

# VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY DEEP BAY FIELD STATION



Vancouver Island University is developing the DEEP BAY FIELD STATION on the shores of Baynes Sound, Vancouver Island. First Nations peoples have occupied this region for more than 5000 years and shellfish have sustained the peoples of Baynes Sound during that entire time as they continue to do today.

What do shellfish, the humble oysters, clams, mussels and scallops mean for Baynes Sound, and BC coastal communities as a whole? First, to have healthy shellfish populations, fisheries and farming we must have healthy marine environments. That means unpolluted and productive waters and watersheds that for example, also benefit the salmon, which return to the local streams and creeks, the migratory birds that use this important foraging area and the people who live and work here.

Shellfish represent an opportunity to maintain that healthy environment, to produce local food and to support the economy and culture of the local communities. The incredible facility that we are building and will operate in Deep Bay reflects this and Vancouver Island University's mandate to support Coastal Communities.

The DEEP BAY FIELD STATION will bring the experience and model of traditional agricultural field research stations to:

-  Support and sustain shellfish resources and farming through applied research and development,
-  Promote responsible coastal development that protects the marine environment through research and public education,
-  Demonstrate green building technology with one of the most sustainable buildings in Canada
-  Provide training opportunities for industry, VIU students and community,
-  Conduct culinary programs through our partnership with the fantastic Culinary Institute of Vancouver Island
-  Provide a special purpose community venue that will support local events much like our sister facility Milner Gardens in Qualicum Beach.

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Opening September 2010

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The view from our stunning location on Baynes Sound, Vancouver Island construction photo April 2010

13000' unique multipurpose facility

- Wet lab and field research facilities
- Public interpretative areas - conservation / marine science
- Youth programs - Future Leaders on the Water (FLOW)
- Seminar, teaching and event facilities
- Culinary Institute of Vancouver Island programs
- Sustainable building design

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