



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation



The Dog Days of Summer are now upon us! We hope you're enjoying visiting Lake Huron's shores as much as we are!

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## WE ARE HIRING!

The Coastal Centre is looking for a passionate, enthusiastic Coastal Education Technician to assist with our brand new Coastal Conservation Youth Corps program during the month of August! Applications close Tuesday August 4th at 12pm. For more information visit our [website](#).

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## OFFICIALLY LAUNCHING THE CCYC!

We are pleased to be welcoming 24 youth to our Coastal Conservation Youth Corps program this August!

Educating and facilitating skill development in coastal science and conservation will take the form of hands-on projects and research starting August 10 in Goderich Ontario.

Topics of research include microplastic study, dune restoration and coastal process analysis, resiliency design for coastal communities, and species at risk and ecosystem monitoring!

We are so happy to be able to hold this program with high-accessibility due to generous sponsorship from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Enbridge, Libro Credit Union, and partnership with the Town of Goderich.

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the program, we encourage you to register today, as group numbers are limited to ensure high-engagement as well as increased health and safety!

You can find more information and the registration form on our [website](#).

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## GREEN RIBBON CHAMPION RETURNS FOR 2020!

We are thrilled to announce that our Green Ribbon Champion program is returning to the Lake Huron shoreline this summer!



Do you live on the shoreline in the Township of Huron-Kinloss, Municipality of Kincardine, or Town of Saugeen Shores? Do you want to learn more about the best ways to care for your beach?



Green Ribbon Champions are coastal stewards committed to the protection of the Great Lakes and are recognized for their efforts to understand coastal ecosystems, and for their actions to protect and restore them. Participants in the GRC program will receive a free beach

assessment of their shoreline property and a beach care toolkit. Our expert staff will spend 1-2 hours with you and afterwards you will be provided with a beach restoration proposal with recommendations to help improve the health of your beach. If you decide you would like to implement some of our suggestions, we can provide materials and volunteers to help you during the

months of October and November!

## Why participate?

Great Lakes beach-dune ecosystems are very fragile and rare, making up only a tiny percentage of the shoreline. You will be helping to conserve and protect vegetation and wildlife that rely on healthy dune environments to survive! Vegetation on dunes helps keep sand in place, protecting the beach from wind erosion, instead of moving sand to unwanted areas of your property, or losing the sand from the beach altogether. Healthy dunes can also be helpful in protecting your property from flooding during high wind and wave events, and during times of high water levels (like we are experiencing now!).

## How to sign up:

Beach assessments will take place in August and September. If you are interested in setting up a free beach assessment please contact Erinn at [erinn.lawrie@lakehuron.ca](mailto:erinn.lawrie@lakehuron.ca) or 226-421-3029.

## Join us for our next free webinar!

Don't live on this section of the shoreline? Don't have time to participate in a beach assessment?

You can learn more about coastal restoration on beaches, dunes and forests in the final installment of our free "*Learning about Lake Huron*" summer webinar series. Join Erinn online on Thursday, August 6th from 10-11am, or watch the webinar afterwards as a video on our [website](#) or [YouTube](#) channel. [Sign up for this free webinar now!](#)

Our restoration and education programs couldn't happen without the generous support of our donors and sponsors! The Green Ribbon Champion program is supported by:



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# RECIPIENTS

The LHCCC was founded by two passionate and knowledgeable individuals driven to protect and preserve Lake Huron's coast and waters. Patrick Donnelly M.Sc, who is a crucial member of our team, and Geoff Peach, who was an environmental advocate whose actions and influence spanned 3 decades along the Lake Huron coast. The Geoff Peach Scholarship Fund was created to continue Geoff's work and that of the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation. It is available to university graduate students (Masters and PhD) with conservation and environmental research interests along Lake Huron about: Biodiversity, Coastal Processes, Dune Conservation, Water Quality, or Plastic Pollution.

Two grants per year of up to \$1,500 are available to students interested in conducting research along the Lake Huron coast. This is a one time, nonrenewable award. To learn more and apply for 2021 please visit our [website](#).

Now in the second year, we are excited to reveal the successful recipients of this award: Lisa Erdle and Ryder Rutko!

## Lisa Erdle

Lisa is a PhD Candidate at the University of Toronto focused on the study of Microfibres in Lake Huron. Her project title, "*Microfibres: Divert and Capture*" is learning how we can improve the water quality of Lake Huron in coastal communities in Georgian Bay by physically diverting microplastics and microfibres from entering the Lake by filtering water exiting washing machines. This 100 participant pilot project will determine the effectiveness of readily available diversion technologies such as the Cora Ball, the Lint Luv'r, and the Filtrol unit to also determine how many microfibres and plastic pollutants enter our effluent every year simply through washing our clothes. In her proposal Lisa specifies that, "*More research and action is needed in the area of microfibres to understand the effects of these particles on our waters. This project is specifically geared towards engaging the community in contributing to the diversion and reduction of plastic pollution and microfibres, and engaging young people in our efforts*". We are so excited to be able to continue to support important research into plastic pollution release in Lake Huron. More information on Lisa's work can be found [here](#).

## Ryder Rutko

Ryder is a MSc Biology Candidate at the University of Regina focusing on the

ecology of Yellow Perch in Lake Huron. Using stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen to provide a novel assessment of the ecological population structure of Yellow Perch in Lake Huron, Ryder specifies that the goals of his research are to, "*determine 1) how yellow perch should be managed on Lake Huron; 2) whether current yellow perch commercial harvest is sustainable; and 3) how yellow perch are being influenced by warm water thermal pollution and climate change. Results will provide insight on the ecological health of coastal Lake Huron by using yellow perch population structure as a proxy for understanding nearshore water conditions and anthropogenic impacts to fish species that reside in nearshore areas*". Yellow Perch populations in Lake Huron are currently declining due to invasive species, harvesting practices, climate change and lake water temperature changes. We are so pleased to be supporting Ryder's valuable research uncovering opportunities to support the recovery of this fish species.

Thank you to all of the applicants to the 2020 Geoff Peach Scholarship Fund. We encourage passionate and driven candidates to continue the great work and research being done on Lake Huron and to [apply to the 2021 scholarship opportunity](#).



**BOARD  
MEMBER  
WANTED!**

THE COASTAL  
CENTRE IS LOOKING  
FOR A VOLUNTEER  
TREASURER TO JOIN  
OUR BOARD!

[WWW.LAKEHURON.CA/CAREERS](http://WWW.LAKEHURON.CA/CAREERS)

## BOARD MEMBER WANTED

We are looking for a passionate and enthusiastic volunteer to join our Board of Directors as Treasurer. For more information please visit our [website](#). Applications close August 16th.

Did you know that the Coastal Centre is a registered charitable organization and **97% of our work is funded through donations and grants?**

Your contributions help keep our communication and educational programs alive, including this newsletter.

**It's thanks to YOU**, our wonderful donors and supporters, that we are able to run important programs that help protect the **lake you love!**

Your gift today will help ensure we pass on a positive environmental legacy to our future generations. We can't do it without you!

**DONATE TODAY!**

*The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation is a registered charity founded in 1998 with the goals of protecting and restoring Lake Huron's coastal environment. We are the voice for Lake Huron.*



**[www.lakehuron.ca](http://www.lakehuron.ca)**