

Youth Climate Ambassadors Project: Find Your Call to Action



About this Resource

This resource can help you to find your call to action by providing information about volunteer and engagement opportunities in the Lower Mainland. Getting involved with a community organization is one way to act on the themes discussed during the workshop and continue your journey as a youth climate ambassador. Volunteering with a group also connects you with community support to help you stay safe and motivated.

To use this resource, find a section that speaks to you and your interests. For example, if you're interested in growing or preparing food, take a look at the "Food Justice" section. Ideally, your call to action should be at the intersection of what needs to be done, what you're skilled at, and what brings you joy! If you need support in connecting with an organization, reach out to a member of the YCAP team by emailing michelle.xie@ubc.ca

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A Mixture of Everything!	UBC Opportunities • Climate Justice UBC • Sustainability Hub: Catalyst Program Community Opportunities • Youth Climate Lab* • Climate Strike Canada ○ A network of student climate justice organizers who represent several groups across so-called Canada. Check out their website for updates on global days of action. You can also check their resources page for actions you can take from home, like signing petitions and emailing decision-makers. • Youth4Action ○ The Collaborative High-School Action Mentorship Program (CHAMP) is a skill-based learning and community-building program for students in grade 8-11. Through leadership clinics, outdoor activities, and workshops, students learn about regional sustainability and develop projects to address sustainability challenges. • Defund 604 Network ○ The Defund 604 Network is a community-based mutual aid organization that advocates for peer-led approaches to public safety and defunding the police. Fill out their Solidarity Intake Form to get involved. • Future Ground Network ○ Support local grassroots organizations by volunteering with one of the Future Ground Network's Superteams. Available roles include gathering the stories of local organizers, creating graphic designs for posters and brochures, supporting grant applications, and many more! • Common Energy UBC ○ Student-run club that supports sustainability at the UBC Vancouver campus through initiatives that focus on zero-waste, climate change, energy, and green infrastructure. Check out their contact page to learn how to get involved. • Neighbourhood Houses of B.C.* ○ A network of neighbourhood houses that run 300+ community-based programs to build healthy and engaged neighbourhoods by connecting people and strengthening their capacity to create change. Use this map to find a neighbourhood near you! For examples of volunteer opportunities, check out the roles offered at the
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	Kits Neighbourhood House. • Be The Change Earth Alliance (BTCEA) ○ BTCEA empowers B.C. youth to take meaningful climate action in their communities by providing eco-social education resources and workshops to secondary schools throughout B.C. BTCEA offers volunteer opportunities with a variety of their initiatives including Youth Habitat Clean-Ups.
Civic Engagement	UBC Opportunities • UBC Environmental Policy Association* ○ Student organization dedicated to analyzing economic and political responses to climate change. Sign up for their newsletter to learn about upcoming events and ways to get involved. Community Opportunities • LeadNow ○ Non-partisan political organization that uses digital tools to create online campaigns that build and defend a just, sustainable, and equitable Canada. Sign up through their volunteer page to get involved. • Fridays for Future ○ Global youth-led and organized climate strike movement inspired by Greta Thunberg. Check their website to find upcoming actions or receive support in organizing your own climate strike. • Apathy is Boring ○ Organization that supports young Canadians in becoming active citizens who are engaged in all aspects of the democratic process. Volunteer roles include outreach (like getting youth registered to vote) and digital content creation for sharing election information. • CityHive ○ The Youth Climate Innovation Lab is a four month cohort-based program for youth ages 18-30 across Metro Vancouver that teaches the foundations of civics and climate change. Cohort participants also receive mentorship in developing projects to advance a just transition. Subscribe to their newsletter to hear about other upcoming opportunities and events! • Our Time Vancouver ○ Our Time Vancouver is a local chapter of a national

	campaign that's building a mass movement in support of a Canadian Green New Deal. Sign up for their email list to be notified of upcoming actions and events. • Dogwood BC ○ A non-partisan action network that's building a grassroots base of engaged citizens. Volunteer to get involved in campaigns such as Stop Trans Mountain, Beyond Gas, and Vote16 to lower the voting age in B.C. • Shake Up The Establishment ○ Volunteer with this non-partisan, youth-led organization that aims to make credible, evidence-informed information readily available to Canadians to promote informed voting and advocacy practices. • B.C. Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC) ○ BCCIC's youth-led Climate Change Branch offers volunteer opportunities that build youth capacity for policy research and analysis, project and budget management, and NGO operations, with the aim of achieving an intergenerational and sustainable world. Visit their opportunities page to learn about available volunteer positions.
Climate Education	UBC Opportunities • Certificate in Climate Studies and Action ○ An 18-credit certificate program that gives UBC undergraduate students an interdisciplinary understanding of the climate crisis and focuses on increasing capacity for effective climate action. • Climate Change Courses at UBC ○ UBC Vancouver students can browse this curated course collection to find undergraduate and graduate level courses with climate change-related content. Community Opportunities • Be The Change Earth Alliance (BTCEA) ○ BTCEA empowers B.C. youth to take meaningful climate action in their communities by providing eco-social education resources and workshops to secondary schools throughout B.C. BTCEA offers volunteer opportunities with a variety of their initiatives including Youth For Climate Action and Youth Habitat Clean-Ups. • Climate Education Reform B.C. (CERBC) ○ CERBC is an organization led by B.C. secondary school

	students that advocates for the integration of holistic climate change education in our K-12 educational system. Interested secondary school students can email info@cerbc.ca to learn more about how to get involved.
Disability Justice	UBC Opportunities • Disabilities United Club* ○ This advocacy-based resource group for neurodivergent and physically disabled students at UBC Vancouver. Their work aims to increase accessibility on campus and provide safe and empowering spaces for disabled students. Email ubcdue@gmail.com to inquire about ways to get involved. Community Opportunities • Creating Accessible Neighbourhoods (CAN) ○ Disability awareness and disability justice organization that is dedicated to education, advocacy, and finding collaborative and creative solutions to barriers within communities. Email info@canbc.org to inquire about ways to get involved.
Fossil Fuel Divestment & Community Reinvestment	UBC Opportunities • Towards a People's Endowment ○ This joint campaign between climate organizers from Climate Justice UBC, SFU350, and Divest UVic is calling upon each university to move 10% of their respective endowments and working capital funds into community investments. Fill out this form to learn more and get involved. Community Opportunities • Banking on a Better Future (BOABF) ○ A youth-led non-profit organization that focuses on mobilizing youth to pressure banks to stop financing fossil fuel projects with the goal of ending all financial support for the fossil fuel industry. Take their pledge or fill out this form to get involved. • 350.org ○ An international organization that builds grassroots momentum for a just renewable energy transition, a ban on all new fossil fuel projects, and ending the financing of fossil fuels. Visit their Get Involved page to stay updated on events and find a local 350.org group near you.
Funding Opportunities	UBC Opportunities • AMS Sustainability Projects Fund

- Up to \$15,000 of funding available for students and student groups to do “projects that encourage environmental, social and economic sustainability.”
- [Inspiring Community Grants](#)
 - Grants of up to \$500 available per project for initiatives that “inspire community and grow our sense of togetherness.”
- [Indigenous Strategic Initiatives \(ISI\) Fund](#)
 - Up to \$250,000 of funding available for initiatives that “supports implementation of the [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#).”
- [Global Fund](#)
 - Grants of up to \$2,000 for “student-led initiatives with an international or intercultural focus.”
- [Community Projects Grants](#)
 - Grants of up to \$10,000 for “student-led projects that partner with BC-based community organizations.”
- [Walter H. Gage Memorial Fund](#)
 - Up to \$2,000 of funding available for “non-curricular student projects and activities that enhance the University’s reputation and have broad interest to students at UBC.”
- [Student Art and Animation Fund](#)
 - Up to \$5,000 of funding available for students “to fund project costs for student artists, performers, and placemakers to imagine, execute, and install their project in public outdoor spaces on the UBC Vancouver campus.”

Community Opportunities

- [Vancouver Foundation Grants](#)
 - A range of available grants and funding options for initiatives in the Metro Vancouver region.
- [Neighbourhood Small Grants](#)
 - Grants up to \$500 for youth-led projects in Metro Vancouver.
- [Rising Youth Grants](#)
 - Up to \$2,000 for youth-led initiatives.
- [CREation Community Grants Program](#)
 - Up to \$25,000 for initiatives led by Indigenous youth. “Funding will be provided to projects/groups that seek to create impactful community change and increase the wellness, resiliency and engagement of Indigenous youth.”
- [City of North Vancouver Children & Youth Initiatives Fund](#)
 - Up to \$3,000 available for projects that focus on and/or are led by youth in the City of North Vancouver.
- [BC Arts Council](#)

	○ A variety of available grants for art related projects, groups, and/or individual artists.
Ecological Justice & Conservation	UBC Opportunities ● Botany Enthusiasts Club ○ UBC club dedicated to botany, gardening, and sustainability. Visit them on UBC Clubs Day or check their Facebook page for upcoming events. ● UBC Botanical Garden ○ The Botanical Garden's volunteer opportunities create space for meeting fellow nature and plant enthusiasts, as well as building and sharing knowledge about botany, biodiversity conservation, and research into B.C.'s native plant species. Community Opportunities ● Invasive Species Council of B.C. ○ Action-oriented non-profit works to stop the spread of invasive species in B.C. through education, capacity-building, and research. Youth can get involved by registering for training courses in invasive species identification and removal. ● Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) ○ EYA supports BIPOC youth in connecting with nature, community, and skills to become environmental stewards and community leaders through free land-based education and paid employment-training programs. Check their get involved page for free upcoming programs that are open to youth ages 14-25. ● OceanWise ○ Programs, including Ocean Bridge (ages 16-30) and YouthToSeq (ages 15-18), connect Canadian youth to hands-on learning programs that foster professional and civic engagement skills. Themes include the oceans and climate change, pollution and plastics, and overfishing. Check their youth programs page for upcoming intake dates. ● Cougar Creek Streamkeepers ○ Volunteer group dedicated to restoring and maintaining the health of Cougar Creek in Surrey, B.C. Their projects include stream monitoring and restoration, invasive species removal, litter pickup, and the creation of rain gardens. Join their email list for upcoming events & volunteer opportunities. ● Wildcoast Ecological Society ○ Non-profit group conducts research, environmental

	restoration, and stewardship activities in and near Vancouver, B.C. Join their email list to be notified of upcoming volunteer intake events. • Green Streets Program (City of Vancouver) ○ Vancouver's Green Streets Program coordinates volunteer gardeners to care for planted traffic circles and street corners, plant habitats for wildlife, and create urban green spaces. Apply to volunteer through the City of Vancouver website. • Regional Park Partnership Program (Metro Vancouver) ○ Many park associations and community groups are active in the Metro Vancouver region. Check the Regional Park Partnership website to find a local park group and learn how to get involved in stewardship and conservation activities.
Food Justice	UBC Opportunities • UBC Sprouts ○ 100% volunteer and student-run food co-op at UBC that endeavors to make healthy, affordable, and sustainably produced food accessible to everyone on campus. Check out the volunteer positions you can support with and current opportunities. • UBC Farm ○ The Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm (CSFS) is a teaching and research centre and local-to-global food hub working towards a more sustainable, food-secure future. Fill in their volunteer application to support farming, harvesting, market days, and children's education programs (minimum age 14 and 16, depending on the position). In between growing seasons, email ubcfarm.volunteer@ubc.ca for ways to get involved. Community Opportunities • Hot Potato Initiative ○ A youth-led non-profit organization working to educate & engage young Canadians in the conversation about homelessness and socioeconomic inequality. You can apply year round for projects including education, curriculum development, and outreach events to prepare meals for individuals experiencing homelessness. • Food Not Bombs ○ A 100% volunteer-run organization that serves free vegetarian meals every weekend in Vancouver. Visit their Facebook page or email vancouverfnb@protonmail.com to

	get involved. • Vancouver Fruit Tree Project ○ An organization that picks Vancouver's backyard fruit trees and distributes the harvest to various food security initiatives. You can get involved by volunteering for a fruit picking or canvassing shift. • The Edible Garden Project ○ A farming, food-sharing, and education initiative based in North Vancouver. Get involved by volunteering as a farmhand, gardener, educator, or in one of their market booths.
Gender Equity	UBC Opportunities • UBC Pride Collective ○ Student-led resource group that organizes events, provides resources, and creates inclusive spaces on campus. Join their Discord server to get involved in building community and to meet new people! Volunteer positions include becoming a discussion group facilitator, planning Pride events, running programs like the Hungry Hamper and Gender Empowerment store, and joining committees to get involved! Email prideubc@gmail.com to express interest in volunteering! • UBC Women Empowerment Club ○ Student club dedicated to providing a safe and inclusive environment for those who self-identify as women and their allies at UBC. Sign up for their newsletter to learn more about becoming a part of the club and their activities! Community Opportunities • Women Transforming Cities ○ A grassroots community of intersectional feminists, who work to dismantle intersecting systems of oppression with equity-deserving genders and movements to transform where we live into places where everyone can belong, participate, and have social, economic and political equity. Fill in this form to volunteer and support with communications & social media support, partnerships & outreach, and research.
Indigenous Sovereignty	UBC Opportunities • Indigenous Studies/Indigenous Undergraduate Association*

	Community Opportunities • Indigenous Climate Action ○ An Indigenous-led organization that builds bottom-up capacity within communities through resource development, training programs, and the uplifting of Indigenous voices, sovereignty, and stewardship of lands and waters. Check out their Take Action page to learn about opportunities to get involved or volunteer. • Idle No More ○ A grassroots and Indigenous-led movement calling on all people to join a peaceful revolution to honour Indigenous sovereignty and protect the land, water and sky. Check out their Resources and Education page to access tools for developing your own campaign to dismantle settler colonial institutions and sign up to get text and email updates on national campaigns and local actions.
Migrant Justice	Community Opportunities • No One Is Illegal (NOII) ○ A grassroots anti-colonial migrant justice group with leadership from members of migrant and/or racialized backgrounds who combat racial profiling, detention and deportation, law enforcement brutality, and exploitative working conditions of migrants. Email noii-van@resist.ca to learn about upcoming events and ways to get involved. • Migrant Rights Network ○ A cross-Canada alliance of farmworkers, careworkers, international students, undocumented people, and allies working to combat racism and fight for migrant justice. Check out their calendar for upcoming meetings and events. Find a local chapter on their about page.
Racial Justice	Community Opportunities • Climate Recentered ○ A movement of BIPOC youth from so-called Surrey, who aim to uplift community organizing to center joy over shame and build a better world for all with communities of colour leading the charge. Email info@climaterecentered.com to learn more about how to get involved.
Youth & Intergenerational Justice	Community Opportunities • Sustainabiliteens ○ A network of high school students fighting for climate justice

	across Metro Vancouver. Organizing working groups include school leads, outreach, social media, action planning, communications, and culture. Fill in this form to join the movement! • Yarrow Intergenerational Society for Justice (世代同行會) ○ Organization that supports youth and low-income immigrant seniors in Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside. Fill in this form to become a volunteer and support with opportunities like accompaniment to medical appointments, translation help, phone calls to seniors, and Yarrow's grocery delivery program.
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