

Strategic Priorities at a Glance



Strategic Priority 1	Strategic Priority 2	Strategic Priority 3	Strategic Priority 4	Strategic Priority 5
<p>Foundation</p> <p>Youth have access to services and resources in the community that provide a foundation for wellness.</p>	<p>Voice</p> <p>Youth are heard, valued and engaged as members of the community and their opinions and perspectives inform plans, programs and services that are important to them and impact their lives.</p>	<p>Collaboration</p> <p>Youth are supported by an integrated and collaborative network of youth serving agencies, non-profit organizations, public partners and local government that work together to promote positive youth development.</p>	<p>Opportunity</p> <p>Youth have equitable access to a wide-range of programs, services and initiatives that address their needs and support them to learn, develop and successfully navigate the various stages and transitions from early adolescence to young adulthood.</p>	<p>Awareness</p> <p>Youth, their families and the broader community have access to information and resources and are aware of the services and supports available to youth in Richmond.</p>
1.1 Align youth mental and physical health promotional tools and use common language to increase youth engagement, understanding and well-being.	2.1 Increase opportunities for youth to provide meaningful input into City-related matters that impact them including youth from underrepresented groups	3.1 Facilitate increased cross-agency information sharing regarding youth programs, supports and resources.	4.1 Ensure a range of programs and services that prioritize learning and skill development are available for youth.	5.1 Create youth-related content for City communication platforms that is culturally relevant, digitally equitable and meets the needs of youth, their families and the community.
1.2 Continue to foster positive and meaningful connections between youth and safe, supportive adults in the community.	2.2 Promote and seek youth engagement in program, service and facility development and on topics in the community that impact youth.	3.2 Develop tools and practices to support robust information sharing with front line youth service providers.	4.2 Align and promote community-wide youth services through a common framework (e.g. the 40 Developmental Assets Framework).	5.2 Explore and implement safe, equitable and effective communication tools to increase knowledge of local youth resources.
1.3 Increase opportunities for youth to connect with peers and develop supportive positive relationships and a sense of belonging including youth from underrepresented groups.	2.3 Increase public awareness and education of the positive contributions youth make in the community.	3.3 Identify opportunities to collaborate with Post-secondary Institutions regarding the delivery of programs and services for young adults.	4.3 Expand provision of relevant programs, services and resources to include individuals aged 19-24 years in collaboration with young adults.	5.3 Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Youth Strategy and report out on progress on a biennial basis.
1.4 Promote community safety initiatives to increase youth feelings of safety at home, at school, online and in their neighbourhood.	2.4 Continue to provide and enhance formal opportunities for recognition and celebration of youth in Richmond (e.g. through events and communication campaigns) including specific youth identified from underrepresented groups.	3.4 Utilize a systems-based approach to address the needs of vulnerable groups and individuals including: a) Reducing barriers to participation; and b) Avoiding duplication of youth services.	4.4 Develop additional volunteer and paid opportunities for personal growth and development and for youth to gain job readiness skills, training and employment.	5.4 Monitor the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging global or local exceptional events on Richmond youth.
1.5 Ensure the provision of safe, welcoming and inclusive programming and services for youth in the community.		3.5 Identify and implement strategies to eliminate gaps and address the needs of youth across the developmental continuum.	4.5 Continue to provide a range of programs and services that prioritize accessible and inclusive recreation and social connection for youth.	
1.6 Increase clarity of and access to resources for all youth and their caregivers to meet their basic needs (e.g. food, housing, medical care, education).		3.6 Dedicate appropriate staff resources to adequately plan for and meet the current and evolving needs of an increasingly complex population of youth in Richmond.	4.6 Continue to provide youth with safe, welcoming and accessible places to gather, socialize and engage within new and existing indoor and outdoor spaces in the community.	
1.7 Raise awareness of the existing emergency and crisis services for youth in the community and how to access them.		3.7 Advocate to senior levels of government to enhance funding for community-based services and supports for youth in Richmond.	4.7 Investigate funding opportunities to help facilitate the development of new or expanded youth spaces within the community.	
1.8 Share information and resources to support youth who are navigating housing insecurity and require a shelter, safe house or transitional housing.		4.8 Expand initiatives that provide leadership and mentorship for youth including refugees, new immigrants and youth who are at risk of or experiencing vulnerability.		
		4.9 Expand opportunities for youth to learn about and engage with local government.		
		4.10 Involve youth in advancing City initiatives such as sustainability and climate-action projects.		