



## Water-is-Life Conference 2024 Information Pack ①

### Introduction Letter

Dear Friends of Water-is-Life,

After a successful and engaging experience with the 2022 Water is Life virtual conference, we are very excited to invite you to join us in-person at the next Water is Life conference at Oak Bay High School in beautiful Victoria, British Columbia, Canada from June 30th to July 6, 2024. As we return to the in-person conference, you can expect to once again enjoy opening plenary sessions with experts in their field, project and poster presentations, model UN type discussions around significant water issues, and day trips to enjoy the natural beauty of southern Vancouver Island. The setting, objectives, guidelines and components of this conference are comparable with the framework of the previous conferences.

Of course, we hope you are also looking forward to making new connections and reconnecting with old friends. Our conference activities will be split between Oak Bay High School for the daytime activities, and the University of Victoria for the later afternoon and early evening activities. Accommodations during the conference will be in the dormitory rooms at the University of Victoria, a short distance from Oak Bay High School.

This Information Pack ① contains:

- This introduction letter
- General Conference Information
- Information about the pre-registration and contact email

### **Local Approaches to Sustainability**

The project categories of the conference are:

#### **A. Environmental Sustainability**

Climate change effects, water quality treatment & monitoring, wastewater management  
bioremediation, ecosystems, biodiversity

#### **B. Communities and Social Sustainability**

Community involvement projects, water & recreation, climate change mitigation, corporate social  
responsibility, awareness & advocacy

#### **C. Stewardship, Policy and Economic Sustainability**

Leadership, national strategies, economic analysis, green financing of water infrastructure,  
history and geopolitics of water, water conflicts, marine protected areas

#### **D. Technology & Engineering for Sustainability**

Renewable energy, integrated urban water designs, water technology



## General Information

**Date: June 30 to July 6, 2024**

**Organizing School: Oak Bay High School**

### Setting

In a world characterized by climate change and increased global interconnectedness, the local and global challenges on water management are increasingly complex. We need to prepare for the future by developing in our youths the knowledge and leadership necessary to manage and overcome these challenges. This conference aims to bring bright young students from different countries together in a meeting of hearts and minds. It seeks to plant the seeds of friendship and dialogue, instill awareness on the issue of water management and develop scientific, diplomatic, economical and leadership skills in young participants.

### Objectives

To create deeper awareness and instill a sense of urgency regarding water security and sustainability issues through keynote addresses, dialogue sessions and student presentations on water management strategies and challenges in their countries;

To facilitate the development and sharing of scientific innovation in water technologies and water ecology through a scientific symposium;

To develop friendship and collaborative networks for future exchange and research projects on water technologies through cultural exchange, collaborative workshops;

To develop leadership and diplomatic skills in participants through sessions that incorporate dynamic workshops and activities; these sessions are aimed at developing participant's organizational skills, ability to lead, and teamwork.

### Guidelines

- Each school can send up to 6 students (one or two teams) with one or two accompanying teacher(s) to attend this in-person conference. The target age group of the students is 15-18.
- Pre-registration of your school research team is available online to June 23, 2023. Information Pack ② will be sent by Oct 2023, only to pre registered school teams.
- Full registration will be available online from September 11, 2023, with the conference fee approximately CAD \$500 per participant.

### Research Settings

#### **“Local Approaches to Sustainability”**

We suggest you bring in water-related research activities connected to your local water situation, either by way of a scientific, political, or economical approach, or by way of an integrated approach from an interdisciplinary point of view.

This years 'Themes' are revised to take into account the greater emphasis on Sustainability. See page one for our four Water-is-Life 2024 Themes.

## Signature Programmes

These are the following components of the conference.

1. **Scientific symposiums**

Student researchers present their research projects to a panel of international jurors in various expert domains in a competition setting.

2. **Keynote & Panel Discussion**

Leading experts and leaders come together to give keynote speeches and panel discussions.

3. **Collaborative Model UN & Plenary & Ocean Networks Canada workshop**

Teachers and students across different schools develop friendship and collaborative networks when we come together to create awareness and impact a bigger audience.

4. **Day Trips**

Potential trips include whale watching, hiking on an oceanside trail, watershed tour, etc. We will provide you with the details of the programmes in future Info Packs.

### Pre-registration due June 23, 2023

Pre-registration is available online from May 23, 2023. We will ask you for basic information such as the name and the address of your school, the name and email of the contact person, and the possible number of teams and participants in your research team(s).

Make sure you send the pre-registration form by the due date so that your participation in Water-is-Life Conference 2024 will be guaranteed.

**The pre-registration form will be available through the link**

<https://forms.gle/fKXt4SKBfrxNnVoCA>.

For questions and contact, please send an e-mail to: [waterisliveschools@gmail.com](mailto:waterisliveschools@gmail.com)

We are looking forward to your registrations.

Yours sincerely,

Oak Bay High School Conference Team

