



BC SEARCH AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION



Chris Mushumanski, British Columbia Search and Rescue Association President quotes:

"As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of BC AdventureSmart, I am filled with immense pride in the vital role this program has played in empowering outdoor enthusiasts to explore the breathtaking terrain of British Columbia with both confidence and safety.

Over the past two decades, AdventureSmart has reached millions, equipping them with essential knowledge and skills to enjoy our beautiful wilderness responsibly. This achievement is a testament to the strong foundation built by the founders and creators of the program, whose commitment to providing reliable, data-driven outdoor education has set the standard for excellence in safety training.

Through collaborative efforts with industry partners, AdventureSmart has developed targeted initiatives that have not only helped the program grow but have also ensured that it remains relevant and effective in today's ever-evolving outdoor landscape.

Looking ahead, we're excited about the future initiatives on the horizon, particularly those focused on multicultural outreach, outdoor recreation business accreditation, provincial grants, and ground search and rescue prevention projects.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the province for their unwavering support, as well as to the dedicated team of leaders, staff, search and rescue volunteers, and ambassador educators who have passionately delivered AdventureSmart programs to those exploring our magnificent landscapes.

Together, we're fostering a culture of safety and awareness that will benefit generations to come with an excellence in safety training all of which is helping to reduce the impacts on our dedicated, and decorated, search and rescue volunteer members. More than 400,000 adults and youth have been reached directly by BC AdventureSmart educators in British Columbia and millions reached online, truly remarkable and the envy of the world!"

British Columbia Search and Rescue Association

Sandra Riches, BC AdventureSmart executive director quotes:

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"I am incredibly excited to celebrate the 20th anniversary of BC AdventureSmart! Being directly involved in this program, since 2005, has been a profound honor for me, and I take immense pride in what we've accomplished over the years. Our mission to educate outdoor enthusiasts about personal preparedness and best practices is crucial in minimizing risks and reducing the burden on our dedicated search and rescue volunteers.

I am proud to support the 442 volunteer educators across British Columbia who tirelessly share this vital knowledge, and it is truly an honor to support the 3,400 rescue volunteers who respond to over 1,750 search and rescue incidents each year.

The partnerships and champions within the outdoor recreation community have been instrumental in helping this program flourish, expand, and adapt to emerging trends in creative outdoor education.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the province for their continuous support, which has been essential in allowing this program to thrive. Their commitment to our mission empowers us to reach more individuals and communities, ensuring that outdoor safety education remains a priority.

Seeing BC AdventureSmart evolve into a national program in 2009 and gaining international recognition has been incredibly rewarding. I am grateful for the opportunity to manage this initiative and excited for what lies ahead as we continue to educate and empower outdoor enthusiasts around the globe."