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~ With Gratitude ~

Thank you to neurodiverse youth, families and community partners who share their knowledge, experience, and resources used to create these monthly lists. The range of topics covered are based on the intersectionality presented by neurodiverse youth in their transition planning processes and those areas families have highlighted as useful in keeping them in a position to offer ongoing support.

If you have resources you'd like to share feel free to email it to me at julian.wilson@gov.bc.ca.
Wishing you happy planning folks!

1.0 Art, Theatre, Singing, Dance & Recreational Programs

Arts New West – Summer Sketching by the river – Free Drawing Classes | Thursdays August 10 to 31 from 2 to 4 PM for Teens and from 6 to 8 PM for Adults | View Online: [Summer Sketching by the River - Free Drawing Classes in August - Arts Council of New Westminster \(artscouncilnewwest.org\)](https://www.artscouncilnewwest.org/summer-sketching-by-the-river-free-drawing-classes-in-august)

Join the Arts Council of New Westminister and River Market for Summer Sketching by the River. This series of free drawing classes will take place throughout the month of August. Local artist and experienced art teacher Sherida Charles will offer drawing tips as you capture the beauty and movement of the Fraser River.

City of Burnaby – BC Day at Burnaby Village Museum | Monday August 7, 2023 | View Online: [BC Day | Burnaby Village Museum](https://www.burnaby.ca/BC-Day-at-Burnaby-Village-Museum)

Enjoy BC Day at the Burnaby Village Museum! On Monday, August 7, you can learn simple circus skills from Vancouver Circus School, enjoy live entertainment, special art activities, demonstrations and displays throughout the day. Swing by from 11 am to 4:30 pm.

City of Burnaby – Blues Roots Festival Featuring Buffy Sainte-Marie | Saturday August 12 | View Online: [Burnaby Blues + Roots Festival \(burnabybluesfestival.com\)](https://www.burnabybluesfestival.com)

On Saturday, August 12, we're bringing you a free day of blues and roots music surrounded by the beauty of Burnaby's Deer Lake Park. Don't miss the legendary Buffy Sainte-Marie along with several other excellent performers including Allison Russell, The Dip, Boy Golden and The Trade-Offs.

Gates open at 1 pm, so come early for free family activities and food trucks, bring a blanket or chair and a picnic and settle in for an incredible day of music.

City of Burnaby – Outdoor Movies with Summer Cinema | [View Movie Schedule](#)
Online: [Summer Cinema | City of Burnaby](#)

Beginning Friday, August 4, you and your family can enjoy free, outdoor movies at Civic Square every Friday at 8:15 pm until September 1. Just bring a blanket or chair, some movie snacks and enjoy the show!

City of Burnaby – Summer Stages Free Concert Series | [Various Dates](#) | [View Online: Summer Stages | City of Burnaby](#)

Celebrate the summer with a free live performance series! Bring a blanket or a chair and join us at Confederation Park (by the spray park). Two show times every Tuesday to Friday: 12 pm and 2 pm!

City of New Westminster – Pride Film Feast | [August 18, 2023 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM](#) |
View Online: [New West Pride Film Feast Tickets, Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

It's the New West Pride pre-party! Let's get the fun started with a free screening of short indie films that uplift LGBTQ+ voices. Join us in celebrating a beautiful collection of visual stories of love, life, identity and queer perspectives.

Powell Street Festival Accessibility | [August 5 and 6, 2023](#) | [View Online: Getting Here - Powell Street Festival Society](#)

Come celebrate Canadian Japanese culture at the annual Powell Street Festival this upcoming long weekend! [Click Here](#) to see the full festival program.

Accessible seating areas are at each performance venue, and a Senior's Tent with priority seating is in front of the Diamond Stage. Wheelchair accessible toilets will also

be on-site. ASL interpretation is available for some events. See the Festival Schedule for more details.

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts – Art Program Options | View Online: [Arts Programs | City of Burnaby](#)

At the Shadbolt, our programs are designed to develop your artistic creativity and skills. Our instructors are renowned artists and skilled specialists who create curriculum that is geared to a variety of ages and abilities. We have available:

- Ceramics & Kiln rentals
- Dance: Modern, Ballet, Tap, Jazz, etc.
- Creative Writing
- Media Arts
- Music
- Theatre & Film
- Visual Arts and
- Community Programs

Spectrum Health – Personal Trainer | View Online: [Spectrum Health | Personal Trainer | Burnaby \(mbspectrumhealth.com\)](#)

Mobile personal training for adults with physical and intellectual disabilities that can be accessed using respite or private funds.

The Reach Abbotsford – Open Studio Dates | August 12, 16 and September 9, 2023 from 1 to 4 PM | View Online: [Open Studio : The Reach](#)

Bring your art supplies and current small projects to make art and socialize at the Reach! Join artist Jennifer Shepit in the Community Arts Space for coffee and conversation while working on any non-toxic medium you enjoy.

Vancouver Mural Festival | August 4 to 13, 2023 | View Online: [VMF Mobile App — Vancouver Mural Festival \(VMF\) \(vanmuralfest.ca\)](#)

The Vancouver Mural Festival is back on August 4-13 for 10 jam-packed days and we can't wait to showcase over 20 new murals across Metro Vancouver.

Join us as we celebrate the beauty, culture, and diversity of Vancouver through the many talented local and international artists from backgrounds in gallery-centric fine art, tattoo, street art, graffiti, traditional and contemporary Indigenous design, and more.

2.0 Community-Based Developmental & Social Programs

City of Burnaby – MLA Hosted Summer BBQ | Saturday August 5, 2023 | View Online: www.peterjulian.ca/summer_bbg_2023

Join the Annual Summer BBQ co-hosted by MP Peter Julian and MLA Raj Chouhan on Saturday August 5 from noon to 2PM at Edmonds Park in Burnaby!

This event is free of charge and will include hot dogs, refreshments, live music, and fun family-friendly activities. Let's come together to celebrate our great community, while supporting our local food hubs to stock up by collecting non-perishable food items.

City of New Westminster – Waterfront Fun Various Activities | View Online: [Waterfront Fun 2023 | City of New Westminster \(newwestcity.ca\)](#)

Head to Westminster Pier Park, Columbia Street, and the Waterfront Esplanade to enjoy free activities in August and September, including street festivals, markets, live music, and more. Highlights include Yoga in the Park, Circus Sundays, Story Time Fun, an outdoor movie, and the ever-popular Music by the River.

Down Syndrome Resource Foundation – 2023/24 Group Programs – Almost Full |
View Online: [Group Programs - Down Syndrome Resource Foundation \(dsrf.org\)](https://www.dsrf.org/group-programs)

We're just 6 weeks out from the start of DSRF's 2023-24 educational and recreational programs for adults with Down syndrome, and there are just a few spots left for anyone who wants to get in on the fun and learning. We currently have space available in [Money Math + Budgeting](#), [GROW \(Gaining Relationships and Occupational Wins\)](#), [Speaking Out](#), and [Taekwondo](#). Register now before classes fill up!

Laurel Behavior Support Services | View Online: [Home - Laurel Behaviour Support Services \(laurelbc.ca\)](https://www.laurelbc.ca)

Laurel Behaviour Support Services is offered by posAbilities Association of BC. Our services are individualized and responsive to the needs of children, youth and adults with and without autism and other intellectual disabilities. We work together with families and other members of the support team to increase an individual's independence across a variety of home, school and community settings.

[New Westminster Craft – Summer Markets](#) | Various Saturday Summer Dates | 11 AM to 4 PM at the River Market in New Westminster

New West Craft is a handmade market hosted by the Arts Council of New Westminster. New West Craft aims to provide a welcoming environment for crafters, artisans, and makers to share their work with the community. Our markets take place on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month from 11 am to 4 pm at River Market in downtown New Westminster (810 Quayside Drive).

New Westminster Arts Council – Call for 2024 Diverse Artists | View Online: [Call for Artists \(artscouncilnewwest.org\)](https://www.artscouncilnewwest.org)

The Arts Council wishes to highlight the diversity of our community, and in order to break down any exclusionary barriers and create a platform for marginalized voices,

artists on the LGBTQ+ spectrum, non-binary artists, artists of colour, Indigenous artists, and disabled artists, are strongly encouraged to submit. Please indicate in your submission, if you identify as any of the above.

Pivot Point Family Growth Centre | View Online: [Welcome to Pivot Point – Celebrating 20 Years! - Pivot Point Family Growth Centre Inc.](#)

Pivot Point is a social service agency for children, youth and adults with autism and diverse abilities throughout BC. Simply put, we are passionate about creating positive change!

- We support behavioural, emotional, psychological, and educational needs
- We are committed to supporting your whole family

Unique Get Together Society | View Online: [Programs | Unique Get Together Society](#)

UGTS offers a range of support programs including services for children with special needs, employment for people with disabilities program, and Indigenous focusing-oriented therapy program.

3.0 Education (Post-Secondary) Resources & Supports

Douglas College – Modified Post-Secondary Programs | View Online: [Apply - EducationPlannerBC](#)

To attend Douglas College's Local Industry Skills Training programs (formerly known as Vocational Education Studies - VEST) the first step is to complete the Education Planner BC Registration: [Apply - EducationPlannerBC](#).

Also, the names of programs have changed so as you apply to Douglas College and VEST, you'll need to request:

Fit and Ready for Skills Training (FRST): used to be the Transitions program |
View Online: [Fit and Ready for Skills Training | Douglas College](#)

The Fit and Ready for Skills Training Program is a part-time program for students with barriers to education and employment who are in Grade 12 or Grade 12+ or have recently finished high school. The program is designed to assist students in making successful exits from secondary school into training or workplace settings.

Local Industry Skills Training (LIST): used to be the Basic Occupation Education (BOE) programs including retail, foods and electronics | View Online: [Local Industry Skills Training | Douglas College](#)

The LIST Program trains students for employment in three industry sectors:

1. [Electronic and General Assembly](#) (now includes bike assembly)
2. [Food Services](#) (now includes barista/food prep training)
3. [Retail and Business Services](#)

****Even if you believe you're on a waitlist at Douglas College for VEST programs, please go ahead and apply through Education Planner BC.****

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) – Literacy Communities Program (LCOM) Info Session | View Program Info Online: [Literacy Communities | KPU.ca - Kwantlen Polytechnic University](#)

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) offers its Literacy Communities Program (LCOM) to help students with intellectual disabilities learn and practice primary language, math and computer skills using Individualized Learning Plans.

Criteria:

- A permanent disability or combination of learning difficulties that have hindered academic success
- Ability to navigate campus safely and independently
- Available to attend both semesters: September 2023-April 2024.

- Selection is based on an interview and assessment with faculty.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University – Employment and Community Studies | [View Online: Employment and Community Studies | KPU.ca - Kwantlen Polytechnic University](#)

This program is designed for students with diverse learning needs that hinder educational success.

The EACS courses and learning experiences will prepare students for lifelong learning, employment, and community engagement opportunities. Students will participate in hands-on learning and work experience opportunities. The course topics focus on:

- Employability
- Social Justice
- Communication
- Advocacy
- Technology

Kwantlen Polytechnic University – Including All Citizens Pathway | [View Online: INCLUDING ALL CITIZENS PATHWAY \(IACP\) | KPU.ca - Kwantlen Polytechnic University](#)

Including All Citizens Pathway (IACP) is a student-centered learning environment where everyone is included and valued on equal basis. It is one of the first for-credit fully inclusive programs to include students with intellectual, developmental, and/or learning disabilities on par with their peers. IACP does not adapt or modify courses. IACP is all about transforming teaching using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles making each course fully accessible and inclusive. IACP students are working towards their Faculty of Arts Certificate which includes ten academic courses, 30 credits that are fully transferable.

StepsForward- Fall 2023 Openings | [Student Openings - WWW.BC-IPSE.ORG](https://www.bc-ipse.org)

Applications for Fall 2023 are now open. If you are interested, please register for an info session to learn more about inclusive and equitable post-secondary education, support from the BC Initiative for Inclusive Post-secondary Education, and details about the application process.

If you are interested in a campus that you do not see listed, this means there are no openings at that University this upcoming Fall. Please see our staff directory to connect with the campus facilitator for more information on anticipated application openings.

Current openings are outside the Lower Mainland at:

1. Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT - Merritt)
2. College of the Rockies (COTR - Cranbrook)
3. University of British Columbia - Okanagan (UBCO Kelowna)

Vancouver Community College – Community and Career Education Department Programs | View Online: [Adult special education - Vancouver Community College \(vcc.ca\)](https://www.vcc.ca/adult-special-education/)

VCC's Community and Career Education (CACE) Department offers adult special education [programs and courses for students with disabilities](#).

Areas of study include [career awareness and exploration](#), [food service careers](#), [retail and hospitality](#), [computer applications](#), [literacy](#), and [numeracy](#).

Group tours are also welcome.

4.0 Employment & Volunteer Opportunities & Job Skill Training Programs

CanAssist Report – Youth Survey Report: Provincial Employment Strategy for Youth with Disabilities | View Online: [ESYD Youth Survey Report Web.pdf](#)

The following report was prepared by the Provincial Employment Strategy for Youth with Disabilities project team at CanAssist at the University of Victoria. It contains summaries of the opinions, experiences, and perspectives of Youth Survey respondents who self-identify as having disabilities (including mental health and substance use challenges).

CLBC – Board Director Opening for Self-Advocate | Application Deadline August 20, 2023 | Plain Language Position Description: [Notice-of-Board-Vacancy-Plain-Language-July-2023.pdf \(communitylivingbc.ca\)](#) | To Apply: [Position Details \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

As of January 1, 2024, there will be one director position open on the [CLBC Board of Directors](#) for a person who is eligible for support from CLBC.

The CLBC Board governs the overall way CLBC does its work. This includes responsibilities like approving CLBC's strategic plan and making sure there is a way to know if the services and supports provided by CLBC make a difference for the people they serve.

Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society | View Online: [Trade Builders Program - Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society \(pics.bc.ca\)](#)

The Trade Builders project is intended to increase the labour force participation of young adults aged 16 to 29 in BC, who are generally employment ready. The Program is designed to support Participants over the weeks in person in Surrey and online, by exploring different programs, taking assessments, and ultimately choosing a career path in developing and implementing an Occupational Training Plan and successfully completing the training and certification required to attain meaningful, sustainable employment or training.

Ready Willing Able – Labor Market Facilitator – Full Time Job | View Online: [Labour-Market-Facilitator-Job-Posting-RWA-2023-2.pdf \(inclusionbc.org\)](#)

The Labour Market Facilitator (LMF) is responsible and accountable for the successful delivery of the Ready, Willing and Able (RWA) Initiative, in accordance with its policy and practice parameters. This position seeks to generate business demand to hire inclusively and share this demand with employment service agencies supporting job seekers with an intellectual disability and/or ASD.

United Nations – Seeking Young Language Learners | Anticipated Application Launch Date August 2023 | For More Info Email: sarah.newton@unac.org

Looking for Young Language Learners to participate in a project to include Yukon Native language in a project to promote work on the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#). Youth will work with knowledge holders to develop words and phrases that connect indigenous knowledge to the stages of developing a project, and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Youth will be compensated with a flat rate of \$750.

United Nations – Apply for the Canada 2023 Model UN Forum on UNDRIP | October 13 to 15, 2023 | Location: Vancouver BC | View Online: [UNA-Canada 2023 Model UN Forum on UNDRIP \(clickup.com\)](#)

Are you between the ages of 15 and 25? Experience the transformative power of learning about the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) through our Model UN Forum in Vancouver. Join us to explore the significance of UNDRIP and its application in Canada. With expert guidance from subject matter experts, and Canadian mentors, including Indigenous communities, you'll gain empathy-based knowledge of UNDRIP's articles and its impacts.

Apply now for this unique opportunity to develop diplomacy, critical thinking, and empathy skills, while connecting with passionate individuals fighting for social justice and human rights.

StrongerBC Future Skills Grant | View Online: [StrongerBC future skills grant \(educationplannerbc.ca\)](https://educationplannerbc.ca/strongerbc-future-skills-grant)

The StrongerBC future skills grant is open to British Columbians aged 19 years or older – regardless of financial need – and covers up to \$3,500 per person for eligible short-term skills training at public post-secondary institutions.

If you are receiving EI, BCEA, or Income Support, or if you are working with a WorkBC Employment Counsellor, you should talk to your Support Worker or Case Manager. They will be able to help you through the process and make sure you don't lose any benefits.

5.0 Financial, Food Security, Housing & Living Supports

Applying for PWD Benefits | View Online: [Access income and disability assistance services - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov2/serv/bc/pwd/benefits)

To put in a service request for PWD Benefits, you must create a MySelfServe account. You can complete it by:

1. Applying online | [My Self Serve - Home \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov2/serv/bc/pwd/benefits)
2. Calling toll-free 1-866-866-0800. Press 1 then press 4 then follow stated directions | [Access income and disability assistance services - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov2/serv/bc/pwd/benefits)

BC Food Banks – Find a Food Bank Directory | View Online: [Find a Food Bank | Food Banks BC](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov2/serv/bc/foodbanks)

To find a member food bank in your community click on the map for the locations or check by city.

No food bank in your community? Check with the nearest location to you. Sometimes our rural members have additional depots in nearby communities too.

BC Housing – Creating A File | View Online:

housingapplication.bchousing.org/olf/faces/welcome.jsessionid=tgC88NpE6LdcWydNbS0YVlxjindoVhtYI4QViXWcJbXywpX6Rg9AQ!861454922?_afLoop=46392995453173099&_afWindowMode=2&Adf-Window-Id=w1a1njyo5rj&_afFS=16&_afMT=screen&_afMFW=1225&_afMFH=609&_afMFDW=1280&_afMFDH=720&_afMFC=8&_afMFCI=0&_afMFM=0&_afMFR=144&_afMFG=0&_afMFS=0&_afMFO=0

This online application is only for new applicants. Anyone who has previously applied for subsidized housing in BC can update their existing file by calling the Housing Registry at 604-433-2218 or if outside of the Lower Mainland at 1-800-257-7756.

BC Housing – Independent Living BC Program | View Online: [Independent Living BC Program | BC Housing](#)

A subsidized, assisted-living program that provides housing with support services to seniors and people with disabilities. Independent Living BC is a partnership between BC Housing, provincial health authorities, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and non-profit and private-market housing providers. The program's assisted living units provide a middle option between home care and residential care, so individuals can continue to live independently.

BC Housing – Various Programs | View Online: [Start - BCHousing ProgramFinder](#)

An online confidential questionnaire intended to help folks identify housing supports and programs in BC.

Brightside Homes | View Online: [Apply for Housing - Brightside \(brightsidehomes.ca\)](https://brightsidehomes.ca)

Brightside has some new housing projects coming up and families with active BC Housing files can call the BC Housing Registry to add these listings to their existing application.

City of Burnaby – Creating A Municipal Housing Authority Info Session | August 15, 2023 | View Online: [Creation of municipal housing authority to advance action on housing in Burnaby | City of Burnaby](https://www.burnaby.ca/DocumentCenter/View/111111)

The City of Burnaby is pursuing the creation of a municipal housing authority to help ensure that individuals and families of all income levels have access to stable, secure, and affordable housing. The City is hosting a virtual public information session to inform the community about the proposal to create the Burnaby Housing Authority.

City of New Westminster – Back-to-School Swap and Shop | August 19 from 10 AM to 1 PM | View Online: [Back-to-School Swap and Shop! \(newwestcity.ca\)](https://www.newwestcity.ca/DocumentCenter/View/111111)

Find great deals on infant and children's clothes, toys, and equipment. An excellent opportunity to get your back-to-school shopping done! Admission is free with non-perishable food donation.

City of New Westminster – Food Resources Calendar | View Online: [FOOD RESOURCES July 7 2023.pdf \(newwestcity.ca\)](https://www.newwestcity.ca/DocumentCenter/View/111111)

This calendar lists places where folks can receive meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) in addition to food hampers and low-cost grocery stores.

City of New Westminster – Survival Resources Guide | View Online:
[SURVIVAL_RESOURCE_GUIDE_July_7_2023.pdf \(newwestcity.ca\)](#)

A summary of emergency numbers, laundry, shower and bathroom facilities, outreach and health services, shelter and housing and government services accessible in the community of New Westminster.

Disability Alliance of BC – Help Sheet Applying for PWD Benefits | View Online:
[HS12A.pdf \(disabilityalliancebc.org\)](#)

This Help Sheet is for people with disabilities who need to apply for disability benefits from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (MSDPR) for the first time. We describe the steps you must take before you get the application for the Persons with Disabilities Designation (PWD) benefit.

Disability Benefit (PWD) Increases August 1, 2023 | View Online:
[summary_of_changes_ppm.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

The BC Budget for the 2023/2024 fiscal year was announced at the legislative assembly in Victoria on February 28, 2023. The Budget revealed that there would be an increase to the shelter rate for people on income assistance and disability assistance.

Through your MySelfServe account, you would have received a notification with directions. Essentially if you originally submitted a shelter form with a shelter cost below the new maximum of \$500/month, you should submit an updated Shelter Information Form which you can download here: [Shelter Information form](#) (HR3037). You can submit new forms through:

- My Self Serve at [Myselfserve.gov.bc.ca](#)
- Mailing to the ministry office: List of [Office Locations](#)
- Dropping off at the ministry office in person or using the drop box.

If you are uncertain what to do you can phone a staff person at 1-866-866-0800.

A few other PWD considerations:

- Beginning January 1, 2024, the Annualized Earnings Exemption will increase by \$1,200 per year, to a total of \$16,200 annually for PWD clients.
- The initial financial eligibility when applying for PWD needs to be under the total combined shelter and support amounts - currently \$375 + \$983.30. This has now increased to a total of \$1,483 due to the shelter increase August 1st.
- The shelter portion for home share providers will go up from \$716.13 per month to \$841.13 per month.
- For new PWD applicants, you can now put up to the maximum \$500 on the shelter form.

Homeshare Arrangements and Accessing the PWD Shelter Increases August 1, 2023 | View Online: [Update to CLBC Individual Financial Contribution Policy and information on shelter rate increase \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

CLBC wants to ensure home sharing providers receive the same total funding, no matter the shelter and basic living cost payment rate of the individual they support. To make sure all providers can access the \$125 increase, effective August 2023:

- CLBC will increase the standardized individual financial contribution rate for people who receive PWD from \$716.13 to \$841,13;
- CLBC will provide an equivalent increase to payments to home sharing providers for people who receive OAS/GIS.

Primary Care Network – Burnaby Community Fridge Locations | View Online: [Burnaby Community Fridge - Burnaby Primary Care Networks \(burnabypcn.ca\)](#)

The Community Fridge program provides food in a safe, low barrier and non-judgmental way. It provides a place for people in our neighbourhoods to give and take, to reduce waste and to build our food security in Burnaby. Fridge locations include:

- Tian-Jin Temple Fridge & Pantry
 - Where: Tian-Jin Temple, [3426 Smith Avenue](#)

- Hours of Access: Every day, 24 hours/day
- Parish of St. Timothy Fridge
 - Where: Parish of St. Timothy, [4550 Kitchener St](#)
 - Hours of Access: Every day, 24 hours/day
- SFU Fridge
 - Where: SFU Burnaby, [MBC, Floor 0/7000 level, 8888 University Drive](#)
 - Hours of Access: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. – 9 p.m., subject to SFU campus holiday hours and closures.
- BCIT Fridge
 - Where: BCIT Burnaby, [Building SE2, Floor 2, 3700 Willingdon Ave](#)
 - Hours of Access: Subject to BCIT's regular campus hours and holiday hours and closures.

Province of BC Announcement – BC Helps Remove Barriers for People with Disabilities | View Online: [B.C. helps remove barriers for people with disabilities | BC Gov News](#)

People with temporary and permanent disabilities, and seniors, and parents with strollers will benefit from accessibility improvements supported by \$5 million in provincial funding to Rick Hansen Foundation (<https://www.rickhansen.com/>).

Purpose Society- Burnaby Rent Bank | View Online: <https://purposesociety.org/events/categories/rent-bank/burnaby-rent-bank/>

The Burnaby Rent Bank provides low-cost, no interest loans to low to moderate income residents of Burnaby who are in rental accommodation. Applicants are at risk of eviction or disconnection of essential utilities due to a temporary and unexpected financial crisis. Service is provided by telephone, internet and in-person.

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday 9 AM to 4:30 PM, 40 Begbie Street, New Westminster, phone 604-526-2522

6.0 Health & Mental Wellness – Mainstream

Art Therapy Options in the Lower Mainland | Various Options Listed

Some service providers offering art therapy solutions in the Lower Mainland:

- Little Mountain Neighbourhood House- Art Therapy | View Online: [Vancouver Family Connections Art Therapy for Children and Adults - Vancouver Family Connections](#)
- Peggy Chan Art Therapy | View Online: [Peggy Chan Art Therapy | Art Therapy Experience and Education | Greater Vancouver Art Therapist in Canada, BC](#)
- StrongTies | View Online: [Child & Family Counselling | Coquitlam | Strong Ties](#)

Black Youth Helpline- Canada Wide | Toll Free: 1-833-294-8650 | View Online: [Black Youth Helpline](#)

Black Youth Helpline serves all youth and specifically responds to the need for a Black youth specific service, positioned and resourced to promote access to professional, culturally appropriate support for youth, families and schools.

Canadian Mental Health Association- ECHO Burnaby Clubhouse | View Online: [ECHO Clubhouse - CMHA Vancouver-Fraser](#)

ECHO Burnaby Clubhouse supports individuals in their rehabilitation and recovery journey through holistic services that range from vocational (job, volunteering, education), leisure and recreation, health and wellness, to personal education.

City of New Westminster – Extreme Weather Tip Sheet | View Online: [Extreme Heat Info Flyer - May2023.pdf - Google Drive](#)

A quick resource sheet to support folks to manage extreme weather conditions related to heat.

City of New Westminster- Extreme Heat Response | View Online: [Extreme Heat Preparedness | City of New Westminster \(newwestcity.ca\)](#)

Several City of New Westminster facilities have air conditioning and welcome you to visit if you need a place to cool down. These locations include:

- [Century House](#) - 620 Eighth Street | 604-519-1066
- [Queensborough Community Centre](#) - 920 Ewen Avenue | 604-525-7388
- [New Westminster Public Library](#) - 716 Sixth Avenue | 604-527-4660
- [Anvil Centre](#) - 777 Columbia Street | 604-515-3830

[Print this cooling venue poster to put up in your building.](#)

You can also stay cool by visiting a spray park, outdoor pool, or attend a drop-in activity. Visit newwestcity.ca/staycool for ideas.

Developmental Disabilities Mental Health Services | View Online: [Developmental disabilities mental health services - Fraser Health Authority](#)

Developmental disabilities mental health services (DDMHS) provides specialized mental health community services for ages 12 and over who live with co-existing intellectual disabilities and a mental illness. The person may also struggle with behavioural challenges.

Federal Public Service Pride Week Events | August 21 to 25, 2023 | View Online: [Public Service Pride Week Events - CSPS \(cspcs-efpc.gc.ca\)](https://cspcs-efpc.gc.ca)

The Federal public service is hosting the Fifth Annual Public Service Pride Week which takes place from August 21 to 25, 2023. These online events offer audiences the opportunity to learn more about:

- Accessible and Inclusive Washrooms
- Intersectionality and Allyship
- Emerging from the LGBT Purge
- Public Service Pride Awards
- Name and Gender Marker Change in the Government of Canada

Foundry Virtual BC | View Online: [Foundry Virtual BC - Foundry BC App -](#)

Young people aged 12-24 and their caregivers who don't have a Foundry centre in their community can access virtual services through the Foundry BC app from anywhere in British Columbia!

Government of Canada- Canada Dental Benefit | Applications Open Until June 30, 2024 | View Online: [Canada Dental Benefit - Canada.ca](https://canada.ca)

The interim Canada Dental Benefit is intended to help lower dental costs for eligible families earning less than \$90,000 per year. Parents and guardians may be eligible if they pay for dental care for a child under 12 years old who does not have access to a private dental insurance plan.

Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions – Wellbeing Support Page | View Online: [Homepage | Wellbeing.gov.bc.ca](https://wellbeing.gov.bc.ca)

Welcome to your pathway for mental health and substance use supports across B.C. From here you can access a range of provincial programs.

North Shore Disability Resource Centre – Mobile Multi-Sensory Environment | View Online: [mobile multi-sensory room » NSDRC](#)

We built our multi-sensory environment on wheels with community in mind. It's a health and wellness resource that can be used by children, young adults and the elderly in schools, hospitals and care facilities, first-responder communities, and so many more.

Province of BC – Youth Substance Use Beds in BC | View Online: [Youth substance use beds in B.C. - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

Substance use beds for young people are an important part of Government's work to build a comprehensive and integrated system of care for mental health and addiction in B.C. Young people, families and caregivers may reach out directly to most of the health authority substance use programs as listed.

Qmunity – GAB Youth Drop-Ins | Online Sessions Wednesdays 4 to 5 PM | Contact: youth@qmunity.ca for details and Zoom link

A youth drop-in for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth ages 14 to 25, a community-oriented space where youth can hang out and seek support. Activities include games, crafts, as well as the opportunity for open hangout time with peers.

Rainbow Refugee | View Online: [Helping LGBTQ+ Refugees Resettle in Canada - Rainbow Refugee Vancouver](#)

Rainbow Refugee promotes safe, equitable migration and communities of belonging for people fleeing persecution based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or HIV status. They provide support, information, and system navigation to refugees and refugee claimants seeking refugee status in Canada.

Real Talk – Social Support Group for 2SLGBTQIA+ with Disabilities | View Online: [CQC Upcoming Events - Real Talk \(real-talk.org\)](#)

Connecting Queer Communities (CQC) is a 1 year initiative from Real Talk being funded by an Accessibility Projects grant from the Disability Alliance of BC. CQC supports 2SLGBTQIA+ people who are labeled with learning disabilities to connect with one another and with the wider 2SLGBTQIA+ community in the Greater Vancouver area.

Vancouver Black Therapy & Advocacy Foundation | View Online: [VBT&AF \(vancouverblacktherapyfoundation.com\)](#)

VBT&AF is a non-profit organization connecting Black community members in need to mental health resources such as free therapy and advocacy services. They help low-income, newcomer, LGBTQIA+ and disabled Black folks in BC access therapy.

Volentia Healthcare Translation | Booking Form [Healthcare Translator Booking Form \(google.com\)](#)

Volentia Healthcare Translation is a UBC organization providing free healthcare translation services, where a translator can accompany you to your healthcare appointments. Our volunteer interpreters are undergraduate and graduate students who are native speakers of Mandarin, Korean, or Punjabi.

Wellbeing – Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Portal | View Online: [Youth Mental Health and Substance Use | Wellbeing.gov.bc.ca](#)

This portal shared information about where to look for mental health and substance use resources for youth including treatment resources.

7.0 Indigenous Programs, Events, & Supports Resources

Indigenous Perspectives Society and BC Non-Profit Housing Association –
[Indigenous Workshop Series Online](#) | August 9 from 1 PM and 4 PM and September 6
from 1 PM and 4 PM | View Online: See links below

June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, a time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Metis. In recognition of this month, BCNPHA is offering a [workshop series](#), facilitated by the [Indigenous Perspectives Society](#), to foster a deeper understanding of Indigenous perspectives, and develop actionable ideas to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

- August 9 – Cultural Perspectives Series – Dispelling Myths and Stereotypes | View Online: [Cultural Perspectives Series – Dispelling Myths and Stereotypes | Non-Profit Housing Education Event | BC Non-Profit Housing Association | BCNPHA](#)
- September 6 – Cultural Perspectives Series – Building Local Relationships | View Online: [Cultural Perspectives Series – Building Local Relationships | Non-Profit Housing Education Event | BC Non-Profit Housing Association | BCNPHA](#)

First Peoples's Cultural Council Map | View Online: [First Peoples' Map - First Peoples Cultural Council \(fpcc.ca\)](#)

The First Peoples' Map can be used to view Indigenous language regions, artists and artworks, place names and community landmarks. You can hear the pronunciation of language names, greetings, places and more. All of the 34 languages Indigenous to what is now called British Columbia are represented.

Guide for Working with Indigenous Elders | View Online: [LPC Guidelines for Working with Indigenous Elders - V.1 \(lenpierreconsulting.com\)](#)

This comprehensive guide put together by Len Pierre Consulting is a must read for all those working in the field of anti-racism. Learn about proper community practices, such as accessibility, compensation and more.

Province of BC Announcement – Funding Support for Indigenous Food Sovereignty | View Online: [New funding expands support for Indigenous food sovereignty | BC Gov News](#) | To Make an Application Visit: <https://newrelationshiptrust.ca/apply-for-funding/sustainability-development-goals-sdg-initiatives/food-security-grants/>

The program will be delivered by the New Relationship Trust (NRT), an independent non-profit dedicated to empowering First Nations communities. The Indigenous Food Sovereignty Program will support more sustainable food production, community food security, and enhance participation in the agriculture and food sectors for Indigenous communities and businesses. Funding will support infrastructure such as greenhouses, irrigation systems, community gardens and food storage.

8.0 Intercultural Learning Events & Resources

Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion – Indigenous Inclusion Resources | View Online: [Educational resource - Indigenous inclusion - EN \(ccdi.ca\)](#)

A collated list of resources including articles, books, webinars, podcasts and Ted Talks etc. relating to indigenous inclusion.

Centre for Civic Religious Literacy- Civic Literacy Youth Network | Application Deadline August 21st | View Online: <https://ccrl-clrc.ca/clyn/> | To Apply Visit: [CLYN application-instructions-2023-2024-2.pdf \(ccrl-clrc.ca\)](https://ccrl-clrc.ca/clyn/application-instructions-2023-2024-2.pdf)

The CLYN is our 8-session gathering with youth and young adults from across Canada (rural, suburban, and urban). The sessions engage and provide skills to discuss, analyze, and counter racism and religious discrimination. We gather online to introduce them to amazing guest speakers and other youths in different provinces. During our time together, we support youth in developing their religious literacy, help them understand that it has a civic purpose and contribute towards their leadership development. Last year, we had a really committed and thoughtful group of participants.

Greater Vancouver Association of the Deaf – One of 68 Organizations to Receive a Grant to Help Shape Anti-Racism Legislation | View Online: [Sixty-eight organizations receive grants to help shape anti-racism legislation | BC Gov News](#)

Racialized people can now share their perspectives in culturally safe spaces as 68 organizations across B.C. receive more than \$300,000 to engage community members on the development of new anti-racism legislation.

Vyper – Abbotsford Cultural Nights | Every Thursday July 20 to August 24, 2023 | View Online: [VYPER Abbotsford Thursday Night Powwow/Cultural night | Facebook](#)

VYPER is excited to announce the shift into the summer series - Cultural Nights - led by an entire NEW team of youth leads! (All in highschool or just graduated). Feel free to call Marcella Sunshine with any questions or concerns, 778-779-2918 / marcella@impactabby.com

Event Location: Mamele'awt Community Indigenous Centre

3277 Gladwin Rd, Abbotsford, BC V2T 4Y9

Time: 5:30 PM-8:30 PM

9.0 Legal, Advocacy & Rights-Based Supports

Advocate for Service Quality | View Online: [Advocate for Service Quality - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/advocacy/advocate-for-service-quality)

The Office of the Advocate for Service Quality (OASQ) helps government better support:

- Adults with a developmental disability (this includes Autism Spectrum Disorder and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder)
- Teens with a developmental disability who are almost an adult
- Teens with special needs
- Family members and others who support a person with a developmental disability

The OASQ may act as a neutral third party with you, your family and service providers. We'll help solve problems and find solutions to concerns and complaints.

BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner | View Online: [Home - BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner \(bchumanrights.ca\)](https://www.bchumanrights.ca/)

The BCOHRC is there to address the root causes of inequality, discrimination and injustice in B.C. by shifting laws, policies, practices and cultures. We do this work through education, research, advocacy, inquiry and monitoring.

City of Burnaby – Food Security Program Listing | View Online: [Food Security | City of Burnaby](https://www.burnaby.ca/food-security)

We are working with stakeholders like organizations providing support for food-insecure people, people managing and growing in community gardens, and advocates for social policy changes.

Disability Law Clinic | View Online: [Disability Law Clinic | DABC \(disabilityalliancebc.org\)](https://disabilityalliancebc.org)

The DLC provides a Summary Advice and Referral Service which is a free, confidential legal service, directly to persons with disabilities from across BC, on certain disability-related areas of law

Fraser Health – Free and Low-Cost Food Directory (Updated Annually) | View Online: [Free and low-cost food directory - Fraser Health Authority](#)

Search for programs in your community from the attached link. Note, please call before visiting to ensure times and services have not changed. We update this list yearly. Listings provided include the communities of:

- Abbotsford
- Agassiz & Harrison Hot Spring
- Burnaby
- Chilliwack
- Delta
- Hope & Boston Bar
- Langley & Aldergrove
- Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows
- Mission
- New Westminster
- Surrey
- Tri-Cities

Inclusion BC | View Online: [Inclusion BC - Advancing rights. Promoting abilities.](#)

Inclusion BC is a non-profit provincial organization that advocates for the rights and opportunities of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. We are a federation of members that include people with intellectual disabilities, their families and organizations that serve them.

Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) | View Online:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/Pages/BCLASS-Search-Community.aspx?PlaceFirstLetter=A&>

MLAs will often return to their communities to learn about the issues and concerns that their residents may have and work on their behalf to help.

Nidus – Youth Transition Supports for Representation Agreements | View Online: [Nidus Personal Planning Resource Centre and Registry](#)

Nidus offers youth transition support to those needing assistance with decision-making in one or more areas due to a disability at birth or acquired during childhood that has affected their mental capability in the short term or ongoing basis.

Ombudsperson of BC | View Online: [Office of the Ombudsperson | Province of British Columbia \(bcombudsperson.ca\)](#)

As BC's independent voice for fairness and accountability, we work to make sure public sector organizations are treating people fairly and following the rules. We listen to and investigate complaints about local and provincial public sector organizations as well as investigate reports of serious wrongdoing in the provincial government.

Square Peg Society | View Online: [Welcome - Square Peg Society](#)

We know that ASD individuals want to live as independent adults, in communities where they feel respected and included. We assist ASD adults in achieving this goal, by building confidence, pride and skills, within our community, and by increasing inclusion, engagement, and participation, within our community and with society at large.

10.0 Miscellaneous Resources

New Westminster Community Resource Lists | View Online: Various Links Below

The following are some useful New West Community Resource Links:

- [CNW Extreme Heat Preparedness](#) (Current)
- [Food Resource Calendar and Survival Resource Guide](#) (CNW) (Current 2023)
- [Community Health Resources](#) (Feb 2023)
- [Key Information and Resources for Tenants](#) (CNW) (Sept 2022)
- [Nuisance Activity: Reducing/Reporting/ Resources](#) (CNW)

11.0 Monthly Days of Observance - August 2023

August 01 – Emancipation Day | View Online: [Emancipation Day — August 1 - Canada.ca](#) | In Canada, August 1 is observed as Emancipation Day. The day is an important moment to reflect on the brutal legacy of the slave trade, to celebrate survival, to honour the ongoing contributions of historic Black and Indigenous communities and to re-commit to the path of reconciliation.

August 3, 2023 – Bodhi Meditation Day | View Online: [Bodhi Meditation Day Proclamation 2023 \(gov.bc.ca\)](#) | A day dedicating to fulfilling Grandmaster JinBodhi's vision of improving the health and happiness of everyone. Folks are encouraged to be mindful of their well-being by learning to meditate and to practice compassionate love in their communities.

August 09, 2023 – International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples | View Online: [International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples | United Nations](#) | A day to recognize that Indigenous Peoples have the right to make their own decisions and carry them out meaningfully and culturally appropriate to them.

August 9 to 19, 2023 – Pride Week | View Online: [Pride Week \(Aug. 10 – 19\) \(newwestcity.ca\)](#) | Pride Week in New Westminster celebrates diversity, inclusion, and the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

August 12, 2023 – International Youth Day | View Online: [International Youth Day | United Nations](#)

August 19, 2023 – World Humanitarian Day | View Online: [World Humanitarian Day | United Nations](#)

August 31, 2023 – International Overdose Awareness Day | View Online: [International Overdose Awareness Day: 31st August - International Overdose Awareness Day \(overdoseday.com\)](#)

12.0 Newcomer Resources

Canucks Family Education Centre- Free English Classes in Burnaby | For Registration Visit: [CFEC Burnaby \(Edmonds & Maywood\) English Class Preregistration \(google.com\)](#)

Canucks Family Education Centre (CFEC) in partnership with Burnaby Community & Continuing Education (BCCE), will be offering free English Foundations and English 11 and 12 classes for adults (refugee claimants, convention refugees, permanent residents, and Canadian citizens).

- EDMONDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL | 7651 18th Ave. Burnaby
 - English Foundations 1-3
 - September 18, 2023 – January 19, 2024
 - Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:45 - 2:45 pm

 - English Foundations 4-7
 - September 20, 2023 – March 9, 2024
 - Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 - 2:30 pm

- MAYWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL | 4567 Imperial St. Burnaby
 - English Foundations 6-7, and English 11-12
 - September 26, 2023 – January 18, 2024
 - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 12:40 - 2:40 pm

Mosaic – Preparing Women and Workplaces for Success | View Online: [Career Support for Racialized Women | MOSAIC Programs \(mosaicbc.org\)](#)

Preparing Women and Workplace for Success (PWWS) is a new free employment program for racialized women. Build your career in project management with this 6-week training program! Join our third cohort and gain occupation-specific training and skills to succeed in these top in-demand roles.

Pacific Immigrant Resources Society – Multilingual Outreach Support Workers | View Online: [Outreach | Immigrant Outreach | Outreach Support Programs \(pirs.bc.ca\)](#)

PIRS multilingual team of Outreach Support Workers (OSW) provide one-on-one system navigation and peer mentorship support.

Province of BC Announcement- Funding Helps People New to BC Find In-Demand Jobs | View Online: [Funding helps people new to B.C. find in-demand jobs | BC Gov News](#)

More newcomers to the province will be able to find rewarding, skilled jobs in their communities through several new and innovative programs offered through the Immigrant Employment Council of BC (IEC-BC - <https://iecbc.ca/>).

13.0 Podcast, Webinars, Video & Print Resources

[Canada Revenue Agency – 2023 Webinar Schedule](#) | Next Session August 15th | [View Online](#): See Various Links Below

Canada Revenue Agency is pleased to continue to host live monthly webinars on MS Teams. There is no registration required for our MS Teams presentations, you will just click the link below. MS Teams has built in **closed captioning**. To turn on this feature click on the 3 dots “...” beside reactions in the top menu bar and select “**Turn on live captions**”, the captions will show up along the bottom of your screen.

Webinar Date	Time	Topic Focus	Link to Join Meeting
Tuesday, Aug 15 th	11:00-12:00 PM	CRA Benefits and Credits for Post Secondary Students	Click here to join the meeting
Tuesday, Aug 29 th	11:00-12:00 PM	CRA Benefits and Credits for Caregivers	Click here to join the meeting
Tuesday, Sept 5 th	11:00-12:00 PM	CRA Benefits and Credits for Newcomers	Click here to join the meeting
Tuesday, Sept 26 th	11:00-12:00 PM	CRA Benefits and Credits for Persons with Disabilities	Click here to join the meeting

[Community Living BC – Welcome Workshop Series](#) | Starts August 15, 2023 at 5:30 PM | To RSVP Email: Jenny.Lau@gov.bc.ca

These workshops are led by a CLBC staff person, an individual served by CLBC and a family member who will share detailed information about ways for folks eligible for CLBC services to build a good adult life. These series is broken into 4 sessions:

1. Getting Started | August 15th at 5:30 PM
2. Community Connections | August 17th at 5:30 PM
3. Planning Options | August 22nd at 5:30 PM
4. The Real Deal | August 24th at 5:30 PM

Disability without Poverty – Childhood Disability (without) Poverty Pre-Recorded Sessions | View Online: [childhood disability \(without\) poverty: a national discussion - YouTube](#)

We created an opportunity for families, health care professionals, and policy researchers to come together and share both their knowledge and lived experiences on equal footing to identify where we can partner to effect systemic change. Childhood disability is known to have a huge financial impact on families and children. There is simply not enough data or awareness about the intersection of childhood disability with familial and personal lifelong financial challenges. These conference sessions can be watched on YouTube.

Family Support Institute – Learn About Support Worker Central- Webinar | Tuesday August 15, 2023 from 7 to 8 PM | View Online: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Are you looking to hire support staff? Learn about Support Worker Central (SWC), a free, provincial-wide job board created for people with disabilities and their families who hire their own support staff. During this presentation, you will learn how the job board works, the available resources to help you with hiring staff, as well as an opportunity to ask questions. There are currently over 500 profiles of people looking for work on SWC - join us to learn more about how to access this pool of potential staff.

Family Support Institute – Leaving High School, What's Next- Webinar | Wednesday September 20, 2023 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM | View Online: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

How do you prepare for this big change in your son's or daughter's life? This workshop is designed to help families understand how to prepare for their son's or daughter's transition from high school into a full life in the community. Drawing on the experiences of many parents and professionals, we will discuss roles and responsibilities, the planning process, planning tools and available resources and services.

Family Support Institute – CRA Benefit Outreach Program – Webinar | Wednesday October 25, 2023 | View Online: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

CRA and Person with Disability - followed by a Q & A session - Topics to be covered include: • Disability tax credit • Eligibility for the DTC • Apply with the digital application • Apply on paper • After you apply • Amounts you can claim • Child disability benefit • Canada workers benefit disability supplement • Canada caregiver credit • Medical expenses • Home accessibility tax credit • Home buyer's plan • The GST/HST credit • Additional one-time GST credit payment • Canada Dental Benefit • One-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit • Scams Awareness • Useful info and tools to help you do your taxes.

Inclusion BC – Parent Handbook on Inclusive Education – Advocacy Chapter Refresher | View Online: [Chapter Seven: Advocacy - Inclusion BC](#)

To support your back-to-school planning, we invite you to refresh your advocacy knowledge with the 6th edition of our handbook. Take a look and share it with your community to advance inclusion in your school.

Plan Institute – Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning BC Online Workshop | Next Date September 7, 2023 from 10 AM to 11:15 AM | View Online: [Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning \(BC\) Online Workshop - Plan Institute](#)

Becoming well-informed about wills, trusts and estate planning is necessary to secure the financial future of your loved one with a disability. In this workshop, you will learn how to arrange your estate, prepare a will, and the various ins and outs of setting up a trust specifically for your relative or loved one with a disability. Because laws vary from province to province, ***this workshop may only be relevant to those within British Columbia.***

Pride at Work Canada – Intersectionality Within the 2SLGBTQIA+ Community – Webinar | August 23 from 9 to 10 AM PST | View Online: [Workshop: Intersectionality within the 2SLGBTQIA+ community \[Partner only - EN\] - Pride At Work Canada](#)

Our speakers will explore the ways in which different social identities intersect and impact the experiences of 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and share strategies for promoting intersectional inclusion and advocacy. This event is perfect for anyone who wants to deepen their understanding of intersectionality and learn how to better support and uplift diverse voices within the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

The Uncovering Belonging Podcast | View Online: [The Uncovering Belonging Podcast - Pride At Work Canada](#)

Welcome to [Uncovering Belonging](#), a podcast that explores the professional and personal stories of unique voices on what it means to belong and the journey to finding our authentic selves. Led by leaders in the inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility space, Erin Davis (she/her) and Jade Pichette (they/them) work to create a psychologically safe space for all their guests to share their own journey to finding a sense of belonging and help listeners along the way to also be who they are.

14.0 Surveys, Feedback & Engagement Opportunities

Government of Canada – Feedback Requested on Canada’s Standard on Employment’s Accessibility Standards | Feedback Deadline is October 17, 2023 | View Online: [CAN-ASC-1.1 Standard on employment: Public Review Draft - Accessibility Standards Canada](#)

This standard is currently open for public review. You can submit your feedback on CAN-ASC-1.1 Standard on employment: Public Review Draft.

MOSAIC – Social and Civic Opportunities: Pathways to Equity | Application Deadline August 8, 2023 | View Online: [Call for Applications Cohort 3 Final.pdf.pdf](#)

Emerging from MOSAIC's vision of advancing together an inclusive and thriving Canada, the SCOPE program is continuing in its mission to support racialized newcomers in having a voice by diversifying governing bodies. SCOPE assists racialized newcomers and immigrants to join and actively engage in decision-making tables such as boards, committees and advisory bodies

SFU – Trans/2S/Non-Binary Youth & Privacy Study | View Online: <https://www.bit.ly/privacySFU>

Researchers at SFU are exploring experiences of privacy in the lives of trans, non-binary, Two Spirit, and genderqueer youth. The researchers are looking for non-cisgender youth ages 14 to 25 to participate in a 1-1.5 hour interview via Zoom. Questions will include how much privacy youth feel they have in different situations, if there are times that their privacy wasn't respected, and what they would like adults to know about privacy. As a thanks for sharing their expertise and thoughts, each youth participant will receive \$75.

15.0 Youth in & from Government Care

Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks – Youth Retreat #82 | Friday November 3 to Sunday November 5, 2023 | Registration Opens August 14th | View Online: [Youth Retreats | Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks \(fbcyicn.ca\)](#)

Youth Retreat is a three-day event where young people meet other young people from care, have their voices heard, guide the Fed in the work we do, and most importantly have FUN and CONNECT with others!

Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks – Fed Family Summer Celebration | August 15, 2023 from 6 to 7:30 PM | View Online: [Event Management \(powerappsportals.com\)](https://powerappsportals.com)

Summer Celebration! This year's virtual event is happening on Tuesday August 15, 2023, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Join us for an evening that celebrates the Fed's amazing volunteers, members that have reached 2 years and our Locals. We will have activities, games and more!

Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks – Survey on Age of Service | View Online: [Age of Services \(office.com\)](https://office.com)

What ages should the Fed serve? We need your help to decide. Currently, we serve young people in and from care between the ages of 14-24. Recently Fed members asked us to consider expanding our age of service to 14-28. At Youth Retreat 81, members shared their ideas, questions, and considerations about this possible change.

Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks – Volunteer Opportunities | November 3 to 5, 2023 | View Online: [Get Involved | Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks \(fbcyicn.ca\)](https://fbcyicn.ca)

Volunteer opportunities are open to youth in and from care ages 14-24. We believe that everyone has something to contribute and that you are essential to creating positive experiences for your peers at the Youth Retreat!

McCreary Centre Society – Accepting Applications for Youth Research Academy Research Assistants | View Online: [2023_yra_job_advertisement.pdf \(mcs.bc.ca\)](https://mcs.bc.ca)

Learn to design, develop, and deliver research projects for youth in and from government care and the agencies that serve you. Applications are being accepted now! Visit mcs.bc.ca/youth_research_academy to find out more and to apply. Questions? Contact Katie at 604-291-1996 ext. 235 or yra@mcs.bc.ca. The Youth Research Academy aims to represent the diversity of youth in care in BC. We

particularly welcome Indigenous youth, youth with a disability, visible minority youth, and 2SLGBTQIA+ youth to apply.

Ministry of Children and Family Development – MCFD Rent Supplement Application Intake | August 14 to 28, 2023 | View Online: [Housing Supports - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/child/family-dev/rent-supplement-application-intake)

Young adults can apply for the Rent Supplement program if they meet at least ONE of the following criteria:

- Are eligible for or on the Agreements with Young Adults program (or participating in the Temporary Support Agreement program)
- Spent 24 cumulative months in any care status between ages 12 to 19
- Were adopted/had their custody permanently transferred to someone other than their parent between ages 12 to 19

Eligible young adults will need to be renting in the private rental market in B.C.

50% of the rent supplements are available to Indigenous young adults.

Ministry of Children and Family Development – Understanding the Different Type of Government Supported Caregiver Statuses for Children and Youth in BC | View Online: [Caring for children and youth in B.C. - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/child/family-dev/understanding-different-types-government-supported-caregiver-statuses)

The goal of these pages is to promote community awareness and interest in caregiving within British Columbia. There are three main categories of caregivers supported by the Province: kinship (out of care arrangements), foster, and contracted agency caregivers. Visit to learn more.