

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

THE SFU SURREY-TD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTRE



**Thank you** for supporting the SFU Surrey – TD Community Engagement Centre (SFU-TD CEC). Your generosity has had a bold impact on Early Learning, Income Stability, and Connected Communities in Surrey’s City Centre and surrounding neighbourhoods.

We have all faced unprecedented challenges this year in the face of a global pandemic that brought inequalities to the fore. Your support and our strong community partnerships have allowed us to pivot since March 2020, responding to community in innovative ways that have strengthened connections, fostered literacy, and encouraged resiliency.

We are delighted to share with you some of the positive difference your support has made to vulnerable children, youth, newcomers, and the elderly over the last year. This report highlights the changes that we have made in Surrey communities through the SFU-TD CEC — a testament to what we can achieve in the future.

Thank you for the relationships, learning and hope your gift has imparted.



# THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you, TD! Your investment empowers youth, builds reading and math literacy among low-income and newcomer children, connects communities, and provides a firm foundation for a thriving and financially secure community.

## 2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

**6668** VOLUNTEER HOURS CONTRIBUTED

**3000+** COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENGAGED

**414** VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED

**42** COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FORMED OR STRENGTHENED

**32** COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**8** NEW PARTNERSHIPS CULTIVATED

**6** NEW PROGRAMS DEVELOPED AND LAUNCHED



# NEW PROGRAMS

## **DIGITAL LITERACY**

Connecting isolated individuals through training in how to use technology.

## **LINC**

Providing newcomers with English language workshops.

## **YAAS! YOUTH MENTORING CAFES**

Making postsecondary more relatable for newcomer and Indigenous youth.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA BLOGGING TASKFORCE**

Building capacity of youth to develop engaging stories about community impact.

## **FOOD RECOVERY**

Diverting food waste from stores and farms to address food insecurity.

## **COMMUNICREATE**


Empowering youth to lead English programs for newcomer teens.






niCreate



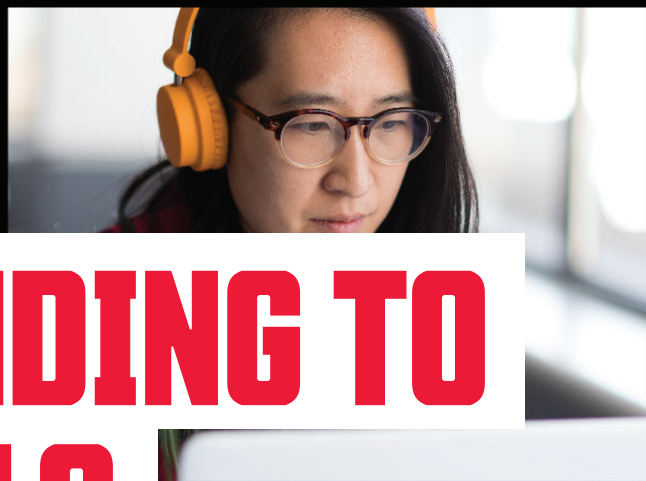
 Digital Literacy and Access




 MOSAIC Language for Newcome



# RESPONDING TO COVID-19



 Racing Readers




& Homework Support



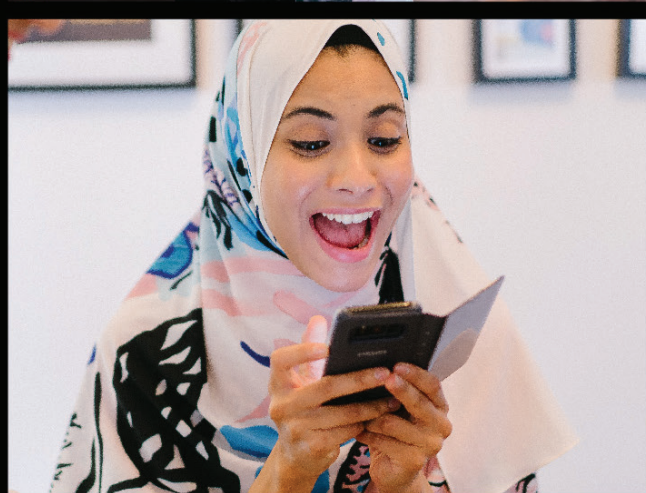
 Diverse Youth




 Learning Buddies



Conversation Circles



 Sources Food Hub

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMS MADE A DIFFERENCE!

Despite the impacts of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, thanks to TD's support, you've enabled us to work with our strong partnerships and committed volunteers to pivot programs into virtual formats to ensure that young kids are literate in our community.

### Programs that pivoted to virtual formats:

- Racing Readers – after-school math and reading literacy for grades 2-5
- Media Minds – digital animation skill building for grades 6-7
- Learning Buddies – one-on-one literacy mentorship program for grades 1-3
- English Conversation Groups – vocabulary and practice for the workplace
- Tutoring, Homework & English Support – math and writing tutoring for grades 5-9
- Science Alive – free summer camp for elementary school aged children

## STUDENT VOLUNTEERS ANSWERED THE CALL

As the pandemic hit, SFU students looked for ways to contribute to their community. In fact, we usually see about 80-85 volunteers during the summer months; in Summer 2020 we had more than 250 volunteers!

For a sample of the exciting media coverage we have garnered, please see Appendix 1.

“

We've seen kids improve their confidence and literacy skills.

— Virtual Racing Readers  
program supervisor

”

“

We work with some vulnerable students and they need good role models. The kids really appreciate you being there.

— Virtual Media Minds  
program supervisor

”

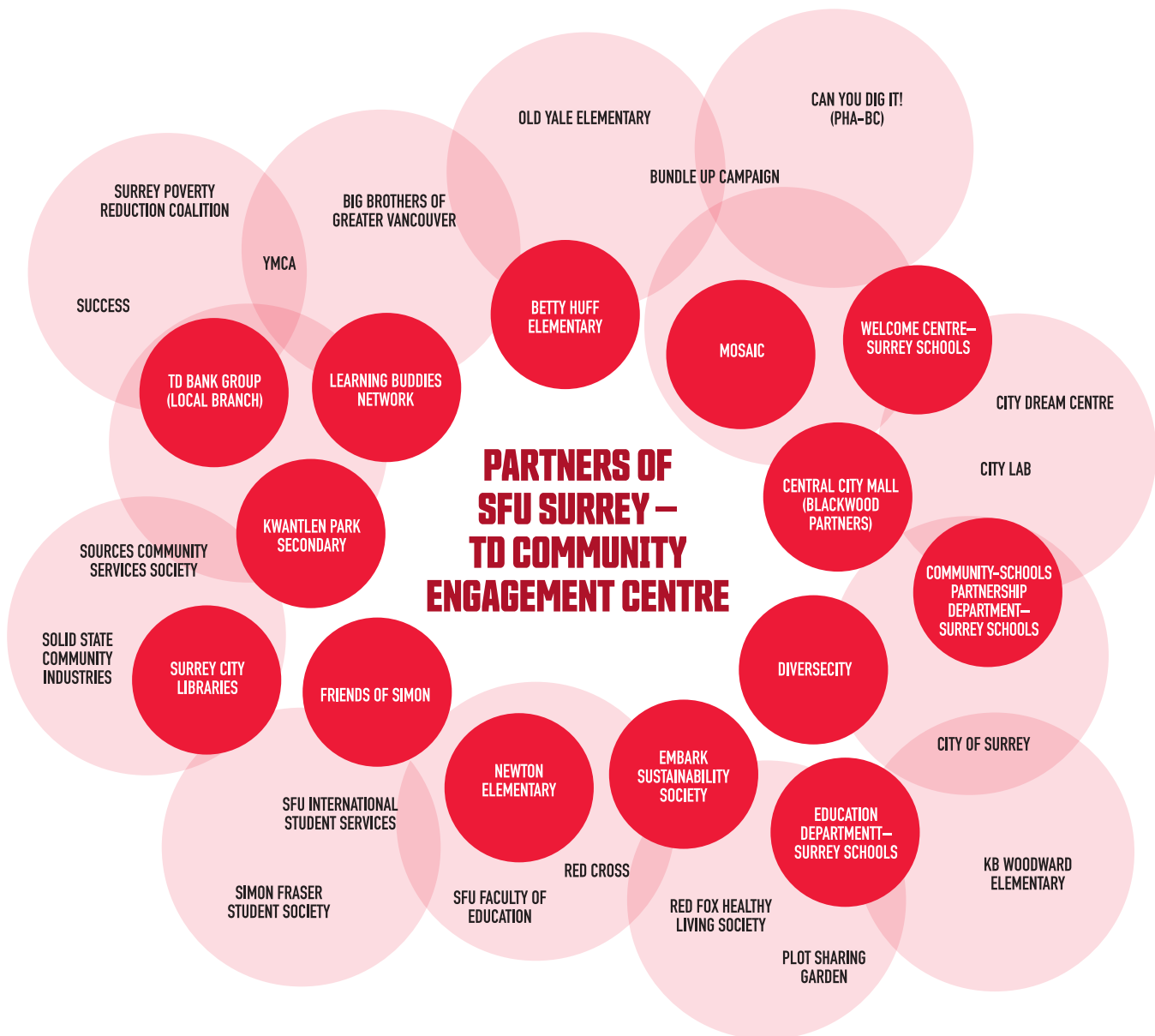
## NEW INITIATIVES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Because of TD's commitment to communities, we were able to develop new initiatives in response to community needs during the crisis, as people's need for connection and meeting basic needs amplified:

- Tech access campaign – 30 laptops, 20 desktops, and 10 tablets donated to Surrey refugees and low-income children to support their learning and connection during the pandemic and beyond
- Farm to Campus – 70 subscribers received weekly bags of low-cost, fresh local produce to offset food insecurity caused by loss of income during the pandemic
- Digital literacy – SFU students volunteered with seniors and other isolated people to teach them how to use smart devices for social connection
- Food Hampers – SFU student volunteers helped pack thousands of food baskets for families in need
- Virtual Volunteer Cafes – weekly opportunity for SFU students to meet community organizations and learn about ways to contribute to their community

## PARTNERS

The SFU Surrey – TD Community Engagement Centre (SFU–TD CEC) provides an opportunity for SFU to connect with people and organizations in Surrey in a genuine way through collaboration, the sharing of resources and the co-creation of ideas and solutions to build more resilient communities. Making a direct contribution to the well-being of our community — on terms co-created with partners in our community — is why we are here.



“

As a volunteer mentoring a child in reading, I learned that I have to ask many questions about the book to help the child comprehend the story, not just read it.

— Racing Readers program animator

”

“

I saw how much my buddy improved her reading skills during the final reading assessment that I did with her.

— Learning Buddies mentor

”

# EARLY LEARNING

TD'S COMMITMENT SUPPORTED 100s OF SURREY KIDS TO IMPROVE THEIR LITERACY AND READING SKILLS THIS YEAR.



“

My buddy felt so proud of himself for being able to understand a word.

— Learning Buddies program facilitator

”

“

I remember when my student said her first sentence without any mistakes. She was so happy, she glowed.

— CommuniCreate workshop facilitator

”





# INCOME STABILITY

**TD'S GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION PROVIDED WORK EXPERIENCE FOR SURREY YOUTH, PREPARING THEM FOR TOMORROW'S JOB MARKET.**

“

Even though teaching virtually through zoom was a challenge in itself because interactions are different, I was able to find a teaching opportunity and gain work experience related to my current master's degree in educational technology and learning design!

— Racing Readers lead volunteer

”





# TECH ACCESS

**TD'S COMMITMENT HELPS TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS: IN A PANDEMIC WHERE EVERYTHING HAS MOVED ONLINE, 60 REFUGEE AND LOW-INCOME FAMILIES NOW HAVE A COMPUTER AT HOME TO ACCESS EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES!**

“

As soon as the COVID-19 pandemic hit and everything started to move online, we quickly realized that many of the newcomer youth and children that we work with do not have their own laptops for access to the necessary technology to participate.

— Community worker

”

“

I am so excited for the laptop donation because I can now join online workshops, practise my computer skills and access educational resources online.

— Youth laptop recipient

”

“

I learned how to allow each student to feel included in a group, as well as picking up on when a student is feeling discouraged and helping them navigate them through it.

— Media Minds program facilitator

”

“

I bonded with others over wanting to do good in our community during these difficult times. We exchanged numbers and are still in touch!

— Food Hamper volunteer

”

# CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

**TD'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT  
CONNECTS COMMUNITIES  
THROUGH SHARED EXPERIENCES.**



“

Kids would show up to the sessions feeling a 1 out of 10. And by the end of the session they felt 10,000,000,000,000,000,000 out of 10!

— Racing Readers program animator

”

“

The bond I formed with the students as we opened up more and got comfortable with each other. I honestly looked forward to meeting them each week and they did too!

— Tutoring, Homework & English support tutor

”

# BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE TOMORROW TOGETHER

The last year has shown, beyond a doubt, that your generous support allows us to facilitate and mobilize programs that address key issues affecting our society.

As the global pandemic continues to impact every aspect of our daily lives, the staff and volunteers at the SFU–TD CEC are continuing to work hard to support our local communities through innovative initiatives and programs.

These are unique and challenging times for all of us. We appreciate you helping us to build a vision for tomorrow and look forward to the continued impact we can have together, by engaging more communities through SFU's vast network, to create an inclusive tomorrow for the people of Surrey.

## CONTACT

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## APPENDIX 1

# IN THE NEWS

We are pleased with the array and quality of stories communicated about the programs and impacts of the SFU Surrey – TD Community Engagement Centre over the last year. Here is a list of the stories with links.

- **Youth Expressions! program launches with funding from the Emergency Community Support Fund** | July 13, 2020

<https://www.dcrs.ca/youth-expressions-a-new-kind-of-youth-program-helps-vulnerable-diverse-youth-build-their-confidence-connections-and-mental-wellbeing-with-creative-expression>

- **New program in BC creates platform for youth to express themselves and get connected**  
July 15, 2020

<https://canadianimmigrant.ca/news/new-program-in-bc-creates-platform-for-youth-to-express-themselves-and-get-connected>

- **SFU student-community partnership creates local impact in Surrey** | August 13, 2020

<http://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/stories/2020/08/sfu-student-community-partnership-creates-local-impact-in-surrey.html>

- **Donate a laptop, make a difference: SFU partners with local communities to help youth in need** | September 03, 2020

<http://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/stories/2020/09/donate-a-laptop--make-a-difference-sfu-partners-with-local-comm.html>

- **SFU students and alumni create program to aid ESL learning** | September 10, 2020

<https://the-peak.ca/2020/09/sfu-students-and-alumni-create-program-to-aid-esl-learning>

- **CommuniCreate builds newcomer youths' confidence and community connections**  
September 16, 2020

<http://thelasource.com/en/2020/09/21/communiccreate-builds-newcomer-youths-confidence-and-community-connections>

- **Volunteering goes online at SFU Surrey – TD Community Engagement Centre** | September 17, 2020

<http://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/stories/2020/09/volunteering-goes-online-at-sfu-surrey-td-cec.html>

- **SFU tech drive connects DIVERSEcity's youth program participants with laptops** | October 1, 2020

<https://www.dcrs.ca/sfu-tech-donation-drive-connects-diversecitys-youth-clients-with-laptops>

## APPENDIX 2

# PARTNERS 2019-20

1. BETTY HUFF ELEMENTARY
2. BIG BROTHERS OF GREATER VANCOUVER
3. CAN YOU DIG IT! (PHA-BC)
4. CENTRAL CITY MALL (BLACKWOOD PARTNERS)
5. CITY DREAM CENTRE
6. CITYLAB
7. CITY OF SURREY
8. DIVERSECITY
9. EMBARK SUSTAINABILITY SOCIETY
10. FRIENDS OF SIMON
11. KB WOODWARD ELEMENTARY
12. KWANTLEN PARK SECONDARY
13. LEARNING BUDDIES NETWORK
14. MOSAIC
15. NEWTON ELEMENTARY
16. OLD YALE ELEMENTARY
17. PLOT SHARING GARDEN
18. RED CROSS
19. RED FOX HEALTHY LIVING SOCIETY
20. COMMUNITY-SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP DEPARTMENT – SURREY SCHOOLS
21. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT – SURREY SCHOOLS
22. WELCOME CENTRE – SURREY SCHOOLS
23. SFU FACULTY OF EDUCATION
24. SFU INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
25. SIMON FRASER STUDENT SOCIETY
26. SOLID STATE COMMUNITY INDUSTRIES
27. SOURCES COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY
28. SUCCESS
29. SURREY CITY LIBRARIES
30. SURREY POVERTY REDUCTION COALITION
31. TD BANK GROUP (LOCAL BRANCH)
32. YMCA

## APPENDIX 3

# PROGRAMS 2019-20

PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	COVID-19 IMPACT
Bridge Program	<p>This program offers support and mentorship to English Language Learners in high school, targeting newcomer youth aged 13 to 19 years old within their first 3 years in Canada, who have one or more of the following experiences/barriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant literacy and education gaps</li> <li>• Significant social and communication barriers due to language and cultural differences</li> <li>• Mental and emotional issues as a result of traumatic experiences.</li> </ul>	Welcome Centre – Surrey Schools	Operational from Sept 2019 to March 2020, suspended for April and May due to COVID-19. Re-starting Fall 2020 in Virtual format
Central City Learning Garden	<p>The Central City Learning Garden is a community-centred learning, social, and event space located behind the SFU Surrey campus. Learning opportunities for SFU students, faculty, staff and the general public are provided at the garden throughout the year via and garden participants practice growing food that they can then eat and share.</p>	Central City, Embark SFU, SFU Surrey Campus	Closed for 3 months due to pandemic but re-opened in August 2020.
CommuniCreate	<p>CommuniCreate is a program through which newcomer youth, ages 13 to 17, can get connected to community, feel a sense of belonging and improve their English through a fun and engaging youth-led and youth-centered curriculum. A team of SFU student mentors provide support to newcomer youth to help improve their English by engaging in hands-on activities such as role-playing life scenarios, discussing videos, mock debates, presentations, and more! This program was developed by youth and is led by youth for youth.</p>	DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society.	New program, ran in virtual format in Summer 2020

<b>PROGRAM NAME</b>	<b>PROGRAM DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PARTNERS</b>	<b>COVID-19 IMPACT</b>
Connect Through Homework and Reading	This free after-school program offers support and mentorship to English Language Learners in elementary and high school through the connect through homework and reading programs. Themes addressed include: making peer connections; understanding settlement, self and others; self-image, stereotypes and social skills; communication, conflict, and care; staying safe in school and community; working, volunteering, and connecting in community.	Welcome Centre – Surrey Schools	Operational from Sept 2019 to March 2020, suspended for April and May. Re-starting Fall 2020 in Virtual format
Digital Literacy	This program helps to encourage the participation and interaction of people in the community through training in how to use computers, tablets, smart phones, the internet and social media. SFU students volunteered in virtual training and phone sessions to help isolated seniors and other individuals connect through digital means in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.	Burnaby Neighbourhood House	New program in response to COVID-19 identified needs
Early Learning For Families	This is a free program for pre-school aged children that operates in the Central City Mall. Modeled after existing Early Learning initiatives, this exciting initiative brings C-SP's programming out of the schools and into the public arena, reaching new families. Existing initiatives for pre-school aged children and their families are among those most sought after and they often operate at or over capacity. This early integration has allowed the identification and elimination of barriers that families face in their dealings with the education system.	Surrey School District, Blackwood Partners	Operational Sept 2019 to March 2020  Suspended due to COVID-19
English Conversation Circles	English conversation groups help temporary foreign workers, refugee claimants and immigrants who have now become Canadian citizens but may still be facing language barriers. By removing language barriers, participants can integrate better into their workplaces and understand more about their rights and responsibilities at work.	SUCCESS	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers



PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	COVID-19 IMPACT
Farm To Campus	This program was initiated in response to food insecurity that heightened as people lost jobs or income from the pandemic. At the same time, local farmers were losing their usual markets, such as restaurants. Subscribers obtained low-cost fresh local produce on a pay-as-you can basis, with weekly pick up from a central location next to a transit hub.		New program in response to COVID-19 identified needs
Food Recovery	The Food Hub actively collects and redistributes recovered and harvested foods to community agencies in Surrey to directly address food insecurity and reduce food waste. SFU student volunteers help with food recovery, harvesting and distribution. Need has been extra high in the community since the pandemic began.	Sources Food Hub	Continued to operate through pandemic in-person with safety protocols in place
Game On!	Game On! is a program run by Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver that inspires boys to pursue healthy and active lifestyles. SFU students volunteer as program animators.	Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver	Operational from Sept 2019 to March 2020
Learning Buddies	A free summer program that develops literacy and numeracy skills for children in grades 1-3 through one-on-one tutoring and mentoring. Runs over the summer to offer reading and math tutoring for local children during a time of year when most tutoring programs end. The program matches children with a university student volunteer for 7 weeks.	Learning Buddies Network	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers of children
LINC – Language for Newcomers	The Language Instruction for Newcomers (LINC) program provides basic to intermediate level English training for adult newcomers to Canada to help with integration into the labour market. SFU student volunteers provide support the instructor with course delivery and converse with newcomers to help improve their English.	MOSAIC BC	New partner/ program, pivoted to virtual format, continued to serve the same numbers

PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	COVID-19 IMPACT
Media Minds	This free after-school program facilitates an easier transition to high-school through film-education and mentorship for inner-city youth in grades 6-7. Team-based workshops are hosted by SFU students and high school volunteers that strive to boost interpersonal skills while helping youth integrate into and engage in their community. Media Minds can help ease the transition to high school by empowering youth to speak up, share their ideas and think creatively to overcome the barriers they face. Students are encouraged to engage in conversations with the university and high school mentors and build relationships while learning film-making skills.	Community Schools Partnership – Surrey Schools, Kwantlen Park Secondary, KB Woodward Elementary, Old Yale Elementary	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers of children
Mentoring with Math	This no-cost program aims to help elementary school students in grades 3-7 who are struggling to develop their math skills in a fun way and accessible learning environment. SFU students are assigned as mentors.	Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers of children
Pathways to Education	This is a program for youth in low-income communities that helps students graduate from high school and successfully transition onto post-secondary education, training, or employment. Pathways addresses systemic barriers to education by providing leadership, expertise, and a community-based program proven to lower dropout rates. The provides a range of supports for youth including free tutoring, social and mentoring activities, one-to-one educational support, bus passes, grocery cards, scholarships and positive relationships with adult role models.	Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS)	Operational until March 2020, currently suspended
Racing Readers	This free after-school program is designed to fill the need for an increased level of physical activity, numeracy and literacy skills among children in grades 2-5 from the low-income neighbourhoods of central Surrey. Students are led through the program by high school and university student mentors who foster companionship, support, encouragement, and learning.	Surrey School District – Community Schools Partnership, Newton Elementary, Betty Huff Elementary	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers of children

<b>PROGRAM NAME</b>	<b>PROGRAM DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PARTNERS</b>	<b>COVID-19 IMPACT</b>
RISE Workshops	RISE Workshops provide in-depth workshops for newcomers (13-24) to identify their settlement goals, and assist newcomers to use their strengths and resources to determine their settlement needs. This includes, but not limited to, information and orientation on topics related to settlement in Canada, as well as connections to essential services, the public school system, recreation, social programs, and other DIVERSEcity services.	DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers
Science ALIVE	Science ALIVE is a student-run, not-for-profit organization based at Simon Fraser University. The organization provides opportunities for youth to explore science beyond the textbooks through hands-on, interactive discovery, which stimulates their interest and fosters confidence. Science ALIVE strives to make science accessible to all youth regardless of gender, culture, or level of affluence.	Surrey Libraries, Science ALIVE	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers of children
Social Media Blogging Taskforce	Building capacity of youth to develop engaging stories about community impact.	N/A	Initiated to respond to the need for increased digital communications in response to pandemic, and students' need for training and mentorship opportunities.
Tutoring, Homework and English Support	A no-cost math, reading, science and English skills tutoring outreach program targeted towards immigrant and refugee children in grades 5-9. SFU students trained by Faculty of Education and assigned as tutors.	City Centre Library, Friends of Simon	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers of children

PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	COVID-19 IMPACT
Y-Minds	This community-based mental wellness program for youth aged 18-30 is facilitated by registered clinical counsellors who teach tools to manage mild-moderate stress and anxiety. After taking the program, participants report lower levels of anxiety and higher levels of well-being and connection to community. Offered in a number of communities across BC including Surrey.	YMCA, SFU Health and Counselling, SFU Surrey, SFU Counselling Psychology	Pivoted to virtual format – continued to serve the same numbers
YAAS! Let's Talk Postsecondary	A series of workshops on post-secondary pathways for youth ages 15-20 who face barriers to employment - racialized, newcomer, Indigenous, LGBTQ2+, people with disabilities, etc. SFU student volunteers and SFU staff engage with youth in a half-day workshop to share information and experiences that make post-secondary pathways more relatable and accessible.	Red Fox Healthy Living Society	New partner / program, designed and delivered in virtual format
Youth Expressions	This one-of-a-kind program for newcomer youth is delivered with a cultural, artistic approach, allowing participants to express their voice, culture and feelings in creative ways. The goal is to help create social connections, build confidence, and improve coping strategies and mental health. SFU students volunteer as program facilitators.	DIVERSECity Community Resources Society	New program delivered in hybrid virtual / in-person format
Youth Leadership Development Program (YLD)	The program's goal is to build the potential of young people so that they have the skills to positively impact the community as young professionals. Youth ages 10-18 can participate in activities and exercises that build self-esteem, develop leadership skills, and explore current issues in society. The program is held at multiple locations in the community and includes SFU student volunteers as youth leaders.	YMCA	Operational Sept 2019 to March 2020  Suspended due to COVID-19

EVENT NAME	EVENT DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	COVID-19 IMPACT
Halloween Trick-or-Treat Outreach	On Halloween, local inner city elementary schools were invited to bring their students to “trick-or-treat” at decorated departments at the SFU Surrey campus. Current SFU Surrey students acted as tour guides. This created a fun, low barrier and interactive way to introduce young children to a university setting while providing them the opportunity to take part in a traditional activity in a safe environment that was not available to them in their current community.	Surrey School District	Not impacted by COVID-19, ran in October 2019
TD Panel Event	This event brings newcomers to Canada and international students who are looking to start their careers in banking, or re-enter the field in Canada together with industry professional from TD Bank. TD bank employees shared their valuable stories including; how they entered the field, their work experiences in various positions, and how they created their networks. Q&A and networking session included.	SUCCESS, TD Bank Group	Pivoted to a virtual format for one session, the other sessions were held in person prior to March 2020
Online Youth Nights	In response to COVID-19, the City of Surrey ran weekly virtual Youth Nights throughout the summer. SFU students developed and ran a session on post-secondary options and what it is like to be a university student.	City of Surrey	Virtual program in response to COVID-19
Virtual Volunteer Cafes	In response to the pandemic, the SFU-TD CEC developed weekly virtual sessions that brought together SFU students with community partners to explore ways to continue contributing to community resiliency and volunteer opportunities.	N/A	Virtual program in response to COVID-19
Community Ambassadors Program	Building from the success of the C2U Expo 2017 conference, the SFU Surrey – TD CEC has been working to sustain the Community Ambassadors Program in order to continue offering high-quality event and conference related training and work experience to people facing barriers to employment. The program was iterated again for the Surrey Social Innovation Summit, SFU Public Square Community Summit, Barbara Holland Visit, and the Burnaby Festival of Learning. Over the last year, a working group from SFU and the community collaborated to explore options for sustainability for this initiative.	Burnaby Family Life, Embers, Sources Community Services	The initiative is on hold until in-person events return.

INITIATIVE NAME	INITIATIVE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	COVID-19-IMPACT
Plenty of Threads	The SFU–TD CEC chaired a committee to develop and implement the Plenty of Threads program that connects aging out of government care ages 19-27 with people in the community for encouraging one-on-one coffee meetings about careers, education, and the future. The program is similar to the human library concept where young adults are able to “check out” volunteer community members for an hour of conversation.	Surrey Poverty Reduction Coalition, Connecting Communities to Surrey Youth Aging out of Care, Youth Advisory Committee, City of Surrey	Project finished in Feb 2020, not impacted by the pandemic
Surrey Child and Youth Committee	The SFU–TD CEC sat on the Surrey Child and Youth Committee.	Options Community Services, PCRS, Sources/WorkBC, Ministry of Child and Family Development	The Committee was operational up to March 2020, but is currently suspended.
Carnegie Community Engagement Canadian Pilot Cohort Support	The SFU–TD CEC has been involved in supporting the Carnegie Community Engagement Canadian Pilot Cohort. Sixteen Canadian post-secondary institutions are exploring the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification. The goal: to enable the kind of transformational change that will position Canadian colleges and universities as leaders in partnering with communities to co-create solutions to the world’s emerging complex challenges.	SFU’s Office of Community Engagement	The project continued throughout the year, pivoting to virtual meetings in March 2020.
READ Surrey/White Rock Literacy Task group	The SFU–TD CEC is participating on the READ Surrey/White Rock Literacy Task Group. The Surrey White Rock Literacy Task Group is a community alliance that coordinates and integrates literacy work in Surrey and White Rock.	Several Community Organizations involved in the group	Meetings were suspended for several months, but are starting up again in Fall 2020.
Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee	The SFU–TD CEC is participating on the Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee. The mission of the Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee (SUILC) is to be the collective voice of the urban Indigenous population in Surrey.	Several community organizations involved on the committee.	Meetings were suspended for several months, but are starting up again in Fall 2020.

## APPENDIX 4

# WHAT IS THE SFU-TD CEC?

As our society faces increasing social, environmental and economic challenges, universities as place-based institutions have a significant role to play in contributing to the development, vibrancy and sustainability of the local communities where they are situated. The SFU Surrey – TD Community Engagement Centre (SFU – TD CEC) is a place-based entity that provides an opportunity for SFU to connect with people and organizations in Surrey in a genuine way through collaboration, the sharing of resources and the co-creation of ideas and solutions to build more resilient communities. The SFU – TD CEC operates with generous funding from the TD Bank Group, and offers programming in partnership with community organizations with a focus on supporting children, youth and families and Newcomers to Canada.

**YEARS**  
**7**

**30,000+** **HOURS CONTRIBUTED**

**14,000**

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

**100+**

**PARTNERS**

**SFU STUDENT VOLUNTEERS**

**1,000+**

## VISION

To be an effective enabler of connection and support for the pursuit of university-community collaborations that contribute towards the health, vibrancy and resilience of Surrey.

## MISSION

Facilitate and support the mobilization of university and community capacity to identify and address key societal issues affecting Surrey's City Centre and closely surrounding neighbourhoods.

## VALUES

- **Relationships:** Healthy relationships provide the foundation for our work and lead towards effective collaboration and partnerships for the co-creation of knowledge and impact towards a shared purpose.
- **Responsiveness:** We are committed to ongoing listening and learning from our activities and community partnerships, and to being flexible and adaptable in a complex, interconnected and dynamic environment.
- **Respect:** All relationships and activities are built on a foundation of respect for community culture, history, language, practices, processes, experiences and diverse forms of knowledge.
- **Reliability:** We build community trust through a focus on stability, authentic engagement and operational sustainability.
- **Responsibility:** We strive for accountability to our partners and the wider community through ongoing exploration of methods for the responsible, meaningful evaluation of community-engaged practice and partnerships.