FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Capilano University awards inaugural WIL Partner of the Year Award to COAST Performance Rehabilitation**

NORTH VANCOUVER B.C. March 22, 2023 – [Capilano University](http://www.capilanou.ca) (CapU) is pleased to announce that [COAST Performance Rehabilitation](https://www.coastperformancerehab.com/) (COAST) is the inaugural recipient of CapU’s Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Partner of the Year award.

The award recognizes and awards one company or organization for its outstanding commitment in supporting WIL at Capilano University in 2022.

“The value of WIL lies in its ability to provide a practical and authentic learning experience for our students and innovative solutions for our community partners,” says Mohna Baichoo, CapU faculty lead, work-integrated learning. “Students build and increase their knowledge and develop both soft and technical skills, and foster personal and professional growth. As a result, they are better equipped to enter the workforce.”

Most notably, Richard Johnson, alumnus of CapU’s Diploma of Kinesiology program and physiotherapist at COAST, who serves as a mentor and ongoing resource for students, has consistently contributed to the program since graduating.

COAST was one of the first community partners of the School of Kinesiology at CapU since the inception of WIL opportunities in the Bachelor of Kinesiology degree program in 2021. Students placed at COAST learn at a multi-disciplinary clinic, observing the work of physiotherapists, chiropractors, registered massage therapists and more. The diversity of their practice makes COAST an invaluable partner to CapU.

CapU is a member of the [Association for Co-operative Education and Work-Intergrated Learning BC/Yukon](https://acewilbc.ca/institution/capilano-university/), offering WIL programs for students in partnership with workplaces for experiential learning.

March is national co-op and WIL month and March 22, 2023 is the national day of WIL. CapU will be sharing more WIL stories throughout the month.

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**About Capilano University**

Capilano University is a teaching-focused university based in North Vancouver, British Columbia, with additional programming serving the Sunshine Coast and the Sea-to-Sky corridor. With industry-leading instructors, small classes and over 100 programs across five distinctive faculties, CapU is a unique place where students are encouraged to make their mark, in and out of the classroom. Capilano University is named after Sa7plek (Chief Joe Capilano), an important leader of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation of the Coast Salish Peoples. We respectfully acknowledge that our campuses are located on the territories of the LíỈwat, xʷməθkʷəỷəm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and SəỈílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

For more information, or to schedule interviews, please contact:

Linda Munro
Senior Advisor, Public Affairs

Capilano University

t: 604 220 8937

e: lindamunro@capilanou.ca

[www.capilanou.ca](http://www.capilanou.ca/)