



TOWN OF GIBSONS

PO Box 340
474 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons BC | V0N 1V0

T 604-886-2274

F 604-886-9735

info@gibsons.ca

www.gibsons.ca

Town of Gibsons' Coastal Resilience Project Named a Canada Clean50 Top Project

October 20, 2022 – [Leveraging Natural Assets for Coastal Resilience](#), an initiative which aimed to quantify the benefits provided by foreshore areas in protecting coastal communities from climate change events, has been named one of [Canada's Clean50](#) Top Projects for 2023.

The Town of Gibsons was one of two coastal communities that participated in the pilot project, which was led by the [Municipal Natural Assets Initiative](#). Project objectives included:

1. Providing a quantitative assessment of the benefits coastal natural assets can offer for flood and erosion protection from coastal storms in Gibsons; and
2. Supporting the development of a computer modelling tool, called the Coastal Toolbox (CT), that could enable all coastal communities, including Gibsons, to quantify, understand, and compare alternative natural asset management solutions.

“Communities all along Canada’s coasts are facing infrastructure challenges, due to rising sea levels and bigger, more frequent storms,” said Michelle Lewis, Natural Asset Technician for the Town. *“The Coastal Toolbox can help those communities better understand their coastal infrastructure, so they can determine where best to direct limited financial and human resources. In Gibsons, for example, we learned that the impacts of coastal flooding were less of a risk than erosion to coastal infrastructure resulting from increased storm frequency and intensity. Eelgrass protection and enhancement helped to reduce the size of waves; shoreline plantings would reduce erosion. Natural assets provide cumulative protection from smaller, more frequent storms in addition to the other benefits such as habitat for fish and wildlife. That’s useful information that will inform our own restoration work in years to come.”*

Canada’s Clean50 annually offers recognition to Canada’s leaders in sustainability for their contributions over the prior two years. The Clean50 Top Projects annually recognize those projects completed in the prior two years based on their innovation, their ability to inform, and inspire other Canadians.

- 30 -

For more information:
Michelle Lewis
Natural Asset Technician
Town of Gibsons
604.886.2274
mlewis@gibsons.ca

