



AGENCY INFORMATION

Connections Community Services has been providing support and programs in the community for over 40 years. We are committed to supporting each children and youth, and families to thrive and reach for their dreams. Connections dedicated staff and volunteers work with children, youth and families towards their own personal success. Our programs are based on the foundation of building assets with the support of individuals and the community. We believe it is important that all children, youth and families are able to receive the support and assistance they require. We have several innovative partnerships with other community agencies, government bodies, School Districts and community-minded businesses. To find out more about our programs and how we make a difference in our community, visit our web site at www.connectionscommunityservices.com and discover how you can be involved!

QUICK FACTS

- Connections was formed in 1974
- We are a United Way Community Partner
- We are located at 100–7900 Alderbridge Way, Richmond, BC V6X 2A5
- We are a Canada Revenue Agency registered charity (13940 7570 RR 0001)
- We are a registered BC Non-Profit Society (S-27222)
- Our Mission is: “To be a leading provider of programs and services that are responsive to the diverse needs of children, youth and families in our community.”
- Our goal as an organization is: “To work towards a better tomorrow by connecting our community and supporting our children, youth and families to thrive and reach for their dreams.”

CONNECTIONS PROGRAMS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY:



and a variety of local business associations and people just like you.

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Join a program or activity!
- Volunteer for the agency, a program or community activity
- Become a Connections spokesperson in the community
- Join our board of directors
- Get involved with a committee
- Make a donation
- Attend an event that supports Connections
- Support one of our community partners and recognize them for their involvement.
- Donate an item on our wish list
- Sponsor a child
- Sponsor an event
- Organize a fundraiser!

CONTACT CONNECTIONS

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CONNECTING CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY SINCE 1974



Our Mission is to be a leading provider of programs and services that are responsive to the diverse needs of children, youth and families and our community.

Our goal is to work towards a better tomorrow by connecting our community and supporting our children, youth and families to thrive and reach for their dreams.

CONNECTIONS YOUTH CENTRE

Connections provides a drug-and-violence-free place for Richmond youth to socialize, gain new skills, obtain community resources, and receive one-to-one support through a variety of activities including homework clubs, spring and summer camps, volunteer opportunities, leadership training, community improvement projects, recreational activities, evening and weekend programs, outreach programs and services, school based support, and special events.

CONNECTIONS KIDS CLUB

Connections Kids Club is a licensed Before and After School Program is for students K to Grade 7 at several elementary schools. This program works to build social and emotional development, connectedness, health and well-being through constructive activities, games, one-to-one support and group discussion. The Program operates five days a week and on Pro-D days, giving parents a safe option for their children to learn, connect and thrive during out of school hours. Subsidies available in thanks to United Way's School's Out Fund.

DAY CAMP

Our Connections Kids Club also offers licensed day camp care during school breaks. Before and After Care is also available during camp weeks. Camps include weekly field trips, as well as many activities including cooking, crafts, sports, games and much more. Subsidies available in thanks to United Way's School's Out Fund.

GENERATION HOMEWORK CLUB

The Generation Homework Club is an after-school program that provides homework support for kids in Grades 4-7 and also helps develop positive relationships with others. A number of older youth and adults volunteer as tutors and mentors who receive training to work with kids and organize fun activities that build confidence, skills, and support learning and social development.

YOUTH WORKS

The Youth Works program is funded by the Royal Bank Future Launch fund and Children's Aid Foundation of Canada. The program helps youth from or in foster care between the ages of 16 – 29 in Greater Vancouver area with employment and/or educational goals. We work with them to empower them, find needed resources and work towards independence and employment. Services include career counselling, access to job search resources, one to one coaching, mentorship, work experience placements and help finding career and education resources, supports and funding to assist them in achieving their goals.

YOUTH GROUPS & LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Our agency often offers specialty groups such as Girls Groups, Youth Leadership Programs, Elementary-to-High School Transition, English Language Clubs and more. Check our website for current program offerings.

STATION STRETCH PROGRAM

The Stretch Program provides support to youth ages 13 to 17 who struggle with academic troubles, social and emotional challenges, drug misuse, involvement with the justice system, and truancy. The objective of the program is to enable the student to complete grade 10 in four core subjects and support and re-enter the school system at the senior level.

STAY IN SCHOOL AWARDS PROGRAM

Funded by the Children's Aid Foundation and Scotia Capital, the Stay in School Awards Program supports kids to stay in school through recognition of their work towards personal success while overcoming personal challenges and barriers. Recipients include youth in elementary school, alternative program graduates, elementary school graduates, high school graduates, and those who show commitment to community and are making a difference.



GENERATION CONNECT

Generation Connect is a free community program where seniors (ages 50+) and youth (ages 25 & under) connect to build community through mentoring and learning from one another. This project aims to increase understanding and interaction between seniors and youth and amongst different cultural groups in our community. This Intergenerational Conversational Mentorship Program is funded through the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program.

PATHWAYS ABORIGINAL CENTRE

Pathways Aboriginal Centre provides a gathering place for Aboriginal children, youth, and families with activities towards increasing cultural awareness and connection, health and wellness, and support for Aboriginal people to achieve their goals. Services include one-to-one support, group activities and workshops, life skills, career exploration, school support and tutoring, mentorship, cultural teachings and ceremonies, health and wellness workshops, gardening, cooking and sharing of food, family nights, special events and community development and education.

OSKAYAK YOUTH PROGRAM

The Oskayak Youth Program provides youth between the ages of 14 to 24 an opportunity to connect with their culture, socialize, gain new skills, obtain community resources, participate in group activities, and receive one-to-one support. Aboriginal youth are supported to explore their culture, learn new skills, participate in sharing their culture with the community, and working towards their personal goals. Youth are actively involved in setting priorities, developing activities, and reaching out to the community. There is an Aboriginal Youth Advisory Council that includes youth who help lead the Centre.

ROOTS TO GROW

The Roots to Grow program supports Aboriginal children, youth and families. We provide one to one, group, family and caregiver support to strengthen individuals, families and foster placements.

Children, youth, families and caregivers are welcome to join us at the centre for drop in activities, family nights, workshops, cultural learning opportunities and outings. We can work with you to find out what your needs are and develop a plan to reach your goals. The program is client focused, confidential and works to provide culturally sensitive supports and services. This is a self referral program and you can contact us to find out more about what we offer and to access services.

PATHWAYS OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

In partnership with the Richmond School District and Vancouver Coastal Health, this program provides support to students of Aboriginal ancestry and their families, with the goal of supporting their physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development. Services include advocacy, one-to-one support, mediation, skill building, cultural workshops, and family drop-in nights. This program also offers assistance to find and use housing, medical, legal, employment, and other community services. We work to support each child towards personal success in school and in life. Additional support are available through volunteers and the Centre to help youth with learning and one-to-one support.

RAVENS HOMEWORK CLUB

Supported by Vancity, community donors, and volunteers, the Ravens Homework Club is a program that supports Aboriginal children and youth with tutoring and mentorship activities. The Club work with kids after school and provides them with opportunities to have fun, receive support with homework, while developing positive relationships with others. We also work individually with families and parents.

