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# Vancouver



## »VANCOUVER, B.C. CANADA

**Vancouver population:** 603,502 (Census 2011)

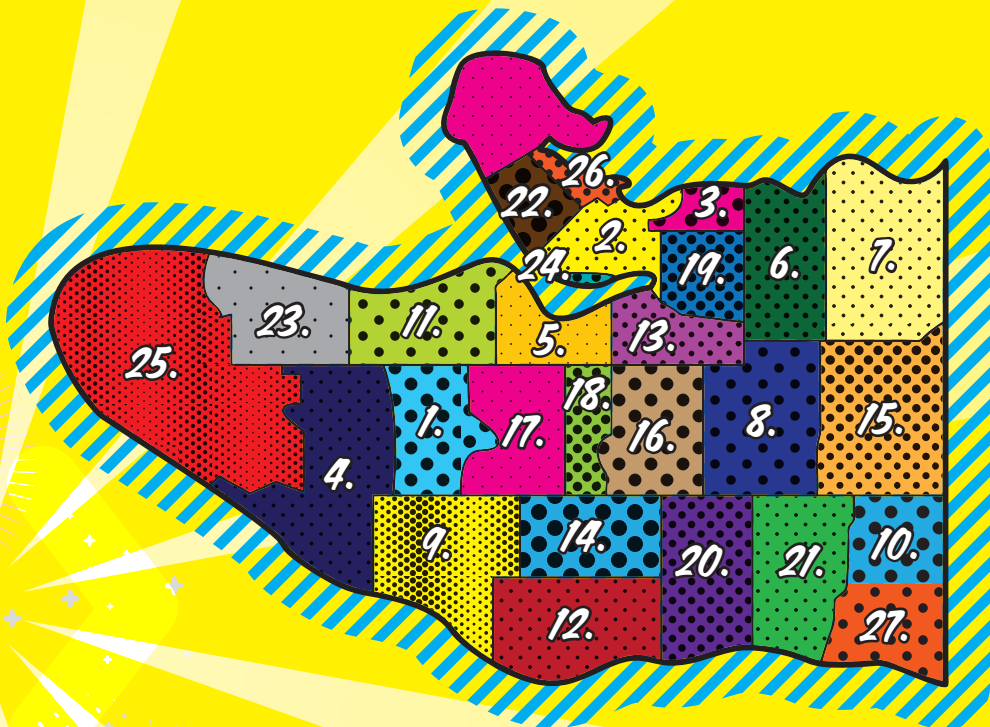
**Vancouver:** Along with Victoria, Vancouver has the mildest climate in Canada – though one of the rainiest. You can ski, golf, bike, sail and kayak in Vancouver – all on the same day!

**Stanley Park:** A 1001 - acre urban park borders the city. It is 10% bigger than New York City's Central Park. A 5.5 mile path circles the seawall. It's extensively used by walkers, runners, cyclists and roller bladers.

**Languages spoken:** While English is the main language, Vancouver residents speak more than 70 Languages. After English and Mandarin, the most common languages spoken are Punjabi, German, Italian, French, Tagalog (Filipino) and Spanish. 18% of students in BC were born outside of Canada, 6% had lived in Canada between 2 and 5 years, and 3% had lived here for less than 2 years. Almost half (47%) of all BC students spoke a language other than English at home, at least some of the time.

# >VANCOUVER NEIGHBOURHOODS

**Vancouver** is a city of neighbourhoods. Vancouverites appreciate and identify with their neighbourhood, each of which has its own distinct character. The following is a list of Vancouver's neighbourhoods:



- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. ARBUTUS RIDGE              | 15. RENFREW-COLLINGWOOD          |
| 2. DOWNTOWN                   | 16. RILEY PARK - LITTLE MOUNTAIN |
| 3. DOWNTOWN - EASTSIDE        | 17. SHAUGHNESSY                  |
| 4. DUNBAR - SOUTHLANDS        | 18. SOUTH CAMBIE                 |
| 5. FAIRVIEW                   | 19. STRATHCONA                   |
| 6. GRANDVIEW - WOODLAND       | 20. SUNSET                       |
| 7. HASTINGS - SUNRISE         | 21. VICTORIA-FRASERVIEW          |
| 8. KENSINGTON - CEDAR COTTAGE | 22. WEST END                     |
| 9. KERRISDALE                 | 23. WEST POINT GREY              |
| 10. KILLARNEY                 | 24. YALETOWN                     |
| 11. KITSILANO                 | 25. UBC ENDOWMENT LANDS          |
| 12. MARPOLE                   | 26. COAL HARBOR                  |
| 13. MOUNT PLEASANT            | 27. CHAMPLAIN HEIGHTS            |
| 14. OAKRIDGE                  |                                  |

# ›SETTLEMENT SERVICES

ESAL	YOUTH GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
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Collingwood Neighbourhood House	X	X	
Immigrant Services Society of British Columbia	X	X	X
Kiwassa Neighbourhood House	X	X	X
Little Mountain Neighbourhood House	X		X
MOSAIC	X	X	X
Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House		X	X
Multicultural Helping House Society		X	X
Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society	X	X	X
S.U.C.C.E.S.S.	X	X	X
South Vancouver Neighbourhood House	X	X	X
Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House		X	

## Collingwood Neighbourhood House

Address: 5288 Joyce Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 6C9  
Telephone: 604 435 - 0323  
E-mail: [info@cnh.bc.ca](mailto:info@cnh.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.cnh.bc.ca](http://www.cnh.bc.ca)

## Immigrant Services Society of British Columbia

E-mail: [iss@issbc.org](mailto:iss@issbc.org)  
Website: [www.issbc.org](http://www.issbc.org)

Address: 530 Drake Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2H3  
Telephone: 604 684 - 7498

Address: #501 - 333 Terminal Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 2L7  
Telephone: 604 684 - 2561

## Kiwassa Neighbourhood House

Address: 2425 Oxford Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 1M7  
Telephone: 604 254 - 5401  
E-mail: [info@kiwassa.ca](mailto:info@kiwassa.ca)  
Website: [www.kiwassa.bc.ca](http://www.kiwassa.bc.ca)

## Little Mountain Neighbourhood House

Address: 3981 Main Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5V 3P3  
Telephone: 604 879 - 7104  
E-mail: [info@lmnhs.bc.ca](mailto:info@lmnhs.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.lmnhs.bc.ca](http://www.lmnhs.bc.ca)

## MOSAIC - Grant Street Head office.

Address: 1720 Grant Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5L 2Y7  
Telephone: 604 254 - 9626  
E-mail: [mosaic@mosaicbc.com](mailto:mosaic@mosaicbc.com)  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)

## Jewish Family Service Agency

Address: #305 - 1985 West Broadway  
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 4Y3  
Telephone: 604 257 - 5151  
E-mail: [mosaic@mosaicbc.com](mailto:mosaic@mosaicbc.com)  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)

## REACH

Address: 1145 Commercial Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5L 3X3  
Telephone: 604 254 - 6468  
E-mail: [mosaic@mosaicbc.com](mailto:mosaic@mosaicbc.com)  
Website: [www.reachcentre.bc.ca](http://www.reachcentre.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)

## YWCA

Address: 955 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1Y2  
Telephone: 604 689 - 9622  
Fax: 604 699 - 9622  
E-mail: [mosaic@mosaicbc.com](mailto:mosaic@mosaicbc.com)  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)



# >SETTLEMENT SERVICES

INTERPRETATION & TRANSLATION SERVICES	SETTLEMENT SUPPORT	HEALTH SERVICES	SUBSIDIZED HOUSING	FOOD PROGRAMS	LIBRARY	SPORTS PROGRAMS	COUNSELING	INTERNET ACCESS
	X					X		
X	X							X
			X	X			X	X
	X							
X	X							X
	X							X
	X		X			X		
X	X							
X	X							
	X			X				
	X							X

## Educacentre

Address: 896 West 8th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1E2  
Telephone: 604 708 - 5100 ext. 1104  
E-mail: [mosaic@mosaicbc.com](mailto:mosaic@mosaicbc.com)  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)

## Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House

Address: 800 East Broadway  
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 1Y1  
Telephone: 604 879 - 8208  
E-mail: [info@mpnh.org](mailto:info@mpnh.org)  
Website: [www.mpn.org](http://www.mpn.org)

## Multicultural Helping House Society

Address: 4802 Fraser Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5V 4H4  
Telephone: 604 879 - 3277  
E-mail: [melindau@helpinghouse.org](mailto:melindau@helpinghouse.org)  
Website: [www.helpinghouse.ca](http://www.helpinghouse.ca)

## Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society

Address: #102 - 8157 Main Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5X 3L2  
Telephone: 604 371 - 8552  
E-mail: [pics@pics.bc.ca](mailto:pics@pics.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.pics.bc.ca](http://www.pics.bc.ca)

## S.U.C.C.E.S.S. - Granville Service Centre

Address: #300 - 8268 Granville Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 4Z4  
Telephone: 604 323 - 0901  
E-mail: [settlement@success.bc.ca](mailto:settlement@success.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.successbc.ca](http://www.successbc.ca)

## S.U.C.C.E.S.S. - Social Service Centre

Address: 28 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1R6  
Telephone: 604 684 - 1628  
E-mail: [settlement@success.bc.ca](mailto:settlement@success.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.successbc.ca](http://www.successbc.ca)

## South Vancouver Neighbourhood House

Address: 6470 Victoria Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5P 3X7  
Telephone: 604 324 - 6212  
E-mail: [svnh@southvan.org](mailto:svnh@southvan.org)  
Website: [www.southvan.org](http://www.southvan.org)

## Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House

Address: 2131 Renfrew Street  
At 5th Avenue  
Vancouver B.C. V5M 4M5  
Telephone: 604 251 - 1225  
Fax: 604 254 - 3764  
Website: [www.froghollow.bc.ca](http://www.froghollow.bc.ca)

# >LGBTQ RESOURCES

## QMUNITY

QMUNITY is BC's queer resource centre - the hub for lesbian, gay, bi, trans\* and queer community programs, training and advocacy. Our team of skilled professionals reach 35,000 people annually and deliver vital social services and programs including:

- Generations: For aging and elder members of our community
- Gab Youth: For queer, questioning and allied youth from 14-25 years
- Education + Outreach
- Volunteer Services
- Information & Referrals, Peer Support Groups, Free Counselling, Community Meeting Spaces & our "Out on the Shelves" Library - the largest queer library in Western Canada.

For 34 years, we have supported community development through innovation, volunteerism and collaboration and provide a host of resources that value, celebrate and transform the lives of queer people and communities.

Address: 1170 Bute Street Vancouver B.C.

Telephone: 604 684 - 5307

Website: [www.qmunity.ca](http://www.qmunity.ca)

## GAB YOUTH @ QMUNITY

QMUNITY Gab Youth is BC's largest program for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\* and queer (LGBTQ) youth and their allies across the province. Each year, the program provides support, education, and outreach to over 6,300 LGBTQ and allied youth who, statistically, experience higher levels of poverty, homelessness, and drug and alcohol abuse than non-LGBTQ youth. Core activities include weekly drop-ins, special events including dances and cabarets, leadership training and PrideSpeaks (anti-homophobia / transphobia workshops) for students K-12, colleges, universities, teachers, school nurses, counsellors, parents, and youth serving agencies.

Address: 1170 Bute Street Vancouver, B.C.

Telephone: 604 684 - 5307

## GENDERQUEER VANCOUVER @ QMUNITY

A free, fun and inclusive space for folk who identify outside the gender binary to connect and socialize! Currently, this group meets in room 1 at QMUNITY from 6pm to 7:30pm on the first and third Monday of each month (Please note, this location is unfortunately not currently wheelchair accessible).

Address: 1170 Bute Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Telephone: 604 684 - 5307 ext. 112

E-mail: [genderqueer@qmunity.ca](mailto:genderqueer@qmunity.ca)

## TRANS GATHERING @ QMUNITY

This group is a drop-in for all variations of trans-identified & gender-variant folks with the opportunity to connect, share, discuss, and learn in a safe and supportive environment. Significant others and family are welcome. Currently, this group meets every Monday from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

Address: #103 - 1033 Davie Street Vancouver, B.C. (Fully accessible location).

Telephone: 604 684-5307 ext. 112

E-mail: [education@qmunity.ca](mailto:education@qmunity.ca)

## PFLAG

PFLAG Canada is a national voice that advocates for a more accepting Canadian society by providing support, education and resources on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Address: 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver, B.C.

Telephone: 604 626 - 5667

E-mail: [info@pflagvancouver.com](mailto:info@pflagvancouver.com)

# ›LGBTQ RESOURCES

## VANCOUVER PRIDE SOCIETY

Vancouver Pride Society offers inclusive events for queer families and youth. We strive to support our entire community and want everybody to feel welcome. We have something for everybody at Pride!

Address: Suite #304 - 1080 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Telephone: 604 687 - 0955

E-mail: [info@vancouverpride.ca](mailto:info@vancouverpride.ca)

Website: [www.vancouverpride.ca](http://www.vancouverpride.ca)

## OUT IN SCHOOLS

Out in Schools engages youth through film in the promotion of safer and more diverse learning environments, free from homophobia and bullying.

Address: #405 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Telephone: 604 844 - 1615

Website: [www.outinschools.com](http://www.outinschools.com) / [www.outonscreen.com](http://www.outonscreen.com)

## GENERATION OUT YOUTH DROP-IN GROUPS

Are you questioning your sexuality? Well you're not alone. PLEA Community Services Society of BC is thrilled to present a LGBTQ youth drop-in for youth ages 13 - 18 every week in Maple Ridge, Coquitlam & Vancouver. Come out for support, movie nights and other activities or just to meet people like you.

Telephone: 604 871 - 0450 ext. 765

E-mail: [info@plea.bc.ca](mailto:info@plea.bc.ca)

Website: [genout.blogspot.ca/p/generation-out-vancouver-coastal/](http://genout.blogspot.ca/p/generation-out-vancouver-coastal/) / [www.plea.ca](http://www.plea.ca)

## RAINBOW REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Rainbow Refugee Committee (RRC) supports lesbian, gay, bisexual and Trans\* individuals who are in Canada and looking for information and support around making a claim for refugee status. RRC also provides information via e-mail for LGBTQ people globally. In Vancouver, the RRC currently meets as a drop-in group on the second Thursday of each month at QMUNITY at 7:30pm.

Address: 1170 Bute Street, Vancouver, B.C.

E-mail: [info@rainbowrefugee.ca](mailto:info@rainbowrefugee.ca)

Website: [www.rainbowrefugee.ca](http://www.rainbowrefugee.ca)

## LEGIT - CANADIAN IMMIGRATION FOR SAME-SEX PARTNERS

LEGIT has been working on Immigration issues since 1992 and successfully helped change Immigration Law to include same-sex partners in the Family Class. LEGIT provides information and support to Canadian permanent residents and citizens wanting to sponsor their partner for immigration purposes. Monthly drop-in sessions are currently held at QMUNITY. These take place on the last Thursday of every month (except December) at 7:30pm

Address: 1170 Bute Street, Vancouver, B.C.

Telephone: 604 877 - 7768

E-mail: [vancouver@legit.ca](mailto:vancouver@legit.ca)

Website: [www.legit.ca](http://www.legit.ca)

# >HEALTH SERVICES

## HEALTH SERVICES

In Canada, health and medical services are provided through a public health insurance system. Each province runs its own separate system. In B.C., health and medical services insurance is provided through Health Insurance BC and the Medical Services Plan (MSP). To qualify, you must enroll in MSP and pay a monthly fee. MSP pays for most health costs—for example, doctor's visits, many medical tests, and treatments. If you are new to B.C., you must apply to Health Insurance BC in order to qualify for health insurance. New residents or persons re-establishing residence in B.C. are eligible for coverage after completing a waiting period that normally consists of the balance of the month of arrival plus two months. To know if you are eligible and to register for MSP:

Telephone: 604 683 - 7151

Website: [www.health.gov.bc.ca/msp](http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/msp)

If you need help filling out the forms, a settlement services worker can help you with registration. To find a settlement agency close to you, check pages 4 & 5 of this guide.

## THE VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (VCHA)

The Vancouver Coastal Health Authority is the governing body responsible for planning, funding and coordinating health services in Vancouver. It administers hospitals, treatment centers, community health centers and offers specific services. Some of those services are:

### PRISM SERVICES

Prism is Vancouver Coastal Health's clinical, education, information and referral service for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\*, queer and Two Spirit (LGBTQ2S) communities.

Website: [www.vch.ca/prism](http://www.vch.ca/prism)

E-mail: [prism@vch.ca](mailto:prism@vch.ca)

### TRANSGENDER HEALTH PROGRAM

An anonymous and confidential free service for anyone living in B.C. who has a transgender health question. Assists in gender identity development, gender-variance in children and adolescents, standards of care for youth undergoing gender transition, programs for children of gender-variant parents, and risk assessment.

Telephone: 604 734 - 1514 | Toll-free: 1 866 999 - 1514

Website: [transhealth.vch.ca](http://transhealth.vch.ca)

## HOSPITALS & EMERGENCIES

If you need help in a medical emergency, you can call 9-1-1 for an Ambulance or go to the Emergency Department at a hospital. The Emergency Department at hospitals in Vancouver are open during the day, but only some are open at night. To make sure, call the hospital to find out if their emergency department is open. Vancouver hospitals include:

### Vancouver General Hospital

Address: 899 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1M9  
Telephone: 604 875 - 4111

### St. Paul's Hospital

Address: 1081 Burrard Street  
\* Downtown  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1Y6  
Telephone: 604 682 - 2344

### BC Children's Hospital

Address: 4480 Oak Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3N1  
Telephone: 604 875 - 2000

### Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

Address: 3644 Slocan Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5M 3E8  
Telephone: 604 453 - 8300



# HEALTH SERVICES

## BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre

Address: 4500 Oak Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3N1  
Telephone: 604 875 - 2424

## Mount Saint Joseph's Hospital

Address: #255 West 62nd Avenue  
Near Kingsway and 14th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 3N4  
Telephone: 604 874 - 1141

## St. Vincent's Hospital

Address: 749 West 33rd Avenue  
Between Oak Street and Cambie Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5X 4V4  
Telephone: 604 325 - 4116

## University of British Columbia Hospital

Address: 2211 Westbrook Mall UBC  
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 2B5  
Telephone: 604 822 - 7121

## SEX AND SEXUAL HEALTH

### Three Bridges Community Health Centre

At Three Bridges Community Health Centre, you can receive basic health care and learn how to keep yourself healthy. It provides services for people of all ages.

Address: 1292 Hornby Street, Vancouver B.C.  
Telephone: 604 736 - 9844

### Options for Sexual Health

Options For Sexual Health offers confidential, nonjudgmental clinical services, reliable contraceptive options, and comprehensive education and information, provided by well-trained professionals. Their web site has tons of information on sexual health, birth control and pregnancy as well as a province-wide listing of youth clinic services.

Address: 3550 East Hastings Street, Vancouver B.C. V5K 2A7  
Telephone: 604 731 - 4252  
Website: [www.optionsforsexualhealth.org](http://www.optionsforsexualhealth.org)

### YouthCO AIDS Society

YouthCO is a non-profit organization that works with and for youth between the ages of 15-29 throughout BC to reduce vulnerability to HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis C through peer support, peer education and shared leadership. It offers individual, group and young women's support programs for HIV or Hepatitis C positive youth aged 15-29.

Address: 568 Seymour Street, Vancouver B.C. V6Z 1B3  
Telephone: 604 688 - 1441  
Fax: 604 688 - 4932  
E-mail: [dirceu@youthco.org](mailto:dirceu@youthco.org)  
Website: [www.youthco.org](http://www.youthco.org)

### Bute Street Clinic

The Bute Street Clinic is a sexually transmitted infections (STI) drop-in clinic for gay, bisexual, trans\* and lesbian individuals. No fee, no ID needed. Monday to Friday, 11pm to 6:30pm

Address: 1170 Bute Street, Vancouver, B.C.  
Telephone: 604 707-2790

### HIM (Health Initiative for Men) Health Centres

HIM is dedicated to strengthening the health and well-being of gay men.

Address: 421-1033 Davie Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 1M7  
Telephone: 604 488-1001  
Website: [www.checkhimout.ca](http://www.checkhimout.ca)

Address: 101-1416 Commercial Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5L 3Y2  
Telephone: 778 708-3568  
Website: [www.checkhimout.ca](http://www.checkhimout.ca)

# EDUCATION SYSTEM

## WHAT IS THE SCHOOL SYSTEM LIKE?

In Canada, public education is free for people under 19. The school year starts in September and finishes in June. School hours in Vancouver are from 8:30am to 3:15pm and on Fridays from 8:30am to 2:00pm. Elementary school goes from 1st to 7th grade. Students then move on to Secondary School (High School), which ends in grade 12. Students who graduate from grade 12 get a diploma that allows them to move on to Post-Secondary Education.

You are assigned to your grade according to your age. For example, if you are 13 years old, you will be in grade 8. If you are over 19, have not graduated from High School in your country and want to finish your education, you need to contact an Adult Education Center.

Website: [go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/adulted](http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/adulted)

## WHAT ARE THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS?

Earn a minimum of 52 credits, including Foundation Studies (minimum 28 credits) and Selected Studies (minimum 24 credits). Selected studies are courses you choose depending on your career plans (apprenticeship, vocational, technical, university, college, entry to workforce). Ask your multicultural liaison worker or counsellor about this.

## HOW DO I REGISTER IN SCHOOL?

If you are 16 years of age or younger, you have to attend school. To register in school, you need to make an appointment at the District Reception and Placement Centre. Registration hours are 8:30am to 11:00am, Monday to Friday 12 months of the calendar year.

Address: #1000 East 59th Avenue, Vancouver B.C. V5X 1Y7

Telephone: 604 713 - 5999

E-mail: [drpc@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:drpc@vsb.bc.ca)

Website: [www.vsb.bc.ca/district-reception-and-placement-centre](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/district-reception-and-placement-centre)

## MULTICULTURAL LIAISON WORKERS

The multicultural Liaison Workers are the cultural resource staff of the Vancouver School Board who are knowledgeable and active members of their ethnic communities. They are available to support students, families and school staff.

## VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERVICES (CES)

Community Education Services CES has more than 2,000 programs for adult education, and special courses for all ages. There are courses for those planning on attending a college or university, and ESL courses for beginners to advanced English speakers. CES offers courses in many languages, including Cantonese, French, German, Greek, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Sign Language and Spanish.

Telephone: 604 713 - 4500

Website: [www.vsb-adult-ed.com](http://www.vsb-adult-ed.com)

# EDUCATION SYSTEM

## COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN VANCOUVER

### British Columbia Institute of Technology

Downtown Campus  
Address: 555 Seymour Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3H6  
Telephone: 604 434 - 5734  
Fax: 604 687 - 2488  
Website: [www.bcit.ca](http://www.bcit.ca)

### Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design

Granville Island  
Address: 1399 Johnston Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R9  
Telephone: 604 844 - 3800  
Fax 604 844 - 3801  
Website: [www.ecuad.bc.ca](http://www.ecuad.bc.ca)

### Langara College

Address: 100 West 49th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 2Z6  
Telephone: 604 323 - 5686  
Fax: 604 - 323 - 5555  
Website: [www.langara.bc.ca](http://www.langara.bc.ca)

### Simon Fraser University

Harbour Centre Campus - Downtown  
Address: 515 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5K3  
Telephone: 604 291 - 5000  
Website: [www.sfu.ca](http://www.sfu.ca)

### University of British Columbia

Vancouver Campus  
Address: 2329 West Mall  
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z4  
Telephone: 604 822 - 2211  
Website: [www.ubc.ca](http://www.ubc.ca)  
  
Robson Square Campus - Downtown  
Address: 800 Robson Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 3B7  
Telephone: 604 822 - 3333  
Fax: 604 822 - 0070  
Website: [robsonsquare.ubc.ca](http://robsonsquare.ubc.ca)

### Vancouver Community College

Broadway Campus  
Address: 1155 East Broadway Vancouver,  
B.C. V5T 4V5  
Telephone: 604 871 - 7000  
Fax: 604 871 - 7100  
  
Downtown Campus  
Address: 250 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1S9  
Telephone: 604 443 - 8300  
Fax: 604 443 - 8588  
Website: [www.vcc.ca](http://www.vcc.ca)



COMMUNITY

BC'S QUEER RESOURCE CENTRE



# >QUEER YOUTH ANTHOLOGY

**SHE**

**by Nat Shivji**

She makes love to me as if my gender mechanics seize to cause conflict;

Reads the contour lines of my past scars, memorizes them and embeds every insecurity into a box hidden in her memory which is kept sacredly to herself because she knows that on the inside I am screaming for a freedom I cannot have because of stigma caused by institutionalized genderphobia and the medicalization of my apparent gender identity disorder (GID).

She understands that I am crying, I just don't want to show it because I do not wish for everyone to know it - and the thing is, it's complicated and complex - doesn't sit so well with society's apathy and I AM SO TIRED.

She burries her head into my upper body and she tells me "one day," I won't have to worry and that it will happen "one day." I will have that fairytale chest where I will be able to wear dress shirts and have them sit flat instead of binding my life away; Wear undershirts like the boys who don't hurt in summers where my scars dig deepest and they can swim without tshirts on and embrace chest freedom because this sanity is right in front of them.

She tells me, "everything will be okay," and I believe her but, there are just a few things: I am sinking beneath incidents of walking into the women's washroom with the word "FREAK" seeped through my veins because the bartender told me so I am knee deep in quicksand, each grain representing oppressive standards by your definitions of normalities which have paved roads of internalized suicide troubles - and yet you still manage to wonder why the rate continues to escalate.

She caresses my hair with her soft hands knowing that pronouns are unstable, cautioning the fact that with me everything is fluid and that with me, nothing is ever set in stone.

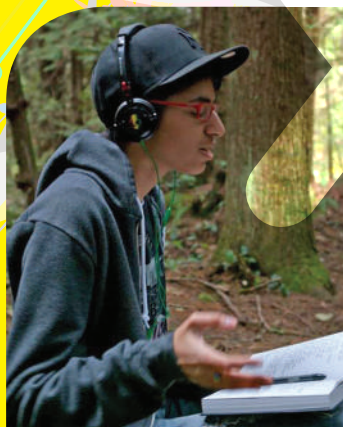
When in the back of my mind I am locked inside a prison cell,

drenched in self loathing frustrations which make keys to these stubborn handcuffs impossible to find because these days it feels like my freedom is unattainable, without thousands of dollars, without respectable pronouns, without being referred to as a disorder instead of a human being, without being regarded as less than in a women's washroom -

Without everything, so...

I fight and I fight and I fight and I fight until fight becomes built up inside of the rib cage which surrounds my heart trapping every ounce of fight into the calcium of my bones listening to each pound making damn sure I'll never run out of beats.

And next time you want to call me a "FREAK," in the women's washroom, I dare you to call me beautiful because that... is what I would have called you.



**Nat** identifies as a Desi queer femme trans\* boi and is a poet and writer currently residing on unceded Coast Salish territory. He loves spending his days with a pen and journal in hand weaving words together and performing within the social justice community. Check out his work at:

[misterspadez.tumblr.com](https://misterspadez.tumblr.com)



# QUEER YOUTH ANTHOLOGY

## Our City of Colours

Our City of Colours is a non-profit organization based in Vancouver, Canada. The agency's mandate is to increase the visibility of, and address the issues facing LGBTQ people within a variety of linguistic and cultural communities. In doing so, Our City of Colours seeks to promote human rights, tolerance, and above all acceptance of GLBTQ individuals in their respective cultural and linguistic communities and in the broader mainstream society.

E-mail: [info@ourcityofcolours.com](mailto:info@ourcityofcolours.com)  
Website: [www.ourcityofcolours.com](http://www.ourcityofcolours.com)



Photography by: Ken Yang  
Design by: Behshid Foadi  
Editing by: Willow Kasprzyk

## K!m Possible Villagante

K!m Possible Villagante is an artist who works across many mediums. She is proud to be queer and filipino, among many other things, and is constantly striving to create and find heart. K!m is currently leading a spoken word mentorship through ArtQuake, performing on many stages, and always doodling. Check her art and music out here:

[www.kimpossiblevillagante.tumblr.com](http://www.kimpossiblevillagante.tumblr.com)



Photography by Ken Yang  
Design by Derek Reynolds  
Editing by: Willow Kasprzyk



# ELSA RESOURCES

## WHAT IS ELSA?

ELSA stands for English Language Services for Adults. The ELSA program provides basic and intermediate level English training for adult newcomers to Canada. ELSA is government-funded and is free to students.

## ORGANIZATIONS IN VANCOUVER THAT OFFERS ELSA:

### Collingwood Neighbourhood House

Address: 5288 Joyce Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 6C9  
Telephone: 604 435 - 0323  
Fax: 604 451 - 1191  
Website: [www.cnh.bc.ca/](http://www.cnh.bc.ca/)

### Pacific Immigrant Resources Society

Address: #210 - 3680 East Hasting Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 2A9  
Telephone: 604 298 - 5888  
Fax: 604 298 - 7115  
Website: [www.pirs.bc.ca](http://www.pirs.bc.ca)

### S.U.C.C.E.S.S. - Granville Service Centre

Address: #300 - 8268 Granville Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 4Z4  
Telephone: 604 323 - 0901  
Fax: 604 323 - 0902  
Website: [www.successbc.ca](http://www.successbc.ca)

### S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Training Institute

Address: 28 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1R6  
Telephone: 604 408 - 7274 ext. 2041  
Fax: 604 684 - 1686  
Website: [www.successbc.ca](http://www.successbc.ca)

### S.U.C.C.E.S.S. - Fraser Service Center

Address: 5834 Fraser Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5W 2Z5  
Telephone: 604 324 - 8300  
Fax: 604 324 - 2536  
Website: [www.successbc.ca](http://www.successbc.ca)

### Vancouver Community College Broadway Campus

Address: 1155 East Broadway  
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 4V5  
Telephone: 604 871 - 7000  
Fax: 604 871 - 7100  
Website: [www.vcc.ca](http://www.vcc.ca)

### Educacentre College

Address: 896 West 8th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1E2  
Telephone: 604 708 - 5100  
Fax: 604 708 - 5124  
Website: [www.educacentre.com](http://www.educacentre.com)

### Immigrant Services Society of BC

Address: 501-333 Terminal Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 2L7  
Telephone: 604 684 - 2561  
Fax: 604 684 - 2266  
Website: [www.issbc.org](http://www.issbc.org)

### MOSAIC - English Language Centre

Address: #301 - 2730 Commercial Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5N 5P4  
Telephone: 604 684 - 8825  
Fax: 604 684 - 8859  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)

### Pacific Immigrant Resources Society

Address: 210 - 3680 East Hasting Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 2A9  
Telephone: 604 298 - 5888  
Fax: 604 298 - 7115  
Website: [www.pirs.bc.ca](http://www.pirs.bc.ca)

### Little Mountain Neighbourhood House Society

Address: 3981 Main Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5V 3P3  
Telephone: 604 879 - 7104  
Fax: 604 879 - 7113  
Website: [www.lmnhs.bc.ca](http://www.lmnhs.bc.ca)

### Vancouver Public Library

Address: 350 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 6B1  
Telephone: 604 331 - 3603  
E-mail: [info@vpl.ca](mailto:info@vpl.ca)  
Website: [www.vpl.ca](http://www.vpl.ca)

To find out about ESL courses and programs for immigrants, you can go to  
ELSA Net - Website: [www.elsanet.org](http://www.elsanet.org)

# ›EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

**Looking for work in Vancouver?** The list of organizations below provides several services to help you start your career. Services include job search assistance, training, language education, and mentoring from professionals in your field.

**Social insurance Number (SIN)** Everyone must have a Social Insurance Number to work in Canada and to open a bank account. A SIN card is not a personal identity card. Do not show your card unless you are applying for a job. The only people authorized to ask you for a SIN card are Canadian Government officials. **For more information about how to get a Social Insurance Number - Website:** [www.hrsdc.gc.ca](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca)

## **The Vancouver Northeast Employment Centre**

Address: #312 - 2555 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, B.C. V5N 4C1  
Across from Broadway Skytrain Station  
Telephone: 604 708 - 9300  
Fax: 604 708 - 9314  
E-mail: [northeastesc@mosaicbc.com](mailto:northeastesc@mosaicbc.com)  
Website: [www.mosaicbc.com](http://www.mosaicbc.com)

## **Drive Youth Employment Services**

Address: 2106 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, B.C. V5N 4B4  
Telephone: 604 253 - 9675  
Fax: 604 215 - 2474  
E-mail: [driveemployment@froghollow.bc.ca](mailto:driveemployment@froghollow.bc.ca)  
Website: [www.driveyouthemployment.ca](http://www.driveyouthemployment.ca)

## **Kiwassa Community Connections**

Address: 2425 Oxford Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 1M7  
Telephone: 604 254 - 5401  
Fax: 604 254 - 7673  
E-mail: [info@kiwassa.ca](mailto:info@kiwassa.ca)  
Website: [www.kiwassa.ca](http://www.kiwassa.ca)

## **La Boussole**

### **Employment Services for Francophones**

Address: 612 Broadway Vancouver, B.C. V5T 1X6  
Telephone: 604 683 - 7337  
Fax: 604 684 - 1565  
E-mail: [laboussole@lbv.ca](mailto:laboussole@lbv.ca)  
Website: [www.lbv.ca](http://www.lbv.ca)

## **WorkBC Employment Services Centre**

### **Career Zone Youth**

Address: 1256 Granville Street (2nd floor), Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1M4  
Telephone: 604 605 - 4666  
Fax: 604 605 7188  
E-mail: [careerzone@ywcavan.org](mailto:careerzone@ywcavan.org)  
Website: [www.ywcavan.org](http://www.ywcavan.org)

## **Immigrant Services Society of British Columbia**

Address: 530 Drake Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2H3  
Phone: 604 684 - 7498  
Fax: 604 684 - 5683  
E-mail: [settlement@issbc.org](mailto:settlement@issbc.org)  
Website: [www.issbc.org](http://www.issbc.org)



# COMMUNITY CENTERS

A community centre is a place to meet people and have fun. They offer a variety of sports, arts, recreational activities and outings to participate in after school and during the summer vacations.

For example:

- Camping trips, Skiing & Snowboarding, Sports/fitness, Arts & Crafts, Golf, Dance, Swimming, Skating, Child Care

## Leisure Access Card

If you are a Vancouver resident and your family has a limited income, you might qualify to obtain a Leisure Access Card.

Some of the benefits of this card are:

- Free access to swimming pools and ice skating sessions.
- 50% discount off swimming lessons, skating lessons and entrance to the Van Dusen Botanical Garden

Website: [www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/parks/cc](http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/parks/cc)

## Buddy Programs

Buddy means friend. Buddy Programs run out of community centres and pair up young people who are new to Canada (like you) with someone about the same age that has been here longer and can answer questions. They organize outings and activities for youth to access at no cost.

## COMMUNITY CENTRES

### Britannia

Address: 1661 Napier Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5L 4X4  
Telephone: 604 718 - 5800  
E-mail: [britannia@vancouver.ca](mailto:britannia@vancouver.ca)

### Champlain Heights

Address: 3350 Maquinna Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5S 4C6  
Telephone: 604 718 - 6575  
E-mail: [champlain@vancouver.ca](mailto:champlain@vancouver.ca)

### Coal Harbour

Address: 480 Broughton St  
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 3H4  
Telephone: 604 718 - 8222  
E-mail: [coalharbour@vancouver.ca](mailto:coalharbour@vancouver.ca)

### Creekside

Address: 1 Athletes Way  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 0B1  
Telephone: 604 257 - 3050  
E-mail: [creekside@vancouver.ca](mailto:creekside@vancouver.ca)

### Douglas Park

Address: 801 w. 22nd Ave  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1Z8  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8130  
E-mail: [douglaspark@vancouver.ca](mailto:douglaspark@vancouver.ca)

### Dunbar

Address: 4747 Dunbar Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6S 2H2  
Telephone: 604 222 - 6060  
E-mail: [dunbar@vancouver.ca](mailto:dunbar@vancouver.ca)

### Evelyn Saller Centre

Address: 320 Alexander Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1C3  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3075

### False Creek

Address: 1318 Cartwright Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R8  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8195  
E-mail: [falsecreek@vancouver.ca](mailto:falsecreek@vancouver.ca)

### Gathering Place

Address: 609 Helmcken Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5R1  
Telephone: 604 665 - 2391

### Hastings

Address: 3096 E. Hastings Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 2A3  
Telephone: 604 718 - 6222  
E-mail: [hastings@vancouver.ca](mailto:hastings@vancouver.ca)



# >COMMUNITY CENTERS

## **Hillcrest**

Address: 4575 Clancy Loranger Way  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 2M4  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8680

## **Kensington**

Address: 5175 Dumfries Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5P 3A2  
Telephone: 604 718 - 6200  
E-mail: kensingtoncc@vancouver.ca

## **Kerrisdale**

Address: 5851 West Boulevard  
Vancouver, B.C. V6M 3W9  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8100  
E-mail: kerrisdalecc@vancouver.ca

## **Killarney**

Address: 6260 Killarney Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5S 2X7  
Telephone: 604 718 - 8200  
E-mail: killarneycc@vancouver.ca

## **Kitsilano**

Address: 2690 Larch Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6K 4K9  
Telephone: 604 257 - 6976  
E-mail: kitscc@vancouver.ca

## **Marpole-Oakridge**

Address: 990 W. 59th Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 1X9  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8180  
E-mail: marpolecc@vancouver.ca

## **Mount Pleasant**

Address: 3161 Ontario Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 3H7  
Telephone: 604 257 - 3080  
E-mail: mtplesantcc@vancouver.ca

## **Ray Cam Co-operative Centre**

Address: 920 E. Hastings Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 3T1  
Telephone: 604 257 - 6949  
E-mail: raycamcc@vancouver.ca

## **Renfrew Park**

Address: 2929 E. 22nd Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5M 2Y3  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8388  
E-mail: renfrewcc@vancouver.ca

## **Roundhouse**

Address: 181 Roundhouse Mews  
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2W3  
Telephone: 604 713 - 1800  
E-mail: roundhousecc@vancouver.ca

## **Strathcona**

Address: 601 Keefer Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 3V8  
Telephone: 604 713 - 1838  
E-mail: strathcc@vancouver.ca

## **Sunset**

Address: 6810 Main Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5X 0A1  
Telephone: 604 718 - 6505  
E-mail: sunsetcc@vancouver.ca

## **Thunderbird**

Address: 2311 Cassiar Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5M 3X3  
Telephone: 604 713 - 1818  
E-mail: thunderbirdcc@vancouver.ca

## **Trout Lake**

Address: 3360 Victoria Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5N 4M4  
Telephone: 604 257 - 6955  
E-mail: troutlakecc@vancouver.ca

## **West End**

Address: 870 Denman  
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 2L8  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8333  
E-mail: westendcc@vancouver.ca

## **West Point Grey**

Address: 4397 W. 2nd Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 1K4  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8140  
E-mail: wpgcc@vancouver.ca

The city of Vancouver Parks, Recreation & Culture website includes an extensive list of Parks & Outdoor Community Spaces, Swimming Pools, Water Parks, Sports Fields, Fitness Centres and more!

Website: [vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/community-and-cultural-centres](http://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/community-and-cultural-centres)

# >LIBRARIES

## VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Vancouver Public Library (VPL) is part of the City of Vancouver and serves the whole city. At VPL, you can find just about any piece of information you need. The Library has 2.2 million holdings, including books, magazines, newspapers, videos, tapes, CD's, DVD's and e-books. You can also access the internet from computers in all libraries.

The VPL has 21 branches in neighbourhoods throughout Vancouver. The Central Library is located at the corner of Georgia and Homer Streets in Downtown Vancouver.

Telephone: 604 331 - 3603

E-mail: [info@vpl.ca](mailto:info@vpl.ca)

Website: [www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca](http://www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca)

### Quick Information Line

One of the VPL's most used services is the Quick Information Line, which provides fast answers to requests for a wide range of information. Call 604-331-3603 to access the Quick Information Line.

### Getting a library card

Residents of most municipalities in Greater Vancouver can get a VPL card that allows them to borrow books and use library services at no cost. To get your VPL card, you will need a completed application and two pieces of identification. One piece of identification should have your printed name and your signature, such as a credit card, your birth certificate or passport. The other piece of identification should have your name and address, such as your driver's licence, a hydro bill or a bank statement. Children under 14 do not need identification to get a card but must have the application form signed by a parent or guardian.



## Books and information in other languages

VPL Central Branch has books for adults and children in languages other than English, including: Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Polish and Vietnamese. Each branch has books in the languages of the people in their neighbourhood. Ask your librarian to find these books. Vancouver Public Library ESL learning services has materials and services to help people who are learning English as a Second Language. All VPL branches have books, tapes, CD's and videos people can use to learn English. The Central Branch has a Language Lab with tapes, videos and computers. The Lab is open whenever the library is open, and can be used on a 'drop-in' basis. Other VPL branches have Learning Centres where a tutor is on staff during some hours to help people learn English. Call your local branch to find out where the closest Learning Centre is and when it is open. You can also find out about ESL services at:

Website: [www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca](http://www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca)

### VPL computer and internet services

All VPL branches have computers you can use to find information on the Internet. You can also learn about computers and using the Internet through library courses. You can access the Internet for half an hour at a time, up to two times a day. You can also use e-mail on VPL computers. At the VPL Computer Lab at the Central Branch, you can use word processing, spreadsheets, or desktop publishing programs for at hourly cost. Call Computer Lab Bookings to reserve computer time.

Telephone: 604-331-3685

# >LIBRARIES

## LIBRARIES

### Central Vancouver Branch

Address: 350 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 6B1  
Telephone: 604 331 - 3600

### Britannia Branch

Address: 1661 Napier Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5L 4X4  
Telephone: 604 665 - 2222

### Carnegie Branch

Address: 401 Main Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 2T7  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3010

### Champlain Heights Branch

Address: 7110 Kerr Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5S 4W2  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3955

### Collingwood Branch

Address: 2985 Kingsway  
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 5J4  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3953

### Dunbar Branch

Address: 4515 Dunbar Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6S 2G7  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3968

### Firehall Branch

Address: 1455 West 10th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 1J8  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3970

### Fraserview Branch

Address: 1950 Argyle Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. V5P 2A8  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3957

### Hastings Branch

Address: 2674 East Hastings Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 1Z6  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3959

### Joe Fortes Branch

Address: 870 Denman Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 2L8  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3972

### Kensington Branch

Address: 1428 Cedar Cottage Mews  
Vancouver, B.C. V5N 5Z1  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3961

### Kerrisdale Branch

Address: 2112 West 42nd Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2B6  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3974

### Kitsilano Branch

Address: 2425 MacDonald Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6K 3Y9  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3976

### Marpole Branch

Address: 8386 Granville Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 4Z7  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3978

### Mount Pleasant Branch

Address: 1 Kingsway  
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 3H7  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3962

### Oakridge Branch

Address: #191 - 650 West 41st Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 2M9  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3980

### Outreach Branch

#### Serving patrons with disabilities

Address: 345 Robson Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 6B3  
Telephone: 604 331 - 4100

### Renfrew Branch

Address: 2969 East 22nd Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5M 2Y3  
Telephone: 604 257 - 8705

### South Hill Branch

Address: 6076 Fraser Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5W 2Z7  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3965

### Strathcona Branch

Address: 592 East Pender Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1V5  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3967

### Terry Salmon Branch

Address: 4575 Clancy Loranger Way  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 2M4  
Telephone: 604-665-3964

### West Point Grey Branch

Address: 4480 West 10th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 2H9  
Telephone: 604 665 - 3982



# >FESTIVALS



## Vancouver Pride Parade and Festival

Pride is not just a celebration for gays and lesbians. It's a celebration of diversity, and anybody who shares the 'life is a cabaret' spirit will feel right at home!

Website: [www.vancouverpride.ca](http://www.vancouverpride.ca)



## Vancouver Queer Film Festival

Celebrating the best in independent queer cinema, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is Vancouver's second largest film festival and the largest queer arts event in Western Canada. The Festival hosts a variety of performances, workshops, panels, parties and more, facilitating a unique community space for 11 days each August.

Website: [www.queerfilmfestival.ca](http://www.queerfilmfestival.ca)



## Vancouver Dyke March

Taking place in East Van, the annual Vancouver Dyke March & Festival focuses on LGBTQ women but welcomes everyone: Families, kids and allies. Along with the "Dyke March", the festival includes a 19+ beer garden, kids' area, community booths and vendors, local food vendors and loads of live music on the Vancouver Dyke March Festival Stage.

Website: [www.vancouverdykemarch.com](http://www.vancouverdykemarch.com)



## Queer Arts Festival

The Queer Arts Festival is an artist-run 3 week multidisciplinary festival held in Vancouver, celebrating queer art and artists, featuring a curated visual art exhibition, provocative new live performances and inspiring workshops.

Website: [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)

The festival also offers events and workshops specifically geared towards youth.

For examples of workshops offered in 2013: [queerartsfestival.com/events/category/youth-events/upcoming](http://queerartsfestival.com/events/category/youth-events/upcoming)



# >FESTIVALS



## Trans and Genderqueer Liberation and Celebration March

Since 2010, trans\* and genderqueer people in Vancouver have gathered and marched before the Pride weekend. This march is a celebration of our strength, beauty, diversity, and resilience, as well as a protest of our ongoing exclusion, erasure and oppression. Before the march, we gather in a public park and make signs to express whatever message each of us feels drawn to express. Then we march through the streets to share our messages with the world! We end the march with speeches by community members.

[transpridevancouver.wordpress.com](http://transpridevancouver.wordpress.com)



## Vancouver International Fringe Festival

Experience a diverse and thought-provoking assemblage of theatre productions, independent plays and unconventional performance art at the Vancouver International Fringe Festival, a long-standing arts event that promotes "theatre for everyone."

Website: [www.vancouverfringe.com](http://www.vancouverfringe.com)



## Vancouver Folk Music Festival

Every year, masses of people flock to Jericho Beach Park for the annual Vancouver Folk Music Festival, a weekend-long event offering a wide range of folk music performances and spoken-word poetry.

Website: [thefestival.bc.ca](http://thefestival.bc.ca)

# >FESTIVALS



## Annual Vancouver International Hip Hop 4 Peace Festival

The Festival includes performances by local and international talent including MC's, Break-dancers, DJ's and Graffiti writers. The festival also includes workshops on rapping and break-dancing as well as forums on youth activism, women's rights, Indigenous struggle, Hip Hop's internationalism and its growth alongside the movement for peace, equality and social justice.

Website: [hiphopforpeace.blogspot.ca](http://hiphopforpeace.blogspot.ca)



## Car Free Vancouver Day

Vancouver's cyclist community is a diverse and passionate one, and it's not uncommon to see massive bicycle events making their way through the city. During Car Free Vancouver Day, expect to see hundreds of thousands of people celebrating at various street parties, riding bicycles and watching live entertainment as an effort to promote a car-free lifestyle.

Website: [www.carfreevancouver.org](http://www.carfreevancouver.org)



## Annual Vancouver International Film Festival 4 Peace

This festival has been captivating Vancouver audiences for the last 10 years. Promoting peace through a unique collection of documentary and feature films, this festival brings the reality of war and occupation to the big screen, and brings to light the struggle for self determination and social justice being fought by hundreds of millions of people around the world. The festival features films spanning the world; from Latin America to Africa, from the Middle East to Asia, and from Europe to here in North America.

[www.filmfest4peace.org](http://www.filmfest4peace.org)  
@FilmFest4Peace



## Caribbean Days Festival

Immerse yourself in island culture with the Caribbean Days Festival, a tropical-themed event touting a multicultural street parade and a festival at North Vancouver's Waterfront Park. Indulge in international cuisine, listen to Caribbean-style music and experience the fun, laid-back vibe of the islands.

Website: [www.caribbeandays.ca](http://www.caribbeandays.ca)



# ART RESOURCES

## ArtQuake

ArtQuake is a youth-driven organization in Vancouver, B.C. that enables young people to pursue their artistic passions and create change in the world.

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

## QTIPOCALYPSE

QTIPOCALYPSE Collective is made up of queer and trans\* people of colour, and is seeking to hold accessible events for queer, trans\* and gender non-conforming Two-Spirit Indigenous People / People of Colour / Mixed Race folks, from far and wide.

E-mail: [qtipocalypse@gmail.com](mailto:qtipocalypse@gmail.com)

Website: [www.tumblr.com/qtipocalypse](http://www.tumblr.com/qtipocalypse)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/qtipocalypse](http://www.facebook.com/qtipocalypse)

## Arts Umbrella

Arts Umbrella is a not-for-profit arts education centre for children and youth ages 2 to 19. Arts Umbrella is committed to delivering the highest quality visual and performing arts education to young people, regardless of their socio-economic circumstances.

E-mail: [info@artsumbrella.com](mailto:info@artsumbrella.com)

Website: [www.artsumbrella.com](http://www.artsumbrella.com)

## Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope is a Service Canada funded Skills Link program which provides youth with the skills needed to overcome barriers and find success in employment and education. During the Kaleidoscope program, participants will embark on a 16 week film production experience that offers them the opportunity to learn many skills in digital filmmaking and teamwork while creating a variety of film productions.

E-mail: [kaleidoscope@mccbc.com](mailto:kaleidoscope@mccbc.com)

Website: [www.findingyourway.ca](http://www.findingyourway.ca)

# QUEER YOUTH ANTHOLOGY

## Asu

Completing her stage design and costume history education in Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, Turkey, Asu had been working in this field for many years providing designs for Theatre, Feature Films, TV, Advertisement and Exhibit as well as artistic works in installations, writing, painting and sculpture. Since 2008 she continues her work in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Lately, her artistic works are focused on installations, paintings, music as well as writing.

The focus of her artistic work lies in experimenting with the expressive artifacts coming from social media and their parallel interpretations in audio-visual, language and interaction. She has a particular interest in interactive sound installations which shifts the role of the spectators to authors of their very message. These have been presented in venues in Istanbul and Vancouver.





# QMUNITY Programs

## WHO WE ARE

**QMUNITY** was founded in 1979, and is BC's leading service organization for the lesbian, gay, transgender, and bisexual (LGTB) communities in the province. For the past three decades, our team of skilled professionals have delivered a variety of vital social services and programs that reach 35,000 people annually.

## WHAT WE OFFER:

**QMUNITY Gab Youth** is BC's largest program for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\* and queer (LGBTQ) youth and their allies across the province. We reach over 6,300 LGBTQ and allied youth through support and education. Core activities include weekly drop-ins, special events including dances and cabarets, leadership training and PrideSpeaks (anti-homophobia / transphobia workshops) for students K-12, colleges, universities, teachers, school nurses, counsellors, parents, and youth serving agencies.

**QMUNITY Education + Outreach** promotes and advances the health and well-being of LGBTQ individuals and communities through delivering awareness workshops, network and partnership building, information and referrals, developing and distributing resource materials, facilitating queer competency trainings and co-coordinating community health initiatives. In 2012, we reached over 6000 people through our programming across BC.

## Our other services:

- Information and Referrals
- Out on the Shelves library - Western Canada's largest queer library
- Free counselling
- Peer support groups
- Community meeting spaces

CHECK US OUT AT [WWW.QMUNITY.CA!](http://WWW.QMUNITY.CA!)

