



## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

### **Young Naturalists' Club Launches Nature Clubs in Schools Program**

*Funding from BCTC allows completion of virtual clubhouse to serve school nature clubs across province*

**VANCOUVER, BC** – Today, the Young Naturalists' Club of BC announced funding from BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) to enable the completion of the Nature Clubs in Schools website, an online "clubhouse" that provides resources and support to school nature clubs across BC.

"The Young Naturalists' Club Society is dedicated to spreading an understanding of the importance of nature through outdoor activities to young people across BC. This website portal allows us to involve even more communities on a regular basis," said Kristine Webber-Lampa, Nature Clubs in Schools Coordinator. "Sponsors like BCTC, who share an understanding of the importance of this type of education, have made our online clubhouse a reality."

"We are proud to be able to assist in the development of this online clubhouse, it is a great tool to get communities and schools across the province involved in the environment," said Shawn Chylinski, BCTC's Safety and Environment Manager. "We believe that nurturing this appreciation will help encourage them to be leaders in protecting the environment."

Lord Kitchener Elementary in Vancouver is participating in the Nature Clubs in Schools Program and has both benefited from and is contributing to the resources found on this new website. Grade four students raised the butterflies in their classroom and have posted their experience online for other schools to see. Recently, the class watched as the butterflies emerged from their chrysalises and flew to nearby gardens.

The new YNC Virtual Clubhouse is found at [www.ync.ca](http://www.ync.ca). Elementary schools throughout BC are invited to start a new club or register their existing one. Online, they will find the tools to make the club a success, including access to an environmental educator/biologist, activity templates, a club leader's list, photo gallery and access to province-wide programs like the Great Backyard Bird Count. They will also receive 10 copies of each issue of YNC's quarterly publication, *NatureWILD*, BC's only children's magazine focused on nature and the environment of BC.

The Young Naturalists' Club of BC Society was formed in 2000 to encourage and assist young people to develop a love of nature and a feeling of respect and responsibility for the unique ecosystems, flora and fauna in British Columbia. The Society offers a network of local

community-based nature clubs throughout the province where children and their families can participate in field trips and other activities that increase their knowledge of the BC environment.

BC Transmission Corporation is the Crown corporation that plans, operates and maintains the province's publicly owned electrical transmission system.

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