Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society to be Inducted into the FRDC Fraser River Hall of Fame "A significant Fraser River organization will be honoured on June 11th, 2025"

New Westminster, BC – The Fraser River Discovery Centre Society (FRDCS) will induct the Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society (FRSCS) in its Fraser River Hall of Fame on June 11th, 2025. The Hall of Fame Gala will take place at the Aria Convention Centre in Surrey.

Since its founding in 1997 by Rick Hansen, the FRSCS has been dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wild Fraser River white sturgeon. As an environmental stewardship and research organization, the FRSCS brings together a diverse community of stakeholders – leaders, all areas of government and First Nations, commercial and recreational fishing sectors, research and education – to work together and make a difference for Fraser River white sturgeon.

"This is a profound honour for the Fraser River Sturgeon Conservation Society (FRSCS). Our induction into the Hall of Fame recognizes the visionary leadership of our founder Rick Hansen and celebrates the diverse and dedicated community that has come together since 1997 to protect and restore one of the Fraser River's most remarkable species," said FRSCS Executive Director Sarah Schreier. "The White Sturgeon is more than just a threatened species —it is a symbol of the river's vitality. Its conservation is a shared responsibility that requires collective action, grounded in science and research and sustained by community. This honour reflects the power of collaboration, and we hope it inspires future generations to carry this important work forward."

In 1991, the Fraser River Discovery Centre Society established the Fraser River Hall of Fame to recognize and honour individuals or organizations that have made significant and noteworthy contributions to the health and sustainability of the Fraser River, its culture, people, industry, and environment. Past inductees have included Musqueam leader Wendy Grant (1996), founding FRDC patron Lucille Johnstone (2000), founder and chair of both BC Rivers Day and World Rivers Day, Mark Angelo (2014), the City of New Westminster (2017), environmental advocate Fin Donnelly, MLA (2021) and Dr. Brian Riddell, former CEO and President of the Pacific Salmon Foundation (2018).

Tickets are on sale now and the silent auction will begin on May 27. More information can be found at <u>https://fraserriverdiscovery.org/halloffame/</u>. All proceeds from the gala support the operations and programming at the Fraser River Discovery Centre. The FRDCS is a non-profit organization committed to sharing the environmental, cultural, and economic significance of the Fraser River with learners of all ages through exhibits, programs, and special events.

This year's Fraser River Hall of Fame Gala is sponsored by DP World, Parkland Corporation, North Arm Transportation, the Pacific Salmon Foundation, Forrest Marine Ltd., and Tom-Mac Shipyard. Organizations interested in sponsoring the event can contact the Fraser River Discovery Centre Society.

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