

Inventory of Current Youth Municipal Services and Programs as of April 2025		
City of Vancouver: ACCS Social Policy and Projects		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP)</b>	Ages 6-18	Time-limited project funded by Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada to support community-based youth violence prevention programs and projects in the city. BSCP works with youth serving agencies and youth by providing grants, research and sector development opportunities to address the risk factors associated with gun and gang violence. BSCP also coordinates a peer-to-peer youth leadership in violence prevention program to support all youth engagement activities. Youth are hired and trained to plan and deliver an annual youth forum, lead youth projects and reach out to youth throughout the city. The program runs until March 2026.
City of Vancouver: Engineering – Community Transportation Branch		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>School Streets</b>	Grades K-7	School Streets are car-free blocks beside schools open to walking, biking, and rolling during pick-up and drop-off (30 to 60 minutes) on school days. The program aims to create safer environments for children, encourage active travel to school, and promote independent mobility.
<b>Play Streets</b>	Grades K-7	Play Streets are offered at select School Street locations to provide opportunities for play through simple programming and resources. They are designed to encourage safe, active outdoor play for children and families and to promote community connection.
<b>Walk Bike Roll Mini Grants</b>	Grades K-7	Annual Walk Bike Roll Mini Grants offer up to \$500 to Vancouver public elementary and secondary schools. Grants support projects and activities that encourage and promote students walking, cycling, or rolling to school.
<b>School Travel Planning</b>	Grades K-7	This initiative works with school communities by consulting 3-6 schools per year to identify challenges and opportunities to improve safety and increase the number of children walking, biking, rolling, or taking transit to school. An action plan is developed to implement a variety of infrastructure, encouragement, and education initiatives over the course of two to three years.
<b>School Active Travel Education</b>	Grades 6-7	Each year, grade 6 and 7 students receive active travel education through our support of the Ride the Road education course offered

		by HUB Cycling. The course is delivered at up to 37 schools annually, making the program available to all grade 6 and 7 students in Vancouver public schools over each two-year period.
<b>Kid Commute: Walking School Bus</b>	Grades K-7	Partnering with the Vancouver School Board, TransLink, and the Society for Children and Youth, the Walking School Bus is an organized group of students who walk to and from school with the support of one or more adult leaders. The group walks along a designated route, stopping to pick up more students, and can take shape in various program models.
<b>City of Vancouver: City Clerks Office</b>		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>Civics Toolbox</b>	Grades K-12 (All Ages)	The Civics Toolbox is for all interested individuals, schools, groups, and organizations wanting to know more about their city and how to get involved. It's a free downloadable toolkit with presentations, activities, and worksheets democratic participation, City government, policy and planning issues, and how to get involved.
<b>Civic Advisory Committees: Children, Youth, and Families Advisory Committee</b>	Ages 10+	Civic Advisory Committees help communicate community perspectives to Council and staff while advising on City priorities, projects, and initiatives. The mandate of the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee (CYFAC) is to advise Council and staff on matters that relate to children, youth and families.
<b>Vancouver Fire Rescue Services (VFRS)</b>		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>Camp Ignite</b>	Ages 16-19	Camp Ignite is a 4-day camp that educates and inspires young women to follow their dreams and gives them an introduction to the world of firefighting. Aside from firefighting, each participant will learn about fitness, nutrition, health, and teamwork.
<b>Youth Community Engagement</b>	Grades K-12	VFRS works with other community partners like community centres, ICBC, community policing centres, and more to engage with children and youth and discuss fire safety, career opportunities, and build relationship.
<b>Children's Firehall Tours</b>	Grades K-12	VFRS provides firehall tours to children and community groups interested in learning more about fire rescue services.
<b>Fire Safety House</b>	Grade 3	VFRS educates children on general fire safety including smoke alarms, CO alarms, learn not to burn, and home escape plans.
<b>Vancouver Public Library (VPL)</b>		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>Social Groups &amp; Clubs</b>	Ages 12-18	VPL locations offer friendly and welcoming teen spaces to meet peers with shared interests like Dungeons and Dragons and K-Pop.

<b>Teen Art Hive</b>	Ages 12-18	Teen Art Hive holds weekly meet-ups to connect with other teen artists, discuss projects, and learn new techniques from guest artists.
<b>Ink, a teen journal for writing and visual art</b>	Ages 12-18	Ink is an annually published journal of all types of writing and visual art, made by and for Vancouver teens. Ink showcases the incredible creativity and diversity of youth in the city. Youth can also join the Ink Teen Advisory Group to support the full publishing cycle from selecting pieces, designing the magazine and layout, and planning the launch party.
<b>Teen Advisory Group</b>	Ages 12-18	The Teen Advisory Group advises librarians on programs and services, develop and lead teen programs, and promote the library and youth programs.
<b>Teens Read it First</b>	Ages 12-18	In Teens Read it First, Vancouver youth get to read and review new teen books before they're released.
<b>STEAM Buddies for Teens</b>	Ages 12-18	STEAM Buddies pairs teens with kids in grades 2 to 4 for fun and informal STEAM learning. Big Buddies help kids experiment with different aspects of STEAM using lego, Osmos, Spheros, and more.
<b>Reading Buddies for Teens</b>	Ages 12-18	Reading Buddies pairs teens with kids in grades 2 to 4 who would like to improve their reading. Teen role models help children connect with the library and develop a love for reading and learning.
<b>Work Experience Program (WEX)</b>	Ages 12-18	In partnership with the Vancouver School Board, teens can be paired with a library branch for a week-long work experience placement to gain practical hands-on skills while experiencing what it's like to work in a library.
<b>Teen Summer Challenge</b>	Ages 12-18	Teen Summer Challenge invites teens from across the city to come together for free weekly programs and summer long reading and creative challenges.
<b>Tween Book Clubs</b>	Ages 10-12	Tween Book Clubs provides space for pre-teens to connect with each other and discover new books.
<b>Write Now</b>	Ages 6-12	Write Now invites kids to start writing and thinking creatively with fun writing activities that will have them writing stories and poetry in a fun and supportive environment
<b>Get Your Book in the Library</b>	Grades K-7	Kids in grades K to 7 can drop by the library to write and illustrate their own book that will be made available for other kids to read in the library.
<b>Kids Read it First</b>	Grades K-7	Kids Read it First gives kids the chance to read and review Advance Reading Copies of new children's books before they hit the shelves.

<b>Reading Buddies for Kids</b>	Grades 2-4	Reading Buddies for Kids pairs children in grades 2 to 4 with teen mentors to practice reading aloud, storytelling, and games that make literacy fun
<b>STEAM Buddies for Kids</b>	Grades 2-4	STEAM Buddies for Kids pairs children in grades 2 to 4 with teen mentors for fun and informal STEAM learning using Lego, Osmos, Spheros, and more.
<b>Vancouver Police Department</b>		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>ENCORE (Envisioning New Connections: Outreach Recreation Engagement)</b>	Ages 12-18	Supports intentional engagement through food, providing refreshments/snacks during school and community-based events for the purpose of building relationships.
<b>Engagement Through Art</b>	Ages 12-18	Engagement Through Art provides outreach opportunities for youth with varying interests, strengths, and passions. The program partners with community centres in the city, offering classes in different art mediums.
<b>Full Court Press</b>	Ages 12-14	Youth basketball camp for grade 8 students during Spring Break, with Vancouver Bandits professional basketball team coach and police officers completing drills and games alongside youth participants.
<b>Full Court Support</b>	Ages 12-14	Select participants from Full Court Press will be selected to take part in this special event, attending a Vancouver Bandits game together with police members.
<b>Gang Tackle</b>	Ages 12-18	This event brings together professional athletes, UBC Thunderbird alumni, police officers, and at-risk youth to play flag football. Following the games, athletes give strategic talks, and former gang members discuss the myths and realities of gang life. The goal is to show students the consequences of poor choices, and to build bridges with kids who rarely talk to police or participate in school activities.
<b>Iron Bulldogs Health Club</b>	Ages 12-18	Participants learn the importance of motivation, hard work, and perseverance by working toward individual goals and personal bests, rather than promoting unhealthy comparisons to others.
<b>New Kids Vancouver: Youth Police Academy</b>	Ages 12-18	Funded by the Vancouver Police Foundation, New Kids focuses on supporting newcomer youth by educating and creating awareness around law enforcement through peer and police mentorship to prevent the risk of gang recruitment or criminal involvement, or kids falling victim to bullying or harassment.
<b>Out on Patrol Peer Support Program</b>	Ages 12+	Presentation series delivered to high school or post-secondary students in B.C. that addresses topics such as bullying, 2SLGBTQ+ inclusion, and positive role models in policing

<b>Paul Sanghera Soccer Tournament</b>	Ages 12-18	Since 1983, the VPSSC has supported the VPF and the Masonic Lodges of the Lower Mainland, in coordinating the annual Paul Sanghera Soccer Tournament to honour a fallen VPD police officer who tragically lost his life in a fatal car crash while on duty. In 2023 and 2024, in lieu of the annual tournament, members of the Youth Services Section and the VPSSC played a friendly match against the VPD Cadets. A gathering was hosted after the event that included the Sanghera family.
<b>Pee Wee Soccer Camp</b>	Ages 6-9	The camp occurs over four days in July, providing an essential summer program for youth between the ages of six to nine years.
<b>SAFARY (Supporting Activities for At-Risk Youth)</b>	Ages 12-18	SAFARY supports youth with individual athletic, recreational, artistic, or resilience-based programming needs — from tutoring and driving lessons to volleyball camp and acting lessons.
<b>Safety City</b>	Ages 12 and under	Safety City educates elementary school kids about road safety.
<b>Share-a-Meal</b>	Ages 12-18	This program promotes informal relationship building between police and at-risk youth through the simple act of sharing a meal and getting to know each other.
<b>Strathcona Bike Smart Program</b>	Ages 12 and under	A community bicycle program based in McLean Park to teach bicycle safety to youth 12 and under
<b>Strathcona Noon-Hour Games</b>	Ages 12 and under	A weekly lunch hour recreational drop-in program, providing youth with positive engagement interactions through sports and arts-based activities
<b>Turning Point</b>	Ages 12-18	This anti-gang program provides education and strong alternative choices for at-risk youth who are vulnerable to becoming involved in the drug trade or gangs.
<b>Vancouver Police Athletic League (PAL)</b>	Ages 12-18	This youth crime prevention initiative uses athletic, recreational, and educational programs to foster positive rapport and trust between police officers and youths. Current VPD Police Athletic League activities throughout Vancouver include basketball games, soccer camps, running clubs, and rugby camps.
<b>Vancouver Police Basketball Association</b>	Ages 12-18	These events help to foster a positive relationship between police officers and youth, and include weekly lunch-hour games at local elementary schools, the BC Wheelchair Basketball Hoopfest, the Strathcona Hoop-A-Thon, and the Night Hoops program.
<b>Vancouver Technical Youth Boxing Club</b>	Ages 12-18	This program was a creative response to an unsafe situation after several unsanctioned boxing matches took place on school property. It is a means to support youth interest in combat sports by providing onsite supervision and skills development.
<b>VPD Archery Academy</b>	Ages 12-18	This program provides archery lessons and practice to youth participants at Magee Secondary School
<b>VPD Cadets</b>	Ages 12-18	Funded by the Vancouver Police Foundation, the VPD Cadet Program is a year-long mentorship program aimed at helping youth build the skills necessary to handle conflict and become a leader in their community.

<b>VPD D.R.E.A.M. Hockeyball Classic</b>	Ages 10-12	This one-day community event will see 240 grade 6 and 7 students from across Vancouver take part in a round robin street hockey tournament, alongside a friendly match between VPD SLOs, other first responders, and Canucks alumni. Specialty units including K-9 unit and Emergency Response Section will also be onsite supporting.
<b>VPD Judo Club</b>	Ages 12 and under	Offers specialized workshops, alongside after-school youth judo program, which provides free classes to youth in the Strathcona community
<b>VPD Running Club</b>	Ages 12-18	This club provides a supportive and welcoming running environment for Grade 8 to 12 students from six different schools across the city.
<b>VPD Titans Swim Club</b>	Ages 12-18	The VPD Titans Swim Club recognizes that many youth grow up without learning the necessary swimming skills to full enjoy aquatic activities. Club members learn and practice swimming techniques, stroke proficiency, and endurance.
<b>You Matter program</b>	Ages 12-18	To prevent sexually-based crimes, and ultimately empower youth to build healthy relationships with their peers, the goal of the You Matter program is to educate youth about consent and personal safety, including cyber safety.
<b>COMMUNITY AND INTERAGENCY INITIATIVES (with VPD Involvement)</b>		
<b>Blue Eagle Community Cadets Program</b>	Ages 12-15	Supports 20 youth between the ages of 12 and 15 years. The participants have an opportunity to develop leadership skills while learning about Indigenous culture and policing.
<b>Langara Challenge Basketball Tournament</b>	Ages 12-18	The Vancouver Girl's Basketball Association has partnered with Langara College Women's Basketball, Vancouver Secondary Schools Athletic Association, the Lower Mainland Independent Secondary Schools Athletic Association, the Vancouver Police Foundation, and the Vancouver Police Department to host the Langara Challenge each January. The top eight teams from the senior and junior leagues are invited to participate, where the focus is on development of basketball skills and the importance of gender equality and representation in youth sports and athletics. Competitors also have a chance to receive scholarships.
<b>Musqueam Youth Canoe Club</b>	Ages 12-18	VPD supported the re-invigoration of the Musqueam Canoe Club after 35 years of being inactive. Musqueam youth are now able to participate in the annual Pulling Together Canoe Journey in their own Nation's canoe
<b>Night Hoops Basketball</b>	Ages 12-18	At-risk youth are offered a chance to grow and learn in a supervised and supportive environment, taking part in late-night basketball programming. VPD officers volunteer to participate in the games and mentor the youth.
<b>Pulling Together Canoe Journey</b>	Ages 12-18	The Pulling Together Canoe Journey is a program that aims to eliminate prejudice and stereotypes between government agencies, including the VPD, and Indigenous Peoples. The annual

		summer canoe journey aims to recognize the past and enhance understanding by having participants “pulling together” along traditional highways, strengthening future relationships.
<b>Streetfront Alternative</b>	Ages 12-18	Alternative education program for youth, emphasizing physical education and running as a component of curriculum.
<b>Vancouver School Board</b>		
<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Target Group</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Community Schools</b>	Grades K-12	Community Schools are an initiative of the Vancouver School district Community Connections department to provide evidence-based programming which supports asset development of children and youth enrolled in Vancouver schools. Programs are developed in collaboration with school staff and community organizations. <a href="https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5052/community-schools">https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5052/community-schools</a>
<b>Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)</b>	Grades K-12	The SWIS Program is a school-based settlement service for immigrants, refugees, and other eligible clients to meet their immediate settlement or ongoing needs after their arrival in Canada. SWIS workers provide information on services available, conduct orientation workshops on various areas of settlement in Canada, assist in filling out forms for services, provide referrals, service linking and accompaniment to community resources, help in the adjustment and transition process, and provide culturally sensitive services, etc. free of charge.  <a href="https://www.vsb.bc.ca/nwc/page/11350/settlement-workers-in-schools">https://www.vsb.bc.ca/nwc/page/11350/settlement-workers-in-schools</a>
<b>Multicultural Liaisons</b>	Grades K-12	Multicultural Liaison Workers (MCLWS) are cultural and linguistic resource staff of the Vancouver Board of Education, under the ELL support services of the Newcomer Welcome Centre. They are available to support students, families, and school personnel by facilitating communication despite linguistic or cultural differences.  <a href="https://www.vsb.bc.ca/nwc/page/11347/multicultural-liaison-workers">https://www.vsb.bc.ca/nwc/page/11347/multicultural-liaison-workers</a>
<b>**Supporting And Connecting Youth (SACY)</b>	Grades 8-10	"SACY enhances the education, prevention and brief intervention infrastructure in VSB schools and surrounding community to prevent substance use, delay substance use and reduce substance use related problems. **this program is a collaboration between the VSB and Vancouver Coastal Health  <a href="https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5152">https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5152</a>

<b>*Leadership and Resiliency Program (LRP)</b>	Grades 8-12	Led by Vancouver Coastal Health, LRP provides weekly programming, outings, and adventure to youth who may be struggling or at risk. Participants volunteer, learn socioemotional skills, and step outside their comfort zones. Older youth volunteer as peer-mentors to support the junior youth. *this program is staffed and managed by Vancouver Coastal Health in collaboration with the VSB
<b>Vancouver Park Board</b>		
Program Name	Target Group	Description
<b>Recreation Programs delivered through Community Youth Workers</b>	Ages 5-18	There are 19 Community Youth Workers based at VPB Community Centres across Vancouver. Each Community Youth Worker manages a portfolio of diverse youth and pre-teen programs, on behalf of Community Centre Associations, including but not limited to: youth open gym, sports programming, leadership and employment readiness programs, youth council, day and overnight camps, social programs, outreach, and more.
<b>City-Wide Youth Council</b>	Ages 12-18	Comprised of youth from each of the Vancouver Community Centres' Youth Councils, the City-Wide youth council discusses the support needs of youth and families in Vancouver and plans initiatives to support youth engagement in their city.
<b>Daycamps</b>	Grades K-12	Community Center Associations offer daycamp during out-of-school periods for children, pre-teens, and teens. Camps provide active, engagement, and leadership activities during school breaks such as winter, spring, and summer breaks, and on professional days. Additionally, they provide volunteer and work opportunities for youth.
<b>Camp Sasamat</b>	Ages 13-18	Overnight camping experience provided in collaboration between Park Board and Community Centre Associations where youth are able to experience outdoor activities like canoeing, kayaking, high ropes courses, swimming and other skill and team building activities at Camp Sasamat.
<b>Leadership and Volunteering</b>	Ages 12-18	Each community centre, through Community Centre Associations, offers opportunities for youth to develop their skills and confidence in leadership and community involvement, including often participating in planning and facilitating large community events. This is done through Youth Council, Committees at the Community Centre, and in ad hoc or program-based opportunities such as daycamps.
<b>Skateboard Hosts</b>	Ages 8-18	Park Board provides staffing at selected skateboard parks during summer months to support community engagement, and to offer learn to skate experiences for people new to skateboarding.
<b>Swimming and Skating Lessons</b>	Swimming Age 3-16+  Ice Skating Ages 3-18+	Park Board offers learn to swim, advanced aquatics and ice skating lessons across the network of swimming pools and ice rinks in Vancouver. Junior Lifeguard Club through National Lifeguard is offered as training for youth.



<b>Introduction to Fitness</b>	Ages 13+	Fitness staff through Community Centre Associations and Park Board guide participants through a 4-week program teaching exercises to cover all components of a complete fitness program.
<b>Playground Programs</b>	Ages 6-18	During summer months, Park Board provides recreation opportunities at 22 playgrounds across Vancouver where children and youth can engage in park programming and activities to build skills and peer relationships. Many parks have wading pools or spray features.