



# NO. MORE. BARRIERS.

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT





# OPPORTUNITY CHANGES EVERYTHING



**Alicia Mancini**

President, Board  
of Directors

For 63 years BGC Dawson has been a pillar in the Verdun community offering innovative educational, recreational and social programs for children, youth, families and seniors. As an organization we have officially rebranded our website, social media and all print communications to reflect our new public facing name: BGC Dawson. This name change reflects our values of inclusivity and diversity.



**Chad Polito**

Executive  
Director

At BGC Dawson we truly believe that Opportunity Changes Everything. Whether it's participating in a cooking workshop, attending a fitness class, getting help with a math problem, playing basketball or participating in a job readiness program, BGC Dawson provides opportunities for all members of our community that they might not find elsewhere. From newborns to seniors, our team creates opportunities that have life-changing impacts.

It was an honour to be named the CBC Charity of the Year and to have our programs and services showcased on CBC radio, television and digital media. Not only did this provide increased visibility for our organization, it was a way of celebrating the impact of the work of our staff and volunteers.

This past year marked significant milestones for two of our team members. Marc Paradis, Seniors Coordinator, and Joanne Eberlin, Administrative Secretary, both celebrated 30 years of service at BGC Dawson! We are grateful for their contributions.

As you read through this report, we invite you to celebrate with us! Everything we achieve is the result of the collective efforts of dedicated donors, staff and volunteers. Thank you for the part you play in creating opportunities for all members of our community.

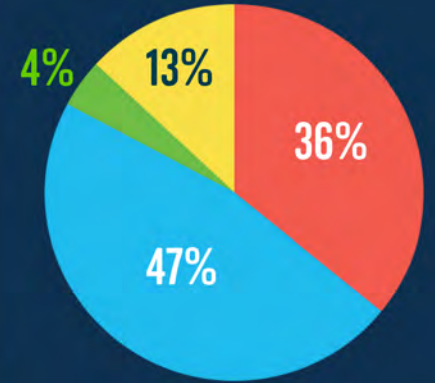


# who we ARE

With deep roots in the English-speaking community in Verdun since 1959, BGC Dawson is a safe and supportive community centre that offers a wide range of educational, recreational, and social programs.



# who we SERVE



- 0-12 years old
- 13-30 years old
- 31-49 years old
- 50 years old and up



# our VISION

All members of the community discover and achieve their dreams to be healthy, successful, and active participants in society.

# our MISSION

To provide a safe and supportive place where children, youth, adults, and seniors can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life.

# our VALUES

## BELONGING

We welcome everyone in a safe, accepting environment based on belonging and positive relationships.

## RESPECT

We ensure that everyone—children, youth, adults, seniors, volunteers, staff—is heard, valued, and treated fairly.

## ENCOURAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

We encourage and support each individual to explore, learn, and develop skills to achieve their dreams.

## WORKING TOGETHER

We collaborate with young people, adults, families, seniors, volunteers, organizations and government to support meaningful participation and positive contributions in the community.

## SPEAKING OUT

We speak out for children, youth, and families so that we can make our world better.







**PHYSICAL  
FITNESS  
& SPORTS**



**AFTER SCHOOL  
PROGRAMS**



**HOMEWORK  
HELP**

# WHAT WE DO



**SPRING AND  
SUMMER CAMPS**



**VIRTUAL  
PROGRAMMING**



**MUSIC**

**ARTS**

**MENTAL  
HEALTH &  
WELLNESS**

**CHILD CARE  
PARENTING  
EDUCATION  
& SUPPORT**



**SCHOLARSHIPS**

**JOB  
READINESS**

**INDIGENOUS  
INITIATIVES  
& PROGRAMS**

**MENTORING**

**YOUTH  
LEADERSHIP**

**VOLUNTEERING**

**CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT**

**YOUTH  
EXCHANGES**



**TAX CLINIC**

**THOMAS MORE  
INSTITUTE**

**RECREATIONAL  
ACTIVITIES FOR  
SENIORS**

**OPEN GYM,  
YOGA AND  
HEALTHY AGING  
EXERCISES**



**DIGITAL  
LITERACY**

**FINANCIAL  
EDUCATION**

**STEM  
EDUCATION**



**HEALTHY  
SNACKS &  
MEALS**

**COLLECTIVE  
GARDENS**

**NUTRITION  
EDUCATION**

**FOOD SECURITY**



**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
SUPPORT**

**TEEN DATING  
VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION**



# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Formally known as the Parents and Tots Program, the New Early Childhood Education Program is a safe space where families who have children under the age of 5 can find support, resources and activities that will help their little ones build on their development. All of our activities are designed to better support each child development stage through fun engaging activities.

We conducted an in-depth program evaluation to take stock of current program offerings, identify gaps in services and explore ways we could better serve the community. One distinct change was changing our name from Parents and Tots Program to Early Childhood Education, establishing that our program is open to everyone and that we are here as a resource for families and their children. With fresh new paint and a program curriculum that consists of monthly sessions designed around a theme, the new ECE program has officially started.



**"I'm new to Montreal and I'm so happy that I found a place that accepts us."**  
- Program participant

The year kicked off with the launch of a new parental support group called Coffee break.

Over the summer months, our team engaged 50 families through a number of activities in neighborhood parks. From October 2021-March 2022, we provided in-person programming to 62 members that focused on enhancing the child's cognitive development, gross motor and fine motor skills, language development and social and emotional development.

We are excited to share that our core programs like respite and Karibou will continue to be offered. The spirit of members supporting other members remains an important aspect of our program.

- ✓ **6 ACTIVITIES OFFERED**
- ✓ **50 FAMILIES SERVED**
- ✓ **75 BOOKS READ**



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

The Children's Programs has 4 distinct program areas: after school, weekend, virtual, and day camps. All of our programs include educational, recreational, and artistic components to enrich the development of children in our care. Our main objective is to offer a safe and inclusive space where members can develop new skills and learn positive habits to live healthy, active lives.

The children's programs are where the fun is! Each child is seen, heard, and engaged in activities that are based on their interests. The program is not just for elementary-aged children, it's a space where parents and guardians can come for support and just be themselves.



We began the year by offering virtual programs like KidTech Nation, Jumpstart and Girls Group that ran four days a week, reaching members from both on and off the island of Montreal! In-person summer camp resumed to offer 8 weeks of camp to 113 individual campers thanks to partners like Jays Care Foundation.



The after-school program resumed in September with exciting programs like Discovery Lab, STEAM Ahead, Jumpstart and our Hockey Program "Know Better Play Better". Saturday programs also restarted, with a new homework support program called Hurdle Help as well as Social Saturdays in the afternoon.

Spring Camp served 60 members and included 48 hours of fun and many smiling faces. During camp one child said, "I know Dawson loves me," and that is what makes all the hard work worth it.



**"The BGC staff are helping to mold my son in such a positive and loving atmosphere. They have fostered an environment of genuine care and respect and it shows in the smiles of all the children- Thank you!"**

- ✓ **6 EXCLUSIVE BGC CANADA PROGRAMS**
- ✓ **80 HOURS OF VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING**
- ✓ **1024 HOURS OF IN-PERSON PROGRAMMING**





# YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Youth Programs offer brave spaces for youth to become agents of change as well as decision makers on issues that directly impact them. We always promote the model: "For Youth by Youth." We encourage meaningful discussions because truth-telling and testimonials are instrumental for healing. We use anti-oppressive practices and foster strength-based, participatory and trauma-informed approaches in all activities.

Our population is a celebration of peoples, cultures and individuals that come together to create an environment that is deeply rooted in human rights education. The Youth Programs build bridges for "safer passages over obstacles" for young people who are isolated, vulnerable or from equity-deserving groups.

This past year we were able to welcome over 200 teens and 100 young adults back into our programs as many COVID-19 restrictions were eased. We were happy to launch a new partnership with the CHSSN (Community Health & Social Services Network) to launch a youth mental health initiative "You deserve a break". We also provided entrepreneurial, leadership, and employment opportunities to 28 youth through programs like the Brigade Neige and Kiosque Les Saveurs d'Été.

We are extremely proud of our very own Kristopher Kanzler who won a 2021 Best Buy Scholarship and Ishiah Samuels who joined the BGC National Youth Council as a local and provincial representative! In March we partnered with Beurling Academy to support their project-based workshops as part of our Youth Leading Reconciliation initiative to raise awareness and to continue the conversation regarding Truth and Reconciliation.



- ✓ 145 YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS REACHED ONLINE
- ✓ 315 IN-PERSON PARTICIPANTS
- ✓ 162 HOURS OF LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMING PROVIDED

**"Thank you for giving my guys a little normalcy this summer."**  
-Amanda, parent of two youth



# SENIORS 50+

The Seniors Program provides social, educational and recreational programs and services to members of our community over the age of 50. This year, 122 senior members took part in our programs and services.



In the Spring of 2021, 97 seniors benefited from the annual Income Tax Clinic. Our weekly fitness classes (aerobics, toning, stretching and relaxation) continued via Zoom. The Thomas More Institute reading and discussion group offered an additional 8-week session to help participants cope with the long closure.

The summer months began with Games in the Park, followed by in-person recreational activities. Through the help of administrative staff, seniors were able to obtain their Vaccine Passports.

In September, we welcomed three new fitness instructors to our team: Mary Standjofski (Open-Gym), Carla Conde (Yoga) and Henry Tung (Healthy Aging Exercises.) Our members were excited to get back into their routine with the reopening of a dozen in- person activities. The fall of 2021 was a major success that culminated with a Holiday Banquet on December 16th.



The rapid spread of the Omicron variant resulted in the closure of in-person programs at the start of 2022 but activities were able to resume on February 14th. While members were not able to be physically present, they received phone calls and check-ins.

**“Dawson was very proactive and caring towards their members. They called us and emailed us during the closures to stay in touch and offer services.”**



The year ended with an inter-generational activity that gathered seniors and children during March Break Day Camp. Seniors had the opportunity to teach sand bags to the oldest group of campers. A fun time for all!

✓ **41 HOURS OF VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING**

✓ **120% INCREASE IN PROGRAM ATTENDANCE**

✓ **3,910 HOURS OF IN-PERSON PROGRAMMING**



# FOOD AND SUSTAINABILITY

Food and Sustainability is home to four distinct programs. The focus is to ensure our members and the community at large have access to fresh and healthy food, to offer educational workshops related to growing and cooking food from scratch, and to advocate and teach how to diminish our ecological footprint.

Our chefs and volunteers continue to feed participants of our programs, all while making our famous Community Meals. These Community Meals are made from food that is recuperated from grocery stores which helps to support a greener circular economy. Tourtières, Thai curries, beyond-chicken parmesans, borscht, and lasagna are some examples of the dishes our chefs whip up with the ingredients they receive and then sell back to our community at pay-what-you-can prices.

More people are facing food insecurity than ever and thanks to our food bank coordinator and a dedicated group of volunteers we are able to serve over 200 households every month.



Generous individual and corporate donors like Moisson Montreal and Second Harvest enable us to provide high quality foods to program participants. This past year Moisson Montreal provided us with 35,000 kg of food representing a value of \$203,244!

In November, our Mobile Markets resumed in HLMS (low-income housing for seniors) in Verdun. This program has evolved to include the Verdun Market Basket, a weekly basket of nutritious fresh fruits and vegetables at affordable prices. Within a month, 137 baskets were distributed through this sustainable approach.

Our garden project continues to evolve. We currently manage two collective gardens as well as one production garden located at Grand Potager. Participants in collective gardens collaborate in deciding on what to plant together; they share their ideas, their labour and their harvest. Our gardens serve over 22 members and their families.

- ✓ **3,174 COMMUNITY MEALS SERVED**
- ✓ **84 HOURS OF COLLECTIVE GARDENING**
- ✓ **60 CHILDREN IN ECOLOGICAL PROGRAMS**



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

DAWSON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
BGC DAWSON

APRIL 1, 2021 - MARCH 31, 2022



CHARITABLE BUSINESS  
REGISTRATION NUMBER:

106890056 RR 0001

## BALANCE SHEET

March 31, 2022 with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash	\$ 409,594	\$ 266,384
Short-term investments	470,750	339,000
Debtors	94,737	115,682
Prepaid expenses	6,814	6,210
	\$ 981,895	\$ 727,276
Fixed assets	277,593	297,072
	\$ 1,259,488	\$ 1,024,348
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Creditors	\$ 93,888	\$ 103,769
Camp revenue paid in advance	56,238	-
Deferred contributions	-	29,250
<b>Deferred contributions related to fixed assets</b>	<b>61,960</b>	<b>75,350</b>
	\$ 212,176	\$ 208,369
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Building Renovation Fund	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Owen Dawson Fund	27,265	27,265
Dawson Trust Fund	19,981	19,981
Invested in fixed assets	215,633	221,722
Unrestricted	284,433	547,011
	\$ 1,047,312	\$ 815,979
	\$ 1,259,488	\$ 1,024,348

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

For the year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Grants		
Centraide	\$ 270,350	\$ 402,350
BGC Canada	298,087	229,790
Provincial grants	243,128	165,863
Federal grants	148,882	220,595
Municipal grants (Verdun)	93,278	101,862
Mobile Market (Grand Potager)	69,250	54,000
Raise the Grade	30,100	30,000
Activities	133,462	63,278
Private sector program contributions	110,790	160,344
Donations	46,620	84,027
Fundraising and others	5,834	8,340
Membership	5,433	3,725
Interest income	1,820	1,272
Amarization of deferred contributions related to fixed assets	13,390	8,400
	\$ 1,470,424	\$ 1,533,846
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries	\$ 923,474	\$ 775,839
Other program expenses	133,069	141,829
Professional fees	35,229	14,997
Repairs and maintenance	35,557	70,035
Administrative expenses	26,948	23,256
Heating and electricity	24,601	21,491
Depreciation of fixed assets	19,479	14,129
Insurance	14,879	12,174
Municipal and school taxes	12,083	7,573
Non-recoverable taxes	11,254	8,105
Association dues and training	4,413	6,153
Equipment, repairs and website	1,105	3,746
	\$ 1,239,091	\$ 1,099,327
<b>ACTIVITIES MANAGED AS A FIDUCIARY</b>		
Revenues - Centraide	(228,062)	(260,673)
Expenses - Centraide	228,062	260,673
	\$ 231,333	\$ 434,519

## REVENUE

53%

Foundations/  
Grants

33%

Government

9%

Program  
Revenue/  
Membership

1%

Other



## EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

84%

Program  
Delivery

10%

Administration

6%

Fund  
Development





# THANK YOU

to our major funders, supporters and partners for their outstanding commitment to changing lives



## SUPPORTERS

Best Buy  
Calgary Foundation  
Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities  
Community Health & Social Services Network  
CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal  
Club Lions de Verdun  
Concertation en développement social de Verdun  
Coca Cola Foundation  
Fédération québécoise des centres  
communautaires de loisirs  
Fidelity Investments  
GAP  
Gary White Virtual Pub Night  
Giant Tiger  
Hershey's Canada  
Hyundai Canada  
Indigo Love of Reading  
Isabelle Melançon, MNA  
Jays Care Foundation  
La Rue Inspire  
Lawson Foundation  
Medavie  
Moisson Montréal

Montreal Canadiens Children's Foundation  
Old Navy  
President's Choice Children's Charity  
RBC Future Launch  
Second Harvest Food Rescue  
St Andrew's Society of Montreal  
St Matthias' Anglican Church  
St Patrick's Society  
Ted Rogers Scholarship Fund  
Telus  
Tomas Tatar  
Trottier Family Foundation  
UPS  
WestJet Cares for Kids  
YES Montreal

## COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

ABC Life Literacy Canada  
Ancre des jeunes  
Anglo Family Council  
Beurling Academy  
Casa C.A.F.I  
CAUS

Children's World Academy  
Concordia University  
CPE Riverview  
CCS  
Dawson College  
La maison de l'environnement  
Lester B. Person School Board  
Les Fruits Défendus  
Literacy Quebec  
McGill University  
Naos Jeunesse  
RECLAIM Literacy  
Riverview Elementary School  
Suspicious Fish  
Table de concertation des ressources pour aînés  
de Verdun (TCRAV)  
Table de Concertation Famille de Verdun (TCFV)  
Table de Concertation Jeunesse Verdun (TCJV)  
Thomas More Institute  
Toujours Ensemble  
Trajet  
Verdun Adult and Career Centre  
Verdun Elementary School  
YMCA



# MEET OUR TEAM

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Chad Polito**

Executive Director

**Marie Rousseau**

Director of Finance & Administration

**Joanne Eberlin**

Administrative Secretary

**Sophia Kopyna\***

Member Services

**Cindy Cohen**

Children's Programs Coordinator

**Darley Polony**

Youth Programs Coordinator

**Marc Paradis**

Seniors 50+ Program Coordinator

**Roxanne Tisdall\***

Food & Sustainability Coordinator

**John Francom\***

Music Coordinator

**Alvin Romero\***

Maintenance Manager

## STAFF

Jose Abacra Silva\*

Titas Banerjee

Sabrina Bujo-Nagit

Emmet Carriere

Julia Castrogiovanni\*

Kasha Chang

Elizabeth Connolly Weale\*

Sarah Croteau\*

Sherwin Cumberbatch

Alessia De Bellis\*

Jessica Dewling

Rachel Dewling

François Di Mauro

Kyle Dixon

Kayla Doyle

Ryan Francom

Vincent Gardener

Peter Gradys\*

Ingrid Intravado\*

Colin Kaiser\*

Yasmine Labdelli

Matthew Lafeniere

Jordan Lalonde\*

Marie-Eve Leduc\*

Andrea Lian

Molly Alice Macgregor-Griffin\*

Valarie Madiaga-Peralta\*

Tasha Makis

Dayna Martin

Kareem Martin

Marc McKeown

Jeremy Methot-Pizzi

Dina Monse\*

Totuuuyen Nguyen

Alexandra Page-Swan

Maxwell Parr

Kristina Pouliezos

Brenden Renzelli

Benjamin Schuringa\*

Nathaniel Waplington\*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Alicia Mancini**

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**Siméon Bégin**

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**Jean-Michel Marcotte**

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Administrator

**Denise Brown\***

Administrator

**Olivier Moreau-Notebaert**

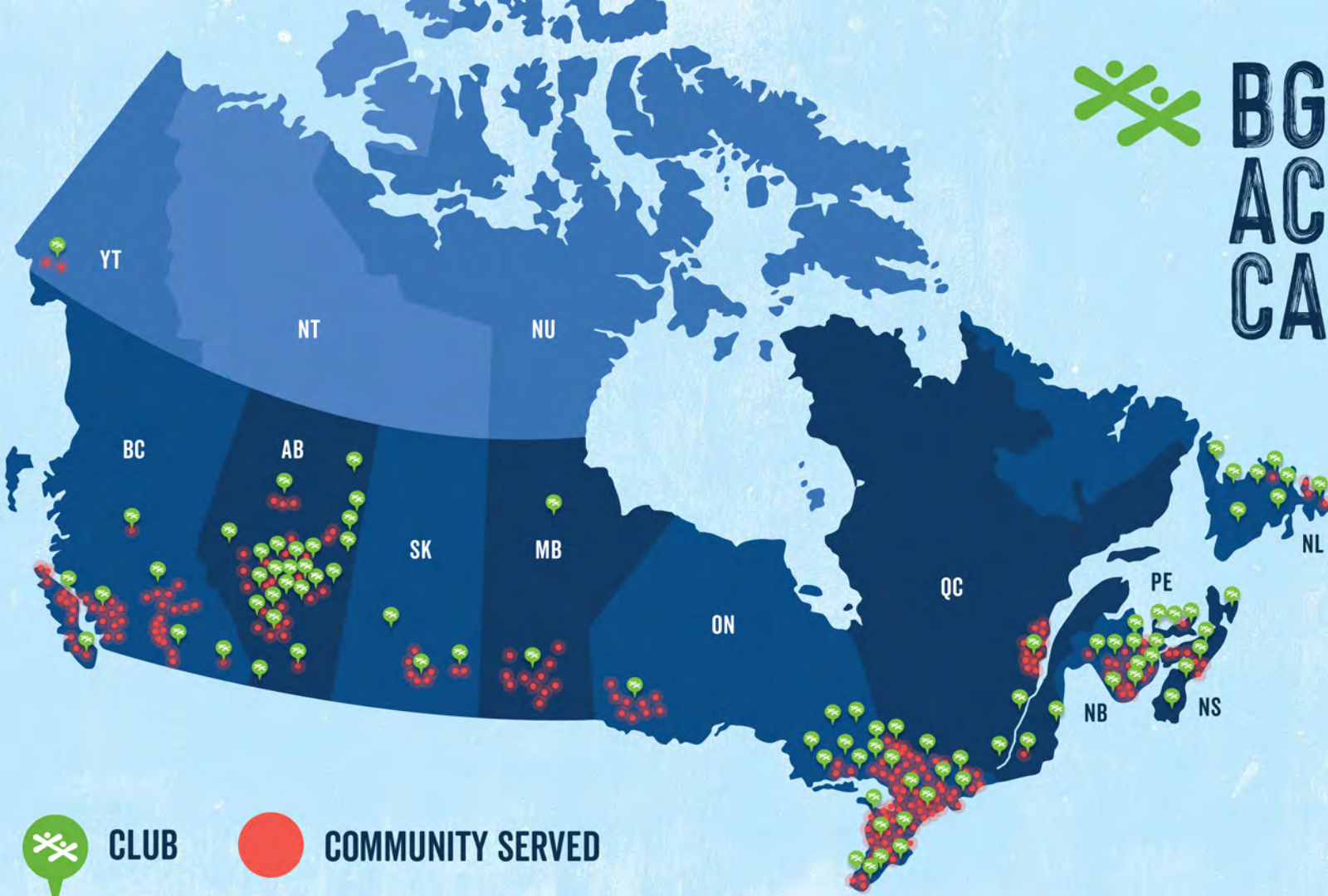
Administrator

\* Departures





# BGC CLUBS ACROSS CANADA



**CLUB**



**COMMUNITY SERVED**

This map is not to scale



# CLUB LOCATIONS



## Yukon Territory

BGC  
Yukon

## British Columbia

BGC Central Vancouver Island  
BGC Cranbrook  
BGC Kamloops  
BGC Okanagan  
BGC South Coast BC  
BGC South Vancouver Island  
BGC Williams Lake Club  
(merged with BGC Kamloops)

## Alberta

BGC Airdrie Club  
BGC Big Brothers Big Sisters  
of Edmonton & Area  
BGC Bonnyville (revoked 2021)  
BGC Calgary (revoked 2021)  
BGC Camrose and District  
BGC Clearwater  
(in management agreement  
with BGC Red Deer & District Club)  
BGC Cochrane and Area  
BGC Foothills Clubs  
BGC Fort McMurray  
BGC Fort Saskatchewan  
(in management agreement  
with BGC Strathcona County)  
BGC Leduc  
BGC Lethbridge & District  
BGC Olds & Area  
BGC Red Deer and District Club  
BGC St. Paul & District  
BGC Saddle Lake  
BGC Stettler & District  
BGC Strathcona County  
BGC Wetaskiwin  
BGC Whitecourt & District  
BGC Wolf Creek

## Saskatchewan

BGC Battlefords  
BGC Saskatoon  
BGC Yorkton

## Manitoba

BGC Thompson  
BGC Winnipeg

## Ontario

BGC Albion Club  
BGC Braeburn  
BGC Brantford  
BGC Cornwall/SDG  
BGC Dovercourt Club  
BGC Durham  
BGC East Scarborough  
BGC Eastview  
BGC Hamilton-Halton  
BGC Kawarthas  
BGC London  
BGC Niagara  
BGC North Simcoe  
BGC Ottawa  
BGC Peel  
BGC Pembroke  
BGC St. Alban's Club  
BGC Sarnia-Lambton  
BGC South East  
BGC Thunder Bay  
BGC Toronto Kiwanis  
BGC West Scarborough

## Quebec

Maison Kekpart –  
Répare jeunesse de Longueuil  
BGC Dawson  
Maison Coup de Pouce –  
Répare jeunesse de Trois-Rivières  
(Provisional)  
MDJ Famille Espoir –  
Répare jeunesse de Sherbrooke –  
Ascot (Provisional)  
Maison des Jeunes  
L'Atôme de Stoneham (Provisional)  
Maison des Jeunes  
L'Envol de Ste-Foy (Provisional)  
Forum Jeunesse Charlevoix Ouest  
(Provisional)  
Maison des jeunes de Neuville  
(Provisional)  
Maison des jeunes  
La Marginale & L'Entre-Ados  
(Provisional)

## New Brunswick

BGC Charlotte County Club  
BGC Dieppe  
BGC Grand Manan  
BGC Greater Fredericton  
BGC Greater Saint John  
BGC Miramichi Club  
BGC Moncton  
BGC Petitcodiac  
(in management agreement  
with BGC Salisbury)  
BGC Riverview  
BGC Salisbury

## Nova Scotia

BGC Cape Breton  
BGC Greater Halifax Clubs  
BGC Preston  
BGC Truro & Colchester  
BGC Yarmouth

## Prince Edward island

BGC Charlottetown  
BGC Summerside  
BGC Wellington & Area  
(in management agreement  
with BGC Summerside)

## Newfoundland & Labrador

BGC Bell Island Club  
BGC Botwood  
BGC James Hornell  
BGC Gander  
BGC Norris Arm  
BGC St. Anthony and Area Club  
BGC St. John's



NO.  
MORE.  
BARRIERS.



[bgcdawson.ca](http://bgcdawson.ca)

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