

VANCOUVER LEARNING CITY INITIATIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS

Many cities, worldwide, are using lifelong learning as a framework to capitalize on the opportunities and address the challenges of the emerging knowledge-based economy and society. These cities are strengthening the social settings that foster literacy and lifelong learning, including the community, family, school and workplace. This is contributing to effective parents and family members, active citizens and community members, environmentally conscious consumers and productive workers.

AND WHEREAS

Vancouver, to enhance its status as a world class city and as one of the best places to live, will need to ensure access to lifelong learning, thus providing everyone with an opportunity to reach their potential and to contribute to the emerging knowledge-based economy and society. It will also need to acknowledge the contributions of aboriginal, ethnic and immigrant communities to the learning fabric, while recognizing and supporting their rich culture of learning.

AND WHEREAS

Vancouver, through collaboration and partnership, has developed a lifelong learning strategy, which addresses the learning needs of all citizens from infancy through to later life. This strategy builds on the capacities of individuals, groups and organizations to contribute to the social, economic and environmental health of the City, while addressing barriers and gaps which inhibit learning from occurring.

AND WHEREAS

Vancouver now has a coalition in place which is committed to implementing the lifelong strategy. This coalition, with an initial membership of 35 organizations and growing, is facilitating new networks and partnerships to create a culture of lifelong learning.

NOW, THEREFORE

I, Sam Sullivan, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the City of Vancouver as one of Canada's first major Learning Cities.