



City of
Richmond
British Columbia, Canada

2019 Annual Report Highlights

For the year ended December 31, 2019



RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL



Front row, left to right: Councillor Michael Wolfe, Councillor Bill McNulty, Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Councillor Linda McPhail, Councillor Kelly Greene
Back row, left to right: Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Gray, Richmond Fire-Rescue, Councillor Harold Steves, Councillor Carol Day, Councillor Chak Au, Councillor Alexa Loo, Constable Leah Riske, Richmond RCMP

CONNECT WITH RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

To contact Council, email mayorandcouncillors@richmond.ca or call 604-276-4000.

For Council meeting agendas and minutes, visit www.richmond.ca/cityhall/council/agendas.

To watch Council meetings on live streaming or view videos of past meetings, visit www.richmond.ca/watchonline.

COVER PHOTOS: MINORU CHAPEL, WEST DYKE TRAIL AND "TOGETHER" PUBLIC ART WORK IN FRONT OF MINORU CENTRE FOR ACTIVE LIVING - THREE OF THE WINNING SUBMISSIONS IN THE CITY'S ANNUAL STREET BANNER CONTEST.

CITY OF RICHMOND, BRITISH COLUMBIA 2019 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

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This report features highlights from Richmond’s 2019 Annual Report. For the detailed 2019 Annual Report that meets legislated requirements, or for an online copy of this highlights report, please visit www.richmond.ca (City Hall > Finance, Taxes & Budgets > Financial Reporting > Annual Reports).

This report was prepared by the City of Richmond Finance and Corporate Communications and Marketing Departments. Design, layout and production by the City of Richmond Production Centre. © 2020 City of Richmond.

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“Our vision is to be the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada.”

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



The City of Richmond's 2019 Annual Report reflects another year of innovation and success as we move towards achieving our vision of being Canada's most livable and well-managed community.

Council entered 2019 with a four-year strategy to guide us through the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. To make that plan a reality, we identified eight strategic initiatives that focus on the areas essential to our growth, security and prosperity.

The City of Richmond has always provided a high quality of life and worked hard to preserve this standard far into the future. 2019 was no exception.

We know safety and security is a priority so by building a strong foundation of first responders and other programs, Richmond can continue to boast one of the lowest rates of violence and property crime in the Lower Mainland.

Recognizing the impact of climate change, Richmond joined many others in declaring a climate emergency. While not a substitute for action, it reinforced the importance of the extensive environmental programs that we have undertaken for decades. As a local government leader in climate action, we are committed to implementing practices to build a sustainable and environmentally-conscious City for our 212,000 residents.

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL WORE PINK TO RAISE AWARENESS AND SHOW SUPPORT TO HELP ERASE BULLYING.




Richmond was also among the first to propose bylaws banning single-use plastics—a step that could keep around 650 tonnes of non-recyclable plastic from the waste system. At the same time, our Community Energy and Emissions Plan guides us in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 50% over the next decade despite growth in density and population.

In terms of growth, City staff issued building permits for over \$980 million in construction in 2019. We are constantly working with developers and stakeholders to find new and innovative partnerships so we can create strong, connected

communities that build a sense of pride, family and belonging.

The City of Richmond is one community. It is a place of resiliency, identity and belonging. Our diversity makes Richmond truly unique and the impacts are visible throughout the City. Differences in cultural heritage strengthen our sense of neighborhood and community, and our Cultural Harmony Plan—the first such municipal plan in Canada—demonstrates our leadership in building on social inclusion practices. Our City's first painted rainbow crosswalk is a lasting reminder that Richmond is a place of inclusion, respect and support.

Our success is a credit to those who contribute to making Richmond a better place, including our staff, volunteers, business, and community and government partners. This Annual Report contains examples of our goals and achievements and, as always, I invite your comments and questions through my office.



Malcolm Brodie
Mayor, City of Richmond



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



I am pleased to present the City of Richmond's Annual Report for 2019. It details our strong financial position, and outlines many of the initiatives we are undertaking to achieve our vision of making Richmond Canada's best managed city.

During this past year, our administration made significant progress in implementing Council's new strategic plan, which is comprised of eight initiatives. Many of those achievements are highlighted throughout this report.

Our city has long been recognized as a leader in environmental action and sustainability, while supporting

development and building strong and connected communities. Our award-winning District Energy Utility continued to expand, as did our commitment to encourage clean energy transportation through further implementation of electric vehicle charging stations.

As Richmond continued to grow, so did the need for services to support our community which is rich in both cultural and economic diversity. While Richmond was one of the few Metro Vancouver cities to exceed its annual net new home housing target in 2019, we also acted to ensure a variety of housing options were maintained. The City worked with



the development community to create more affordable rental housing, securing agreements for 179 new units for low and moderate income Richmond households. We also secured over \$2.4 million cash-in-lieu contributions to be applied towards future affordable housing options.

Providing support for young families remained a focus, with our award-winning five-year child care strategy continuing to be recognized as a municipal leader in fostering conditions for a comprehensive child care system.

One of the foundations for any successful organization is its ability to demonstrate strong financial stewardship.

Our City's long term financial strategy remained a hallmark of our administration and enabled us to continue to limit property tax increases, while still making significant investments in infrastructure and programs. Richmond's property taxes were again among the lowest in the region and our sound fiscal management positioned us well to address future challenges and opportunities.

The City of Richmond is committed to strengthening our community and encouraging growth within a framework of diversity, sustainability and value for our taxpayers.



George Duncan
Chief Administrative Officer



2019 Highlights



The City of Richmond's objectives and success indicators are expressed through the Council Strategic Plan. Soon after the new Council began its four-year term in October 2018, it undertook a strategic planning process to help it fulfill its governance role and achieve a successful term of office. Through that process, Council adopted a revised set of eight Strategic Focus areas, which provides the framework for the City's programs and services from 2018 to 2022.

For more detail, visit www.richmond.ca/cityhall/council/about/strategicplan.

The following achievements represent highlights of our work to fulfil these goals in 2019:

1. A SAFE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

As part of our Safe Community Priority Program, 19 new RCMP officers and 12 firefighters were added to strengthen our existing first responder resources. More recruits for each are expected over the next two years.

2. A SUSTAINABLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS CITY

Council developed [bylaws banning single-use plastics](#) such as straws, shopping bags and foam containers, potentially removing as many as 35 million items weighing 650 tonnes from the waste stream annually.

3. ONE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Richmond became the first community in Canada to develop a municipal [Cultural Harmony Plan](#). The Plan demonstrates the City's leadership in building on its social inclusion practices and recognizes our unique cultural diversity.

4. AN ACTIVE AND THRIVING RICHMOND

Our first emergency shelter, temporary modular housing and a unique partnership with Richmond RCMP and Vancouver Coastal Health on a mental health car reinforced our commitment to support those in need.

THE 40-UNIT TEMPORARY MODULAR HOUSING PROJECT ON ALDERBRIDGE WAY OPENED TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE MOST VULNERABLE IN THE COMMUNITY.

5. SOUND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The acquisition of the Richmond Ice Centre, a 155,000 square foot multi-rink facility situated on over 3.0 strategically-located hectares in the Riverport area, turned a highly-used leased facility into a City-owned asset and another major investment in civic infrastructure for recreation.

6. STRATEGIC AND WELL-PLANNED GROWTH

Through a unique partnership, the City forwarded \$28.1 million of developer funds to TransLink for construction of a new Canada Line transit station. This will support the rapidly-growing Capstan Village community and reflects the increasing ridership of the Canada Line.

7. A SUPPORTED ECONOMIC SECTOR

Richmond's strong business sector boasts one of the highest job-to-worker ratios in the region, reflecting its important location as a gateway for people and goods movement such as transportation, warehousing and logistics, manufacturing, wholesale and tourism.

8. AN ENGAGED AND INFORMED COMMUNITY

The City's LetsTalkRichmond.ca platform continues to connect and engage residents of all backgrounds from across our community on a diverse range of topics ranging from single-use plastics and sustainability, to cultural harmony and our Farming First strategy.



THE RICHMOND WORLD FESTIVAL BRINGS EVERYONE TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE CITY'S SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL DIVERSITY.



Richmond: safe, sustainable, culturally diverse

As this city grows, our commitment to its citizens grows with it.

In 2019, the City secured agreements for 179 new affordable housing units for low and moderate income Richmond households, and over \$2.4 million cash-in-lieu contributions for future affordable housing options. The opening of a 36-bed emergency shelter in Ironwood, as well as a 40-unit temporary supportive housing facility on Alderbridge Way, offered support to some of the city's most vulnerable as part of our first [Homelessness Strategy](#) approved by Council in late 2019.

As an established local government leader in climate action, Richmond is committed to implementing practices to build a sustainable and environmentally-conscious city that will benefit current and future generations. From bylaws to ban single-use plastics—removing 650 tonnes from the waste stream annually—to electric vehicles and circular economy principles, our actions are the importance of the extensive environmental programs that Richmond has undertaken for decades.



ABOVE: THE CITY ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE PROPOSED BYLAW TO BAN SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.



ABOVE: RICHMOND'S FIRST RAINBOW CROSSWALK ON MINORU BOULEVARD.



ABOVE: THE NEW EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDES SAFE AND SECURE SHELTER SPACES IN A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR UP TO 36 PEOPLE—MORE THAN TRIPLE THE NUMBER THAT EXISTED PREVIOUSLY.

RICHMOND'S CULTURAL HARMONY PLAN DEMONSTRATES THE CITY'S LEADERSHIP IN BUILDING ON ITS SOCIAL INCLUSION PRACTICES. IT ALSO SIGNIFIES THE CITY'S ROLE IN RESPONDING TO THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF RICHMOND'S INCREASINGLY DIVERSE POPULATION.



The diversity among our 212,000 residents is truly unique and makes us stronger as a community. We strengthened our sense of neighbourhood and community through Canada's first municipal Cultural Harmony Plan, which reinforces our leadership in building on our social inclusion practices. 2019 also saw the installation of our city's first painted rainbow crosswalk on Minoru Boulevard, a lasting reminder that Richmond is a city of inclusion, respect and support.

Our many achievements during 2019 and expectations for the future will continue to improve the lives and affairs of our residents and businesses. The City of Richmond has always been a leader with bold, innovative programs and strategies that reflect our character and reputation as a safe, sustainable and culturally diverse city—the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada.





2019 Awards

A measurement of the City's success in achieving its goals are the honours and recognition we received from our peers and others. In 2019, Richmond again received numerous international, national and provincial awards recognizing our commitment to excellence and innovation.

CLIMATE ACTION

The City of Richmond's first-of-its-kind Electric Vehicle (EV) infrastructure requirement was recognized with a Climate and Energy Action Award from the Community Energy Association. Richmond was the first municipality to enact a policy requiring that 100 per cent of new residential parking spaces be equipped with Level 2 electric vehicle charging capacity. The Climate and Energy Action Award recognizes climate leadership of BC local governments.

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION

Richmond is the first municipality in the Lower Mainland to regulate the quality of non-storm discharge water into its sewer system and watercourses using primarily field-measurable parameters, an innovation recognized by the BC Environmental Managers Association with the 2019 Technological Innovation Award. The implementation of a simplified non-storm water discharge management program safeguards the City's sewers and strengthens environmental protections.

DISTRICT ENERGY

The recipient of over a dozen awards in the past decade, Richmond's District Energy Program continues to collect accolades for its innovation, efficiency and green sustainability. Among its honours in 2019 was an Association of Energy Engineers, Canada Region – Project of the Year Award for an innovative renewable energy project and a Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators Award of Excellence – Environment Award for the commitment of a municipality to environmentally sustainable governance, to protecting the environment and to combating climate change.



PROMOTING LOW CARBON PERSONAL VEHICLES AND SETTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE HELPS THE CITY REDUCE COMMUNITY ENERGY USE AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

CHILD CARE

The City received the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Excellence Award in Governance which recognized the City's [2017–2022 Richmond Child Care Needs Assessment and Strategy](#). Richmond's investment in a municipal child care strategy began in 1991. The vision for this five year strategy is for the City to build on those three decades of work to continue to be a municipal leader in fostering conditions for a comprehensive child care system.

FINANCIAL REPORTING

Once again, the Government Finance Officers Association of the US and Canada presented Richmond with the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for the 17th year in a row and the Popular Financial Reporting Award for the 10th successive year for our 2018 Annual Report.



FLOOD PROTECTION

The City was given the Award of Merit by the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies BC for the Britannia Heritage Shipyard Flood Protection Improvements Project, which upgraded flood prevention infrastructure for a national historic site that is located outside of Richmond's diking network.

STOREYS HOUSING PROJECT

The Storeys affordable housing project, a unique mixed-use community housing partnership between five non-profit agencies and the City of Richmond, received an Ovation Award from the Homebuilders Association of Vancouver for the Best Multi-Family High-rise Development.



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

Presented to

**City of Richmond
British Columbia**

For its Annual
Financial Report
for the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2018

Christopher P. Morrell

Executive Director/CEO

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER, FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

I am pleased to submit the highlights of the Consolidated Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 for the City of Richmond, pursuant to Section 98 and 167 of the Community Charter. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards as prescribed by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada.

KPMG LLP was appointed by City Council to independently audit the City's consolidated financial statements. They have expressed an opinion that the City's consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the City

of Richmond as at December 31, 2019 and its consolidated results of operations, its changes in net consolidated financial assets and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

These financial statements combine the accounts of the City of Richmond, Richmond Olympic Oval, and Richmond Public Library (collectively referred to as the "City"), as well as the City's investment in Lulu Island Energy Company, which is accounted for as a Government Business Enterprise.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (IN \$000S)

	2019 Actual	2018 Actual	Change
Financial assets	\$1,320,747	\$1,231,060	\$89,687
Liabilities	514,878	467,939	46,939
Net financial assets	805,869	763,121	42,748
Non-financial assets	2,433,473	2,377,969	55,504
Accumulated surplus	\$3,239,342	\$3,141,090	\$98,252

The City's overall financial position improved by \$98.3 million, with accumulated surplus totalling \$3.2 billion. A significant part of this increase is due to growth in financial assets, as well as additions to capital and statutory reserves. This is partially offset by an increase in liabilities, especially deferred revenue related to the collection of Development Cost Charges (DCCs).

The City's cash and investments have grown to \$1.2 billion while long-term debt continues to decline with an outstanding balance at the end of 2019 of \$27.9 million. Meanwhile, the City's tangible capital assets increased by \$56.1 million, which includes \$28.9 million of in-kind contributions from development as conditions of re-zoning.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS (IN \$000S)

	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2018 Actual
Revenue	\$541,121	\$581,942	\$599,417
Expenses	463,338	483,690	414,456
Annual surplus	\$77,783	\$98,252	\$184,961

The City's consolidated revenue for the year totaled \$581.9 million, a decrease of \$17.5 million from 2018 mainly due to significant development-related contributions received during 2018.

Expenses increased by \$69.2 million from prior year. 2019 expenses included an extraordinary contribution towards the Canada Line Capstan station of \$28.1 million.

The annual surplus for 2019 was \$98.3 million and represents the change in investment in tangible capital assets, reserves and other accumulated surplus.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

City Council's Long Term Financial Management Strategy has ensured prudent fiscal practices while maintaining the City's high service standards through balancing current and long term financial needs. The impact of this policy can be seen in the current financial health of the organization, which has placed the City in a strong position to mitigate some of the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

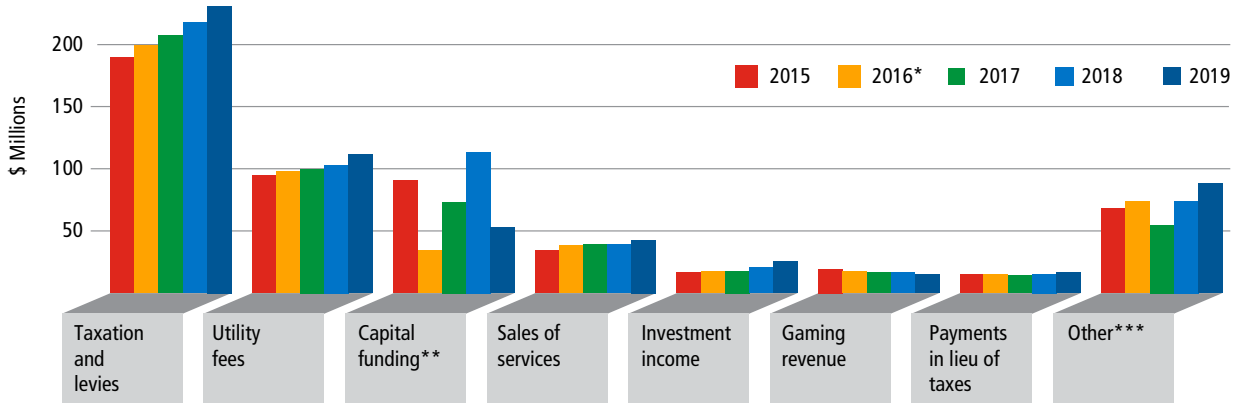
Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Nazareth, BEc, CPA, CGA
General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
May 11, 2020



REVENUE BY SOURCE 2015–2019



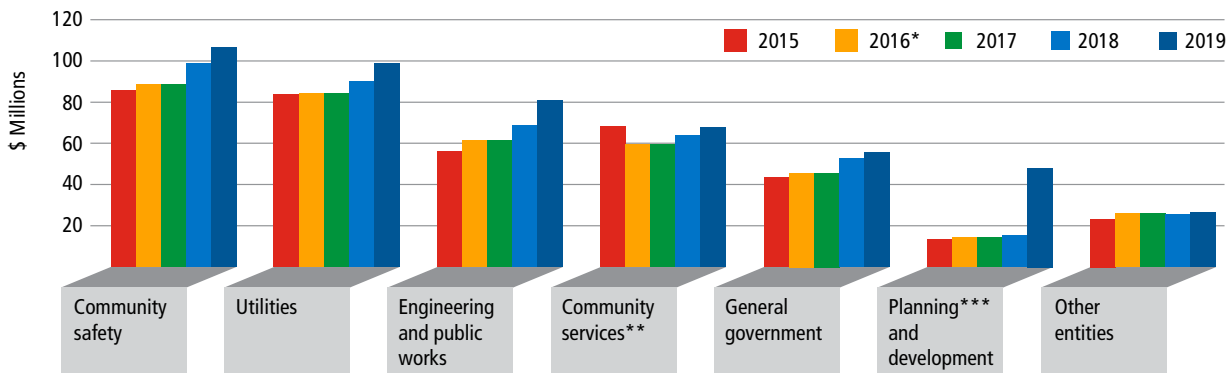
Source: City of Richmond Finance and Corporate Services

*Amounts have been restated

** Capital funding includes: Development Cost Charges and other capital funding sources

*** Other includes: provincial and federal grants, licences and permits and other sources

EXPENSES BY FUNCTION 2015–2019



Source: City of Richmond Finance and Corporate Services

* Amounts have been restated

** Expenses for Community Services include one-time contributions towards affordable housing of \$12.3m in 2015 and \$17.0m in 2017

*** Expenses for Planning and Development for 2019 include a one-time \$28.1m contribution towards the Canada Line Capstan Station.

Richmond at a glance

212,276
2019 POPULATION

November 10, 1879
INCORPORATED AS MUNICIPALITY

129.27
SIZE OF CITY IN
SQUARE KM

17
ISLANDS COMPRISING
THE CITY

December 3, 1990
DESIGNATED AS CITY OF RICHMOND

Fast facts

50.1 million

2019 CANADA LINE
BOARDINGS

85.79

AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY,
LONGEST IN CANADA

\$981 million

CONSTRUCTION VALUE OF
BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN
2019

26.3 million

2019 PASSENGERS PASSING
THROUGH VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN
RICHMOND, A NEW RECORD

39.1 million

INVENTORY OF INDUSTRIAL
SPACE IN SQUARE FEET,
LARGEST IN THE REGION

807

HECTARES OF CRANBERRY
FIELDS IN PRODUCTION

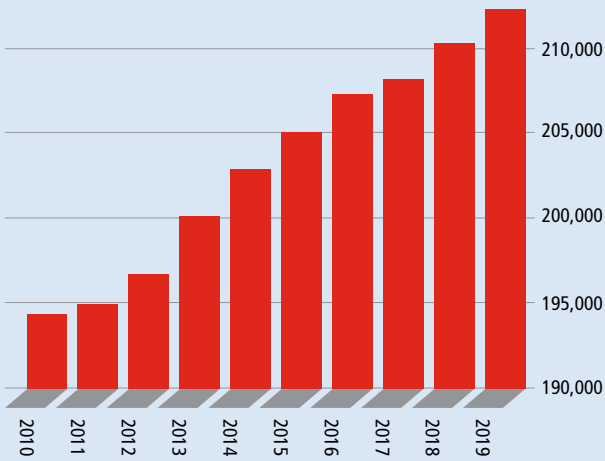
145,435

2019 REGISTRATIONS IN CITY
PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURE PROGRAMS

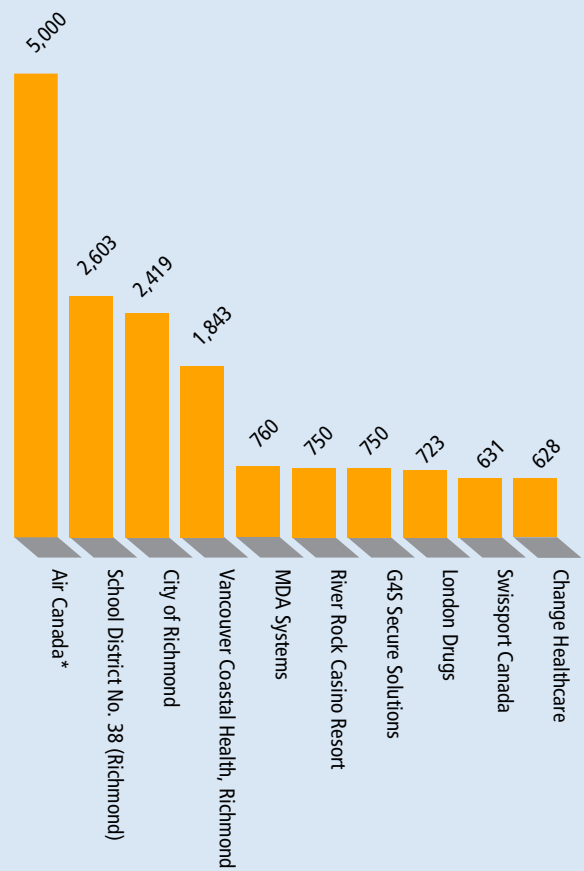
1.1 million

2019 SITE VISITS TO THE
RICHMOND OLYMPIC OVAL

CITY OF RICHMOND POPULATION 2010–2019

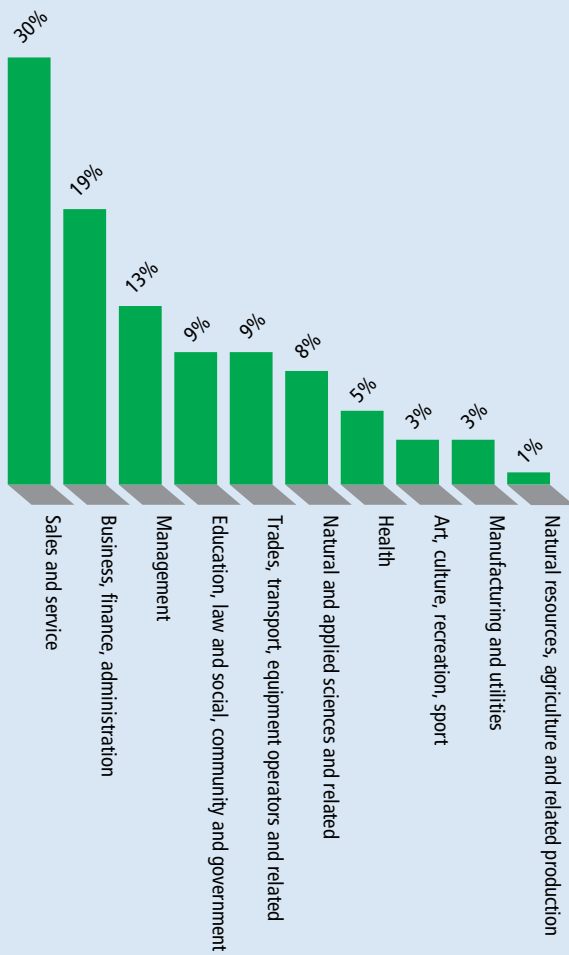


TOP 10 LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN RICHMOND



*Approximate

OCCUPATIONS OF RICHMOND RESIDENTS



Sources: Statistics Canada, City of Richmond, Vancouver International Airport Authority, Steveston Harbour Authority, Metro Vancouver, Richmond School District.

MAJOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF RICHMOND

ADMINISTRATION

Includes the office of the Chief Administrative Officer who oversees the overall administration of the City's operations. Also includes the Deputy Chief Administrative Officers, Human Resources, Intergovernmental Relations and Protocol, Corporate Communications and Marketing, Corporate Planning and Organizational Development and the Corporate Programs Management Group.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Brings together the City's public safety providers including police, fire-rescue, emergency programs, community bylaws and business licences.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Coordinates, supports and develops Richmond's community services including Parks Services, Recreation and Sport Services and Arts, Culture and Heritage Services.

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Engineering and Public Works Departments deliver public works services and utilities and engineering planning, design, construction and maintenance services for all utility and City building infrastructure.

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

Includes Customer Service, Information Technology, Finance, Economic Development, Real Estate Services and Corporate Business Service Solutions.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Includes the Policy Planning, Transportation, Development Applications, Building Approvals and Community Social Development Departments. This division provides policy directions that guide growth and change in Richmond with emphasis on land use planning, development regulations, environmental protection, heritage and livability.

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Includes the Law Department and the City Clerk's Office.

GARRY POINT PARK



CITY OF RICHMOND CONTACTS

The City of Richmond offers many civic services to the community. Additional services to the community are provided through the Richmond Olympic Oval, Richmond Public Library, Gateway Theatre and Lulu Island Energy Company. For more information on City services contact:

CITY OF RICHMOND

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GATEWAY THEATRE

6500 Gilbert Road
Richmond, BC V7C 3V4
Phone: 604-270-6500
Box Office: 604-270-1812
www.gatewaytheatre.com
f @GatewayThtr
t @GatewayThtr
i @gatewaythtr

LULU ISLAND ENERGY COMPANY

6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1
Phone: 604-276-4011
Email: info@luluslandenergy.ca
www.luluslandenergy.ca

RICHMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

100-7700 Minoru Gate (Brighthouse Branch)
Richmond, BC V6Y 1R8
Hours: 604-231-6401
www.YourLibrary.ca
f @yourlibraryRichmond
t @RPLBC
i @rplbc
y /YourLibraryRichmond
Account: RPLYourlibrary1

RICHMOND OLYMPIC OVAL

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