



**RURAL  
ISLANDS**  
**ECONOMIC  
PARTNERSHIP**  
CULTIVATING RESILIENT  
PARTNERSHIPS

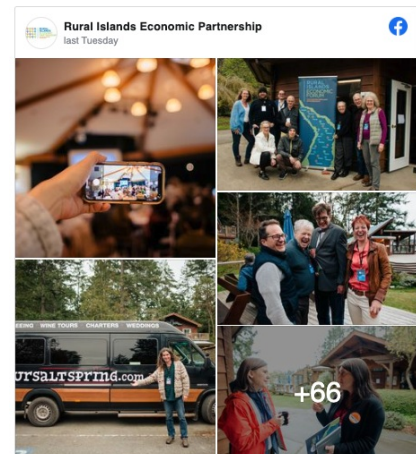
The **Rural Islands Economic Partnership (RIEP)** leads, inspires, and cultivates sustainable economic resilience and community well-being through collaborative initiatives and partnerships for the benefit of BC's rural islands, and the Indigenous Communities who have traditional or reserve lands on these islands.



## Spring 2023 Newsletter

# Island Resolve Shines Through at 2023 Forum

Over three days in late April, over 125 rural island residents, community leaders, business owners, advocates, supporters, allies and government representatives gathered at The Haven on Gabriola Island for...



Photos: Carla Duffey, [Lime Soda Photography](#)

- **Connection:** New or renewed, the value of the experiences shared over those three days cannot be overstated. In-person gatherings remain integral for building a sense of community on and between BC's rural island communities.
- **Reflection:** Thanks to the guidance and direction of facilitators and opening speakers, the ideas flowed - grounded in the collaborative work of the 2022 virtual Forum to move forward with recommendations for ....
- **Action:** The Forum was ultimately an experience of guided collaboration amongst all participants resulting in actionable outcomes -- the 2023 Forum Resolutions!

[Read 'Wrap-Up' News Post](#) about the 2023 RIEP Forum.

[Check Out the Outstanding 2023 RIEP Forum Program](#)

# Connection Cafe

## *Moving From Words To Action*

### 2023 RIEP Forum Resolutions

• FREE REGISTRATION •

Thursday, June 8, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

- Connect around the energy of the Resolutions
- Learn about the proposed process going forward
- Share your ideas
- Join in on next steps to help bring the Resolutions to life

[Register Here for RIEP Connection Cafe](#)



### 2023 Forum Outcomes - Action Resolutions

An intentional, collaborative process, led by RIEP members and representatives of local community organizations, NGOs, industry, and government, resulting in 7 written Resolutions that expressed the need for the islands to have greater authority, financial resources, and legislative and regulatory change.

#### For What Purpose?

To support and navigate the next few years and decades of change to the ecological, social, and economic systems upon which we are so dependent.



[Read more about 2023 Forum Resolutions.](#)

[2023 RIEP Forum Photo Albums On Facebook](#)



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## New Rising Tide Program: **SkillsUp!**



This summer, [Rising Tide Business Services](#) is launching its SkillsUp training program at a 2-day, blended (virtual/in-person) event in Alert Bay, Cormorant Island for 'Namgis and Whe-la-la-u Youth.

**SkillsUp will provide hands-on digital marketing training** to support creative freelancers or start-ups looking to develop their digital marketing skills, including courses focused on starting and growing a marketing business or team, project management best practices, and getting results from marketing and sales.

**SkillsUp courses** will have a particular focus on e-commerce and social media, including:

- Planning, design,
- Ongoing management—all the essentials for working with Rising Tide Business Services or build your own online business.

To learn about SkillsUp courses, [contact Sherese!](#)

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## Welcome New RIEP Members!

Since our last newsletter, 90 new members have joined to RIEP.

We'd like to welcome and recognize the following organization members for their support and for participating in the collective effort to create a healthy, resilient rural island communities.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • <a href="#">4VI</a>                              | • <a href="#">Gulf Islands Seniors Residence Association</a> |
| • <a href="#">BC Movement Arts Society</a>         | • <a href="#">Hornby Denman Health</a>                       |
| • <a href="#">BC Marine Trails</a>                 | • <a href="#">Island Pathways</a>                            |
| • <a href="#">BC Timber Goats</a>                  | • <a href="#">Localsalt Marketplace</a>                      |
| • <a href="#">Community Futures Central Island</a> |  |



- [Cortes Community EcDev Association](#)
- [Denman Housing Association](#)
- [Gabriola Food Hub](#)
- [Gabriola Island Recycling Organization](#)

- [Salt Spring Arts](#)
- [Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust](#)
- [Sointula Resource Centre](#)
- [Thetis Island Farm Cooperative](#)
- [Vancouver Island Economic Alliance](#)

## Be The Change

The Rural Islands Economic Partnership serves as a platform for community collaboration, engagement and collective action. RIEP delivers economic capacity building programs and activities delivered through the lens of climate adaptation and Reconciliation.

[Join RIEP](#) and be a force for good change.



**CONNECT**



Monthly Connection  
Café meetup

**GROW**



Affordable digital  
marketing tools

**INFLUENCE**



Become a voice for  
change + action

**SHAPE**



Participate in a  
RIEP Committee

*We respectfully acknowledge that this correspondence has been sent from the traditional unceded territories of the Hul'qumi'num and SENĆOŦEN speaking peoples.*



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