

## Activity 6: Interview an Older Adult

### OBJECTIVES

#### Participants will:

- Learn about different perceptions and experiences of Vancouver by interviewing an older adult

### AUDIENCE

- Age: Young adult learners (including High School students) or adult learners
- Political knowledge: No prior knowledge necessary
- Language: Depends on the preferred language of the interview subject

### MATERIALS

- Interview questions
- Recording equipment (cell phone, tablet, etc.)

### INSTRUCTIONS

A great way to learn more about Vancouver is by talking to older adults. An older adult can be an aunt or uncle, a grandparent, family friend or someone you know through volunteering. Whether older adults have lived in Vancouver for generations, or arrived recently, they have tremendous life experiences and insights to share. In this activity participants will interview an older adult about their experiences and perceptions of Vancouver.



## Activity 6: Interview an Older Adult

### ➔ Step 1: Plan the Interview

Ask your interview subject for permission to interview them, and agree on a date and time. If you are a minor, make sure a parent or guardian is with you for the interview.

### ➔ Step 2: Develop Interview Questions

Prepare a list of questions that are open-ended (that can't be answered with a simple 'yes' or 'no'). Focus your questions on your interview subject's experiences, memories or perspectives about Vancouver. Examples might include: How long have you lived in Vancouver? What is your best memory? What is your favourite place in Vancouver? What are the best and worst things about living in Vancouver? What advice would you give young people about living in Vancouver?

### ➔ Step 3: Choose Recording Equipment

➔ Decide on recording equipment: a cell phone, computer, tablet, a video camera or digital voice recorder.

### ➔ Step 4: The Interview

➔ Begin the interview by welcoming and thanking your interview subject. Confirm that you have permission to record and share the interview. Start the recording by introducing yourself and your interview subject, the date and place of the interview. Use your question list as a flexible guide. Let the conversation take a natural course.

### ➔ Step 5: Ethics and Etiquette

➔ Make sure you get written or oral consent from your interview subject, even if it is a relative or close family friend. You should tell the interview subject if the interview will be shared, and give your interview subject the opportunity to review the interview, make additions and deletions and have a say in the final product.

