

MEDIA RELEASE

BCRPA Announces Graduating Student Scholarship Award Recipients

April 30, 2026 (Vancouver, BC) BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) is proud to announce **Devin Stokes** (University of Victoria), **Emma King** (Langara College), and **Hunter Hieta** (Vancouver Island University) as the recipients of the [2026 BCRPA DB Perks and Associates Graduating Student Scholarship Awards](#).

These scholarships recognize outstanding BC post-secondary students who demonstrate excellence in their studies and a commitment to leadership in recreation and parks.

This year's recipients have each distinguished themselves through academic achievement, and a strong commitment to advancing recreation and parks in their communities. Their experiences span research and community engagement, inclusive program and event delivery, aquatics leadership, and recreation facility operations. Collectively, they have contributed to creating safe, welcoming, and accessible recreation environments while fostering community wellbeing.

Devin Stoke (Recreation & Health Education, University of Victoria): Devan is an exceptional leader across academic, professional, and community settings where he is recognized for fostering inclusive and supportive environments.

Emma King (Recreation Leadership & Management, Langara College): Emma is an emerging leader committed to creating welcoming, accessible recreation spaces that promote belonging, confidence, and community wellbeing.

Hunter Hieta (Tourism Management, Vancouver Island University): Hunter is a leader with a deep commitment to community-based recreation with a focus on facility maintenance and operations.

"This year's scholarship recipients reflect the passion and potential of the next generation of recreation and parks leaders in British Columbia," said BCRPA CEO Katie Fenn.

"Through their leadership, service, and dedication, they are helping to build more inclusive, active, and connected communities across the province."

BCRPA congratulates this year's award winners and extends its appreciation to DB Perks and Associates for their continued support of students pursuing careers in the recreation and parks sector.

The DB Perks and Associates Graduating Student Scholarship Awards are presented during BCPRA's Symposium, held this year in Vancouver.

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ABOUT BCRPA

BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) convenes, educates, and empowers professionals who transform lives. With a network of over 8,500 professionals who support more than 95% of British Columbia, we champion policy, empower and educate leaders, train fitness professionals, and deliver programs that create safe, active, and inclusive communities where everyone belongs. Through this essential work, communities across the province grow stronger, healthier, and more connected.

Learn more about how BCRPA is working with their members, fitness professionals and community partners in its work of shaping healthier futures at www.bcrpa.bc.ca.

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