



INTERNATIONAL SEAWEED SYMPOSIUM 2025

May 4 – 9, 2025 | Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

IGNITING INNOVATION: Building on the Past to Advance the Seaweed Momentum

ISS25 CIRCULAR #2

The International Seaweed Association (ISA) and the National Organizing Committee (NOC) are pleased to present the 25th anniversary of the International Seaweed Symposium (ISS25) in a beautiful coastal city on the west coast of Canada. Victoria is located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən People, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

The theme of our conference aims to honour and acknowledge the rich history and connection Indigenous Peoples have had with seaweed for millennia, while paying tribute to the innovators of seaweed research, who have laid the foundation for advancements in seaweed technology which we continue to build upon today and develop into the future.

ISS25 invites industry professionals, academics, students, and Indigenous Peoples from around the world to connect, learn and exchange knowledge about all forms of seaweed, to join in creating a welcoming, informative and memorable event.

The Second Circular is intended to provide an overview of the 25th anniversary of the International Seaweed Symposium, key dates, the host city, and more!

You are also encouraged to visit our website, www.iss25.com and subscribe to the symposium email newsletter for updates on ISS25 and future events!



ISS 2025



INVITATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SEAWEED ASSOCIATION

Dear Members of the Worldwide Seaweed Community,

It is with genuine excitement and warmth that I invite you to the 25th International Seaweed Symposium (ISS), taking place from May 4-9, 2025, in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. This special edition celebrates the 25th ISS anniversary, and for this remarkable milestone, we are preparing unforgettable surprises that will be revealed as the date approaches!

The 1st ISS took place in 1952 in Edinburgh, Scotland. It was the first global gathering of scientists and industry professionals focused on seaweed research, production, and applications. Since then, the ISS has grown into a major recurring event, bringing together stakeholders from around the world to advance the field of seaweed science and industry.

But the ISS is more than just a meeting of minds—it is a reunion of friends and colleagues, and an opportunity to meet new faces who share our passion for seaweed. We will explore the latest scientific advancements and business developments globally, while also creating space for long-lasting moments of connection, laughter, and shared experiences.

A special thank you to our National Organizing Committee for their tireless work in ensuring that ISS25 is an outstanding event for all. Their efforts have helped craft an extraordinary program, filled with keynote sessions, panels, interactive workshops, and vibrant social events that will ensure this symposium is both professionally enriching and personally memorable.

Visit www.iss25.com to register and learn more. I encourage early registration to secure your spot, as this year's symposium promises to be the largest and most exciting yet!

The International Seaweed Association (ISA) has proudly hosted the ISS for decades, uniting scientists, industry professionals, and enthusiasts to drive innovation and consistent growth in the seaweed sector. I encourage you to visit www.isaseaweed.org for the latest from our global network.

I can't wait to meet each of you in Victoria, where we will come together to celebrate our community's remarkable journey over the past 73 years. Let's create new memories, share ideas, and keep driving the future of the seaweed industry forward—together!

Helena Abreu, President

International Seaweed Association Council



ISS 2025



INVITATION FROM THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dear guests,

On behalf of the organizing committee, we are so pleased to welcome you to Greater Victoria this May for the 25th anniversary of the International Seaweed Symposium.

We look forward to connecting and exploring ideas from students, Indigenous peoples, academics and industry professionals to connect, learn and exchange knowledge in an informative, welcoming and safe environment! We appreciate your contributions in preparing and submitting abstracts, oral presentations and posters to bolster the exciting program of speakers and workshops.

We aim to honour and acknowledge the rich history and connection Indigenous Peoples have had with seaweed for millennia while paying tribute to the innovators of seaweed research, who have laid the foundation for advancements in seaweed technology which we continue to build upon today and develop into the future.

Warm regards,

Dr. Laura Wegener Parfrey

Dr. Patrick Martone

Dr. Maycira Costa

Co-Chairs, International Seaweed Symposium 2025



ISS25 DATES

The International Seaweed Symposium will take place at the Victoria Conference Centre, May 4 - 9, 2025, with social events and tours expanding beyond those key dates. Visit www.iss25.com to learn more about the social events, tours and workshops which can be booked during registration!

February 28, 2025	Early-bird registration deadline
March 1, 2025	Regular registration opens
March 17, 2025	Cancellation date for Symposium (full refund less admin fee)
April 3, 2025	Cancellation date for Pre-Symposium tours
April 7, 2025	Cancellation date for Mid-Symposium Tours
April 10, 2025	Cancellation date for Post-Symposium tour
April 11, 2025	Regular registration deadline
April 12, 2025	Late registration opens



KEY LOCATIONS

Victoria Conference Centre

720 Douglas St, Victoria, BC V8W 3M7



Crystal Garden

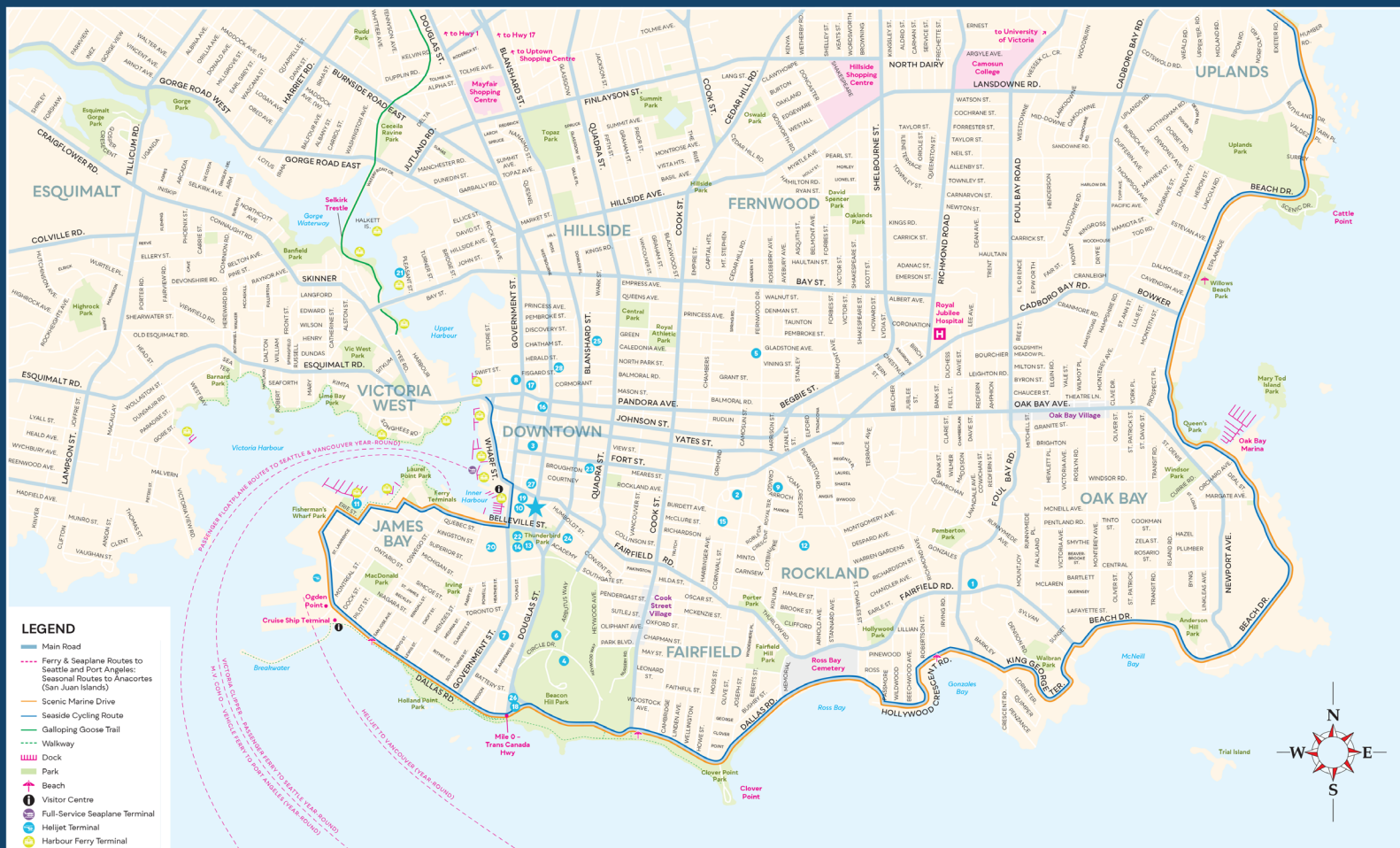
713 Douglas St, Victoria, BC V8W 3M6



DOWNTOWN VICTORIA & AREA

POINTS OF INTEREST

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Abbott Garden | 7. Carr House | 13. Helix House | 20. Parliament Buildings | 26. Terry Fox Memorial |
| 2. Art Gallery of Greater Victoria | 8. Cameron Band Shell | 14. IMAX Victoria | 21. Point Ellice House | 27. Station |
| 3. The Bay Centre | 9. Chinatown | 15. Langham Court Theatre | 22. Royal BC Museum | 28. Victoria Bug Zoo |
| 4. Beacon Hill Children's Farm | 10. The Fairmont Empress | 16. Market Square | 23. Royal Theatre | 29. Victoria Public Market |
| 5. Belfry Theatre | 11. Fairmont Wharf | 17. McPherson Playhouse | 24. St. Ann's Academy | |
| | 12. Government House | 18. Mini D | 25. Saw-on-Foods Memorial Centre | |





REGISTRATIONS FEES AND CHARGES

Attendees must register to attend ISS25, either in advance or on-site at the Victoria Conference Centre. All prices are in Canadian Dollars, and subject to a 5% Goods and Services Tax. All registration fees include 3-year memberships in the International Seaweed Association for students (\$34 CAD) and non-students (\$102 CAD). Membership includes online access to the Journal of Applied Phycology and Hydrobiologia. Proceedings of the ISS2025 will be published virtually through the Journal of Applied Phycology.

EARLY REGISTRATIONS* Until February 28, 2025, at 11:59 PM Pacific Time	REGULAR REGISTRATIONS* Until April 11, 2025, at 11:59 PM Pacific Time	LATE/ONSITE REGISTRATIONS* From April 12, 2025, at 12:00 AM Pacific Time
Early Delegate Full Registration \$850.00	Regular Delegate Full Registration \$1050.00	Regular Delegate Full Registration \$1150.00
Early Student & Retired Full Registration \$550.00	Regular Student & Retired Full Registration \$650.00	Regular Student & Retired Full Registration \$750.00
Early Single Day Registration (Monday/Tuesday/Thursday) \$400.00	Regular Single Day Registration (Monday/Tuesday/Thursday) \$500.00	Regular Single Day Registration (Monday/Tuesday/Thursday) \$600.00
Early Indigenous Full Registration \$300.00	Regular Indigenous Full Registration \$400.00	Regular Indigenous Full Registration \$500.00
Early Low-Income & Lower-Middle-Income Country Full Registration \$300.00	Regular Low-Income & Lower-Middle-Income Country Full Registration \$400.00	Regular Low-Income & Lower-Middle-Income Country Full Registration \$500.00

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REGISTRATION CANCELLATIONS

Registration cancellations are permitted until 23:59 Pacific Time on Monday, March 17, 2025. Delegates will receive a full refund less a \$50 administrative fee for full Symposium cancellations and a \$25 administrative fee for Single-Day and Guest cancellations.

For full registration details, including payment methods, fees, charges, cancellation and transfer details, please visit the registration website at <https://iss25.com/registration/>



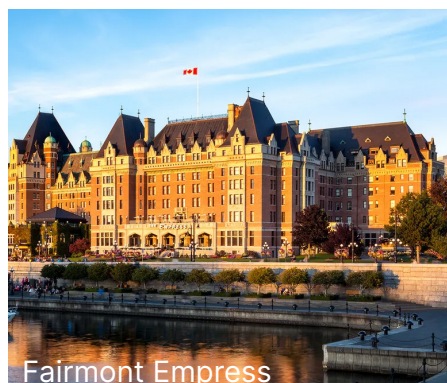
HOTELS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Looking for a place to stay during the symposium? The symposium has secured discounted rates at the iconic Fairmont Empress Hotel and the Doubletree by Hilton. You won't get a better rate at these hotels anywhere else.

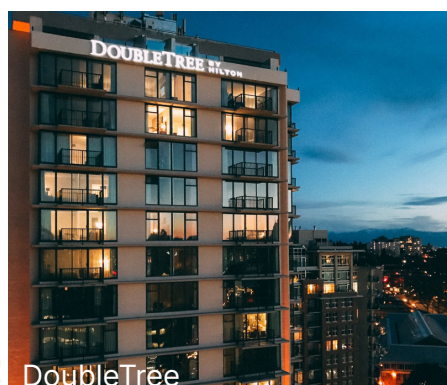
Be sure to book your room today - the room blocks are filling up quickly!

For more information on the hotels, visit Accommodation – 25th International Seaweed Symposium. To book your accommodation, visit your booking link confirmation, or register online through the portal today through Registration – 25th International Seaweed Symposium.

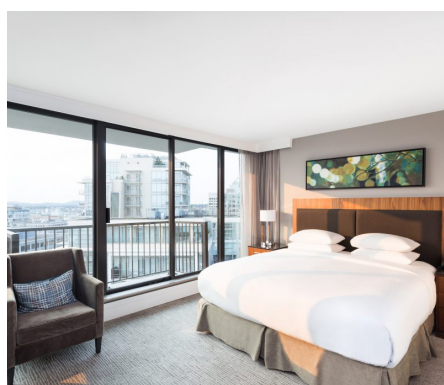
For more information on travel, visa, flights, please visit our website.



Fairmont Empress



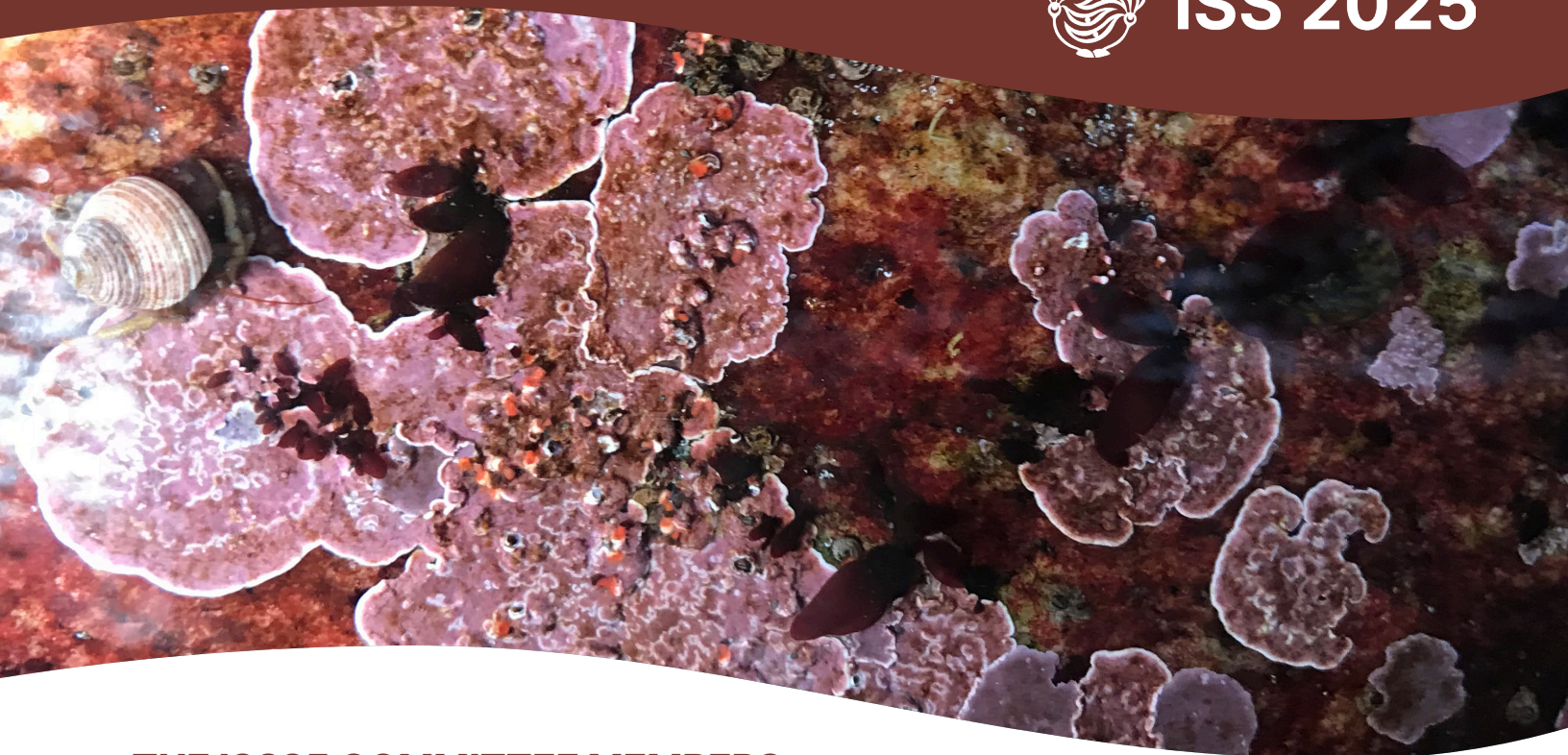
DoubleTree



VICTORIA WEATHER

In May, the weather in Victoria generally includes moderate temperatures and moderate rainfall. Anticipate daytime temperatures around 15°C/59°F, while night temperatures can drop to 10°C/50°F.

Although you'll mostly be inside, be sure to bring appropriate attire for tours and tourist activities.



THE ISS25 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

International Seaweed Association Council (ISAC)

Helena Abreu	President
Leila Hayashi	Vice-President
Susan Løvstad Holdt	Secretary General
Ira (Ike) Levine	Treasurer
Loretta Roberson	Co-Treasurer
Norishige Yotsukura	Council member
Jaime Zamorano	Council member
Jeong Ha Kim	Council member
Arif Al-Mazrui	Council member
Catriona Hurd	Council member
Michael A. Borowitzka	Editor in Chief

We want to thank the members of the National Organizing Committee:

Laura Parfrey	ISS25 Co-Chair
Patrick Martone	ISS25 Co-Chair
Maycira Costa	ISS25 Co-Chair
Soroush Kouhi	Treasurer, ONC Liaison
Jennifer Clark	Chair, Scientific Program
Erin Bremner-Mitchell	Secretary and Chair of the Social and Marketing Committees
Kylee Pawluk	Chair, Indigenous Advisory Committee
Catriona Hurd	ISA Liaison
Leila Hayashi	ISA Liaison
Stephen O'Leary	Scientific Program Advisory Committee Member
Alan Critchley	Scientific Program Advisory Committee Member

And to everyone who has volunteered their time on committees to make our event memorable and engaging!



PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

The ISS25 Program Committee have put together an exciting scientific program which will include daily plenary sessions from local First Nations, esteemed research and industry experts from around the globe, mini-symposia, panel sessions, oral presentations, poster sessions and lots of networking opportunities with coffee breaks. For the complete program, please visit our website at www.iss25.com.

We are welcoming over 500 speakers and poster presentations from 8 different phycological themes:

- Applications
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Solutions
- Ecology
- Gastronomy
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Seaweed Aquaculture
- Regulatory Frameworks for Industry and Restoration
- Taxonomy, Diversity and Evolution

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Program at a Glance		
Time	Session	Venue
Sunday, May 4, 2025		
09:00 - 17:30	Workshops	Sidney, Colwood, View Royal
12:00 - 18:00	Registration	Pre-function 1
18:00 - 20:00	Welcome Reception	Upper Pavilion
Monday, May 5, 2025		
08:30 - 09:15	Opening Ceremony	Salon BC
09:15 - 10:00	Plenary 1	Salon BC
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30 - 12:00	Special Session Seaweed Wizards	Salon BC
12:00 - 12:30	Special Session Algae Foundation	Salon BC
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 - 14:30	Plenary 2	Salon BC
14:30 - 15:30	Oral Presentations	Lecture Theatre, Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Salon BC, Sidney, Colwood
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00 - 18:00	Oral Presentations	Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Sidney, Colwood
	Mini-Symposia 1, 2	Salon BC, Lecture Theatre
18:30 - 20:00	Student and Early Career Researcher Social Night	
Tuesday, May 6, 2025		
08:30 - 09:30	Plenary 3	Salon BC
09:30 - 10:30	Oral Presentations	Lecture Theatre, Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Salon BC, Sidney, Colwood
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 - 13:00	Oral Presentations	Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Sidney, Colwood
	Mini-Symposia 3, 4, 5	Salon BC, Lecture Theatre, Saanich
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 - 15:00	Plenary 4	Salon BC
15:00 - 16:30	Poster Session 1 Coffee Break	Pre-function 1, Pre-function 2BC
16:30 - 18:00	Oral Presentations	Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Sidney, Colwood
	Mini-Symposia 6, 7	Salon BC, Lecture Theatre
18:30 - 22:00	25th Anniversary Dinner Gala	Crystal Garden
Wednesday, May 7, 2025		
08:00 - 19:00	Mid-Symposium Excursions	
11:00 - 16:30	Workshops	Esquimalt, Sidney
Thursday, May 8, 2025		
08:30 - 09:30	Plenary 5	Salon BC
09:30 - 10:30	Special Session (Panel)	Salon BC
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 - 13:00	Oral Presentations	Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Sidney, Colwood
	Mini-Symposia 8, 9	Salon BC, Lecture Theatre
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 - 15:00	Plenary 6	Salon BC
15:00 - 16:30	Poster Session 2 Coffee Break	Pre-function 1, Pre-function 2BC
16:30 - 18:00	Oral Presentations	Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Sidney, Colwood
	Mini-Symposia 10, 11	Salon BC, Lecture Theatre
18:30 - 20:00	Industry Night Networking Event Early Career Research Panel	
Friday, May 9, 2025		
08:30 - 09:30	Plenary 7	Salon BC
09:30 - 10:00	Coffee Break	
10:00 - 12:00	Oral Presentations	Saanich, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Sidney, Colwood
	Mini-Symposia 12, 13	Salon BC, Lecture Theatre
12:00 - 13:00	Closing Ceremony	Salon BC



ISS25 PLENARIES

Plenary Title	Speaker
A 200-year British Columbia seaweed perspective from a 1900 U.S. invasion to the challenging 2100 future, dedicated to Klaus Luening (1941-2023) whose studies advanced kelp mariculture	Dr. Louis Dreuhl
Marine Agronomy of Seaweed Holobionts	Dr. Carolina Camus
TBC	Chief Abraham Pelkey
Seaweed forests in a warming ocean: consequences of loss and hopes for the future	Dr. Karen Filbee-Dexter
Endeavors to sustain the tropical eucheumatoid seaweed farming industry: biodiversity assessment, biobanking, phenotyping, novel strain selection, and revitalizing farming practices	Dr. Michael Roleda
Innovation Challenges in Seaweed Aquaculture	Dr. Jang Kim
Breaking the Myth of Seaweed Climate Benefits: Pros and cons of Carbon Reduction and Removal Strategies	Dr. Catriona Hurd & Dr. Jean-Baptiste Thomas

ISS25 PRESENT THE SEAWEED WIZARDS

We are delighted to present a special Seaweed Wizards panel, celebrating the esteemed phycologists who have dedicated their careers to advancing the industry. Dr. Charles Yarish (USA), Dr. Eurico Cabral de Oliveira (Brazil), Dr. Michael Guiry (Ireland), Dr. John Bolton (South Africa), Dr. Masao Ohno (Japan), and Dr. Michael Borowitzka (Australia) will share their experiences, challenges, and memorable anecdotes.

This inspiring session will take place on Monday morning, offering a unique opportunity to learn from their journeys and celebrate their lasting impact—an exceptional way to mark the 25th International Seaweed Symposium.



ISS25 MINI-SYMPOSIA LISTING

Symposium Title	Chair	In this Session
Coralline Algal Evolution And Their Responses To Climate Change	Dr. Christopher Cornwall	Mr. Luka Seamus Wright Ms. Denisa Berbece Ms. Emmaeve Jourdain Mr. Elliot Porcher Prof. Michael Borowitzka
Diverse Pre-Treatment Processes For Macroalgae Conversion And Utilisation	Dr. Jessica Adams	Dr. Emily Kostas Dr. Keeran Ward Dr. Sanjay Nagarajan Dr. Valerie Rodrigues
Restoration And Conservation Of Global Seaweed Stocks	Prof. Elizabeth Cottier-Cook	Dr. Sophie Corrigan Dr. Cicilia Kambey Prof. Phaik-Eem Lim Dr. Juliet Brodie Mr. Shaun Beattie
State Of The World's Kelp Forests	Dr. Aaron Eger	Dr. Lynn Lee Dr. Anita Giraldo Ospina Dr. Kira Krumhansl Prof. Adriana Verges Ms. Josie Iselin
The Chemical Language Of The Seaweed Holobiont	Dr. Mahasweta Saha	Dr. François Thomas Dr. Thomas Wichard Dr. Puja Kumari Prof. Soizic Prado Dr. Benoît Paix
The Indigenous Seaweed Revolution: Building A Collective And Navigating Toward Abundance	Dr. Andrew Kalani Carlson (Kanaka 'Ōiwi, Native Hawaiian)	Mr. Brad Darkson Mrs. Suzi Flack Mr. Brendan Flack Mrs. Samantha Emmsley Ms. Kalei Pasciuta Mr. Stevie Dennis Mr. Chief Hasheukumiss, Richard George Mr. J. Hau'oli Lorenzo-Elarco Ms. Sarah Gorst Mr. James Thomas Mr. Noah Kaefer Mr. Josh Bryce



ISS25 MINI-SYMPOSIA LISTING

Symposium Title	Chair	In this Session
Challenges In Red Seaweed Cultivation By Vegetative Propagation: Genetic Issues And Solutions From Tropical To Temperate Waters	Dr. Philippe Potin	Prof. Phaik-Eem Lim Dr. Jeff Hafting Prof. Alejandro H. Buschmann Mr Sébastien Jan Dr. Simona Augyte Dr. Shashibhushan N B
Progress And Challenges In Large-Scale Tropical Seaweed Cultivation	Dr. R A Narayanan	Mr. Nelson Vadassery Prof. Kristen Davis Dr. Eka S Prasedya Ms. Karlotta Rieve Ms. Mahima Jaini Mr. Clifford A. Goudey Dr. Scott Fahrenkrug
Advancing Food Systems Through Traditional Knowledge Sharing	Dr. Libby Swanepoel	Ms. Ulusapeti Tiitii Ms. Karibanang Tamuera Ms. Jimaima Lako Ms. Cherie Morris Ms. Shirleen Bala Dr. Kofi Apreku Dr. Silva Larson
The Future Of Global Seaweed Biobanking: Combining Industrial Applications And Biodiversity Conservation	Prof. Laurie C. Hofmann	Mr. Sylvain Faugeron Ms. Daniela Lucente Dr. Inka Bartsch Dr. Eun Kyoung Hwang Mr. Gabriel Montecinos Arismendi
Global Climate Change, Algal Biodiversity Distribution And Ecology	Dr. Put Jr Ang	Prof. Jeong Ha Kim Dr. Zi-Min Hu Dr. Sandra Lindstrom Dr. Jaruwan Mayakun
Advancing The Blue Economy Through Ulva Cultivation: Insights From The Cost Action - Seawheat	Dr. Helena Abreu & Prof. Muki Shpigel	Dr. Céline Rebours Dr Annette Bruhn Dr José Pintado Prof. Laurie Hofmann Dr. Karina Balina Dr. Stefan Kraan
Genomics And Selectively Breeding Economically Important Kelp Of The Eastern Pacific And North Atlantic	Dr. Scott Lindell	Dr. Mark Cock Ms. Kelly DeWeese Dr. Yaoguang Li Dr. Gary Molano Dr. Sergey Nuzhdin



ISS25 WORKSHOPS

There is still space available in our workshops - Sign up today through the [registration portal](#). Spaces are limited. So don't delay!

Workshop Title	Organizer	Speaker	Date & Time
Kelp Forest Challenge: Regional strategies and action plans for protecting and restoring 4 million hectares of kelp forests by 2040.*	Kelp Forest Alliance	Dr. Aaron Eger	Sun, May 4 09:00 - 17:00
A Comprehensive Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Framework for Restorative and Regenerative Seaweed Aquaculture	The Nature Conservancy	Ms .Tiffany Waters	Sun, May 4 13:00 - 15:30
Seaweed Biorefineries and a Future Circular Bioeconomy: Are We Really Ready?	UKRI Future Leader's Fellowship programme, University College London (UK)	Dr. Emily Kostas	Sun, May 4 09:30 - 12:30
Towards a global strategy to address fundamental gaps in seaweed taxonomic knowledge: workshop IV*	Global Seaweed Biodiversity Group	Prof. Juliet Brodie	Sun, May 4 14:00 - 16:30
Exploring Needs and Opportunities for Improved Monitoring of the Benefits and Impacts of Seaweed Farming in Alaska and British Columbia	ESSA Technologies Ltd.	Dr. Natascia Tamburello	Sun, May 4 09:00 - 13:30

*separate link for registration see [ISS25.com/workshops/](https://iss25.com/workshops/)



ISS25 WORKSHOPS

Workshop Title	Organizer	Speaker	Date & Time
Edible Seaweeds of the Pacific Northwest: A Wild Seaweed Tasting	Dakini Tidal Wilds	Ms. Amanda Swinimer	Sun, May 4 15:45 - 17:30
Seaweed Cyanotyping Photography	University of British Columbia	Dr. Bridgette Clarkston	Wed, May 7 11:00 - 13:00
Thalassotherapy: Ocean Medicine for Opulent Health	Harmonic Arts	Ms. Angela Willard	Wed, May 7 15:00 - 16:30
Designing Multiple Driver Experiments	Victoria University of Wellington	Dr. Christopher Cornwall (Organizer)	Sun, May 4 09:00 - 17:00
	Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania	Prof. Cationa Hurd (Speaker)	
	Victoria University of Wellington	Denisa Berbece (Speaker)	



ISS25 PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Oral Presentations

Oral presentations have been scheduled for 12 minutes, with an additional 3 minutes for questions and transitions after each presentation. Please respect this time allotment when preparing presentations to help keep the event on schedule. Presentation templates will be made available for oral presentations.

Poster Sessions

There are two poster sessions during the ISS25. Poster presenters will be given an allotted time for hanging posters up as well as taking them down. Poster presenters are required to attend their posters during the allocated poster session time (authors will be notified by email of allocated times).

The maximum size of a poster is **120cm x 120cm (4ft x 4ft)**. Please do not make posters larger than this size. Print on a lightweight material. Presenters will be provided with push pins to mount their posters to the boards.

Should you need to connect with a local printer, please contact the Symposium Secretariat at secretariat@iss25.com

MANUSCRIPTS FOR PUBLICATION IN THE PROCEEDINGS

The Proceedings of the 25th ISS will be published once again as a special volume of the Journal of Applied Phycology. The deadline and instruction for submission will be available on the website soon. Stay tuned!



ISS25 TOURS

ISS25 is excited to offer a variety of tours for delegates. These experiences are designed to explore the local culture and attractions, ensuring a memorable visit to Greater Victoria.

Spaces are limited, so sign up today. For detailed information on the available tours, please visit our [website](#).

ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Accompanying persons are invited to join the Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner at ISS25.

Tickets, which include access to both social events, can be purchased at CAD\$175 through the [registration page](#).

Welcome Reception

Date and time: Sunday May 4, 18:00
Victoria Conference Centre 720 Douglas Street

Gala Dinner

Date and time: Tuesday, May 6, 19:00
Crystal Garden 713 Douglas Street

If you require special dietary or physical accommodation, please indicate during the registration process or reach out to our [Registration team](#).

In addition, Greater Victoria offers an array of activities and experiences for visitors to explore. A selection of suggestions can be found on the [Visit Victoria page](#).



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ISS25 SPONSORS

The International Seaweed Symposium would not come to life without the generous support of our sponsors! Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the following remarkable companies.

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ISS 2025



CONTACT

We look forward to welcoming you to this milestone event in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

Should you have any additional questions or inquiries, please reach out to the Symposium Secretariat at secretariat@iss25.com or visit our event website at www.iss25.com

