# **FORED Projects**

(summary of 2021 and ongoing 2022)

FORED's community sustainability activity is made possible with the immeasurable contribution of our members, volunteers, directors & staff. Our hands-on, diversified volunteer Board of Directors from law, business, education, accounting, public relations, & academe, governs our policy & programs with outstanding leadership. Program highlights and stakeholder feedback follow:

### **Sustainable Communities & Neighbourhoods (SCAN):**

- Landscapes magazine continues to be a popular online resource.
- Community best practices in sustainability resources from our magazine Landscapes and other sources are downloaded by 56,000 individuals monthly from our website <u>foredbc.org</u>
- We receive commending emails/comments from teachers, students and others who download our materials.
- FORED is an advisory member of the Institute for Environmental Learning, led by SFU's Dr. David Zandvliet,
   FORED director & volunteer. This UN-designated organization develops and supports research on

environmental learning & sustainable development across BC.

- With the help of teachers and volunteer contributions, we uploaded **new** educational material to the <u>website</u>, freely promoted by the <u>Environmental Educators Provincial</u> <u>Specialist Association (EEPSA)</u>.
- Vancouver School Board asked FORED to participate in their annual Sustainability NGO Conference April 25, 2022 at Eric Hamber School, to showcase our youth programs to over 500 students. To enhance our display table, we received complimentary resources about careers and sustainability facts from both industry (Canfor) and academic (UBC Forestry) volunteers (See picture right).



## Aboriginal Heritage, Education & Dialogue (AHEAD):



The global pandemic had an impact, but most FORED programs continued as usual. We will continue to offer online, complimentary activities and social media promotion to our targeted audiences, with in-person events as allowed.

To celebrate cultural & heritage traditions of BC's Indigenous people, FORED offered its annual Traditional Knowledge (TK) & Medicine artwork contest for Indigenous youth. Their posters are displayed each year in the Ministry of Education office (Victoria) for National Aboriginal Day (June 21st) at gov't request. Prizes are awarded to winners and featured on our website. We also did Facebook/Instagram ads and YouTube videos to target teachers, parents, and Indigenous youth, obtaining hundreds of thousands of views according to combined analytics.

FORED provides annual **Traditional Knowledge scholarships to** First Nations students selected by Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT). Candidates offer a short essay on how Traditional Ecological Knowledge is applied to natural resource management in their community. Andrew Jack received a \$500 FORED scholarship for his application highlighting cultural burning of the forest to renew it, which led to our next social media video called <u>Fighting Fire with Fire</u>. This video features clips from an interview with Indigenous forestry scientist, Dr. Amy Christianson, who shared sage advice about cultural burning, **reaching nearly 59,000 people!** 

The Ministry of Advanced Education (AVED) promotes FORED's <u>YouTube</u> channel, featuring **Indigenous mentors sharing** natural resources career advice to youth, on the Ministry of Advanced Education social media channels. The videos collectively have more than 100,000 views. Also, the <u>UBC Library Indigenous Education K-12</u> <u>Research Guide</u> for BC teachers promotes FORED's *Our Journeys*, which profiles Indigenous people who stayed in school and graduated to a variety of natural resources careers. UBC also features links to video interviews with these Indigenous leaders on our <u>YouTube</u> channel.

### **Youth Engaging Sustainability (YES):**

FORED BC's annual youth poster contest for National Forest Week was expanded to include photography submissions. The event drew hundreds of entries from BC youths K-12. The contest theme was *Our forests - continually giving*.

Prizes were awarded to the following students with some posters featured in this report:

- Lukas, Richmond Christian Middle School, Richmond
- Alexa, Sir Charles Tupper Secondary, Vancouver
- Rayne, Senpag'cin School, Oliver

All winners on our website.



## <u>Traditional Knowledge & Medicine Artwork Contest Winners:</u>



- Naomi, Self-declared First Nations, Albion Elementary School, Maple Ridge
- Trinity, Metis, Campbell River Christian School, Campbell River

#### **News Stories:**

Lukas, Richmond – <u>Richmond News</u>. This winner was also featured in national media – <u>Toronto Star</u>
Rayne, Oliver – <u>Times Chronicle</u>
FORED was also profiled in the <u>Vancouver Guardian!</u>

## Partnerships:

Thanks to our many volunteers for their continued support, and our social media friends for sharing our programs widely. This broadens FORED outreach to thousands of BC citizens, particularly youth. **We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia** through gaming funds, as well as our members and the Vancouver Foundation. This year, we acquired some new anonymous members and modest donations through <u>CanadaHelps</u>.