



**ROYAL CANADIAN MARINE
SEARCH & RESCUE**
Saving Lives on the Water

Charting a course forward

2022

ANNUAL REPORT





Table of Contents

Our Mission and Vision	Page 4
Message from the Board Chair and CEO	Page 5
Volunteer Impact	Page 6
RCMSAR Highlights	Page 7
Where we are	Page 8
Northern Region	Page 9
Central Region	Page 10
Southern Region	Page 11
Recognizing Our Volunteers	Page 12
RCMSAR Volunteer of the Year	Page 13
Financial Information	Page 14



OUR MISSION

Saving lives
on the water.

OUR VISION

Excellence in
community-based
marine safety.

Thank
you!

*We are saving lives on the water thanks
to generous supporters like you!*

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND CEO

For RCMSAR, the last year can be described as extremely challenging yet hugely rewarding. Responding to over 515 search and rescue missions along the coast and inland waters of BC, we have achieved our mission of “saving lives on the water”. The amazing dedication and professionalism of RCMSAR’s 900 volunteers is evident in these results with the 461 lives they have saved or assisted.

We continue to receive significant support from our partners such as the Canadian Coast Guard and the Province of British Columbia but most importantly from the communities in which our stations are located. Without their support we would not be able to purchase the vessels and equipment necessary to carry out the extensive training required to ensure that our crews are ready to respond at a moment’s notice.

As an organization we have made significant progress in moving forward in many areas. We are in the process of updating our strategic plan that will chart the course forward meeting the evolving needs of our volunteers and the boating public for the foreseeable future. We have made huge strides in improving and broadening the public awareness of our impact highlighting the contributions of our amazing volunteers through their incredible stories of search and rescue.

As we move into the coming year, we will continue to advance our training modernization project and conduct new fundraising initiatives while maximizing partnerships that serve to enhance our abilities to respond to marine emergencies, swiftly and safely. Our volunteers will always respond to mariners’ calls for help while accepting the inherent risks that come with each mission. To meet these goals, we will continue to rely on the amazing support that we receive from our search and rescue partners and from the generosity of British Columbians.

Together, we are “saving lives on the water”.



Sincerely,

Tracy Lakeman,
Board Chair



Bill Riggs,
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Directors *2021–2022*

Tracy Lakeman, Board Chair

John McCoach, Vice Chair

Bruce Hayne, Secretary

Susan Archibald*

Tim Ayres

Linda Blake

Michael Ervin⁺

Nelson R. Jatel

Catherine Lau

Scott Palmer

Cliff Stewart

Hans Verbeek⁺

Grant Watkins*

**Outgoing Board of Directors*

⁺Incoming as of September 20

VOLUNTEER IMPACT

“Working alongside my friends and neighbours in my community serving the common good.”

Community, serving the common good and saving others in their time of need are many of the reasons why over 900 dedicated search and rescue professionals from 31 marine SAR stations across the province of British Columbia volunteer for the Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue. Each year, thousands of volunteer hours are directed to protecting lives in the communities we serve, training hard towards the shared goal of saving lives on the water.

In 2021, our volunteers conducted over 3,600 training exercises in order to safely and effectively answer 515 calls for help. The support and generosity of our partners and donors helped our volunteers dedicate over 57,000 collective hours in pursuit of saving or assisting 461 lives on the water.

“Giving back to the community.”

“Feeling a sense of self pride that something I am doing can have a positive impact on others in their time of need.”

Total RCMSAR Missions by year



“Being in the RCMSAR is not just about going out and rescuing people. It’s also about boater safety and trying to educate people about being safe on the water.”



Max Erwin
Coxswain and Volunteer since 2018
– RCMSAR 64 Prince Rupert
Photo credit: K-J Millar, the Prince Rupert Northern View

RCMSAR HIGHLIGHTS

376

Day
Missions

515

Missions
Conducted

139

Night
Missions

31

Stations

974

Volunteers

57,435

Volunteer
Hours

371

People
Assisted

21.5
MINUTES

Average
Response Time

90

People
Saved



NORTHERN REGION

(North Coast, Haida Gwaii)

5

Stations

CENTRAL REGION

(Vancouver Island, Gulf Islands)

15

Stations

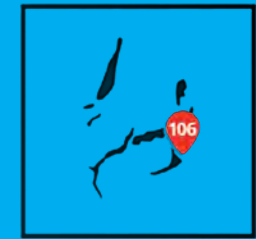
SOUTHERN REGION

(Lower Mainland/Shuswap)

10+1

SAR
prevention
station

Stations



SHUSWAP LAKE

WHERE WE ARE

NORTHERN REGION

HARTLEY BAY – STATION 70
KITIMAT – STATION 63
LAX KW'ALAAMS – STATION 65
MASSET – STATION 45
PRINCE RUPERT – STATION 64

9

vessels

97

volunteers

30

missions

12

people
saved

28

people
assisted



The Hon. Mike Farnworth and local MLA Jennifer Rice stop by RCMSAR 45's newest Kids Don't Float PFD Loaner Station providing children in Masset free access to lifejackets.



Cadets and staff from the Northern BC CAP toured RCMSAR 63's boathouse and took to the water to learn about Marine SAR and marine safety.



RCMSAR volunteers training alongside the Haida Watchmen, Haida Fisheries and Coastal Nations Search and Rescue with the Canadian Coast Guard training team.

NOTABLE MISSION

Coghlan Vessel On Fire, July 11, 2021

RCMSAR 70 Crew: Marven Robinson, Stanley Robinson, Mary Anne Reece, Katherine Robinson, Robin Robinson, Dwayne Fisher, Donald Reece and Edward Robinson

At 0100 hrs, RCMSAR 70 Hartley Bay received a call that a vessel was on fire in Coghlan Anchorage with 2 persons in the water. All three of our crews arrived on the scene, conducted fire fighting and searched for survivors. RCMSAR volunteer Marven Robinson reported, "Got a call of a vessel on fire with 2 persons in the water, got to my vessel...got on scene and saw the vessel was fully engulfed [on fire]. I immediately lifted one engine to spray it with my prop wash, I was concerned if it drifted to shore while burning it would start a forest fire. Got the fire out then the vessel sank. After the vessel sank, we joined in the search for survivors and transported them to shore. We then rejoined the search and recovered the two fatalities." From boaters missing, under medical duress to vessels out of fuel, broken down or on fire, our volunteers experience that proud feeling of saving lives and the immense weight of loss for those who did not make it. This mission is one of three recognized by the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) for an outstanding operation in the 2021-22 fiscal year.

CENTRAL REGION

BRENTWOOD BAY – STATION 31
 COMOX – STATION 60
 COWICHAN BAY – STATION 34
 DEEP BAY – STATION 59
 LADYSMITH – STATION 29
 NANAIMO – STATION 27
 OAK BAY – STATION 33
 PENDER ISLAND – STATION 20

PORT ALBERNI – STATION 39
 PORT ALICE – STATION 43
 SALT SPRING ISLAND – STATION 25
 SIDNEY – STATION 36
 SOOKE – STATION 37
 UCLUELET – STATION 38
 VICTORIA – STATION 35

20
vessels

484
volunteers

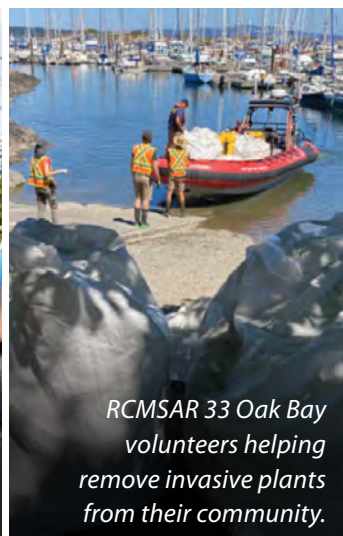
240
missions

38
people saved

152
people assisted



RCMSAR 60 volunteers sharing safety awareness tips and joining the parade at the annual Comox Nautical Days celebrations.



RCMSAR 33 Oak Bay volunteers helping remove invasive plants from their community.



RCMSAR 27 Nanaimo conducting evacuation exercise with the Canadian Coast Guard off Gabriola Island.

NOTABLE MISSIONS — JRCC OUTSTANDING OPERATIONS

Call for Help Near Iron Mine Bay, November 24, 2021

RCMSAR 37 Crew: Chris Reburn, Ian Waugh, Amber Sheasgreen and Steven Whitworth

One afternoon a hiker heard calls for help near Iron Mine Bay in East Sooke. Two people experienced a fall down a cliff ending up in the water below. RCMSAR 37 Sooke responded and upon arrival a man appeared cold and distraught; a second person was present but not moving. While the rock extraction was extremely challenging, the man suffering from mild hypothermia was safely transported to awaiting Emergency Health Services with help from a RCMP Officer and a civilian. RCMSAR 37's second crew transported volunteer fire fighters and CCG lifeboat crew to recover the second person who sadly perished.

Sinking of a Fishing Vessel in Georgia Strait, November 15, 2021

RCMSAR 29 Crew: Phillip Kelsey, Ross Hayes, John Oakes, Susan Wisely

On a rainy afternoon in November, RCMSAR 29 was returning from an earlier mission when they were alerted of a Mayday call from a 40' power vessel disabled and taking on water near Thrasher Rock in the Strait of Georgia. When our volunteers arrived, the disabled vessel's large boom was swinging as the boat rolled heavily. The engine was disabled, the fuel line damaged and the conditions were challenging with six foot seas and winds at 20 knots. The two occupants did not have lifejackets but were instructed to wear the survival suits they had on board. The vessel sank within 10 minutes of retrieving the two occupants who likely would not have survived without help.

SOUTHERN REGION

CRESCENT BEACH – STATION 5
 DELTA – STATION 8
 GIBSONS – STATION 14
 HALFMOON BAY – STATION 12
 NORTH VANCOUVER – STATION 2
 PENDER HARBOUR – STATION 61

RICHMOND – STATION 10
 SHUSWAP – STATION 106
 SQUAMISH – STATION 4
 WEST VANCOUVER – STATION 1
 VANCOUVER SAR PREVENTION – STATION 103



RCMSAR 5 Crescent Beach at a Canada Day community event in White Rock.



RCMSAR 1 promoting boating safety at the West Vancouver Yacht Club.



RCMSAR 106 Shuswap participating in the Pulling Together Canoe Journey by safely monitoring the waters.



RCMSAR volunteers attending the annual Girls Fly Too event in Abbotsford encouraging girls and women to enter the fields of aviation, aerospace, marine, defence and high-tech STEM.



NOTABLE MISSION

Mayday 2 Persons-In-Water and Sunken Boat, July 24th, 2021

RCMSAR 2 Crew: Bruce Chan, Ford Smith, Tessa Hanlon (Junior Member)

On a sunny day in July, a strong current caused distress for many sailors around the waters of the North Shore. RCMSAR 2 North Vancouver volunteers were already helping people back to shore, after many drifted towards the inner harbour, when they received an Mayday call on VHF marine radio of two persons in the water. Travelling from Kitsilano, a vessel ran into trouble and started to sink near Navy Jack Point Park. Upon arrival a small vessel of opportunity recovered one of the persons in the water. Our crew promptly manoeuvred into position to recover the second person. The small fibreglass runabout boat capsized with only a part of the bow visible above the water line. Fortunately, the two persons saved were uninjured nor hypothermic thanks to the lifejackets they wore and the quick response of our crew. The couple were transported back to their vehicle in Kitsilano and the boat was safely extracted from the water by the Canadian Coast Guard.



RECOGNIZING OUR VOLUNTEERS

The sense of service to communities, and assisting individuals in need, motivates our members to volunteer day and night no matter the time of year nor conditions on the water. Each year, RCMSAR celebrates the countless hours our colleagues and crewmates selflessly dedicate in pursuit of saving lives. In 2021 and 2022, the following volunteers have been recognized for their outstanding service under the following Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA) and RCMSAR Awards.

CCGA Administrative Excellence Medal

2021

Alistair Duncan, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Brad Grindler, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
John Harper, RCMSAR Station 31 Brentwood Bay
Jacobus Zwaan, RCMSAR 34 Cowichan Bay
Chris Ashurst, RCMSAR 45 Masset

2022

Kevin Cattell, RCMSAR 2 North Vancouver
John Metzger, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Mike Murphy, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Tim Slaney, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Sheryl Eaton, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay
Larry Highcock, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay
Hugh Jackson, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay

CCGA Exemplary Service Medal

2021

Ian Grantham, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Christopher Gouglas, Board of Governors

2022

Shawn Burchett, RCMSAR 2 North Vancouver
Gordie Robinson, RCMSAR 34 Cowichan Bay

CCGA Humanitarian Services Medal

2022

Amber Sheasgreen, RCMSAR Headquarters, RCMSAR 37 Sooke,
RCMSAR 64 Prince Rupert

CCGA Leadership Medal

2021

Kevin Faw, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Nic Futter, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Tom McKeachie, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Ian Waugh, RCMSAR 37 Sooke
Don Kerr, RCMSAR 60 Comox
Roch Massicotte, RCMSAR 60 Comox
Don Simpson, RCMSAR 39 Port Alberni
Peter Tabler, RCMSAR 39 Port Alberni

2022

Gerard McKenzie, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Hans Verbeek, RCMSAR 8 Delta
David Cassidy, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Paul FitzZaland, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Andrew Ross Collins, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Kim Bentzon, RCMSAR 33 Oak Bay
Ian Arklie, RCMSAR 39 Port Alberni
Graham Smart, RCMSAR 60 Comox

CCGA Long Service Medal

25 years of Service

2021

Reuben Dennis, RCMSAR 65 Lax Kw'alaams
James Henry, RCMSAR 65 Lax Kw'alaams
Darrin Tait, RCMSAR 65 Lax Kw'alaams
Keith Wesley, RCMSAR 65 Lax Kw'alaams
Mike Michalson, RCMSAR Station 103 Vancouver
John Spencer-Nairn, RCMSAR Station 103 Vancouver

2022

Kim Bentzon, RCMSAR 33 Oak Bay
Simon Gattrell, RCMSAR 35 Victoria
John Simpson, RCMSAR 8 Delta

30 years of Service

2021

Ron Robson, RCMSAR 10 Richmond
Shawn Burchett, RCMSAR 2 North Vancouver
Jay Willoughby, RCMSAR 2 North Vancouver
Bruce Jones, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay
Gordon Jones, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay
Duncan Peacock, RCMSAR 63 Kitimat

2022

Hugh Kelsey, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Jerry Hunter, RCMSAR 33 Oak Bay
Derek Harris, RCMSAR 60 Comox
Garry Brown, RCMSAR 60 Comox

35 years of Service

2021

Barry Hastings, RCMSAR 10 Richmond

2022

Bruce Falkins, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver

CCGA Operational Merit Medal

2021 – RCMSAR 106 Shuswap

Frederick Banham
Michael Dupuis
Marie Gray
Allen Langworth
Norma Leslie
Bruce Weicker

2022 – RCMSAR 29 Ladysmith

Ross Hayes
Phillip Kelsey
John Oakes
Susan Wisely

RCMSAR CEO Commendation

2021

Jason King, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Susie Inkpen, RCMSAR 5 Crescent Beach
John McCorquodale, RCMSAR 8 Delta
Ross Davis, RCMSAR 29 Ladysmith
Susan Wisely, RCMSAR 29 Ladysmith
Geoff Krause, RCMSAR 31 Brentwood Bay
Will Schmalz, RCMSAR 37 Sooke
Max Erwin, RCMSAR 64 Prince Rupert

2022

Simon Pearce, RCMSAR 10 Richmond
David Croal, RCMSAR 14 Gibsons
Paul Murray, RCMSAR 31 Brentwood Bay
Barrie Anderson, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay
Ian Wright, RCMSAR 61 Pender Harbour

RCMSAR New Member Award

2021

Melissa Hayward, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island
Scott Harold, RCMSAR 5 Crescent Beach

2022

Peter Miles-Mackay, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Dale Skoreyko, RCMSAR 59 Deep Bay

RCMSAR Life Membership

2021

Ken Morissette, RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island

2022

Hugh Kelsey, RCMSAR 1 West Vancouver
Randy Strandt, RCMSAR 2 North Vancouver
Brian Crompt, RCMSAR 29 Ladysmith

RCMSAR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Volunteer of the Year Award acknowledges an individual volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to their station or the organization. Congratulations to Nic Futter and Calum Davidson who received the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

2021 — NIC FUTTER

RCMSAR 25 Salt Spring Island

Nic Futter is a member of Station 25's Management and Training teams who leads weekly on-the-water sessions and is responsible for new crew orientation. A former station leader, society board member and a skilled coxswain, Nic is respected for his wise leadership, his personal knowledge and practical expertise in operations and maintenance of the station's marine equipment and vessel. Having participated in more than 60 SAR missions, Nic brings a high level of confidence on the water with his clear understanding of policy, practical knowledge and communication of whatever task or mission is at hand. Nic is not only a dedicated RCMSAR member, he also volunteers his time in the Salt Spring Island community for a variety of causes and events. Bravo Zulu, Nic!



2022 — CALUM DAVIDSON

RCMSAR 4 Squamish

Calum Davidson's personal contributions made both to RCMSAR and the community of Squamish are significant and worthy of recognition. Holding leadership positions within Station 4 and the Howe Sound Marine Rescue Society, Calum is also responsible for vessel maintenance, overseeing and coordinating the schedule for maintenance and re-configuring vessel inspections to ensure minimal downtime of critical SAR assets in the region. Calum is respected amongst his crew as an active participant and a leader in SAR operations, dedicating an exceptional number of hours in the classroom and on the water training the newest cohort RCMSAR volunteers. Thank you for your dedication, Calum!

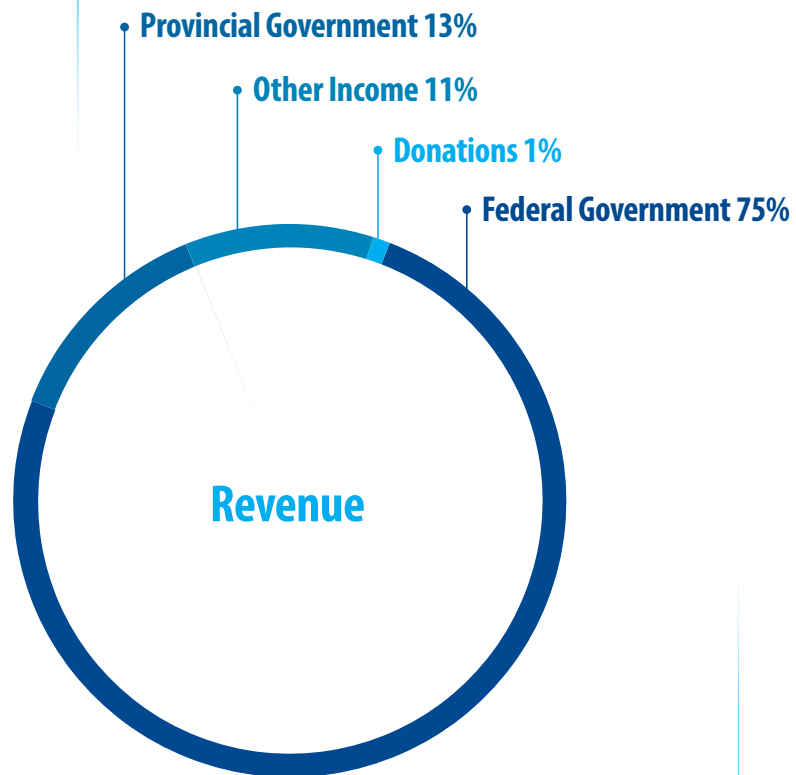


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following financial highlights are based on RCMSAR Headquarters' financial statements for our year ending March 31, 2022. These statements are audited by KPMG LLP Chartered Professional Accountants and are available online at rcmsar.com/financials.

REVENUE

Federal Government	75%
Provincial Government	13%
Other income	11%
Donations	1%



EXPENSES

SAR Operations	69%
Administration	23%
Amortization	5%
Other Expenses	3%

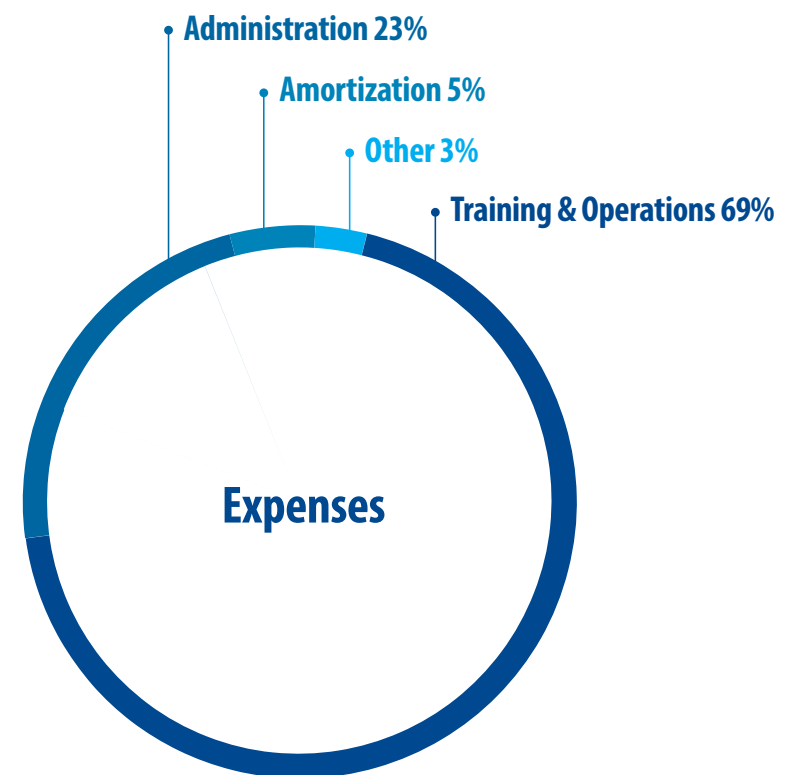


Photo: RCMSAR Station 36 Sidney & Saanich Marine Rescue Society volunteers at the 2021 BC Boat Show at Port Sidney Marina.



DID YOU KNOW?

RCMSAR receives funding from the federal and provincial governments. However, the total financial needs of RCMSAR requires volunteers to conduct additional fundraising for training, life-saving equipment, vessels, and other costs to keep local stations open and operational.



Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Inc

6040 East Sooke Road, Sooke, BC V9Z 0Z7
1-800-665-4757 | info@rcmsar.com | www.rcmsar.com



Charitable registration number: 1068 63137 RR0001