



CoastSmart.ca

## DID YOU KNOW(s)?

- Tofino and Ucluelet are Canada's first CoastSmart communities
- Rip currents are strongest around rocks, islands, and submerged sandbars
- Beaches can flood in a matter of seconds
- If you're caught in a rip current, swim parallel to the beach
- It only takes 4 inches (10 cm) of water to move a 1 tonne log
- Waves are formed by distant winds blowing across the surface of the sea. They are often formed hundreds or thousands of miles away from shore
- Waves occur in sets. Small wave sets are often followed by larger wave sets
- "Snaking" means paddling around another surfer to get to the inside position on a wave and steal the wave. Don't be a snake. It's also not safe.
- "Dropping in" means taking a wave someone is already riding. It's poor etiquette
- It's important to plan for two high tides each day
- Tides are caused by the gravitational attraction of the sun and moon and can be influenced by wind and storms
- Tides in the Pacific Rim region range from a few centimetres to over four metres
- Unexpected large waves are more likely during or after a storm, but could happen at any time
- The rocks along the coastline are bare because powerful waves sweep them clean of plant-life. It is not safe to walk on the rocks during storms
- About 80% of surf rescues at local beaches are due to rip currents
- Rip currents can occur at any beach, including the Great Lakes
- Being caught in the surf is often compared to being tossed around in a washing machine