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Rivers Institute

at BCIT



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The Rivers Institute at BCIT will be a leader in the protection and restoration of waterways in British Columbia and beyond by

- **initiating** public awareness activities,
- **conducting** applied research,
- **developing** best practices in river management, and
- **mentoring** the next generation of environmental stewards



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Special Thanks to Rudy North



A leading gift of \$1 million from Rudy North, president and founder of North Growth Management Ltd., has established the Rivers Institute at BCIT and funded Canada's first Chair in River Ecology.

"It's not too late to continue to enjoy the best of both worlds if our growth becomes guided by sound knowledge, practical know-how and the political will to grow in harmony with our natural environment."

Rudy North



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Rudy North Chair in River Ecology



Mark Angelo will be the inaugural Chair of the Rivers Institute and will sit as the Rudy North Chair of River Ecology at BCIT.

Mark Angelo will define the role and mandate of the Rivers Institute and will strive to develop a strategy to help ensure that critical fish and wildlife habitats, in British Columbia and beyond, are protected and restored.



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Key Objectives

- Undertake state of the art river-related **research**.
- Increase **public awareness** about the importance of our waterways as well as the threats that confront them.
- Promote sound river **stewardship**.
- Play a **leadership** (and science based) role in key river management issues.
- Spearhead leading edge river **restoration** initiatives.
- Remain closely linked to river related **educational programs** while helping to mentor and support the river leaders of tomorrow.



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Local Community Initiatives

The Rivers Institute will support and encourage local initiatives to enhance, reclaim and restore our waterways. Many of these such initiatives are already underway and have achieved great success and following.

To name a few:

- Reclamation of the Guichon Creek
- Mitigation of dam related impacts on the Capilano River
- The Heart of the Fraser Project

Streamside Planting at Guichon Creek





Heart of the Fraser Project has three main goals:

- public awareness
- promoting need for collaborative plan
- acquiring key riverside properties for conservation purposes

To learn more about this initiative and the Fraser River visit www.heartofthefraser.bcit.ca and www.explorethefraser.bcit.ca



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Capilano Dam

Local stakeholders are working together to mitigate impacts associated with the Cleveland dam on the Capilano River in North Vancouver.

- smolt passage
- improving flow regimes
- resolving downstream temperature differences through dam modification
- enhancing downstream habitat below dam.





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World Rivers Day

The World Rivers Day celebration will be coordinated through the Rivers Institute. This event has grown out of the success of the BC Rivers Day and celebrates the many values of waterways and now involves millions of people in dozens of countries.

It is an event that enhances global consciousness and creates a greater awareness of the importance of rivers and the threats that confront them.



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World Rivers Day

Rivers Day events range from stream clean-ups and habitat enhancement projects to educational outings and community riverside celebrations. Visit www.worldriversday.bcit.ca to learn more.





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Mentoring and supporting the next Generation of river leaders

Students will have the opportunity and funding to take part in research projects.

Scholarships and bursaries will be available for BCIT students who have demonstrated a particular interest in river management and stewardship.

The Rivers Institute will provide a medium for the sharing of research and ideas.





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International role

The Rivers Institute will have an international reach and perspective

It will promote best management practices

It will continue to coordinate and present special events such as Wild Water, Wild Earth and Riverworld.

Websites such as Riverworld that are linked to the Rivers Institute will continue to profile river related events and issues around the world



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Creating a better future for rivers and communities

