



# REPORT CARD

THIS IS HOW WE GRADED METRO VANCOUVER

<b>B</b>	<b>YOUTH SPACES</b>	The need for more youth-only spaces, such as “all-ages” venues is a priority. In 2013, “all-ages” shows were banned at bars and cabarets. This policy decreases the number of venues available for “all-ages” performances and concerts.
<b>C</b>	<b>THE ARTS</b>	High admission costs and limited funding to support the arts sector contribute to the barriers limiting young people’s access to and participation in the arts.
<b>C</b>	<b>YOUTH VOICE</b>	The top priority for this subject area is increased opportunities for meaningful, not just token, participation in decision-making processes.
<b>B</b>	<b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	Youth in metro Vancouver value the natural landscape of this region, but feel more support, education, and environmental awareness needs to begin earlier, starting in elementary schools, to help young people make eco-friendly choices.
<b>B</b>	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	42% of 18-24-year-olds in metro Vancouver use transit as their main mode of transportation. For this reason, youth respondents indicated that reducing the cost of public transit is a priority.
<b>C</b>	<b>SAFETY</b>	Improving public safety and the relationship between youth and the police and RCMP continue to be top priorities for survey respondents.
<b>C</b>	<b>POVERTY</b>	Of all the 13 subject areas, poverty received the highest number of failing (F) grades. According to the 2011 Census, 11% of BC children and youth aged 18 and under were living below the poverty line.
<b>C</b>	<b>YOUTH HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS</b>	This subject area received the second highest number of failing (F) grades. Lack of affordable housing in the region continues to be a concern for young people. From 2007 to 2012, the average cost to rent a one-bedroom apartment in the region increased by 16% to \$982 a month.
<b>B</b>	<b>HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</b>	Inaccessible youth clinics in suburban areas, including very few with youth-friendly operating hours, continue to be among the top priorities for youth survey respondents
<b>C</b>	<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>	Stigma associated with mental health continues to be a barrier for young people seeking services, in addition to long wait lists and lack of youth-specific services.
<b>B</b>	<b>EDUCATION AND LEARNING</b>	Of the youth who responded to this subject area, 36% prioritized the need for improved curriculum to help them become better prepared for post-secondary studies.
<b>C</b>	<b>EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING</b>	Youth are often accepting unpaid training or internships; therefore, it is not surprising that the number one priority for youth respondents is to increase the number of paid jobs and work experience opportunities.
<b>B</b>	<b>CULTURE, IDENTITY AND BELONGING</b>	Youth respondents are striving for more inclusive and welcoming communities, but feel it can be difficult in the absence of education and awareness about their own cultures and history, as well as that of Canada’s First Nations people.

These results come from over 3,500 metro Vancouver youth who participated in the 2013 Youth Vital Signs survey.

YOUTHVITALSIGNS.CA / @VFYPC #YVS2013 / YPC@VANCOUVERFOUNDATION.CA / 604.688.2204