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BGC South Vancouver Island

2022
ANNUAL REPORT

Opportunity Changes Everything



2022 at BGC South Vancouver Island could best be described as *Stronger Together*. As we emerged from the pandemic restrictions, it quickly became evident that we could forge our new path by building on our strengths and welcoming the support of those around us.

2022 was also defined by economic challenges, including ongoing labour and general supply shortages and increased costs from inflation. As a result, our Club faced sharp increases in operating costs and significant staffing challenges. Everything we purchased from food and equipment, to gas, cost more than what we had budgeted. Amid this climate of economic uncertainty, we were also dealing with the toll that the COVID-19 pandemic had taken on our children, youth and families. While the effects of the pandemic were lessening, it continued to have a significant impact on our operations, despite which, we continued to welcome children, youth, parents, and families into all of our programs.

We have embraced the challenge to create social connection and engagement at every opportunity. For over 62 years, we have been collaborators and community partners. Today we are mindful in our efforts to build our staff and community capacity, coordinate our delivery models and work together in order to maximize our collective positive impact. With greater demand for what we do and limited resources, we must walk the path together to fulfill our mission and maximize our reach.

Our staff continue to see the growing need for mental health resources for the children, youth, parents and families we serve – repercussions from the pandemic and the isolation that it caused. The pandemic has illuminated the systemic issues affecting our community and the world, many of which BGCSVI has been tackling for years. Food insecurity, housing and child care are striking realities for an ever-growing number of people across our region. BGCSVI continues to respond to these realities with a steadfast determination to create safe spaces where our children, youth and families can embrace new experiences and feel that sense of belonging that is vital to the fabric of a healthy and vibrant community. With support and encouragement from our supporters, donors and stakeholders, we are addressing these concerns and bridging the gaps – evolving into a stronger BGCSVI.

Every child and youth deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential. That's why we are continually exploring new ways to support our program participants. This year we expanded our young moms and babes' program and our Community Youth Intervention program.

We are in our second year rebranded as BGC South Vancouver Island, aligning with Clubs across Canada to fortify our ability to celebrate diversity and embed inclusion and equity into the soul of our movement.

We would like to thank our generous supporters and program partners, without whom our programs would not be thriving. Thank you to the many individuals who contribute and support our programs with their donations, space, and funding. We could not do what we do without the amazing talents and commitment of our Leadership, staff, and Volunteer Board members of both our Services and Foundation Boards. We extend our appreciation and gratitude to each of them for bringing their talents and passion to this work. Their impact can be found among the pages of this year's annual report.

Jason Laidman
Services Board
President

Rebecca Lang
Foundation Board
President

Dalyce Dixon
Executive Director

Opportunity
Changes
Everything

123,658
hours
of recreation &
physical activity

36
years
of providing
caring family
homes to youth

1,095
hours
of supported parent
learning

1,067
hours
of virtual
programming

8,425
hours
of 1:1 support

1,601
hours
of experiential &
life skills learning &
academic support

1,796
nights
of safe shelter
for youth

51,671
healthy meals
& snacks

Who We Are

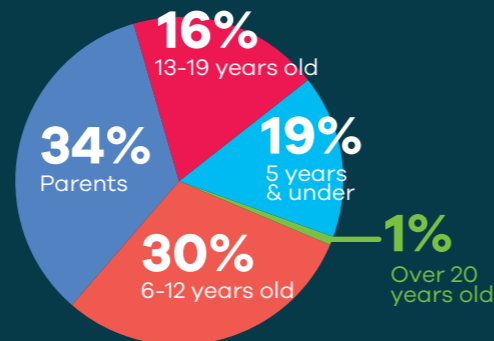
For over 62 years, BGC South Vancouver Island, a non-profit, charitable organization, has provided life-changing programs for children, youth, and families. These programs promote positive outcomes in mental health, wellness, education, nutrition, and personal growth.

Through a respectful, inclusive, and engaging approach we offer crucial support to children, youth and their families, helping them overcome barriers, build confidence, and develop essential skills for reaching their full potential. Our transformative programs are tailored to meet a variety of community needs encompassing mental health, homelessness prevention, substance use, parenting support, leadership, child care and more.

We believe in nurturing the unique strengths and talents of every child and youth, making them more competent, resilient and capable through health-enhancing practices. Our asset-building approach for children in the long term enhances their overall development and well-being. By focusing on building positive relationship skills, life competencies, leadership abilities, physical activity, learning, values, and self-esteem, children are better equipped to navigate life's challenges and opportunities. Our approach fosters resilience, self-assurance and competence, empowering children and youth to make healthier decisions, and embrace their unique strengths with a positive outlook for long-term success in their lives.

At BGC South Vancouver Island, we know that Opportunity Changes Everything!

Who We Serve



Our Mission

To provide safe, supportive places where children, youth and families can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life.

Our Vision

All children and youth discover and achieve their dreams and grow up to be healthy, successful and active participants in society.

Our Core Values



Belonging

We welcome everyone in a safe, accepting environment based on belonging and positive relationships



Respect

We ensure that everyone—children, youth, families, volunteers, staff—is heard, valued, and treated fairly



Encouragement and Support

We encourage and support every child and youth to play, learn, and grow to achieve their dreams



Working Together

We work together with young people, families, volunteers, our communities, and government



Speaking Out

We speak out for children, youth, and families so that we can make our world better

That's unbelievable impact

As a member of BGC Canada, BGC South Vancouver Island participates in a Learning & Impact Project that helps Clubs across Canada understand and improve our impact on the lives of the children, youth and families in our communities.

The collection of information is from a survey designed to discover how children and youth who attend our Club are developing in four key areas: positive relationships, healthy living, life-long learning and leadership.

This data not only showcases the difference we are making, but also helps us develop new and more enriching programs for our Club children, youth and families, so we can continue to transform lives in significant and meaningful ways.

87%

of our kids are excited to try new things.

Encouraging children's imaginations provides cognitive benefits including critical thinking skills, innovative problem-solving approaches and increased intellectual curiosity. It also impacts their emotional well-being by reducing stress, promoting a sense of joy and fulfillment and the opportunity to explore their identities, interests, and talents.

58%

I know more about what food is healthy for me to eat

Empowering children and youth with knowledge about healthy food choices is essential for fostering their overall well-being and promoting a healthier future generation. By instilling good eating habits early on, we can positively impact their physical health and cognitive development, setting them up for a lifetime of improved outcomes.

94%

of our kids work better with others.

Empathy and social-emotional skills are crucial for building positive relationships, helping children better relate, connect, and be accepted by peers, thus reducing feelings of isolation. By fostering empathy, they become more inclusive and supportive, with improved emotional coping and conflict resolution abilities, resulting in positive mental health outcomes and overall well-being.

84%

of our kids take more initiative.

Helping others nurtures empathy, builds strong relationships and boosts emotional intelligence for navigating social situations. It elevates self-esteem and well-being. By taking initiative, leading by example and learning positive behaviors and attitudes, they break negative cycles, avoiding risky behaviours. This transferable skill fosters engaged, compassionate members of society, creating a caring and supportive community as they grow.

75%

of our kids are more confident.

Confident children possess hope, optimism and purpose, empowering them to achieve goals, make positive choices and face challenges with resilience. This confidence breaks the cycle of hopelessness, encouraging them to seek opportunities for growth and advancement, ultimately leading to positive life choices.

96%

of our kids are more active.

Physical activity positively impacts children's overall health and well-being, combatting sedentary lifestyles and improving academic performance for better educational outcomes. It reduces stress, enhances mood, and fosters social connections, while also establishing the foundation for lifelong healthy habits.

Licensed Programs

Our before and after school programs and summer camps are for children in Kindergarten to Grade 5. We take a strengths-based approach to build on the existing strengths and interests of each child with a mix of intentional learning, play, skills development and positive relationship building.

Through our Licensed Programs we help children:

- Think for themselves
- Make decisions
- Work toward their own solutions
- Feel comfortable with their own ideas and feelings



"It makes me happy to learn how to bake yummy food. I feel good when I eat what I make." – Youth Participant



"They focus on my child's social and emotional needs, and it feels like one-third of my life is co-parenting with BGCSVI staff! BGCSVI is vested in him from the heart, just like we are as parents! I don't have mom-guilt because he is in a good place!" – Licensed Program Parent

What We Do

Youth Development Programs

Our Youth Development Programs are offered to youth who are 11-14 years of age. We use a drop-in model with a youth-friendly approach to engage and inspire young people to keep coming back.

BGCSVI programming looks like fun...we design it that way!

Behind the fun, our youth development programs empower young people with intentional, active and skills development activities that engage them while building their social-emotional competence.

We provide opportunities for youth to find their voice in environments that promote acceptance & belonging, where they will make positive connections. We provide youth with supports they need to develop their assets and prevent risky behaviours, so they will have a higher likelihood of successful transition into adulthood.



"I wouldn't have eaten today if you didn't have snacks." – Youth Participant

Orchard House - Substance Management Treatment Program (FTAP)

Our substance management treatment program is an alternative-to-custody program for high risk male youth 13-18 years of age who are supervised 24 hours a day. We use an integrated approach to substance use treatment with a goal to help youth return to their family (when possible) and to their home community with pro-social skills and healthy behaviours that will decrease the likelihood of their re-involvement in the criminal justice system and with substance use.

We take a trauma-informed, holistic approach to help youth withdraw from substances and build on their strengths and needs to mitigate the factors that led them to substance use.

We provide the youth with life skills training, education supports and counselling to develop their capacity and resiliency. We engage the youth in healthy activities and healthy decision-making to help them develop positive habits and skills that will maximize their success in integrating back into their home and home community when they are no longer in our program.

“At first, I didn't want to be here. It's too far away from my family! I have two kids and another on the way. I'm so glad to be here so I can get better for them! I've learned I can be a better person. I don't need alcohol to solve problems! The staff let me go at my own pace, unlike school teachers who always went too fast! Without Orchard House, I would be sent to jail. I've been to the drunk tank so much I can't even count!” – Youth Participant

Turning Point

Turning Point Program is a short-term residential program for youth between 12-19 years of age who are dealing with issues of personal safety including sexual exploitation, substance use, exposure to violence and homelessness.

We provide a safe and stable place where youth can be supported while addressing their housing instability, substance use and mental health struggles. We work together with the youth to help them set goals, learn and practice life skills and support their academic achievement or help them find employment. The ultimate goal is to help the youth become healthy and develop a transition plan to return to their family home (when possible) or to find independent housing in the community.

“Thanks to Turning Point staff support and reunification efforts, I realize now that I played a part in my child's decision to leave home and recognize that my child is very independent and mature for their age.” – Parent of Youth Participant



Community Youth Intervention Program

Community Youth Intervention Program is a youth outreach program to support middle years youth 11-15 years old in Sooke School District 62 (SD62). The program targets youth who are at risk of becoming disconnected from social supports, may be experiencing isolation, substance use issues, violent behaviours and/or mental health struggles. The program also intervenes with middle years youth already involved in the mental health system.

Our youth outreach workers work with SD62's outreach team and the youth to build on and strengthen protective factors that increase the youth's mental wellness and address substance use issues and violent behaviours. Our pro-social intervention supports are targeted to increase the youth's ability to positively engage with school, their family and community.



“What you've done for my son has meant more to us as a family and to him than I could ever say. The program you are with is one of the most remarkable things I've ever heard of and you (staff) are two of the most extraordinary people I've ever met. I want to say thank you but that isn't enough. I will be grateful to you and BGCSVI always.” – *Parent of Youth Participant*

Youth Prenatal & Parenting Program (YP3)

Youth Prenatal & Parenting Program helps vulnerable, female-identifying young women between the ages of 15-24 years of age who are pregnant or in the early months of parenting.

The young mothers are at risk of becoming homeless and may have substance use issues. The program supports the mothers to improve their chances to have healthy pregnancies, develop safe, positive parenting skills and increase their coping and decision-making skills. The ultimate goal is for the youth to successfully return to their family home or to move to healthy independent living once they have completed our program.



“This program gives me a sense of belonging when I feel judged elsewhere.” – *Parent of Youth Participant*

Best Babies

Best Babies program provides support to pregnant and postpartum mothers and their infants for up to 6 weeks after the baby is born.

We work with the young mothers to increase long-term, positive health outcomes for them and their babies through group participation and individualized support.

We provide an intentionally social environment where Moms connect with each other and gain knowledge and learn new skills in the areas of prenatal nutrition, self-care, health and wellness, healthy relationships and infant care.

This is a collaborative partnership with Sooke Family Resource Society and sponsored by Island Health.

“I was nervous to come at first, but I am so happy I did, and now I look forward to coming every week and am sad if I miss a week!” – Mom Participant

Baby Steps

Baby Steps is a drop-in program that provides group parenting education and support to mothers and parents from the Western Communities and Sooke who have babies from 8 weeks to 12 months old.

New parents often feel alone or overwhelmed as they begin their parenting journey. Baby Steps offers a safe, non-judgmental space for moms and parents to connect with one another, build friendships and learn more about their parenting journey in a sharing, peer-supported environment.

Parents learn about a wide range of parenting topics from our skilled staff facilitators as well as guest speakers from community.

Topics include baby developmental stages, social-emotional changes, maternal mental health, teething, safe sleep, car seat safety and many more practical topics to help parents in day-to-day life.

“I just love this group so much, I feel like I can relate so much to everyone.” – Mom Participant

Parenting Programs

Through education and support, our professionally facilitated and peer-supported national parenting programs increase the competency and confidence of parents with pre-teens and teenagers at home.

Parents often feel alone in their parenting struggles and our parenting groups help to reduce that isolation by giving them a safe place to explore their parenting styles and relate to other parents in the community who may face similar challenges.

Through our parenting programs, parents have the opportunity to learn new parenting skills and access resources that can help to reduce barriers with their teens.

Parents develop more confidence and ability to help their teenagers become more personally fulfilled, and as parents be more effectively engaged in the lives of their children.

In supporting parental development, we encourage richer, more meaningful relationships within the home, enabling us to truly have a lasting impact on the families we serve.

“I can't express how impactful it is to have a place I can come where other parents are also trying to figure it out. I came in feeling isolated and shame that I could not be the parent I hoped to be. Learning with other parents rebuilt my confidence that I am capable of parenting how I always wanted. The relief of knowing others struggle with similar parenting issues and I'm not alone has made a difference.”

– Parent Participant

“I came to this program because my son was suicidal. We have come a long way and I've learned a lot in this program and using the techniques daily. He's actually going to school now..”

– Parent Participant

”

Care Families

Care Families are regular families in our community who we contract to support and share their home with a vulnerable youth in one of our programs.

Care Families provide a stable and safe home environment while mentoring the youth to become more independent by giving them a supportive space where they can learn and practice healthy, positive life skills.

The ultimate goal is for the youth to successfully return to their family home or to move to healthy independent living once they have completed our program.



“I know that the skills taught (communication, life skills, kind gestures) will stick with the youth, even if it looks like there is no impact right now.” – Care Family

We Are Thankful For Your Support

Every year BGCSVI is privileged to welcome volunteers to our organization from around the world and our local community.

We suspended our program and event volunteering placements again this year so we could responsibly assess our new realities emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to welcoming the return of our program and event volunteers soon.

We are grateful for a very special group of Board of Director volunteers who have dedicated countless hours of time, talents and commitment to our organization and the children, youth and families we serve. Through their steadfast support, guidance and expertise, we continued to navigate our journey out of the pandemic, moving forward with resilience and relevance! Our organization is stronger with your support!

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Thank You!

Each year we are humbled and deeply grateful for the generosity and kindness of individual donors, businesses, community organizations and partners, service organizations, grantors and funders. Without all of you, we wouldn't be able to make a difference in the lives of children, youth and families in our community and change life trajectories.

Thank you to our individual donors for your heartfelt support. We know so many of you ask that we not publish your names and so we are honouring that, and we are choosing to not publish the names of any of our individual donors. This is a reflection of our deepest respect and gratitude for your ongoing support!

We are grateful to you all for your past and continued support!

SERVICE CLUBS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Backpack Buddies
Camosun College - Child & Family Studies Program
Canada Helps
CCUSA
CIBC Children's Foundation
City of Victoria
CKNW Kids' Fund
Community Centre Network
Dunsmuir Middle School
École John Stubbs Middle School
Gizeh Shriners of BC & Yukon
Island Health
Ministry of Children & Family Development
Native Friendship Centre
Pacific Opera
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School District 62 (Sooke)
School District 63 (Saanich)
Synergy Foundation
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich
Township of Esquimalt
Victoria Grizzlies
Victoria Humane Society

GRANTS AND FUNDING

BGC Canada
Canadian Tire – Jumpstart
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Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island
Government of Canada – Canada Summer Jobs
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Norgaard Foundation
Peninsula Co-op

President's Choice Children's Charity
Province of BC – Community Gaming Grant
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund
Saanich Peninsula Community Foundation
Sarah Beckett Memorial Run
Sooke Family Resource Society
Ted Rogers Community Grant
The Gap Foundation
The Victoria Foundation
TD Canada Trust
United Way Southern Vancouver Island
Variety The Children's Charity

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Scott Plastics
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Victoria Royals
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IN KIND

We sincerely appreciate and acknowledge the many corporate donors who generously contribute to BGC Canada and BGC South Vancouver Island.

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB SERVICES OF GREATER VICTORIA (BGCSVI)

REVENUE 2022-2023

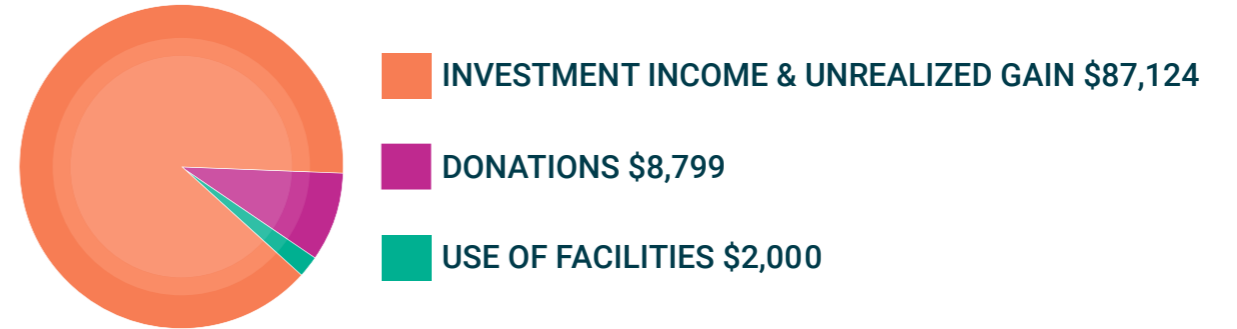


EXPENSES 2022-2023



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER VICTORIA FOUNDATION

REVENUE 2022-2023



EXPENSES 2022-2023



Boys & Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria (BGCSVI)

Truth & Reconciliation Statement

BGC South Vancouver Island and the BGC movement across Canada are committed to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and increasing our support to Indigenous partners and communities. To guide our efforts, BGC Canada is creating an Indigenous Advisory Circle that will provide guidance to BGC Canada and its member organizations across Canada, to strengthen our engagement and support of Indigenous Peoples and communities.

As a member of BGC Canada and the BGC movement, we acknowledge and recognize the importance of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's 94 Calls to Action and support BGC Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commitment Statement:

The BGC movement commits to supporting Indigenous children, youth, and families in the communities we serve. We commit to creating equitable spaces for Indigenous staff, partners, and community members. We call for an end to the systemic inequities faced by Indigenous communities. We stand for Truth and Reconciliation.

We acknowledge that Indigenous peoples have suffered under colonial and postcolonial policies. We believe that to work respectfully with Indigenous nations, our staff needs to be aware of the collective impact that intergenerational trauma continues to have on Indigenous children, youth, and families.

We need to learn and understand our shared history in a way that moves us towards a stronger and healthier future, with relationships rooted in mutual understanding and respect.

We know that by supporting Indigenous young people, we strengthen society overall. We also know that our ability to provide transformative spaces and meaningful opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous young leaders to forge new pathways together is a crucial contribution to Truth and Reconciliation.

We are guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which establishes the individual and collective rights of Indigenous peoples and protects them from discriminatory policies and practices.

We are also guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's final report, and in response to their Calls to Action, we will:

Build knowledge and awareness of Truth and Reconciliation at BGC by offering learning/unlearning and capacity-building opportunities for Club leadership, staff, volunteers, and members (children, youth, and families) that will increase understanding of Indigenous peoples, cultures, languages, communities, histories, the impact of colonial actions, intergenerational trauma, and the role that we can play in walking the path of Reconciliation (TRC Calls to Action 92iii and 62i).

Seek meaningful and sustained relationships with Indigenous communities and organizations, nationally and locally, based on equality, good faith, and mutual respect, to work collaboratively towards equitable, accessible, and culturally relevant and responsive services for Indigenous children, youth, and families (TRC Calls to Action 66)

BGC Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commitment Statement has been developed with Club leadership from across the country, in consultation with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and youth leaders, and has been approved by our national Board of Directors. This statement will continue to move us towards our vision that all children and youth discover and achieve their dreams and grow up to be healthy, successful, and active participants in society.

92iii Provide education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

62i Make age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada a mandatory education requirement for Kindergarten to Grade Twelve students.

66 We call upon the federal government to establish multiyear funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation, and establish a national network to share information and best practices.



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