About the library

The North Vancouver City Library is a landmark building located on the traditional, unceded lands of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and s?l?ílw?ta?? (Tsleil-Waututh Nation), and in the heart of the City of North Vancouver.

Vision — What we aspire to be

A trusted place for everyone to learn, grow and belong.

Purpose — Our reason for being

We provide welcoming spaces and innovative services that connect people to information, ideas and one another.

Strategic priorities

Where we will focus in order to achieve our vision and reflect our values.

- Champion thinking, learning and reading.
- Strengthen inclusion and belonging.
- Enhance capacity and capability.

You can read more about how we plan to achieve these priorities in our 2025 – 2029 Strategic Plan. (7 MB)

Quick links

Contact, hours, & location

Library policies

Library publications

Strategic plan

- 2025 – 2029 NVCL Strategic Plan(7 MB)
- 2023 Strategic framework(249 KB)
- 2022 – 2023 NVCL Refreshed Strategic Priorities
- 2018 – 2021 NVCL Strategic Plan

Community reports

- 2025 Report to our Community(7 MB)
- 2024 Report to our Community(3 MB)
- 2023 Report to our Community(3 MB)
- 2022 Report to our Community(2 MB)
- 2021 Report to our Community(3 MB)
- 2020 Report to our Community(2 MB)
- 2019 Report to our Community(5 MB)
- 2018 Report to our Community(3 MB)

Audited financial statements

- 2025 audited financial statements(750 KB)
- 2024 audited financial statements(1 MB)
- 2023 audited financial statements(2 MB)
- 2022 audited financial statements(1 MB)
- 2021 audited financial statements(5 MB)
- 2020 audited financial statements(2 MB)
- 2019 audited financial statements(790 KB)

Statements of financial information

- 2025 Statement of financial information(2 MB)

- 2024 Statement of financial information(2 MB)
- 2023 Statement of financial information

Other reports

- Technology Access for North Vancouver: A review of how the pandemic has affected our community's access to technology
- NVCL - 2019 COVID Response
- Framework for Inclusion(99 KB)

Library history

The North Vancouver City Library has existed in some form for more than 100 years. Its roots can be traced as far back as 1869 as the first public library on Burrard Inlet.

The charter to establish a small, fee-for-service library on the North Shore was granted on Nov. 12, 1924. The library we know today was not established until 1964, thanks to a public referendum to support a municipal library within the City of North Vancouver.

Fast facts

- Monthly circulation in 1945 was about 600 items
- In 1950, annual circulation jumped to 20,000 items
- The children's department first opened in 1966 as a new wing
- The current, 36,000 square-foot building was completed in 2008

Board of Trustees

The Library Board of Trustees are appointed by the City of North Vancouver to govern the library in accordance with the BC Library Act. In addition to representing citizen interest in the library, board members also serve as public advocates for the library and library services.

Learn more

About the library building

City Library is a sustainable building on the Lonsdale corridor in North Vancouver.

The library building was completed in 2008 and is LEED Gold certified. With its three storeys housing more than 130,000 physical items for borrowing, there's a place for everyone at City Library.

Key features:

- Multimedia, robotics and tech lab: the Collaboratory
- State-of-the-art recording studio
- 50-seat silent study area
- Children's reading garden
- Cafe
- Public art
- Underground parkade
- Automated sorting bins

Sustainability at City Library

Water-to-water heat pump

The building's heat pump is connected to a geoexchange system. It uses the ground below the parkade as a repository for excess heat in order to cool the building in an energy-efficient manner.

Dedicated outdoor air system (DOAS)

This type of system provides dedicated, fresh air ventilation based on CO2 and temperature sensors throughout the building. In addition, the building also features radiant heating and cooling.

Domestic hot water system

Hot water connectivity to fixtures is generated by local, electric hot water heaters to minimize the use of copper tubing and to deliver hot water on demand.

Auto-dimming lighting

The wired lighting in the building utilizes daylight dimming controls to reduce or turn off electric lighting when low traffic is sensed.

Low flush fixtures

These plumbing fixtures save 32% of potable water.

Roof-mounted solar panels

The solar water heating panels supplement about 20% of the building's energy use during sunny days.

Solar shades

Roller shades on the south and north ends of the building and the fritted glass windows eliminate 75% of solar heat gain, substantially reducing the cooling load inside the building.

Join us for a sustainability tour!

Architecture

- Diamond Schmitt Architects, Toronto
- CEI Architecture, Vancouver

Landscape design

- Phillips, Farevaag, Smallenberg

2026 closed dates and special hours

View the 2026 closed dates

Job postings

Jobs at City Library are posted regularly on our jobs page and our career portal at nvcl.startdate.ca.

Support the library

Contact us

Latest news

Library Board has openings for new trustees

Published: October 8, 2026

City Library Board has openings for new trustees...

Read article

City Library co-hosting exhibition: "What the future wants"

Published: October 3, 2026

Youth-focused exhibition on the future of tech runs Oct. 9–30...

Read article

Visit our news page

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— North Vancouver City Library