



BC SEARCH AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
November 18, 2024



The British Columbia Search and Rescue Association proudly celebrates the 20th anniversary of its BC AdventureSmart program!

Celebrate 20 Years of BC AdventureSmart!

Join us on November 22, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at 501 Belleville Street, Victoria, B.C., as the British Columbia Search and Rescue Association (BCSARA) commemorates two decades of BC AdventureSmart (+ a 'sneak peek' celebratory webinar Nov. 20 [SEE HERE!](#))

We invite media, search and rescue volunteers, supporters, outdoor recreation partners, and the public to celebrate our rich history and envision a bright future for outdoor safety in B.C.

As we celebrate two decades of success on November 22, 2024, we'll be:

- Reflecting on our startup journey
- Celebrating 20 yrs of growth
- Acknowledging provincial support
- Showcasing remarkable achievements
- Sharing heart-warming stories
- Highlighting innovative initiatives
- Thanking dedicated volunteers and staff
- Previewing future endeavors

Since its inception on November 22, 2004, BC AdventureSmart has been a cornerstone of outdoor education supported by the province's Emergency Management and Climate Readiness. Over the past 20 years, **the program has been exposed to millions of outdoor enthusiasts**, and educated upwards of 400,000 B.C. enthusiasts in-person, through outreach and collaboration with industry partners. BC AdventureSmart promotes a culture of preparedness, ensuring that adventurers are equipped with best practices for safe exploration.

By leveraging search and rescue data and developing targeted initiatives, we aim to foster responsible outdoor participation with goals of lessening impacts on search and rescue.

Join us in championing safe outdoor adventures and making a positive impact in our province. With BC AdventureSmart, every adventure can be a safe adventure!

Media Only Contact Information

British Columbia Search and Rescue Association
250-513-0181 / media@bcsara.com

About BCSARA

Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) in British Columbia is provided solely by highly trained volunteers. On call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, these skilled professionals provide their time, dedication, and expertise at no cost to the individuals they rescue. BC SAR teams have never not responded to an activation in the 22-year history of the BCSARA organization. BCSARA is proud to represent the 3,400+ GSAR volunteers in B.C. who make up 78 teams across the province.

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How to request search and rescue help

All requests must go through 9-1-1 or, if using a satellite phone, through the Emergency Coordination Centre at 1-800-663-3456. Do NOT wait 24 hours to report someone overdue or missing. SAR teams can only be activated by a requesting agency such as the police or BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS).

There is NO CHARGE FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE in British Columbia, learn more [here](#).

To DONATE to support these volunteers, please visit [here](#).

AdventureSmart website (national platform) visit [here](#).

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