



# Our Commitment to Richmond Children

Richmond Children First Strategic Plan: 2015 - 2018



Ministry of  
Children and Family  
Development



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## Richmond Children First

### About Richmond Children First

#### Vision

A child friendly community where children and families thrive.

#### Mission

Promoting early and middle child development and supporting families by connecting research, people, ideas and resources.

#### Guiding Principles

##### Strategic Vision

- Collaborative
- Child focused, family centred, community based
- Respectful of/responsive to diverse cultures and needs
- Building on strengths; working towards sustainability

##### Participation and Decision Making

- Shared decision making
- In partnership with families and community
- Capacity building

##### Performance

- Coordinated
- Effective
- Efficient

##### Accountability

- Evidence-based
- Evaluation

### History

**Richmond Children First** has been active since 2003 as a community partnership that brings people together to build a supportive, responsive community for children and their families.

Initially, **Richmond Children First** focused on early child development, researching and responding to growing evidence that a child's experiences during the first 5 years of life has a profound and lasting impact on long term social, emotional and physical development. The initial objectives of Richmond Children First were: increasing community capacity; increasing service delivery effectiveness; engaging of "hard to reach" families; and, increasing opportunities for early identification and screening to improve outcomes for children and families.

In 2007, Richmond was one of 4 communities selected by United Way of the Lower Mainland as a demonstration site to focus on local planning – to explore how communities support children and how community partnerships, services and supports can be improved for school-aged children. **Richmond Children First** was invited to host the project because of its cross-sectoral representation and history of community collaboration.



Until 2011, **Richmond Children First** and Richmond Middle Childhood Matters operated as separate community initiatives. However during that time, joint projects were implemented and the Steering Committees overseeing the two initiatives met regularly. In June 2011, the two initiatives began to merge with the understanding that the merger would be evaluated as part of the strategic planning process early in 2012.

### Richmond Children First Partners

<b>Richmond Children First Steering Committee</b>	
Boys and Girls Clubs of South BC	Jason Lee
Boys and Girls Clubs of South BC	Natalie Lutz
City of Richmond	Lesley Sherlock, Community Services (Planning)
City of Richmond	Coralys Cuthbert, Community Services (Child Care)
City of Richmond	David Ince, Community Recreation
Family Services of Greater Vancouver	Tulia Castellanos
Ministry for Children & Family Development	David Phillips, Operations & Regional ECD
Richmond Addiction Services	Rick Dubras
Richmond Family Place	Janice Lambert
Richmond Public Library	Melanie Au
Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives	Jocelyn Wong
Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives (CCRR)	Marcia MacKenzie
Richmond Food Bank	Keith Yee
Richmond School District	Richard Steward, Learning Services
Richmond School District	Marie Thom, Early Learning
Richmond Society for Community Living	Sue Graf
Richmond Youth Service Agency	Marshall Thompson
Scouts Canada	Sarah Clark
SUCCESS	Mary Kam
Touchstone Family Association	Judy Valsonis
United Way of the Lower Mainland	Jody Olsson
Vancouver Coastal Health-Richmond	Diane Bissenden, Richmond Public Health

<b>Richmond Children First Associate Members</b>	
Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver	Joanne Kautz-Allard
Richmond Multicultural Community Services	Parm Grewal
Vancouver YMCA	Cathy Poole



### **Richmond Public Agency Partners Group**

The Richmond Public Agency Partners Group (RPAPG) is a committee of senior executives from the following public agencies – City of Richmond, Ministry of Child and Family Development, School District 38, the RCMP, and Vancouver Coastal Health who have made a commitment to work together to provide the children and youth of Richmond access to:

- Safe places to live, work, and play
- A healthy start in life, and a foundation for life
- A supporting, caring, respectful community where children and youth feel they belong and have a voice
- Lifelong learning opportunities
- Opportunities to reach their full potential

The RPAPG uses the principles of positive development through an asset building philosophy (Helping Kids Succeed Richmond-Style) and have made a commitment to promote and advance the Richmond Children’s Charter. Several public partner leaders sit on both the RCF Steering Committee and the RPAPG ensuring that community collaborations flow from decision-making/funders, through to community-wide initiatives, and extend to collaborative practitioners.

### **Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee**

The Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC) is an advisory body to Richmond City Council that brings together a broad and diverse group of government, community, and agency representatives to advise City Council on social, health, and community matters. Richmond Children First liaises with the RCSAC and works with the RCSAC on issues related to children and families.

## 2012 – 2015 Strategic Plan

The 2012 - 2015 Strategic Plan was guided by professional competencies developed by the Early Years Community Development Institute:

**Leadership:** A well communicated vision that continues to build trust among colleagues and involves mobilizing, influencing and guiding others.

**Influencing Policy:** Recognition that advocacy takes different forms.

**Research and Accountability:** Research is used to analyze situations, explore options and understand possible outcomes that justify decisions from a sound knowledge base.

**Community Awareness, Engagement and Education:** Active and meaningful learning and information sharing enhances the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to promote optimum child development.

**Community Collaboration:** Growing and sustaining multi-agency, cross sectoral community collaboration to work together to improve services, supports and opportunities for children and their families.

The merging of the early and middle childhood initiatives was considered successful and there was a strong commitment to an 'equal voice' for both the early and middle years. A significant amount of time was spent strengthening the structure of the Richmond Children First Steering Committee. Terms of reference were revised to clearly articulate commitments and expectations; membership was adjusted to ensure senior managers sat on the Steering Committee; and, an associate member category was introduced to allow organizations without the capacity to be fully engaged to still be involved.

The Richmond Children First Steering Committee, with the support of a consultant, worked on the following:

- ✓ Collaboration Self-Assessment
- ✓ Conflict Resolution Policy
- ✓ Decision Making Policy
- ✓ Communications Strategy

Richmond Children First (RCF) worked with community partners to develop the **Richmond Early Child Development Community Framework** that:

- ✓ Provides a base from which community measures and indicators that support the well being of children can be developed
- ✓ Provides a common language to professionals in the community
- ✓ Inspires organizations and community and provides actionable items
- ✓ Provides an opportunity to complement and link to other existing and emerging frameworks
- ✓ Strengthens the connections that can lead to collaborative practice and integration of services
- ✓ Holds each other accountable

### Progress Highlights: 2012 - 2015

**Goal:** Develop an inclusive community vision for children

Objectives	Progress Highlights
Create awareness & support for the Children's Charter and Helping Kids Succeed Richmond-Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Released Helping Kids Succeed Richmond-Style booklet</li> <li>✓ Children's Charter endorsements (25)</li> <li>✓ Children's Charter animated video (in progress)</li> <li>✓ Children's Charter posters distributed (300+)</li> </ul>
Raise community awareness of the importance of child development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Growing Together: A Child Development Guide (3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 2013)</li> <li>✓ New Richmond Children First website</li> <li>✓ Richmond Children First Facebook</li> <li>✓ 30+ presentations</li> <li>✓ Community Forum: Face of Child Poverty in Richmond</li> </ul>
Create a voice for children by mobilizing the community through evidence-based research and child-friendly practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Richmond Children's Charter endorsed by Richmond City Council</li> <li>✓ Advocacy and Endorsement Policy</li> <li>✓ Richmond Children's Charter embedded in City of Richmond Social Development Strategy</li> </ul>

**Goal:** Maximize the capacity of public and community organizations to work together to improve the well being of children

Objectives	Progress Highlights
Increase accessibility to programs and services for children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Literature Review: Value Based Barriers</li> <li>✓ Family Engagement Project: Reducing Barriers</li> <li>✓ Family Events</li> <li>✓ After-School Project</li> </ul>
Establish and support formal and informal communication and relationship building networks that promote child development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Monthly announcements to 275+ subscribers</li> <li>✓ Professional development workshops</li> </ul>
Respond to current and emerging issues impacting children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Face of Child Poverty in Richmond (project/report)</li> <li>✓ Finding Home: Families Living on a Limited Budget</li> </ul>
Lead/support innovative projects and practices that advance outcomes for children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ City Centre Early Years Strategy</li> <li>✓ Success by 6 City Centre Outreach Project</li> <li>✓ Early Years Bridging Program</li> </ul>

## Funding

### Ministry of Children and Family Development

The Ministry of Children & Family Development (MCFD) continues to be a long term stable funder of early childhood development, in particular through their support for the Children First initiative and Implementation Manager position. Make Children First is a key strategy of MCFD, designed to promote and support local community and public sector collaboration towards an integrated system of effective services and supports for young children and their families. MCFD funds over 90 community ECD initiatives across the province.

MCFD considers Richmond Children First a community planning and development initiative administered under the Children First Learning Initiatives Implementation Guidelines issued by the Province of BC. These Guidelines include key considerations for implementation of the initiative, accountability and reporting obligations, and evaluation.

Funding for Richmond Children First is intended to provide the resources to:

- Lead the initiative
- Integrate community supports
- Involve the community
- Increase the understanding of the resources and assets of the community

### United Way of the Lower Mainland

Early childhood and middle childhood are 2 of the 3 key social issues funded by United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM). Success By 6 is UWLM's early childhood development initiative dedicated to providing children with *a good start in life*. UWLM supports middle childhood development (ages 6-12) by working towards a vision of seeing that *children are happy, healthy and resilient*. **Richmond Children First** continues to receive capacity funding from UWLM through their ECD and Middle Childhood Community Planning funding streams.

The early childhood funding has supported Richmond Children First's strategic priorities through numerous projects, including the development and printing of a series of multilingual parent maps; cross-sectoral professional development; the development of an ECD Community Framework; and, support for the development of the Richmond Children's Charter. UWLM has not yet announced plans for future ECD funding for community initiatives.

Middle childhood funding is directed to community planning and capacity building in order to:

- Coordinate stakeholders who are engaged in serving children 6-12 years
- Coordinate and facilitate local area research to identify middle childhood development priorities
- Build public awareness of community needs, community assets and the community's potential for meeting the middle childhood priorities
- Build partnerships amongst stakeholders to pool their resources and align their competencies to execute the middle childhood priorities;
- Demonstrate efforts to leverage additional resources and funding support



## Evaluation

**Richmond Children First** continues to participate in the ECD Evaluation Project developed by the BC Early Childhood Development [ECD] Funders Group in 2005. The ECD Evaluation Project includes an integrated evaluation and reporting system for community ECD initiatives across BC.

### **Vision:**

Children are healthy and develop to their full potential.

### **Long Term Outcomes:**

1. Mothers are healthy and give birth to healthy infants who remain healthy.
2. Children experience healthy early child development, including optimal early learning and care.
3. Parents are empowered and supported to nurture and support their children.
4. Communities support the development of all children and families.

**Richmond Children First** participates in an annual evaluation focused on the 4<sup>th</sup> long term outcome, the Community Capacity Evaluation. The intermediate outcomes for this are:

1. Improved community driven planning and coordination
2. Improved local awareness and mobilization
3. Improved service delivery

Our participation in this evaluation is twofold. As a contractual obligation to MCFD, this information provides an overview of the significant impact of ECD community initiatives both regionally and provincially. And, the evaluation provides the RCF Steering Committee with some evidence-informed data that allows for evaluation of strategic directions.

## Our Commitment to Children: 2015 - 2018 Richmond Children First Strategic Plan

### VISION

A child friendly community where children and families thrive

### MISSION

Promoting early and middle child development and supporting families  
by connecting research, people, ideas and resources

#### GOAL

Develop and support an inclusive  
community vision for children

#### GOAL

Maximize the capacity of public and  
community organizations to work together  
to improve the well being of children

#### OBJECTIVE

Raise community awareness of the  
importance of child development

#### OBJECTIVE

Lead/support innovative  
projects and practices that advance  
outcomes for children and families

#### OBJECTIVE

Create a voice for children by mobilizing the  
community through evidence-based research  
and child-friendly practices

#### OBJECTIVE

Increase accessibility to programs and  
services for children and families and  
connections to other families and the  
broader community

#### OBJECTIVE

Create awareness and support for the  
Children's Charter and  
Helping Kids Succeed Richmond-Style

#### OBJECTIVE

Respond to current and emerging issues  
impacting children and families

#### OBJECTIVE

Establish and support communication and  
relationship building networks that promote  
child development

## Operational Plan

### Goal: Develop and support an inclusive community vision for children

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes
Raise community awareness of the importance of child development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RCF Website</li> <li>▪ RCF Facebook Page</li> <li>▪ Middle Childhood Education Strategy</li> <li>▪ Presentations</li> </ul>	<p>Community supports the development of all children and families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parents, public and key influencers understand the importance of the early and middle years</li> <li>▪ Community is designed and organized to nurture child development</li> <li>▪ Children are connected to significant adult anchors</li> </ul>
Create a voice for children by mobilizing the community through evidence-based research and child-friendly practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Richmond Children’s Profile</li> <li>▪ Community Forums</li> </ul>	
Create awareness & support for the Children’s Charter and Helping Kids Succeed Richmond-Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Helping Little Kids Succeed Richmond booklet</li> <li>▪ Children’s Charter posters</li> </ul>	

### Goal: Maximize the capacity of public and community organizations to work together to improve the well being of children

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes
Lead/support innovative projects and practices that advance outcomes for children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ City Centre Avenues of Change</li> <li>▪ City Centre Success by 6 Outreach Project</li> </ul>	<p>Parents and families have the knowledge, resources and support they need to help their children develop to their full potential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Professionals use knowledge of best practices and evidence-based research to strengthen collaborative practices</li> <li>▪ Relationships amongst community partners are strengthened resulting in increased service integration and interagency agreements and policies</li> <li>▪ Families receive access to easy and timely information and referrals</li> </ul> <p><i>Outcomes are drawn from the Richmond Early Child Development Community Framework and Success By 6 Theory of Change Framework.</i></p>
Increase accessibility to programs and services for children and families and connections to other families and the broader community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Richmond Early Years Centre (pending)</li> <li>▪ RCF Parent Website</li> <li>▪ Family Events</li> <li>▪ Growing Together Child Development Guide</li> <li>▪ Multilingual Parent Maps</li> </ul>	
Respond to current and emerging issues impacting children and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ After-School MDI Project</li> <li>▪ Vertical parenting</li> <li>▪ Complex needs of children and families</li> <li>▪ Mental health of children and parents</li> </ul>	
Establish and support formal and informal communication and relationship building networks that promote child development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ City Centre Early Years Community of Practice</li> <li>▪ Professional Development</li> <li>▪ RCF Website</li> <li>▪ RCF Announcements</li> </ul>	

## The Strategic Planning Process

The Strategic Planning process took place over a 3-month period from April – June 2015.

### Surveys

- RCF Steering Committee Survey (Appendix 1)
- 2015 Provincial ECD Community Capacity Evaluation (Appendix 2)

### Strategic Planning Session 1 (Appendix 3)

- Research Review
- Emerging Trends
- Review of Richmond Children First Activities

### Strategic Planning Session 2 (Appendix 3)

- Presentation: Place-Based and Community Systems
- 2015 - 2018 Strategic Plan: Goals and Objectives

### Operational Plan

- Approved September 2015

## Appendix 1

# Richmond Children First Steering Committee Survey

In May 2015, at Strategic Planning Session 1, the RCF Steering Committee reviewed current research, emerging trends and RCF activities. As a follow up, committee members were invited to complete a brief survey to help guide the discussion for Strategic Planning Session 2; 15 of 20 RCF Steering Committee members completed the survey.

- 100% of all responses agreed that the vision and mission of Richmond Children First are still relevant.
- 100% of all respondents agreed that 6 of the 7 objectives were relevant/very relevant.
- 3 respondents wondered whether the objective, *create awareness and support for the Children’s Charter and Helping Kids Succeed Richmond-Style* were still relevant. Discussion at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Strategic Planning Session resulted in agreement that these two philosophies are key components of Richmond Children First.
- 87% (13) of all responses agreed that at least 50% of RCF resources should be committed to Richmond City Centre projects and activities.
- Respondents were asked to prioritize middle childhood activities based on evidence-informed research:

100%	Child development awareness to parents
94%	After-School MDI Project
80%	RCF Announcements
68%	Children’s Charter: Staff training and distribution of Charters
68%	HKS Richmond-Style: Staff training and distribution of booklets

- Emerging trends and priorities to build into RCF projects and activities:

100%	Complex needs of children and families
100%	Play
87%	Mental health of children and parents
79%	Helping Little Kids Succeed Richmond-Style
73%	Screen time
64%	Sleep

## Appendix 2

# 2015 Provincial ECD Community Capacity Evaluation

The Provincial ECD Community Capacity Evaluation is completed by stakeholders at local early tables every second year, and a summary evaluation is completed by the community early years coordinator the alternate years. In 2015, 18 of the 20 members of the Richmond Children First Steering Committee completed the evaluation.

This evaluation tool poses some challenges for our community as a number of the activities measured do not capture our goals and objectives. The evaluation also measures improvement and, after 12 years, there is little or no room for improvement in some areas.

### Community Driven Planning and Coordination

100%	We use research to inform planning and to guide our work
95%	We (our local planning table) work well together to strengthen ECD services and supports
83%	We have used evaluation findings for improvement (i.e. evaluating table, events, projects)
89%	Our meetings have improved (attendance, structure, consistency, value)
83%	There is increased collaboration amongst community partners
83%	Our ability to leverage resources has improved
83%	We have improved our ability to jointly plan for local needs
Comments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>There is a willingness to work together to seek funding in a non-competitive way.</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Trust between community partners has increased and our discussions are more open.</i></li> </ul>	

### Improved Local Awareness and Mobilization

100%	Our community has increased awareness of the importance of ECD as a result of our work.
100%	Our local ECD priorities guide the allocation of new funds available for ECD programs/services
83%	There are more or improved ECD programs and events
78%	More families are participating in ECD programs and event
77%	There is increased participation of service providers
68%	Politicians and municipal staff are showing more interest and support
6%	Our EDI scores have improved
Comments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Service providers are working together to make services more accessible to parents through cooperative approaches.</i></li> <li>▪ <i>We have positive momentum in bringing our community partners together.</i></li> </ul>	

### Improved Service Delivery

95%	More training opportunities are resulting in increased knowledge and skills
79%	ECD services and supports have improved as a result of our activities
As a result of our work early years services are more accessible to the following families:	
89%	Immigrant and refugee families
83%	Low Income Families
78%	Working families
33%	Children with special needs
11%	Aboriginal Families
Comments:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Our planning table is collaborative and we work well together for the best interest of children and families in our community.</i></li> </ul>	

### Appendix 3

## Strategic Planning: Research, Trends and Presentations

### Strategic Planning Session 1

The May 2015 Strategic Planning session attended by members of the Steering Committee included:

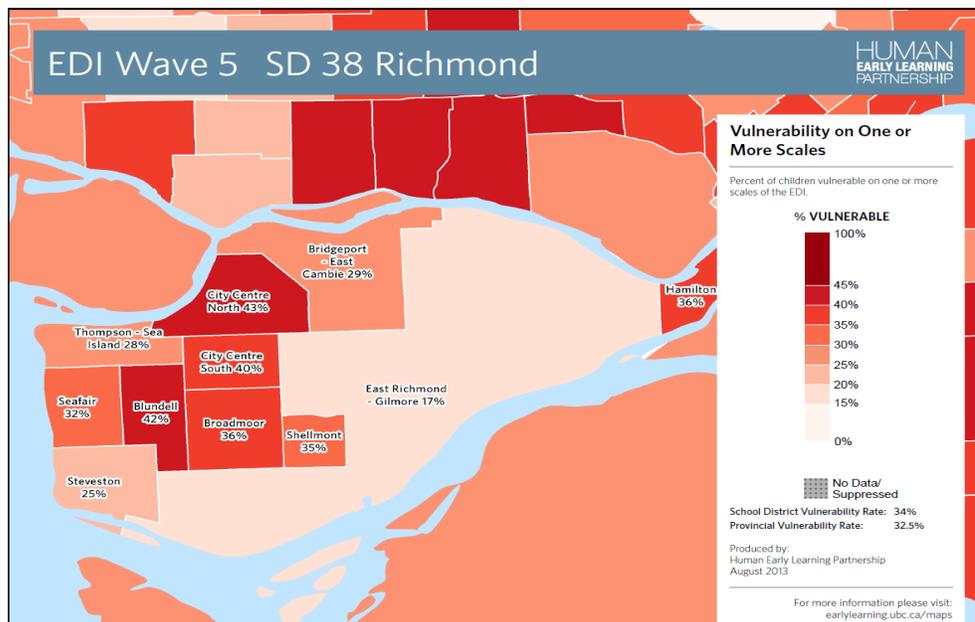
- A review of current and potential funding, including presentation on Avenues of Change;
- A review of Richmond Children First activities and projects (2012 – 2015);
- Research and emerging trends;
- And, a discussion of next steps

### Avenues of Change: A Place-Based Approach

Kim Winchell, United Way of Lower Mainland, gave a presentation on Avenues of Change, a funding opportunity for Richmond to develop a place-based initiative in City Centre with a goal to reduce child vulnerability.

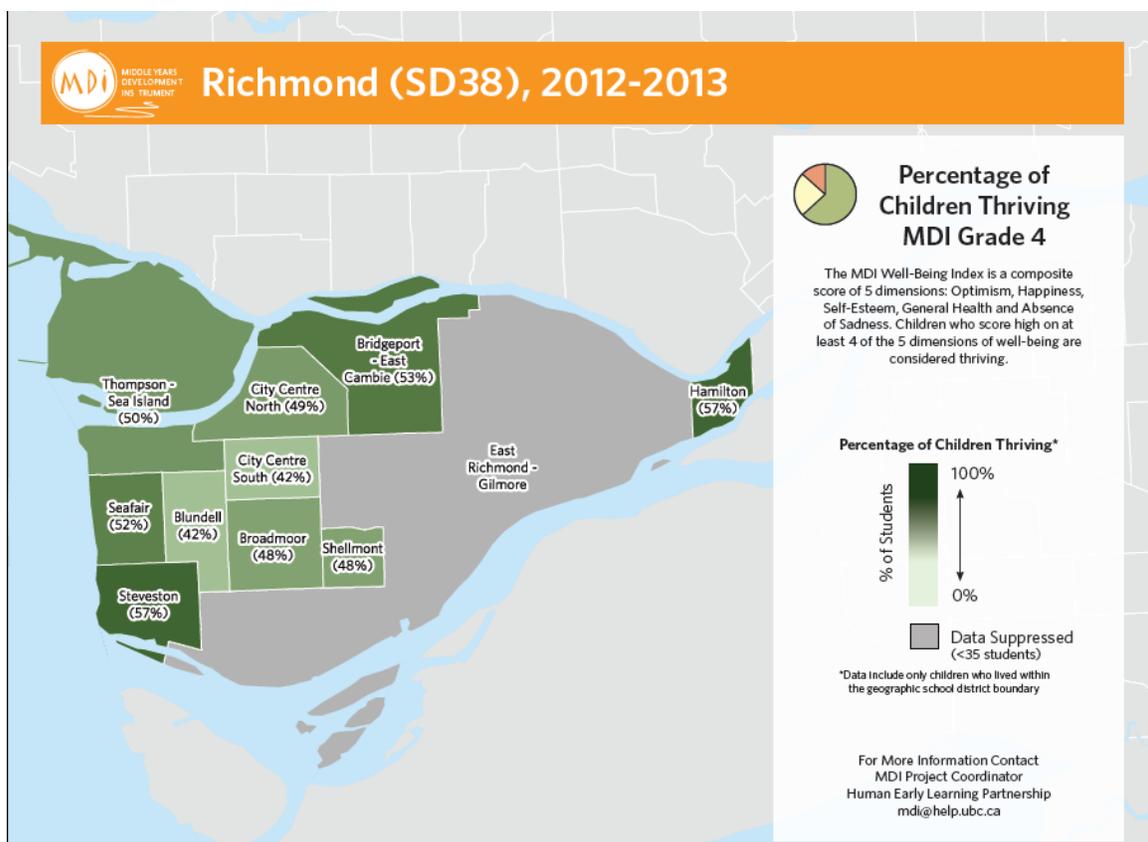
### Research: Early Development Instrument

- Child vulnerability based on EDI data continues to increase in Richmond from 30% in 2007 to 34% in 2013. This trend is similar to provincial data, with the percentage of vulnerable BC kindergarten children increasing from 29% to 32.4% over this same period. The highest vulnerability (40 – 44%) continues to be in City Centre.



### Research: Middle Development Instrument

- Richmond now has data from the Middle Development Instrument (MDI), a grade 4 survey which asks children to report on five dimensions that are critical components of development and strongly linked to well-being, health, academic achievement, and success throughout the school years and in later life:
  - Social and Emotional Development
  - Physical Health and Well-Being
  - Connectedness to Adults and Peers
  - School Experiences
  - Use of After-School Time



### Research: Richmond Demographics

The Steering Committee also reviewed data from the Richmond City Centre ECD Report which indicates that approximately 50% of children will be living in City Centre in the future, a large neighbourhood which currently has the high child vulnerability, high poverty and a large number of complex, vulnerable families.

## Emerging Trends

The discussion on emerging trends focused on two key areas – children and families, and working together.

### Children and Families

- Mental health of children
- Mental health of parents
- Complex needs of families
- Importance of play
- Social-emotional development
- Kindergarten transition
- High school transition

Committee members acknowledged that several priorities continue to be relevant:

- High child vulnerability and complex family challenges in City Centre
- Infrastructure and relational barriers continue to keep many families from accessing needed programs and services
- Professionals at all levels continue to need opportunities for relationship building, information brokering and learning together

## Working Together

Steering committee members also reviewed emerging literature on collaborative approaches to working together, recognizing that Richmond Children First was already well along the collaboration continuum.

### Systems Leadership

“Though they differ widely in personality and style, genuine system leaders have a remarkably similar impact. Over time, their profound commitment to the health of the whole radiates to nurture similar commitment in others. Their ability to see reality through the eyes of people very different from themselves encourages others to be more open as well. They build relationships based on deep listening, and networks of trust and collaboration start to flourish. They are so convinced that something can be done that they do not wait for a fully developed plan, thereby freeing others to step ahead and learn by doing.”

[\*The Dawn of System Leadership\*](#)

### Collaborative Place-Based Approaches

Collaborative place-based approaches are emerging as a means of addressing “wickedly” complex issues: those that have many interacting causes and are seen to require multiple organizations to develop a co-ordinated response in a specific geographic region such as a neighbourhood.

### Collective Impact

Collective impact occurs when organizations from different sectors agree to solve a specific social problem using a common agenda, aligning their efforts, and using common measures of success.

### Early Years Centres

Organizations work together to ensure that families receive practical advice and convenient, one-stop access to information on supports and services.

### Next Steps

RCF Steering Committee members identified a number of next steps to better inform the 2015 – 2018 strategic plan:

- Survey to committee members on information covered during 1<sup>st</sup> strategic planning session
- Presentation by Pippa Rowcliffe, Human Early Learning Partnership on place-based and community systems.

### Strategic Planning Session 2

The June 2015 Strategic Planning session attended by members of the Steering Committee included:

- A presentation by Pippa Rowcliffe, Human Early Learning Partnership on community systems that make a difference in the lives of children and families
- A discussion on how Richmond Children First can incorporate Richmond priorities into these various ways of working together.

### Presentation: Place-Based and Community Systems

Pippa gave an overview of the lessons learned about systemic approaches in early years centres as well as some of the evaluation results of the Avenues of Change initiatives in Coquitlam and Surrey. Some key statements from her presentation included:

- Partnerships strengthen reach and supports for families
- Establish true community leadership and ownership of place-based as well as other collaborative approaches
- Look at service integration as enhancement not as loss
- Address barriers to access rather than start new programs
- Community capacity is foundational and should cement the structure of our theory of change

### Richmond Children First Strategic Plan

#### Structure

Acknowledgment from Steering Committee members that:

- Leadership must come from the whole committee
- Coordinator has to have support from the Steering Committee to ensure deliverables are met
- The current Steering Committee is strong and we now need to ensure that action teams are also strong - as much the work of Richmond Children First is done through action teams
- Member organizations must commit staff time to action teams; staff involved on action teams have to want to be there - volunteers rather than mandatory participation

#### Evaluation

There was also general agreement that we need to improve our evaluation, with an acknowledgement that community capacity building is hard to measure. Evaluation can be

developed from the Richmond ECD Community Framework as well as the evaluation work being done on Avenues of Change and Early Years Centres.

### 2015 – 2018 Strategic Plan

Steering Committee members approved building the following into the strategic plan:

- Commit at least 50% of RCF resources and funds to City Centre projects and activities
- Secure funding and implement an early years City Centre place-based approach
- Work together to develop and implement an Early Years Centre that is not focused on a single location but rather uses the current infrastructure to deliver practical advice and convenient, one-stop access to information on supports and services.
- Establish an Action Team to write and produce a publication addressing Helping Little Kids Succeed Richmond-Style
- Continue finding solutions to barriers, particularly relational-barriers
- Develop strategies/tools to provide families with information on programs and services (parent website, Every Door Is the Right Door) – if possible as part of the Early Years Centre
- Bring professional development opportunities to Richmond that address our priorities and concerns - including child/parent mental health, complex needs of families, addressing barriers, supporting social-emotional development, etc.
- Pilot an education campaign to bring middle childhood development messaging to families
- Continue the After School Action Team, researching how a mix of structured and unstructured after school activities in Bridgeport-East Cambie and Hamilton correlates to increased adult and peer connectedness
- Continue with website, Facebook and monthly announcements