

# TOUR GUIDE

• 2026 •

# Find Your Wild



◦ Since 1998 ◦

# MAY 14 ~ 18

## OVER 50 OUTDOOR TOURS

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

*Connecting Knowledge with Action*



## Rendezvous & Auction

### Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>

🕒 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Join local experts—Siobhan Darlington,  
Jason Jones and Dick Cannings



**\$50**



**\$25**



## MeadowlarkFestival.ca

meadowlarkfestival.ca/how-to-buy-tickets

or Call 250 492-5275

**TICKETS  
ON SALE  
APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Early-bird Tickets  
April 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> for  
OSCA members only!  
Scan code for ticket  
details...



## Photo Contest



Scan Code to  
Learn More



[MeadowlarkFestival.ca/photo-contest](http://MeadowlarkFestival.ca/photo-contest)

Partnered with

## VISIT Penticton

Meadowlark Festival  
presented by



OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

# Thursday May 14

# 2026 TOURS

## Tour #01 – Meadowlark Rendezvous and Auction

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION  
*Connecting Knowledge with Action*

Join local experts  
**Siobhan Darlington,**  
**Jason Jones &**  
**Dick Cannings**

Pricing: ADULT \$50 &  
STUDENT \$25



🕒 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

📍 Luso Canadian Multicultural Centre, Penticton

# Friday May 15

## Tour #02 – KVR Cycling with

**Dick Cannings** The early rider gets the bird! Join biologist Dick Cannings & John Shaske for a 30 km KVR bike tour! Shuttle, birding & history. Lunch included.



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$125**

📍 Naramata 🕒 6:30 AM – 2:00 PM

## Tour #03 – Wonders of White Lake

Join Anona Kampe & Lisa Scott for an exploration of the beautiful and significant landscape surrounding White Lake and the importance of the land to Syilx people. Ages 8+



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$40 | \$5**

📍 White Lake, SOEC: Caravan 🕒 8:30 AM – 12 PM

## Tour #04 – Naramata History Walking Tour

Discover a century of local history & colourful characters who shaped this scenic spot with local history buff Craig Henderson.

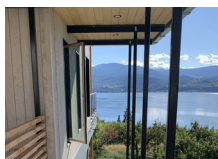


Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

📍 Naramata 🕒 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

## Tour #05 – Sustainable Buildings – Naramata Home & Garden Tour

Join local architect Chris Allen for a tour through two recently completed houses on the edge of Penticton.

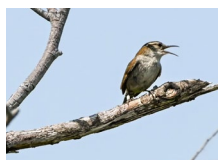


Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30**

📍 Penticton 🕒 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

## Tour #06 – Swan Lake Sanctuary

Enjoy coffee and muffins with Vermilion Forks Field Naturalists before birding at Swan Lake! Explore glacial "kettles," grasslands, and diverse wildlife.



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

📍 Princeton 🕒 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

## Tour #07 – Mahoney Lake Ramble

Writer and educator Margaret Holm leads a 6 km spring ramble through grasslands & forests. Learn to use nature apps & discover local conservation. Ages 12+



📍 Okanagan Falls 🕒 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$35**

## Tour #08 – Skaha Lake Paddle – Venez Kayaker sur le Lac Skaha

Join Hoodoo Adventures and local naturalist Lyse Deselliers on an easy-going kayak experience on beautiful Skaha Lake.



📍 Kaleden 🕒 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$95**

## Tour #09 – sq?awsitkw Okanagan Dam Salmon Passage

Discover the return of salmon to the sq?awsitkw (Okanagan River). Discuss fisheries projects and Syilx ceremony on this accessible walk. All Ages

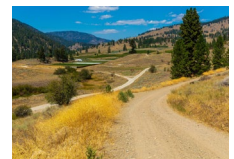


📍 Penticton 🕒 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20**

## Tour #10 – Vines and Veggies – Farming in Harmony with Nature

Tour sustainable farms with Thomas Tumbach & Sally Campa at Garnet Valley Ranch & discover vineyards, learn land conservation, along with a wine tasting.

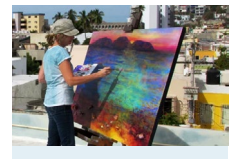


📍 Summerland 🕒 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

## Tour #11 – Plein Air Art Workshop

Paint with 2026 Meadowlark Artist Deb Tougas at Maple Leaf Distillery! Capture the Okanagan's beauty en plein air. Bring your own supplies. All levels welcome.

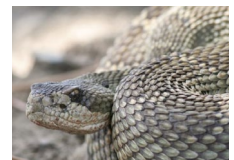


📍 Penticton 🕒 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Difficulty: **Level 0**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #12 – Snakes Alive!

In this fun, interpretive program learn about local snake biology and conservation! See live snakes up close and learn to identify species at risk.



📍 Osoyoos 🕒 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Difficulty: **Level 0-1**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

## Tour #13 – Sail Through Time: The Okanagan's Geo-History (trip 1)

Exclusive sailing tour on the pristine waters of Okanagan Lake, led by an expert geologist who turns the shoreline into a living storybook.



📍 Penticton 🕒 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$90**

## Friday May 15

### Tour #14 – Gateway to the Cathedrals

Explore Cathedral Park with outdoorsman John Henry! A multi-stop drive along the Ashnola River to learn about geology and local wildlife.

📍 Keremeos 🕒 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30**

### Tour #15 – Canada's Secret Garden

Tour the historic Summerland Ornamental Gardens with Scott Austin author, radio host and horticulturist. Scott will illuminate!

📍 Summerland 🕒 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20 | \$5**

### Tour #16 – k̓tupus - Giant's Head Mountain

Hike Giants Head w/ PIB member Anona Kampe. Hear Sylix stories while discovering local plants. Steep trail; bring a seat and dress for wind.

📍 Summerland 🕒 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$40 | \$5**

### Tour #17 – Sail Through Time: The Okanagan's Geo-History (trip 2)

An exclusive sailing tour of Okanagan Lake along with an expert geologist who will reveal the secrets of the shoreline.

📍 Penticton 🕒 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$90**

### Tour #18 – Go Batty in Peachland!

Bat biologist Tanya Luszcz leads a gentle forest hike to learn about Okanagan bats, their habitat, food, and characteristics.

📍 Peachland 🕒 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

### Tour #19 – "Into the Dark" Hike

Experience a night hike at with interpreter James Chester & learn about owls, nocturnal life, and the impact of light pollution. Moderately difficult.

📍 Kelowna 🕒 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$30**

## Saturday May 16

### Tour #20 – Birds of the South Okanagan with Dick Cannings

Join noted author & birder Dick Cannings for a guided birding bus tour of the South Okanagan. See 100+ species!

📍 South Okanagan 🕒 7:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$160**

## Saturday May 16

### Tour #21 – Explore the Osoyoos Oxbows

See rare and interesting birds, learn history from early ranching days, and view the original Burrowing Owl release site.

📍 Osoyoos 🕒 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM



Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30**

### Tour #22 – Bluebirds, Vistas and Vines

Walk the Bluebird Trail at Burrowing Owl Winery while viewing nests, eggs, and chicks in bird boxes along the Black Sage Bench.

📍 Oliver 🕒 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30**

### Tour #23 – The Historic Trails of Marron Valley

Explore hidden canyon paths and the historic stagecoach road at Starvation Jackson's Flats with OSCA Chair Paul Lockington. Includes lunch.

📍 Rural Kaleden 🕒 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2-3**  
Price: **\$50**

### Tour #24 – Kitchen Sink Hike

Join avid hiker Sue Mavety on an invigorating hike up the east side of the Okanagan Valley south of Okanagan Falls. This is a vigorous hike with lots of ups and downs.

📍 Okanagan Falls 🕒 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

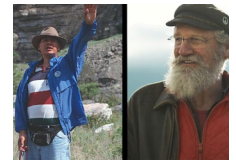


Difficulty: **Level 3-4**  
Price: **\$30**

### Tour #25 – Two-Eyed Land Ceremony

Join Elder Henry Michel & Don Gayton for a creative retreat on the land! Reflect on the human/nature bond through art & writing.

📍 Rural Oliver 🕒 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

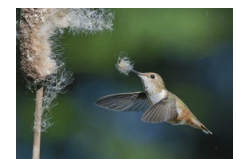


Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30**

### Tour #26 – Hummingbird Tea Talk and Walk

Join Alison Moran for a hummingbird tour! Enjoy the Frog City Cafe while learning how to help these birds, followed by a stroll through Linden Gardens.

📍 Kaleden 🕒 10:00 PM – 12:00 PM

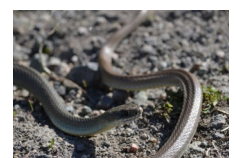


Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$35**

### Tour #27 – Snake Team Herpetology Hike

Hike White Lake with the TRU Snake Team! Learn about grassland conservation, road mortality research, and spot local species.

📍 White Lake 🕒 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30**

# Saturday May 16

## Tour #28 – The n?aysn?la?xw (Ashnola) sm?lqm?x Protected Area

Traditional Knowledge Keepers and LSIB staff will lead participants on a journey through sm?lqm?x story and connection. Lunch incl.

📍 Keremeos ⌚ 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

## Tour #29 – Mixed Media Feather Workshop

Join Festival featured artist Deb Tougas for a hands-on approach to designing your own feather inspired artwork.

📍 Penticton ⌚ 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 0**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #30 – Bees and Bubbles

Tour Joie Farm's vineyard to learn about pollinator habitats, sustainable farming, and wine tourism. Includes a guided walk and tasting.

📍 Naramata ⌚ 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 0**  
Price: **\$20**

## Tour #31 – Agur Lake Accessible Wilderness

Explore Agur Lake with Lyse Deselliers! Discover BC's only 100% barrier-free wilderness camp. Accessible cabins & paved trails.

📍 West of Summerland ⌚ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

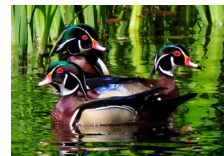


Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20**

## Tour #32 – n?a?xwt - Ginty's Pond; Wetland Restoration Tour

Join biologist and S.I.L.T. Executive Director Al Peatt and terrestrial ecologist and ornithologist Dr. Jason Jones for a guided tour.

📍 Cawston ⌚ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20 | \$5**

## Tour #33 – Grasslands Habitat & Botany Hike

Join ecologist Tanis Gieselman for a botanically rich hike at White Lake! Explore alkaline lakes while identifying unique ecosystems.

📍 White Lake, Kaleden ⌚ 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

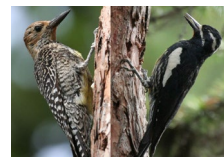


Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #34 – Ancient Larches and Endangered Sapsuckers

Meet the magnificent Western Larch with biologist Les Gyug! Learn how fire, ants, and old-growth trees support local wildlife.

📍 Okanagan Falls ⌚ 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #35 – Featured Artist's Talk

Join Meadowlark artist Deb Tougas in for an informal talk about how she takes everyday subjects by layering and saturating them with colour to create her art.

📍 Penticton ⌚ 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 0**  
Price: **FREE**

## Tour #36 – Saturday Night at the Movies:

**The Medzih Story:** Restoration of Cariboo habitat. **The Call:** Featuring Q&A w/ Penticton search and rescue team. **Saving the Night Caller:** Research into the endangered condition of the Whip-poor-will.

📍 Penticton ⌚ 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 0**  
Price: **\$15 | \$5**

# Sunday May 17

## Tour #37 – Okanagan Big Day Event

Join the fossil-fuel-free Birdathon! Compete to spot the most species by foot, bike, or sitting. Record is 146! Valley-wide. All Ages

📍 Okanagan Valley ⌚ 12:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2-3**  
Price: **FREE**

## Tour #38 – Marron Valley Birding

Explore Mountain Springs with ecologist Michael Bezener! Hike diverse habitats to spot birds, learn about connectivity, and enjoy a light brunch amid busy hummingbirds.

📍 Rural Kaleden ⌚ 7:30 AM – 11:30 AM



Difficulty: **Level 2-3**  
Price: **\$50**

## Tour #39 – Antelope Brush: Mystery and Magic

Explore Antelope Brush sites with Indigenous knowledge keepers! Learn about the ecology of this icon of ecological complexity.

📍 Oliver ⌚ 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

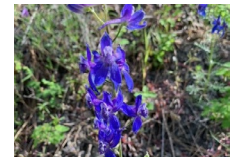


Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$35**

## Tour #40 – Guy's Cache Hike

Join Renee Martin for a strenuous hike to Guy's Cache! See spring flowers, birds, and alpine views. 3-hour hike with steep sections. Poles & boots essential.

📍 White Lake ⌚ 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #41 – Okanagan Valley View Hike

Moderate hike east of OK Falls exploring Blue Mountain Vineyards. Bring lunch and enjoy Okanagan's famous views.

📍 Okanagan Falls ⌚ 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30**

# Sunday May 17

## Tour #42 – Penticton Cottonwood

**Ecosystems** Learn about what cottonwood ecosystems need to maintain and restore relationships between trees, river and wildlife in an urban setting.

📍 Penticton 🕒 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #43 – Vaseux Lake Kids Tour

Introduce kids (Aged 6–13) to nature at Vaseux Lake! Explore the boardwalk and viewing tower to spot eagles, moose, and beavers in this Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

📍 Okanagan Falls 🕒 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20 | \$5**

## Tour #44 – Trip to the Eocene

Join John Henry and Mary Masiel for coffee, then carpool to a massive Eocene fossil bed. Discover 40-million-year-old fossils on this all-ages tour!

📍 Princeton 🕒 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

## Tour #45 – Nature as our Teacher: Forest Qigong.

Forest bathing and qigong through mindful movement and breath—a gentle, immersive session to connect with nature.

📍 Naramata 🕒 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM



Difficulty: **Level 0**  
Price: **\$20**

## Tour #46 – Beneath the Lily Pads: A Family Excursion

Join author Josée Bergeron for a splashy pond adventure! Dip nets reveal beetles, snails, and larvae. A muddy, hands-on family workshop.

📍 Okanagan Falls 🕒 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20 | \$5**

## Tour #47 – Buzzing for Bees

The Okanagan–Similkameen is a bee diversity hot-spot! Join Osoyoos Desert Centre staff to build (#2 Robertson req.) a mason bee house and learn about these important pollinators. All Ages

📍 Osoyoos 🕒 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 0–1**  
Price: **\$30 | \$5**

## Tour #48 – 3 Blind Mice Trail Hike

Hike the 3 Blind Mice network in Penticton! Explore spring wildflowers and iconic Okanagan views. Carpool to the top for a downhill hike. High-clearance vehicles recommended.

📍 Penticton/Naramata 🕒 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #49 – Similkameen

**Cottonwoods** Learn how Mulx – Black Cottonwood stands promote healthy fisheries and mitigate streambank erosion in a time of climate uncertainty."

📍 Keremeos 🕒 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30**

# Find Your Wild

## Monday May 18

▶ **Tours #50 and 47, 54 & 56 Family Tours** (See Last Page)

## Tour #51 – Easy Channel Walk

An interesting tour along parts of the historic Okanagan River revealing how it looked before the Channel was created.

📍 Penticton 🕒 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$20 | \$5**

## Tour #52 – Mahoney Lake Nature Hike

Join hikers Sue Mavety and Diane Andial for an easy trek through Mahoney Lake Ecological Reserve. View rare algae in the world-famous saline lake and visit an old dam. Birders' pace!

📍 Okanagan Falls 🕒 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #53 – Trout Creek Ecological Reserve

Discover dozens of plant species and rich bird-life while learning about grassland and dry forest dynamics with ecologist Don Gayton.

📍 Summerland 🕒 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 2–3**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #55 – Diversifying and Restoring the Okanagan River

Learn about wetland restoration, sediment removal, and spot local turtles and wildlife.

📍 Okanagan Falls 🕒 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Difficulty: **Level 1**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour #57 – Campbell Mountain Full Circle

Explore wildflowers on Campbell Mountain, learn about trail apps, and see wildfire recovery. Steep sections. Ages 12+

📍 Penticton 🕒 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM



Difficulty: **Level 3**  
Price: **\$30**

## Tour 50

### Birding for Beginners: An Introductory Workshop

Join visiting birders Khalid Boudreau & Trenton Schulz-Franco for a beginner workshop! Learn gear and ID basics, then tour Sun-Oka Park and Trout Creek. All levels.

**Difficulty: Level 2 – Price: \$30**

Monday  
May 18

50



# Family Tours

## Tour 54

### Tiny Seeds, Big Blooms: A Family Wildflower Walk and Seed Ball Workshop

Join author Josée Bergeron for a blooming adventure! Enjoy a gentle wildflower walk followed by a hands-on workshop making seed balls for pollinators. Messy fun for all!

**Difficulty: Level 1 – Price: \$10 | \$5**

Monday  
May 18

54



## Tour levels

- 0 – Access for all. Flat terrain.
- 1 – Easy walking. All/mostly level paths.
- 2 – Paths can be narrow with some uneven terrain.
- 3 – Obstacles in paths and/or uneven terrain.  
Steeper grade requiring agility.
- 4 – Very steep, insecure footing. Long hike.  
Good physical condition needed.

Monday  
May 18

56



## Tour 56

### Bees, Bugs, and Butterflies... Oh My!

Join Mandy Brown & Tyler Nelson for an insect walk! See a live bumblebee hive, museum specimens, and play Bug Bingo on Cartwright Mountain. All ages, snacks for kids.

**Difficulty: Level 1 – Price: \$10 | \$5**

## Thank You Sponsors!

**Landform**  
Architecture + Design Build



## Tour 47

### Buzzing for Bees

The Okanagan-Similkameen is a bee diversity hot-spot! Join Osoyoos Desert Centre staff to build (#2 Robertson req.) a mason bee house and learn about these important pollinators.

**Difficulty: Level 0-1**  
**Price: \$30 | \$5**

Sunday  
May 17

47



### What to bring and respect!

- ▶ Water, Snacks
- ▶ Sturdy shoes
- ▶ Jacket or sweater
- ▶ Leave pets at home
- ▶ Sun protection
- ▶ Respect wildlife
- ▶ Be considerate of other visitors

MeadowlarkFestival.ca