

**Innovations Event:**  
**Bird Banding Station Experience at Colony Farm**  
**Vancouver Avian Research Centre (VARC)**  
**Saturday September 21, 2019 7:00 am – 12:00 pm, weather permitting\***  
**(If poor weather on Saturday, we will move to Sunday September 22, 2019)**

Join us on Saturday September 21, 2019 for a morning with the Vancouver Avian Research Centre (VARC) at Colony Farms to see resident and migratory birds up close, observe bird banding, hold and release birds under supervision, and view birds in parts of the park normally off-limits to the general public.

VARC is a "Registered Canadian Charity dedicated to wild bird research, conservation and education. VARC conducts bird monitoring and banding, provides research, demonstration, education, volunteer opportunities, and visitor programs at its main Colony Farm field station. VARC's primary objective is to provide data and research support that will allow for the safeguarding of bird habitats to ensure their long-term survival by providing scientifically defensible strategies for avian and ecosystem conservation."

"VARC's mandate has two key components:

1. To provide data and research support to safeguard habitat for birds
2. To provide public outreach and education to raise awareness of environmental issues as they relate to birds"



Research and monitoring are essential to guide successful conservation and management actions. In addition to collecting data to safeguard habitat for birds, VARC conducts extensive public outreach and education to raise awareness of environmental issues as they relate to birds." (<http://www.birdvancouver.com/who-we-are-2/>)

The visit to Colony Farm includes an introduction to VARC over coffee, tea and breakfast goodies. Activities following include accompanying the Net Extractors on net rounds, observing the bird banding and processing of birds (include ageing and sexing), receiving the bird "show and tell" on each species, and holding and releasing birds under supervision. This is followed up a short wrap-up presentation focusing on birds and the environment. More information: <http://www.birdvancouver.com/vip-visits/>



\* A note on weather: VARC is not able to band in steady rain as birds can quickly become hypothermic so they check the weather network each evening prior to banding to ensure rain is not forecast and if the weather is not ideal the event will be moved to Sunday, September 22, 2019. **All registered members will be emailed the night of Friday September 20, 2019 to confirm.**

### MEETING LOCATION

Meeting location for check in is at the Bird Banding Station. The Bird Banding Station is closest to street-parking off Shaughnessy Street. Parking here is limited. There is additional parking at the Colony Farms Community Garden parking lot on the west side of the park, however this lot is a 15-20-minute walk away from the Bird Banding Station. **Please note that if you type in Colony Farms into Google Maps it will direct you toward the Community Garden parking lot.**

For specific directions and more information, please see: <http://www.birdvancouver.com/varc-wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Directions-to-Colony-Farm-and-the-VARC-Banding-Station-1.pdf>

### ITINERARY

6:45-7:00 Arrival and check in Bird Banding Station

7:00 – 12:00 Bird Banding Station Experience

**COST:** BCIA members - \$10

**PD Hours:** 5

**The maximum capacity for the event is 10 people. This event is open to BCIA members only at this time. Please sign up early to avoid disappointment!**

[Online registration and payment](#) > [Member login](#)

Phone registration and payment: call **Canada Toll Free 1-877-855-9291 or (250) 380-9292**

All registrations must be completed by the end of day September 14, 2019

\*Cancellation notice is required by end of day Wednesday September 18, 2019 or full payment will be charged (\$10)

Questions can be directed to: [PD Vancouver@email.bcia.com](mailto:PD_Vancouver@email.bcia.com)

**Transportation:** Group transportation will not be provided. **Please provide your own transportation.**

### What to wear:

- Warm layered clothing
- Rubber boots or waterproof shoes

### What to bring:

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Water
- Coffee mug