS AND LIVING INDIGENOUS CULTURES DEFINE A JOURNEY SHAPED BY WATER.

## WELLNESS BY NATURE: REST AND RENEWAL ON THE INFINITE COAST

From forest to sea to spa, *The Infinite Coast* is a place of renewal—where rest isn't about retreating from the world, but returning to it. In Halfmoon Bay, Nature with Haida leads meditative forest bathing walks through coastal rainforest. Guided by Haida Bolton, the first certified forest therapy guide in BC, the experience encourages slowing down, awakening the senses, and rediscovering inner calm. In Clayoquot Sound, guests drift with the tides at Moon Jelly Bathhouse, a floating sanctuary within the first Tribal Park in Canada. A short boat ride from Tofino brings visitors to seaweed saltwater

hot tubs and sky hammocks swaying above open water. On the east coast of Vancouver Island, Healing Caves™ at Kingfisher Pacific Resort &

TWO PEOPLE KAYAKING IN SECHELT ON THE SUNSHINE COAST.  
© Brayden Hall

Spa takes guests on a 70-minute guided journey through six immersive environments created to rejuvenate body and mind.



## A NEW WAY TO EXPERIENCE CLAYOQUOT SOUND

It's a new era for Clayoquot Sound. In June 2024, the Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, together with the Province of BC, announced 10 new conservancies protecting 76,000 hectares (187,800 acres) of old-growth forests, waterways, and coastal ecosystems. This ensures the land remains under Indigenous care while building a conservation economy rooted in cultural law and stewardship. Travellers can already step into this vision with Ahous Adventures, which offers eco-marine tours and soaks in the remote Muχšiλa Hot Springs. Every experience is led by Ahousaht members, who share stories and knowledge passed through generations.

WANAČAS HIŁHUUʔIS (MEARES ISLAND) TRIBAL PARK GUARDIANS WELCOMING VISITORS TO THE ISLAND.  
© Abby Cooper

TRANSIENT KILLER WHALES HUNTING STELLER SEA LIONS NEAR SCOTT ISLANDS ON THE BC COAST.  
© Ian McAllister

## NEW COASTAL EXPEDITIONS

In the qathet/Powell River region, the newly launched Rugged Coast Expeditions combines adventure education with memorable wildlife encounters. Aboard ex-military zodiacs, guests search the Salish Sea for humpback whales, orcas, and Northern Stellar sealions. For those craving full immersion, multi-day getaways venture into remote wilderness, where participants learn survival skills while unplugging in landscapes where the only distractions are the rhythm of the land and sea. Farther north in Bella Coola, Nan Adventure



FRIENDS ON DOCK IN TOFINO WITH FLOATPLANES IN THE BACKGROUND.  
© Jeremy Koreski

accompanying Indigenous guides. Alongside viewing grizzlies in Kwatna Bay or spotting sea life along rugged inlets, guests are invited to connect with Nuxalk culture and history.

Tours takes travellers deep into the Great Bear Rainforest,

## BEST-KEPT SECRETS FOR STORM-WATCHING IN BC

From November to February, tumultuous Pacific storms roll across the coastline of BC. While Tofino and Ucluelet are well-known storm-watching destinations, plenty of other coastal communities offer front-row seats to nature's temperamental show. On the west coast of Vancouver Island, Port Renfrew sets the stage for storm-watching at Wild Renfrew, where oceanfront cottages and forest domes invite guests into the middle of the action. Just up the ridge, Soule Creek Lodge—owned and operated by the Pacheedaht First Nation—provides yurt, cabin, and lodge stays with sweeping sea views. Farther north, Pacific Sounds Lodge in Bamfield offers all-inclusive eco-adventures. Meanwhile, Storey's Beach in Port Hardy on Northern Vancouver Island provides a gentler setting with soft volcanic sand, wildlife viewing, and tranquil picnic areas.

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# Cocktail Hour

## Vancouver's 3 Top Bars

*By Lauren Kramer*



PHOTO COURTESY KEEFER BAR

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**A**sk anyone who loves cocktails and they'll tell you that Vancouver has a fabulous selection of cocktail bars. These are places where folks rub shoulders, clink exquisite glassware and sip on pricey libations that transport them, briefly, to a world with more laughter and fewer sharp edges. Each of our top three cocktail bars has its own distinct personality and a talented bevy of bartenders with years of skill in creating subtle, balanced drinks.

Forget dinner plans and make drink reservations instead. Without one, you may well be standing in the rain.

**Keefer Bar** in the city's historic Chinatown opened in 2010 and has made it to the list of North America's 50 Best Bars twice. Take one step inside and you'll know why. An apothecary-style cocktail bar with a backlit bar, its mixologists scour Chinatown for herbs, spices and roots, incorporating them into unforgettable cocktails with a unique array of ingredients.

Inside, the narrow space is dimly lit and tight with guests at its mix of table and bar seating. The vibe is social, warm and welcoming, and the music, a mix of funk and soul, hip hop, local musicians and DJs, is just the right volume to accommodate a conversation. We pulled up a chair at the bar, mesmerized as we watched skilled bartenders deftly craft libations before pouring them into gorgeous glassware. Nibbling on bean-curd-wrapped basa rolls, dumplings and Taiwanese cauliflower, we agreed the creative food menu was a perfect complement to the libations list, where the drink names are as intriguing as their ingredients. [135 Keefer St.; thekeeferbar.com](http://135 Keefer St.; thekeeferbar.com).

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PHOTO COURTESY SHAMEFUL TIKI ROOM

You couldn't ask for a more different - though no less interesting - experience at the **Shameful Tiki Room** on Main Street. Walk through the front door and you're immediately transported into a vintage tiki room, complete with a thatched bar, tiki carvings, puffer fish lamps and hanging globe lights. Dim lighting in the Shameful Tiki Room becomes increasingly clouded every time the bartenders assemble one of three drinking bowls, when lights flash around the bar and a smoke machine simulates an erupting volcano. Servers chant as they walk the 'mystery bowl,' 'volcano bowl' or 'blood of the kapu tiki bowl' over to the table that ordered it. If that's not entertaining enough, look out for Polynesian dancers on Wednesdays and a mixture of live surf bands, hula dancers and ukulele players on other nights.

It felt appropriate to order the chichi (essentially, a pina colada), along with the 'jungle bird,' a mix of rum, campari, pineapple and lime. But there's a long list of classic, boozy tiki bar drinks, utilizing the original recipes, glassware and garnishes that popularized these bars in the '60s. If you're hungry, the comfort food-filled menu of shareables won't disappoint, with a choice of tacos, pupu platters, spring rolls, salads and salsa and chips. **4362 Main St.; [shamefultikiroom.com](http://shamefultikiroom.com).**



Want to feel like you're around the who's who of Vancouver? Make a beeline for the **Botanist Bar** at the Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel. When it comes to style and panache this bar has nailed the formula, with whimsical cocktails served in magnificent glassware and a generally impeccable level of presentation.

Botanist's signature is its 'experiential' cocktail list, a selection of four libations inspired by a different state of water. Order one of these and a palate cleanser, such as a sip of dealcoholized sparkling wine, arrives first. Then comes the cocktail, which is paired with a food bite selected to highlight its particular notes. Order the raincouver and you get a chicken wing topped with salmon roe. It's designed to perfectly complement this cocktail, whose ingredients include vegan foam, fennel pollen and a green tea and cherry blossom 'rain cloud.'

The bar's interior is elegant, stylish and sophisticated, and service is personal, warm and welcoming. We ordered the 'cactus kiss,' a bright pink libation mixing tequila with prickly pear, ginger, lime, sage and cointreau. But each cocktail on the menu featured such interesting ingredients, we wanted to try more, especially the 'marine martini,' made with chive oil and sea asparagus, and the 'beekeeper,' made with candy cap mushrooms. No surprise, Botanist has won accolades for its innovative cocktail list, including the Michelin Guide's 'exceptional cocktail award' and a ranking in North America's 50 Best Bars. Plan to spend \$22+ for each cocktail and \$45 for one of the experiential selections. **1038 Canada Place;** [fairmont-pacificrim.com](http://fairmont-pacificrim.com). 





# Warm hearts, brighter futures.

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Your gift will be matched by the Garth Homer Foundation to support adults with diverse abilities through new residential and community spaces in our region. The Belonging Project is an exciting new construction initiative designed to help people learn, grow, and reach their goals in a truly inclusive environment. You can contribute by visiting our website, scanning the QR code below, or by contacting us directly for more information.



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The Garth Homer Foundation will match all donations up to \$50,000.

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## What we do

The Garth Homer Foundation provides funding in support of its vision for a society where people with diverse abilities discover freedom of choice and unleash their full potential.

The Foundation's purpose is primarily, and to the greatest extent possible, to fund the Garth Homer Society to support adults with developmental disabilities to make **a life, a home, and a place in the world**. This mission for the greater Victoria region began in 1968 to ensure that everyone had the opportunity to participate, feel valued, make informed choices and to access services tailored to their goals. We believe in the model – that our community is enriched when everyone can contribute!

In partnership with iA Financial/Richardson Wealth, CanadaHelps and Benevity, we create Endowments, Matching Grants, Legacies, Tributes/ Gifts In Memorium and Corporate Giving opportunities to accelerate transformation for our region; through the work of the Garth Homer Society.

## How we help

In March 2023, the Foundation announced a transformative \$34 million legacy gift from Kathleen Sheret, a longtime supporter and friend of community leader Garth Homer. This donation is one of the largest ever given to support people with cognitive disabilities in Canada and is used to build community-based supports for generations to come.



Upon receiving this generous gift and scaling up its responsible investing activity, the Foundation established its popular matching program to ensure all gifts have twice the impact. The Foundation now grants \$2M, growing to \$3M per year over the next few years, to the Society. You may have seen the colourful Garth Homer vans around town, met Garth Homer employees or volunteers throughout the communities, followed the progress of the Belonging Project for housing in Saanich, or seen Garth Homer artists' works in the Museum, 'paint-ins' at Market Square; or at any of the beautiful Gardens in our region – among many other things-to-do!

## Ways to give

Your support can be directed to Garth Homer Society programs or for long term investment to help us build an expanded scope of services, a greater array of choices, and expanded access to technology, transportation, and facility resources.

## Join the momentum

[www.garthhomerfoundation.org/donate](http://www.garthhomerfoundation.org/donate)

**Learn about more ways to give**

### Canada Helps

[www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-garth-homer-foundation](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-garth-homer-foundation)

### Victoria Foundation

Gifts from Donor Advised Funds are gratefully received and matched

### Butchart Gardens

Gifts from the beautiful coin fountains are matched by the Foundation

### Benevity

[www.causes.benevity.org/causes/search/--/124-894269422RR0001](http://www.causes.benevity.org/causes/search/--/124-894269422RR0001)



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## Visit us online

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PHOTO CREDIT: MOUNT WASHINGTON ALPINE RESORT/JENN DYKSTRA

## GPS trackers provide peace of mind to skiing parents at Mount Washington

by Black Press Media Staff

**M**ount Washington Alpine Resort on Vancouver Island will have new GPS tracking technology this winter, giving families and parents peace of mind while on the slopes with the little ones.

GPS tracking devices made by skiKrumb will be available for purchase at the mountain this year. The technology is designed specifically for ski resorts and unlike smartphones and Bluetooth tags, skiKrumb works seamlessly in cold weather, remote terrain, and tree-covered slopes, areas where connectivity often fails.

The device provides 10-second live location updates, instant SOS alerts and replay features through an easy-to-use mobile app.

Devices will also be available for all children enrolled in Mt. Washington's snow school programs, giving parents and instructors peace of mind with real-time tracking on the slopes.

Families and snow schools can now track each child's location across Mt. Washington's expansive terrain, from the first chair to the last run. In addition, the replay feature allows kids

and parents to review their day together, seeing which runs were taken, total distance skied and how confidence grew with every turn.

"Having directed snow school operations at Whistler for many years, I've seen firsthand the challenge of keeping track of large numbers of young skiers spread out over large terrain," said Russ Wood, Sales Manager at skiKrumb and former Whistler snow school director.

"skiKrumb adds an essential layer of safety and efficiency to lesson management. Instructors can focus on teaching and kids can focus on learning, while parents gain peace of mind knowing everyone is accounted for. It's a game-changer for snow schools and families alike."

"skiKrumb was born out of my own experience of getting separated from my son when he was young – the longest 45 minutes as a parent," said Keith Macintyre, Founder & CEO of skiKrumb GPS Trackers.

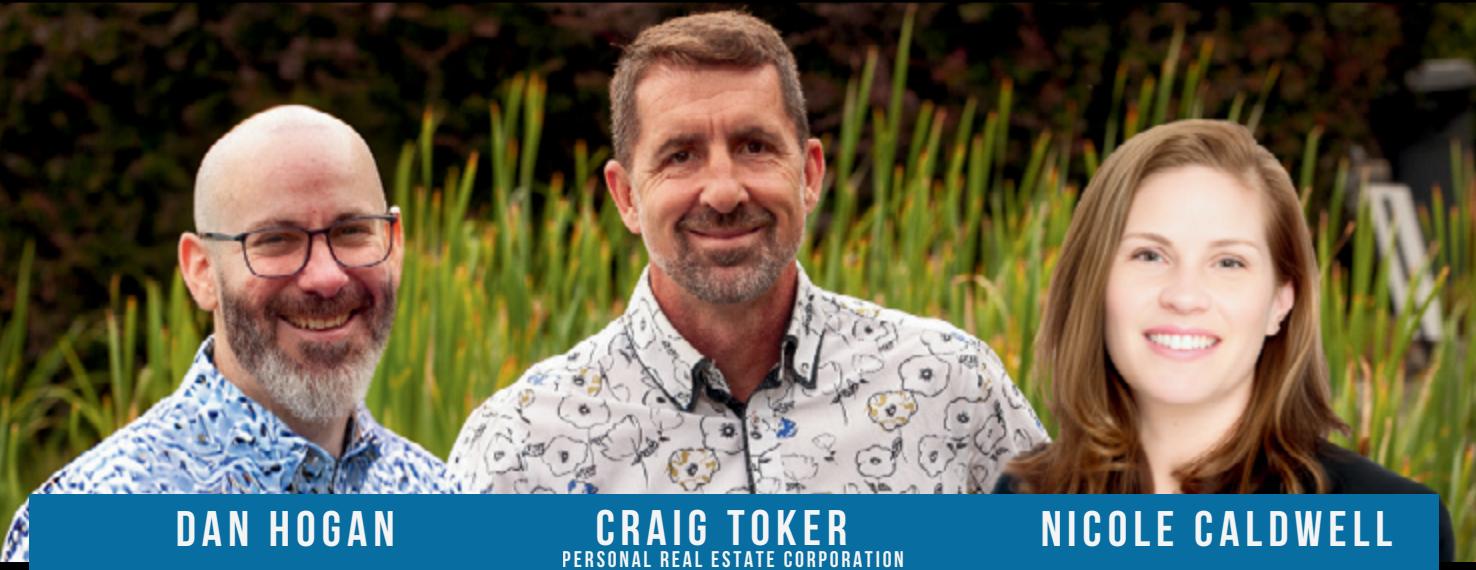
"That moment sparked our mission: to keep families connected and safe on the mountain while letting kids explore their love of skiing. Our customers tell us not only that skiKrumb is great, but that they will never ski without it. We're excited to bring skiKrumb to Vancouver Island at Mt. Washington this winter."

The launch at Mt. Washington builds on skiKrumb's growing network of partner resorts across Canada, including Big White, Revelstoke, Sun Peaks, SilverStar, Mt Sima and Apex.

For those who want to stay connected beyond ski lessons, skiKrumb GPS Trackers are available to purchase directly online or at Valhalla Pure Outfitters, Courtenay 



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