



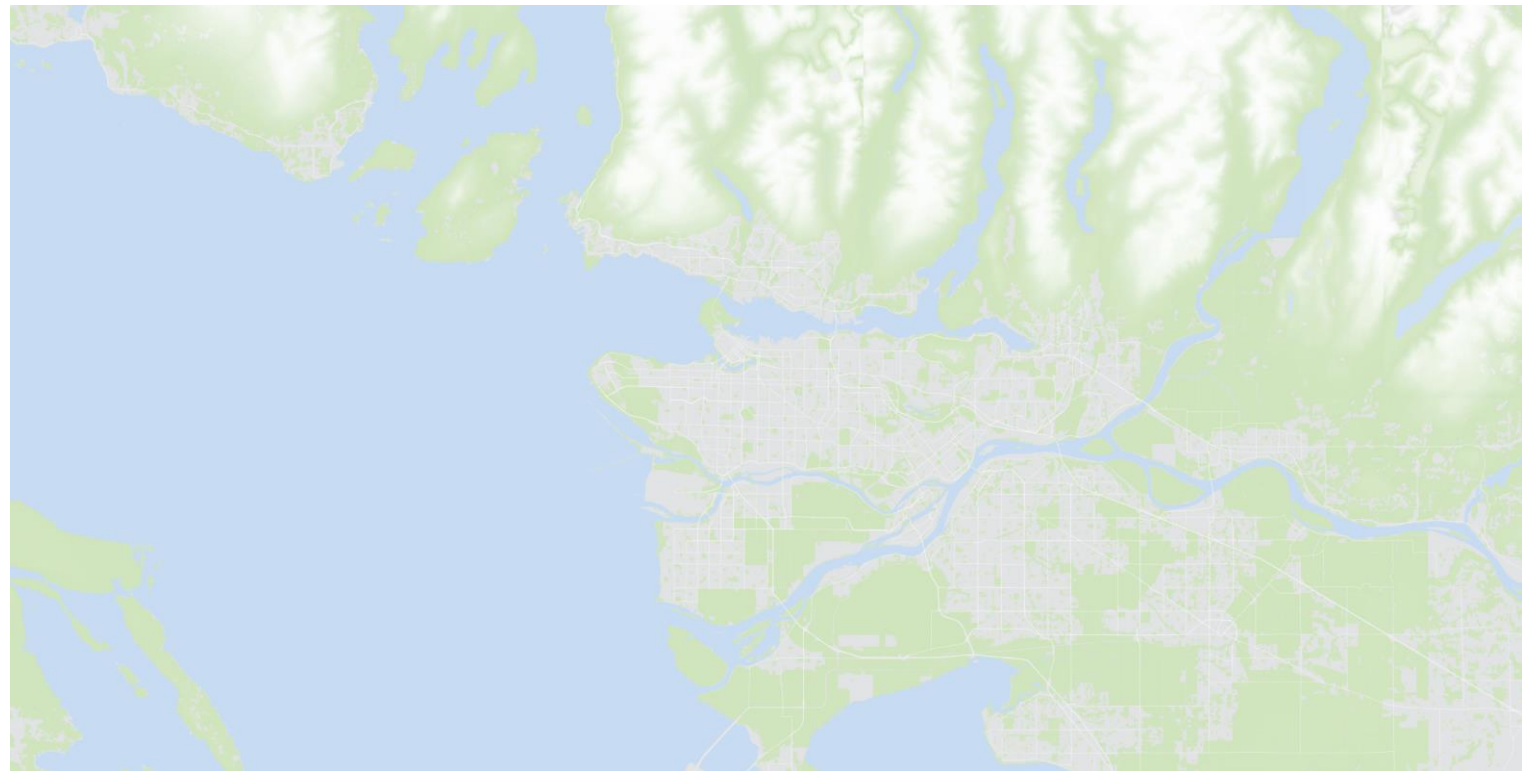
# Vancouver Geography & Facts

# Unceded, Ancestral, Traditional Territories



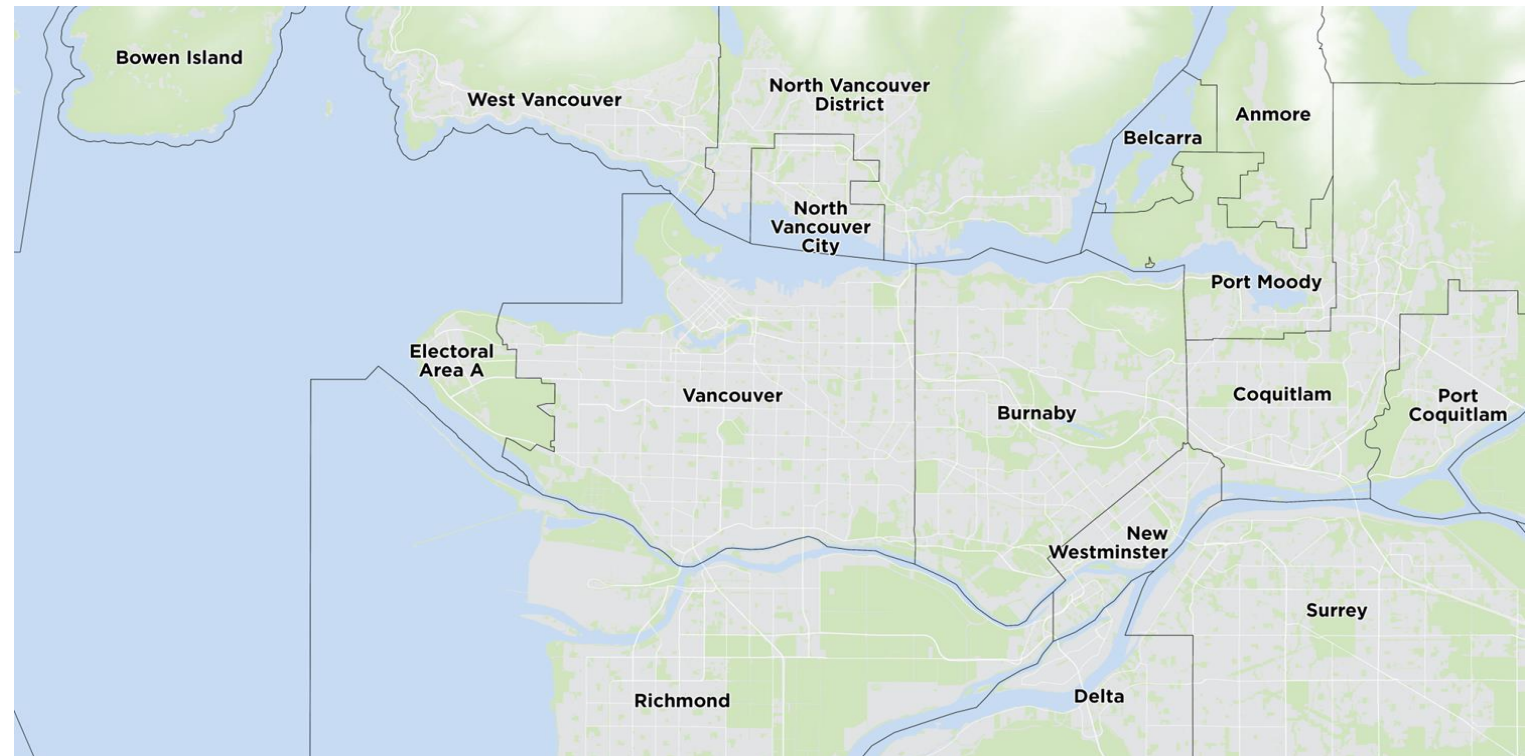
# Vancouver's Geographical Context

- The City of Vancouver is the settler, **coastal, seaport city** on the mainland of British Columbia.
- **Vancouver Island**, across the Strait of Georgia, shields Vancouver from the Pacific Ocean.



# The Urban Region: Metro Vancouver

- Located on the western half of the **Burrard Peninsula**, Vancouver is bounded to the north by **English Bay** and the **Burrard Inlet** and to the south by the **Fraser River**.
- The **City of Burnaby** lies to the east and the **Strait of Georgia** to the west.



# City of Neighbourhoods

- **Stanley Park** is one of the largest urban parks in North America



# Vancouver Facts

- Size: **114 square kilometres** (44 square miles)
- Population: **631,486** (according to the 2016 census)
- Vancouver is the **largest city in British Columbia**, and the **eighth largest municipality in Canada**
- The **Metro Vancouver region** (which includes neighbouring cities such as Burnaby, Richmond, and Surrey) is the **third largest in Canada**

# Vancouver Facts

- Vancouver is **one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse cities in Canada** with **52 percent of the population** speaking a first language other than English.
- Vancouver has hosted many international conferences and events, including the **2010 Winter Olympics and 2010 Winter Paralympics**.



# Vancouver Facts

## Official City flower: The rose

- Although there are records going back as far as 1917 that discuss the question of an official flower for the City (other contenders back then were the dogwood, the dahlia, and the sweet pea) the rose became the City's official flower on December 14, 1967.



## Official City bird: Anna's Hummingbird

- City of Vancouver residents voted to select the official City Bird between April 28 and May 14, 2017. The City Bird symbolizes the importance of birds in our ecosystem.

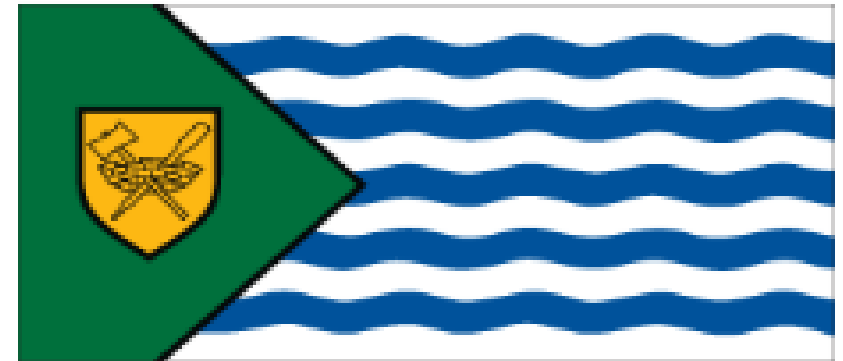




# Vancouver Facts

## Vancouver's flag

- The side chevron of **green represents the land** on which the City is built and the **forest** from which much of its property has come.
- The **gold shield represents Vancouver's status as a corporation**. On the shield is the City Badge, a specific mark of civic government.

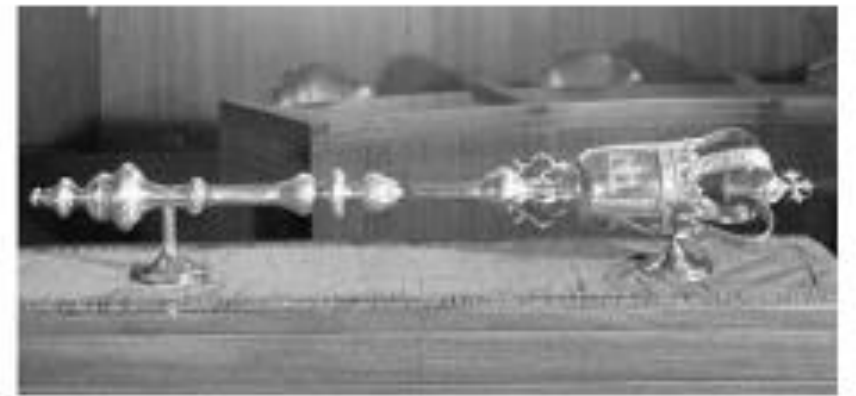


- The **alternating waving bars of blue and white symbolize the sea**, which is the other principal foundation of the City's growth.

# Vancouver Facts

## The Mace

- The Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London, England presented the mace to Vancouver in 1936 as a gift on its 50th birthday. Made from Canadian silver and mercurial gilded, it is **1.5 metre (5 feet, 3 inches) long and weighs 18 kg (40 lb)**.
- The mace is **symbolic of City Council's authority** and is displayed in the Council Chamber during regular Council meetings.



# Vancouver Facts

## International relationships (sister cities)

The City of Vancouver has **five sister-city relationships** with:

- Odessa, Ukraine
- Yokohama, Japan
- Edinburgh, Scotland
- Guangzhou, China
- Los Angeles, United States

Vancouver's sister city relationships are supported by active community groups and City staff, who work together to share information, promote educational exchange, and enhance economic development.

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# Now It's Your Turn!



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- There are several activities that go along with this presentation, or you can make up your own.
- You can find the activities on the Civics Toolbox website