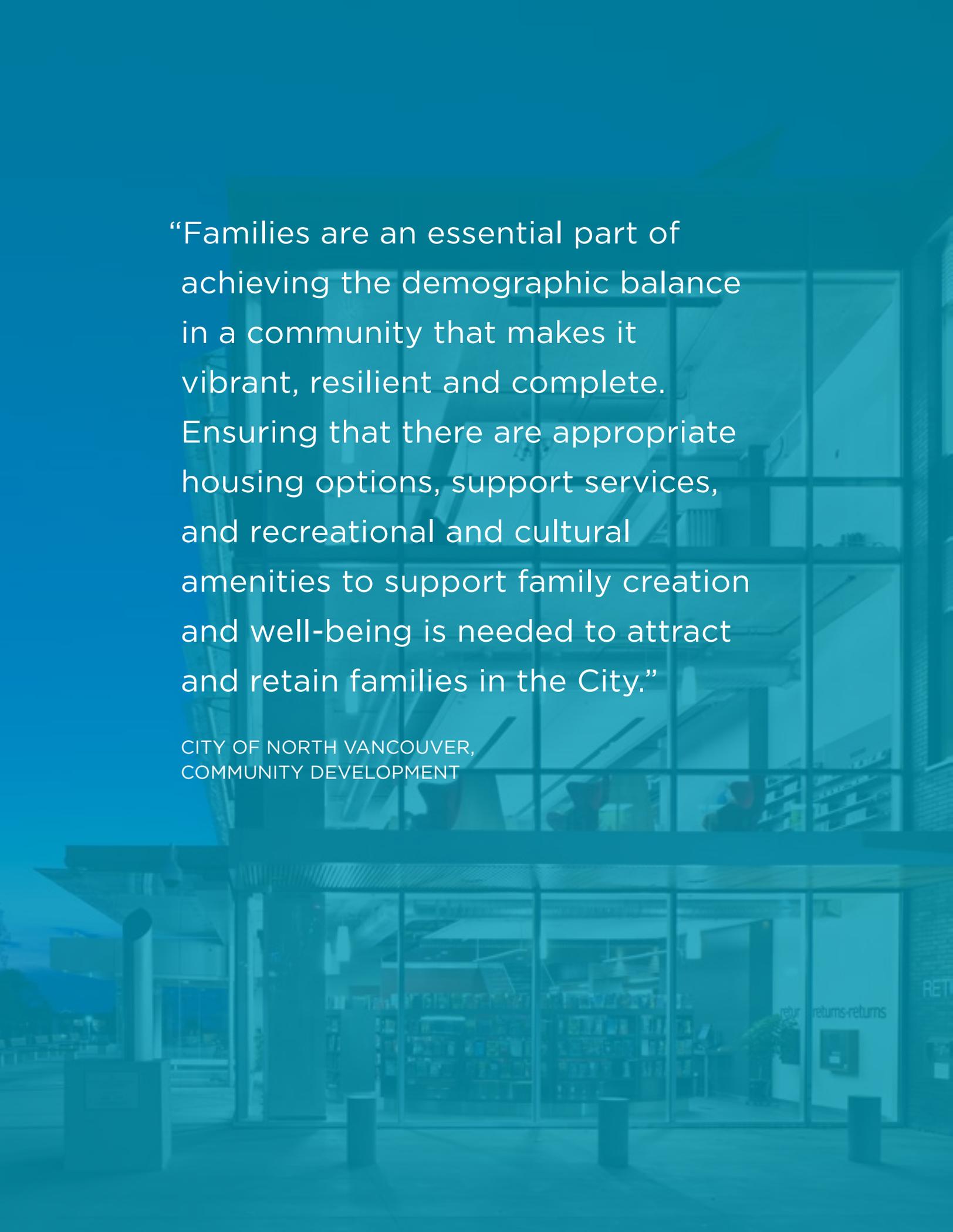


**CHILD, YOUTH + FAMILY
FRIENDLY STRATEGY**

CHILDREN

CONNECTING CHILDREN, YOUTH + FAMILIES IN THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER



“Families are an essential part of achieving the demographic balance in a community that makes it vibrant, resilient and complete. Ensuring that there are appropriate housing options, support services, and recreational and cultural amenities to support family creation and well-being is needed to attract and retain families in the City.”

CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER,
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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QUICK FACTS

50,926 TOTAL POPULATION EST. 2013



THIRD MOST DENSELY POPULATED MUNICIPALITY IN THE LOWER MAINLAND



12,840 FAMILIES IN THE CNV AS OF 2011

42% WERE COUPLES WITH NO CHILDREN, 39% COUPLES WITH CHILDREN, AND 18% WERE LONE PARENTS

25% TOTAL POPULATION IS UNDER THE AGE OF 25 

61% OF RESIDENTS IDENTIFY ENGLISH AS THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE

16.3% ARE CONSIDERED LOW INCOME

BETWEEN $\frac{1}{4}$ + $\frac{1}{3}$ OF KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN

ARE VULNERABLE ON THE EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Children, youth and families are at the heart of communities. In recognition of the importance of supporting the development of its younger community members, the City of North Vancouver (the 'City') has created a child, youth and family-friendly strategy entitled 'CNV4ME - Connecting Children, Youth and Families in the City of North Vancouver'. The development of this municipal strategy was guided by research on family-friendly communities, consultation with children, youth and parents, City and related agency staff, and community service providers.

According to the North Shore Congress, Child and Family Friendly Community Charter,¹ of which the City is a signatory, the City's Vision of a Child, Youth and Family Friendly City is a community where there is:

- Effective communication regarding the importance of early childhood development
- Ongoing promotion of a child friendly community
- Commitment to work toward and promote equitable opportunities for all children and families
- Policy decision-making that uses a child and family friendly lens
- Commitment to working towards an expansion of community access to high quality early childhood programs and services that are culturally appropriate, accessible and informed by research
- Ongoing opportunity to monitor children's development
- Ongoing coordination and integration of early years' programs and services
- Advocacy efforts with provincial and federal government to enhance parental leave, promote universal child care, revise employment standards to reduce work-life conflicts, create a fair living wage and expand financial support for low-income families.

The strategy recognizes that, aside from the City, several agencies and organizations play a critical role in supporting the healthy development of children, youth and families in the community. The City is fortunate to have a wide variety of excellent community-based services and supports. It should be noted that the CNV4ME strategy contains only those action items over which the municipality has influence.

The strategy is structured around five key themes, each of which has a broad goal along with specific action items to achieve those goals. Target groups that will be impacted by the action item are identified, as well as the City department or agency that will lead the implementation of the action item.

THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER STRIVES TO BE A CITY WHERE:

Community members feel a strong sense of commitment to participating in civic affairs through voicing their thoughts and opinions and working together to make the quality of life the best it can be for everyone.

Residents have safe access to diverse, attractive and engaging community spaces where they can gather to play and build connections with one another.

Families and older youth/emerging adults are able to find affordable housing that meets their needs.

Children, youth, emerging adults and families can access a wide variety of programs that are designed and delivered in ways that support healthy development.

Local government is an active partner with well-coordinated local organizations that provide children, youth, emerging adults and families with timely information so that they can access opportunities, supports and services for healthy development.

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

The City of North Vancouver is a growing community nestled between mountains and ocean. With 25% of residents under the age of 25, there are exciting opportunities to enhance community cohesion, nurture future leaders and grow the sense of ownership that individuals have towards their community.

CNV4ME is informed by research that addresses the promotion of healthy development and engaged community members and the voices of children, youth, and adults who provided input throughout the development of the strategy (see Appendix A for further information on the development process for the strategy). The strategy includes meaningful and achievable goals and action items that will increase the overall health and well-being of children, youth and families in the community.

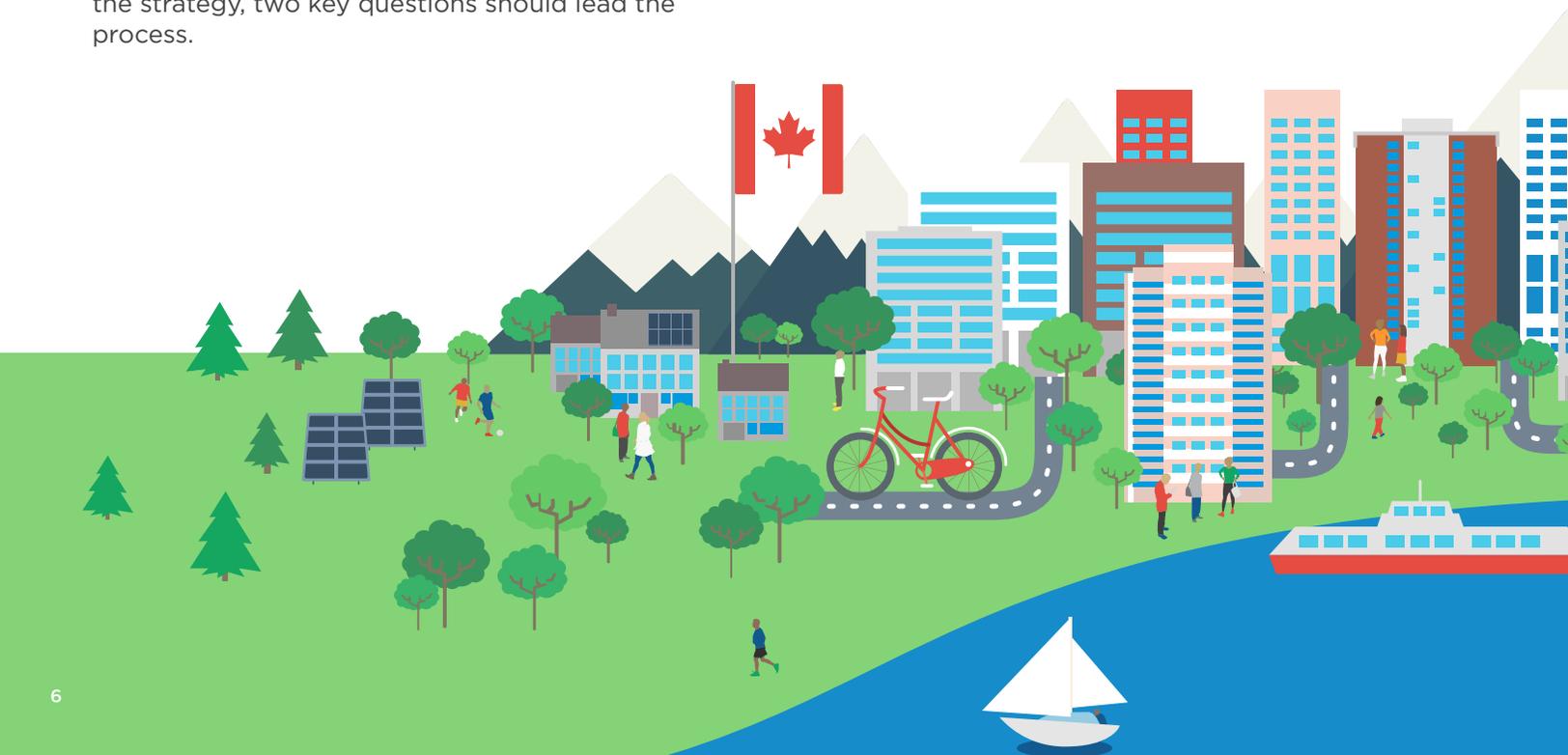
The strategy is designed to be a roadmap for the City to enhance existing strengths, seize new opportunities and adapt to the dynamic needs of children, youth and families who live in the City. Both the process of implementation and the achievement of each goal and action item are ripe with opportunities to contribute to an increase in social connections among residents of all ages and encourage engagement of community members in civic life. In undertaking the implementation of the strategy, two key questions should lead the process.

- How can all community members be **engaged** in implementing the action item?
- How can the implementation process be designed to increase **social connections** among all community members?

The City strives to be a place where all children, youth and families feel welcome, included and heard. It is a community that works together to ensure that its' younger community members have what they need to grow and thrive.

“Children are a kind of indicator species. If we can build a successful city for children, we will have a successful city for all people.”

ENRIQUE PEÑALOSA, URBAN THINKER



ACTION ITEM



How can all community members be **engaged** in implementing the action item?



How can the implementation process be designed to increase **social connections** among all community members?

KEY GOALS

- 1 To increase opportunities for children, youth, emerging adults and families to become involved in shaping their community.
 - 2 To ensure community spaces and the surrounding environments provide residents with various opportunities to easily connect with one another.
 - 3 To support the creation of affordable housing for older youth, emerging adults and families that meet their needs.
 - 4 To support the development and delivery of a range of high quality programs and initiatives that can be easily accessed by children, emerging adults, youth and families.
 - 5 To continue to foster a highly collaborative environment in which partners work together to achieve positive outcomes for children, youth, emerging adults, and families.
-



INTRODUCTION



Child, Youth and
Family Friendly Cities



Early Childhood
0-5



Middle Childhood
6-12



Youth
13-18



Emerging Adulthood
19-24

CHILD, YOUTH + FAMILY FRIENDLY CITIES

The concept of child, youth and family friendly cities stems from the resolution adopted during the 1996 United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.ⁱⁱ This resolution builds upon and supports the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which was created in 1989 and outlines 54 articles designed to provide and protect the rights of children (ages 0-18 years). From the perspective of UNICEF, putting children first is critical; it is noted that the well-being of children is the ultimate indicator of the overall current and future health of a community, a democratic society and good governance.

In respecting children's rights and creating a child friendly city which is committed to a system of local governance that fulfills children's rights, it is incumbent on governments to take action in order to ensure that children can: ⁱⁱⁱ

- Influence decisions about their city
- Express their opinion regarding the city they want
- Participate in family, community and social life
- Receive basic services such as health care, education and shelter
- Drink safe water and have access to proper sanitation
- Be protected from exploitation, violence and abuse
- Walk safely in the streets on their own
- Meet friends and play
- Have green spaces for plants and animals
- Live in an unpolluted environment
- Participate in cultural and social events
- Be an equal citizen of their city with access to every service, regardless of ethnic origin, religion, income, gender or disability



"We love the City. Now that we have a child, we think it's the best place to raise her in the Lower Mainland. The resources are excellent."

PARENT AND CITY RESIDENT

EARLY CHILDHOOD

0-5

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is a questionnaire, completed by kindergarten teachers for each student, that measures five core areas of early childhood development that are known to be good predictors of adult health, education and social outcomes. The five areas of development measured include: physical, social, emotional, language and communication. Without additional support, children who are found to be vulnerable on one or more areas of the EDI may be at risk for future challenges in school and society.



There is overwhelming evidence that the environments in which young children develop shapes their future. The late Dr. Clyde Hertzman, founder of the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), demonstrated through his work that the environments in which young children develop impact the rest of their lives.^{iv} While biology plays a large role, caring and nurturing environments can make all the difference in shaping children's lives. A warm and nurturing environment is one that:

- Protects children from inappropriate discipline, disapproval and punishment
- Provides opportunities to explore the world around them
- Encourages play
- Provides opportunities to learn to speak and listen to others^v

In British Columbia, since 1999, HELP has been tracking the outcomes of kindergarten children by using the Early Development Instrument (EDI). Through this process, researchers and others have

gained an understanding of the overall well-being of young children in communities throughout B.C. There have been stable rates of children assessed as vulnerable in the past five years in the Central/Lower Lonsdale areas and an increase in overall vulnerability in the Grand Boulevard-Moodyville area.

HELP has identified five key actions for communities to take in order to enhance existing policies so that a positive impact on child development may be realized. These include:

- 1 Strong intersectoral leadership
- 2 A focus on local research, including EDI outcomes
- 3 Alignment between the school system and the early care, learning and development sectors
- 4 A plan to increase access to services by decreasing barriers for families
- 5 A commitment to advocacy

VULNERABILITY ON ONE OR MORE DOMAINS OF THE EDI ^{iv}

33% OF CHILDREN IN CENTRAL / LOWER LONSDALE AREA

32% OF CHILDREN IN GRAND BLVD-MOODYVILLE AREA



“Research now shows that many challenges in adult society—mental health problems, obesity, heart disease, criminality, competence in literacy and numeracy—have their roots in early childhood.”

CREATING COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN: A TOOLKIT FOR CHANGE, HUMAN EARLY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP, UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MIDDLE CHILDHOOD

6-12



During the middle years (ages 6-12 years), children spend increasing amounts of time with peers and in other environments aside from family and school settings. During this developmental period, children are discovering their talents both in school and during out-of-school pursuits, strengthening peer relationships and relationships with other caring adults. It is a critical time for adults to help create these environments that provide children opportunities to discover their strengths and passions and foster their social connections with others. Children who have these opportunities are at a much greater advantage as they enter adolescence. These are the young teens who will be more self-assured, more able to reach out for help, more able to help others and more likely to want to be an active member of their community.

Key findings of a 2011 Vancouver study,^{vii} led by Dr. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl, that focused on children in the middle years include:

- Children in Grades 6/7 who felt connected to a parent, peer, or community adult reported greater empathy towards others, higher optimism, and higher self-esteem than children who felt less connected.
- Children who engaged in structured activities after-school (e.g., sports teams, arts clubs, youth organizations) reported feeling more optimistic, more satisfied with life, and better about themselves than children who did not engage in these activities.
- Parents indicated that the main barriers to involving their children in more activities were being able to get their children to the activities and cost.

Currently in B.C., a great deal of work is being done to monitor the well-being of children in the middle years. This is being achieved through the HELP's Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI).^{viii} This tool provides communities with population-based data on the well-being of their grades 4 and 7 children in five key developmental areas known to influence healthy development. These areas include:

- Physical Health and well-being
- Connectedness
- Social and emotional development
- School experiences
- Use of after-school time

Like the EDI, communities can use their MDI data results to help them understand the current levels of well-being of children and help shape community directions in order to support the ongoing healthy development of children in the middle years. While the MDI is currently not implemented in North Vancouver, the NorthShore Middle Childhood Matters Planning Table uses the five areas of the MDI to guide their work as they strive to support communities in better meeting the needs of children 6-12 years old.

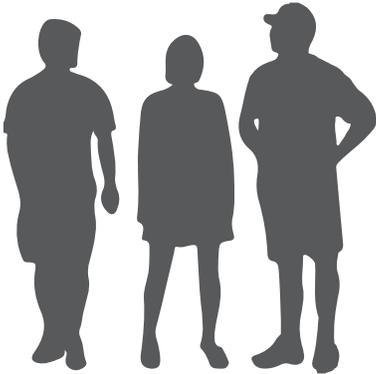
Connect for Kids (www.connectforkids.ca) is a community strategy comprised of agencies and organizations committed to supporting the development, health and wellness of young children and their families on the North Shore. Connect for Kids works to increase family access to community programs and services by addressing barriers such as language, culture, poverty, disability, and lack of awareness. Connect for Kids collects and assesses local research to guide and support community planning that enhances the lives of children ages 0-12 years.



“The neighborhood is good because it has lots of stuff like my karate classes and the drop in [activities]. The parks are good because they give you something to do outside.”

11 YEAR OLD CNV RESIDENT

YOUTH 13-18



Adolescence is a time of rapid brain development, increasing independence, and growing self awareness. While many new exciting opportunities emerge during adolescence, it is also a time of challenge. These challenges, if successfully navigated, lead to increased self-confidence. Adolescents require certain competencies and a solid support network to be successful in this stage of life. According to the Forum for Youth Investment and the Carnegie Corporation, these competencies include:

PHYSICAL COMPETENCE

Attitudes, behaviors and knowledge that will assure future health and well being;

SOCIAL COMPETENCE

Responsiveness, flexibility, empathy and caring, communication skills, a sense of humor, self-discipline, assertiveness and the ability to ask for support;

COGNITIVE COMPETENCE

Good reasoning, problem-solving and planning skills; the ability to think abstractly, reflectively and flexibly;

VOCATIONAL COMPETENCE

A sense of purpose and belief in the future, educational aspirations and adequate preparation for work and family life; and

MORAL COMPETENCE

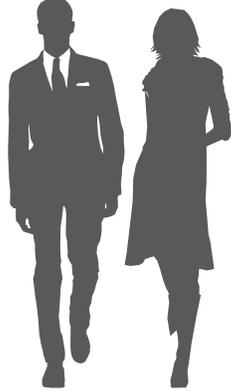
The development of character, values, and personal responsibility and a desire to be ethical and to be involved in efforts that contribute to the common good.

Research has shown that communities in which youth have higher levels of well-being are those in which adults have a shared commitment to children and youth. In the practical sense, this means that services and supports share the same vision of healthy youth development. These communities have ample opportunities for youth to access caring school and out-of-school environments and supportive adults who act as mentors and confidants.

In the community youth development model, youth are seen as having skills, knowledge and talents. Young people need to not only be fully prepared for but also fully engaged in the world in which they live. ^{ix} Opportunities are created to have youth work alongside caring and competent adults on identified community needs. The nurturing of these relationships between and among adults and youth is vital to engaging youth in their community. Through this process, youth have an opportunity to:

- Enhance their skills
- Develop leadership abilities
- Contribute to community empowerment

EMERGING ADULT 19-24



As youth complete high school, they enter into another transitional period known as ‘emerging adulthood’. This period has five distinct qualities:^x

- Identity exploration in which youth try out various possibilities in love and work
- Changing life plans as youth learn more about possibilities
- Self-focus given the decreased need to answer to others while at the same time having greater personal decision-making power
- Feelings of ‘in-between’ – no longer an adolescent but not yet an adult
- Possibilities to transform ones’ life into something meaningful

Considering that the brain is not fully developed until approximately age 21, there is now a growing recognition that youth require ongoing support as they move into their twenties. While we better understand the importance of this support, there continues to be the need to pay attention to ensuring that services are appropriately designed for this age group. To support a healthy transition into adulthood, the City funds outreach and center-based youth work for residents up to 24 years of age.

Youth who have strong family support and have developed skills are most likely to navigate this transition with success. These are youth who have had caring adults in their lives who have provided them with support as they have developed through childhood, adolescence and into emerging adulthood.

Youth who are considered to be more high risk can also make a successful transition to emerging adulthood. Research has shown that high risk youth can make a successful transition when they have:

- Second chance opportunities (e.g., work and school opportunities)
- Adequate adult support in order to take advantage of opportunities
- Better experiences at secondary school
- Higher personal expectations for future accomplishments

Currently, one of the biggest challenges faced by youth in this age group is gaining meaningful employment, which is a key factor in becoming fully engaged in society. The International Labour Organization has warned of a “scarred” generation of young workers facing a dangerous mix of high unemployment, increased inactivity and unstable work. A main issue in the labour market has been the mismatch between education and skills and employment opportunities along with limited opportunities to enter the labour market. In addition, traditional career opportunities and summer employment are currently scarcer than they were before. When youth are not able to enter the labour market, they are more likely to become adults who struggle with ongoing unemployment.



“Acts of civic engagement aim to perpetuate communities. It has become prevalent in the youth development field to deter from envisioning young people as problems that must be solved and instead focus on how they can be engaged as current community leaders.”

KENNETH JONES, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT,
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

STRATEGY STRUCTURE

The City’s child, youth and family friendly strategy is focused on five key themes, each of which has a broad goal along with action items to achieve it.



FIVE AGE GROUPS CONSIDERED



VISION + GOALS

Under each theme, a vision and goal for the City is outlined along with:

- A brief summary of highlights from consultations conducted with children, youth, emerging adults and adults
- Related strengths in the City
- Action items to achieve the goal

ACTION ITEMS

Each action item identifies ‘a target group’ for the action item, and are denoted to the right.

- EC Early childhood (0-5 years of age)
- MC Middle childhood (6-12 years of age)
- Y Youth (13-18 years of age)
- EA Emerging adulthood (19-24 years of age)
- P Parents
- ALL All ages and parents
- SP Service providers

Each action item (listed in order from least to more resources required for implementation) identifies a City lead(s) (noted in **BOLD**) for the implementation of each action item as well as departments/agency that would provide support for implementation.

- CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER DEPARTMENTS**
- CD** Community Development Department
 - COM** Communications Department
 - EPE** Engineering, Parks and Environment Department
 - HR** Human Resources Department
 - F** Finance Department
 - NVRC** North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
 - NVCL** North Vancouver City Library (City Agency)

THEME 1

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The City is a place where community members feel a strong sense of commitment to participating in civic affairs through voicing their thoughts and opinions and working together to make the quality of life the best it can be for everyone.

GOAL

To increase opportunities for children, youth and families to become involved in shaping their community.

FOCUS AREAS

1.1 Supporting the development of engaged citizens

1.2 Consultation

1.3 Engagement through giving back

THEME 1

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WHAT CHILDREN, YOUTH, EMERGING ADULTS AND ADULTS SAID

Overall, citizens report experiencing the City as being a friendly community with many resources to support children, youth and families.

Children in the middle years are particularly concerned about environmental issues and want opportunities to make a difference in the community.

Youth and emerging adults want more diverse opportunities so that they can use their talents and passions in volunteer positions including mentoring and teaching younger children in areas such as sports, art, music, reading and play-related areas; volunteering for one-time events, working with animals and supporting homeless initiatives.

Youth and emerging adults appreciate and enjoy large community youth-oriented events such as CityFest.

They also want to give their feedback on issues that impact their lives.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CNV STRENGTHS

ENGAGEMENT

The North Vancouver City Library (NVCL) supports a pre-teen and teen youth advisory council that engages approximately 30 youth and is welcoming their first youth board member in the fall of 2014.

NVCL and North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission (NVRC) spend significant amounts of time conducting outreach with community groups, schools and at events in the City.

The City has a specific role for a City Hall based community development worker who supports opportunities for youth and emerging adults to become engaged in City life.

The City celebrates Youth Week and recognizes youth and emerging adults who have made significant contributions to the community through their Civic Awards program.

The City supports the annual CityFest, which is a youth-driven event that brings together the community with the support of community partners to celebrate City life with music, food and other activities.

City and NVRC offer opportunities for youth and emerging adults to be involved with producing public art.

City staff will visit schools upon request to provide information to students on civic issues.

The City funds grants for programs and youth initiated projects for children and youth up to the age of 24.

CONSULTATION

The City has developed an official protocol for seeking public input on issues that directly impact residents.

The NVRC and NVCL regularly solicit and incorporate child and youth feedback into their programs and services planning.

GIVING BACK

At NVRC, youth and emerging adults have opportunities to volunteer in a variety of recreation programs.

At NVCL, youth have opportunities to volunteer at the library (e.g., reading with younger children, assisting adults with learning computer skills, etc.) and at special events (e.g., family movie nights in the plaza, Kilby Memorial Teen Photo contest and gala); and children in the middle years have had opportunities to volunteer at library fundraisers.

THEME 1

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood
MC Middle Childhood
Y Youth
EA Emerging Adulthood
P Parents
SP Service Providers
ALL All Ages

CD Community Development
COM Communications
EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
HR Human Resources
F Finance Department

NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
NVCL North Vancouver City Library

1.1 — Supporting the Development of Engaged Citizens

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION ¹
1.1 A	Provide training for City staff and interested partners on strategies to effectively engage younger community members in municipal activities.	EC, MC, Y, EA	CD
1.1 B	Create meaningful opportunities for children, youth and families to be involved with implementing appropriate action items of the CNV4ME strategy.	ALL	CD
1.1 C	Create a youth-friendly brochure or video that provides an overview of the City Hall governance structure, roles and responsibilities as well as how community members can become involved in civic issues.	MC, Y, EA, P	COM
1.1 D	Create an easily accessible mini grants program for residents to access for the purpose of implementing new and innovative activities that build intergenerational community connections.	MC, Y, EA, P	CD, F NVRC
1.1 E	Visit high school assemblies annually to share information with students as to the value of being engaged community members and opportunities that exist for them to become involved in the City.	Y	CD
1.1 F	Develop and promote a creative online and interactive way for children and youth to learn about civic involvement.	MC, Y, EA	COM, CD

1.2 — Consultation

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
1.2 A	Create a Mayor and Council youth advisory committee to ensure ongoing input to relevant municipal activities.	Y, EA	CD
1.2 B	Create and implement tools (e.g., surveys, thought streams, online polls etc.) and strategies (e.g., Photovoice, voting through physical movement, World Café, etc.) that would support the Mayor and Council youth advisory committee and City staff in gathering input on specific issues and projects from younger community members.	EC, MC, Y, EA	CD NVRC, NVCL, EPE

1.3 — Engagement Through Giving Back

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
1.3 A	Integrate activities and opportunities in existing community events and programs that promote the collective responsibility of all community members to take care of the City environment (e.g., proper disposal of litter, participating in activities such as weed pulls, etc).	ALL	EPE, CD
1.3 B	Expand leadership training and skill-building opportunities linked to community volunteer opportunities for youth that incorporate the diverse interests of youth.	Y, EA	NVRC, NVCL, CD
1.3 C	Create easily accessible opportunities for community- engaged art practices.	ALL	NVRC, CD

¹ Note that lead implementation facilitator(s) is noted in bold text. Other listed departments would provide support and/or consultation in their area of expertise.



THEME 2

COMMUNITY SPACES

The City is a community where residents have safe access to diverse, attractive and engaging community spaces where they can gather to play and build connections with one another.

GOAL

To ensure community spaces and the surrounding environments provide residents with various opportunities to easily connect with one another.

FOCUS AREAS

2.1 Public gathering spaces

2.2 Private gathering spaces

2.3 Playgrounds

2.4 Walkable and accessible neighbourhoods

THEME 2

COMMUNITY SPACES

WHAT CHILDREN, YOUTH, EMERGING ADULTS AND ADULTS SAID

PUBLIC GATHERING SPACES

Children, youth and families enjoy the parks in the City where they can play, have picnics or just hang out.

Shipbuilder's Square, Lonsdale Quay, Waterfront Park and Civic Plaza are favourite public spaces for people to gather. The Civic Plaza area has the potential to be used for more events and activities that would liven up the Central Lonsdale Corridor.

More seats and covered areas would allow people to gather, even in rainy weather.

Community gardens are a positive addition to the community and residents would like to see more community garden opportunities.

Public spaces that have events that are multi-cultural and multi-generational can strengthen community bonds.

Youth want larger indoor spaces where they can gather with no cost to socialize, have open mic nights and other special events (e.g., dances, coffee houses) on a regular basis.

An additional skate park in the Lower Lonsdale area would provide youth with another space in the City.

PLAYGROUNDS

Children identified many parks that they enjoy. Mahon Park is very popular due to the variety of play equipment, waterpark and access to nature. St. Andrews Park is enjoyed due to a wide variety of play choices and the safety due to the fencing around the park. Children and youth enjoy the zipline at Heywood Park. Students from Queen Mary Community Elementary School enjoy playing at the school playground because it has a variety of play spaces, they know it well and feel a connection to the school.

Including playground equipment in each park that meets the needs of a wide range of abilities and ages would increase access for children and youth. For example, having smaller swings for toddlers and larger swings for children and youth and including developmentally appropriate adventure playground equipment for children and youth.

Having washrooms near playgrounds and parks would allow more families to utilize the space.

WALKABLE AND ACCESSIBLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Residents like the convenient access to stores and services along the Lonsdale Corridor.

Some residents would like to see increased safety for pedestrians which would improve walkability in the City, particularly in the Lower Lonsdale area.

Increasing public awareness about the importance of adhering to speed limits in school zones is seen as important to many residents.

Adding buses that run more frequently through efficient routing would help more residents be able to use public transportation.

Residents are looking forward to the completion of the Green Necklace and Spirit Trail so that they can enjoy moving around the City with ease and safety.

"I like the creek at Mahon Park because it is calm, natural and peaceful."

10 YEAR OLD CNV RESIDENT

THEME 2

COMMUNITY SPACES

HIGHLIGHTS OF CNV STRENGTHS

PUBLIC GATHERING SPACES

There are many public outdoor spaces in the City that incorporate nature.

The City supported the creation of two artificial turf fields which allow for increased sports programming.

The current use of the Civic Plaza by NVCL and City to host 'Family Movie Nights' has been extremely successful and popular among residents of all ages.

NVCL is used by a wide variety of community members as a space to enjoy reading and to socialize. There are numerous programs for young children that create opportunities for parents and families to connect with one another. The library also features a youth-specific room which is very popular.

Community recreation facilities through the NVRC have numerous programs and spaces for people to gather and connect.

The City offers block party funding for neighbourhoods so that residents can connect with one another.

PLAYGROUNDS

There are several playgrounds in the City where children and some youth enjoy spending time.

The City is continually working to update playgrounds.

There are plans to incorporate a playground in the new Waterfront Park development.

The City partnered with the School District to update playgrounds at local elementary schools.

The Queen Mary Community Elementary School playground is large and accessible to neighbourhood children.

The NVRC supports the incorporation of nature in playgrounds as part of their strategic plan.

WALKABLE AND ACCESSIBLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

The City has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the North Vancouver School District to encourage the use of safe and active transportation (e.g., walking and biking) to schools. A successful 'Walking School Bus' pilot program was undertaken at Queensbury Elementary school during the 2013/2014 school year.

The Green Necklace and the Spirit Trail will be completed in the coming years and this will provide residents with more opportunities to walk or bike through the City.

Most services are centred along the Lonsdale Corridor making it possible for many people to walk to services.



THEME 2

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood
MC Middle Childhood
Y Youth
EA Emerging Adulthood
P Parents
SP Service Providers
ALL All Ages

CD Community Development
COM Communications
EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
HR Human Resources
F Finance Department

NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
NVCL North Vancouver City Library

2.1 — Public Gathering Spaces

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
2.1 A	Increase the public use of the Civic Plaza by creating opportunities for informal gatherings by providing access to materials for community members activities (e.g., games, sidewalk chalk, etc.); more formal events (e.g., musical performances, sport demonstrations, etc.); and other innovative activities/ installations that animate the space.	ALL	CD, EPE NVCL, NVRC
2.1 B	Provide ample and diverse outdoor public seating and some covered areas where residents can gather.	ALL	EPE
2.1 C	Increase the number of community gardens in the City.	ALL	EPE, CD NVRC
2.1 D	Support the creation of a vibrant and flexible large youth-designated indoor space where youth can regularly gather to socialize, use for performances, coffee houses, and other youth-focused and youth-driven activities.	Y, EA	CD NVRC
2.1 E	Incorporate a spray park in the upcoming development of Waterfront Park or Shipbuilder's Square.	ALL	EPE NVRC
2.1 F	Incorporate community living rooms in new and renovated recreation spaces to bring a variety of community members together.	ALL	NVRC

2.2 — Private Gathering Spaces

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
2.2 A	Encourage developers to incorporate amenity spaces (e.g., community gardens, outdoor picnic areas, etc.) that promote resident interaction.	ALL	EPE

2.3 — Playgrounds

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
2.3 A	Provide washroom facilities at major parks throughout the City.	ALL	EPE CD
2.3 B	Incorporate natural (e.g. trees) and man-made elements (e.g. canopies, shade) to provide sun protection.	ALL	EPE
2.3 C	Equip all larger playgrounds with play equipment and other natural features that create play value that is appealing to a wide age range of child and youth abilities.	EC, MC, Y	EPE
2.3 D	Incorporate more adventure playground equipment in existing parks that encourages more vigorous physical activity and appropriate risk-taking.	EC, MC, Y	EPE NVRC
2.3 E	Develop creative and engaging pocket parks near new developments in the City.	EC, MC, Y	EPE CD

THEME 2

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood
MC Middle Childhood
Y Youth
EA Emerging Adulthood
P Parents
SP Service Providers
ALL All Ages

CD Community Development
COM Communications
EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
HR Human Resources
F Finance Department

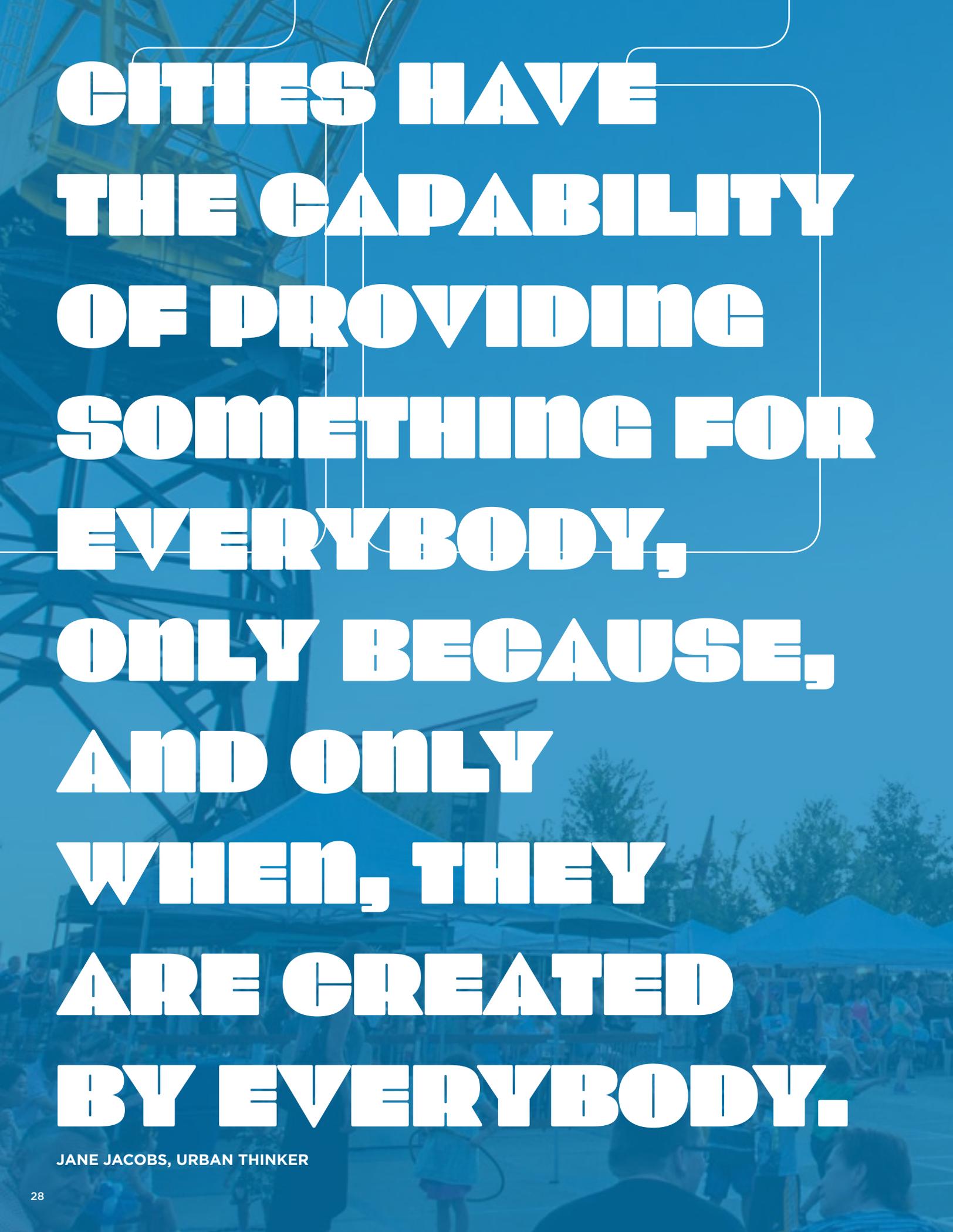
NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
NVCL North Vancouver City Library

2.4 – Walkable and Accessible Neighbourhoods

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
2.4 A	Increase infrastructure at crosswalks for pedestrians safety.	ALL	EPE
2.4 B	Continue to support parent-led traffic safety information campaigns at local schools.	ALL	CD
2.4 C	Continue to support the ‘Safe and Active School Travel’ program offered in partnership with NVSD in order to promote health and developmentally appropriate levels of independence.	MC,Y	EPE
2.4 D	Conduct public walking tours in the City that supports community members to experience art, the natural environment and cultural heritage in their community.	ALL	NVRC
2.4 E	Continue to develop the Green Necklace and the Spirit Trail multi-use pathways which will offer residents more opportunities to safely walk and cycle through the City via off-road recreational trails.	ALL	EPE
2.4 F	Install appropriate trail wayfinding signage and provide information guides to encourage pedestrians in the navigation and use of trails.	ALL	EPE
2.4 G	Continue to advocate for more public transit in the City.	ALL	EPE

“The thing I like best about living in the City of North Vancouver is the multiculturalism— from food to people to events.”

16 YEAR OLD CNV RESIDENT



**CITIES HAVE
THE CAPABILITY
OF PROVIDING
SOMETHING FOR
EVERYBODY,
ONLY BECAUSE,
AND ONLY
WHEN, THEY
ARE CREATED
BY EVERYBODY.**

JANE JACOBS, URBAN THINKER

THEME 3

HOUSING

The City is a community where families, youth, and emerging adults are able to find affordable housing that meets their needs.

GOAL

To support the creation of affordable housing for older youth, emerging adults and families that meet their needs.

FOCUS AREA

3.1 Affordable housing for families and older youth/emerging adults

THEME 3

HOUSING

WHAT CHILDREN, YOUTH, EMERGING ADULTS AND ADULTS SAID

Families need affordable housing that meets the needs of their growing family.

Many individuals struggle with the high cost of housing.

Families may live in smaller than ideal spaces due to housing affordability issues.

Older youth and emerging adults want to be able to access low cost housing.

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood	CD Community Development
MC Middle Childhood	COM Communications
Y Youth	EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
EA Emerging Adulthood	HR Human Resources
P Parents	F Finance Department
SP Service Providers	
ALL All Ages	NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
	NVCL North Vancouver City Library

HIGHLIGHTS OF CNV STRENGTHS

The City has a large stock of rental housing that they work to maintain.

As of 2011, the City was comprised of 15% single family dwellings and 85% multi-family dwellings.

There are policies in place to offer developers incentives to construct affordable and rental housing through density bonuses.

The City allows the development of smaller dwellings such as coach houses, secondary suites and small lock-off units.

In a new development at Lonsdale and 13th, some apartments will be available at reduced rents and designated for lone-parents.

The City established, and continues to grow, the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund as a tool to create more affordable housing.

3.1 – Affordable Housing for Families and Older Youth/Emerging Adults

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
3.1 A	Review development guidelines and regulations with regards to incorporating amenity spaces and other design elements in multi-family dwellings that encourage social connections among all ages.	ALL	CD
3.1 B	Support the ongoing maintenance of adequate rental units.	ALL	CD
3.1 C	Examine bylaws that ensure new developments include a mix of unit sizes that meet the diverse needs of residents.	ALL	CD
3.1 D	Further examine allowing lock-off units in a variety of housing types to allow for lower cost rentals that may be affordable to older youth and emerging adults.	Y, EA	CD
3.1 E	Include youth and family-specific housing needs when updating the City Housing Action Plan.	ALL	CD
3.1 F	Collaborate with social services providers on identifying opportunities for subsidized housing for youth and families.	ALL	CD
3.1 G	Collaborate with Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation to support new housing opportunities.	ALL	CD
3.1 H	Continue to play an advocacy role with provincial and federal levels of government for the creation of more subsidized housing in the City.	ALL	CD

THEME 4

PROGRAM DESIGN + DELIVERY

The City is a community where children, youth, emerging adults and families can access a wide variety of programs that are designed and delivered in ways that support healthy development.

GOAL

To support the development and delivery of a range of high quality programs and initiatives that can be easily accessed by children, youth and families.

FOCUS AREAS

4.1 Recreation and culture programs

4.2 Employment skills

4.3 Inclusion and access

4.4 Advocacy

4.5 Marketing and communication

THEME 4

PROGRAM DELIVERY AND DESIGN

WHAT CHILDREN, YOUTH, EMERGING ADULTS AND ADULTS SAID

RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS

Parents indicated that they found many NVRC and NVCL programs to be important supports in helping them to raise healthy children.

Parents appreciate the parent-child drop-ins at John Braithwaite Community Centre and Harry Jerome Recreation Centre.

Programs in the evenings and weekends allow working parents to access more programs for themselves and their children and provide opportunities to become more engaged in the community.

There are several recreational opportunities that children in the middle years enjoy. The most noted were formal and informal sports (e.g., basketball, soccer). The same was true for youth who enjoyed sports-related activities. Overwhelmingly, children and youth wanted more opportunities to engage in informal and formal sports and other physical activities (e.g., skateboarding, biking, dance, etc.).

Children and youth want programs where they can engage in free play and spend time with friends. They particularly enjoy having programs that are in their neighbourhood so that they can easily participate.

Some children and youth voiced wishes to have more access to art-related activities.

Emerging adults want more opportunities to be mentors to younger children in recreational activities (e.g., teaching children how to skateboard, play soccer, basketball, etc.).

Youth want more one-time events such as youth dances, films and open mic nights.

Emerging adults want more opportunities for programs and services that meet their needs for recreation and socialization (e.g., recreational teams, art and music opportunities) in this transitional period.

EMPLOYMENT SKILLS

Youth and emerging adults voiced concerns that there is not enough support for employment.

Youth and emerging adults are struggling to gain employment experience.

Youth and emerging adults want more access to programs that address employment-related skills such as resume writing and interviewing skills.

INCLUSION AND ACCESS

Parents appreciate the number of free and low-cost programs offered through NVRC and NVCL.

Certain community programs and services are felt to be inaccessible due to higher fees and inconvenient hours of operation.

After school activities that children and youth can access at no cost make activities more accessible for some younger community members.

Not all youth and families are aware of the variety of program subsidies available through NVRC or local sports organizations.

Parents who were able to access support for their child with special needs found services to be very helpful. Some parents found it challenging to access adequate levels of support.

Youth, emerging adults and parents want more access to affordable or free services for general counselling and more intensive support for mental health concerns.

Some programs could benefit from strategies that would allow greater inclusiveness for individuals who have language barriers and those with special needs.

Parents find the parenting classes and health services offered through community organizations very beneficial and supportive.

While there are many high quality childcare centres, the cost of care continues to place a burden on families.

THEME 4

ADVOCACY

The City is active member of the North Shore Child Care Planning Committee which is involved in advocating for affordable childcare.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

Most individuals get information online and through face-to-face interactions with community and school staff or friends.

Having information accessible in other languages aside from English would assist newcomers in accessing information.

A youth-friendly website serving as a one-stop site for all youth-related information along with social media strategies would help make information more accessible.

Maximizing the existing potential of the Connect for Kids website would continue to provide a one-stop site for all programs and services for children ages 0-12 years.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CNV STRENGTHS

RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS

Early Childhood There are a wide variety of high quality no-cost and low-cost programs available for parents and young children through NVRC, NVCL as well as other community agencies.

There have been increasing efforts to offer programming for young children and parents that meet the needs of working parents.

NVCL's new 'Play and Learn' initiative provides parents and children with easily accessible opportunities to engage in early literacy activities together.

The City supports the use of Early Development Instrument data to shape programs and services.

Middle Childhood The City funds a community-based development worker whose role it is to engage, share information with and support parents of children who attend elementary schools located in the City.

NVCL and NVRC have numerous programs that are designed specifically for children in the middle years,

including a preteen group at Harry Jerome that is offered once a week and a City pre-teen group offered through a community organization.

The City funds a youth worker whose focus is supporting children in the middle years through community programs and activities.

Through the work of the Middle Years Table, efforts are being undertaken to increase programming that focuses on supporting the healthy development of children in the middle years using the MDI assessment areas as a framework.

Youth and Emerging Adults The City provides funding to a local community organization in order to hire youth workers to provide outreach and centre-based programming and other supports to youth ages 10-24 years.

Youth and emerging adults have access to youth lounges at Harry Jerome and John Braithwaite Community Centre. Here, they can participate in a variety of activities at the youth lounges including open gym several nights a week at John Braithwaite and twice a week at Harry Jerome.

Youth workers are available to connect with youth and emerging adults to offer support, facilitate referrals to services and provide recreational opportunities.

Through Studio in the City (the City's art-based youth employment program), youth and emerging adults have opportunities to gain experience in the arts and culture field.

NVRC offers employment and volunteer opportunities for youth and emerging adults; NVCL offers volunteer opportunities for youth.

NVCL offers daily afterschool programs in the youth room located in the Library.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

The City is developing a youth-friendly website to serve as an information platform.

The City is exploring ways to improve community interactions through social media and residents can sign up to receive a City newsletter via email.

Community partners are engaged in getting information out to children, youth and families.

THEME 4

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood
MC Middle Childhood
Y Youth
EA Emerging Adulthood
P Parents
SP Service Providers
ALL All Ages

CD Community Development
COM Communications
EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
HR Human Resources
F Finance Department

NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
NVCL North Vancouver City Library

4.1 – Recreation and Culture Programs

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
4.1 A	Create events and initiatives that promote the value of informal and free play.	EC, MC,Y	NVRC
4.1 B	Enhance existing no-cost/low-cost afterschool, summer recreation and culture drop-in program opportunities for children that are based in neighbourhood parks and other community spaces.	MC	NVRC, NVCL
4.1 C	Continue to increase the number of recreation and cultural programs for children that parents can access during evenings and weekends.	EC, MC	NVRC, NVCL
4.1 D	Increase the number of opportunities for younger community members to practice, present and explore creative self-expression in a supportive, safe and collaborative environment.	MC, Y, EA	NVRC, CD
4.1 E	Increase the number of opportunities for younger community members to publicly showcase their creative works (e.g., music, art, film etc.).	MC, Y, EA	NVRC, CD

4.2 – Employment Skills

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
4.2 A	Increase the number of opportunities for youth to gain diverse work experience (e.g. job shadowing, summer internships, mentoring children at drop-in programs).	Y, EA	NVRC, NVCL, CD HR
4.2 B	Explore opportunities to collaborate with community organizations in order to host career forums that bring together professionals from various employment sectors and younger community members with the goal of sharing information about different career paths, employment skills and work experience opportunities.	Y, EA	CD NVCL, HR

THEME 4

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood
MC Middle Childhood
Y Youth
EA Emerging Adulthood
P Parents
SP Service Providers
ALL All Ages

CD Community Development
COM Communications
EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
HR Human Resources
F Finance Department

NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
NVCL North Vancouver City Library

4.3 — Inclusion and Access

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
4.3 A	Examine ways to increase awareness of and engage more eligible residents in the Recreation Access Program.	ALL	NVRC CD
4.3 B	Identify underutilized community spaces that can be used for additional programming and services by municipal or other community organizations.	ALL	CD NVRC, NVCL
4.3 C	Examine ways to provide extra support (e.g., volunteers, practicum students, etc.) at programs and services to assist individuals who may have language barriers and those with special needs.	ALL	ALL
4.3 D	Support the development of more programming and services for early prevention for children-at-risk in the middle years by designing programs that build strengths in the areas outlined in the Early Development Instrument (EDI) and the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI).	MC	NVRC, NVCL, CD

4.4 — Advocacy

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
4.4 A	Through the North Shore Child Care Planning Committee, continue to advocate for affordable childcare.	EC, MC	CD
4.4 B	Advocate for increased mental health services that encompass the continuum of services from prevention to intervention.	MC, Y, EA	CD
4.4 C	Advocate for increased programs and services that support employment initiatives.	Y, EA	CD
4.4 D	Advocate for greater services and support for youth transitioning out of care.	Y, EA	CD

4.5 — Marketing and Communication

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
4.5 A	Support the Connect for Kids website to promote it as a one-stop site for all information on programs and services for young children, children in the middle years and parenting issues.	A	COM NVRC, NVCL
4.5 B	Create and promote a youth-friendly website and related social media that provides up-to-date information on all programs, services and opportunities for youth in the City including links to all key organizations.	Y, EA	COM NVRC, NVCL
4.5 C	Encourage the inclusion of translation capabilities on all City and community partner websites.	MC, Y, EA, P	COM



THEME 5

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The City is an active partner with well-coordinated local organizations that provide children, youth, emerging adults and families with timely information so that they can access opportunities, supports and services for healthy development.

GOAL

To foster a highly collaborative environment in which community partners work together to achieve positive outcomes for children, youth and families.

FOCUS AREA

5.1 Supporting Collaboration

THEME 5

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

WHAT ADULTS SAID

Developing deep working relationships through partnership takes time and commitment. Presently, there are several strong working relationships in the City.

Working together on projects, initiatives and events can strengthen partnerships. There are several opportunities (e.g., greater collaboration on events in which partner expertise complements one another) that could be seized to enhance collaboration among partners in the City.

Greater information sharing and stronger partnerships among community service providers would ensure that all children, youth and families receive more programming and services information and greater access to effective support from a variety of services that span prevention to intervention.

Partnerships that allow for cost-sharing opportunities through activities such as space-sharing, professional development training and program delivery can improve the use of limited funding.

Advocacy efforts can be stronger when partners work together.

Organizations identify underutilized spaces so that partners can utilize them for other activities allowing more community members to access services.

Using available data (e.g., results from EDI, McCreary Adolescent Health survey, Vancouver Coastal Health community survey) for program and service planning is important.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CNV STRENGTHS

The City hosts the Youth Coalition in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health, which brings together youth-serving agencies across the North Shore.

The City, along with the Districts of North and West Vancouver, participate in several community tables that strive to address specific issues in the areas of healthy early childhood development, childcare, programming for children in the middle years, youth, substance use, mental health and violence-related issues.

The City supports community tables through the provision of meeting space and other resources.

The City works closely with community partners to identify needs of various populations in order to incorporate this information into community planning.

The City partners with community organizations to support grant-seeking opportunities.

NVCL and NVRC work in partnership with multiple community agencies to develop and deliver programming for children, youth and families.

“To improve our communities – to make them places where people are healthy, safe, and cared for—takes a lot of work. As community organizers, we know all too well that we can’t do it alone. The ability to partner effectively with other individuals and organizations—both inside and outside the community is absolutely essential to doing what we like to call ‘the work’ of building healthy communities.”

THE COMMUNITY TOOLBOX

THEME 5

ACTION POINTS

EC Early Childhood
MC Middle Childhood
Y Youth
EA Emerging Adulthood
P Parents
SP Service Providers
ALL All Ages

CD Community Development
COM Communications
EPE Engineering, Parks, + Environment
HR Human Resources
F Finance Department

NVRC North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission
NVCL North Vancouver City Library

5.1 — Supporting Collaboration

	ACTION	TARGET GROUP	IMPLEMENTATION
5.1 A	Continue to support the collaboration of community organizations through the provision of physical space for meetings.	SP	CD
5.1 B	Continue to have City representation at community planning tables that address issues related to children, youth and families.	SP	CD
5.1 C	Support organizations in their efforts to better understand population-based data results and how they can inform program design.	SP	CD NVRC
5.1 D	Increase the number of opportunities for cross-sectoral professional development related to issues the implementation of the CNV4ME Strategy (e.g., using social media to engage youth, supporting youth with mental health concerns, effective strategies for engaging at-risk youth, etc.).	SP	CD
5.1 E	Continue to support community organizations seeking provincial or federal grants to enhance services for children, youth and families.	SP	ALL DEPARTMENTS
5.1 F	Create an cross-sectoral strategy to enhance partner communication and information sharing regarding all partner programs, services, events and opportunities available to younger community members and their parents.	SP	CD
5.1 G	Continue to support community service provider efforts to increase programming and supports for children and youth with diverse needs that allow them to be more included in the community.	SP	ALL DEPARTMENTS

IMPLEMENTATION + RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Engage City departments and agencies in order to develop an implementation plan for the City Child, Youth and Family-Friendly Strategy action items.

2

Ensure that each action item is implemented in a way that maximizes the engagement of children, youth and/or families and supports the strengthening of social connections.

3

Assign a lead City staff person who will oversee the implementation of the CNV4ME strategy action items for which City departments are responsible.

4

Integrate performance monitoring of the strategy with the Official City Plan performance monitoring efforts.

5

Ensure public reporting on progress to achieving action items.

ENDNOTES

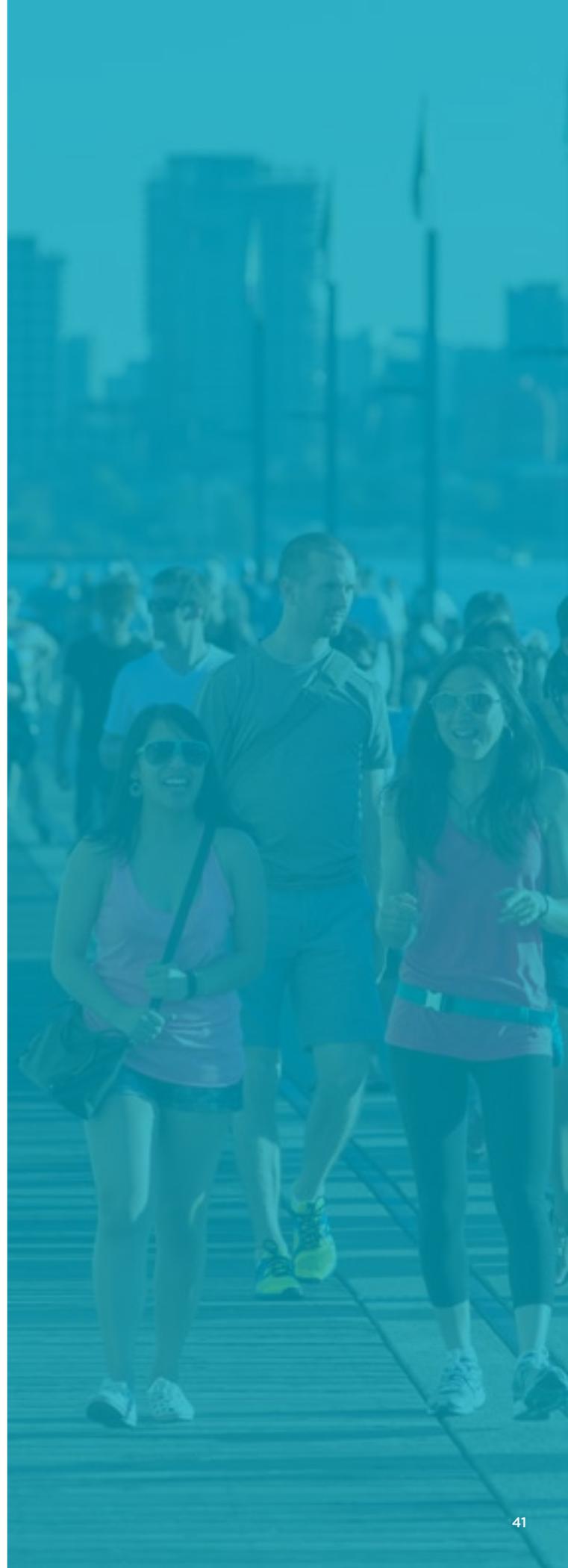
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APPENDIX A

DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGY



ESTABLISHING LINES OF INQUIRY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

As a starting point for the CNV4ME consultation process, the work on child and youth friendly communities, undertaken by the Society for Children and Youth of B.C., was reviewed. Their framework includes 19 domains (e.g., arts & culture, social services, health services, parks and open spaces, etc.) that should be considered when communities strive to be child and youth friendly.

It was decided that rather than pre-select a small number of specific domains for the CNV4ME consultation program, the process would include a wide variety of stakeholders from diverse sectors in order to explore as many of the domains as possible. In this way, key themes related to the City's strengths, challenges and opportunities as a child, youth and family friendly community were revealed.

LOOKING TO OTHER AREAS

In developing CNV4ME, related documents from other jurisdictions in various parts of the world were reviewed to determine what is being done to enhance child, youth and family friendliness in other cities. In B.C., Surrey and Abbotsford have completed similar strategies and their work has influenced the development of CNV4ME; New Westminster is currently in the midst of their strategy development.

REVIEWING EXISTING CNV POLICIES, PLANS + RELATED DOCUMENTS

All City policy documents relating to children, youth and family issues were reviewed in order to understand relevant existing materials and the degree to which action has been taken on these policies. In addition, research findings from past community consultations were reviewed to understand reoccurring themes and changing trends in issues and needs as it relates to child, youth and family friendliness.

PREPARING FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

City staff assisted in identifying key staff and community stakeholders to engage in interviews with the goal of exploring existing strengths, current or emerging challenges and areas in which the City has some influence to affect change as it relates to child, youth and family friendliness.

Through the process of engaging stakeholders, additional individuals were invited to provide input when gaps were revealed in the understanding of specific issues (e.g., youth homeless, child and youth mental health etc.) relating to issues regarding child, youth and family friendliness in the community. Children, youth and parents were reached through various means including schools, community organizations and online surveys. All consultations took place between April 2014 and July 2014.

APPENDIX A

DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGY

CONSULTING CHILD, YOUTH + PARENTS

Included in consultations for the strategy were 1,188 children (ages 4-12), youth (ages 13-18), emerging adults (ages 19-24), as well as parents. One-on-one conversations, focus groups, surveys, art and polling strategies were used to collect perspectives on a wide variety of issues that influence the degree to which the City is experienced by these members of the community. Input was also collected regarding potential opportunities to increase child, youth and family friendliness.

CONSULTING STAFF + COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

Sixteen staff from several City departments provided their perspectives on current municipal activities, challenges, as well as opportunities to enhance child, youth and family friendliness.

Fifty-three representatives from a wide range of community organizations were consulted in order to provide perspectives on strengths in the City and the larger contextual issues impacting child, youth and family friendliness. Stakeholders were also invited to suggest actions that can be supported by the City that would increase child, youth and family friendliness.

CREATING THE STRATEGY

This extensive community consultation resulted in a large amount of data that highlighted numerous CNV strengths and some opportunities to increase child, youth and family friendliness. Given that this is a municipal strategy, data that supported Action Items over which the City has influence were included in the final strategy.

The document was reviewed by City staff and associated departments in order to gain their perspectives on Action Items and to better understand resource needs to undertake Action Items. Action Items were further refined and reviewed by stakeholders. As the strategy reflects many of the policies and plans already underway by the City, Action Items were cross-referenced with selected documents to highlight synergies with current CNV work.

APPENDIX B

ALIGNMENT WITH CNV POLICIES + PLANS

	CNV4ME ACTION POINT	KEY RELATED CNV POLICIES AND PLANS AND THEIR ALIGNMENT WITH CNV4ME ACTIONS							
		Civic Youth Strategy	Youth Employment Strategy	Child Care Policy and Plan	Child and Family Community Charter	CNV Public Arts Program	Parks Master Plan	Housing Action Plan	Long-Term Transportation Plan
SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENGAGED CITIZENS	1.1.a	•							
	1.1.b	•							
	1.1.c	•							
	1.1.d	•				•			
	1.1.e	•							
	1.1.f	•							
CONSULTATION	1.2.a	•							
	1.2.b	•							
ENGAGEMENT THROUGH GIVING BACK	1.3.a	•							
	1.3.b	•	•						
	1.3.c	•				•			
PUBLIC GATHERING SPACES	2.1.a					•			
	2.1.b						•	•	
	2.1.c						•	•	
	2.1.d	•				•			
	2.1.e								
	2.1.f								
PRIVATE GATHERING SPACES	2.2.a						•	•	
PLAYGROUNDS	2.3.a						•	•	
	2.3.b						•	•	
	2.3.c						•	•	
	2.3.d						•	•	
	2.3.e						•	•	
WALKABLE AND ACCESSIBLE NEIGHBOURHOODS	2.4.a								•
	2.4.b								•
	2.4.c								•
	2.4.d					•			•
	2.4.e						•	•	•
	2.4.f						•	•	•
	2.4.g								•
AFFORDABLE HOUSING	3.1.a								
	3.1.b							•	
	3.1.c							•	
	3.1.d							•	
	3.1.e	•						•	
	3.1.f							•	
	3.1.g							•	
	3.1.h								
	3.1.i								
RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS	4.1.a	•							
	4.1.b	•				•			
	4.1.c	•				•			
	4.1.d	•	•			•			
	4.1.e	•				•			
EMPLOYMENT SKILLS	4.2.a	•	•			•			
	4.2.b	•	•						
INCLUSION AND ACCESS	4.3.a	•							
	4.3.b	•							
	4.3.c	•	•						
	4.3.d	•							
ADVOCACY	4.4.a			•	•				
	4.4.b	•			•				
	4.4.c	•							
	4.4.d	•							
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION	4.5.a	•							
	4.5.b	•							
	4.5.c	•							
SUPPORTING COLLABORATION	5.1.a	•			•				
	5.1.b	•			•				
	5.1.c	•			•				
	5.1.d	•			•				
	5.1.e	•			•				
	5.1.f	•			•				
	5.1.g	•			•				

APPENDIX C

CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to Mayor and Council for their support in undertaking this strategy development.

The development of the strategy was heavily informed by work in this area undertaken by the City of Surrey. We are grateful to have had the benefit of their experience.

Thank you to the Society for Children and Youth of BC for being leaders in championing the importance of child, youth and family friendly cities.

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