

Innovative Research Solutions For Island Communities Through Experiential Learning

CARTI UPDATE

CARTI has been busy coordinating innovative projects that link community needs and interest with opportunities for experiential learning opportunities and applied research.

These projects contribute to social and ecological innovation. They also bring in valuable funding dollars and allows us to leverage new funding opportunities. For example, the new bioreactor project was funded by Canada Foundation for Innovation and B.C. Knowledge Development Fund but **leveraged an additional \$3.6 million in new funding!**

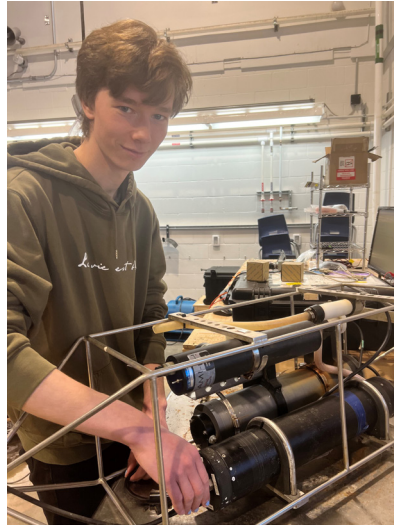
In 2023-24, CARTI worked on 20 collaborative projects and filled 32 student positions.

New CARTI Manager

Rhianna Nagel is CARTI's new manager. Nagel replaces Naomi Tabata, who has a new role as the director for Envision North Island and CARTI.

Rhianna has led collaborative research and innovation teams and projects since 2014, as a Research and Programs Coordinator and then Manager of Community-Engaged Learning at UVic.

Welcome Rhianna!



Student William Badzio-George works on a ocean sensor in the Seaweed Innovation lab.



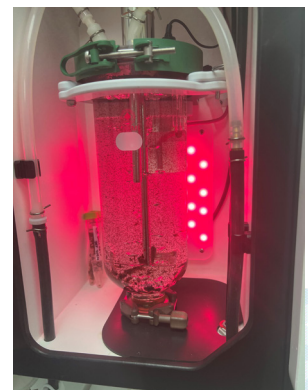
New CARTI Manager, Rhianna Nagel

Bioreactor Arrives

The new bioreactor has been installed in the Seaweed Innovation Lab. The equipment will assist in investigating key questions about seaweed seed production. The project will support optimizing seaweed nursery parameters and innovating new methods of seed production to support the growth of the seaweed sector in British Columbia. Reach out to CARTI if you would like a tour!



The new bioreactor equipment in the CARTI lab on Campbell River Campus.



A close up of one of the bioreactor tanks that contain kelp sori.

ANNUAL REPORT
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 COMING SOON!

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Student Profile: Amber Urbshas

Amber Urbshas' experience with CARTI has been a rewarding one as she has had worked on a variety of projects that include fieldwork and lab time.

In July, Amber had the opportunity to participate in an ongoing Geoduck farming project with local First Nations in Bella Bella and Klemtu.

In the lab, Amber has been conducting water analysis during kelp growth cycles in aquaria. "The lab experience has been invaluable, not only for building my comfort with the equipment but also for immersing myself in CARTI's collaborative and team-oriented atmosphere," says Amber.

Additionally, Amber has been involved in creating an overview of the kelp sector in B.C., researching organizations working with kelp, and exploring innovative ideas and partnerships that have emerged in the field.

"Working with CARTI has provided me with extensive hands-on and collaborative experience - opportunities that may not be as readily available at larger institutions," she says. "This time has given me insight into future career possibilities and what they might entail on a day-to-day basis, broadening my options for the future."



CARTI Student Research Assistant, Amber Urbshas



Amber Urbshas gathers kelp sori.

Seaweed Pilot

North Island College received \$1.2M from the Government of British Columbia over three years to implement a seaweed industry pilot project.

The project will see up to 80 learners take part in seven micro-credentials and hands-on field training starting this winter.

The provincial funding will cover students' tuition costs as well as a variety of other supports.

The training will focus on seaweed cultivation, processing, and marketing, and aims to promote economic resiliency for communities on northern Vancouver Island.

**HAVE A
RESEARCH IDEA?
CONTACT:
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