



Vancouver is a diverse city proud of its civil liberties, equality, history of peace, and multicultural diversity. Our city is founded on the territory of Coast Salish First Nations who dwelt in villages on this site for thousands of years before Vancouver became a city.

Everyone is Welcome Here

WE WELCOME THE WORLD TO VANCOUVER

People come to Vancouver from every continent and every country around the world seeking freedom and acceptance. We're a city in which diversity of ancestry, religion, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, political belief, colour, religion and other characteristics are celebrated and valued as part of a rich, vibrant and unique cultural environment. All of these rights are guaranteed under our federal, provincial and municipal laws.

Vancouver is also known as a city of peace. We are members of the Peace Messenger Cities and Mayors for Peace. We have hosted the first World Peace Forum and held many large peace marches over the decades. Many peace organizations have made Vancouver their home.



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The City of Vancouver established an **Equal Employment Opportunity Program** in the late 1970s. Its mandate is to address human rights-related issues, and maintain related policies such as the Harassment Free Workplace Policy.

We were the first city in Canada to set up a **Gender Equality Strategy**, and are planning a conference on Designing an Ideal City for Women and Girls, a project of the Women's Advisory Committee.

We were the first city in Canada to set up a **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Advisory Committee** to advise staff and Council to ensure everyone is welcome and safe wherever they go and whatever they do in this city.

The City of Vancouver also has an **Advisory Committee on Multiculturalism**, which is implementing recommendations from the Mayor's Task Force on Immigration.

The **Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee** has contributed significantly to the City's achievements in accessibility, including accessible transportation, buildings, and recreational opportunities.

There are dozens of volunteer citizen advisory committees, on a host of issues, including the **Bicycle Advisory Committee, Seniors Advisory Committee**, and many others. Each has a page on the City website, which lets everyone know about their work and how to get involved: vancouver.ca/getinvolved.

