# Shine On

# **Welcome to YMCA Child Care**

# We would like to take this opportunity to share with you some important information about our YMCA Child Care programs.

# **Important Dates and Information:**

- YMCA Child Care Programs are closed for all Statutory Holidays.
- August 25, 2025 August 29, 2025 All YMCA Child Care programs are closed for Professional Development.
- Monday, November 10, 2025 All YMCA Child Care Programs are closed. This closure is to support staff well-being by providing them with a well-deserved four-day weekend.
- December 29, 2025 January 1, 2026 All YMCA Child Care programs are closed.
- August 31, 2026 September 4, 2026 All YMCA Child Care programs are closed for Professional Development. Programs in Powell River and on the Sunshine Coast will be closed from July 28, 2026 - August 1, 2026.

#### Absences:

- In the event that your child is going to be absent, we ask that you notify the YMCA Child Care staff in advance.
- You can notify staff of an absence in person, by sending an email to the program or calling the program directly.

# Affordable Child Care Benefit and 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Agreements

- Families who have applied or who wish to apply for the MCFD Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) are responsible for the full cost of care until an approved benefit has been received by YMCA BC child care administration.
- Monthly child care payments will not be deferred during the MCFD application process.
- Once approved for the ACCB, families will be credited retroactively.
- If your ACCB has expired without renewal, your monthly child care fees will be collected without notice from your pre-authorized payment method in full.
- Families are responsible for keeping their ACCB & up to date.
- The YMCA of BC will not be responsible for arranging 3rd party payment agreements.

#### ePACT:

- ePACT is a secure emergency network that YMCA BC uses to collect medical and emergency
  contact information electronically. ePACT maintains the same levels of security as online banking,
  and limits access only to the administrators we assign for enhanced privacy.
- We are not able to have children in our care if their ePACT information is not complete.
- You can update your child's information at anytime and we will be notified.
- Please be sure that your contact email in ePACT is up-to-date, as this is the email address the YMCA will use to communicate important information. If you wish to receive text messages for important information, please be sure to indicate that in ePACT. If you have any questions or issues with the online medical forms, please contact ePACT directly at 1.855.773.7228 or help@epactnetwork.com.

## **Age Groups & Aging Out:**

- Once children are enrolled, every accommodation will be made to place your child into the next available age group when they are age eligible, however, this may not always be possible as it is dependent on space.
- If space is not available in the next age group, children will automatically be placed on a priority wait list at the same location.
- If your child is turning 5 years of age before December 31st and eligible for Kindergarten in the fall of that same year, they will automatically be withdrawn from the program effective September 1st (no further action is required).
- Families who would like to register for Before & After School Care once their child enters
   Kindergarten are required to join the <u>Kids Club Wait List</u> even if they are actively enrolled in an Early
   Years program

## **Outdoor Play:**

- Regardless of the weather, we spend time outdoors every day.
- The YMCA believes that children need sufficient space and time to engage in high-quality
  unstructured outdoor play in natural environments. Our outdoor play spaces are accessed daily in
  various weather conditions and offer a range of developmentally appropriate, challenging, and
  enriching experiences that promote physical activity, cognitive and social development and
  emotional well-being.
- Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the season (rain gear and winter coat, etc.) During warmer weather, please ensure your child has a hat and sunscreen.
- The YMCA will provide children with a minimum of 90 minutes of outdoor play each day

# YMCA Memberships:

• Children registered for full time care (Monday through Friday) will be given a complimentary children's membership and 10 guest passes to one of our Health & Fitness facilities.

# How to Redeem Your Child's Membership:

- Simply email us at ymcakidsclubs@bc.ymca.ca to request your child's membership. We will send you a short form to complete, and then you will be able to visit your closest YMCA Health and Fitness Facility to collect their membership card.
- YMCA membership centres are located at the following four locations:

Langara Family YMCA 282 West 49th Avenue, Vancouver Robert Lee YMCA 955 Burrard Street, Vancouver Tong Louie Family YMCA 14988 57th Avenue, Surrey

Bob Chan-Kent Family YMCA 45844 Hocking Avenue, Chilliwack

Bettie Allard YMCA 555 Emerson Street, Coquitlam