

**Gordon Brent Brochu-Ingram** BFA MSc PhD \* **KEXMIN** field station

Post Office Box 88 Fulford Harbour \* Salt Spring Island \* British Columbia V8K 2P2  
778 354 2505 | [studio@gordonbrentingram.ca](mailto:studio@gordonbrentingram.ca) | [gordon\\_brent\\_ingram1966@yahoo.ca](mailto:gordon_brent_ingram1966@yahoo.ca)

October 13, 2022

guide to the October 19, 2022 field trip for the  
SFU-BCIT MSc program in Ecological Restoration

## **Reimagining Skwáchá'ys:**

Restoration strategizing & experimentation for the vestigial and  
resurgent wetlands of central Vancouver as contemporary culture

### **preparation for field trip**

1. review some of the pages of the still underwater project site:

[www.gordonbrentingram.ca/stillunderwater](http://www.gordonbrentingram.ca/stillunderwater)

2. view the first 5 minutes or all of the video made especially for this field trip,

Reimagining Skwáchá'ys \* 28 minutes

<https://vimeo.com/759250248><https://vimeo.com/759250248>

### **optional questions to explore over the next decade**

- A. What are locations of three channels that you might want to consider proposing that would allow freshwater to better drain the area (and sometimes accumulate in pools) and meet sea water *uncovered* allowing for tidal action?
- B. What are three native plant species from the area that you would consider re-establishing in order to initiate restoration of the ecosystems of Skwáchá'ys (and that you would consider propagating, installing, and defending)?

### **meeting**

#### **start**

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. @

the north-east ('ecological restoration') corner of Trillium Park at Malkin Avenue and the north end of Thornton Street (not the south end of Thornton by the new subway terminal on Great Northern Way)

Gordon Brent Brochu-Ingram \* KEXMIN field station  
 guide to the October 19, 2022 field trip for the SFU-BCIT MSc program in Ecological Restoration  
 Reimagining Skwácháys: Restoration strategizing & experimentation  
for the vestigial and resurgent wetlands of central Vancouver as contemporary culture

### ***final discussion meet-up***

3:45 p.m. at the front of Emily Carr University of Art and Design (ECUAD) 520 E 1st Avenue (along Great Northern Way) !!! Nemesis Cafe in the adjacent, red futuristic circular building is only open until 4 p.m. so arriving and ordering a bit before 3:45 p.m. would be wise for people who need to have the wrap-up discussion over a beverage.

### **walking team**

counter-clockwise around the north-west, west, and south-west shores of Skwácháys

- Walk two short blocks north on Malkin Avenue.
- After the first block, look at the houses along Atlantic Street where the first, lower houses were built as beach houses along Skwácháys (and the houses further along Atlantic were built for their scenic views of Skwácháys).
- Go north another short block and go left (west) on Prior roughly along the historic north-western shore of Skwácháys. Marvel at the St Paul's Hospital site.
- Go west on Prior for three short blocks along the historic north-western shore of Skwácháys to Station Street.
- Station Street is on the historic north-western shore of Skwácháys as it moved west along the northern of the two peninsulas on either side of the narrow channel (called KIWAHUSKS) that fed Skwácháys. Go south on Station Street to Thornton Park and the front of the train station that was built on a tidal island in 1917. Reflect on the Marker for Change monument in Thornton Park.
- ***Meet Brochu-Ingram at 3:10 p.m. for a discussion.***
- Go south through Thornton Park and cross Terminal Avenue.
- Jog right (west) to Western Street (on the historic south-western shore of Skwácháys). Go south four blocks to Industrial Avenue.
- Jog west on Industrial Avenue for a few feet to Main Street and then turn left at East 1st Avenue (***below*** the historic south-western shore of Skwácháys). This area is already vulnerable to flooding.
- Go east three blocks along East 1st Avenue to Scotia Street that was the mouth of Scotia Creek and a major estuary. Also detour left (south) to look at the low elevations of the public dog park (and signs of homeless camping).
- Go south. up Scotia Street one short block along south shore of Skwácháys.
- Follow East 2nd Avenue two short blocks to the construction pit for the eastern terminus of the new East-West Subway. That subway hub is being engineered to stay above some rising seas and to minimize flooding.
- Walk a short city block to the ECUAD campus.
- Go inside the main ECUAD building, greet the security office, and look out the large window at would have been a panorama of Skwácháys.

Gordon Brent Brochu-Ingram \* KEXMIN field station  
 guide to the October 19, 2022 field trip for the SFU-BCIT MSc program in Ecological Restoration  
 Reimagining Skwáchá'ys: Restoration strategizing & experimentation  
for the vestigial and resurgent wetlands of central Vancouver as contemporary culture

### **bicycling team**

clockwise around the north, north-east, east, and south-east shores of historic Skwáchá'ys

- go east with Brochu-Ingram
- detour south one block to the City of Vancouver Yard 'asphalt paver' monument
- then go north-east through Strathcona and Cottonwood Community Gardens
- visit the historic portage route over to Burrard Inlet
- the deepest tongue of the salt marsh (now social housing) to
- La Casa Gelato and the former boat-repair sheds along Skwáchá'ys to
- Venables and Vernon (then Brochu-Ingram departs 2:55 p.m.)
- heading south on Vernon (just below the shore of Skwáchá'ys) all the way until it goes left up a steep hill (the shore of Skwáchá'ys) to Clark at KAL Tires
- on the way up to Clark, on the slope below behind KAL Tires, is an aspirational park with some native terrestrial species: Optional question: What species there might be part of the vestigial habitat?)
- from KAL Tires on Clark look at the Stonehenge-like arches directly south in the adjacent lot, to see the Absent Columbus Monument (erected for Expo '86 where a statue of Columbia [decades later stolen] looked out over Skwáchá'ys and now the absent space is sarcastically called the Karl Marx Monument on GoogleMaps)
- head south on Clark Drive for one block to the base of the East Van Cross (by Vancouver artist Ken Lum)
- go right (west) two blocks on East 6th to Clark (where East 6th become Great Northern Way)
- if there's time, turn right (north) on Glen and go the 2 short blocks to the Vancouver Police Property Office (which is particularly 'still underwater and look for signs of lower elevation)
- go back up Glen for 3 short blocks (past Great Northern Way) to East 7th and the new washrooms (and new pumping station to keep the area from being underwater) and the map of historic Skwáchá'ys
- ***meet Brochu-Ingram at the map at 3:30*** [if you want decent coffee later, don't be late]
- 'The Beach House' on East 7th
- looking up on the slope above the historic north shore of Skwáchá'ys to the Means of Production Garden
- carefully bicycling east (off Great Northern Way) to Emily Carr University of Arts and Design (ECUAD)
- go inside the main ECUAD building, greet the security office, and look out the large window at would have been a Skwáchá'ys

## COASTAL RISK SCREENING TOOL

**LAND PROJECTED TO  
BE BELOW ANNUAL  
FLOOD LEVEL IN 2050**

Improved elevation data indicate far greater global threats from sea level rise and coastal flooding than previously thought, and greater benefits from reducing their causes. A report and scientific paper (below) detail research methods and results for 135 nations and globally.

Compare elevation datasets here or select "Change projections" to see or change projection details such as year or pollution scenario.

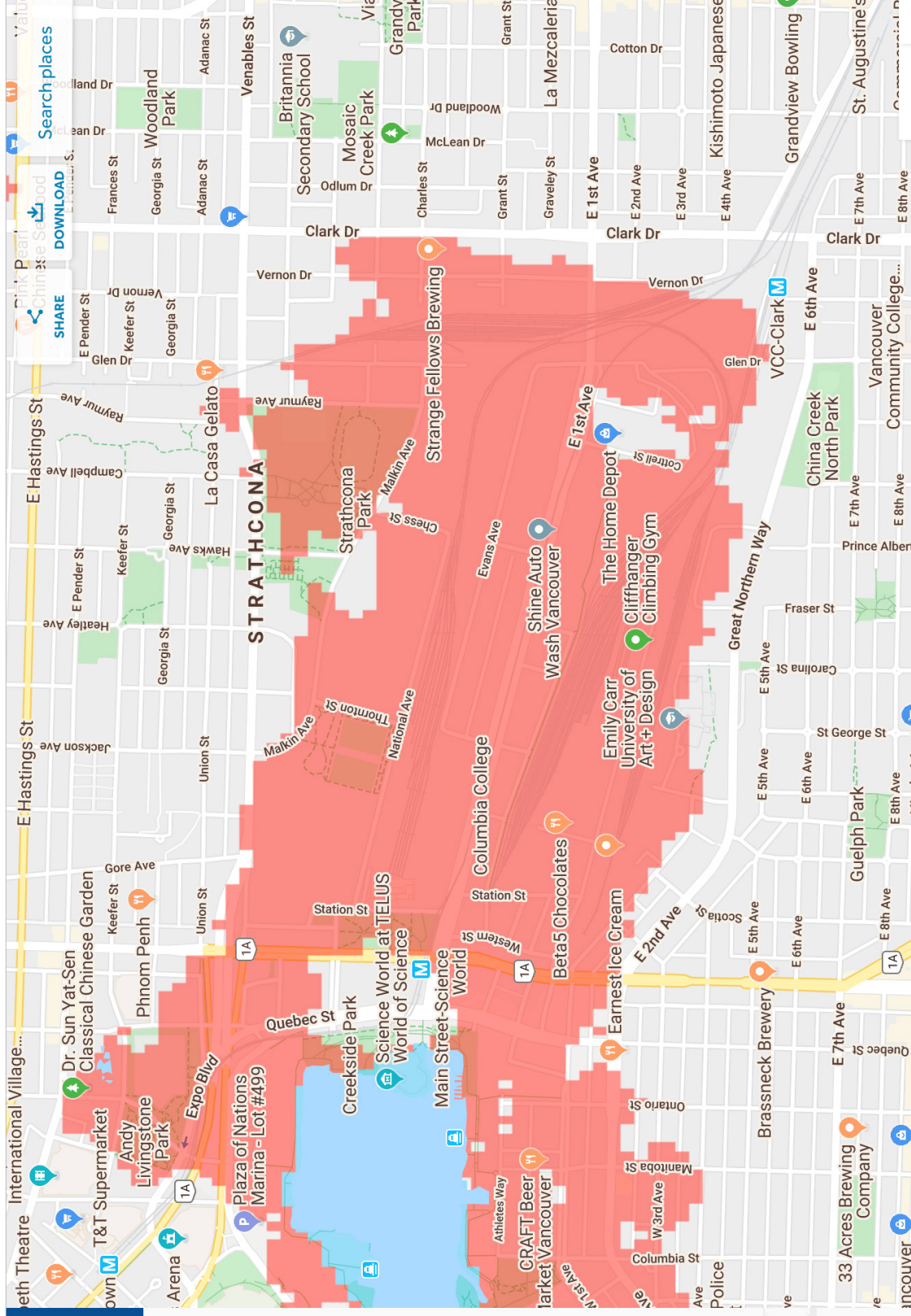
## Details and Limitations

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR U.S. ⓘ

[Report](#) ⓘ [Scientific Paper](#) ⓘ [In the News](#) ⓘ

## MAIN SETTING

Elevation Data Used ⓘ





## COASTAL RISK SCREENING TOOL

LAND PROJECTED TO  
BE BELOW ANNUAL  
FLOOD LEVEL IN 2050

Improved elevation data indicate far greater global threats from sea level rise and coastal flooding than previously thought, and greater benefits from reducing their causes. A report and scientific paper (below) detail research methods and results for 135 nations and globally.

Compare elevation datasets here or select "Change projections" to see or change projection details such as year or pollution scenario.

## Details and Limitations

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR U.S. ⓘ

Report ☒ Scientific Paper ☒ In the News ☒

## MAIN SETTING

Elevation Data Used ⓘ

