

SUBJECT AREAS

ARTS AND CULTURE B

How is Victoria doing when it comes to arts and culture for youth?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Lower costs **59.9%**
- » More advertising of events **36.5%**
- » Have more all ages events **32.8%**
- » More events outside the downtown core **21.9%**

'...develop volunteer-to-be
-an-arts-patron program.
Make theatre and symphony
more accessible.'

YOUTH VOICE C

How is Victoria doing when it comes to youth having a say?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Increase awareness of options and opportunities **7.3%**
- » More education about the political system **45.8%**
- » All levels of government to consult and include youth **42.7%**
- » Fewer surveys, more doing **27.5%**



ENVIRONMENT B

How is Victoria doing when it comes to the green scene?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Public recycling bins **57.4%**
- » More frequent bus service outside the core **42.6%**
- » More paved bicycle trails and lanes **40.3%**
- » Extended bus routes **40.3%**

Youth Employment Assistance Down

In 2010, 340 youth between 15 and 24 were receiving employment insurance, down from 480 in 2009, but up from 110 in 2008.

POVERTY: GAP BETWEEN RICH & POOR C-

How is Victoria doing when it comes to addressing the gap between the rich and poor?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » More affordable housing **65.1%**
- » Higher minimum wage **54.8%**
- » More programs for at-risk youth **45.2%**
- » Government incentives for rental and low-cost housing **42.1%**

For more information on Victoria's Youth Vital Signs
www.victoriafoundation.bc.ca | Phone: 250.381.5532
Email: info@victoriafoundation.bc.ca



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GRADERS IDENTIFIED THE TOP 5 AREAS THAT NEED THE MOST ATTENTION:

1	Youth Housing & Homelessness
2	Poverty (tied for 1st)
3	Transportation
4	Youth Voice (tied for 2nd)
5	Education

Grading

The indicators used in Victoria's Youth Vital Signs have been graded by survey respondents using a report card scale of A, B, C, D and F.

A	EXCELLENT
B	GOOD
C	AVERAGE
D	POOR
F	FAIL

GRADERS RATED THE FOLLOWING AS THE TOP PRIORITY AREAS TO DEDICATE MORE MONEY, TIME AND LEADERSHIP:

1	Education
2	Affordable Housing
3	Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention
4	Health Education
5	Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation

Thanks to our Survey Prize Donors

- Downtown Victoria Business Association
- Floyd's Diner
- National Geographic IMAX Theatre
- University Centre Farquhar Auditorium

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VICTORIA'S *youth* 2011 VITAL SIGNS



START CONVERSATIONS | TAKE ACTION | SHARE THE REPORT

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VICTORIA'S YOUTH VITAL SIGNS

Victoria's Youth Vital Signs began as a special section of the Victoria Foundation's 2009 *Victoria's Vital Signs®* report to measure the vitality of our city from a youth perspective and as a way for the youth of the region to have their voices heard.

During the past two years youths age 15 to 24 were asked for their opinions on issues that are critical to their quality of life. They were open and engaged in the process and the comments they provided shaped the survey for 2011. This year respondents were asked to grade each subject area and indicate what one or two things they would change if they could. The options were drawn from comments frequently received in the previous two surveys.

For more in depth information visit www.victoriafoundation.bc.ca

THE YOUTH WHO GRADED OUR SURVEY

47.9%
WERE 15-18 YEARS OLD

69.3%
VOLUNTEER

49.6%
HAVE LIVED IN THE REGION ALL THEIR LIVES

6.6% IDENTIFY AS HAVING A DISABILITY

56.9%
LIVE WITH THEIR PARENTS

18.1% HAVE MOVED 2 OR MORE TIMES IN THE PAST YEAR

23.5% WORK FULL-TIME

36.8% WORK PART-TIME

13.2% WORK SEASONALLY

72%
ARE FEMALE

28%
ARE MALE

75.7%
GO TO SCHOOL

SUBJECT AREAS

YOUTH SPACES B-

How is Victoria doing when it comes to the availability and quality of youth spaces?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Bowling lanes 58.9%
- » Incentives for youth to be active/use rec centres 58.9%
- » More all-ages clubs 38.7%
- » More community centres 20.2%

'Anti-stigma for mental illness....Fund peer support for mental health programs.'

HEALTH & WELL-BEING B

How is Victoria doing when it comes to supporting health and well-being for youth?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Access to gym/fitness discounts for low-income youth 57.3%
- » Extend free youth services past age 18 49.2%
- » More funding to non-profits that support vulnerable youth 41.1%
- » More mental health and addiction services for youth 36.3%



YOUTH HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS C

How is Victoria doing when it comes to housing for youth and young adults?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Affordable student housing 70.8%
- » Support for teens living on their own 51.7%
- » More low income apartments 50.8%
- » More youth housing 35%

Tuition Fees Below Average

The average cost of tuition for a post-secondary undergraduate in BC in 2010/11 was \$4,802 considerably less than the national average of \$5,138. BC has the fourth lowest tuition in Canada.

EDUCATION & LEARNING B+

How is Victoria doing when it comes to learning, education or training opportunities for youth?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » More funding options for post-secondary education 55.1%
- » Better life skills education in high school 50.85%
- » Better support for special needs students turning 19 33.9%
- » More technical or trades education options in high school 31.4%

SAFETY B-

How is Victoria doing when it comes to youth safety?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Better relationship between police and youth 59.5%
- » Reduce all forms of bullying with more education 43.1%
- » Stress importance of being a community leader to students at all ages 41.4%
- » More respect from the police 35.3%

Youth Unemployment Increases

Unemployment for youth 15 to 24 in Greater Victoria in 2010 was 11.3%, up from 10.8% in 2009. Provincially, youth unemployment was 13.8% in 2010, and 14.8% nationally.

TRANSPORTATION B-

How is Victoria doing when it comes to youth getting around?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » Additional late night bus runs 54.8%
- » More frequent buses 53%
- » Lower bus fares 50.4%
- » Better defined bike lanes and bike lockups 36.5%

OUR COMMUNITY B+

How is Victoria doing when it comes to youth's ability to be themselves?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » More playgrounds, sports and theatres youth can afford 45.5%
- » Emphasize inclusion to elementary and middle school students 43.8%
- » More awareness of youth cultural events 42.9%
- » Mandatory awareness education in schools 42%

'If anything we need to rehabilitate not add more punishment. Education prevents crime.'

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING B-

How would you grade youth employment and training options in Victoria?

If you could change one (or two) things in this area, what would it be?

- » More teen-friendly employers 57.4%
- » More intern positions in government and business 54.8%
- » Higher wages 53.9%
- » Education on employee rights and job safety 41.7%

HOW CONNECTED DO YOU FEEL TO THE VICTORIA COMMUNITY?

	2009	2010	2011
VERY CONNECTED	14.7%	19.1%	16.4%
SOMEWHAT CONNECTED	60.4%	56.0%	71.4%
HARDLY CONNECTED	22.2%	21.3%	10.0%
NOT CONNECTED AT ALL	2.7%	3.6%	2.1%