



Briony Penn
Keynote Speaker: Birthday Dinner
Friday 13th May

<http://www.cowantherealthing.com/>

Briony Penn is a naturalist, writer, educator, and broadcaster well known in BC for her indomitable spirit and tireless devotion to protecting endangered species and sensitive ecosystems in her native British Columbia.

Penn has published hundreds of articles in newspapers and magazines, government publications and peer-reviewed journals. She has written environmental guides and handbooks for teachers in British Columbia on topics ranging from forest ecosystems and biodiversity to the natural and cultural history of the Salish Sea.

Penn is also an illustrator / artist who has exhibited and published widely on natural history themes. A pioneer of 'community mapping', Penn has created numerous artistic community maps that have been replicated across North America and Europe. Having gained her Ph.D in Geography from Edinburgh University, Penn was a sessional lecturer for nearly 20 years and contributed to the *Islands in the Salish Sea: A Community Atlas*, Touchwood Editions, 2005 and *Giving The Land a Voice*, LTABC, 2005. She has developed interpretive maps, exhibits and signage for parks and museums in both Canada and Britain, where she has also worked as a naturalist with eco tour and educational operators for 25 years. In 2003, she received a national Environment Learning award from *Canadian Geographic*.

A founding member of *The Land Conservancy of BC*, Penn has worked with local and provincial organizations since 1991, and has lectured widely across British Columbia on natural and cultural history and stewardship and was a member of the first provincial working group on private land stewardship. ☒

As a volunteer Board member of *Raincoast Conservation Foundation*, Penn established a research project on the Sandhill Crane, which has continued as an educational project with *Pacific Wild*. Penn has been a community researcher on biological / cultural topics, a mentor for young activists, and raised two sons. A fifth generation Vancouver Islander, she currently lives on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia.

Books by Briony Penn include:

A Year on the Wild Side, Touchwood Editions, 1997.

The Kids Book of Canadian Geography, Kids Can Press, 2008.

The Real Thing: The Natural History of Ian McTaggart Cowan, Rocky Mountain Books, 2015.

For the Love of Nature: Solutions for Biodiversity Columbia Institute, 2010.

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