



## **Preliminary Program**

### **About the Symposium**

The Coastal Access Working Group, based in Nova Scotia, Canada, is excited to announce the **1st International Coastal Access Symposium** to be held virtually on March 26, 2026 (8 a.m. - 3 p.m. EST / 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. AST).

Coastal access is the ability for people to travel to, and laterally along, the coastline. Access to coastal spaces is a problem shared by coastal communities around the world. It is impacted by the high desirability of coastal spaces, coastal development, tourism, natural coastal processes and the impacts of climate change. Coastal access issues are often rooted in historical social injustices that are perpetuated today resulting in community conflicts and complex policy problems. **With less than 16% of global coastlines experiencing little to no human impact, addressing how humans share the coastal spaces is imperative to both social wellbeing and ecological coastal sustainability.**

This **virtual symposium** invites speakers from around the world to share stories, research, and policy insights and advances related to protecting, preserving, and enhancing public coastal access. Hosted in partnership by the Ecology Action Centre, Dalhousie University and East Coast Environmental Law, this **free event** aims to enhance public discussions about coastal access and create an opportunity for participants to learn from each other and contribute to ongoing advancements in coastal access research and advocacy.

*This is a **free event, however, registration is required.** To register, please do so through this link: <https://ecologyaction.ca/international-coastal-access-symposium>. A link to attend the symposium will be sent to participants in the days leading to the event.*

## Symposium Format

Each speaker session will be 30mins in duration. It will include a presentation (~15mins) and discussion (~10mins), plus a brief buffer for transition. Registered participants will have an opportunity to ask questions during the discussion segment moderated by the organizers. There will be breakout rooms during the coffee breaks and lunch to allow participants to interact and network.

## Speaker Schedule

*Preliminary schedule, subject to change.*

Time	Speakers	Title of Talk
Morning	Welcome and Opening	
	Outputs of the Symposium - Dr. Hannah Harrison <i>Marine Affairs Program, Dalhousie University</i>	
	<b>Mr. Mike Kofahl</b> <sup>1</sup> <i>East Coast Environmental Law</i>	<b>Public Coastal Access in Atlantic Canada: The Environmental Law and Policy Context</b>
	<b>Ms. Kira Clingen</b> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Keoni Rodriguez</i> <sup>2</sup> , <i>Mercy Adhiambo</i> <sup>2</sup> , <i>Vanessa Cordova</i> <sup>2</sup> & <i>Rai Saad Khan</i> <sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> University of Cambridge; <sup>2</sup> Planet Reimagined	<b>Toward a Global Framework for Coastal Public Access</b>
	COFFEE BREAK	
	<b>Dr. Jesse Reiblich</b> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Dr. Melva Treviño Peña</i> <sup>2</sup> & <i>Dr. Nathan Vinhateiro</i> <sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup> Department of Marine Affairs, University of Rhode Island; <sup>2</sup> Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Sciences, University of Rhode Island; <sup>3</sup> Coastal Institute, University of Rhode Island	<b>Assessing the Effectiveness of Rhode Island's Shoreline Access Policies in the Context of Climate Change</b>
	<b>Ulsía Urrea Mariño, MSc.</b> <sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> Texas A&M University– Corpus Christi / <i>Red Iberoamericana de Gestión y Certificación de Playas (PROPLAYAS)</i>	<b>Mexican Coastal Zone Privatization: Beach Access and Free Transit Challenges</b>
Lunch Break (Anticipated: 1045 - 1130 EST / 1145 - 1230 AST)		
Afternoon	<b>Dr. Devon Taylor</b> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Damion Coombs</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Kevin Gallimore</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Marven Dunn</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Wilbourn Carr</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Charlene Castle</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Michael Downer</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Paul Roberts</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Amanda Arbouin</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Camala Thomas</i> <sup>1</sup> , <i>Winston Monroe</i> <sup>1</sup> & <i>Monique Christie</i> <sup>1</sup> . <sup>1</sup> Jamaica Beach Environmental Movement (JaBBEM)	<b>Plantation Tourism and Beach Rights: Beyond Access</b>
	<b>Mr. Andre Joseph-Witzig</b> <sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> Grenada Land Actors Inc	<b>Emerging Coastal Access Issues in Grenada</b>

COFFEE BREAK	
<p><b>Ms. Linda Locklin</b><sup>1</sup> <i><sup>1</sup>Coastal Access Program, California Coastal Commission</i></p>	<p><b>Coastal Access To and Along the California Coast</b></p>
<p><b>Dr. Patricia Manuel</b><sup>1</sup>, Dr. Hannah Harrison<sup>2</sup> &amp; Mr. Nicolas Winkler<sup>3</sup> <i><sup>1</sup>School of Planning, Dalhousie University; <sup>2</sup>Marine Affairs Program, Dalhousie University; <sup>3</sup>Ecology Action Centre</i></p>	<p><b>Connecting the Shore: Building an Inventory of Public Coastal Access in Support of Coastal Protection, Advocacy, and Research in Nova Scotia</b></p>
<p><b>Shane Orchard</b><sup>1,2</sup>, Jesse Reiblich<sup>3</sup> &amp; Maurício D. dos Santos<sup>4</sup> <i><sup>1</sup>University of Canterbury   Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha, Aotearoa New Zealand; <sup>2</sup>Waterlink Ltd., Ōtautahi Christchurch, Aotearoa New Zealand; <sup>3</sup>Department of Marine Affairs, University of Rhode Island; <sup>4</sup>Brazilian National Postdoctoral Program, Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie</i></p>	<p><b>A Review of Emerging Issues for Public Coastal Access in an Era of Climate Change</b></p>
Closing Remarks	