



ASSOCIATION FOR DENMAN ISLAND MARINE STEWARDS (ADIMS)

For more information: www.adims.ca Email: adimsinfo@gmail.com Facebook: Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards

November 2020

Since our November 2019 Newsletter, island life has certainly changed with the arrival of COVID-19. Especially now, we are all immensely grateful for this beautiful island, its waters and our community. But while the way we work may have changed, ADIMS' work itself has carried on. We continue to advocate to "preserve, protect and restore the marine ecosystem of our island shores and surrounding waters for the benefit of plant and animal species, their habitat and human well-being. "



Photo Courtesy of West Coast Wildlife

We have Charitable Status!

As a charitable organization we are most grateful for all our volunteers and donors. We are delighted to report that in February we received confirmation from Revenue Canada that we received charitable status with an effective date of January 21, 2020. For all of our generous supporters, this means we can now issue you an official donation receipt recognized by Canada Revenue Agency.

Baynes Sound and Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum

This Forum, a labour of love, was formed in 2018 as ADIMS realized a broader discussion with stakeholders was needed to address the issues of degradation, habitat loss and intensification of shellfish aquaculture in Baynes Sound. Its members include representatives from federal and provincial governments, Islands Trust, CVRD, Deep Bay Research Station, BC Shellfish Growers Assoc, K'omoks and Qualicum First Nations, local shellfish growers and Hornby Conservancy.

Our multi-stakeholder Alternate Aquaculture Practices Committee is working with incredible commitment and cooperation to research, trial, and advocate for ways to improve industry gear, practices and work toward compliance with ecosystem protection standards and good neighbour policies. Our most challenging (and inspiring!) task is submitting suggestions to the aquaculture Conditions of License, as well as the new Shellfish Aquaculture Act.

Our November meeting will aim to put a framework in place to ensure the continued progress of the Forum by confirming Terms of Reference and selection of a Steering Committee tasked with pursuing funding applications and the hiring of a coordinator.



Photo courtesy of Gerry Ambury



Plastic Free Denman

We do love our earth! ADIMS is a participant in Plastics Free Denman! And our thanks to them for supporting us by sponsoring the "School of Herring" postcards to Ottawa. Photo courtesy of Plastic Free Denman.

Valentine's Day Dinner Film Event - Heart of the Fraser

This Valentine's Day dinner and film event held with Denman Conservancy Association featured a presentation of the film Heart of the Fraser – a campaign to protect this ecologically significant area and its habitat for young salmon.



Let the Herring Live

These ‘big little fish’ play a huge role in nearly all our coastal wildlife. They are an integral food chain link from our tiniest plankton through to salmon, eagles, seals, bears and whales. However, these mighty little fish need our help.

Since 2015 ADIMS has partnered with Hornby Conservancy and Pacific Wild to petition our governments for a reduction of the herring roe fishery which has resulted in decades of overfishing.

The market of origin for the herring roe fishery is Japan where the roe is considered a delicacy. However, as this market has declined - only 10% of the harvest is now exported for roe - 90% of the catch, male and female, is ground up and turned into low-value products with the bulk used as feed for fish farms.

In November, by invitation, two ADIMS delegates attended a WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council sponsored HELIT TFE SŁON,ET (Let the Herring Live) meeting. Following the meeting all attendee groups signed a letter to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard, from the WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council requesting a moratorium on the herring fishery in their territory.

Let the Herring Live Flotilla Event – March 8th, 2020

Once again, we are so proud of the way our community is invested in protecting our island and its waters!! Volunteers turned out to make posters and donned their boats and kayaks for a very visible statement to the public and DFO policymakers.

LET THE HERRING LIVE



HELIT TFE SŁON,ET

Critical Movement for the Salish Sea

Fundraiser sponsored by Denman Island Friends of Herring. Poster Courtesy of Peter Karsten. © PETER KARSTEN



Microplastics in the Marine Food Webs: Establishing a Baseline in Baynes Sounds

This research project completed in 2019 was funded by National Contaminants Advisory Group, (DFO) and undertaken by UBC's Pelagic Ecosystems Lab researchers, assisted by co-sponsors K'omoks First Nation Guardian Watchmen and ADIMS. The November 2019 AGM meeting included a report by the scientists involved, with the final report released this spring. The numbers of microplastics were revised downwards after all samples were processed. Interestingly, 87% of the microplastics found were PETE/polyester microfibres, coming from land-based activities. (Contact us if you would like an electronic copy of the final report.)

ADIMS has a boat!

Through our long years of work in organizing the Annual Beach Cleanup of aquaculture industry debris and in advocating for our community, it became obvious a boat would be of immense benefit. This summer we were able to purchase a used boat which has already been put to use in the 2020 beach cleanup for debris not accessible by land. Purchase of the boat was possible thanks to grant and aid funding from both the CVRD and Lush Cosmetics.



Help Protect Eelgrass

Why?

Eelgrass meadows are essential habitat for many species including spawning fish, juvenile salmon and crabs. They are also feeding grounds for birds and mammals.

How?

Anchor or moor deeper than 7m (23ft) chart depth.



For more information: seachangesociety.com



Eelgrass Restoration

Eelgrass meadows form important underwater habitats, providing shelter for many species, and an important food source for overwintering bird species.

In 2002, SeaChange initiated the BC Coastal Community Eelgrass Stewardship Project, a coast wide community eelgrass mapping and monitoring training program. As their Denman Island partners, our goal is to educate Islanders and visitors on the importance of eelgrass preservation. Keep an eye out for these signs! Future projects include a more complete mapping of the seagrass areas on Denman.

Denman Island 2020 Annual Beach Cleanup, Sept 21st – Oct 5th

This year's Beach Cleanup was a little different with COVID-19 protocols in place! Rather than a public event at the Old School, small groups and pods of volunteers were invited to remove plastic and debris from specific marine areas or to join one of the boating, trucking or sorting teams. Liz and John Johnston offered room at their farm site for debris drop-off. (Our new ADIMS boat was put to use in pulling debris from our remote and inaccessible shorelines.)

Once again volunteer support was overwhelming – our whole-hearted thanks to our amazing volunteers who care for our island with us. As the bulk of the debris collected is aquaculture related, we continue to hope for and work hard toward better government regulation and industry responsibility. Baynes Sound and Lambert Channel are a designated Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area (EBSA) and deserve respect from those who share her shores. Check out our Facebook video!



Photo courtesy of Gerry Ambury

ADIMS Annual General Meeting (AGM) - 4.00 PM, Nov 12, 2020

Please join us for our ADIMS Annual General Meeting, taking place this year via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 651 9118 6546 Passcode: 126443

For more info or to view videos, notices or media coverage see:

Facebook Page: Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards

Email: info@adims.ca Website: www.adims.ca

Current ADIMS Board of Directors Chair: Dorrie Woodward, Directors: Liz Johnston, Barb Mills, Linda Sheehan, Lisa Pierce, Beth Janz, and Peter Karsten (Art Director)

A heartfelt thank you to the many people and organizations who support us in our work:

- Lush Cosmetics
- Comox Valley Regional District
 - The Islands Grapevine
 - The Flagstone
- K'omoks First Nation Guardian Watchmen
- The individuals of the following groups with whom we have worked and to whom we are indebted: DFO, BCSGA as well as many NGOs such as Ocean Legacy, West Coast Environmental Law, WWF, Pacific Wild, Friends of Baynes Sound, Project Watershed, SeaChange
 - The hardworking and highly valued and loyal Beach Cleanup crew
 - Plastic Free Denman
 - Gord Johns, MP
 - Sheila Malcolmson, MLA, Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment
 - Scott Fraser MLA, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- Our big-hearted community members for their continued financial and volunteer support.

*Alone we can do so little.
Together we can do so much.*

Helen Keller



Your support for ADIMS with your Annual Donation/Membership is appreciated.
As a CRA registered charity, we are now able to issue you with a tax-deductible receipt.
Please use this form and addressed envelope for your donation and either mail or drop off at the Abraxas Free Post.

Name(s): _____

Denman Island Address: P.O. Box/Street _____

Denman Phone # _____

Alternate Mailing Address:

P.O. Box/Street _____

City _____ Province/State _____ Post Code: _____

Email Address #1: _____

Email Address #2: _____

- YES — I would be willing to volunteer or assist in special events or projects.
- YES — please send me email updates.
- YES — I want to be a member of the Association of Denman Islands Marine Stewards Association.

Comments: _____

Date: _____

Method of Payment: Cheque _____ Cash _____ My Donation. \$ _____

Cheques Payable to ADIMS
 ADIMS, Post Office Box 7, Denman Island, BC, V0R 1T0
Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards, Box 7, Denman Island, BC, V0R 1T0
For more information: www.adims.ca Email: adimsinfo@gmail.com