



Coastal Guardian Watchmen Network Flag Use Policy

The Coastal Guardian Watchmen Network flag is for use by First Nation stewardship programs on the North and Central Coast and Haida Gwaii that are responsible for monitoring activities in their respective territories. The purpose of the flag is to support local Guardian Watchmen efforts to:

- Be recognized as Guardian Watchmen on the land and water;
- Establish a strong presence throughout their territory so that resource users and community members recognize and regularly interact with Guardian Watchmen staff; and
- Contribute to increasing the authority of First Nations to carry out compliance and enforcement.

Who can display the CGWN flags on their boats or vehicles?

The CGWN flags are to be used solely by staff of First Nation Stewardship Offices and/or Guardian Watchmen programs on the North and Central Coast and Haida Gwaii who are responsible for monitoring and protecting cultural and natural resources in their traditional territories. This includes on-the-ground staff working on issues such as fisheries, forestry, wildlife, cultural heritage, protected areas, and ecological research. A boat or vehicle flying the Guardian Watchmen flag must be directly related to a First Nation Stewardship Office and/or Guardian Watchmen program.

In certain cases, non-First Nations institutions that support the CGWN's vision and goals may be able to fly the flags at the discretion of the CGWN and with the explicit consent of the First Nations whose territory they are operating in.

The CGWN flags are not to be used by community members at large or the general public.

What are the responsibilities associated with displaying the CGWN flag?

- The CGWN flag will only be displayed by Guardian Watchmen and Stewardship staff and authorized non-First Nations institutions when they are undertaking official monitoring and stewardship activities in the traditional territory of their Nation.

- Everyone flying the CGWN flag must abide by the ethics, authority and traditional laws of the respective Nation, including interacting with all resource users in a respectful and appropriate manner.
- Everyone flying the CGWN flag must ensure that their behavior and activities are consistent with the provincial and federal regulations that are the focus of their compliance monitoring efforts.
- By flying the CGWN flag, Guardian Watchmen must be aware that they represent their Nation at all times, and they also represent the regional Network of Nations working together to create an effective and united presence on the Coast. Guardian Watchmen are the ambassadors of their territories.
- Guardian Watchmen are responsible for acting in a timely and responsible manner to respond to any suspicious activities that they encounter and/or that are reported to them by community members and/or the broader public.
- The CGWN flag must be treated with respect at all times.
- Misuse of the CGWN flag must be reported to the local Guardian Watchmen or Stewardship program coordinator.