

2021 Annual Report



STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE
601 KEEFER STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6A 3V8

STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE IS JOINTLY OPERATED BY
STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION AND VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

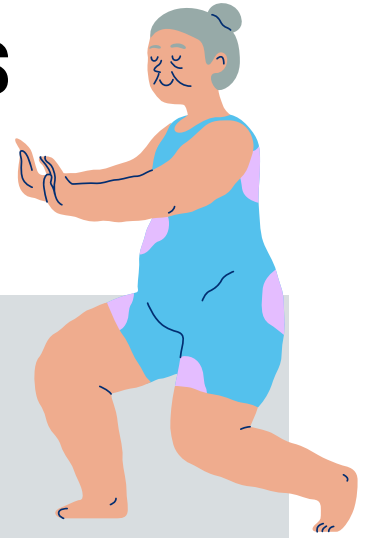


We acknowledge that Strathcona Community Centre is located in the traditional, unceded, ancestral territories of the x^wməθk^wə́yəm (Musqueam), sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and selílwitlh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

We thank them for their care of these lands and commit to working with them in partnership in our community.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Dawn Hoogeveen

Vice-President: Deb Miller

Treasurer: Ella Chan

Secretary: Caitlin Jones

Directors: Maria Reimer Osaro Obaseki Danielle Lewis

Holly Alyea Dan Jackson Julia McKnight Carrie Bercic

Katie Lewis Tristan James Fariborz Ghaem-Maghami

COMMUNITY CENTRE STAFF

Acting Community Recreation Supervisor: Karen Chow

Recreation Programmer: Adrianna Teoh

Recreation Programmer: Raymond Eng

Acting Community Youth Worker: Larry Govinthasamy

Recreation Facility Clerk: Jenny Lee

Arts, Culture and Engagement: Brenda Racanelli

Child Care Manager: Veronica Light

Food Security Manager: Amy Weeks

Association Manager: Lindsay Yuasa

Park Board Manager Recreation Services: Jessica Land

Park Board Commissioner Liaison: Camil Dumont

SCCA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am filled with community love and inspired by imagining what is possible for the future of Strathcona Community Centre.

In 2021-2022 we have been privileged to welcome the leadership of Karen Chow to the SCCA. Karen is a wonderful fit as the Community Recreation Supervisor for Strathcona, and continues to manage a strong staff team that has seen a transformation over the past year.

As our programming leads demonstrate, we continue to foster strong food and childcare programs, as well as wonderful recreational activities.

I continue to be in awe of the Strathcona community as we honour the lives and stories that form a rich history of resistance against racism that informs the present and will continue into our neighbourhood's future. This includes the organizing that binds many of our residents together, supported through centre programming ranging from seniors tai chi to youth programming, children's ballet, soccer, and basketball. We have begun critical Equity Diversity and Inclusion work that will start with an equity audit this summer.



Backpack Program Staff and Volunteers

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, CONTINUED

In 2021/2022 Strathcona hosted a number of vaccine clinics and continued to manage pandemic response.

We hosted cultural events and activities online, including a Lunar New Year celebration where community members shared skills such as dumpling making and calligraphy. This past year also saw the return to more in person programming.

Leading up to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls annual march on February 14th, the SCCA continues to provide space for the Red Ribbon Skirt Sewing Project.

Thanks to the past, present and future volunteers and board of directors at Strathcona including the dedicated staff that show up every day for our community.

Dawn Hoogeveen
SCCA Board President



Mr. Lau has been teaching calligraphy for more than 20 years at Strathcona Community Centre

COMMUNITY RECREATION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Strathcona Community Centre is the hub of a very vibrant and close-knit community. I am amazed by the sense of community that the residents have within the Strathcona neighbourhood. As we continued to work through the pandemic in 2021, we had to adjust to many staff transitions and manage changing Provincial Health Order restrictions. The Strathcona Community Centre Association (SCCA) offers many community based programs such as child care, food and recreation programs under the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) with the Vancouver Park Board.

Board of Directors:

The board of directors of the Strathcona Community Centre Association created a new committee to support the Eric Ming Community Hero Scholarship in April 2021 and a new EDI working group in June 2021.

In the fall, SCCA created a new full-time Association Manager position to help manage the SCCA operations. Lindsay Yuasa was the successful candidate for the Association Manager position, starting in December 2021.



We Take Care of Each Other Mural by Ann Marie Slater, Scott Chan & Coleman Webb

COMMUNITY RECREATION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT, CONTINUED

Staff Changes:

- In March 2021, Adrianna Teoh was the successful candidate for the Park Board Regular Full-time Recreation Programmer II position which oversees CAP-C, seniors, family programs, special events and day camps. Because of all the staff transitions throughout 2021, she played an integral part of the team to help keep the community centre running.
- In April of 2021, Karen Chow was the successful candidate for the Acting Community Recreation Supervisor position to help oversee Strathcona Community Centre while Luke Balson, acted in the Manager position of Recreation Services, Community Engagement and then, Manager of Recreation Services, East and Maintenance Operations. Karen left in August to her previous position and then, was asked to return in September to step into the role of Community Recreation Supervisor on a Temporary Full-Time one year contract.
- Khalid Jamal, SCCA Food Coordinator left his position in August for another job opportunity. After a round of interviews, Amy Weeks was hired as the SCCA Food Security Manger in October of 2021.
- In August 2021, Jennifer Taylor, Recreation Programmer II, took another position with the City of Vancouver under the Arts, Culture, and Community Services.
- In December 2021, Raymond Eng applied to the Park Board Regular Full-Time Recreation Programmer II position and was the successful candidate. His portfolio includes adults, children, basketball, and rentals.
- Gabe Dennis, Community Youth Worker, received an opportunity to act as the Community Youth Coordinator role from October to December of 2021. In his absence, Larry Govinthasamy was hired to act as our Temporary Full-Time Community Youth Worker, With experience as a Day Camp Manager, Program Assistant II, and Park Ranger, Larry did a tremendous job in bringing more youth programs, connecting with youth and partnering up with different organizations to increase the youth connection within our community.

COMMUNITY RECREATION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT, CONTINUED

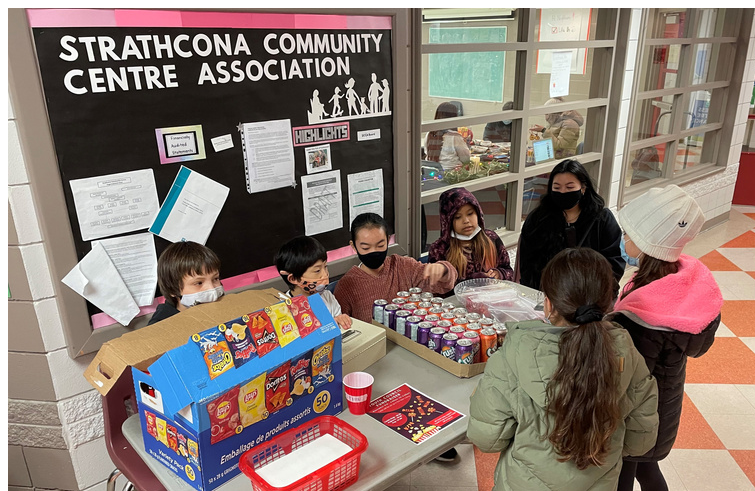
As we followed each Provincial Health Order guideline change, some programs were able to resume such as the children dance programs, spring break camps, seniors' out trips, summer day camps, seniors' luncheons, sports, fitness classes, and youth programs. Childcare and Food Security programs such as the breakfast and backpack programs were not affected by the PHO guidelines in 2021.

Navigating through the heat wave in the summer and adapting to each guideline change from the Provincial Health Order, the team at Strathcona Community Centre was resilient and well versed in handling changes. Although the staff changes were immensely challenging at times, the dynamic of the new team was inclusive, refreshing, and collaborative.

As we went into the second year of the pandemic, it really pushed us to be resilient and flexible with each other. By respecting and supporting each other, we became a stronger team who can reach further in our goals. I am grateful to be working with a strong team and an Association who is thoughtful and attentive. I look forward to working with the Strathcona Community Centre Association and all the staff at Strathcona Community Centre in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Chow
Acting Community
Recreation Supervisor



Youth Fundraiser in December 2021

RECREATION PROGRAMMER'S REPORT

Preschool | Children's | Youth | Adult | Senior | Family | CAPC | Special Events

2021 was a year full of hopeful possibilities as we were able to increase programming and invite more community members back into our facility. With the continuing and constant updates to the Provincial Health Order, we still had to adapt and make quick changes to ensure the facility was a safe place for those entering. As the year went on, we were able to see many returning patrons with a smile on their face, ecstatic that programs were able to resume.

Popular Programs in 2021

- Basketball for Beginners
- Creative Drama
- Ukulele/Guitar Private Lessons
- Volleyball: Adult Learn to Play
- CAP-C Programs
- Summer Day Camp for Children, Youth, & Seniors
- Preteen Boys Club/Girls Club
- Tai Chi
- Seniors Luncheons



Volunteers Cooking for the Monthly Seniors Luncheon

RECREATION PROGRAMMER'S REPORT, CONTINUED

The start of summer allowed us to return to a sense of normalcy in our day-to-day programming, minus the early heat wave we all had to endure. Supershine Day Camp ran full force and the children, volunteers, and staff had a wonderful time. Our Day Camp Project Manager, Elisa Zhen, did an amazing job training a large staff team and organizing/preparing for the summer with the many obstacles they had to endure. It resulted in a highly energetic and strong team that were able to ensure the camp was a safe, and most importantly, fun place for children. Each week, the staff organized arts & crafts, games, sports, and in August when out-trips were allowed, they excitedly went all over the Lower Mainland to end the summer off with a bang.

The Seniors Summer Cruisers, daily out-trips/activities for older adults, was also a huge success. Each and every one of our seniors were happy that they were able to come together, enjoy each other's company, and attend activities and out-trips. Some seniors had been stuck at home throughout the pandemic and it was a relief to see them all come together with all smiles and laughter. In July, only local neighbourhood trips and inside activities were allowed due to the restrictions, but when August allowed for excursions, they travelled all over to Chilliwack for high tea and flower festivals, Langley Museum, Richmond Lavender farm and to the Honeybee Centre.



Weekly Stroke Recovery Club Celebrates a Member Birthday

RECREATION PROGRAMMER'S REPORT, CONTINUED

As we entered into fall, our facility felt busier with more foot traffic and programming. We had more youth in programs, the fitness centre was buzzing, and overall felt like we had returned to a facility, pre pandemic. Our senior luncheons were full and the senior's room was lively again. In December we were able to run our first big event since the pandemic hit with a full on Breakfast with Santa Event. We were fortunate and lucky to have the opportunity for families to come together to enjoy a breakfast cooked by our youth and staff with a special visit from Santa.

In late October, we were lucky to have Larry Govinthasamy join our team as the youth worker and in early December, Raymond Eng join as the Recreation Programmer. 2021 was a challenging year but with seasoned Park Board staff coming on board, we were able to overcome those challenges and provide quality programming for the Strathcona neighbourhood and community members.



Respectfully Submitted,

Adrianna Teoh
Recreation Programmer II

Strathcona Youth Program Participants

FOOD SECURITY REPORT

Strathcona Community Centre's Food Programs support the community through food access, food skills and opportunities for community connection.

As in the previous year, the team continued to adapt to the needs of the community and applied creative solutions to delivering much needed programs during the pandemic. Most of the food skills and land based workshops remained on hold with most of the staff time going towards the growing Breakfast and Backpack programs. In the summer Cooking Fun for Families resumed with limited capacity and in the fall we introduced Food Preservation Saturday's, a program that focused on sharing various food preservation methods and techniques.

During December we saw a huge amount of support from the community. We raised over \$12,000 for the food security programs from our first ever online donation fundraiser. In addition we had a huge amount of support from the local community for our gift giving table held on the last Backpack day of the year.



Lindsey, Food Security Assistant, delivering pre-bagged breakfasts in early 2021



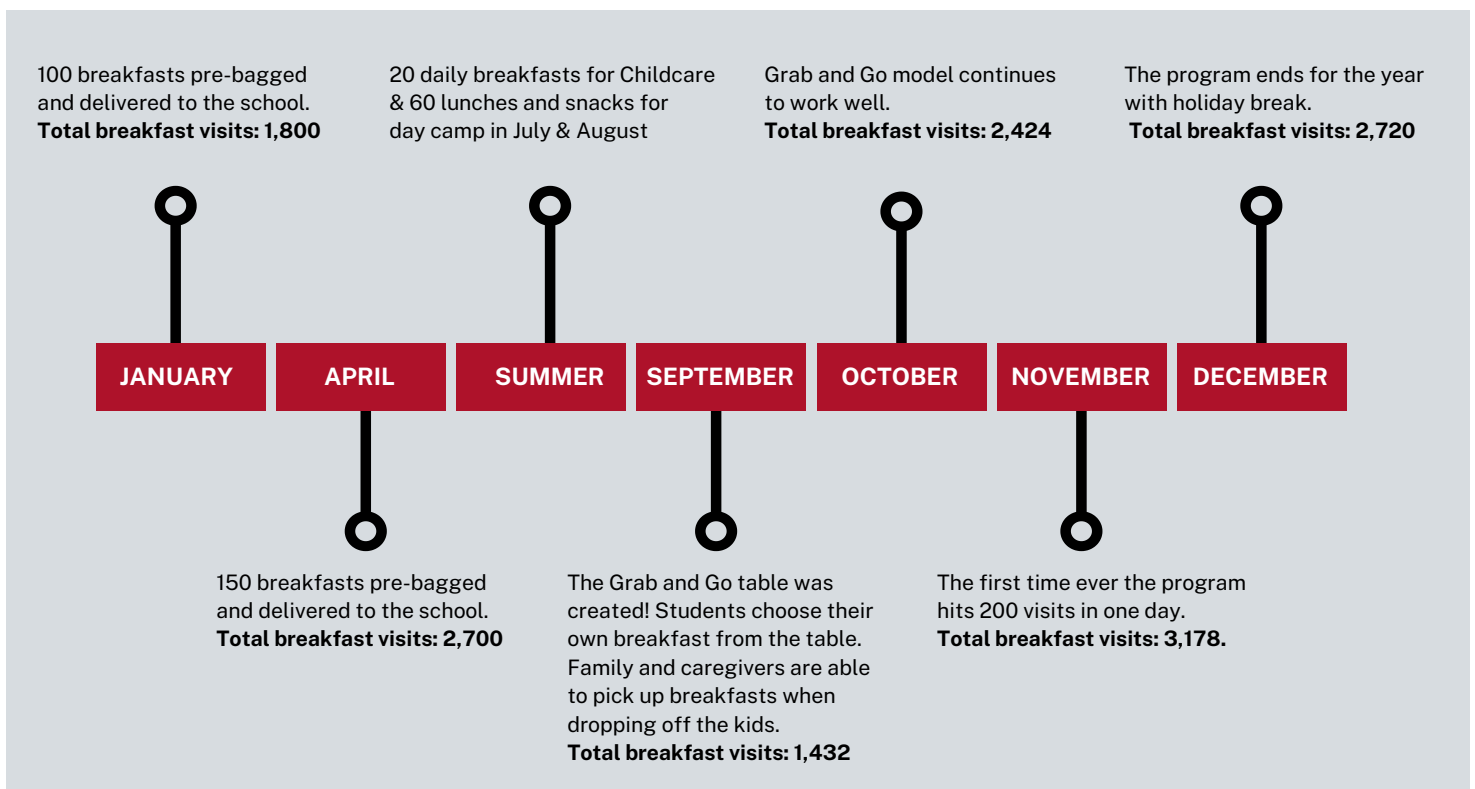
Breakfast Program Fruit Cups

FOOD SECURITY REPORT, CONTINUED

Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program provides a healthy breakfast each morning to students attending Lord Strathcona Elementary school. During 2021, the number of students doubled, this was due to the growing need as well as the changes to the model that made the program more accessible to students. As in the previous year the breakfast team pre-bagged food into lunch bags and took them over to the school for the teachers to distribute. In the fall, the team adapted and created a successful grab and go model. A table was placed at the top of the stairs of the community centre and students, parents, caregivers, and siblings were invited to choose their own breakfast items that were available. The new model provided more choice, allowed for a greater variety of foods, and reduced food waste.

A Snapshot of the Breakfast Program in 2021





Lindsey, Victoria and Vuong My with Grab and Go Breakfasts for Strathcona Kids



Backpack Program Food Boxes

Backpack Program

The Backpack Program provides weekly groceries to families with school aged children living in the Strathcona community. The program supports 650 neighbours each week. Through generous donations of in-kind food and financial support we were able to distribute 150,000 lbs of food to 130-150 families throughout the year. Foods included: fresh fruits & vegetables, milk, eggs, tofu and dry goods.

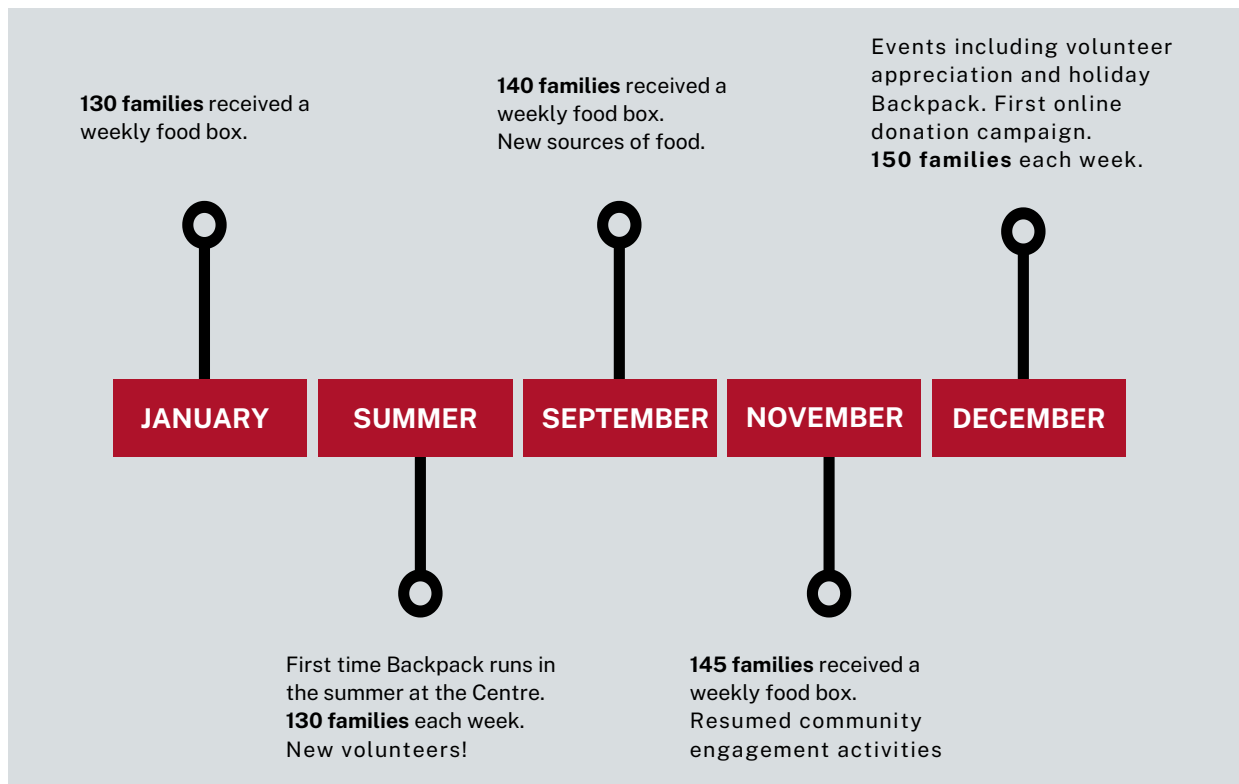
FOOD SECURITY REPORT, CONTINUED



2021 Summer Food Boxes

At the end of the year we were able to welcome back the community engagement activities to the Backpack Program, such as community crafts, a celebration board, candle making and a winter celebration that included a gift giving table. We also welcomed back community groups such as the Vancouver Public Library and the Strathcona Community Safety Office to provide additional supports to the community.

A Snapshot of the Backpack Program in 2021



CHILDCARE REPORT

Strathcona Licensed Childcare

During the reporting period April 2021 to March 2022, Strathcona Licensed Childcare experienced the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic along with the rest of the planet. The staff team in school aged care and preschool cared for the children and each other as children, families and staff followed the safety plans, stayed home when they were sick, caught the COVID virus and healed. Childcare and preschool were essential for the families this reporting period in a way that helped children feel a sense of normalcy and connection.

On the financial side of things, we were able to make the formal announcement to the families that we were accepted as a 10\$ADay ChildCareBC site in March 2022. After the COVID pandemic drained savings accounts and changed lives, we were very excited to roll out this new funding model that capped preschool and after school care at \$140 per month and only \$200 per month for before and after school care, including spring and summer breaks. For the first time, we are in a very solid funding situation for the year ahead and are hopeful that this is a permanent funding change.

We would like to thank the board again for their continued support of Strathcona Licensed Childcare's school aged and preschool programs. Thank you for your tireless volunteering to help ensure the children and families of Strathcona have a safe space.

Veronica (Roni) Light
Childcare Manager



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Adopt-A-School
A Better Life Foundation
Adam's Apple
Admiral Seymour Elementary School
Adult Association for Learning Disabilities
Arts Umbrella
BC Centre for Ability
BC Gaming I Direct Access
BC Government Child Care Operating Fund
BC Government - family subsidies
BC Housing
BCIT Nursing Program
BC Recreation and Parks Association
Benny's Market
Better Homes for Everyone Foundation
Bosa Foundation
Breakfast Clubs of Canada / Walmart
Britannia Community Services Centre
Buddhist Temple
Cadeaux Bakery
Canada Summer Grant
Canadian Living Magazine
Canadian Tire - Jump Start
Capilano University / Ministry of Advanced Education
Central City Foundation
CIBC Wood Gundy
City of Vancouver
City of Vancouver - Childcare
City of Vancouver - Sustainable Food Systems
CKNW Orphans Fund
CLICK Foundation
Community Food Centres Canada
Concord Pacific
Continental Importers
Cook for Cause
DP World
The Dirty Apron
Discovery Organics
Duso's
Espresso Tech
Environmental Youth Alliance
European Football School
Face the World Foundation
Fresh Direct Produce
Food Runners
G&F Financial
Global TV - BC
The Gourmet Warehouse
Greater Vancouver Food Bank
Hamber Foundation

Help Change My City
H&M
HRSDC - Fed Govt - Canada Summer Grant
HRSDC - Fed Govt
Hearts of Gold Foundation
Jerome Outreach Society
Jenn Worth Insurance via Scotia Bank
KIA Canada
Kids Upfront
Langara Falcons Womens & Mens Basketball Team
LMBG Media Group
Lochmaddy Foundation
Lord Strathcona Elementary School
Lotus Light Charity Society
Lucy Woodsworth Foundation
McCleery Golf Course
Maria Mimie Ho Foundation
Matchstick Coffee Roaster
MCFD - Ministry of Child & Family
Metro Theatre & Vancouver Sun
NBA Canada (and Toronto Raptors)
New Horizons
Nighthoops
No Frills
Nobody's Perfect
North American Soccer Store
Not So Fast Food For All
Secret Lantern Society
Seycove Secondary School
Shangri-La Hotel
Strathcona Health Society
Strathcona Residents Association
Sunrise Soya Foods
Sweet Thea
Opus Art Supplies
Pacific Coast Resource Society
Pathways Canada
Park Place Foundation
Peterson Group
Phnom Penh Restaurant
Port Metro Vancouver
PossAbilities
Potluck Cafe
Powerex Corporation
Premium Brands Holding Corporation
Private & Anonymous Donors
Project Limelight Society
Public Health Agency of Canada

Public Health Agency of Canada - CAP-C
- Community Action Program for Children
Push Operations
Salvation Army
SBIA Strathcona Business Improvement Association
Science World - TELUS World of Science
Seattle Asian Sports Club
Seedlings Foundation
SFU Summer Reading Program & Budding Scientists Program
SFU Womens Basketball Program
SUCCESS
St. George's School
St. Regis Hotel / Roncoroni Hospitality Consulting
Sunrise Market
Ray Cam Co-operative Centre
RBL - Real Basketball League
Red Fox Healthy Active Living Society
Rock Basketball
Rotary Club of Vancouver Sunrise
UBC - Centre for Community Engaged Learning
UBC - Learning Exchange
UBC - Thunderbird - Men & Women's Basketball
Union Gospel Mission
Union Market
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
Vancouver Chinatown Merchants Association
Vancouver Coastal Health
Vancouver Foundation Neighbourhood Small Grants
Vancouver Fruit Tree Project Society
Vancouver Moving Theatre
Vancouver Police Department
Vancouver Police Athletic League
Vancouver Public Library
Vancouver School Board
Vancouver Sun Children's Fund Society
Vancouver Whitecaps
Vans
Variety - The Children's Charity
Village Vancouver
The Wilder Snail
Windermere High School
Zhu Chi Foundation