

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Exhibit brings What Lies Beneath to Public View at the Maritime Museum of BC

The ocean: an expanse of water that covers more of the Earth's surface than earth itself. It affects our weather, our food source, ultimately, our everyday life!

But what lies beneath this huge abyss? Are there really creatures that glow brightly like stars in the night sky or ones that live under pressure so high, a human would be crushed in seconds like a bug?

Thanks to new technology, in deep-sea diving and observatories on the ocean floor, we have been given an opportunity — a porthole if you like — to see into this vastly unexplored environment. Leading the way in this venture is Ocean Networks Canada through their VENUS and NEPTUNE Canada underwater ocean observing systems located off Vancouver Island.

What Lies Beneath: The Past, Present and Future of Underwater Exploration examines this new technology and travels through the evolution of diving from prehistoric man all the way up to our modern times.

"This exhibit will be engaging and interactive for visitors of all ages. It presents a brilliant opportunity to delve further into the realm of science and technology, while incorporating the past," says Shalini Kennedy, Programs Coordinator (volunteer). Further to the exhibit, a new educational program has been developed to tie in with grade 6 curriculums. Add to this a range of family activities relating to the underwater world and a lecture series held every second Wednesday until August, the public will be presented with an exciting, educational and creative look into the world we know the least about; the ocean.

Join the Maritime Museum of BC and Ocean Networks Canada January 12th from 1-3pm as we take you on a journey into the unknown and vastly unexplored depths of the deep ocean.

Please visit mmbc.bc.ca or call 250-385-4222 for more information. Cost to attend the opening is general admission. Children 5 and under are free. Enjoy light refreshments and family-friendly activities presented by Let's Talk Science as well as a short presentation from Guest Speaker Verena Tunnicliffe, noted underwater explorer with VENUS Canada.

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