



RECREATION 2SLGBTQIA+ PROGRAMMING

Highlights and Impacts

Regular Park Board Meeting
Monday, June 2, 2025



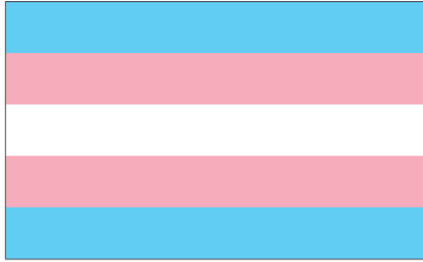
- The purpose of the presentation is to provide information to the Board about the Recreation Queer Inclusion portfolio, including:
 - Context and Background
 - Programming Approach
 - Reach and Impacts
 - Pride Season Highlights



"What [our children] want most is to connect with other kids and youth who are gender diverse."

What they found was the gift of being seen for who they are, and seeing themselves in all those around them."

- parent of child attending Queer Inclusion programs



- 2014 - Trans* and Gender Variant Working Group Report delivered to Park Board
 - 2014 – first RPT staff positions created
- 2016 - Gender identity and gender expression added to BC Human Rights Code
- 2016 – City of Vancouver – Supporting Trans* Equality and an Inclusive Vancouver passed
- 2022 – two RFT Recreation Programmer positions created in Queer Inclusion, Access Services

Creating Safe and Welcoming Spaces



Recommendation	Action
Expand options in washrooms and change rooms	2016 – washroom signage updated to include "Gender Diverse People Welcome"; universal washroom options in new developments
Create and adapt recreation programming for inclusion	2022 – Queer Inclusion program team expansion
Remove financial barriers to facilities and programs	Ongoing – LAP referrals for 2STGD people; more community organizations are 3rd party referring agencies
Equip staff with tools to be more welcoming and supportive of 2STGD communities	Ongoing – departmental communications and promotional materials; staff training on gender diversity
Safety planning for 2STGS programs	Ongoing – safety planning process for 2STGD programs

	2022	2025
Programs	1 weekly program	10 weekly programs 3 monthly programs 9 annual special events
Places	1 community centre	5 community centres, plus various special event sites
Age Groups Served	All ages, but only adult participants attended	Preschool, children, youth, adult and all ages programming available, and all ages attending

PARK BOARD PRIDE

Proud to serve Vancouver's 2SLGBTQIA+ community year-round.

Growth in 2STGD Program Visits – 2022 to 2024

	2022	2023	2024
2STGD Swim	1636	2255	3143
2STGD Workout	32	193	216
2STGD Yoga	-	-	211

Program attendees per year for 2STGD active recreation programs

"I attend 2STGD swim and Rhyme Time with my spouse and baby every week. It's so nice to have places to connect with other 2STGD families;

it has made us feel way less isolated."

- 2STGD parent



FEATURE: 2STGD Rhyme Time

- Parent & Tot Literacy Development
- Offered in partnership with Vancouver Public Library (VPL)
- VPL provides children's librarians and snacks
- Community Centre Association provides room space
- Park Board provides staff support and manages promotion, safety planning, and registration

“In a world of so much disinformation and hatred, this afternoon felt very warm and comforting, a big welcoming space to relax and connect.

Thank you so much!!”

Participant at a special event



Upcoming Events and More Information

- Pride Season
 - Focus on supporting community-led activations, and offer special events for youth, and families with 2SLGBTQIA+ children
- More information:
 - vancouver.ca/park-board-pride
 - queerinclusion@vancouver.ca
 - 2STGD@vancouver.ca

