



ONWARD INTO 2025

Network > Advocate > Support > Activate

As RIEP embarks on another year of fostering connection, collaboration, and coordinated action on behalf of the rural and remote coastal communities of BC—from Alert Bay to Port McNeill, Campbell River to Cortes, Gabriola to Salt Spring, Pender to Sooke, Bowen Island and beyond—

• We Thank YOU For Supporting RIEP •

On behalf of the RIEP Board of Directors, we are pleased to continue our impact as RIEP celebrates its 5th year supporting rural coastal and island communities through the visionary leadership of local community champions. In 2024, we worked together to solidify our purpose:

RIEP serves to empower British Columbia's rural islands and remote coastal communities by honouring reconciliation and by collaborating and convening to share information, resources, and opportunities. We network, advocate, support and activate communities towards achieving enduring socio-economic well-being together.

In 2024 RIEP focused on developing valuable partnerships that reflect the needs of rural coastal and Indigenous communities.

Our efforts included:

- Assisting 15 businesses to access and leverage the Canadian Digital Adoption Grant money to support business growth with Rising Tide Business Services.
- Supporting the Rural Housing Now Policy Action - SRD & CRD resolutions.
- Extending Rising Tide Business Services as a member benefit for critical rural coastal organizations like VIEA, Sooke Business Services Coop, BC Farmers Market Association. and Campbell River Economic Development.
- Canvassed election candidates during the BC Provincial election, highlighting critical issues for our stakeholder regions.
- Supported three island businesses to complete Project Zero with Synergy Foundation, contributing to the movement towards a circular economy.

In 2025, we look forward to working together to have an even greater impact as we collectively strive towards building regenerative and prosperous communities. We hope to see familiar and new faces at our upcoming virtual forum, sharing the innovations, advocacy and best practices of rural and island communities that is the hallmark of coastal leadership.

With gratitude and gusto!

Francine Z. Carlin

Chair, RIEP's Board of Directors



SAVE THE DATE

Thurs. March 6 - Fri. March 7

9:15 AM - 12:15 PM



Adaptation & Resilience: Supporting Regenerative Economies

A One-Of-A-Kind Virtual Event



1-NETWORK – Re-connect and make new connections—in small groups and 1-on-1.

2- ADVOCATE – Raise awareness, influence, educate and promote policies which will meet the essential needs of BC's coastal communities.

3- SUPPORT – Learn about innovative solutions and lessons-learned for advancing inclusive regenerative local economies. Featuring: *AI Impacts and Shared Services Integration*

4-ACTIVATE- Together, we can utilize our shared knowledge, resources, and perspectives towards taking actionable steps leading to meaningful, positive change."

Early Bird Tickets Launch February 1st

What Past Attendees Say

"A unique gathering of people who were very engaged with helping their own community within the scope and understanding of working together for the greater good."

"The Forum tackles big topics with great minds and focuses on values-based outcomes for problem solving while supporting community economic development in our region".

"This was a great opportunity to network and get up to speed on what's happening in our rural remote island and coastal communities"

"It was the best yet. I found the tone and tempo good, music in the downtime enjoyable."

"I loved how many diverse voices and perspectives were at the Forum "

"A great opportunity to connect and build collaborative relationships with folks living and working in coastal communities to build capacity overall."

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LET'S TALK

Book a Call at RisingTideBusiness.ca

TOGETHER
We Are Building A
Vibrant Rural-Coastal Communities Network



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We respectfully acknowledge that this correspondence has been sent from the traditional unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the WSÁNEĆ First Nations and Hul'quimi'num Treaty Group, whose historical relationship with the land continues to this day.



**RURAL
ISLANDS
ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP**
CULTIVATING RESILIENT
PARTNERSHIPS

The **Rural Islands Economic Partnership (RIEP)** empowers British Columbia's rural islands and remote coastal communities by honouring reconciliation and facilitating, convening and collaborating to share information, resources, and opportunities. Through networking, advocacy, support, and community activation, we work together to achieve lasting socio-economic well-

Follow us:



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