

JANUARY 23, 2009

10th ANNUAL DIVERS WEEKEND CELEBRATES BC'S WORLD-CLASS DIVE COMMUNITY

Vancouver, BC – This weekend is the **10th ANNUAL DIVER'S WEEKEND, Saturday, January 24 and Sunday, January 25** presented by the Vancouver Aquarium and the Dive Industry Association of BC. This annual celebration of British Columbia's diving community offers both divers & non-divers a place to be together and celebrate BC's world-class diving opportunities.

DIVERS WEEKEND also features a wide array of engaging activities including special presentations, workshops, dive shows, face-painting & touch pools for kids, and 30+ special exhibits and displays throughout the Aquarium's galleries including the Canadian Coast Guard, RCMP Dive Team, Historical Dive Society of BC, Parks Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Dive Industry Association of BC, BCIT Underwater Observatory and lots more.

Here are some of the **DIVERS WEEKEND workshops**:

Artificial Reef Society of BC – *A New Reef: The Sinking of the HMCS Annapolis*

8 Tips to Better Underwater Photos – *presented by Olympus Cameras*

Meet the Dive Industry Association of BC (co-presenter of DIVERS WEEKEND)

Recreational free diving & snorkeling in BC waters

Canadian Coast Guard – *Who We Are, What We Do*

Underwater Archaeology Society of British Columbia

10TH ANNUAL DIVERS WEEKEND welcomes back World Champion Free Diver, Mandy-Rae Cruikshank for amazing breath hold dive demos in the Aquarium's Strait of Georgia exhibit each day at 11:30am. You have to see it to believe it!

Plus, the Historical Dive Society of BC will turn back the clock each day at 1pm when they enter the shark exhibit wearing 1940's scuba gear. And for modern underwater fashion trends, check out the dive gear fashion show each day at 2:30pm.

For DIVERS WEEKEND, the Vancouver Aquarium offers half-price admission or \$10.00 off an annual Aquarium Membership for anyone who presents their Diver's Certification card.

The Vancouver Aquarium is a self-supporting, non-profit association dedicated to effecting the conservation of aquatic life through display and interpretation, conservation practices, education, research, and direct action. Please visit www.vanaqua.org to learn more about the Vancouver Aquarium.

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