



Jill Thompson <jill@cowichanwatershedboard.ca>

2021 In Review: Successes in BC!

Our Water BC <info@freshwateralliance.ca>
To: Jill Thompson <jill@cowichanwatershedboard.ca>

23 December 2021 at 15:00



Dear Jill,

As the team here at the Canadian Freshwater Alliance gears up for 2022, we're taking time to reflect on what we have accomplished as a freshwater community in 2021. We don't always take the time to celebrate but this is just the time of year to do it! I hope you'll read these incredible achievements and feel inspired by the many changes you've helped make possible throughout

this year.

In 2021, the Canadian Freshwater Alliance...

- [Launched the Freshwater Stream podcast](#), a six-episode series that featured the stories of people who are working on freshwater issues in their communities across the province. The team is currently working on season two, which will premiere in early 2022 - stay tuned!
- After this year's summer of drought, we knew we couldn't stand by watching our water being extracted, wrapped in plastic and sold for profit anymore. So, in support of the report released by the University of Victoria's Environmental Law program and in partnership with community partners in BC's Golden and Merville, we launched [our Ban the Bottlers campaign, calling for a BC-wide moratorium on groundwater extraction for bottling and export](#). We've already gathered over 4,900 signatures and there's still time for you to add yours!
- [Our CodeBlue BC campaign has grown exponentially, with thousands of folks rallying around our Facebook page and taking action to defend BC's fresh water](#). Some recent CodeBlue community wins include sending over 540 letters to stop clearcutting from taking place in Vernon's Duteau Creek watershed and sending over 1,500 letters to the Lower Mainland municipalities, successfully petitioning them to vote in favour of creating a dedicated, sustainably funded BC Watershed Security Fund.
- Through the Our Water BC program, we lead a network of grassroots watershed initiatives across the province to defend their watersheds. [Check out a few of their highlights and accomplishments in this short video!](#)
- The Canadian Freshwater Alliance and seventeen fellow water organizations [made sure that fresh water was well represented in the BC budget this year](#). Recommendation #54 of the report states that the Province should: Increase funding for watershed security to advance maintenance, conservation and protection of BC's watersheds.

We also received a personal shout-out on page 41: *"The Canadian Freshwater Alliance noted that water management needs to better incorporate local input, especially First Nations, who must have*

meaningful decision-making authority.”

There's no doubt in my mind: together, we can make a difference for the health of fresh water in BC.

I'm looking forward to accomplishing even more in 2022.

Danielle Paydli
Director, BC Programs
Canadian Freshwater Alliance

P.S. You can help protect and preserve fresh water in BC by becoming a monthly donor today. Even \$5 a month makes a difference.



Canadian Freshwater Alliance · [163 Hastings St W, 400, Vancouver, BC V6B 1H5, Canada](#)

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