



## Living Lakes Canada News Stream

October 2018

"Community-based water monitoring is emerging across Canada as an untapped potential to help solve pressing challenges associated with watershed management."

~ Raegan Mallinson, Living Lakes Canada Water Stewardship Lead

---

## Advancing Citizen Science in Alberta



On September 26, 2018, Living Lakes Canada Executive Director Kat Hartwig presented at the "Advancing Citizen Science in Alberta: Changing Perspectives, Breaking Barriers" conference hosted by Alberta Environment and Parks, Environmental Monitoring and Science Division, in

collaboration with the Miistakis Institute. This two-day workshop was a gathering place to learn about best practices in the field of citizen science as well as identify priority actions to advance the practice in Alberta.

Kat's presentation, titled "Generating Credible Community-Based Data: Examples from British Columbia", provided brief overviews of data collection projects Living Lakes Canada is working on, including Sensitive Habitat Inventory Mapping, the Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program and CABIN Monitoring, as well as some of the policy research, collaboration and program planning that LLC is facilitating to increase the use of community-based data. Kat was also part of a panel that focused on credibility and relevance of citizen science data, illustrated by the following graphic:



Living Lakes Canada @LivingLakesCA · Sep 26  
 "Engaged, trained citizen scientists following accredited water monitoring protocols can support efforts in building climate resiliency." - @LivingLakesCA  
 exec director Kat Hartwig #climatechange #citizenscience  
 #ABCitSci

## Liard River Watershed CABIN training



The Kaska Dena nation has lived along the Liard River for thousands of years. They currently have an Indigenous Guardian Program called the Dene Nan Yedah program, which monitors moose, caribou, grizzly bear, fish, and protects high cultural use areas. Up until recently, the Dene Nan Yedah program did not include a water monitoring component.

On September 24-25, Living Lakes Canada trained the Dene Nan Yedah Guardian Program in the Environment and Climate Change Canada CABIN (Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network) protocol.

The training had originally been scheduled for August 22-23, but due to wildfires in the area, the course was postponed.

Living Lakes Canada is partnering with WWF- Canada and the University of Guelph to support a national network of community based monitoring programs and/or Guardians programs that utilize eDNA technology to improve the understanding of benthic invertebrate communities in Canada.

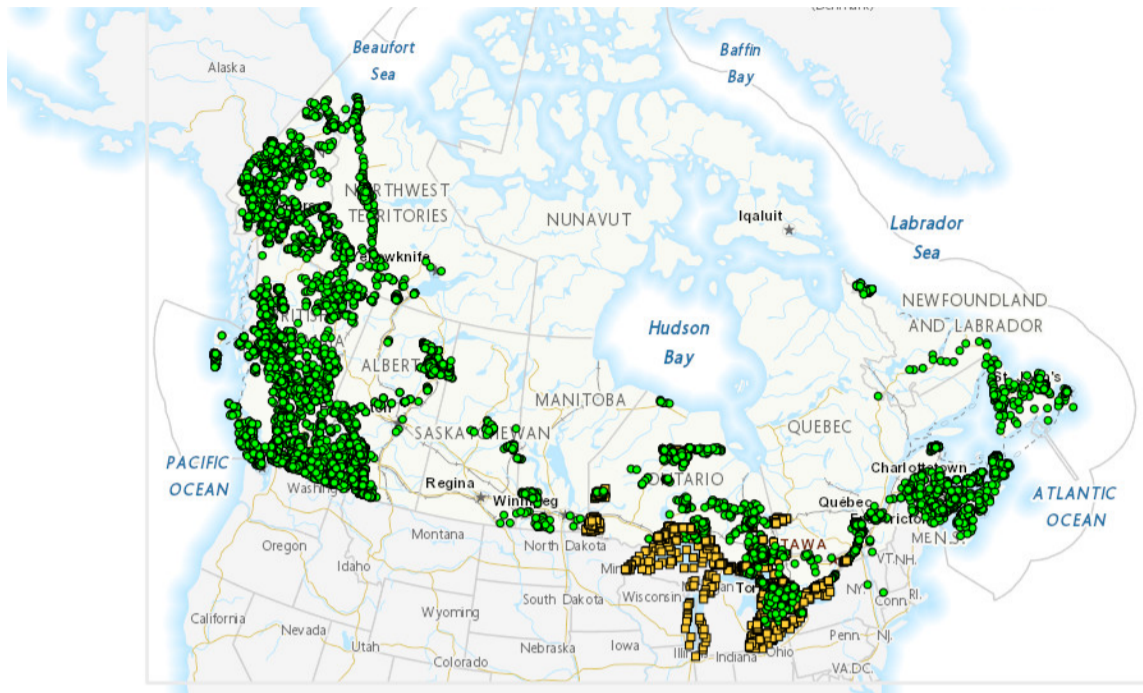
Living Lakes Canada will be in Smithers training members of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative and other community members October 11-12. The course will focus on collection of benthics using the new eDNA protocol.

Photo caption: James Malone from Good Hope Lake Guardians checks out Caddisflies during the Liard River watershed CABIN course hosted by Living Lakes Canada in partnership with WWF-Canada for the Den Kayeh Institute.

[Read about the Liard training and the eDNA initiative here.](#)

---

## CABIN public data now accessible



Living Lakes Canada is trained by Environment and Climate Change Canada to train community groups, professionals, industry and First Nation communities in the CABIN methodology, the established national protocol in Canada that collects benthic macroinvertebrates and uses their counts as an indicator of a water body's health.

Confirmed public data from CABIN is now fully accessible through the map on the Canada Open Data portal.

[Visit the Canada Open Data Portal.](#)

---

## B.C. Water Monitoring Landscape Scan



In 2017, members of the BC Water Funders Collaborative's Working Group on Water Monitoring commissioned a Water Monitoring Landscape Scan to inform discussions on a shared vision for water monitoring and reporting in British Columbia.

Living Lakes Canada, along with other members of the water monitoring working group, helped guide the project, which is captured in a new report authored by Carol Luttmner, BSc (Eng), MSc. Carol is also the Program Manager of Living Lakes Canada's Columbia Basin Groundwater Monitoring Program.

[Access the Water Monitoring Landscape Scan here.](#)

---

## Groundwater workshop: Windermere, BC



In the Upper Columbia Basin, Living Lakes Canada is monitoring groundwater in priority aquifers through its Groundwater Monitoring Program. This is being done by locating already-existing wells and installing water level loggers to measure groundwater levels in the wells.

As part of the program, Living Lakes Canada hosted a groundwater workshop in August 2018 for a group of about 20 residents near Windermere, B.C. In collaboration with GW Solutions, Living Lakes Canada produced a 3-Dimensional Conceptual Model of the aquifers in the area to help residents better understand their groundwater resources.

[Find out more about the workshop here.](#)

---

## East Kootenay lake monitoring



From September 4-7, 2018, Living Lakes Canada and the BC Lake Stewardship Society (BCLSS) enlisted the help of several volunteers and local residents to collect lake quality data for five East Kootenay lakes as part of the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)'s ongoing provincial lake monitoring program.

This project was a great example of collaboration between community and government, and demonstrated how community-based water monitoring groups can play a more active role in provincial water monitoring programs.

[Read the full article here.](#)

---

# LLC helps identify Pacific Coastal health



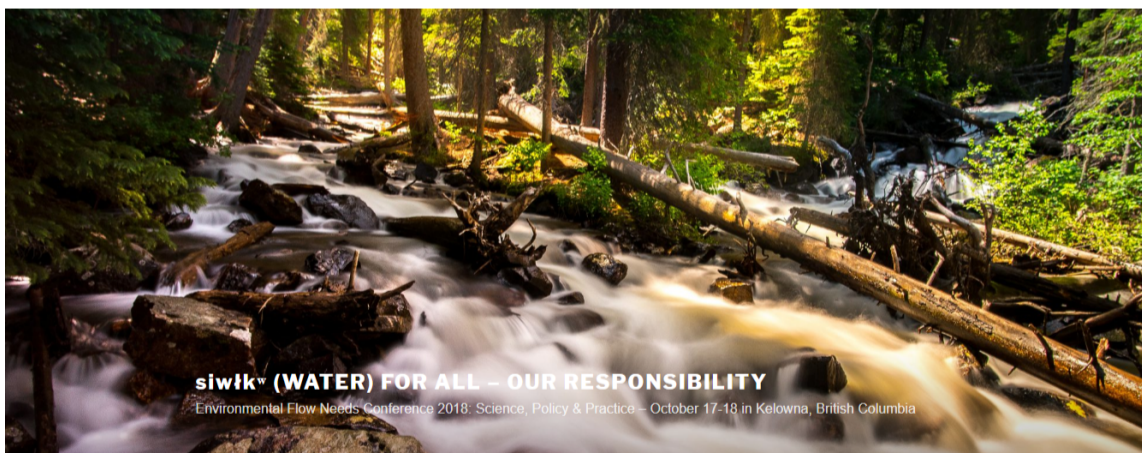
Living Lakes Canada, in partnership with WWF-Canada, Environment and Climate Change and University of Guelph, conducted benthic data collection on the Sunshine Coast last season, which helped identify that the Pacific Coastal basin is in good health despite significant signs of stress in some southern sub-watersheds.

The assessment is in a new report released by WWF-Canada, which is an update to the initial 2017 Watershed Reports. At that time, an overall health score for the Pacific Coastal watershed couldn't be tabulated. This was due to a lack of data for water quality and benthic invertebrates, including flies, beetles, aquatic worms, snails, and leeches in the basin.

[Read the WWF press release here.](#)  
[Find the link to the interactive reports here.](#)

---

## siwłk<sup>w</sup> (WATER) FOR ALL



The Okanagan Basin Water Board and the Canadian Water Resources Association, BC Branch are hosting the "siwłk<sup>w</sup> (WATER) FOR ALL – OUR RESPONSIBILITY" Environmental Flow Needs Conference 2018: Science, Policy & Practice on October 17-18, 2018, in Kelowna, B.C.

This conference will bring together representatives from national and international organizations engaged in water management or research, including fisheries and water managers, First Nations, regulators, policy-makers, academia, and NGOs..

[Visit the conference website here.](#)

---

## Calling all B.C. teachers (grades 3-12)!



Are your students curious about water? The Great Waters Challenge-BC launches mid-October and Waterlution is now recruiting schools throughout BC to join the program! Participating classes and clubs meet other teams across B.C. during a welcome webinar and then receive adaptable pre-workshop activities that help students explore your community's water.

Next, your class will receive a water-leadership workshop (or webinar for remote schools) hosted by trained knowledgeable volunteer young water leaders! Your students will be mentored in planning their own water celebration or action day. School teams who implement their event can win awesome prizes and field trips.

[Learn more and sign up here.](#)

---

## Landmark climate change report by UN

Limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) said in a new report.

The report highlights a number of climate change impacts that could be avoided by limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to 2°C, or more. Ninety-one authors and review editors from 40 countries prepared the IPCC report in response to an invitation from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) when it adopted the Paris Agreement in 2015.

“The way we are fighting climate change now suggests that we are in for dire times with both water quality and water quantity in Canada as well,” says LLC advisor Dr. David Schindler.



[Access the IPCC press release and link to the report here.](#)

---

## Related News

- [We have 12 years to limit climate change catastrophe, warns UN](#)
- [780 Water Champions come together for Watershed Governance Forum](#)
- [New research for local communities and water leaders looking to advance freshwater protection](#)
- [Finding a solution to Canada's Indigenous water crisis](#)

---

## On a personal note...



The Living Lakes Canada team would like to welcome Quin Beebe into the world! Quin was born on August 17th in Kelowna, B.C. to ecstatic parents, LLC Operations Manager Heather Leschied, and her husband Calvin Beebe.

---

**Contact us with any questions or to learn more!  
Follow us on social media for current updates.**



---

*Copyright © 2018 Living Lakes Canada, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

