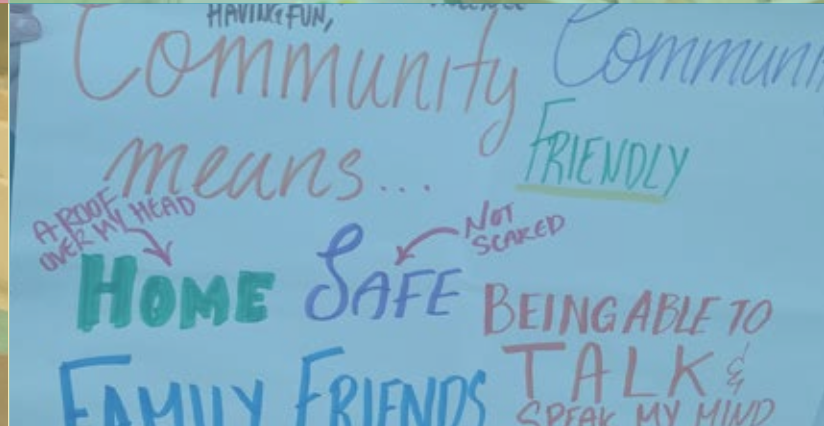
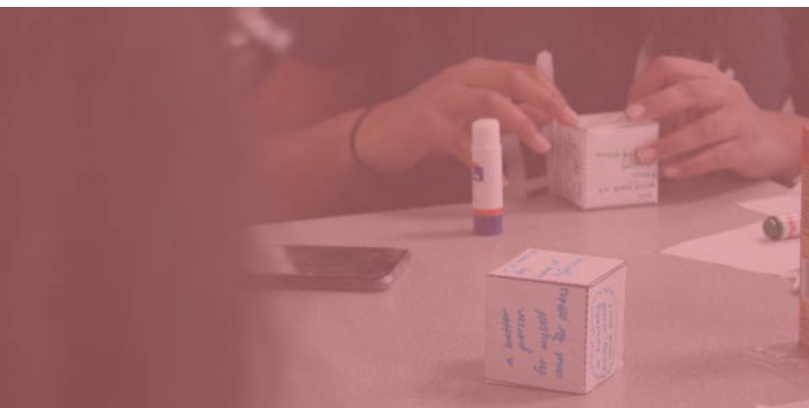




Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society BC

ANNUAL REPORT

April 2019 - March 2020





Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society BC

2455 Fraser St

Vancouver, BC V5T 0E6

Traditional, Unceded Coast Salish Territories

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Twitter: @LoveWiredBC

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Facebook: @lovebritishcolumbia

Cover Art (Right to Left, Top to Bottom):

Cube activity in MAP Burnaby

Cookie decoration table from Winterfest

Painting by Sienna (Leadership youth)

Community agreement by MAP youth

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LOVE'S MISSION

LOVE supports youth to thrive through programs and healthy relationships that build emotional intelligence and help overcome the challenges they face. Our participants emerge from LOVE's programs with greater resilience, heightened skills, and the confidence to be inspirational leaders.

LOVE'S LENS

We use a broad youth-driven definition of violence, which allows for issues such as cyber-bullying (cyber-violence), physical, sexual, and emotional violence, marginalization, as well as racism, sexism, homophobia, and all other forms of intentional exclusion, to be included in our conversations about violence.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It's hard to believe that this time last year, we were coming together in-person: sharing a meal, celebrating a new brand, and preparing for our 20th year helping young people in BC realize their potential.

Though we couldn't have anticipated what 2020 year would bring, I'm proud we are still living our mission each and every day.

While much has changed in the past 12 months, our focus on youth has remained steady. We've adapted many of our existing media, arts and leadership programs and will continue to do so to respond to the needs of young people in our communities.

Through grants, partnerships, and your generous gifts, our staff, volunteers and partners have been able to act quickly to meet young people where they're at. Despite it all we've continued to foster connection in these uncertain times.

While our in-person 20th anniversary celebrations have been put on hold, we should still celebrate all we've accomplished over the years -- and the thousands of youth we've had the pleasure of connecting with. We look forward to telling some of their stories in a campaign this fall.

We always knew that LOVE is > than anything – even a pandemic! Thank you for helping us prove it through your continued support.

Much LOVE,

Heather Stoutenburg
Chair, Board of Directors
LOVE BC



resilience



adversity

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Change is a part of growth for all organizations and LOVE BC is no different.

2019-2020 was a year of change.

Our programs began in Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver with enthusiasm and creativity. Youth participated in our regional leadership camp at Camp Potlatch in May 2019 and travelled to Quebec for our National camp in August 2019, where over 90 youth and staff from across Canada met to share their experiences and created long lasting friendships.

As we approached the fall, once again, our young people's voices were at the center of change, identifying their learning interests through the program curriculum and topics for discussions. New opportunities were incorporated with more dance and theatre involvement in our programs as well as the exploration of social justice issues at the core of each session.

The talented and skilled team of staff, volunteers, and board members intentionally and carefully adapted and adopted changes to create as much support and stability throughout the year and especially during the onset of a pandemic unknown. Programming moved to virtual platforms and one on one support time was offered more frequently to youth as we completed a year in social distance.

Twenty years of resilience is what our young people have demonstrated to their peers, our teams, organization and communities. It is our young peoples ability to thrive, create and express what is important to them that has helped LOVE BC also increase its capacity in times of change. As we celebrate, adapt and grow, we look forward to the change the next 20 years will bring.

Lambrini Soulos
Executive Director, LOVE BC

Illustration by Leo (Leadership youth)



adaptation



disruption



PROGRAMMING

MEDIA ARTS PROGRAM

MAP is a free after-school program where youth channel creativity through artistic mediums such as photography, film, and writing. Art is used as a vehicle to explore anti-violence and social justice issues affecting youth and their communities. The Media Arts Program (MAP) was held in Burnaby, Surrey, and Vancouver during the 2019-2020 program year.



Sticker design by Halima from MAP Surrey.

MAP SURREY

MAP Surrey had a positive impact on the youth who attended. While the group was on the smaller side, engagement was genuine, spirited, and intimate. One youth travelled from another school to attend MAP faithfully right up until the lockdown. We also had a set of two siblings from the same family. The most regular attendance was from/by BIPOC youth.

There was strong engagement around a Canadian history timeline activity: youth were tasked with placing events from Canadian history in a timeline. Some youth ably demonstrated and shared knowledge, while other youth were surprised by certain historical atrocities they believed to have occurred longer ago. At the end of the activity, youth were encouraged to place their own stories within the timeline, including dates that were important to themselves and their families (eg. when their families moved to Canada/BC, birth dates, etc.) Other sources of excitement included poetry activities, potatoes on pizza, and ranch sauce—food always encourages connection!

Going forward, our young people are outstanding leaders and would benefit from further exposure to the arts. This group would also thrive from continued discussion of topics such as how to defend themselves and their friends from bullying, or how to meaningfully share in the experience of this colonized land as newcomers. Surrey youth enjoyed T-shirt making for Pink Shirt Day and open art studios and used these sessions as opportunities to have community-building conversations.



virtual
community



physical
isolation

MAP BURNABY

MAP Burnaby explored themes such as self-awareness, boundaries, healthy relationships, media literacy, gender and sexuality, and more. It was promising to see the transformation that some participants had as the program progressed. They opened up and trusted one-another to hold difficult conversation about identity and oppression. It was also special to witness youth take creative risks particularly within creative writing and photography.

Theatre techniques were essential to developing and integrating deep dialogue into complex anti-oppression themes. For example, we explored the concept of solidarity among racialized bodies by playing movement and silent games that involved miming, mirroring, and hyperbole. The youth came up with insightful conclusions about anti-bullying and anti-racism.

Once we transitioned to virtual facilitation, dance and somatic movement were vital to exploring emotional regulation techniques. We also dove into poetry, storytelling, and guided meditations to facilitate conversations around the BLM movement, the impacts of isolation, and decolonial theory.

It was a memorable year and we are looking forward to what's to come!

MAP VAN TECH

MAP at Vancouver Technical Secondary was a highly-engaged and high-energy group. Youth were true to themselves and carried fruits of knowledge, talents, and laughter. They embraced theatre games, created art, and shared space together. Art forms that were explored include painting, acrylic drawing, and photography as well as digital art making, comic book drawing, and a photo scavenger hunt around the school that yielded some lovely photography.

One highlight at the beginning of the year was when youth explored self-awareness and assumptions. Paired with a mask-making art activity, youth discussed how others perceive them versus what is their personal truth. There were amazing moments of mindfulness, reflection, and discussions as youth envisioned their futures.



TOP: Sticker design by HC (MAP Surrey youth)

BOTTOM: Sticker design by Ashley (MAP Van Tech youth)

LEADERSHIP

The Leadership program is for youth who have graduated from MAP. This year, Leadership was a small but very dedicated group. Youth were vocal about the topics they wanted to explore and there was a regular exchange of knowledge between youth and facilitators. Youth showcased their facilitation skills, sharing theatre games and activities. Many amazing conversations and moments of tenderness took place, creating a close and tight-knit community.

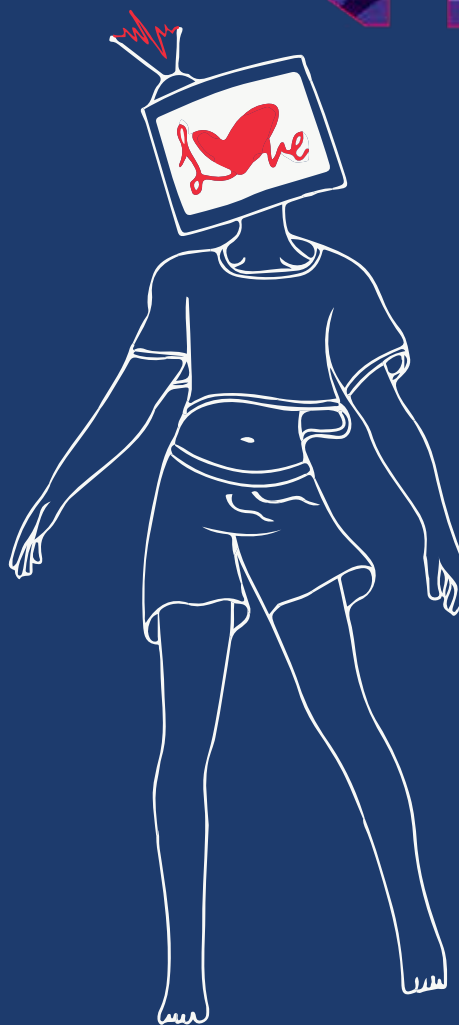
Highlights included learning about the Zones of Comfort, where youth developed emotional self-awareness by unpacking experiences where they might have felt unsafe or uncomfortable. Youth also requested a session dedicated to LGBTQ2S+ history and created a physical timeline. They also envisioned what a future for this community could look like.

Furthermore, youth participated in the Surrey Street Banner contest: with support from our Board members who provided tablets, youth collaborated on a rough draft within two hours. Then one youth took initiative and completed the final piece (see above), entitled "Bee Buddies." Although they did not win the contest, youth honed their skills, learned more about collaboration, and created an amazing art piece together.

When the pandemic happened, youth were patient, understanding, and showed up in their full capacity to make art and participate in meaningful, virtual discussions about decolonization, allyship, and more.

TOP: Banner design by Leadership youth submitted to City of Surrey competition

BOTTOM: T-shirt design by Lennox, a Leadership youth



ART DROP-IN

Art Drop-in took place on Wednesday evenings at the Broadway Youth Resource Centre (BYRC), a low-barrier space for youth to hang out and be creative, while connecting them to the supports and resources available at the BYRC and with LOVE. When the coronavirus pandemic began, we created virtual drop-in sessions on Wednesdays for LOVE youth, LOVE alumni, and other youth in the community.

OUTREACH & WORKSHOPS

LOVE BC facilitated outreaches and workshops throughout the Lower Mainland. Our outreaches and workshops were led by staff facilitators and, occasionally, alumni and Leadership youth who want to practice their facilitation skills. Our audiences included young people and adults. This year, we facilitated 26 workshops and our outreach and workshops impacted about 1400 individuals.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

When the pandemic happened, we knew we had to remain accessible to youth, many of whom see LOVE as a safe and supportive space.

one-on-ones

LOVE staff took turns being online and available on our @lovebc_map Instagram account. We shared a schedule of which staff would be available when and remained accessible to any youth who may want support.

wednesday art drop-in

To replace our regular art drop-in program and to be more accessible to LOVE youth who may not be available to attend virtual MAP/Leadership sessions, we opened a virtual drop-in space on Wednesdays. Here, we chatted with youth and shared art ideas.

wednesday alumni drop-in

We recognized that alumni youth may need support too, so we created a dedicated alumni space on Wednesdays for any alumni youth to reconnect, check in, and hang out.

SMYLE

Social Media Youth Leaders Empowered (SMYLE) collaborates with multi-barrier youth to identify, explore, and find solutions related to employment. This project provided life skills training such as resume writing, budgeting, and portfolio development. Youth were connected to resources related to housing, continuing education, counselling, and financial support.

YPINK

Young People Investing in Kindness (YPinK) is a component of MAP where youth overcome experiences of violence with media arts and leadership skills. Youth explored prevention and intervention strategies related to bullying, discrimination, and oppression. In February, youth participated in CKNW Kids Fund's annual Pink Shirt Day.



HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS

May 1-3, 2019

CAMP POTLATCH

22 MAP and Leadership youth honed their leadership skills at Camp Potlatch in Howe Sound. For many, it was their first time away from home or having a camp experience. Youth participated in outdoor activities such as archery, hiking, water sports, and campfires. Youth facilitated their own workshops on topics of interest and everyone enjoyed an entertaining show of talent and dance on the last day of camp.

June 25-30, 2019

FRAME OF REFERENCE

In this week-long exhibition of artwork from LOVE's and BYRC's programs, youth spoke on artistic process and shared their talents. "Frame of Reference" refers to how perspectives shift as creativity flows and how various lenses are used to frame social justice issues.

October 17, 2019

LUZIA BY CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Cirque du Soleil held a special Pride night show on October 17, 2019 for their Luzia performance. Staff held an outreach table during the event, providing information about LOVE BC programs and sharing printed materials and "swag" with the public attendees at the show.

December 12, 2019

WINTERFEST

This year, LOVE youth from Burnaby, Vancouver, and Surrey joined us at the BYRC for a non-denominational, multicultural night of fun and food! Winterfest was an opportunity for youth and staff to meet each other, enjoy music, do arts and crafts, and share a meal. The cookie decorating station was especially popular.



LEFT: Archery at Camp Potlatch
RIGHT: Carolina (facilitator) doing outreach

February 1, 2020

TRANS EXTRAVAGANZA

LOVE BC had the wonderful opportunity of attending and supporting the first ever Trans Extravaganza. This event was organized by Dan's Legacy and BYRC youth with the help of community organizations and artists. Tailored to trans-identified, non-binary, Two-Spirit and gender-diverse youth, the event included performances, workshops by community trans leaders, a QTBIPOC panel, and more. Charmaine participated in the planning committee and contributed poster design and social media work for this project. She also attended this event as part of LOVE's outreach.

June 13, 2020

GRADUATION

Graduation this year was a little different in that it was held virtually! Despite this change, staff, youth, and Board member Stevie shared a memorable and positive experience. Staff decorated their own spaces, youth shared art and performance, and everyone contributed to a group poem. We later edited this poem to be used in our Vancouver Pride video submission. Congratulations to HC for graduating MAP and kudos to Lennox for winning the grad T-shirt design with their piece, "Windscreen."

Love is joy. Love is hard. Love is honest.

Pride, an old growth forest. LOVE is a water cycle.

Pride is joy. Pride is hard. Pride is honest.

Love, and Pride are greater than anything.

Happy pride !!



LEFT: Pride poem created at graduation
TOP RIGHT: Trans Extravaganza banner
BOTTOM RIGHT: "Frame of Reference" show at grunt gallery.

PROGRAMMING FACTOIDS

Perspectives from surveyed LOVE youth, staff, alumni, and Board.

TOP 3 REASONS FOR COMING TO LOVE



WHAT LOVE DOES WELL

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the following things as "very good." The remaining responses named these things as "good."

94%

Encouraging/fostering youth leadership (eg. allowing youth to lead conversations, doing activities youth are interested in, etc.).

81%

Providing a safe and accessible space

75%

Supporting youth leadership development

MOST HIGHLY RATED WORKSHOPS

Anti-violence and anti-oppression

Isms (eg. racism, sexism, homophobia, etc.)

Media literacy

94%

...of respondents rated these workshops as "very good" or "good."

> 10

inclusion



alienation

MESSAGE FROM THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The LOVE BC board and fundraising committee would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the corporations, foundations, and individuals who give generously this year to support LOVE BC's mission.

Thanks to the tireless work of IBPoC activists around the world, we are witnessing an unprecedented global movement. Conversations around systemic racism, colonialism and oppression – topics that have been at the forefront of LOVE BC's work for over two decades – have come to the forefront of our public consciousness.

Never has LOVE BC'S work been more relevant. Though we can no longer connect in-person, we continue to work virtually to equip young leaders with the tools to tell their stories, on their own terms, and support their peers. We are grateful to our many donors who allow us to support and hold safe virtual spaces for young people for artistic expression, and dismantling systems of oppression.

This year, our fundraising activities also focused on connecting online. Our two digital fundraising campaigns were the output of an excellent digital media plan carried out by Charmaine Li, LOVE BC's new communications coordinator. The "Send a Youth to Camp" fundraiser raised money for what is for many LOVE BC youth the highlight of their LOVE experience. The regional camp helps youth develop leadership and outdoor skills and make memories that last a lifetime. Our second campaign shared the LOVE mission on Giving Tuesday.

We are thankful for the enthusiastic work Charmaine has done to enrich the virtual conversations LOVE has with youth and community supporters, and the thoughtfulness the entire staff puts into pivoting our programs online so that we can support youth through these uncertain times.

This year marks our 20th anniversary in BC. This fall, LOVE BC's fundraising campaign will tell the two-decades-long story of LOVE. We look forward to celebrating in a virtual space with supporters, donors, alumni, and community partners.

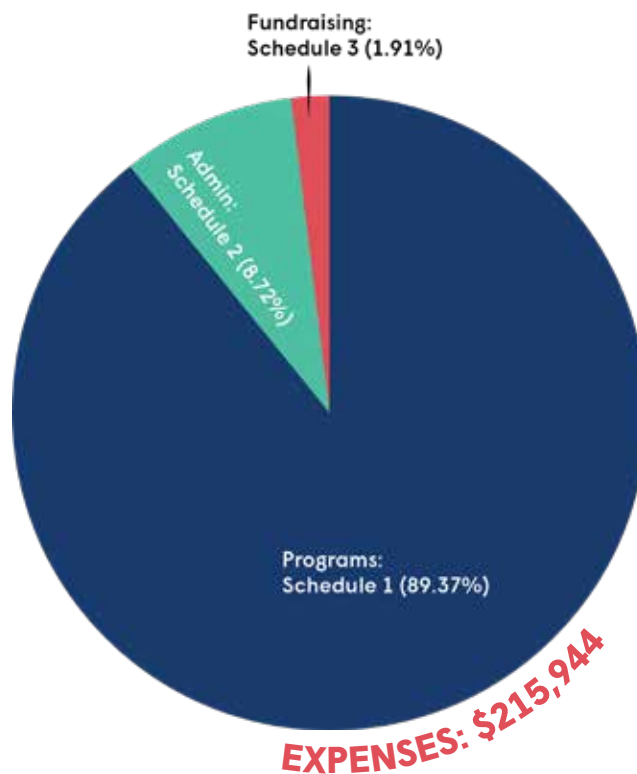
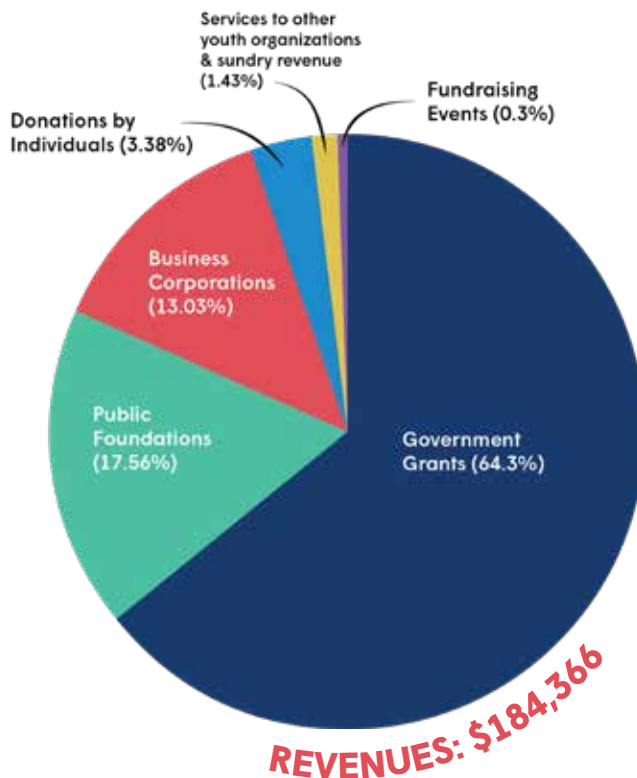
We encourage you to reach out if you have a story to share or follow us on social media to stay in touch. We look forward to co-creating the story of LOVE with our generous supporters over the next 20 years!



FINANCIALS

LEAVE OUT VIOLENCE (LOVE) SOCIETY BC Statement of Financial Position March 31

	2020
Assets	
Current	
Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	\$ 166,046
Accounts receivable	25,697
GST receivable	848
Prepaid expenses	3370
	195,961
Equipment (note 5)	0
	\$ 195,961
Liabilities	
Current	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 6)	\$ 6,277
Deferred contributions (note 7)	95,128
	101,405
Net assets	
Internally restricted contingency reserve	58,985
Unrestricted	35,571
Invested in equipment	0
	94,556
	\$ 195,961



DONORS & SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT

BC Gaming
Canada Summer Jobs
City of Surrey
City of Vancouver
Heritage Canada
BC Arts Council

CORPORATE

CKNW Kids' Fund
TELUS Friendly Future Foundation
Urban Systems Foundation
Coast Capital Savings Credit Union
Saturna Group Chartered Accountants

STAFF

Lambrini Soulos, Executive Director
Rabbit Richards, Program Manager
Carolina Duque, Program Facilitator
Marcey Amaya, Program Facilitator
Kat Gilliat, Alumni Co-Facilitator
Charmaine Li, Office & Communications
Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Heather Stoutenburg
Lyla Hunter
Pej Mahlooji
Jessica Allen
Tracy Rawa
Gagan Diesh
Elaine Zitner
Stevie Nguyen
Laura Froese
Paris (Youth Rep)
Cayden (Youth Rep)
Leo (Youth Rep)

Thank you to all our individual donors!

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Aunt Leah's Place
Broadway Youth Resource Centre
Byrne Creek Secondary School
Car Free Day on Main Street
Camp Potlatch
Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House
Check Your Head
Collingwood Neighbourhood House
Foundation Alternative
grunt gallery
Kwantlen Park Secondary School
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Pathways to Education
Richmond Addictions Services Society
Richmond Centre Community Centre
STEP to Work - BC Housing
Urban Native Youth Association
Vancouver Coastal Health
Vancouver Technical Secondary School

FOUNDATIONS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation
Provincial Employees Community Services
Fund
SurreyCares Community Foundation
Zacks Family Charitable Foundation
Chris Spencer Foundation
Notre Dame
United Way of Calgary

CORE VOLUNTEERS

Alyssa Angeles
Catherine Hart
Patrick To

GIFTS OF LOVE IN-KIND

Broadway Youth Resource Centre?
Vancouver Queer Film Festival

collaboration



division



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Vancouver, BC V5T 0E6

Traditional, Unceded Coast Salish Territories