



2022 Annual Report

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Cover photo: Heiltsuk artist KC Hall working on the panels for the elementary school fence project in June of 2022. The panels tell the legend of how the Raven saved the world. Photo by Amanda Lye.



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About Britannia



Britannia Community Services Centre Society originated out of 1970s cooperative community action. Local citizens and various civic agencies created the organization in 1974 to coordinate and integrate a wide range of human services to meet the interests and needs of residents. The Centre had its official opening in June of 1976.

Britannia Community Services Centre Society operates as an independent agency from other City services. Through a locally elected Board of Management, the non-profit society provides a leadership role in developing and facilitating recreation, arts, social, and education services to the neighbourhoods of Grandview-Woodland and Strathcona. The Society functions under the British Columbia Societies Act and is governed by a Board of Management made up of 16 elected members, including two youth positions and representatives from our partner organizations.

In collaboration with the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, the Vancouver Public Library, and the Vancouver School Board, the Society manages an 18 acre site on the unceded lands of the x̱w̱məθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and sə̱lilwətaʔṯ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. Our facilities include a pool, ice rink, fitness centre, boxing room, gymnasiums, meeting rooms, a public library, the Teen Centre, the 55+ Centre, child care facilities, an elementary school, a secondary school, the šx̱w̱q̱w̱eləwən ct Carving Centre, and multipurpose facilities.

Board of Management 2022 - 2023

Executive Committee:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| President | Annie Danilko |
| Vice President | Pamela Dudas |
| Treasurer | Matt Smith/John Flipse |

Executive Members: Vera Jones

Directors:

Susanne Dahlin
Ariela Friedmann
Farren Gillaspie
Pat Hogan
Craig Ollenberger
Ashki Shkur
Oliver Tennant
Naina Varshney

Youth Directors:

Stephanie Slen
Emma Xu

Partners:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Vancouver Public Library | Randy Gatley |
| Vancouver Park Board | Peter Odynsky |
| Vancouver School Board | Rose Mackenzie |
| Community Education Coordinator | Maddie Lafleur |

Senior Staff:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Executive Director | Cynthia Low |
| Manager of Administrative Services | Jeremy Shier |
| Manager of Child Care | Jacky Hughes |
| Manager of Organizational Change | Suzette Amaya |
| Community Recreation Coordinator | Peter Odynsky |

Liaisons to Britannia:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Vancouver School Board | Janet Fraser |
| Vancouver Park Board | Laura Christensen |

Society Objectives

1. Develop and encourage new arrangements for coordination and integration of community services provided by a variety of agencies and individuals.
2. Provide a centre for social action, a place where people meet to discuss the local area and neighbourhood problems and work together to solve them.
3. Advocate and support Reconciliation in collaboration with Indigenous peoples within the mandate of the Centre and in the context of historical, social, and systemic inequities for Indigenous peoples.
4. Maintain effective two-way communication between the Centre and the community, both to ensure constant awareness of community needs, and to inform local citizens on the availability of programs and services.
5. Provide means of community involvement in the development and delivery of all programs with which the Centre is associated and thereby making such programs responsive to changing needs.
6. Provide local citizens with access to all programs and services in the Centre.
7. Sponsor, and where necessary, operate programs and services in the community.
8. Ensure that the necessary staff and facilities are available to achieve the above.

Mission & Vision

Our dream:

The wellbeing, sense of belonging, joy, and empowerment of everyone in our community.

To realize our dream:

We are stewards of spaces that support social connection, creativity, recreation, reconciliation and the realization of the full potential of people and communities.

In partnership with our communities, we create integrated programs, services, and opportunities on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



2022 Program Highlights



55+ Centre and Seniors, Elders & Advocates (SEA) Committee

The Elders, seniors and staff would like to thank the many Britannia staff teams, volunteers, supervisors, the Board of Management, and our partner agencies for their unwavering support of us all throughout an ever-changing and difficult year. Together we found creative and new ways to gather, share truths, reach out and breakdown barriers to keep us connected and supported.

Whether helping each other to navigate the online world or a connection with a young person (thank you Britannia youth of all ages) we found space for healing, health and laughter. We adapted to the many uncertainties and found we are resilient because we have community. Britannia and the 55+ Centre, located on these unceded, ancestral and traditional lands of the Coast Salish people, continues to be that place of wellbeing and gathering, a place with opportunities to be heard, play, learn and belong.

Highlights

- We held a number of workshops with community partners, including Pedestrian Safety (GWCPD), Heat/Cold Preparedness (REACH), World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (GWCRN), Drum Making (Sabian), Day School Scholar Assistance (IRSSS), and the Cardiovascular Health Awareness Program for French-speaking aging adults.
- In partnership with the REACH Community Health team, we held a Community Health and Wellbeing Fair on October 21, 2022 in Gym D with over 30 community agencies
- Upon walking across the stage, every Britannia Secondary class of 2022 graduating student received a personalized medicine bag made by Elders and seniors and a special message recognizing their accomplishment.
- Britannia youth sent 100+ Christmas Cards to seniors in the community.
- Elders and seniors made and gifted Orange Shirt Day, Red Dress Day and Indigenous Veterans Day pins to Britannia Elementary School and xpey' Elementary School.
- On September 30, Orange Shirt Day, residential school survivors marched with family and community support to Grandview Park. 500+ community members attended. IRSSS, VACPC, GWFC, Strathcona Community Centre, and Britannia staff and volunteers supported the event.
- A short film called *Cedar Bark Hat Weaving at Britannia Community Centre* was highlighted at the Vancouver Parks Board's *Healthy Aging Through the Arts (HATTA)* exhibition, a Vancouver Park Board initiative bringing together seniors and Elders with professional artists for collaborative art projects. The film documented Britannia community's hat weaving journey through the COVID-19 pandemic and featured Britannia Board of Management Director Vera Jones, weaving instructor Todd DeVries, and 55+ program assistant Kya Prince.
- After 2 years of weaving together online, we were excited to dance our cedar hats to life with an in-person celebration in the šxwqwelewən ct Carving Centre.



Vietnamese Seniors

The Vietnamese Seniors program continued to provide assistance to seniors. In 2022, we:

- Helped low-income seniors find affordable housing through BC Housing and the SAFER programs, and assisted seniors with applying for provincial and federal benefits.
- Provided a Heat Preparedness workshop for seniors.
- Helped to coordinate the Community Tax Clinic to help seniors and low income families with their income tax returns.
- Provided opportunities for intercultural connections through participation in Indigenous special events.
- Organized bus trips for seniors.
- Collaborated with Multicultural Family Centre at REACH to organize joint programs for adults and seniors.

Arts & Culture

Amanda Lye joined our programming team in March 2022, and with support from Helen Spaxman and Kiel Torres she now oversees the ʔwq̓w̓eləw̓ən ct carving pavilion artists, and projects such as the Britannia Art Gallery, seasonal Coffee Houses, the Arts & Culture Committee, arts programs, the Plaza Markets, murals, special events, and activations at Grandview Park. Highlights from 2022 include:

- The Britannia Coffeehouse supported more than 30 local performers over the course of the four seasonal events. The pivot to online and a hybrid format was well received.
- Britannia Plaza Markets supported more than 35 local artists and craftspeople over a 20 week period from June to October. We further activated the Britannia Plaza with four special Festival Markets that expanded into the Napier Greenway. We brought musicians and interactive artist workshops out for the festival markets, and partnered with HonkBC! and the Corn Festival.
- Edjiwa “Edge” Ebenebe created the “Celebrating Black Lives” mural on the wall of Gym C. She painted from July-September 2022, with an unveiling on September 10, 2022. Elder Seislom gifted her the Indigenous name *Moxy*, meaning warrior woman.
- The Parade of the Lost Souls returned on October 29, 2022 with thousands of community members in attendance for the marvelous interactive site-wide art installation and performance arts spectacle. Flash mob workshops took place on site to prepare.
- The Winter Craft Market returned in November 2022. Helen and Amanda curated vendors through a lens of local, diversity, and inclusion. The Britannia Secondary School Band and Carnival Band performed, as well as the Latin American Cultural Centre Choir. Secondary students had a fundraiser at the entrance and concession stand.
- We supported the Mother’s Day Traditional Powwow at Trout Lake, which saw thousands of people attend one of the first City indoor celebrations after COVID-19 restrictions were lifted.
- We hosted the inaugural Shine Intercultural Spring Market, featuring local vendors and performers.



2022 Program Highlights



Brenda Koch's Promise Blanket project.



Simon Daniel James in the Carving Centre.



New seating at the Courts Skatepark.

Britannia Art Gallery

- We hosted 23 artists through 12 Exhibitions in 2022, and brought catered events back in June.
- Haruko and Bernadine were the curators, but resigned in September. They were looking into alternate ways to take applications, how to engage greater community, and including more Indigenous artists. Kiel assisted with online support and social media posts up until March. With Danais Yera Guerra as acting curator since September, we are now undergoing a review with the consultants C + S Planning Group to analyze this space and how we can make it more equitable, inclusive, accessible and seen within the Britannia landscape, as well as including other spaces like the alcoves. With a working group in place, and after interviewing stakeholders and past artists, we hope to have this review completed in June 2023 and the new curator position posted in Summer 2023.

šx^wq^weləwən ct Carving Centre

- šx^wq^weləwən ct Carving Centre 2022 artists in residence, Randall Bear Barnetson and Simon Daniel James, carved two Cedar logs into seating structures to be installed on site in the spring of 2023.
- Darren Yelton from the Squamish nation completed a Kyatchn Pole that will face the mountains at the entrance to the parking lot; it will be installed in 2023.
- Simon Daniel James was approved for funding from ArtStarts to complete a community pole; we're looking forward to organizing engagement sessions with students in 2023.
- D'Arcy Basil worked on a totem in the summer to be donated to the Children's Hospital.

Grandview Park Activations

- In partnership with Vancouver Park Board - Park Activations Team, we secured funding and staffing to hold space for Indigenous programming in Grandview Park during the Summer. Elder Seislom's drum group met on Mondays in the park, and Todd Devries joined us on Tuesdays for cedar weaving; 20 projects were completed each week including bracelets, cedar fish and hearts. Refreshments were provided.
- December 4, 2022 was the first event in the Indigenous Concert Series in Grandview Park. Despite the snow, there was a great turn out. Free coffee and bannock was provided. Western Buffalo dance group performed with grass and chicken dancers, showcasing traditional regalia, singing, dancing and drumming. Three more concerts were slated for winter and spring 2023.

Child & Youth Programs

Throughout 2022, Britannia Teen Centre was an active and lively space. 60+ youth dropped by daily to hang out, play ping pong, pool, foosball and video games, connect with adult role models, and inquire about local services and resources. Highlights:

- Cooking programs were extremely popular with both our Feast of Flavors and Latin Cooking programs thriving. Youth got the opportunity to plan, prep, cook, eat and clean up after affordable meals that they can recreate at home.
- Archery, basketball, fitness, skating and special event swims continued to be popular with youth. The Youth Committee planned a Holiday Youth Skate which was very well organized and attended!
- In September, we started a partnership with Spectrum Skateboarding, offering youth on the spectrum the opportunity to learn the basics of skateboarding. Not only did they offer a safe and fun opportunity for kids with autism to try something new, but they also helped participants build confidence and reach goals; develop physical literacy, resilience, and a new passion; and fostered a thriving and positive social network.
- With a growing need for afterschool and evening programming, fitness, basketball, soccer, dance, science, music, literacy, cooking, social programs and more were offered for a variety of age groups from Kindergarten to Grade 7. Programs changed seasonally to keep everyone engaged. A walking school bus program was created to get kids from additional schools in the catchment to our on-site programs.

Funseekers Daycamp continued to be an extremely popular and necessary program for families during the winter, spring and summer breaks.

- Seasonally, between 60-100 young people participated in camps each week, with many referrals to the program in partnership with the Britannia Community Schools Team and Britannia Elementary.
- Many local young people were hired as leaders and given the opportunity to develop leadership skills, work experience and get mentored and supported by experienced staff, as they helped supervise and facilitate safe and fun programming for the kids in our community. Many of the staff continued working throughout the year in a variety of capacities.

Latin American Youth Program

- Youth worked to create art pieces that focused on Latin American identity. Their work was displayed at the Britannia Art Gallery, where a small reception was held and the community was invited to celebrate their art work. Some of their paintings were based on memories and recollections of places, feelings, and experiences from their home countries, as well as their journey of integration here in Canada. Thank you to Stephanie Angel-Garay for facilitating the program for many years.



2022 Program Highlights

Food Security

- In spring of 2022 we held 16 workshops for 82 Britannia Elementary School students. In the fall we held another 16 workshops for 150 students.
- The Britannia Bulk Buy Food Club nearly doubled in 2022, with the help of our new program assistant, Jet, and a new volunteer team. Eighteen volunteers contributed 333 hours towards assembling and distributing 700 food orders.
- We initiated an integrated food security strategy, activated with a \$20,000 grant from Community Food Centres Canada. We distributed 800 \$25 grocery gift cards with support from the CAPC, Youth, and 55+ programs on site, giving recipients the agency to choose what they want for themselves.
- In partnership with Second Harvest and the federal government, we rescued 50,000 lbs of potatoes, sorted, and distributed them all over 3 days. We provided thousands of spuds to 30 community groups, and held one giveaway day open to all. Forty-four volunteers supported distribution.
- We offered 6 online FootFit sessions, supported by 6 volunteers and 50.5 volunteer hours. Foodfit is a 6-week program for community members who experience barriers around healthy eating and physical activity but are motivated to make lasting changes to their health.



Pool & Fitness Centre

- Maintaining services through staffing challenges in an aging facility was the top focus of our programming team in 2022. It was not easy; rarely was there a week that did not see last minute changes to the schedule when someone was sick or called away to another location more in need.
- Access and inclusion remained a top priority; the Society subsidized access for community members and we are now looking for more ways to give access to school and camp programs.
- We had a number of staff changes at all levels, bringing new eyes to our operations and helping Britannia remain current and efficient. Their energy is appreciated.
- In preparation for the Renewal of the Pool and Fitness Centre, we started to strategize replacement of equipment in facilities, retiring outdated equipment with the help of active working groups.

Sports & Fitness

- We offered over 321 sport and fitness programs in 2022. Over 4600 children, youth and adults registered for programs and over 5200 community members dropped in to our sport and fitness programs. Britannia received over 280,000 participant activity visits.
- Micro Footie and Britannia Gymnastics Club continue to be the largest programs (back to almost 2000 children annually) with more than 700 on waitlists. These two programs generate much of the revenues that fund our youth and 55+ programming.
- Each week Britannia offers approximately 48 hours of children's and 44 hours of adult fitness programs, using only 67 hours of gymnasium time per week.
- Partnerships with Axe Capoeira, Sportball Canada, Gymnastics BC, Zumba Fitness and newly formed programs with Apex Volleyball Club added to the continued success of this program area.

Rink

- An unplanned maintenance closure for the summer of 2022 resulted in many cancelled programs and a fall full of accommodations as we tried to make it up to teams and programs who lost ice.
- The Vancouver Adult Co-ed Hockey League continued to be popular, and saw a resurgence in demand, along with the Britannia Co-ed Adult Hockey and the Women's Hockey Leagues.
- All of the free stat holiday Public Skates offered in fall and winter were well attended, exceeding 100 patrons each session.
- The Britannia After School Hockey (BASH) youth hockey program began rebuilding.

Volunteer

Through their active participation in a range of events and projects, Brit volunteers have made a profound impact on the community. Their selfless dedication and tireless efforts have played an essential role in fostering a more connected and resilient community. Volunteer highlights include:

- Tax Clinic volunteers filed 450 tax returns through in-person and virtual sessions. The overwhelming demand for the Clinic's services was a testament to the hard work and dedication of our amazing volunteers. They provide a very valuable service to the community.
- Micro Footie welcomed 115 volunteer coaches in 2022 to support the very popular youth sports program. Their tireless efforts and dedication have been instrumental in fostering a love of sports and in building a strong sense of community among young players.
- Volunteers played a vital role in the operation of the Bulk Buy Food Club; additional volunteers were onboarded and trained in order to expand the service. Our passionate volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that the community receives high-quality produce as the service continues to grow in popularity.
- The Book Buddy Reading Program returned to in-person in 2022. Volunteers were eager to resume their one-on-one reading sessions with children and provide them with the attention and guidance they need to improve their reading skills.
- The Reconciliation Lunch & Learn event for Cantonese-speaking seniors was well-received and provided valuable insights and discussions. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the valuable insights and meaningful discussions that took place.
- Britannia volunteers contributed to a variety of community events and projects, including Orange Shirt Day, the Community Health Fair with REACH, Papal visit support for Elders, Senior Heat Wave Wellness Check-ins, and the potato giveaway.



Volunteers in the Transformed Life Garden.



Vietnamese seniors on Orange Shirt Day 2022.



Mother's Day Traditional Powwow 2022.

Message from the President

I'd like to take this time to give gratitude to the three host nations—the x^wməθk^wə'yəm (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) nations—for being such generous hosts. In return, we here at Britannia are doing our best to take care of the unceded lands that we occupy and keep the land, water, air and all the creatures safe.

Throughout 2022, our volunteers, staff and community helped us to thrive again with the fantastic programs and events that they made possible. We held our first ever Shine Intercultural Spring Market in March of 2022. Although it was still chilly in March, having the market outdoors presented a safe way for community members to come together, reconnect and support one another. We also helped behind the scenes to bring back the Mother's Day Traditional Powwow in May; the Trout Lake Arena was packed with vendors, dancers, performers and attendees throughout the weekend.

As we navigated the pandemic, we continued to offer online and hybrid programs and meetings. Many people were excited to return to the site as well, as we navigated a new normal together and found ways to stay connected and engaged, with many folks still masking and taking extra precautions. By the end of 2022, our registration numbers were back to pre-pandemic levels.

In 2022, we also sought ways to help build community resilience:

- In response to rising inflation and increased financial insecurity, we nearly doubled our Bulk Buy Food Club program, providing more low-cost and healthy foods to families and individuals in need.
- In response to the increase in extreme weather events, the 55+ team held heat and cold preparedness workshops for Elders and seniors.
- We once again offered free tax clinics for low-income individuals.

As people returned to the site in greater numbers—whether for programs, events, or education—they were greeted with new colourful and inviting public art:

- In collaboration with Britannia Community Services Centre and the students, staff and parent volunteers of Britannia Elementary School, Heiltsuk artist KC Hall installed 20 ovoid panels on the elementary school fence in June of 2022; the panels tell the legend of how the Raven saved the world.
- Ejiwa "Edge" Ebenebe completed the "Celebrating Black Lives" mural in the summer of 2022. Standing at approximately 450 square feet, the mural serves as a reminder of the enduring presence of Black communities.
- Randall Bear Barnetson and Simon Daniel James completed their carved cedar benches in the šx^wq^weləwən ct Carving Centre; the benches were installed in the Britannia Plaza in the Spring of 2023.



Message from the President

As the year was marked by rebuilding and initiating new community connections, it's fitting that a new committee—the Skateboard Committee—joined Britannia. We are so pleased to support the skateboard community and all the events they are hosting at the Courts. They are doing a fantastic job at engaging diverse community members and youth; having their representation on the Board and as a committee has been such a joy.



We invite local residents and community groups to come to us about developing partnerships and supporting community programs; we would like to continue playing a supporting role in community-driven programs and events, leveraging our resources to facilitate initiatives by and for the many communities that live in Grandview Woodlands and Strathcona.

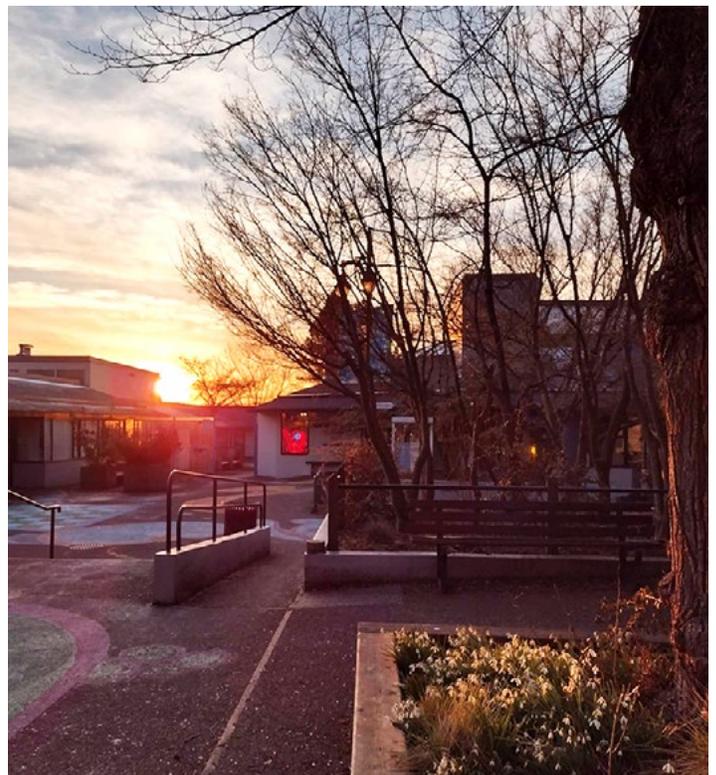
How'aa,

Annie Danilko, Haida Nation
President, Britannia Board of Management

Message from the Executive Director

Community centres should be the heart of the neighbourhood. It is the residents, the volunteer Board of Management, and all the committees working with our staff that make Britannia so special. The Centre's character and spirit, beginning with its creation over 40 year ago, is consistent with the principles of the x̱w̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations to listen to the people, take care of each other, care for the land, and to create a safe place to live and grow.

In 2022, our recreation programs recovered to pre-COVID levels of enrolment thanks to the hard work of staff, who incorporated the lessons learnt over the past few years. They understand the needs of residents in our communities, particularly youth, and offer relevant programs that meet them where they are at while challenging them to aspire and do their best.



(Continued on page 14)

Message from the Executive Director

In a bold move to achieve our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, the Board of Management allocated \$290,000 towards our 5 year Reconciliation Plan. We realigned our special events, space sponsorship, and resource sharing approaches to be community-centered, and we are working more closely with individuals and community organizations to reduce systemic barriers. We are a City facility and should be providing space through an equity, diversity and inclusion lens in way that makes a real difference to children and their families today and into the future. As we embark on this process, our partners have helped to build our capacity for cultural sensitivity, administrative and programming best practices, promotion and information sharing, accountability, and organizational development.

Our 2021-2025 strategic commitments are to:

- Empower people and communities;
- Embrace Indigenous values and practices;
- Offer low-barrier programs, services and opportunities;
- Nurture creativity in inclusive spaces;
- Develop and strengthen partnerships; and
- Enhance organizational capacity.

To this end, we had some major successes in 2022. Most of our Child Care Hub programs have been approved as \$10/day sites, and we were selected as a partner for the New Leaf Program with the Foundation for Social Change. This is a unique project providing cash directly to people facing homelessness to address systemic issues. Through this partnership, our facilities staff were able to support some people to leave the cycle of chronic homelessness.

Additionally, in 2022 we:

- Worked much more closely with the Vancouver Park Board to provide diverse programming, facilitate communication across departments, and align administration and risk management practices;
- Established the Skateboard Committee to better serve a unique and diverse community;
- Enhanced our partnerships with organizations like the Vancouver Latin American Cultural Centre Society, Indian Residential School Survivors Society, and Yarrow Society to better serve equity-seeking residents and create opportunities for cross-cultural sharing;
- Offered more space and staff resources to local non-profit partners;
- Increased free programs and actively increased Leisure Access Program access to all fee-for-service activities; and
- Offered transformative learning opportunities to our volunteers and staff on diverse topics that address systemic barriers.

In the next few years we hope to continue on this path to achieve the Society's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. Your feedback would be appreciated.

In gratitude,

Cynthia Low
Executive Director

Message from the Manager of Child Care Services

The Britannia Child Care Hub is made up of Britannia Child Care, the Eagles in the Sky Child Care Association, Grandview Terrace Child Care Society, and Mount Pleasant Child Care Society. We provide over 250 licensed spaces and oversee over 50 regular educators and over 20 auxiliary educators in various settings across the locality.

The Britannia Child Care Hub is unique in that we support three independent parent-led Societies, while working with Vancouver Coastal Health, Aboriginal Child and Family Support Services, Vancouver School Board, City of Vancouver, BCGEU, Early Childhood Pedagogy Network and many more. We share the responsibility of identifying, understanding and supporting the needs of families and children in our community. It is with our many community partners that we strive to provide a range of safe, stimulating, nurturing and high quality programs that respect and embrace each child and family.

2022 Highlights

- Britannia Preschool and Out of School Care, Grandview Terrace Out of School Care II, and Eagles in the Sky Daycare and Out of School Care were successful applicants to become \$10/day child care sites beginning March and April 2022, and in April 2023 Grandview Terrace Daycare and OSC II were approved for \$10/day funding. In total, 7/9 programs and 232 spaces are now funded by the Ministry of Education and Child Care's \$10/day funding.
- In December 2022, the Ministry of Education and Child Care implemented the 50% Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative. Mount Pleasant Child Care families have seen a significant reduction to their child care fees.
- Britannia Child Care Hub provided opportunities for training and education in: Board Orientation, ECE Sector Updates, Pedagogical Work, Learning Circles, Equity and Inclusion. A full day conference, The Role of the Educator: Truth & Reconciliation, was held on November 18, 2022 for all Child Care Hub educators.
- The Hub continued collaboration with the Early Childhood Pedagogy Network (ECPN) to bring a Pedagogist to the Hub.



2023 Priorities

- Develop partnerships with Capilano University and SUCCESS Women's Employment Readiness Program to see ongoing practicum students in all Child Care Hub programs.
- Britannia Child Care Hub Review project will see consultants working on options for consideration regarding partnership models, governance and/or new structural approaches that will define and support the CC Hub.
- Support the transition to new Provincial and Federal Child Care initiatives.
- Commence Britannia Child Care Hub collective bargaining.
- Provide training and education in pedagogical commitments, leadership skills, guiding and caring, and support all educators in attending the ECEBC Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

Jacky Hughes
Manager of Child Care Services

Message from the Community Recreation Coordinator

Programs and Services

Britannia's Recreation Department goal is to provide high quality programs that are accessible, responsive, inclusive, and meet community needs.

Successes

In 2022, we responded to the Grandview Woodland community's desire to return to social and recreational programs at Britannia. While recognizing that the world has changed and with a more integrated involvement of our community, programming was back up and running.

Many programs experienced high enrolment and waitlists this year; preparing our facilities and building our staffing capacity became major priorities to meet the high demand. Everyone was excited to see and work with the community again in-person, but new social norms around work place health and rising costs of everything from cleaning to equipment pushed the programming team to be creative problem solvers and work even closer with our community partners.

Rink, fitness centre and pool programming continues to demonstrate the most immediate impacts. We have learned over the last couple years and adapting has got easier; but already stretched staffing levels had to constantly adapt and inform the public of changing regulations.

Through it all the community and Britannia staff have been amazing:

- We saw many people come out again in respect for Elders on Orange Shirt Day.
- The skatepark community continues to grow and has joined the Board as a fully integrated community committee.
- Our community food security programmer has nearly doubled the food program in response to community needs.
- We are working with our partners to increase our connections with our most vulnerable community members through the Leisure Access Program and other access programs.
- Our programming teams have continued to provide and increase connections and support for seniors and others during very difficult times.



Community members in Orange Shirt Day shirts.



Britannia Elementary students helping artist KC Hall paint panels.

Message from the Community Recreation Coordinator



Ruth Elizabeth at the potato giveaway.



"Celebrating Black Lives" mural unveiling.



Amanda Lye at the Mother's Day Powwow.

Human Resources

The key to Britannia's success is the dedication and commitment of amazing staff and volunteers. Britannia Recreation has approximately 300 part-time instructors and well over 400 volunteers each year who plan, organize and implement a wide variety of recreational programs and services for all ages.

Personnel changes over the year included:

- Marie Beesley, Victor Lam and Shannon Donaghey-Antunes all took on the challenge as Pool Programmer in 2022, managing a revolving door of pool and fitness centre staff, changes to re-certification and training, and changes to pool training certification needs.
- Amanda Lye came in as our new Arts and Culture Programmer. Thank you to Helen Spaxman who carried us through again in an acting role.

The Future

As Britannia continues to navigate the phases of facility renewal, it is increasingly important for Britannia to go farther and provide programs and services with extra value to the unique communities in our catchment. It will be further important that we define that historic value to ensure that our renewed site will enrich our tradition of community service. While maintaining relations with our existing partners, we also must look for new opportunities and partnerships off site so that we can mitigate any gaps in services and programs through the renewal process.

Special Thanks

Thank you to the community members, partners, volunteers, Board and committee members, and staff who create the spirit, passion, and sense of community that Britannia is known for. We all, some Settler and some visitor, acknowledge and are grateful to the Coast Salish peoples as we work and gather on the traditional, unceded and ancestral lands of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sk^wxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. Together we commit and bare witness to the truth, listen and learn about residential schools and their lasting generational impact on survivors and their families.

With thanks,

Peter Odynsky,
Community Recreation Coordinator

Grandview Woodland Food Connection



2022 was a year of growth and connection. We expanded our Bulk Buy Food Club, experimented with online FoodFit sessions, came together for food and garden workshops, and spent a lot of time in the garden. We rescued 50,000 lbs of potatoes from PEI, supported our community through an integrated food security strategy, and made sure there was a lot of delicious food at community events.

In January, we were happy to welcome Jet to the team and he has had a blast supporting the Britannia Bulk Buy Food Club. He's also been able to join us for events, gardening, and the summer market. In June, Victoria joined our team as our ʂxʷqʷeləwən ct (One Heart One Mind) Gardener. Victoria brought community together in the garden with weekly garden work and skill shares, worked in the garden with the students from StreetFront, and developed the first steps with our partners for making an Indigenous Food Corridor a reality. In December, Noah joined the team and jumped right in, helping us with the Bulk Buy Food Club and events.

Together with our partners the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC), we engaged over 150 students from Britannia Elementary in our school garden program. Miss Sharlene introduced the students to our food gardens and helped them reconnect with the natural world through observation and exploration of biodiversity, plant life, nature cycles, and food literacy. Britannia Secondary students connected with the ʂxʷqʷeləwən ct (One Heart One Mind) garden by going on a plant walk with Lori and Victoria, and helped us spread mulch to rebuild the soil. We supported secondary students' Beyond the Plate gardening and cooking club, and they helped us rebuild four beds in the Mary Jo Garden.

We held six online FoodFit classes, and seven food and garden workshops where we explored types of gardening, the best ways to plant, and how to make your gardens thrive. We held a Latin American Youth Program garden workshop, and we met the honey bees in the apiary and learned compost during skill shares.

Our Britannia Bulk Buy Food Club provided low income folks in the community with access to fresh and healthy produce, while connecting with their neighbours and saving money in a dignified and community-centred approach. We were able to grow our capacity because of our dedicated volunteer team that put in over 300 hours of their time for our 30 distributions and 699 orders. This resulted in a 40% net increase in participants over the year and 25% more distributions than last year. We are so grateful for our partners, Discovery Organics, Choices Market, and the Greater Vancouver Food Bank who provide supplemental donations and rescued food for the program.

We know that the transition out of COVID-19 supports was tough on folks in the community, so we supported community food security by working with the CAPC, Youth, and 55+ teams at Britannia to give out over \$20,000 in grocery gift cards to folks in the community. This integrated food security strategy allowed folks the agency to decide what they need and buy it. This dignified food approach was possible by a large grant from the federal government, distributed through Community Food Centres Canada.

With the help of the federal government and Second Harvest, we rescued 50,000 lbs of potatoes from Prince Edward Island! Forty-four volunteers supported the getting the spuds out to the community by loading up 30 local partner organizations with bags (and bags) of potatoes, and a community give away day.

Warmly,

Ruth Elizabeth Briggs
Community Food Security Coordinator



Situated on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Watuth Nations, the Britannia Branch of the Vancouver Public Library (VPL) works in partnership with the Grandview Woodlands community to understand and meet the community's needs.

2022 felt, in many ways, like the year we were able to return to fully serving our community. It was a pleasure for staff to be able to welcome community members back to a range of adult and children's programs, and to start thinking about how else we could provide service to the community. In particular, after re-establishing children's programs in 2021, we were thrilled to start offering regular adult programs in 2022, including One-on-One Computer Help, and ESL Conversation Practice.

This was the first full year that the branch's new Early Learning Playspace was open, and as the community began to learn about it, it quickly became one of the branch's most popular features. A launch event was held in April, and by autumn (if not sooner) it was routinely full to capacity in the mornings and after school—particularly on wet or cold days. Parents and caregivers routinely tell us that they love the kids zone at Britannia.



Summer Reading Club this year featured a once-in-a-generation opportunity to open a time capsule! Put together as part of Summer Reading Club in 1997, participants in this year's Summer Reading Club discovered inside a wealth of items documenting the branch and Centre's history in 1997, as well as that of the wider world—flyers from programs, cassette tapes, Pogs (remember those?), photos of staff members, and much more.

As the Britannia Branch is also home to the Britannia Art Gallery, we continued to feature art displays and installations from local artists including: Larissa Healey, Jan Appel, and Nadia Baker, to name a few.

Britannia Branch continued to be the home of the Connection to Kith and Kin program, one of the VPL's key programs in its commitment to reconciliation. Connection to Kith and Kin is planned and delivered in partnership with the Indian Residential School Survivors Society; Britannia Community Services Centre and the Seniors, Elders, and Advocates (SEA) Committee; Library and Archives Canada; and the VPL. This program exists to support people with Indigenous ancestry to navigate the databases needed to find information about their lineage, in a thoughtful and culturally supportive environment. We continued to offer the program online in 2022, and will be offering an in-person session in 2023.

Thanks as always to our community for their ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you at the Britannia Library!

Sincerely,

Randy Gatley
Branch Head & Connection to Kith and Kin Coordinator
Britannia Branch, Vancouver Public Library

Canucks Family Education Centre

The Zamani Family

When the Zamani family arrived at YVR airport on April 14, 2022 it was an emotional moment. The family lived in Tajikistan after escaping from Kabul, with the support of CFEC and other sponsoring organizations and individuals. The support for this family started with a plea from Fatimah Zamani in 2018, a CFEC student who needed to get her remaining family members to Canada. Fatimah was also a refugee from Afghanistan, but was able to get out many years ago with her two children. Fatimah says, "My sister and her family recently arrived in Vancouver as refugees from Afghanistan... I am proud that I'm able to support them. It has helped me find more peace with the terrible situation we all endured... starting with the loss of our parents and three siblings. The Taliban killed my father in 2016 and then were searching for the rest of the family, because they wanted to kill them, too. Helping them has helped me and my family begin the journey to healing."

Three of the children are now enrolled in elementary school, English upgrading classes, and high school. The fourth daughter will hopefully be starting a university transfer program in the fall of 2023. CFEC hired two family members to work in our Get Read 2 Read early learning program and continues to provide bus passes for the children and youth. "Without the constant and ever-present support of the Canucks Family Education Centre, this story would have a very different ending... Without their support, especially Jean's, my life would be very different now. CFEC helps so many families like mine. Thank you," says Fatimah.

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 Program Participants

| Location | Adults | Youth (13-18yrs) | Children (6-12yrs) | Toddlers (1-5yrs) | Infants (0-12mos) |
|--------------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Britannia | 290 | 43 | 116 | 48 | 5 |
| Edmonds | 142 | 8 | 71 | 50 | 1 |
| Maywood | 72 | 6 | 35 | 34 | 0 |
| Britannia GR2R FRP | 37 | 0 | 16 | 23 | 0 |
| CFEC ECE | 46 | 14 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 587 | 71 | 251 | 155 | 6 |

Registration Numbers by Class

| January-June 2022 | | | | September-December 2022 | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------|
| Location | Class | Adults | Children | Location | Class | Adults | Children |
| Britannia | LL (Levels 3-5) | 28 | 12 | Britannia | LL (Levels 3-5) | 28 | 12 |
| | HL (Levels 5-11) | 29 | 15 | | HL (Levels 5-11) | 29 | 15 |
| | Math & Accounting | 27 | 5 | | Math & Accounting | 27 | 5 |
| | ESOL | 36 | 0 | | ESOL | 36 | 0 |
| | ECE | 22 | 0 | | ECE | 22 | 0 |
| | ECEA | 21 | 0 | | ECEA | 21 | 0 |
| Edmonds | LL (Levels 1-3) | 30 | 23 | Edmonds | LL (Levels 2-4) | 25 | 17 |
| | HL (Levels 4-7) | 26 | 18 | | HL (Levels 4-7) | 25 | 14 |
| Maywood | F5 - Eng. 12 | 26 | 16 | Maywood | F5 - Eng. 12 | 26 | 17 |
| Britannia GR2R FRP | GR2R FRP | 18 | 19 | Britannia GR2R FRP | GR2R FRP | 16 | 17 |
| Total | | 221 | 101 | Total | | 255 | 97 |



We are grateful to be working and playing on the beautiful unceded lands of the x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) peoples. Established in 1979, Eastside Family Place Society (ESFP) is 44 years old and is an incorporated, registered charity and provincially certified Family Resource Program, Early Years Family Support and Parenting Centre governed by a volunteer board of directors. We assist in the healthy development of families and caregivers with young children (birth to early 6 years) and are conveniently located off Grandview Park at 1655 William Street.

Programs and Services

ESFP offers family-friendly, play-based learning where young children learn and develop socially and emotionally in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Participants enjoy opportunities for support, services, referrals to other programs and services, and networking with other parents. Many lasting friendships and community connections are made at ESFP! Our programs:

- Licensed Occasional Child Care is open and running five mornings a week.
- Parent and Baby Yoga is available Mondays from 12:30-1:30pm, with Melissa Rodrigues who has now joined the Eastside Family Place team as our program coordinator.
- We offer Nobody's Perfect and Circle of Security positive parenting programs that aim to strengthen parenting skills through a better understanding of attachment and child development.
- Our early literacy programs—Family Rhythm, Rhyme + Movement and Jump Into Music—foster children's language, social and physical development through songs, rhymes, stories and movement.
- Monthly cook-a-longs are available on Zoom with Chef Andrea Potter, providing easy and delicious meal ideas.
- Creating Connections and Calming the Self is an in-person expressive arts-based program developed at ESFP for parents and children to foster co-regulation and self-expression.
- A variety of workshops are offered in person and on Zoom that focus on parenting, health and safety, self-care, and other relevant topics. Direct support and referrals are made to relevant agencies.
- We will again be offering our enhanced summer program with meet-ups in the garden and food skills classes where children and their parents/caregivers learn about growing and cooking nutritious foods.
- ESFP has been excited to integrate Indigenous learnings into our programs whenever we can. This has included workshops with drum maker Robert George of the Tseil-Waututh Nation, and story times with Jade Brass and author Kung JaaDee of the Haida Nation.

Donations and Funding

ESFP gratefully accepts donations and in-kind goods and services. As a non-profit, ESFP is dependent on government and non-government grants, donations, and fundraising to cover its annual operational costs. Our annual membership is \$30.00.

For further information please visit eastsidefamilyplace.org or phone 604.255.9841.

Brenda Lohrenz
Executive Director

Message from the Treasurer

As Treasurer of the Board and Chair of the Finance Committee, I would like to thank the Board members who elected me again as Treasurer, for their trust and support, as well as the members of the Finance Committee for their commitment to Britannia. The Treasurer and the Finance Committee oversee and are responsible for the Community Centre's operating budget of \$9.3 million for the 2023 fiscal year. Revenue is derived from a variety of sources, including the City of Vancouver who funds core functions such as programming, administration, and maintenance. Monies received by a wide variety of other grants, contributions, and registration fees augment basic funding as well.

In 2022, Britannia completed the year with a deficit of \$215,434. The deficit was primarily due to a \$290,000 transfer from the Britannia Society to the Britannia Foundation, as per the Society's annual surplus policy. The \$290,000 is associated with surpluses created in the 2020 and 2021 fiscal years. Before recognizing the transfer, the Society completed the operating year with a \$74,566 surplus, which would be a more appropriate representation of how Britannia operated in the 2022 fiscal year.

Sincerely,

John Flipse
Treasurer of Britannia Board of Management

Message from the Manager of Administrative Services

Administration at the Britannia Community Service Centre includes finance and accounting, human resources, and facilities. In Fiscal 2022, the Britannia Society closed out the year with an audited annual surplus of \$74,566. As Britannia had budgeted for a deficit in 2022, this is a stronger than planned outcome for the year. The surplus was primarily created from increased grant revenue for youth programs, which meant those programs did not run the same sized deficit that they normally do.

As per Britannia's Annual Surplus Policy, a transfer of \$290,000 was made to the Britannia Foundation, which represents surpluses generated in the 2020 and 2021 fiscal years. This transfer was the reason why Britannia's net assets decreased, whereas Britannia's 2022 operating activities strengthened its balance sheet. This surplus will ensure Britannia is in a strong position in the upcoming years as Britannia starts spending these surpluses as it commences its 5 year Reconciliation Plan in 2023.

Sincerely,

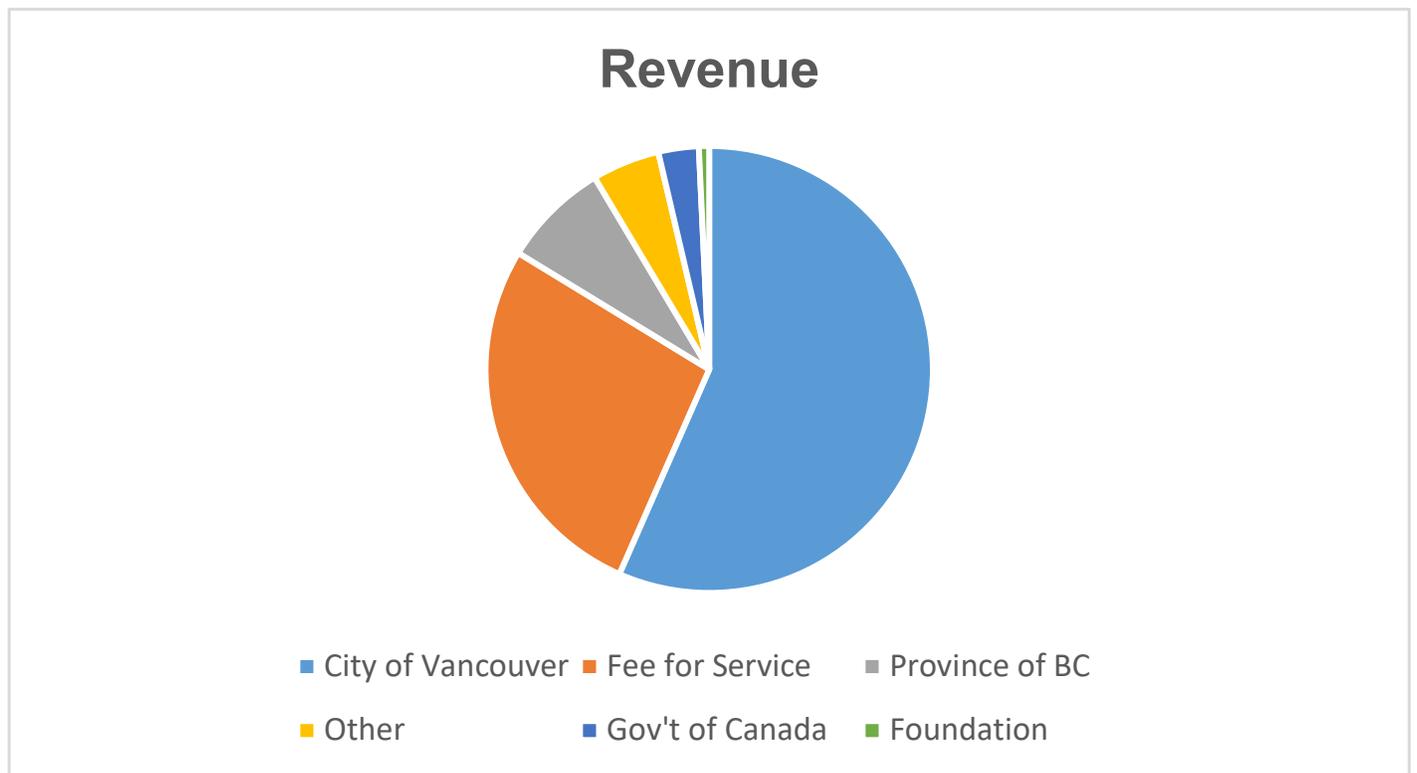
Jeremy Shier
Manager of Administrative Services



"Wings of Reconciliation" created by Britannia Elementary students.

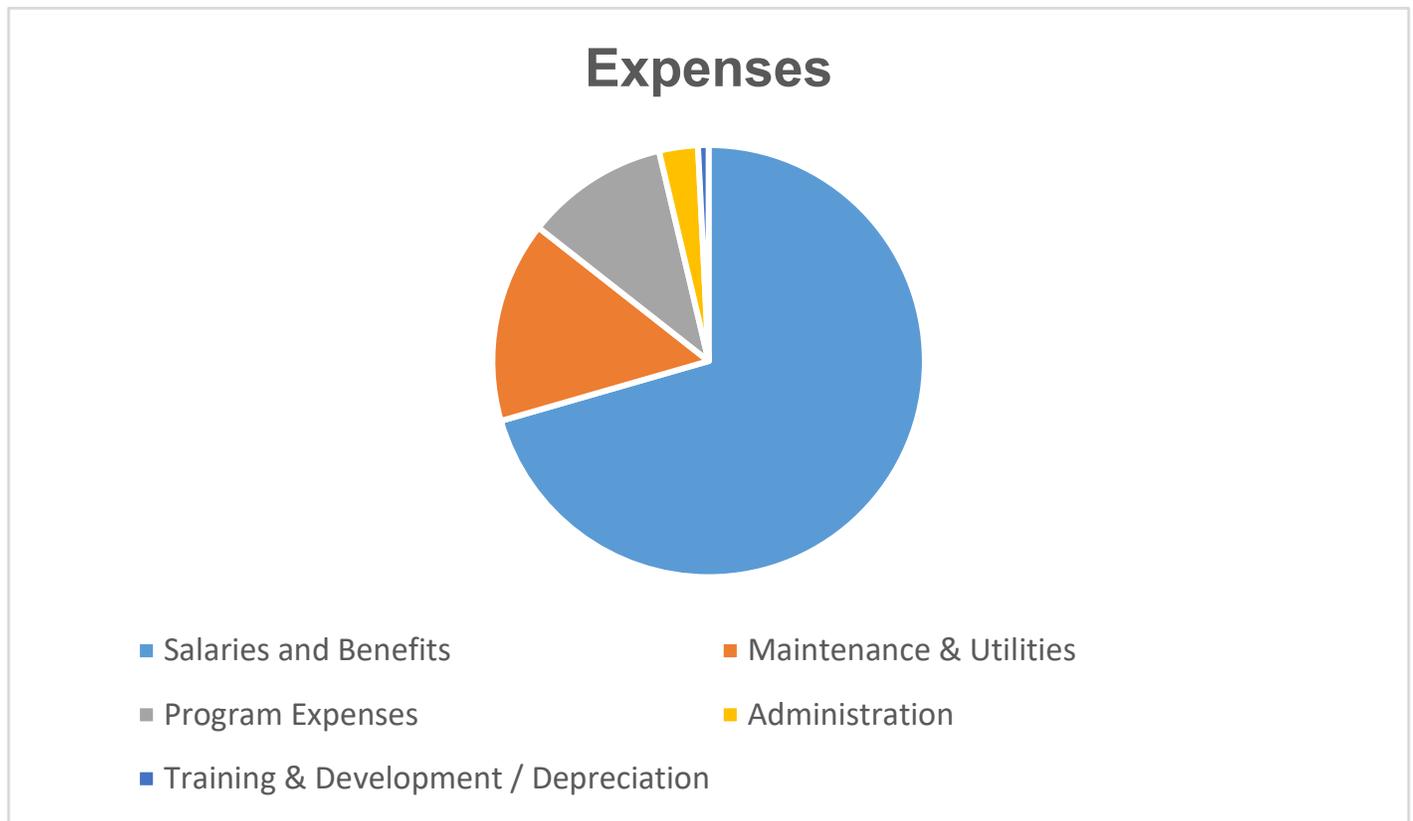
2022 Financial Statement

| Revenue | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|------------------|---------------------|
| City of Vancouver (for Operations) | 5,008,501 | 4,601,070 |
| Government of Canada (for Operations) | - | 290,831 |
| Ministry of Education and Child Care | 327,572 | - |
| Rink and Pool | 874,695 | 482,136 |
| Donations, Membership Fees, and Special Events | 111,723 | 95,469 |
| Licensed Gaming | 237,951 | 101,105 |
| Rentals | 3,916 | - |
| Interest | 6,865 | 1,656 |
| Britannia Community Services Foundation | 67,570 | 66,879 |
| Amortization of Deferred Capital Contributions | 19,757 | 19,756 |
| Child Care | 562,565 | 776,881 |
| Recreation | 1,371,491 | 1,148,707 |
| Community Education | 491,876 | 512,330 |
| Other | 1,718 | - |
| Total | 9,086,200 | 8,096,824.09 |



2022 Financial Statement

| Expenses | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Maintenance and Operations of Buildings, Equipment, etc. | 2,272,621 | 1,803,870 |
| Salaries, Wages, and Benefits (Society) | 1,679,750 | 1,772,916 |
| Salaries, Wages, and Benefits (Parks Board Staff) | 1,796,877 | 1,677,102 |
| Administration | 223,984 | 182,237 |
| Licensed Gaming | 237,951 | 101,105 |
| General Programs | 349,065 | 529,523 |
| Child Care | 859,207 | 719,207 |
| Recreation | 1,083,149 | 605,628 |
| Community Education | 472,176 | 515,915 |
| Other | 1,316 | 415 |
| Amortization of Capital Assets | 35,537 | 32,489 |
| Total | 9,011,634 | 7,940,406 |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses Before Undernoted | 74,566 | 156,417 |
| Transfer to Foundation | (290,000) | - |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses | (215,434) | 156,418 |



1. Community Partnerships & Engagement

- Identify opportunities for relationship building, particularly with the Vancouver School Board, the City of Vancouver, and the Vancouver Park Board.
- Deepen collaborative approaches with community partners.

Actions:

- i. Support the youth committee's ideas and initiatives to improve direct communication with the Parent Advisory Committee (e.g. supporting youth in hosting a community day fair).
- ii. Strengthen our understanding of responsibilities and roles of the Parks Board.
- iii. Strengthen communication with various levels of partners in school communities, including VSB, staff, students and parents.
- iv. Create opportunities for student representatives on the youth committee to provide updates to their schools around Britannia programming and updates.
- v. Engaging in mutually beneficial advocacy for youth in the Britannia community.
- vi. Leverage our personal networks to deepen relationships with our partners and increase awareness of Britannia programming in our networks.

2. Staff & Volunteer Wellbeing & Support

- Strengthen internal communication structures to improve cross-organization knowledge transfer across staff teams.
- Assess staff and volunteer needs and capacity, to build a safe and caring work environment and manageable workloads for team members.

Actions:

- i. Conduct an audit of current communication tools to validate assumptions about how our team and community members prefer to receive communications.
- ii. Strengthen internal communication by adapting our communication systems based on staff and volunteer feedback, including providing information in more concise ways.
- iii. Increase information sharing within the Board, and between board and staff.
- iv. Provide safe opportunities for staff to voice any concerns in an ongoing manner.
- v. Clarify expectations and responsibilities for current and new staff and volunteers.
- vi. Mitigate workload stresses by identifying priorities and a decision making framework that enables a proactive approach to crises.
- vii. Strengthen team morale by celebrating milestones and wins and building a culture of appreciation.
- viii. Empower staff for success and ensure balanced workloads.

3. Renewal & Organizational Capacity

- Advocate to the site partners and other key stakeholders to push for action on the Renewal.
- Establish a fundraising plan for 2023, which will identify a plan for new funding sources.
- Identify the Society's direction on child care for 2023, informed by recommendations from the incoming consultant.

Actions:

- i. Build relationships with the new members of elected bodies to provide awareness of the Renewal and support for the Renewal. Plan an initial meeting with elected bodies in early 2023.
- ii. Continue relationships with key stakeholders in the school community, such as principals and Parent Advisory Councils.

2023 Plans

- iii. Identify key areas in Britannia programming that require fundraising and identify opportunities for philanthropic organizations to support our funding needs.
- iv. Consider establishing a subcommittee of directors to work with a consulting group to look at fundraising options.
- v. When we have more context around fundraising needs, build out a plan to hire a Development Director.
- vi. Support board members and community members to participate in the Britannia Child Care Hub Review.

4. Reconciliation

- Establish the Elder in Residence program by 2023 through meaningful collaboration with the host nations, the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh).
- Enhance education offerings for board, staff, and volunteers on decolonization and reconciliation.

Actions:

- i. Consider logistical details for Elder in Residence program, including: options for a public or private space, staff support for the Elder, and budget considerations. Build an outreach plan to connect with Elders that would be interested in the program.
- ii. Work with the incoming Manager of Organizational Change to guide and develop 2023 education offerings.
- iii. Maintain an action-oriented lens to educational offerings to ensure learnings are translated into action.
- iv. Intentionally bring education offerings around anti-oppression to the Board.

5. Inclusive Programming

- Establish accessible programming to serve specific marginalized populations in the Britannia community, including low-income residents and Elders.
- Build out youth programming offerings that support and uplift young people as leaders in our community.
- Utilize programming surplus to contribute to underserved programs.
- Advocate for \$10/a day child care and elder care.

Actions:

- i. Open Micro Footie and other programs to low-income families and residents.
- ii. Expand non-sessional programming, such as drop-in hockey, chess, and ping pong to create accessible activities that are open on an ongoing basis.
- iii. Increase recreation equipment lockboxes for community members to access.
- iv. Increase awareness in our community of available activities.
- v. Maintain a lens of accessibility across all programs to accommodate visual, physical, and other disabilities.
- vi. Develop structures for the youth committee so that it can be sustainable over the years. Outline roles and responsibilities for the rest of the Board to ensure they fully support the young leaders on the youth committee. Establish ongoing channels of communication and feedback from the youth committee to the rest of the board.
- vii. Explore advocacy opportunities for the Board to take around affordable child and elder care.

2022 Snapshots





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