

2SLGBTQIA+ Student Resources



Guide for VCC 2SLGBTQIA+ students covering
College and community services and resources

About

This guide is a collection of free or low-cost community resources at Vancouver Community College and in the Greater Vancouver area that may be useful to 2SLGBTQIA+ students at VCC.

This guide was created as a support for students during a 2024 [collaborative study on the experiences of 2SLGBTQIA+ students](#) at Kwantlen Polytechnic University and VCC, as well as other teaching institutions in the lower mainland. It is currently maintained by the VCC Pride Collective.



“We respect and celebrate our differences, and are committed to the work of Decolonization, accessibility, and inclusivity for all.” - VCC Strategic Innovation Plan

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Resources for Vancouver Community College students.

VCC services for students

Pride Collective

Works to increase equity, inclusivity, and awareness of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community at VCC. Open to VCC students and employees. Pride Collective resource persons provide a safe space for students and employees to connect about 2SLGBTQIA+ topics and can help answer questions. Email pridecollective@vcc.ca



Students' Union of VCC

The SUVCC Pride Representative leads events and advocacy to build community among 2SLGBTQIA+ students. SUVCC offers resources including legal advice, insurance information, and free printing.

Advising Services

Offers support with program selection and degree planning.

Counselling

Offers free and confidential personal, academic, and career counselling for students.

Disability Services

Offers academic planning, orientation, and learning assistance for students with disabilities.

Dispute Resolution

Supports students in resolving disputes and complaints at VCC. For support in filing a complaint about harassment, discrimination or bullying around 2SLGBTQIA+ identities, connect with the [Arbiter of Student Issues Office](#) or the SUVCC Student Advocate.

Financial Aid

Provides information on scholarships, bursaries, grants, and student loans.

Food Security Project

Supports student access to healthy food choices and essential resources. Visit [Financial Aid](#) for food security assistance.

Indigenous Services

Offers resources for Indigenous students, including Indigenous advisors and on-campus Indigenous Gathering Spaces.

International Students

A collection of resources for international students, including immigration and visa resources.

Interpreting Services

Offers interpreting services for students who are Deaf, hard of hearing, or DeafBlind.

Learning Centre

Offers tutoring, academic coaching, and workshops for students.

Safety & Security

Offers safety services and resources for students, including first aid and incident response.

TogetherAll

Students can give and get support from others as well as use mental health and wellbeing courses and resources.

U-Pass BC

Learn whether you are eligible to access free or discounted transit services as a VCC student.



Community Organizations

Community organizations that offer services, resources, or events for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Burnaby Pride

Hosts the Burnaby Pride Festival, and provides news on 2SLGBTQIA+ related events in Burnaby.

Delta Pride Society

Hosts social events for 2SLGBTQIA+ people in Delta and Tsawwassen.

Foundry BC

Provides support, resources, and service navigation for youth under 25.

Fraser Valley Pride

Hosts the Fraser Valley Pride Festival.

Health Initiative for Men

Provides resources and events for 2SLGBTQIA+ men, and gender diverse people.

New West Pride

Hosts the New West Pride Festival.

QMUNITY

QMUNITY is a non-profit organization in Vancouver, BC that provides services, connection and leadership.

PFLAG Vancouver

Provides support and resources for family and friends of 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

SHER Vancouver

Provides support and resources for 2SLGBTQIA+ South Asians.

Surrey Pride

Hosts events, including the Surrey Pride Festival, and provides resources for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Vancouver Pride Society

Hosts events for 2SLGBTQIA+ people, including the Vancouver Pride Parade and Festival.

Vancouver Queer Film Festival

Showcases queer and trans art, dialogue, and film.

White Rock Pride Society

Hosts events for 2SLGBTQIA+ people, including White Rock Pride Week.

Sports, Recreation & Businesses

Guides to local events and recreational groups for 2SLGBTQIA+ people and 2SLGBTQIA+ owned businesses.

What's On Queer BC

A list of events, sports teams, supports and services for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

LOUD Business Directory

A list of 2SLGBTQIA+ businesses and service providers.

Queer Inclusion

Vancouver Parks

A list of recreation programs for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.



Crisis & Emergency

Contacts that provide immediate support in the case of a crisis or emergency.

BC Crisis Line

24/7 support for people having thoughts of suicide. Call 1-800-784-2433.

Emergency (Fire, Ambulance, Police)

Call 9-1-1 for fire, ambulance, or police support.

Hope for Wellness

Helpline

24/7 chat or phone support for Indigenous people across Canada. Available in Cree, Ojibway, Inuktitut, English French.

Kids Help Phone

24/7 call and text support for young people. Call 1-800-668-6868, or text “CONNECT” to 68 68 68.

KUU-US Crisis Line

24-hour support to individuals in the Port Alberni area and Indigenous communities across British Columbia. Toll-Free: 1-800-588-8717.

Mental Health Support and Information Line

24/7 emotional support for youth and adults. Call 310-6789 -- no area code

Suicide Helpline

24/7 support for people having thoughts of suicide. Call 1-833-456-4566, or text 45645 between 1-9 pm.

Salal Sexual Violence Support Centre

24/7 crisis and information line for women and trans survivors of sexual violence. Call 604-255-6344 for immediate support, or toll-free 1-877-392-7583.

Trans Lifeline

24/7 support for trans and questioning people. Call 877-330-6366. Run by and for trans people.

VGH Sexual Assault Service

24/7 medical care and support following sexual support. Available at Vancouver General Hospital and UBC Hospital.

VictimLink

24/7 support for victims of crime and violence. Call or text 1-800-563-0808 or email victimlinkbc@bc211.ca

Youthspace

Emotional support and crisis intervention for youth under 30. Text 778-783-9177 between 6pm and midnight.

Youth in BC Chat

Emotional support for youth under 25. Online chat available between noon and 1am.

Counselling

2SLGBTQIA+ friendly counselling providers, with an emphasis on free or low-cost services

Catherine White Holman

Wellness Centre

Free hormone and surgery assessments, and ADHD assessments for trans and gender non-conforming people. Conducted over Zoom by trained counsellors.

Carrier Sekani Family

Services

Provide free counselling to Indigenous 2SLGBTQIA+ adults aged 18+, and their families.

Foundry BC

Free, virtual counselling for young people under 25 and their caregivers. Drop-in sessions or appointments are available.

Here2Talk

Free, short-term counselling available by phone or text for post-secondary students. Call 1-877-857-3397, or access through the Here2Talk app.

Health Initiative for Men

Free and low-cost counselling option for 2SLGBTQIA+ men, and gender-diverse people. To book an appointment call 604-488-1001 (ext. 235) or send an email titled 'pilot' to counselling@checkhimout.ca

Kids Help Phone

Free, short-term counselling for youth available by phone or chat. Call 1-800-668-6868, or use their live chat service between 4pm and 9pm.

Mind Map BC

A list of 2SLGBTQIA+ friendly counsellors and counselling groups, including free and low-cost options.

SHER Vancouver

Offers limited, free counselling sessions for 2SLGBTQIA+ South Asians through No Fear Counselling. Email info@shervancouver.com for a referral, or more information.

VGH Smoking Cessation Clinic

Offers counselling and support for smoking cessation. Call 604-875-4800 or email cessationclinic@vch.ca to book an appointment.

What's On Queer BC

A list of 2SLBTQIA+ friendly counsellors and counselling groups, including free and low-cost options.

Youthspace

Free counselling for youth under 30 offered by professional youth and family counsellors. Fill out their contact form to request an appointment.



Peer Support

Peer support groups for 2SLGBTQIA+ people, and one-on-one peer support programs.

2 Spirits of BC

Offers workshops and groups for Two Spirit people.

Foundry BC

Offers peer support groups for youth under 24 and their caregivers, including groups for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

SHER Vancouver

Offers peer support groups for 2SLGBTQIA+ South Asians.

QMUNITY

Offers peer support groups for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

QChat

One-to-one peer support and resource referral for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth. Call 1-855-956-1777 or text 250-800-9036 between 6pm and 9pm; closed Fridays.

Trans Care BC

A list of peer support groups for 2SLGBTQIA+ people across BC.

Trans Lifeline

One-to-one peer and crisis support for trans and questioning people. Call 877-330-6366.

Gender Affirming Care

Resources related to gender affirming care for trans and gender non-conforming people

BC Children's Hospital

A collection of resources for trans people; including resources on name changes, binding and tucking, and hormone replacement therapy.

Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre

Offers free appointments to assist in legal name and gender marker changes, as well as hormone and surgery readiness assessments.

QMUNITY Bra, Binder, and Breast Form Exchange

Offers free new and used gender affirming chest-wear for trans and gender variant youth. To access this program, email bbb@qmunity.ca

QMUNITY ID Clinic

Provides assistance with legal name and gender marker changes. Email transid@qmunity.ca to book an appointment.

Trans Care BC

Offers healthcare resources for trans and gender non-conforming people, and helps connect patients to services like peer support groups or surgeons.

Trans Rights BC

A guide to healthcare rights in BC for trans and gender non-conforming people.

Vancouver Coastal Health

Trans Specialty Care

Offers a number of services for trans and gender-diverse people including hormone initiation, and hormone and surgery readiness assessments,



Sexual Wellness

Sexual wellness resources inclusive of 2SLGBTQIA+ experiences and perspectives

Fraser Health

Resources on STI prevention and treatment, and birth control.

Health Initiative for Men

Sexual health resources for 2SLGBTQIA+ men and gender diverse people on sex, STIs, and STI tests.

Options for Sexual Health

Resources around sex and STIs, and low-barrier sexual health clinics across BC.

Real Talk

Space for folks with cognitive disabilities to discuss sex and sex education.

SmartSex Resource

Resources on sex, STI prevention and treatment, and sexual health clinics.

The Trevor Project

A list of 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusive sexual health resources.

Vancouver Coastal Health

Offers a number of sexual health services for 2SLGBTQIA+ people; including sexual health education, clinics, STI testing, and sexual assault services.

Harm Reduction

Programs offering resources and services to prevent illness and injury related to drug use and sexual practices

Canadian Red Cross

Offers free Naloxone kits and first aid training for opioid poisoning emergencies.

Fraser Health

List of locations offering needles, syringe disposal, safer sex supplies, and safer smoking kits.

Government of Canada

Information on Naloxone use, and information on where to access free take-home Naloxone kits.

Here to Help

Mental health and substance use resources and information, free online workshops for accessing supports for yourself or as someone supporting others.

PHS Community Services Society

Offers harm reduction programs and services including drug checking, overdose prevention sites, and supervised consumption sites.

Purpose Society

Mobile health service offering harm reduction supplies, harm reduction training, sharps disposal, and drug checking.

Vancouver Coastal Health

Offers harm reduction supplies and services, including drug checking, supervised consumption sites, and overdose response training,



Indigenous Resources

Free and low-cost wellness resources and programming

2 Spirits of BC

Facilitate online and in-person workshops and groups for Two Spirit people in BC.

2-Spirit Collective, UNYA

Provides support, resources, and programming for Indigenous youth, ages 15-30, who identify as 2-spirit, LGBTQ+, or questioning.

Carrier Sekani Family Services

Provide free counselling to Indigenous 2SLGBTQIA+ adults (18+), and to families of 2SLBTQIA+.

First Nations Health Authority

2S/LGBTQQIA+ wellness resources.

Indigenous Initiatives Network

24/7 text support for Indigenous youth and adults. Text “First Nations” “Metis” or “Inuit” to 68 68 68 for youth or 741 741 for adults. Supported by Indigenous operators.

Just Be Yourself

Health and wellness guide for trans, Two-Spirit and non-binary youth.

KUU-US Crisis Line

24/7 support for Indigenous youth and adults. Call 1-800-588-8717 for adults, or 250-723-2040 for youth. Support provided by an Indigenous operator.

Newcomers to Canada

Resources for immigrants and refugees who have recently arrived in Canada

Government of Canada

A guide to newcomer services in Canada, with the option to search for various services in BC, including services for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

ISS of BC Moving

Ahead Program (MAP)

Offers specialized support for newcomers facing additional challenges in life, such as medical, family, or housing difficulties. MAP offers special assistance for LGTBQ+ community members, families, individuals, and youth.

I BELONG

MOSAIC program that offers peer connections, counselling, and settlement services for 2SLGBTQIA+ newcomers.

Rainbow Refugee

Provides support, information, and system navigation to refugees and refugee claimants seeking refugee status in Canada based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or HIV status.

Pacific Immigration

Resources Society

Provides services for newcomer women and their young children.

S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

Offers a number of services for newcomers, including employment support, housing support, language classes, and settlement services.

VLMFSS

Provides free and confidential support to newcomers who have experienced or are experiencing family violence.

SHER Vancouver

Settlement program and resources for LGBTQ+ refugee claimants and asylum seekers.

YWCA Believe

Provides employment and career support for 2SLGBTQIA+ newcomers.



Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Resources for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) folks who are 2SLGBTQIA+

Deaf Queer Resource Centre

Instagram account for National Deaf QTPOC LGBTQ-led nonprofit organization.

Deaf Sexual Wellness Center (Jooux)

Provides high quality and affordable sexual wellness services to Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and Hard of Hearing communities.

Ontario Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf (ORAD)

Community organization providing programming, networking & support

Instagram and Facebook accounts.

Queer ASL

Offers ASL classes for 2SLGBTQIA+ learners and their allies.

Deaf Well Being Program

Mental health services in ASL from Vancouver Coastal Health.

Food Support

Food support programs that offer free or reduced-cost meals

Food Banks BC

A directory of food banks across BC.

QUEST Food Exchange

Free and low-cost grocery markets.

Fraser Health

A list of free and low-cost food and meal programs.

Saige Community Food Bank

A community food bank for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.



Housing Support

Resources for finding emergency, rental, and affordable housing

BC 211

A regularly updated list of emergency shelters in Vancouver, including information on accessibility and available beds

BC Housing

Resources on rental assistance programs, house listings, and emergency shelters

Craigslist

Search for sublet and rental housing

Facebook Marketplace

Search for sublet and rental housing, or free furniture

GEC Living

Off-campus student housing in Vancouver

Options BC

Resources on affordable housing, emergency housing, transition houses, and settlement programs in BC

Inclusive Spirituality/ Faith

Muslim Alliance for Sexual and Gender Diversity Guide

Resource guide for LGBTQ+ Muslims of welcoming organizations and mosques.

JQT Vancouver

Volunteer-run Jewish Queer and Trans charitable non-profit dedicated to "queering" Jewish spaces.

Affirming Churches

Look for churches or denominations that are officially affirming or inclusive, with rainbow flags on their websites and specific language about 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusion.

Affirm United, Affirming Anglican, etc.

2 Spirits of BC

The society strives to provide opportunities to its members to strengthen and heal their spirits, hearts, minds and physical well-being.



Resource Navigation

Extensive lists and databases of resources in BC, and programs that help navigate them

BC 211

A directory of resources across BC. For help finding or accessing a service, call or text 2-1-1.

Trans Care BC

Offers assistance accessing and navigating gender affirming healthcare for trans and gender diverse people.

Government of British Columbia

A list of resources related to gender equity and 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

Vancouver Coastal Health

Offers information and resource referrals for 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

QChat

A peer-run resource database and referral line for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth. Call 1-855-956-1777 or text 250-800-9036 between 6pm and 9pm; closed Fridays.