# 2016 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



### **Greetings from the Mayor**



On behalf of City Council and the residents of Richmond, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read and explore the pages of Richmond Public Library's 2016 Annual Report to the Community.

Richmond Public Library has been a pillar of the community for over 40 years, and continues to contribute to a vibrant, active and connected city through its literacy, educational and information-based materials, resources, programs and services. The library is a great resource for residents of all ages looking to connect with others in the community or explore opportunities for personal development. Council is very proud of the values that the library demonstrates. All are welcome, there are no barriers to access and many library programs and resources are available in multiple languages to reflect the culturally diverse nature of our community.

I want to thank all of the library volunteers, Board members, community partners and staff for their commitment to ensuring that Richmond Public Library continues to meet and exceed the needs of our community. Thank you and best wishes to the library for a great 2017!

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Malcolm D. Brodie Mayor



### **Message from the Board Chair and Chief Librarian**

At Richmond Public Library, our role is to connect and empower our community – by providing access to people, materials, knowledge, resources, services and opportunities. While these words are easy to say, it's how they are executed that matters.

We want our community to think of their library as a goto destination that connects them to what they need to be successful. Because the world is ever-changing and technology is evolving faster than ever, we're constantly evolving the materials, programs and services that we provide.

In this report you'll see a sample of some of the library's achievements this year; achievements that helped us to add value in the community and adapt to the community's changing needs.

Browse the pages of this report and you'll find out about our significant collection additions, exciting new program launches that were made possible by a host of community partners, plus an exciting new public space made possible with the financial support of a Canada 150 Grant.

Haven't been to the library in a while? Come by and see what the library can do for you. Our staff are here to help you access popular collections that inspire and inform while you enjoy a welcoming atmosphere. We are constantly striving to contribute to building a stronger, knowledgeable and more connected community and we can't wait to connect with each and every one of you!

Susan L. Koch

Susan Koch Board Chair, Richmond Public Library

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Susan Walters Chief Librarian, Richmond Public Library



Left to right: Susan Koch, Board Vice-Chair; Jordan Oye; Traci Corr; Cllr. Chak Au; Cllr. Alexa Loo; Diane Cousar; Arseniy Shchedrinskiy; Chaslynn Gillanders; Simon Tang, Board Chair; Robin Leung.

In 2017 the Board members stayed the same however there were some notable changes in roles. Congratulations to Susan Koch who assumed the role of Board Chair and to Robin Leung who assumed the role of Board Vice-Chair. Thank you to Simon Tang who remains a valued member of the Board.

## Strategic Roles from our 2014-2018 Strategic Plan

We're more than halfway through our <u>Strategic Plan</u> and are working towards meeting these goals. In 2016, our focus was on five of the eight Strategic Roles.

#### 1. The Refocused Traditional Library

The library will continue to be a free source of lifelong learning and a hub for creativity, exploration and discovery.

#### 2. The Learning Hub Library

The library is a place to study, work collaboratively and find help for homework assignments. The Learning Hub is also a place for personal development.

#### 3. The Living Room Library

The library is a place to read, study or relax in a quiet, comfortable environment. It is well-lit with plenty of open spaces and offers a variety of seating options.

#### 4. The Digital Library

The library offers individual and group workstations, free Internet access, a variety of digital devices with staff training and instructions, and the necessary IT infrastructure to support it all.

#### 5. The Activity Library

The library offers informative programs and provides an opportunity for library users who want to organize and lead library programs, where they can share their knowledge and experience.

#### 6. The Creative Library

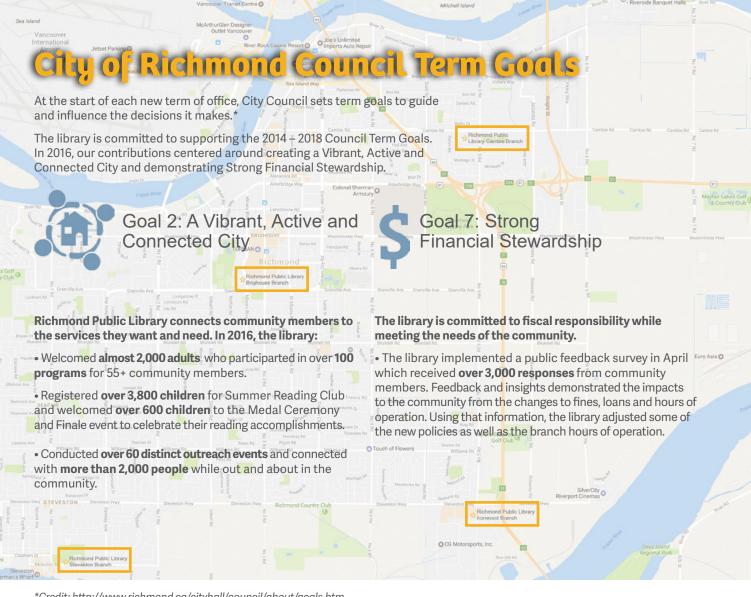
The library is a place to work, learn collaboratively with like-minded people, contribute, publish and share content.

#### 7. The Multicultural Library

The library provides space for special collections and services that reflect Richmond's multiculturalism and diversity.

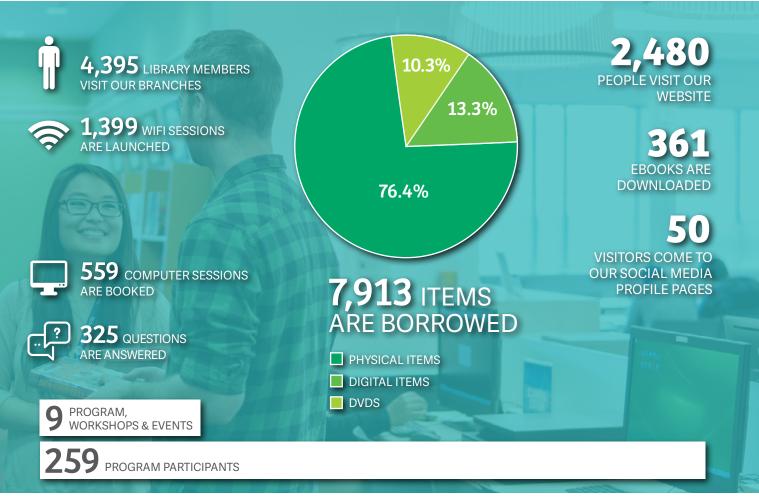
#### 8. The Gathering Place Library

The library invites groups of people to get together informally to talk, learn and share ideas. It balances space for quiet, individual activities with an informal space where noise is okay.



\*Credit: http://www.richmond.ca/cityhall/council/about/goals.htm

## A Typical Day at RPL\*



\*Average based on 354 days open

### 2016 - 2017 Accomplishments

#### **1. COLLECTION ENHANCEMENTS**

In response to public feedback and borrowing demand, plus to meet the changing needs of our diverse community, we have improved, expanded and enhanced our collections in a number of areas:

• The library enhanced its **Early Childhood Education (ECE) Teacher Resource Collection** with the introduction of new books and resources, and is set to deploy a set of **20 ECE Resource Kits** in Summer 2017.

• We invested in the non-fiction Language Learning Collection at Brighouse with the addition of foreign language learning books and travel phrasebooks that promote and simplify language learning. The library also invested \$7,000 in fiction stories from around the world that focus on cultural experiences outside of North America. • The demand for **eBooks** was strong and we continued to focus on building our eBook collection weekly.

• The library is committed to offering literacy-based and STEM programs and resources. In 2016, we added a wide variety of **BC Curriculum support materials** in the areas of STEM categories, books highlighting knowledge, technology and more.

• The library made a significant investment in enhancing our hardcover and trade paperback **Mystery Fiction** collection with the addition of **\$10,000** in new mystery thriller titles.

• In 2016, there was a concerted focus on enhancing the Kids collection, with the addition of new **Easy Readers, Red Cedar Award titles** and a new selection of **Junior Bookclub sets.** To support early childhood literacy efforts in 2016, the library invested a total of \$17,000 in **paperback picture books.** 





• The demand for large print books at Richmond Public Library continues to increase and the library invested \$12,000 in new fiction and non-fiction large print bestsellers to meet the needs of our community.

I recently re-discovered the library after not having borrowed any books for many years. I really enjoy your selection of current non-fiction and how well stocked, organized, and clean the Brighouse branch of the library is. I look forward to spending many more hours discovering the treasures you continue to curate for readers such as myself.

Gerald, Brighouse branch user



### 2. DIGITAL PROGRAMS, SERVICES & SPACES

Many new Digital Literacy programs were introduced in 2016 to expand the core program offerings. These programs leveraged the expertise of the library's digital community partners as well as the in-house experience of the Digital Services team.

Program highlights from 2016 include:

• Introduction to Electronics: In this partnership program with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC, students learned the basics of electronics and how to build their own LED circuit. • Once Upon an App: Toddlers and their caregivers experience a lively traditional storytime enhanced with the introduction of a new app for children each week. Caregivers are invited to try out the app and provided the opportunity to ask questions of library staff hosts.

• **3D Maker Meetups:** Certified 3D makers and budding 3D enthusiasts enjoy coming together once a month in the Launchpad to hear guest speakers, meet other makers, demo and discuss their projects and share their knowledge and skills with others. • **Computer Basics for Seniors:** This popular series is for seniors who are looking to gain new computer skills or brush up on their basic knowledge. These classes are hands-on and cover various computer topics. Our goal is to help equip seniors to communicate with their families and loved ones in the changing digital times.





# WELCOME TO THE NEW LAUNCHPAD

### This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada.



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**Bichmond** Public Library

An open space where the community can

Create	Innovate
Explore	Discover
Meet Up	Collaborate

The <u>Launchpad</u> connects the community to new technology with

- a dedicated classroom, flex area and lecture space
- creation stations for digitization, photo/negative scanning and 3D modeling software
- computer coding
- robotics
- 3D modeling software

All ages, interests and skill levels are welcome!

I wish to thank you for the "3D Modelling For Production" course my son followed at the public library. The course allowed him to open his mind to computing at a higher technical level than everyday computing/gaming/smartphone use.

Martin, father of student in 3D Modelling program

The library provides diverse materials and learning spaces, inspiring creativity, sharing and knowledge.

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The library builds a stronger, more knowledgeable and connected community where people of all ages, backgrounds and cultures are welcomed and respected.





Karen X. Tulchinsky

organizations to find inspiring volunteer opportunities.

RPL contributes to some of the community's biggest arts and culture events. Here are some of the notable community events we were part of:

#### **Culture Days**

Children's Arts Festival Heritage Fair Richmond World Festival International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia Black History Month Asian Heritage Month Education Week

#### **3. PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS**

In addition to providing valuable resources, materials and collections, the library is committed to offering an extensive variety of free programming.

In 2016, the library welcomed Karen X. Tulchinsky as Richmond's fifth Writer-In-Residence. Together with the City of Richmond, the Richmond Arts Centre and the Minoru Place Activity Centre, the library hosted a series of workshops and manuscript consultations by Karen. Her unique perspectives and experiences inspired participants to explore their own creativity while learning from an accomplished, published author.

The library is proud to support community members young and old in finding out about **volunteer and employment opportunities.** In 2016, RPL held a variety of employment, skills-based programs and job fairs, attracting **over 650 attendees** through the year. The library is fortunate to partner with local organizations such as Avia Employment Services and RMCS to offer job fairs, as well as job-skills programming that helps participants prepare to meet with prospective employers.

**Small business** owners and those considering starting their own business can also find valuable programs to help them in their entrepreneurial journey. RPL paid tribute to Small Business Week in October 2016 with nightly programming that introduced entrepreneurs to key business concepts from tax law to grant applications to business planning.

Youth have always been an important demographic for RPL and we're constantly looking for ways to connect with local teens. Thanks to our growing partnership with Charity Brighouse, the library welcomed **780 teens** to the second annual **Richmond Youth Volunteerism Fair.** Youth explored **over 20 booths** and interacted with local

I was very impressed with this Program (Learning Together) held at the Richmond Library (Ironwood location) every Wednesday. The weekly literacy themes evoked for me, reflections on meaningful practices to further support the learning and growth of my children.

#### Simmee, Teacher and parent





In 2016, two new strategic partnerships developed, holding promise for longterm relationships that will deliver significant benefit to the community of Richmond.

The development of **Early Years Centres** (**EYC**) is part of the BC Early Years Strategy and an operational mandate of the Provincial Office for the Early Years. The aim of the EYC Strategy is to work with a number of community partners to coordinate and integrate existing services to develop a more seamless system of support for families with children 0 - 6 years old. Richmond was named as one of the successful centres with the Brighouse branch of the Richmond Public Library being the main EYC hub. This is the first time that a library is the main site for an EYC. Library staff, working together with the Library Board, the Superintendent for the **Richmond Christian School (RCS)** and a teacher librarian, have established the framework for a partnership that will become a model for partnerships with other schools in the future. Key elements of the partnership include:

- Creating volunteer opportunities for students
- Providing opportunities for exploring interests beyond academics for students
- Providing resources and knowledgesharing to support the new BC school curriculum
- Offering digital tours for students and student groups so they can come and explore our collection of digital tools
- Working together to encourage students to explore the library and read during the summer

Many of these goals were put into action in 2016 and others are underway. In addition, these goals were expanded to support students throughout Richmond, whether they attend public or private school.

Starting in January 2017, the library's one-day service at **Hamilton** Community Centre launched some exciting new collections and literacy-based activities. Members have been enjoying fresh new collections and new hands-on activities. Come and see why Saturdays at Hamilton are becoming the local community's favourite day of the week!



### **Thank You to Our Volunteers and Champions!**



Throughout the year, library <u>community volunteers</u> generously give their time and energy to help make library programs successful. At our annual appreciation event in April 2017, the library publicly recognized the valuable support that these volunteers provide to the community.

#### Did you know? Since April 2016:

- Over 300 people have signed up to be library volunteers!
- Together their contributions enriched over **40 different library programs and events!**
- In total, volunteers contributed **2,934 hours of volunteer service!**

Congratulations and thank you!



The library also appreciates and recognizes the contributions of its <u>Library Champions</u>. These community members are recent immigrants who are specially trained to conduct outreach with other new immigrants in the community. Library Champions enjoy the benefit of improving their own communication and presentation skills while helping to connect their community with valuable library resources and settlement information.

In 2016, Richmond Public Library partnered with **40 Library Champions** who collectively reached out to almost **1,200 community members!** Thank you for sharing your knowledge!



Mayor Brodie and Greg Buss

### It's Been a Busy Year!

#### **RPL CELEBRATES 40 YEARS**

Did you know? RPL was incorporated in 1976, and we have been providing library service to the City of Richmond for 40 years! We celebrated this milestone in October 2016 during Canadian Library Month. The community came together for a special birthday celebration with cupcakes, giveaways of limited edition stickers, tattoos and balloons, plus a chance to connect with Library Board members, staff and community partners.

"The library has changed immensely in the past 40 years but our foundational role of connecting the community to information and to each other still remains."

Lee Anne Smith, Coordinator, Programming & Information Services.

#### FAREWELL TO LONGSTANDING CHIEF LIBRARIAN GREG BUSS

After 26 years as Chief Librarian and 33 years at the library, Greg Buss retired on January 20, 2017. During his time as Chief Librarian, Greg led the library in achieving international recognition in many areas, including customer service, innovative building design, multilingual services and information technology.

The Library Board has entrusted the library's senior leadership role to Susan Walters, the new Chief Librarian.

"Greg's strong leadership voice has been a constant at Richmond Public Library that has helped the library to grow, expand, and bring new services to the community. The Library Board is confident that Susan will be able to build on the legacy that Greg has created and further evolve the library's role of promoting lifelong learning, community engagement and of course, reading."

Simon Tang, 2016 Library Board Chair.

### RESTORATION OF BRANCH HOURS OF OPERATION

On February 17, 2017, after a public feedback survey, hours of operation at the Cambie, Ironwood and Steveston branches were restored to their original times. This was identified as a priority for both the library and the City of Richmond in 2017.

"In 2017, the library is committed to offering some very exciting collections, partnership programs, services and learning opportunities to the community. In order to improve our members' access to these programs and services, it was essential to restore branch hours."

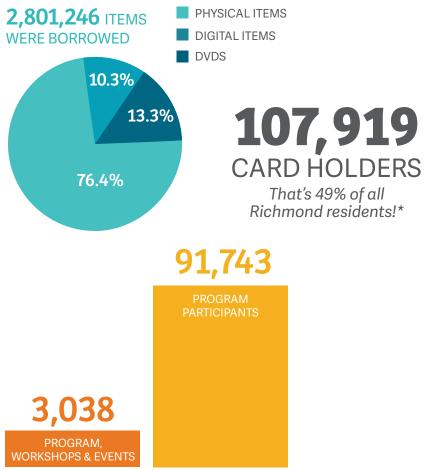
Susan Walters, Chief Librarian.



I just have two words regarding the restoration of full library hours... wow and hallelujah! It is so liberating to be able to drop by the library without worrying if it will be open. My home away from home is back!!!

S.D., library branch user

### 2016 Facts & Figures











**19,715** COMPUTER SESSIONS WERE BOOKED



**2,934** TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS CONTRIBUTED TO LIBRARY PROGRAMS & EVENTS\*\*

\*Credit: http://www.richmond.ca/discover/about/demographics.htm \*\*April 2016 - April 2017



### **2016 Statement of Revenue & Expenses**

OPERATING REVENUE		OPERATING EXPENSES	
Municipal Contribution	\$7,432,500	Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$6,620,749
Donations Grants	\$30,838 \$402,173	Supplies and Equipment Services General and Administration	\$752,269 \$381,645
Fines and Miscellaneous	\$333,946	Building, Lease and Maintenance	\$313,305
Total	\$8,199,457	Utilities	\$137,191
CADITAL		Total	\$8,205,159
<b>CAPITAL</b> Municipal Contribution	\$1,311,500	CADITAL	
Manicipal contribution	φ1,311,300	CAPITAL Amortization <sup>1</sup>	\$1,319,116
Total Revenue	\$9,510,957	Loss on Disposal of Assets <sup>2</sup>	\$1,519,110
		Total Expense	\$9,677,005
		Annual Surplus (Deficit)	(\$166,048)
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<sup>1</sup> The cost of an asset, such as a book, is spread over the estimated useful life of the asset or the book and this annual expense is referred to as "amortization".

<sup>2</sup> The library removed and recycled a large number of old, outdated and damaged books, or assets, creating a loss that is called a "Loss on Disposal of Assets".

Did you know? Donations to Richmond Public Library over \$20 receive a tax receipt!

### Thank You to Our 2016 Donors

Thank you to the many generous donors who help us improve and expand access to essential programs, collections and services. To donate, please visit any Richmond Public Library branch or go to <u>yourlibrary.ca/donations</u>.

#### DONATIONS \$20,000+

Friends of the Richmond Library

#### DONATIONS \$5,000 - \$19,999

N & Z Futures Ltd. (Derek Dang & Dr. Margaret Young); Richmond Public Library Endowment Fund in the Richmond Community Foundation – Kronier & Sparrow Ltd; The Ben & Esther Dayson Charitable Foundation; Vancouver Foundation

#### DONATIONS \$1,000 - \$4,999

Alan Burns

#### **DONATIONS \$500 - \$999**

Anonymous (1)

#### DONATIONS \$300 - \$499

Anonymous (1); Greg Buss; Susan Walters

#### **DONATIONS \$200 - \$299**

All Sorts Book Club; Ancient Mariners Book Club; CFUW Afternoon Book Club; CFUW Evening Book Club; Robbin Greig; Simon Tang; Susan Koch; United Way

#### **DONATIONS \$100 - \$199**

Adil Arda Minocherhomjee; Anonymous (1); Christiana Shum; Ironwood Evening Book Club; Mariner's Village Book Club; Seventh Heaven Book Club; Tuesday with Women Book Club; Ya Ya Sisters Book Club; Richmond Glitterbugs Book Club; Robin Leung; WorkSafe BC

#### **DONATIONS \$50 - \$99**

Chaslynn Gillanders; Cindy McPherson; Sharon Doucelin; Traci Corr

#### **DONATIONS UP TO \$50**

Alexis Rothschild; Anonymous (4); Denis Deyneko; Jin Song Guo; Kara Mintzberg and Josh Gibbons; Kin Lung Ho; Peter Yeung; Rachel Eaton



Working with the Richmond Public Library over the past year has been invaluable. Whether we were offering workshops, information at a community table, or multi-employer job fairs, the library was appropriately equipped with equipment and space for our needs. We look forward to our continued collaboration and partnership in future endeavors.

### 2016 Community Partners

ORGANIZATIONS Alzheimer Society of B.C. AM 1470 Fairchild Radio Animation Academy Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of BC Avia Employment Services BC Hvdro BC Lung Screen Trial Bloomin' Garden British Columbia Genealogical Society Canada Council for the Arts Canada International Photographers Association Canada Revenue Agency Canadian Chinese Babymoms Network Canadian Chinese Poetry Association Canadian Chinese Writers' Association Canadian Health Awareness Society Capilano University Chabad of Richmond Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada / Comptables professionnels agréés du Canada Chess2Inspire Association Chimo Community Services Chinese Canadian Historical Society Chinese Canadian Historical Society of BC Chinese Canadian Military Museum Chinese Canadian Pen Centre City Centre Community Centre City of Richmond City of Richmond, Community Services Department (Nature Park) City of Richmond, Health Department City of Richmond, Community Services City of Richmond, Environmental Programs Department Coding4Fun Connections: International Students Craftworks Toys Credit Counselling Society Diwalifest Douglas College Driftwood Artists' Association Edward Jones eGurus Environment Canada Family Integration and Resources Support Team Society Family Services of Greater Vancouver Fraser Cultural Forum Furen Educuation Institute Genome BC Haipai Painting and Calligraphy Society of Canada Healthies Babies Possible **Hive Vancouver** Hua Xia Multiculture Society Immigrant Services Society of BC Insight Chemistry Tutors Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, University of Victoria International Multicultural Development Foundation

Investors Group Financial Services Jewish Independent Newspaper JHub Richmond Jim Pattison Group Jimale Law Corp Kids Code Jeunesse Kwantlen Polytechnic University Kwantlen Physics Langara College Legacy Advantage Libra Nutrition Literacy Richmond London Drugs #52 Mad Science Makelt.Zone Medicinal Cannabis Resource Centre Inc. Ministry of Children and Family Development – Provincial Office of the Early Years Ministry of Education Ministry of Finance Monarch House Moonlight Counselling and Education Services MOSAIC Multicultural Helping House Society Muslim Association of BC MyGym NaNoWriMo National Film Board Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society Ohel Ya'akov Community Kollel (Vancouver) Open Science Network OsteoArthritis Service Integration System Regional Office Outside the Box Learning Commons Panther Cheer Athletics Pathways Clubhouse People's Law School Physio2U PriceSmart Foods Pharmacy Prostate Cancer Foundation of BC Province of British Columbia Pullem Wealth Management/Worldsource Financial Management Inc. Purdy's Richmond Addiction Services Richmond Arts Centre **Richmond Children First** Richmond Christian School Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra Richmond Denture Clinic **Richmond Family Place Richmond Garden Club** Richmond Multicultural Community Services Richmond Museum Richmond Nature Park Richmond News Richmond Orchid Club **Richmond Public Health** 

**Richmond School Board** Richmond School District #38 Richmond Women's Resource Centre Richmond Youth Service Agency Robokids Canada Roma Palmer Counselling Royal Thai Consulate-General S.Ú.C.C.E.S.S. Science World SIS (Scientists in Schools) Scotiabank SFU's Let's Talk Science Small Business BC Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology - ms infinity Society for Chinese Canadian Literature Studies Soul Physiotherapy and Pelvic Floor Health clinic Sound of Dragon Spring University Spry Hawkins Micner St. John Ambulance Richmond Branch Taiji Guanzhen Academy Taipei First Girl High School Alumni Association of Canada Taiwan Universities Alumni Association of W.C. Taoist Tai Chi The Bayit of Richmond Toastmasters Touchstone Family Association Touchstone: RESET Youth Group UBC Asian Canadian and Asian Migration Studies UBC BodyWorks Fitness Centre **UBC Engineering** UBC Hong Kong Studies Initiative UBC Let's Talk Science **UBC Physics & Astronomy** Under the GUI United Way, Avenues of Change Vancity Vancouver Cantonese Opera Vancouver Chinese Culture and Arts Foundation Vancouver Coastal Health Vancouver Coastal Health Integrated Primary & Community Care Vancouver Hong Kong Forum Society Vancouver Jewish Film Centre Vancouver Maker Foundation Vancouver Neurotherapy Health Services Inc. Vancouver Paleontological Society Vancouver Talmud Torah West Richmond Community Centre World Poetry WS Immigrant and Multicultural Services Society

Lonnie, Avia Employment Services

#### INDIVIDUALS

Gurpinder Gurpinder Cheryl Kwok Notary Public Jane Luo Peter Sammarco Pamela Zevit Adamah The impact the Richmond Public Library has had on my education and identity is monumental, even to this day. I wouldn't have gotten here without the library and every one of its shelves and employees. To this day, my stories are still cheesy, the Vancouver skies remain dreary, but at least the Richmond Public Library will forever stay "cozy"."

Joyce, Volunteer writer for Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives



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