richmond 2050
planning together





Official Community Plan
Youth Art Contest Brief

Richmond

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Contest Purpose

Calling all creative Richmond youth! This is your chance to shape the future of your city and showcase your artistic talent. The City of Richmond wants your ideas and creativity to help design the cover of (or inside) the updated Official Community Plan (OCP)— a plan that will guide how Richmond grows in the coming years.

Your artwork can represent the city and community you love. Art is a great way to share ideas and your voice matters!

Background about Richmond

Richmond is a city on an island, with the Fraser River separating it from Vancouver in the north and Delta in the south. Because it's an island, there is only a limited amount of land—about 130 square kilometers in total.

Today, Richmond is a lively community. By 2050, the city's population is expected to grow by about 70,000 people, reaching over 311,000. More than 80% of Richmond's residents are from different cultural backgrounds, and many newcomers help grow local businesses, making the city even more vibrant.

As Richmond keeps growing and changing, we need a plan for the next 25 years to make sure the city continues to thrive.

What is an Official Community Plan?

An OCP is a plan that helps the City decide how land will be used in the future. It guides how the City grows and makes sure the environment, community, and economy are well taken care of.

The current OCP was approved in 2012. Since then, Richmond has grown, and some problems like affordable housing and climate change have become bigger, especially for people who need the most help. To address these changes, the updated OCP will help plan how Richmond grows in the future.

Official Community Plan Targeted Update 2050

Themes

Resiliency, Equity, Adaptation and Completeness

Target areas

1. **Housing Affordability:** As in all communities housing affordability is a challenge in Richmond. Safe, affordable housing is important to help people stay healthy, raise families and keep jobs. The OCP Targeted Update focuses on improving housing affordability by creating more housing options and better communities.

2. **Equitable Community:** As the population in the city grows, it's important that everyone has access to resources and services to improve their quality of life. The OCP Targeted Update aims to include fairness for all, ensuring that people have the opportunities they need to succeed. This includes supporting groups that face challenges due to their background, culture, or situation, such as houseless individuals, racialized groups, and others.

3. **Environmental Protection and Enhancement:** Richmond's coastal location and diverse ecosystems are essential to the health and livability of our community. Land use planning must balance human activities with environmental protection. The OCP Targeted Update will strengthen policies to protect natural areas and urban forests for future generations.

4. **Climate Mitigation and Adaptation:** Richmond's OCP includes goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. The City's Community Energy & Emissions Plan aims to cut community emissions by 50% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. The OCP update will ensure climate policies stay current and meet the needs of our community.

5. **Long-Term Planning for Emerging Trends and Transformational Technologies:** New technologies, like artificial intelligence and self-driving cars, will shape Richmond's future. The City will consider how these trends affect land use, transportation, and the economy to ensure long-term sustainability.

6. **Administrative Updates:** Richmond will update its Regional Context Statement (RCS) and growth projections as required by the Province's Local Government Act. These updates will align with Metro Vancouver's Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) to help manage future development locally and regionally.

Preparing for your submission

While the voting process does not involve a technical evaluation, please keep in mind the following questions when creating your artwork:

1. **Representation of Community:** Which artwork best reflects the identity, values, and spirit of our community?
2. **Visual Impact:** Which artwork is the most eye-catching, unique, and engaging?
3. **Relevance to the OCP:** Which artwork best aligns with the themes and target areas of the OCP Targeted Update?
4. **Clarity and visual communication:** Does the artwork communicate a clear message without requiring an explanation? Is it easily understood by everyone?
5. **Inclusivity & Connection:** Which piece makes you feel the most connected to the future of our community?

Eligibility and awards

Eligibility

- Open to all school-aged children (elementary to high school)
- Must be students of a Richmond school, or residents of Richmond
- Individual or group submissions (Group submission: Maximum groups of three)

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to winners whose artwork are selected to be featured in the OCP.

- First prize winner: $200 Richmond Centre gift card
- Second prize winner: $100 Richmond Centre gift card
- Two runner-up: $50 Richmond Centre gift card

Community members will have an opportunity to vote for the artwork online and at in-person open houses during the month of June via LetsTalkRichmond.

Submission criteria

Theme and requirements

The artwork should reflect:

- the themes,
- OCP target areas,
- the community of Richmond, and
- only one submission per person or group

The artwork must be an original and not AI-generated, copied, or using stock images.

Format and technical specifications

- Size & Orientation: 8.5" x 11" (letter size) / Portrait orientation
- Artwork must be submitted digitally
- Mediums Accepted:
  - Digital artwork (File formats: JPEG, PNG, 150 DPI or higher)
  - Hand-drawn or painted submissions (must be scanned in high resolution)
  - Visual Resolution: 150 DPI or higher
- Please do not include text in the artwork
- Written descriptions: a maximum 250 words about the artwork and how it meets the guiding questions
- Include participant name(s) and title of the artwork

Ownership and Copyright

In submitting an artwork, participants understand and agree that their artwork will become the property of the City. The City may or may not exhibit their art work publicly, including without limitation, at one or more City public events, on the City's website or social media accounts, and in the OCP. The artwork shall be acknowledged and attributed to the named participant(s) wherever possible.

Contest period

Contest opens: Monday, March 31, 2025

Contest closes: Sunday, June 8, 2025, 11:59pm (extended)

Voting period: June to July 2025

Winners announced: Fall 2025

Submission process

Please submit your artwork via Let's Talk Richmond
LetsTalkRichmond.ca/OCPYouthArtContest

Contact

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