



# **THOMPSON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025**  
(for Year ending August 31, 2024)

**7:00 – 8:00 pm**  
Registration Starts at 6:45 pm





## THOMPSON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

7:00 PM (registration starts 6:45pm)

1.	Call to Order – Stephen Morris, President	
2.	Introductions	
3.	Approval of Agenda	
4.	Approval of the Minutes of Annual General Meeting of February 7, 2024.....	5
5.	Financial Statements (2023 – 2024) – Alan Marchant, Treasurer.....	8
6.	Appointment of Auditor – Alan Marchant, Treasurer	
7.	Committee Year End Reports	
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	b. Children’s / Vanessa Xavier Lau.....	10
	c. Fitness / Kathy Holt .....	14
	d. Human Resources / Jen Dahl .....	18
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	f. Youth / Austin Ng .....	21
	g. Special Event & Program Planning / Vanessa Xavier Lau.....	25
	h. President’s / Stephen Morris .....	27
	i. Richmond City Staff Report / Scott Schroeder.....	28
8.	Nominations and Election of Board of Directors for terms starting February 5, 2025.....	29
9.	Presentations – Staff Long Service Award.....	30
10.	Adjournment	

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**THOMPSON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024  
Activity Room in Community Centre**

**Present:**

**Board Members:** Guy Anderson, Jen Dahl, Eyal Lichtmann, Noa Lichtmann, Alan Marchant, Stephen Morris, Sam Samy, Harry Wong, Vanessa Xavier Lau, (Debby Newton, Recording Secretary)

**Association Staff:** Shantelle Allard, Hana Hekal, Katelyn McPhedrian, Trey Melton, Natalia Orekhova, Shellby Sy, Anna Thymis, Jacob Tubajon, Emily Vera

**City Staff:** Sacha Hasen, Scott Schroeder

**Community Members:** There were eight community members in attendance at the meeting.

1. **Call to Order:**  
The Annual General Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm, by Jen Dahl, President of the Thompson Community Association.
2. **Introductions:**  
Jen Dahl, Chair, opened the meeting by introducing herself and thanking everyone for their attendance. Jen introduced members of the Association Executive, and the Area Coordinator for Thompson Community Centre.
3. **Adoption of Agenda:**  
***MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented. Moved: Guy Anderson / Seconded: Stephen Morris / Carried.***
4. **Adoption of AGM Minutes of February 1, 2023:**  
***MOTION: To adopt the February 1, 2023 Annual General Meeting minutes as presented. Moved: Stephen Morris / Seconded: Guy Anderson / Carried.***
5. **Financial Report for Year Ended August 31, 2023 – Alan Marchant, Treasurer:**  
***MOTION: To adopt the Financial Report for year ended August 31, 2023, as presented. Moved: Alan Marchant / Seconded: Eyal Lichtmann / Carried.***  
  
***MOTION: To appoint Tompkins Wozny, Chartered Professional Accountants, as the accounting firm for the Thompson Community Association for the September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024 fiscal year. Moved: Alan Marchant / Seconded: Harry Wong / Carried.***
6. **Committee Year End Reports:**  
The Chair referred to the year end Committee Reports as noted below and as circulated with the agenda. Committee chairs spoke to their reports and were available for any questions.

Committee

- a. Finance
- b. Children’s
- d. Fitness
- e. Human Resources
- f. Seniors
- g. Youth
- h. President’s Report
- i. Richmond City Staff Report

Committee Chair

- Alan Marchant
- Vanessa Xavier Lau
- Kathy Holt (Sam Samy in Kathy’s absence)
- Eyal Lichtmann
- Stephen Morris
- Noa Lichtmann
- Jen Dahl
- Scott Schroeder

***MOTION: To adopt the Committee Year End Reports as presented. Moved: Guy Anderson / Seconded: Sam Samy / Carried.***

7. Call for Nominations and Election of Board of Directors:

The following Board members, as recommended by the Nominating Committee, have agreed to let their names stand for Board of Directors for a two year term (February 2024 to the AGM in 2026) and were re-elected by acclamation:

Guy Anderson	Noa Lichtmann	Sam Samy
Jen Dahl	Stephen Morris	

The following Board members continue to serve in terms from February 1, 2023 to the AGM in 2025.

Kathy Holt	Alan Marchant	Vanessa Xavier Lau
Eyal Lichtmann	Harry Wong	

***MOTION: To approve all Board of Directors serving from February 7, 2024 to the date of the 2025 AGM, all of whom recommended and presented by the Nominating Committee; further to acknowledge the 2024 Board of Directors: Guy Anderson, Jen Dahl, Kathy Holt, Eyal Lichtmann, Noa Lichtmann, Alan Marchant, Stephen Morris, Sam Samy, Harry Wong, and Vanessa Xavier Lau. Moved: Guy Anderson / Seconded: Eyal Lichtmann / Carried.***

The following Board member has resigned from the Thompson Community Association Board of Directors. Jen Dahl, on behalf of the Board of Directors, thanked Farah for her contribution over the past several years.

Farah Merali (Effective February 7, 2024)

8. Presentations:

Long Service awards were presented to Association Staff:

**5 Years:** Trey Melton, Ka Lun (Karen) Leung, Chloe Nakata; **6 Years:** Ben E. Huber, Anna Thymis, Jacob Tubajon, Samantha T. Charlton; **7 Years:** Maria Jennifer Gervacio, Kit Yu (Yoki) Leung; **8 Years:** Amanda Kot, Shantelle Allard, Eleftheria Soursos, Misuzu Chiu; **9 Years:** Catherine (Kate) Dawson, Sio Wai (Gloria) Iek, Emily M. Vera, Noah Sturton, Tricia Booker, Tomomi Chiu; **10 Years:** Katelyn McPhedrian, Shellby Sy.

9. Adjournment:

There being no further business, Stephen Morris made a motion to adjourn. Carried.  
Annual General Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Jen Dahl  
President

Debby Newton  
Recording Secretary

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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The complete Financial Statements for Thompson Community Association are under separate cover but form part of the Annual General Meeting package. Below is the Engagement Report cover letter as provided by Tompkins Wozny, Chartered Professional Accountants.

## INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONERS' REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

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To the Directors of  
**Thompson Community Association**

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Thompson Community Association that comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2024, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian general accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Thompson Community Association as at August 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

*Tompkins Wozny LLP*

Vancouver, Canada  
December 4, 2024

Chartered Professional Accountants



## Finance Committee Report September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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This year the revenue over expenses showed a net surplus of \$146,514 against the previous year's \$89,629. This increase is due to our continued recovery from the effects of COVID and increase in activities that now exceeds that of before COVID. The Association's revenue increased by approximately \$339,917 and the overall expenses increased by about \$283,032 over the previous year as activities and programming increases.

Operational revenue allowed the Community Association to support seniors, youth, some Preschool programs, where the revenues cannot support the program expenses. The support provided is shown below:

Area	2024	2023
Seniors	\$34,195	\$35,057
Youth	27,849	27,849
Community Development Coordinator	58,824	18,523
Preschool - Rompers	-	12,489
Preschool – Nature School	11,827	11,742
Total:	\$132,695	\$105,660

In the previous year there was a Preschool subsidy for both the Rompers program and the Nature School, this year it was only the Nature School program.

Financially the Association is in a good position and has started to use some of the previous year's surpluses to upgrade as planned the fitness and other equipment, in total \$111,387 was spent from our reserves compared to \$139,939 the previous year.

As we have used our capital reserves to fund this and previous year's capital expenditures, we replaced the funds from the accumulated surplus into the reserves to ensure we can replace any capital items as required.

The board with the assistance of staff continues the process of developing a capital budget to ensure the facility remains competitive and serves the needs of the community.

The Board voted to have the Association's financial statements reviewed by external accountants. The firm of Tompkins, Wozny CPA LLP continues to perform the engagement for the Association.

The efforts by volunteers on all committees, the Association and City staff, in preparing and monitoring their budgets, has a great impact on the financial success of the Association. I would like to thank all Finance Committee members (Jen Dahl, Stephen Morris, and Scott Schroeder), both Association and City staff, and our bookkeeper, Liz Sjerdal, for all their hard work and commitment.

Respectively Submitted by Alan Marchant, Treasurer, for AGM of February 5, 2025



## Children's Committee Report September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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The Children's Committee works with the Community Facilities Coordinator and Preschool Coordinators to liaison with the Board and consult on programs including: licensed preschool, preschool and children's seasonal programs, winter and spring break camps and summer challenge day camps.

### **Terra Nova Nature School (TNNS)**

#### **TNNS Preschool**

Kate Dawson and Emily Vera, coordinators of Terra Nova Nature School, supervised a preschool team of 5 Early Childhood Educators (ECE) and 10 Beyond 4 Walls Educators. The preschool also supported a practicum student from the ECE program at Langara College. This year 2 TNNS staff are members of the newly formed Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

The preschool program ran at full capacity, averaging 45 children per month, including 2 children receiving support from Supported Child Development program. There were 9 children receiving the Affordable Child Care Benefit.

TNNS received 4 grants this past year: the *Environmental Enhancement Grant* (\$1200) from the City of Richmond to continue work on the Food Forest and Invasive Species Removal; the *Child Care Grant*, (\$2000), with which we purchased additional outdoor benches and wagons; the *Green Jobs Initiative*, which allowed the hiring of a Garden Mentor Position who worked from late June-to mid August and the *Summer Jobs Grant*.

West Coast Seeds donated \$300 of seeds for the school garden.

TNNS was successful in their application to the Early Childhood Pedagogy Network and was appointed a Pedagogist to work with the preschool team on developing a curriculum. She attended class once per week in the morning Eagles program.

The TNNS 10 year celebration was a resounding success, thanks to the financial support of TCA, and the generous assistance of TCC City and Association staff. Over 500 people attended, along with numerous bands and entertainers, food trucks, and community partners.

Other noteworthy events included:

- In April, TNNS hosted delegates from the World Forum on Early Years Education, sharing our work while offering tours of the Cottage and Terra Nova Rural Park.
- A closing celebration of the artwork created throughout the previous year was held in November. Funded by a City of Richmond Arts and Heritage Award, TNNS worked with artist Aaron Lettner to explore the seasons using natural materials. The finished banners are permanently installed in TCC's entrance hall.
- TNNS hosted several family gatherings throughout the year, and expanded their work around Pink Shirt Day, Orange Shirt Day, Walk for Wenjack,

TNNS continues to welcome 3 senior volunteers who assist weekly in the preschool program, as well as youth volunteers throughout the summer programs. A partnership with *Deloitte Canada* had a team come out in October to assist with blackberry removal.

### **TNNS Beyond 4 Walls**

B4W programs were very successful last year with each program enjoying robust registration and waitlists. Beyond 4 Walls programs saw roughly 115 children registered each session: fall, winter, spring. Summer camps were expanded with many new camps, many weeks running 3 to 4 camps per day. Camps ran for 8 weeks with an estimated registration of 284 children, for children ages 3 ½- 15 years. Camps were taught by TNNS staff.

## **Rompers**

Rompers Preschool & Time for Twos programs are led by Coordinator, Anna Thymis, who oversees four Early Childhood Educators and two Support Workers in Rompers Preschool, and three (3) Preschool Leaders in Time for Twos.

### **Rompers Preschool**

Rompers Preschool had an average fill rate of 84% throughout the 2023-24 school year. Rompers Preschool had sixteen (16) families receiving the Affordable Child Care Benefit funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Services and two (2) children receiving support through Supported Child Development.

Historically the 4-hour program was offered to 4 year olds only. To align with needs of the community, the class changed to 3 & 4 yr. olds this year. This proved beneficial for all involved.

### **Noteworthy events:**

- September 13, 2023: Preschool Playground and Garden cleanup: Parents and volunteers banded together to for a general cleanup of the outdoor learning classroom (weed, prune bushes and help shovel new sand into the sandboxes). Refreshments were provided.
- October 2023: Second annual Walk for Wenjack
- October 2023: Pumpkin Patch field trip!
- Staff Professional Development Days
  - December 2023: Book study: Beyond Behaviours Using Brain Science and Compassion to Understand and Solve Children's Behavioral Challenges This provided great context and tools for educators to understand behavioral challenges and offer a road map for strategies in supporting children with challenging behaviours.
  - May 2024: Deconstructing Circle Time; The educators created visual stories and songs with flannel. This was a great opportunity for the educators to network and share their favourite resources while creating their own felt board stories and songs. They also shared tools and tips for successful group time.
- January-March 2024: Rompers Preschool welcomed a practicum student in the spring.
- Graduation celebration/end of the school year party!

## **Time for Twos**

Time for Twos operated two classes:

- 9am-11am with a maximum of 12 students and 3 teachers
- 11:30-1:30pm, with a maximum of 8 children and 2 teachers

The two classes became amalgamated starting December 2023 due to withdrawals in both classes. As a result the 9am-11am class ran from December to June with an average of 11-12 students and 3 teachers.

## **Licensed Preschool Camp**

Rompers Licensed Preschool Camps ran Monday to Friday from 9am to 1pm for 2 weeks in March and 8 weeks in July/August. They were run by 2 ECE's, two volunteers and at a maximum capacity of 20 children per week. As in the past, these camps continue to prove to be extremely popular as they were full with an average of 19-20 children per week in all 10 weeks.

## **City of Richmond Child Care Grant**

Rompers Preschool was awarded \$12,263.57 from the City of Richmond 2024 Child Care Capital Grant. Together with funds provided by Thompson Community Association, these funds were put towards the purchase and installation of artificial turf in the preschool “outdoor classroom (playground).” This not only improved the physical environment of the outdoor classroom, but it enhanced preschool programming around outdoor learning experiences, active/gross motor play, cooperative social game play as well as risky play on a safe, durable, long-lasting ground surface. The artificial turf was installed with a ‘Play-pad’ underlay, guaranteeing a safe, cushioned, shock-absorbing surface for all kinds of play. It is anticipated that the durability and longevity of this play surface will provide years of benefits for all who enjoy the outdoor space, whether it be preschool or other recreation programs, ensuring that Thompson Community Association's investment in the upgraded playground maintains its great value.



BEFORE & AFTER



BEFORE & AFTER



### Summer Programs

Summer 2024 was another successful summer filled with safe, educational, and enjoyable experiences for staff, children and families alike. Summer Coordinator, Karol Patriarca supported 24 regular staff and 50 volunteers. We provided 9 weeks of general junior daycamps (6-8 years) and senior daycamps (9-12 years), 8 weeks of Neighbourhood Camps (6-12 years) and 8 weeks of half day, weeklong Variety Camps. Summer camps had a total of 858 registrations, an average 95% fill rate. Our revenue registration was approximately \$157, 379. This year Thompson Community Association applied for the Canada Summer Jobs grant separately from other Associations and was awarded \$26,763 to help cover summer wage expenses.

### Seasonal Programs

Programs continued to see high registration with over 3,058 registrants in the preschool and children’s categories. In addition to increasing many of our tried and true sports, science, and arts programs, we added a number of new programs to our roster including, Robotics, Private Ukulele lessons, K-Pop dance, Cooking classes, Flag football, and Coding. Winter and Spring break camps also ran successfully again this year at full capacity.

Respectfully submitted by Vanessa Xavier Lau, Children’s Committee Chair, for AGM of February 5, 2025

## Fitness Committee Report September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024



Thompson's Fitness Department is fully committed to providing exceptional fitness and wellness services to the community and dedicated to achieving high standards in all areas. Our mission is to help our community achieve their health goals and maintain an overall healthy lifestyle.

We are delighted to inform you that we have made significant improvements to our Fitness Centre this year to provide our valued customers with an exceptional experience. We firmly believe that these upgrades will enable us to consistently surpass the expectations of the Thompson community, and we are thrilled to witness the positive impact this has made for our community.

We are proud to report that we have seen a significant increase in the number of members returning after the pandemic, which is a testament to the effectiveness of our programs and services.

<b>Fitness Stats</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<i>Specialty- Register fitness</i>	\$12,103	\$31,139	\$58,810
<i>Membership sales (including Personal Training and drop-in)</i>	\$230,349	\$366,496	\$405,464
<i>Membership scans</i>	52,548	78,388	96,795





## Thompson Fitness Highlights

### Facility Upgrades and Equipment Enhancements:

- Upgraded aerobic steps to enhance safety and stability for fitness class participants.
- Replaced four treadmills and an Octane Elliptical.
- Introduced a Spectrum machine that offers the most adjustable strides in the industry, ensuring versatility for users of all fitness levels.
- Added a self-powered Air Bike, which generates resistance through a fan and provides low-maintenance durability.
- Included a Recumbent Seated Elliptical, offering low-impact, joint-friendly workouts suitable for various ages and fitness levels, thereby enhancing our cardio equipment options.
- Movable storage boxes for weights have been introduced to simplify access to exercise equipment, allowing for easy retrieval and storage. Some shelves in the activity room have also been remodelled to enhance storage capacity and organization, improving overall functionality and user experience.

### Programs and Initiatives:

- Successfully hosted the 3rd annual “Fitmas”, 12-day fitness challenge, which was well received by participants.
- Partnering with School District No. 38, we offered an engaging, adapted yoga-fitness class for youth, promoting physical and mental wellness.

- Secured a ParticipACTION grant of \$1,200, enabling several impactful initiatives:
  - Offered a Grade 6–7 Zumba class in collaboration with local school.
  - Partnered with Aspire to deliver diverse fitness programs for individuals with disabilities, including adaptive yoga, Pilates, kickboxing, Zumba, and core exercises.
  - Gained valuable community feedback to ensure our programs are inclusive and effective.
  - Purchased new equipment, such as Pilates mats and resistance bands, to support these programs.
  - The 3rd Annual Thompson Fitness Marathon was proudly held in June as part of the Community Better Challenge. This event aimed to foster a sense of community while promoting health and fitness awareness among residents. The marathon attracted 90 participants who took part in various fitness activities.



**Team Development:**

- We have successfully recruited and on boarded a diverse array of new staff members, each contributing valuable skills and perspectives to our team. This thoughtful expansion has enriched our team dynamics and strengthened our capacity to innovate and tackle challenges. By integrating these individuals into our collaborative environment, we are better equipped to achieve our strategic goals and enhance our overall performance.
- Provided financial support to staff for continuing education credits, empowering them to expand their skills and expertise.



We extend our sincere gratitude to all those who have contributed to the success of our fitness initiatives at Thompson. This includes the City Staff, Association Staff, Board Members, and Fitness Committee Members. Your unwavering support and dedication have been instrumental in our achievements.

We would like to offer a special acknowledgment to Thompson's Fitness Team for their relentless commitment to providing a safe, clean, and healthy environment for our clients. Your hard work and pursuit of excellence are genuinely appreciated.

At Thompson, we firmly believe in fostering an environment that is welcoming, diverse, and inclusive for all. Our team remains dedicated to continuously improving and enhancing our facilities to better serve the needs of our community.

We actively encourage feedback and suggestions as we strive to deliver an exceptional experience for everyone. The principles of diversity, inclusivity, and respect are the foundation of our fitness programs, and we take pride in offering a space where everyone feels valued and welcomed.

Thank you for being a vital part of this journey with us. Together, we will continue to cultivate a thriving and inclusive fitness community.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Kathy Holt, Fitness Committee Chair  
Natalia Orekhova, Fitness Coordinator  
For the AGM of February 5, 2025





# Human Resources Committee Report

## September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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### **Purpose and Scope**

The Human Resources (HR) Committee ensures fair, inclusive, effective and responsive policies are maintained and all aspects of the Employment Standards Act are followed. The Committee meets, as needed, to provide direction and policy for recruitment, hiring, employment and benefits for Thompson Community Association (TCA) staff and volunteers. The Association employed 104 staff in 2023-24; 17 worked more than 20 hours per week and received extended health benefits. All others were paid a percentage in lieu of benefits.

### **Hiring**

TCA welcomed a new Summer Coordinator, Karol Patriarca. Karol coordinated a smooth and successful season of summer camps for TCA.

### **Cooperating with Richmond Community Associations**

TCA works cooperatively with the other Richmond Community Associations and Societies on wages, position descriptions and benefits via the Richmond Communities Job Evaluation Committee, which has both City staff and Association volunteer representation. The Job Evaluation Committee worked with a consultant to revise Association wages and pay bands. The HR Committee worked with Richmond Communities and the TCA Board to approve and implement the new pay bands in two stages, resulting in pay adjustments for many positions. The second pay adjustment of the new wages took effect September 2023.

TCA and the HR Committee have joined the other Richmond Community Associations in hiring an HR consultant to write an employee handbook for Association staff. The handbook will be consistent among the Richmond Community Associations and is in the final review stages. It will be implemented in 2025.

### **Recognition**

A new long service recognition program was implemented for TCA staff recognizing employees and providing a small gift of acknowledgement starting at 5 years of service.

Thank you to Committee members Eyal Lichtmann, Jen Dahl and City of Richmond staff representative Scott Schroeder, for their work on the Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Jen Dahl, HR Committee Chair, for AGM of February 5, 2025.

# Seniors Committee Report

## September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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The Seniors Committee, comprising older adult community members, the Seniors Coordinator, and the Community Facility Coordinator, convened every two months or as required to enhance the quality of life for seniors at the Thompson Community Centre.

### **Programs and Activities:**

In the 2023/2024 fiscal year, the Thompson Community Centre Seniors Committee, in collaboration with the City of Richmond and Association staff, provided a diverse range of programs and activities such as:

- Book club meetings
- Acrylic & Creative Painting classes
- Instructor led line and ballroom dancing
- Gentlemen in conversation sessions
- Jeopardy and Name That Tune sessions
- Craft group clubs and sales
- Chinese cultural dance sessions
- Pickleball drop-in sessions and instruction classes
- Luk Tung and Tai Chi groups.
- Participation with the annual Seniors Week program
- Multiple health and wellness workshops.
- Thanksgiving and Christmas festivities.
- Fully booked out trips to exciting exotic locations such as Squamish Sea to Sky gondola, West Vancouver trestle bridge, Boundary Bay air show, Grouse Mountain, Parksville Sandcastles, Langley Circle Farm tour among others. (Wish you were there?)

### **Future Initiatives:**

The Committee is excited to launch several new programs aimed at enhancing senior well-being and community connections. A Wellness Clinic will return in February 2025, offering Shiatsu massage sessions and optional blood pressure monitoring to support senior health. Intergenerational programming will continue to grow with events like Easter egg painting workshops in April, building on the success of Valentine's Day activities with youth. The Committee will also explore a Women's only group, creating a welcoming space for senior women to connect through shared hobbies and meaningful conversations. Additionally, we are planning a special Seniors Week Brunch in June, providing a delightful opportunity for seniors to gather, enjoy a meal, and celebrate their vibrant community. These initiatives reflect our commitment to providing engaging, inclusive opportunities for seniors to thrive at the Thompson Community Centre.

### **Acknowledgments:**

The success of this year's programs and activities was made possible by the passionate engagement of Seniors Coordinator Trey Melton, who created, organized, and supervised all events with the assistance of our dedicated staff members. The Committee extends its gratitude to the volunteer members and staff who contributed to this year's achievements: Susan Cush, Gerry Galasso, Rowan Hougham, Annie Lam, Trey Melton, Stephen Morris, Scott Schroeder, and Glenys Tse.

Respectfully submitted by Seniors Coordinator Trey Melton and Seniors Committee Chair Stephen Morris.



Caption [P1] Top: Out Trip Participants enjoy scenery in downtown Nanaimo – 6.21.24  
[P2] Bottom: Senior participants pose for Seniors Week Outdoor games – 6.9.2024





# Youth Committee Report

## September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023

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The Youth Committee plays a critical role in representing the diversity of youth voices within the community. Through meaningful programming and youth events, the Youth Committee strives to bolster youth engagement and participation. In tandem with the foundational mission of the Thompson Community Association, the Youth Committee seeks to remain inclusive and accessible to all youth in the community.

The Youth Committee is composed of new and returning members who are passionate about integrating youth perspectives into policies and programs at the Thompson Community Association (TCA). Each one of these individuals have worked tirelessly to enhance youth programs and activities at the center whether it's through volunteering at events, helping with the planning process, or raising concerns as they see fit. Youth have traditionally brought fresh perspectives to community building and we have explored unique ways to engage the community, focusing on inclusivity and collaboration.

The youth population at TCA is diverse, with youth looking for safe and inclusive spaces for learning, places to do homework, utilizing the Fitness Centre, participating in beginner-friendly sports tournaments, forging new friendships, volunteering at camps, and gaining entry-level work experience. TCA provides a safe space for youth to socialize with their peers and fosters opportunities to get involved in the community, creating the next generation of leaders.

The Youth Committee also works with the Youth Council, a volunteer group that organizes and hosts a variety of activities and events for youth. Youth Council members have progressed to becoming Youth Committee members, influencing youth policies at TCA and having the opportunity to further their passions.

Throughout the year, there have been a plethora of highlights which can be found below:

### **Youth Volleyball Tournament**

During Youth Week, we hosted a Youth Volleyball Tournament for teens ages 13-18. 11 teams of 4 participated on May 3 from 6:00-9:45 pm. Thompson and/or Youth week swag was given to all participants, and bigger prizes were given to the top 3 teams. Youth and their parents have asked if we will be having more tournaments, and we plan to host one this coming year.

### **Youth Week**

Aside from the Volleyball Tournament, we recognized a few of Thompson's youth and young adult volunteers and staff at the City of Richmond's U-ROC Award Ceremony.



## Youth Programs

We have run a number of successful Preteen, Youth, and Young Adult programs. Our registered programs included K-pop dancing, Guitar, Flag Football, Peek Into Business, Cooking, Baking, Ballet, Web Design, Debate, Songwriting, and Slime-Making. Our drop-in programs included Friday Night Hangout, Improv, and Open Gyms.



## Spring & Summer Adventure Camps

Thompson has developed a reputation for running exceptional day camp programs and youth camps are included in that regard. Our Adventure Camps are consistently fully registered and have received good feedback from participants and parents alike. We not only serve our local community, but also have a number of international visitors join our camp. The out trips we selected were big hits with the campers, and they look forward to returning again this year.







While it was inevitably a successful year, here are some suggestions to further the efforts of the Youth Committee in alignment with the TCA mission:

### **Increasing the Diversity of Sports Tournaments**

Hosting a variety of sports tournaments for players of all levels will continue to build community engagement and allow for individuals who may not play competitively to have the opportunity to participate in beginner-friendly tournaments.

### **Support for Post-Secondary Education Planning**

Inviting post-secondary institutions to Thompson Community Centre for university fairs could help youth who intend to pursue a post-secondary degree. It increases the possibilities for youth to seek guidance from admissions officers or learn more about potential career paths.

### **Expanding the Committee**

Inviting more youth from around the Lower Mainland to have the opportunity to join the Youth Committee continues to increase diversity in youth voice and allows for the centre to continue expanding its outreach to different youth.

### **Increasing Leadership Opportunities**

Promoting the idea for youth to lead programs at Thompson builds leadership skills and allows for youth to share their passion for a specific area. In the status quo, the business and debate programs are led by youth and other program opportunities could be explored to allow for youth to continue to develop leadership skills.

### **Marketing**

The primary modes of communication to youth about events and programming are through the Thompson Youth Instagram account, posters, and word of mouth. Increasing the social media presence of the Instagram account and expanding to other social media platforms like TikTok or creating a website could raise further awareness about youth events and activities.

These initiatives have the ability to build on the existing committee structure, providing opportunities for growth and development to support the youth in the community but further discussion would need to take place to discuss the implementation of the ideas.

**Thank you to the following for their commitment and support to the Youth Committee:**

**Youth Committee members:**

Abigail Seetoh (Recording Secretary), Alexandra Nudd, Embernina Wang, Kayla Hu, Megan Szutu, Owen Chan, Paxton Cheng.

**Board Liaisons:**

Guy Anderson and Eyal Lichtmann.

**Youth Development Coordinator:**

Shellby Sy.

**City of Richmond staff members:**

Annie Lam.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of you for allowing me to serve as the Chair of the Youth Committee and a member of the Board of Directors. This is truly an unforgettable experience that I will treasure for a lifetime.

Respectfully submitted by Austin Ng Youth Committee Chair for AGM of February 5, 2025

## Special Event and Program Planning Committee Report September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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The Special Event and Program Planning Committee was established in October 2023 in order to increase community engagement and provide an avenue for community members to be involved in the planning process.

Two major annual board-led events—Breakfast with Santa 2023 and the Thompson Community Picnic 2024—highlighted the committee’s ability to bring the community together through engaging and impactful events. **Breakfast with Santa** welcomed 120 families for a festive morning filled with activities, entertainment, and giveaways. Families enjoyed performances by Rock N Beau and singing with Kennice and Shellby, alongside a visit from Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, who brought gifts and holiday cheer.



The **Thompson Community Picnic**, held on June 20, 2024, was another resounding success, drawing over 500 attendees for an evening of music, food, and fun. Guests were treated to live performances by the Midnight Cruiser Band, Luc LeMans, and other local artists. The event featured interactive booths including face painting, yoga, bocce, and e-bike demonstrations as well as inflatable games and youth-led activities, creating a vibrant and memorable celebration of Thompson’s community spirit.





In addition to these cornerstone events, the committee introduced new events to enhance diversity and inclusion. The **Lunar New Year Celebration**, a free, all-ages drop-in event, featured cultural crafts, activities, and entertainment, fostering a sense of belonging and appreciation for the richness of Lunar New Year traditions. The **Springtime Family Fun Event** celebrated the season with nature-inspired activities, further diversifying the offerings for families in the community.

A standout achievement was the **10-Year Celebration of the Terra Nova Nature School (TNNS)** which was, held on International Children’s Day, June 1, 2024. Hosted at Terra Nova Rural Park, this event honored a decade of outdoor learning and the community’s contributions to the program’s success. Attendees enjoyed a wide range of musical entertainment from jazz and classical to folk hillbilly and rock, as well as an American Sign Language performance. Families engaged in free kids’ activities, roving performances, food trucks, community partner tents, and a TNNS marketplace.



The committee hosted a **Volunteer Appreciation Paint and Pizza Night** volunteers were and their dedication. **Pride Week** was another highlight where the community centre was decorated in celebration of inclusivity, accompanied by lobby performances that brought joy to participants and visitors alike.



**Thank you to the following for their commitment and support to the Special Event & Program Planning Committee:**

**Committee members:** Vanessa Lau, Nicolle Kit, Jaimee Malutac, Zoey Zhang, Dawn Lam, Carmel Yu, Laurina Austin

**Community Development Coordinator:** Hana Hekal

**City of Richmond staff members:** Annie Lam

Respectively Submitted by Hana Hekal, Community Development Coordinator, for AGM of February 5, 2025

## President's Report September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Thompson Community Association (TCA) please accept our warmest wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2025. TCA is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Thompson Community Centre (TCC) through a joint operating agreement with the City of Richmond (CoR). Our mission is to provide sustainable programming and healthy, engaged living opportunities for residents of the Thompson neighbourhood and surrounding area. Our goal is to enhance quality of life and promote physical activity for all Richmond residents.

The TCA through its committees continued to ensure important decisions were made with broad consensus. This year as well as in the past, TCA's financial prudence ensured we remain well positioned to continue investing in staff, equipment and outreach. As a non-profit organization, TCA is obliged to act in a fiscally responsible manner ensuring our continued ability to support our community needs. TCA works cooperatively with other Richmond Community Associations to ensure consistency in fees, services and employment opportunities.

CoR staff are integral to the successful operation of fitness, preschool, programs and events at TCC and Terra Nova. We acknowledge their essential contribution to our success, their commitment to our community and we congratulate them on a job well done. TCA relied this year as it did before on its many volunteers who selflessly devote their time to make our community healthy and vibrant. We thank you.

The 2024 fiscal year from September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024 comprised numerous special events important to TCA and our community such as breakfast with Santa, seniors' seasonal dinners and our free summer community picnic, all of which operated at full capacity. We were pleased to see a continuing increase in visits to our fitness facilities and participation in our programs for preschoolers, children, youth and seniors at TCC and Terra Nova.

I would like to thank the Directors, the non-board committee members and our City Council representative Councillor Chak Au for their dedication and support.

TCC is an ideal venue for the expression of our diverse character in Richmond. We are proud of the welcoming and inclusive environment fostered at TCC. We are dependent on involvement from our patrons in our programs and as volunteers. We encourage you to participate in our committees, board or programs in whatever way you can.

Respectfully submitted Stephen Morris, President for AGM of February 5, 2025

## Richmond City Staff Report September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024

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The City of Richmond partners with Thompson Community Association (TCA) by providing and maintaining the Thompson Community Centre and its annex, the Edwardian Cottage and SD38 School rentals, allowing the Association to provide recreational opportunities to the community. The City also offers a base-level budget for operating these facilities and services in addition to the Association's operating budget. This long-term partnership is formalised with a service agreement renewed in January 1, 2024 with expiry of December 31, 2029.

The City of Richmond's 2024 expense budget for Thompson Community Centre was \$972,000 compared to \$934,000 in 2023. These expenses include: City staff wages, utilities and supplies that support Thompson Community Association's delivery of recreation services. In addition to the TCC City budget, the City financially supports the Association through Facility Management (maintenance and repairs), Project Development (new building projects or improvements), and Parks and Recreation Administration (city wide promotions, web pages, registration systems).

City staff coordinate programs and events with TCA committees and supervise Association staff. Scott Schroeder, the Area Coordinator, is the primary liaison with the Board of Directors and oversees the overall operations of Thompson Community Centre. Several other City staff have worked with individual committees and program areas. Suzi Rosenberg, Annie Lam, Sacha Hasen, Alice Hau, Matthew Adams, and Peter Balagatas have all played significant roles this past year, along with 13-15 front desk staff.

Thompson Community Association contributed \$20,414 towards City Staff wages to extend hours beyond the budgeted operating hours. This is primarily to open up the building earlier to accommodate fitness patrons. The Association also pays for the photocopier contract coordinated through the City for approximately \$6000.

Staff applied for the Canada Summer Jobs grant on behalf of the Thompson Community Association. This was the first year all Associations applied individually rather than as a group. Thompson received \$26,763 in funding compared to \$5000 in 2023.

On behalf of the City of Richmond, staff would like to thank the Thompson Community Association Board of Directors and committees for hours of service and decisive decision-making that has made Thompson the centre of the community.

Respectfully submitted by Scott Schroeder, Area Coordinator for AGM of February 5, 2025

Nominations and Election of Board of Directors  
Terms Commencing February 5, 2025

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**For re-election to a two year term from February 5, 2025 to the Annual General Meeting in 2027**

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Alan Marchant

Bryan Tisdall

Eyal Lichtmann

Harry Wong

Kathy Holt

Vanessa Xavier Lau

**Members continuing to serve in term until the Annual General Meeting in 2026**

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Stephen Morris

Jen Dahl

Guy Anderson

Sam Samy

Austin Ng (Appointed by Youth Committee)

**Members resigning from the Thompson Community Association Board of Directors**

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## Staff Long Service Award

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<b>5 year</b>		As of 2024
CHAN, Kayla	2019	5
EDINGER, Monika	2019	5
NOURBAKSH, Ali	2019	5
REBER, Christina	2019	5
TAKEUCHI, Tomo	2019	5
YAUGO, Sarah	2019	5
<b>10 year</b>		
CHIU, Tomomi	2014	10
DAWSON, Catherine (Kate)	2014	10
VERA, Emily M,	2014	10
STURTON, Noah	2014	10

## Director Nominee Biographies

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**For re-election to a two year term from February 5, 2025 to the Annual General Meeting in 2027**

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### **Alan Marchant**

Alan originally from UK, has been a resident of Richmond for over 42 years and with his wife Pauline, brought up two daughters here. A Chartered Professional Accountant with a MBA and expertise in information systems he retired from UBC where he was a senior administrator for almost 25 years. Alan also has experience in management consulting with leadership roles in both the private and not for profit sectors. He has volunteered and continues to volunteer with many organisations over the years, usually as treasurer.

An avid photographer and technology geek, before Covid he regularly exercised with the Richmond Forever Young Walking/Running Club and is looking forward to this resuming. Alan now bikes, walks with friends and feels he really should be going on a regular basis to the TCC gym. He loves to travel, read, and watch movies. Family, friends and giving back to the community are important values to him. His first year with the board of TCA has been an enjoyable experience albeit all on Zoom and he is looking forward to meetings in person. Even though new to the board Alan believes his financial insight has helped in a meaningful way this important organisation continue to thrive.

### **Bryan Tisdall**

Bryan was appointed President & CEO of Science World British Columbia in November 1997, where he served until his retirement in June 2016. He brought a broad array of senior management experience in public administration to Science World. Previously, Bryan held the position of General Manager of Exhibition Place and General Manager of Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto (1989–1997); Director, Finance & Administration for the Metropolitan Toronto Police (1983–1989); and, prior to that, Director of Corporate Relations and Director of Planning and Production Services with TVOntario (1976–1983).

Bryan holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Toronto, a Master of Science Degree from the University of Guelph, and a Master of Business Administration Degree from the Schulich School of Business at York University in Toronto. In 2017, Bryan was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada for his life-long contribution to community development and the promotion of science appreciation amongst families and children across British Columbia.

### **Eyal Lichtmann**

Eyal has 30 years private sector and non-profit CEO experience and has also served on the Boards for other charities. He is currently the CEO of the Regional Animal Protection Society since 2016. Eyal and his family have lived in Richmond for over 17 years. His three children have attended Thompson Community Centre programs including summer programs. His oldest daughters have served as youth representative to the Board of Directors and Chair of the Youth Committee. Eyal's children attend Burnett Secondary. Eyal is a regular in Thompson's gym and has enjoyed assisting the Thompson Community Association Board on numerous committees including Human Resources, Governance, Development and Youth.

### **Harry Wong**

Harry Wong is a retired federal civil servant. Upon retirement he quickly became involved with volunteering as a way of giving back to the society. Harry worked as a member of the Board of Directors for the Marpole Community Centre and took on the Vice President position in 2007. When Harry moved to Richmond he found that he wanted to be involved in the community and joined as a member of the Board of Directors of the Thompson Community Association in 2006. He enjoys working in various subcommittees and is always willing to lend a helping hand. Harry also volunteers as a Green Coat for YVR.

### **Kathy Holt**

Kathy is a long term resident of Richmond who has been involved in her career for 38 years and has volunteered in many organisations. Upon joining Thompson several years ago she quickly embraced the Fitness Centre and became a member of the Fitness Committee and was a member of the Gala Committee. Currently she is the Chair of the Fitness Committee and is on the Board of Directors. Her goal is to ensure that Thompson provides a welcoming environment for everyone in the community.

### **Vanessa Xavier Lau**

Born in Macau and relocated to Richmond in 2010, Vanessa is a proud mother of two little girls who are happily enrolled at Thompson's Preschool. Prior to being a full-time homemaker, she has had years of experience working as a Real Estate Agent, a project coordinator, and as a business development coordinator. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of British Columbia, where she is now pursuing a Diploma in Accounting. Vanessa is extremely passionate about giving back to the local community, and is an actively contributing chair and member of the Thompson's Children's Committee and the Special Events and Program Planning Committee. Vanessa's goal is to facilitate and contribute to the continuous improvement of Thompson Community Centre, and to leave a lasting, positive impact on the community she is so grateful to be a part of. In her leisure time, Vanessa enjoys playing volleyball, cooking, and cherishing moments with her family.

## **Members continuing to serve in terms from February 7, 2024 to the Annual General Meeting in 2026**

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### **Austin Ng**

Austin is currently in Grade 12 at Richmond Christian Secondary School. He has served on the Youth Committee since September 2022 and has been the chair since September 2024. Austin is the youth representative on the Board of Directors, advocating for youth voice and opportunities within the centre. At school, he holds various leadership positions including: Co-Founder and Chair of the Student Council, President of the Model United Nations Club, Founder and President of the STEM Club, and Co-Founder and Co-President of the Entrepreneurship Club. Austin has also served as the Secretary-General for CAHSMUN Horizons 2024, managing and leading a beginner-friendly Model UN conference for over 300 delegates. He was elected as 1 of 97 youth in BC to represent the Richmond South Centre Constituency for the 95th BC Youth Parliament, debating for 5 days at the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia on various acts. For 12+ years, Austin has shared his love of the piano and classical music by organizing fundraiser concerts, collectively raising over \$18000 for the Canadian Cancer Society, performing monthly at local senior homes, and teaching piano to youth in the community. Austin is looking forward to continuing the Youth Committee's goals and creating welcoming spaces for youth at the centre.



**Guy Anderson**

Guy is a long-time Richmond resident and Thompson Community Centre patron. He serves on the Youth Committee and has been a Board Director since 2016. Guy is married with three children and is involved in the technology sector.

**Jennifer Dahl**

Jennifer has spent most of her life in Richmond. She has three children who have attended many Thompson Community Centre programs and a son who attended Terra Nova Nature School. She has a business background with degrees from UBC and The University of Manitoba. She has been chair of James Thompson Elementary School Parent Advisory Committee for many years. She enjoys giving back to the community that has provided learning and recreation opportunities for her family.

**Sam Samy**

Sam has been a part of the Richmond community since 1976 – when his family migrated here from Fiji Islands. He has held several senior executive roles within the Telco/IT industries for the past 25 years. He has volunteered for “VGH – Child Run” for 7 years and as a Board member for corporate start-up companies and non-profit organisations in BC. Sam is an active member of Thompson Community Association’s Fitness Committee. Sam continues to work on moving the Association forward / required to meet the technology challenges of today and was integral in the implementation of the Association’s dedicated email platform for its members.

**Stephen Morris**

Stephen has been a Richmond resident since 1993 and a TCA member since 2000. He was a member of the British Columbia Law Society since 1978 and is currently retired. From 2010 to 2013 he acted as Chair of the McMath Secondary School Parent Advisory Committee. In 2016 and 2017 he was Chair of the Richmond Family & Youth Court Committee and currently volunteers at the Gilmore Gardens Retirement Residence. Stephen has been a TCA board member since 2018.