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Royal BC Museum seeks the public's observations and perspectives on nature for its COVID-19 project

VICTORIA, BC—As British Columbians enjoy their back yards, spectacular parks and wilderness areas during the long days of summer, the Royal BC Museum invites them to add their observations on nature to the [COVID-19 Collecting For Our Time project](#).

The project, which [launched](#) in April 2020, asks British Columbians to share the stories of their experiences during the pandemic.

“This project, an open invitation for all BC residents to participate in the museum process, highlights the perspectives of ordinary people living through extraordinary times,” said **Royal BC Museum CEO Prof. Jack Lohman**. “As a museum of human and natural history, we welcome British Columbians to share their experiences of nature during the pandemic.”

Scientists have recently [coined the phrase](#) the “anthropause” to describe the global slowdown in human activity (especially travel) during the pandemic.

With this in mind, the museum is asking people to consider two major questions: Since the pandemic reached British Columbia, what are you seeing in nature **that's** changing? What has been your personal experience of nature during the pandemic?

To answer these questions, people can use the project's online submission form: royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/covid-19-collecting-our-time.

Since the project began, the museum and archives has received hundreds of stories, thoughts, photos and videos from across BC. Many of these submissions **reflect people's relationships with other** people—especially family members, caregivers, front-line workers and teachers—and often in domestic or institutional settings. You can see a selection here: royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/recent-submissions.



As the province moves through the stages of the [Restart Plan](#), the museum and archives will keep gathering **BC's pandemic stories**. The Royal BC Museum hopes to build a longer-term collecting project to capture this legacy.

For more information about the Royal BC **Museum's** COVID-19 Collecting For Our Time project, visit royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/tell-us-your-covid-19-story.

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About the Royal BC Museum: The Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in BC—onsite, offsite and online—taking pride in our collective histories.

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