Parkgate Society
Community Services







PARKGATE SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2025–
MARCH 31, 2026











OUR VISION

A vibrant, connected community.

OUR MISSION

To create opportunities for people in our community to live life better.

OUR VALUES

We believe in belonging, listening, responding, connecting and welcoming.



Parkgate Community Day 2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors brings diverse backgrounds and unique expertise, giving Parkgate Society strategic and adaptable leadership. Their wide-ranging perspectives and skills ensure we excel in meeting the evolving needs of our community.

President	Shaun Wysiecki
Vice-President	Andrew Szymanski
Treasurer	Julia Figas
Secretary	Marnie Schigas

Board Members

Caitlyn Bullock
Jacob Ward
Kathy Campbell
Marcus Acaster
Stephanie Gooding
Resigned in January 2026

Patricia Houlihan
Soheil Farahmand
Zachary McKnight
Constantine McQuade
Appointed by the Board in February 2026 to fill vacancy

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Ellen Clague
Executive Director

As I reflect on this past year, one word rises above the rest: belonging. It is one of our core values at Parkgate Society, and this year it felt less like an aspiration and more like something I could see happening every day. It was there in the children settling into our child care programs, in the youth relaxing in the youth centre, in the families joining our drop-ins, in the seniors gathering to enjoy the day together, and in the volunteers who show up faithfully because this is their community too.

Belonging is more than a warm feeling. Research increasingly tells us it is a marker of well-being and even of longevity—that feeling connected to a place and to one another is among the most protective things in our lives. What I am most proud of this year is not any single achievement, but the way the people who make up Parkgate Society create the conditions for that kind of authentic belonging, again and again.

This was a steady year, in the very best sense. After the excitement of opening our child care programs at Lynn Creek Community Centre, this year we celebrated their first full year in operation—a milestone that reflects the care and hard work of so many. Across all our programs, from the early years to youth and family services to seniors' programs, demand has never been higher. In a world that can feel precarious and volatile, community spaces like ours matter more than ever.

My sincere thanks go to our volunteers, whose generosity strengthens every corner of our work; to our funders, donors, sponsors, and partners; and to our Board of Directors for their thoughtful leadership. That we closed the year in such a strong financial position is a reflection, above all, of the dedication and careful stewardship of our staff and management team. In particular, I want to thank Shaun for his leadership as Board President. As this marks his final year in the role, it has been an honour and a pleasure to work so closely with him.

Looking ahead, I feel very optimistic. We will keep listening, keep welcoming, and keep finding new ways to serve our community—because when people feel they belong, everything else becomes possible. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Shaun Wysiecki
President

As President of Parkgate Society, I'm pleased to share this year's report and reflect on another year of connection and impact in our community.

At the heart of Parkgate is our membership and those we serve—from children and families finding care and connection to seniors participating in programs that keep them connected and included.

This year gave us much to celebrate: exceptional volunteer engagement, with 266 active volunteers contributing more than 16,000 hours; some of our busiest seniors' programming; continued strength in youth and family services; renewed multi-year program funding; and important investments in the systems and tools that support our staff.

None of this would be possible without our extraordinary staff and volunteers, whose compassion, creativity, and commitment show up in everything we do. I want to recognize our Executive Director, Ellen Clague, for her leadership and thank our staff and volunteers for the work that continues to move Parkgate forward.

We're equally grateful to our funders, donors, sponsors, partners, and all levels of government. As costs and demand continue to rise, reliable funding for not-for-profits has never been more important. I encourage our members to add their voices to this conversation—speak with your elected representatives about the importance of sustained investment in community not-for-profits. Affordable child care, seniors programming, and other essential services strengthen families, reduce isolation, and build healthier, more resilient communities.

As this marks my final year as President, I'm especially grateful to my fellow board members, past and present, for their leadership and commitment to Parkgate. It has been a privilege to serve alongside you.
Thank you to our members, staff, volunteers, funders, partners, and community for your continued trust and support. I leave the role of President proud of Parkgate and confident in its future as a place where everyone can connect, contribute, and live life better.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Julia Figas
Treasurer

Parkgate Society's financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2026, were prepared by Parkgate Society's Finance Department and reviewed by KPMG in accordance with Canadian Generally Accepted Standards for Review Engagements. As a review involves procedures less extensive than an audit, no audit opinion is expressed. The full statements are available at parkgatesociety.ca.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Ellen Clague, Parkgate Society has moved confidently into a period of strong alignment and progress. Guided by the five-year Strategic Plan, staff and the Board are advancing priorities in financial sustainability, program quality, and community partnerships. This momentum provides a strong foundation as Parkgate expands its reach in the community.

Parkgate Society closed the fiscal year with a surplus of just over $160,000, reflecting careful financial stewardship and sound management in a dynamic operating environment. Overall grant and donation revenues remained largely consistent with the prior year, demonstrating the continued confidence of funders, donors, and community partners. The most notable change in operations was the successful operation of Lynn Creek throughout its first year, which represents an important milestone in the continued growth of Parkgate's childcare services and its commitment to supporting families across the North Shore.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to express sincere appreciation to the staff, volunteers, leadership team, donors, and community partners whose dedication and support make Parkgate's work possible. Your commitment and generosity continue to strengthen our community and enhance the lives of those we serve.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

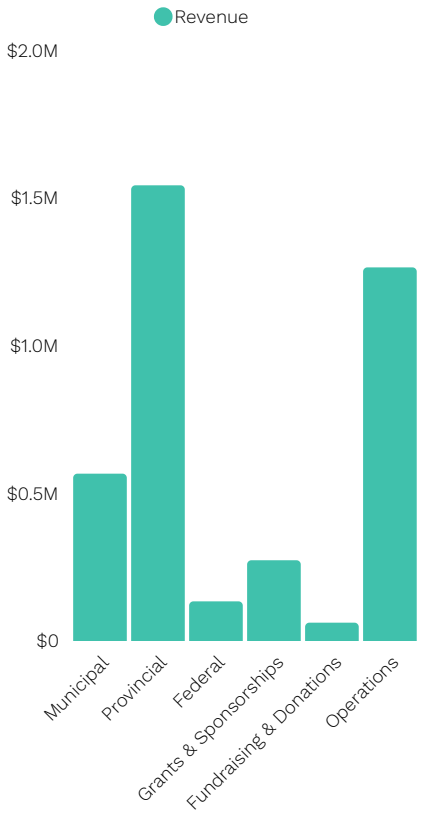
APRIL 1, 2025–MARCH 31, 2026

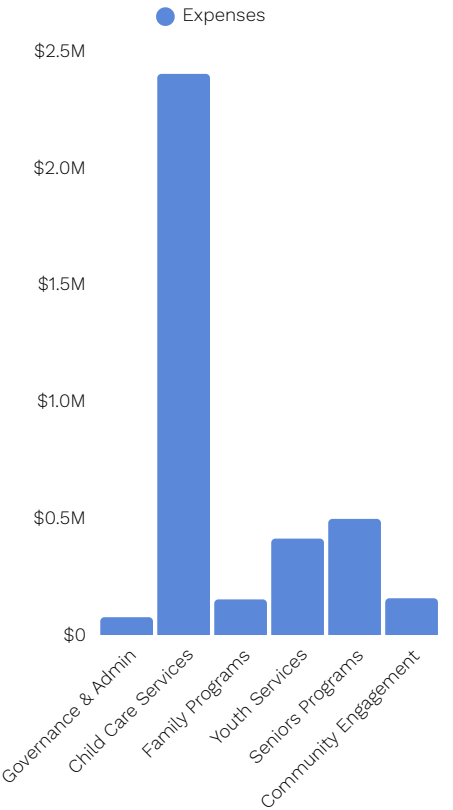
Revenue:

Municipal	$565,729
Provincial	$1,542,458
Federal	$133,198
Grants & Sponsorship	$272,450
Fundraising & Donations	$61,015
Operations	$1,264,430
Total Revenue	**$3,839,280**

Expenses:

Governance & Administration	$72,760
Child Care Services	$2,398,720
Family Programs	$149,003
Youth Services	$409,308
Seniors Programs	$493,632
Community Engagement	$153,850
Total Expenses	**$3,677,273**
Net Surplus	**$162,007**





VOLUNTEERS

Here's what 266 volunteers did this year.













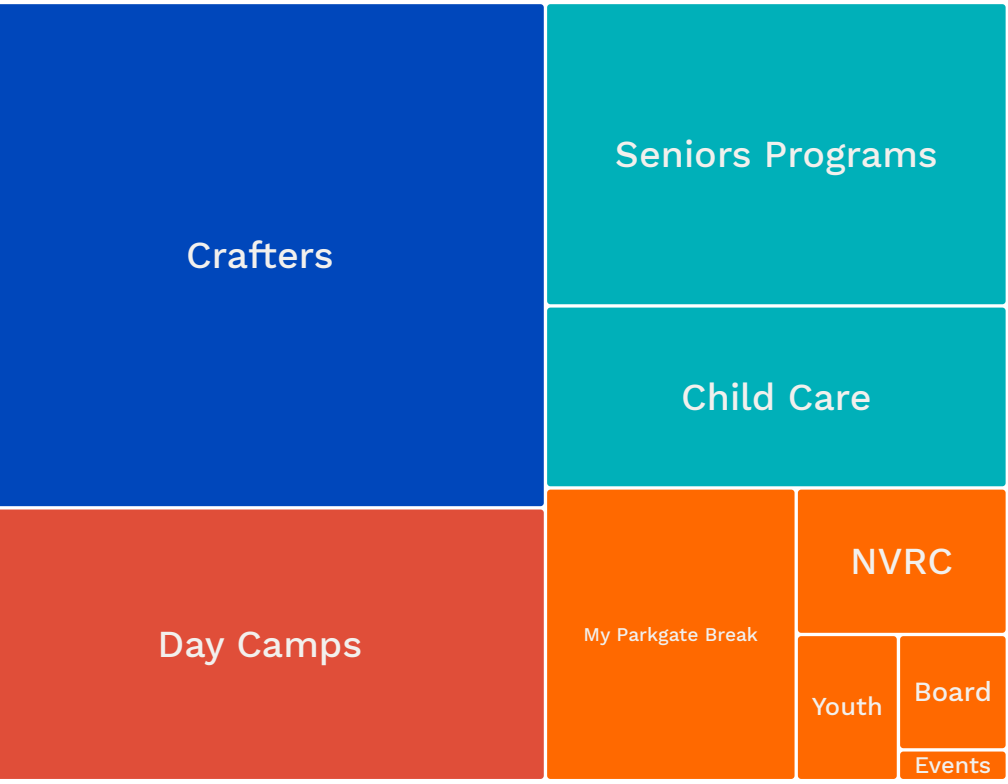








16,638 volunteer hours, visualized



CHILD CARE

From April 2025 to March 2026, Parkgate Society continued to provide high-quality child care programs at Parkgate Community Centre, Lynn Creek Community Centre and the Seymour Youth Centre. These programs serve children aged 6 months to 12 years across up to 150 licensed spaces, including:

- Infant & Toddler Group Child Care
- Three- to Five-Year-Old Group Child Care
- Parkgate School Age Group Child Care
- Seymour School Age Group Child Care
- School-Age Summer Day Camps



Parkgate Society's Early Learning Educators and facilitators are highly qualified and committed to developing strong, trusting relationships with children and their families. We believe learning strengthens when these relationships extend to the broader community. Our child care philosophy is play-based and emphasizes engagement with the natural environment. Educators design developmentally appropriate experiences and meaningful activities that foster problem-solving and critical thinking.



All child care programs collaborate with other Parkgate Society initiatives, offering intergenerational programming and supporting both volunteers and practicum students from a range of post-secondary institutions.

Our child care programs operate Monday to Friday year-round, excluding statutory holidays. Additionally, we observed two professional development closure days in the year to ensure staff remain informed on the latest in early learning and care practices.

CHILD CARE

New Parkgate Society Child Care Location

In April 2025, an additional child care location at Lynn Creek Community Centre was opened.

Parkgate Society now operates three child care centres. One at the Parkgate Community Centre, which includes infant/toddler and 3-5 group care, school-age care, camps, and family programming. Another at Lynn Creek Community Centre, which includes infant/toddler and 3-5 group care. And a third at the Seymour Youth Centre, which includes school-age group care.

Our child care centres are places of security, adventure, cooperation, and playfulness. Parkgate Society is committed to creating opportunities for people of all ages to experience life together, making our child care and family centres lively and innovative places that embody our motto to “live life better.”



$10-a-Day ChildCareBC Prototype

Our child care and camps at Parkgate Community Centre are currently an approved prototype for the $10-a-Day ChildCareBC Initiative.

Our child care at Lynn Creek Community Centre participates in Child Care Operating Funding. Therefore, Lynn Creek Child Care (LCCC) receives funds (Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative —CCFRI) to reduce child care fees and to increase the wages of early childhood educators (Early Childhood Educator Wage Enhancement—ECEWE).



BC Affordable Child Care Benefit

Parkgate Society Child Care and Family Services are inclusive spaces. Families are encouraged to apply for BC Affordable Child Care Benefits (formerly known as child care subsidy) to further reduce their child care costs. Please contact the Child Care Service Centre toll-free at 1.888.338.6622 to learn more about funding options.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

From April 2025 to March 2026, Parkgate Family Centre delivered a wide range of programs designed to support young families and foster community connection. Programs offered included:

- Mother Goose-inspired Early Literacy Program
- Baby and Me
- Lynnmour Playgroup
- Parkgate Playgroup
- Dad and Tot Sports Night
- Free Playgroup in the Park
- Community Celebrations and Special Events



These programs promote early childhood development, early learning, and literacy, while also fostering positive social connections and multigenerational support. They provide welcoming spaces where parents, grandparents, and caregivers can connect, build friendships, and support one another—often forming relationships that last for years.

In partnership with Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Over the decades, Parkgate Society Family Programs have continually adapted to meet the evolving needs of local families, offering responsive support and resources to a growing and diverse community.

Our low-cost family programs are made possible through the support of grants from the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada's Community Action Program for Children (CAPC).

On average, each drop-in session welcomes around 20 families, adding up to more than 500 family attendances per month. Over the course of the year, Parkgate Society served over 400 adults and nearly 500 children through our Family Programs, delivered by a dedicated team of six facilitators. These programs primarily support families in the Lynnmour, Seymour, Deep Cove, Parkgate, and Lower Blueridge neighbourhoods, while also attracting participants from surrounding communities such as Maplewood, Lynn Valley, and Burnaby.



YOUTH SERVICES

The Youth Services team interacted with youth ages 10 to 24 on an almost daily basis this year. Below is a look back at the programs, partnerships, and people that made 2025/2026 a year of connection and growth for North Shore youth.

5,661	Youth Centre Drop-In Visits
347	1 to 1 Support Meetings
778	School Outreach Connections
4,786	Preteen Dances Attendees

Preteen Dances

One of the most recognized programs of Parkgate Youth Services is our Preteen Dances. This long-standing program continues to operate at a high level, growing even further this past year. Dances regularly sold out at 550 participants, and with a strong team of 30-plus staff and volunteers, we were able to increase capacity to 575 for the final two dances of May 2025, which eliminated any waitlist. Notably, our December 2025 and January 2026 dances drew 200 new participants attending for the first time, many of them Grade 6 students. We also grew our Dance Crew volunteer base this year, regularly having 5–10 young adults support each dance.

Youth Centre Drop-In

Our Youth Centre continued to be a popular gathering place for North Shore youth for connection, a snack, and the listening ear of a trusted adult. Special programming included our first basketball tournament since before the pandemic, HoopFest, which brought a turnout of 55 participants, nearly half of them brand new to our space. Staff built a mini tournament so that youth who didn't advance in the main bracket could stay engaged and have fun rather than heading home early. This was a partnership initiative with North Shore Youth Friendly, with a goal of creating more awareness of youth-related programs and spaces and providing late-evening activities for them.

Youth Outreach & One-to-One Support

Our Youth Outreach Workers spent the year walking alongside youth navigating relationships, school stress, anxiety, employment questions, and family life—these were the most common topics that came up in one-to-one conversations. Our team also connected with youth directly at the skatepark, plaza, and neighbouring library, building relationships that often became a bridge into more structured support—or simply a chance to check in on their safety and well-being. This was a year of change for our outreach team, as two Youth Outreach Workers were in the role for a shorter term than originally hoped. This had an impact, as rapport and connection are so key to the mentorship relationship. These unexpected turnovers help to explain the dip in school outreach and one-to-one support from the previous year.

YOUTH SERVICES

Camp Extreme

Our week-long summer day camp remained a favourite way for North Shore youth to build friendships and connect with our team outside the school year. Registration filled quickly, and subsidized spots were made available for families who needed them, in partnership with Mount Seymour Lions Housing Society. We successfully ran three weeks of Camp Extreme, with 75% of attendees coming from the local community.



Special Programs & Partnerships

This year included a wonderful range of partnership-driven programming. We ran Love BC anti-racism and healthy relationships workshops with our Gals N Pals group. Y Minds, a 7-week anxiety awareness program run with the YMCA, completed a successful cohort and has already been renewed for future cycles. We also saw growing interest in our Dungeons & Dragons program, with youth volunteers stepping into Dungeon Master leadership roles. School-based groups built stronger connections with counsellors and helped more youth find their way to our programs. We also worked with School District 44 and local GSAs to support a shuttle safely transporting local youth to and from Queer Prom. In addition, in the summer we hosted and sold out our 4th Annual Drag Dinner event and partnered with North Shore Pride Alliance to run a Parkgate Youth Services information booth and a Silent Disco at Pride at the Pier.

Growing Our Team

This was a year of change and a test of resiliency for our Youth Services team. We said goodbye to several experienced Youth Centre staff, including longtime Youth Centre Coordinator Natasha Rivard-Morton, who spent eight years building relationships with youth and the wider community. We are grateful for everything she gave to improve everyday life for so many youth in this community. At the same time, we welcomed the promotion of three-year Parkgate Youth Centre staff member Timothy Whang, who stepped into the full-time Youth Services Supervisor role. We welcomed three new Youth Centre Leaders in Winter 2026, which helped stabilize our Youth Centre staff. In addition, for the first time since before the pandemic, we hosted a practicum student in September 2025 who ended up also joining our Youth Centre staff team. We were especially proud to celebrate Youth Outreach Worker Molly Dobie's five-year milestone with Parkgate Society this year, recognized both internally and with an Outstanding Supporter of Youth award from the District of North Vancouver. She and the rest of the team were integral in helping onboard the new staff and ensuring the programs remained vibrant and engaging.



YOUTH SERVICES

Thank You to Our Partners & Funders

None of this work happens alone. We were deeply grateful to the YMCA, Vancouver Coastal Health, School District 44, the District and City of North Vancouver, Mount Seymour Lions, and Youth Friendly North Shore for their partnership this year. Thanks to generous support from these partners and our community, Youth Services received Gaming Funds, City and District funds, YMCA program funding, and individual community donations. This fund goes directly toward staffing and programming expenses to make sure cost is never a barrier to participation.



Voices from Our Community

One Parkgate parent shared this reflection on what the Youth Centre has meant for their family this year:

> My child has had so many great experiences and opportunities to spend time with youth leaders and other kids in the community. I am in awe of how children with such different interests all seem to fit, belong, and feel welcomed within your Parkgate community. One of the highlights this year was watching a group of kids get hooked on a creative, strategic tabletop game—and best of all, they weren't on screens. Thank you to you and your entire team for the leadership, care, and planning that go into running such a wonderful community space.

Our aim is to support, mentor, and empower youth within the community through:

- 1-to-1 Support
- Resource-Based Info
- Youth Drop-In Centre
- Supporting Foundry NS
- Social Justice Awareness
- School Groups
- Skill Development
- Movie Nights
- Special Events



SENIORS SERVICES

This past year has been an exceptional one for the Parkgate Society Seniors Programs Department. Across all five areas, participation has grown, new opportunities have been created, and our commitment to supporting healthy aging and meaningful connection has never been stronger.

While we celebrate a very successful fiscal year and significant program growth, we also recognize the challenges facing our seniors' community. We are seeing increasing frailty among members, along with growing complexity in the supports people need to remain active, connected, and independent. At the same time, funding continues to be unpredictable, making the sustainability of many community programs an ongoing concern.



In response, our focus has been on community outreach, connection and practical supports that help people age well. We have worked to meet people where they are, strengthen partnerships, and create programs that support not only physical health, but also social and emotional well-being.

Senior programs had an exciting year of participation and expansion. We doubled our adaptive fitness offerings, creating more opportunities for members with different abilities and mobility levels to stay active. Our popular outings continued to fill quickly, providing members with fun, accessible days out in the community. We also introduced Odyssey Ball, a monthly evening activity that has been a huge hit and has added another opportunity for social connection and fun.

The Kitchen reached its maximum growth in food production, now serving 80+ people every week. Beyond providing nutritious and affordable meals, the kitchen continues to be a place where people connect and feel part of a community. This year, we expanded our offerings by introducing monthly dinners at our dances. Combining good food, music, and friendship in one welcoming space.



My Parkgate Break continued to demonstrate why respite and meaningful programming are so important to our community. The program provides caregivers with much-needed support while offering people living with dementia the opportunity to participate in joyful, engaging activities. The value of this program extends well beyond the hours of programming, providing connection, relief, and reassurance to families who are navigating the challenges of caregiving.

SENIORS SERVICES

Social Prescribing experienced growth in intakes, referrals, and community collaborations. By connecting people experiencing isolation with social opportunities, community resources, and meaningful activities, the program continues to provide an important layer of social and emotional support. It has become an essential tool for helping people reconnect with their community and build relationships that contribute to healthy aging.



Total Individual Program Visits

1,208	Social Programs
2,538	Fitness Programs
2,604	Games Programs
912	Transportation
2,898	Dementia Services
3,912	Meals

Access Bus continues to operate twice each month and remains in high demand. This year brought a deeper understanding of how to best serve those with the greatest access needs. With an extremely limited budget, the Access Bus continues to be a staple of equitable access in our community, helping ensure that mobility and transportation challenges do not become barriers to participation.





SENIORS SERVICES

Looking Ahead

The success of this year is a reflection of the incredible dedication of our staff, volunteers, partners, and, most importantly, the seniors who continue to show us what an engaged and vibrant community can look like.

As we look ahead, we know that the need for accessible, affordable, and inclusive seniors' programming will only continue to grow. We will continue to adapt to the changing needs of our members, expand community outreach, strengthen partnerships, and seek sustainable funding so that Parkgate can remain a place where seniors are connected, supported, and empowered to age well.

It has been an exceptional year—not simply because our numbers have grown, but because our community has grown with them.









COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Events

Community Day drew an estimated 1,000+ attendees, with 52 community tables up from 35 the year before. All 63 pieces of written feedback collected were positive. The most common pieces of feedback highlighted the diversity of entertainment, the low cost, and the focus on local community.







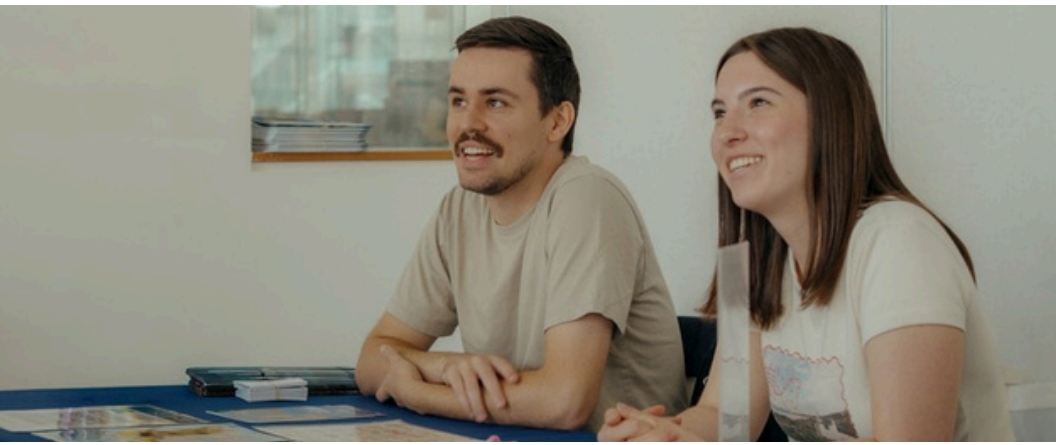
Winter Lights brought an estimated 700+ people through the Community Centre and plaza. The North Vancouver District Public Library ran storytime sessions that drew over 100 participants each, our seniors team and volunteers served more than 500 people, and family programs and child care helped create 250 nature crafts.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Volunteer Growth & Recruitment

Summer camps reached full volunteer capacity with 70 volunteers—the highest camp engagement to date. Lynn Creek Child Care opened as a new volunteer placement site this year, and its infant-toddler group is already nearing capacity. At the North Shore Community Resources volunteer fair, we connected with over 100 community members, several of whom have since joined our volunteer program. We also presented at a Capilano University Psychology Department event, connecting students seeking 40–50 hours of applied volunteer experience with placements at Parkgate.



Adult Beginner French Class

Working adults aged 20–65 have been underrepresented in Parkgate programming. To help close that gap, we partnered with French instructor Kathryn Harris to launch an evening Beginner French class aimed at working professionals. The first session drew 11 participants, and after seven weeks feedback pointed to a genuinely engaging, high-energy classroom. Twenty percent of this program revenue supports Community Engagement.

WhatsApp Community

We launched Parkgate's WhatsApp Community on August 12, 2025, giving staff a central hub for department and interest-based group chats plus a shared announcements channel. It now includes six open groups: General Staff Chat, Parkgate Shoutouts, What's for Lunch, Pets of Parkgate, Event Coordination, and Questions & Ideas, alongside 11 closed department and team groups.

Volunteer Spotlight & Keela Adoption

A five-part volunteer interview series helped to spotlight the range of contributions volunteers make at Parkgate.

Keela (non-profit constituent relationship management software) adoption also grew across departments, particularly seniors and HR, with a total of 70 newsletters and memos sent in calendar year 2025, up from 46 in calendar year 2024.



SUPPORTERS

Community Groups

BC Council For Families
Blueridge Community Association
Canadian Online Giving Foundation
Children's Grief Foundation of Canada
Deep Cove Lions Club
DNV Fire Fighters Charitable Society
DNV Library - Parkgate Branch
Help Age Canada
Ignited Mothers Coalition
Innovative Research Group Inc.
Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society
Lynn Valley Legion
Mount Seymour Lions Club
Mt. Seymour Lions Housing Society
Mt. Seymour United Church
North Shore Community Foundation
North Shore Community Resources
North Shore Pride Alliance
North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission
Rotary Club of Lions Gate Foundation
Royal Canadian Legion #114
Seymour Community Association
Silver Harbour Seniors' Activity Centre
St. Clement's Anglican Church
The Bridge Church
United Way of BC
Vancouver's North Shore Tourism Association
Variety Children's Charity
YMCA BC

Local Businesses

Bayshore Home Health
Bean Around the World
Bridge Brewing Company
Capilano University
COBS Bread (Jas Bread Ltd.)
COIT Services Inc.
Comfort Keepers
Cream Pony
Deep Cove Kayak
DJJ's Wedge Pizza
Fawcett Insurance Agency
Mt. Seymour Resorts
Neptune Terminals
Northlands Bar & Grill
Pacific National Exhibition
PARC Cedar Springs
Pilkington Lawn & Landscape
RBC Volunteer Program
Safeway - Parkgate
Seaspan
Seymour Golf & Country Club
Telus
Westland Insurance Group Ltd

Individuals

Adam Mountstevens
Adele Wilson
Agnes Liau
Amberlea Schaab
Andrew Szymanski
Barbara Anderson
Barbara Kryger
Bronwyn Lorimer
Carmel Wiseman
Chandra Junck
Ellen Clague
Graham Lorimer
Janet Argent
Janice Dungate
Joan Packer
Jo-Ellen Zakoor
Jonathan Holtby
Joy Gardiner
Marnie Schigas
Michelle Biagini
Michelle Glass
Morley Lertzman
Patricia Houlihan
Reginald Lightfoot
Shaun Wysiecki
Susan Brennan
Suzanne Fryer

Government

City of North Vancouver
District of North Vancouver
ESDC: Canada Summer Jobs
ESDC: New Horizons for Seniors
Ministry of Child and Family Development
Ministry of Education and Child Care
Province of BC – Community Gaming Grant
Public Health Agency of Canada
Vancouver Coastal Health



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Live Life Better • Connecting Community