

CityShapers in schools

2023-2024

PROGRAM REPORT



CityHive

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CityHive recognizes the traditional, ancestral, and unceded homelands of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), the Sk̓w̓k̓ x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), and the sə́ilwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations on whose lands we work, learn and engage with youth.

We also recognize and honour the Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Qayqayt, Semiahmoo, S'ólh Téméxw (Stó:lō), Stz'uminus, scəwaθenaʔt təməx^w (Tsawwassen), and all Coast Salish peoples on whose lands we do our work.

This acknowledgement recognizes our ongoing commitment to exploring better avenues to decolonize and Indigenize our approaches to civic education. We recognize that the systems of power we explore in our programs (civic institutions) are inherently colonial and that the urban issues we tackle in classroom workshops (Climate & Sustainability, Housing & Affordability, & Public Space) often stem from settler colonial contexts. We look towards Indigenous stewards, organizers, and leaders for ways of knowing, engaging, and growing in an effort to engage youth in new ways to cultivate urban communities rooted in truth, equity, and justice.

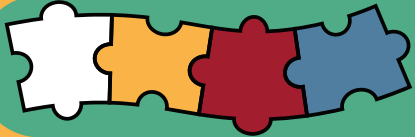
This is only the beginning of our ongoing organizational and programmatic work and we invite you to join the process of unlearning and relearning together.



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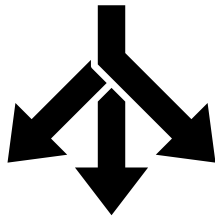
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2023-2024 AT A GLANCE



4 sessions per classroom program
(75min. each)

3 DEEP DIVE OPTIONS



Housing & Affordability



Climate & Sustainability



Public Space



54 PROGRAMS



4 MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS



1 FIELD TRIP



5 CONFERENCES



88 DAYS OF PROGRAM DELIVERY
Oct 2023 - June 2024



Team Lead 1.0 FTE
Assistant 0.5 FTE



12 on-call
facilitators

PROGRAM BACKGROUND



CityShapers in Schools is a **classroom-based workshop series** that explores **governance, civic engagement, and city planning** through the lenses of **climate action, housing and affordability, and public space design**. Interdisciplinary and interactive by design, CityShapers workshops support students to explore the diverse pathways towards civic action **in connection with the people and places they care about**. Programs serve **grades 6-12 across Metro Vancouver public school classrooms** and are made **financially low-barrier for teachers** to book in conjunction with subject content areas in Social Studies, Social Justice, Urban Studies, Science, and more.

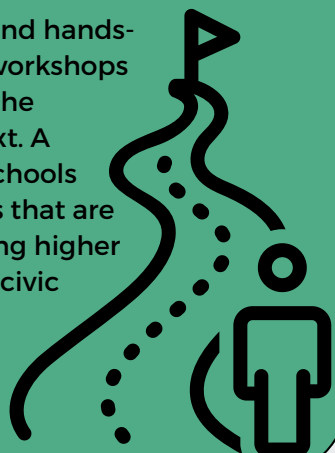


ADDRESSING THE CIVIC LITERACY & ENGAGEMENT GAP

When decisions about the future of our cities are being made, youth are rarely at the table. Young people lack the knowledge, skills and agency to affect meaningful change in their communities and the civic decisions being made are inherently less resilient and sustainable as a result. In BC, the K-12 curriculum fails to teach students about cities, local government, and how to be active, engaged residents.

MISSION

To deliver relevant and hands-on civic education workshops that are tailored to the school's local context. A priority is given to schools within communities that are identified to be facing higher systemic barriers to civic participation and representation in municipal politics.



VISION

All students come out of primary and secondary education with the knowledge, skills, and first-hand experience of being active local residents. Urban communities are more resilient and sustainable due to enhanced involvement of children and youth in civic processes and city-shaping.





CITYHIVE'S CONTINUUM OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The continuum of youth engagement represented below describes different stages of youth engagement, and points to the need for differentiated approaches to youth capacity-building. CityHive supports youth to build their capacity for civic engagement and to ultimately move up the engagement continuum by providing targeted programming for diverse youth audiences.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

youth facing systemic barriers to participation/don't want to engage

youth who want to engage but don't know how

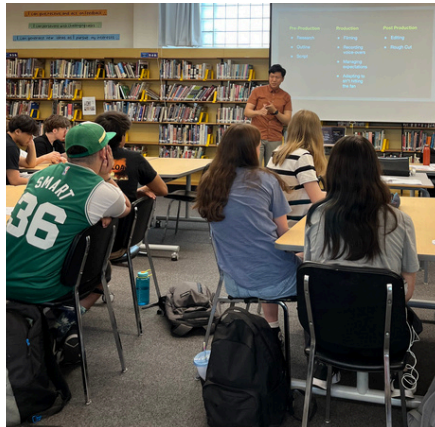
alumni & youth who are actively engaged and interested in civic processes & systems.

CityShapers

in schools



URBAN REVISION
BIPOC Mentorship Studio



CURRICULUM & PEDAGOGY



DEVELOPMENTS SINCE PILOT YEAR

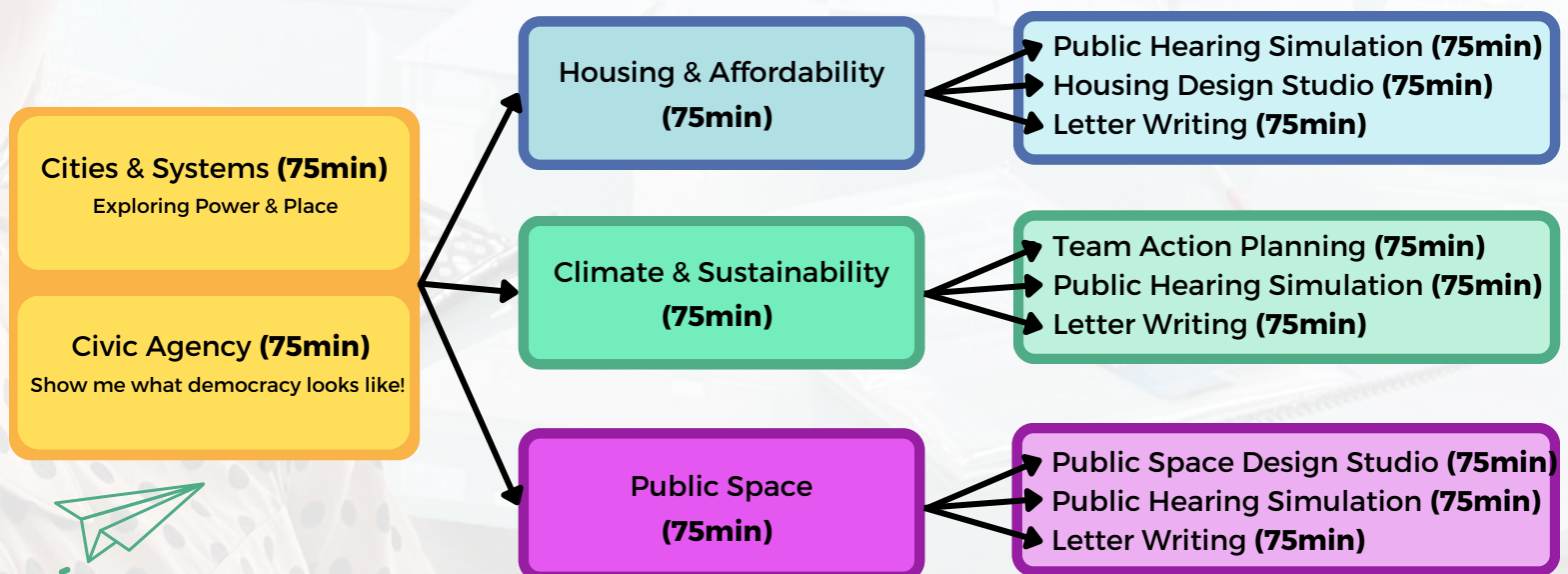
Building off of the successes and lessons gained from the 2022-2023 pilot year, the **curriculum** and **pedagogical approaches** developed in its pilot year **were reiterated and enhanced** with the help of diverse program stakeholders throughout Summer 2023 and these updates were applied towards the program's official launch across the Metro Vancouver region in October. The most notable updates and adaptations to the curriculum related to the following topics: development project stakeholders, Indigenous governance and colonial city-shaping impacts, and systemic intersections of climate change consequences. With more program team capacity, we ensured that learners could access these topics through hands-on pedagogical design.

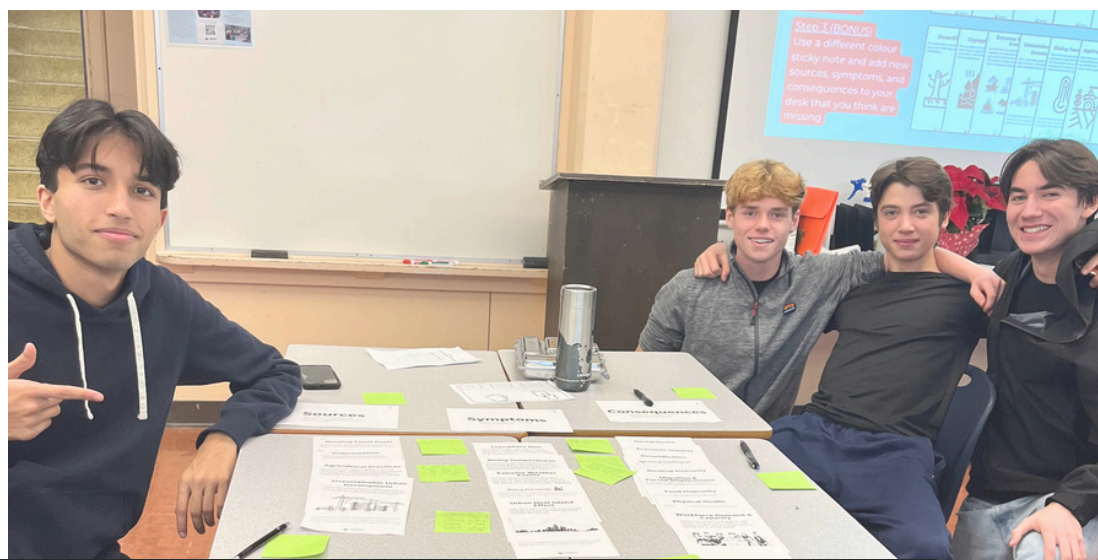
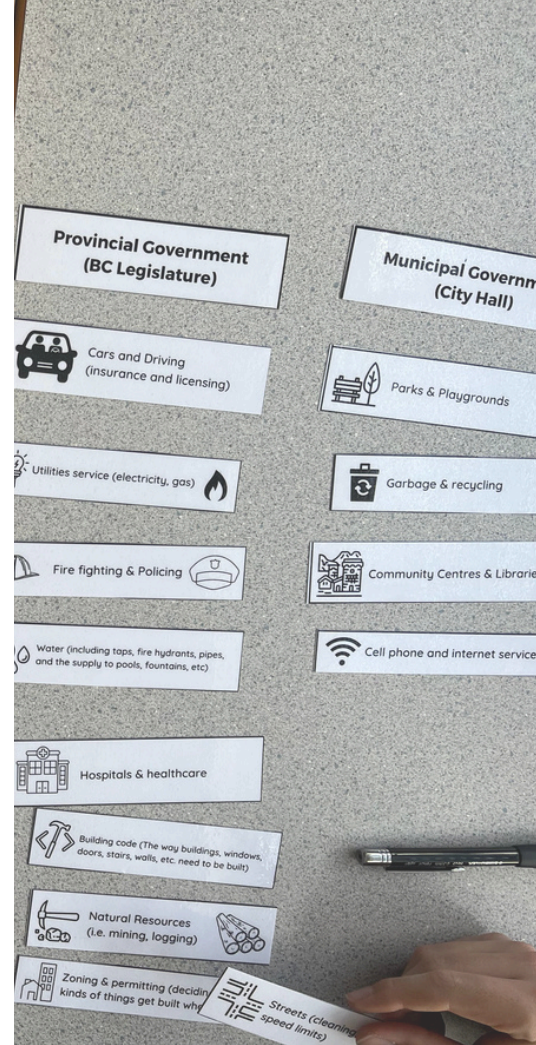
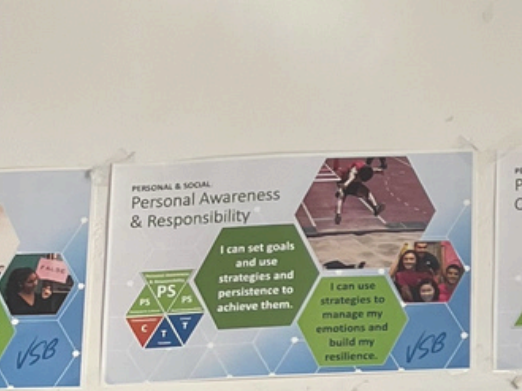
Program stakeholders who contributed to the program's summer revamp included:

- CityHive Youth Advisory Council
- Indigenous Cultural Consultants
- UBC B.Ed Teacher Candidates
- Urban Planning & Architecture Practitioners

PROGRAM STREAMS

KNOWLEDGE → TO → ACTION





CURRICULAR & PEDAGOGICAL PRINCIPLES & FRAMEWORKS

- CityHive’s Justice, Equity, Diversity, Decolonization, and Inclusion (JEDDI) Framework
- Trauma-Informed Design & Practice
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
- Place-based & Learner-centered
- First Peoples Principles of Learning

PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

PROGRAMS IN SERVICE OF DIRECT MUNICIPAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

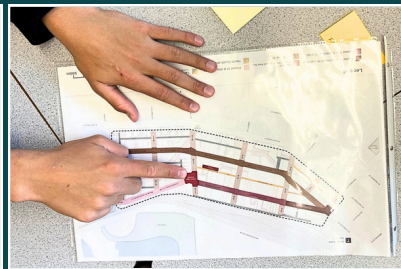
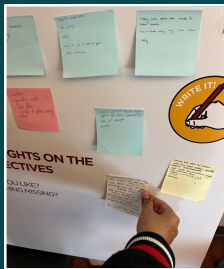
October, 2023



Gastown Public Space Plan City of Vancouver

50

Gr. 10 students
at Prince of Wales Secondary



November, 2023



CityShapers at City Hall City of Vancouver

120

Gr. 8-12 students
from Van Tech Secondary



“

Like many municipalities, one of our biggest challenges at the City of Vancouver is engaging young people. The **CityShapers program fills a much needed gap** in civic engagement by creating fun and educational experiences for youth to learn about local government. By working directly with classrooms and offering foundational lessons, CityHive has developed a program that creates a **supportive environment** for more effective city engagement with young people.

Danielle Johnston, Manager of Democratic Engagement
City of Vancouver

”

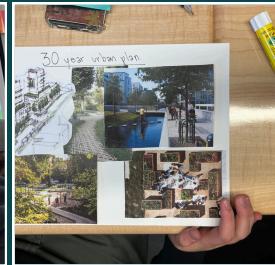
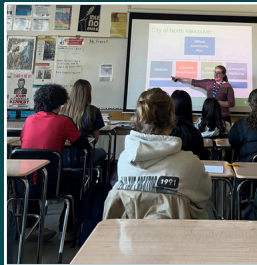
February, 2024



Urban Forest Plan City of North Vancouver

120

Gr. 10 students
at Carson Graham Secondary



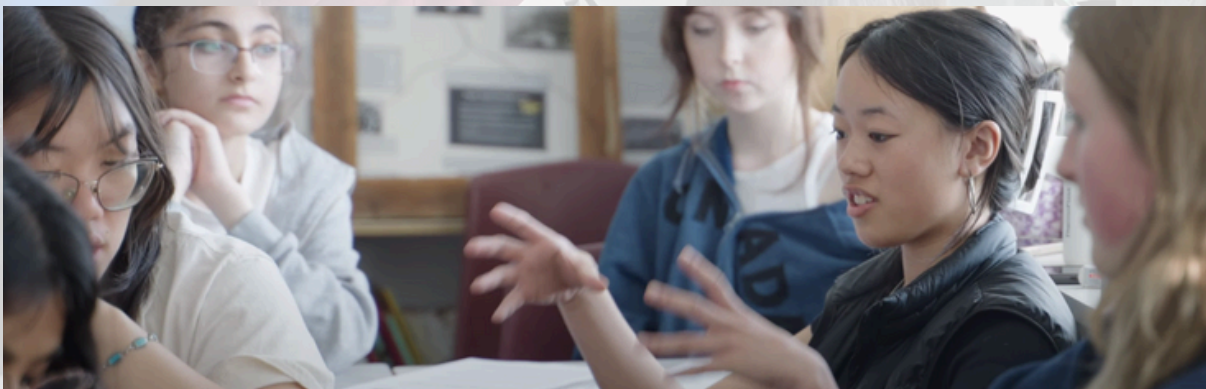
May, 2024



Mobility Strategy City of North Vancouver

30

Gr. 11 students
at Sutherland Secondary



TEACHER CONFERENCES



STUDENT CONFERENCES





PROGRAM REACH



1,440 STUDENTS



54 PROGRAMS



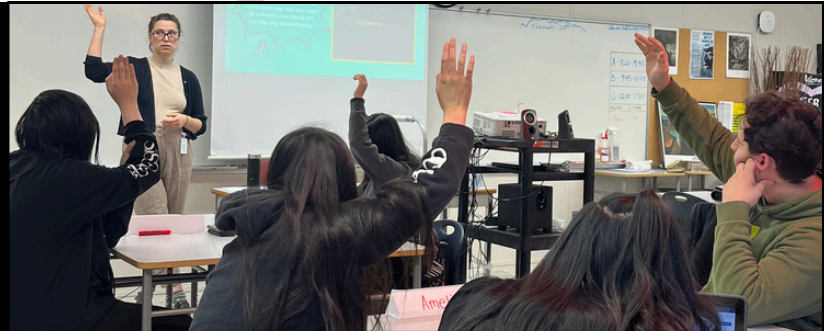
30 TEACHERS



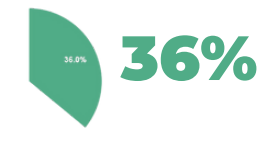
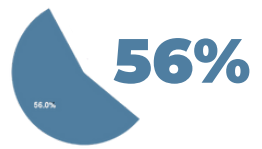
16 SCHOOLS



5 DISTRICTS



Program Bookings



PROGRAM IMPACT

“
I learned that my voice has so much impact and that I can change the world for the better.
”

Gr. 8 Student

Program success was measured according to post-program student surveys, which gathered both quantitative and qualitative data related to self-reported changes in levels of civic knowledge through an equity lens, and self-reported changes in skills related to tackling complex civics topics. Across elementary and secondary student participants, we saw **success rates ranging between 59-79%** among a sample of 147 student surveys collected, and have identified the program’s curricular strengths thanks to participants’ written testimonials.

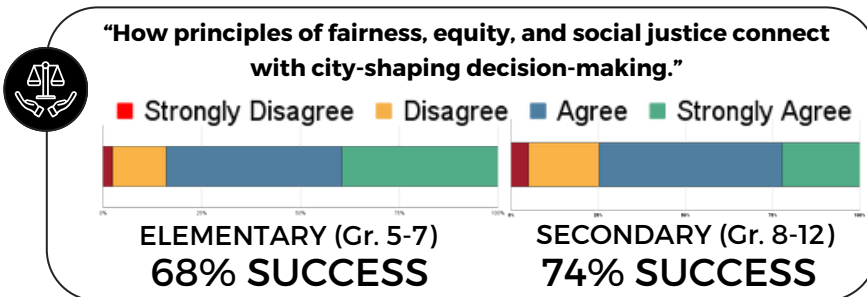
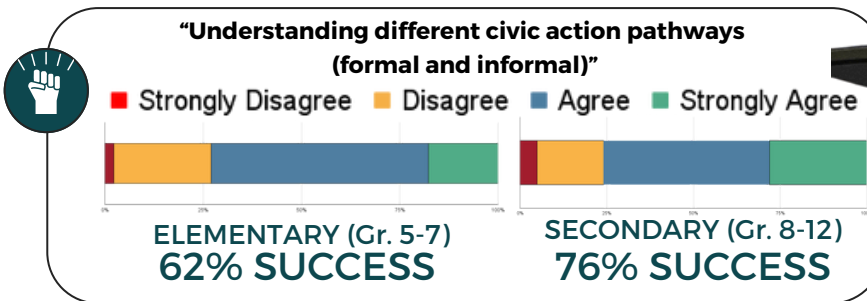
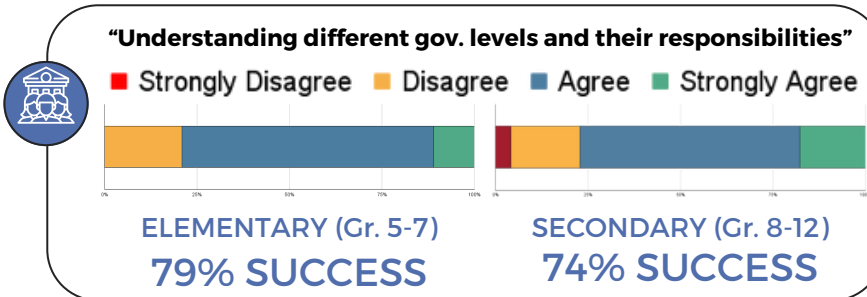
SUPPORTING CIVIC LITERACY

Student survey responses to the statements:

“Since participating in the program, my knowledge has increased in the following...”

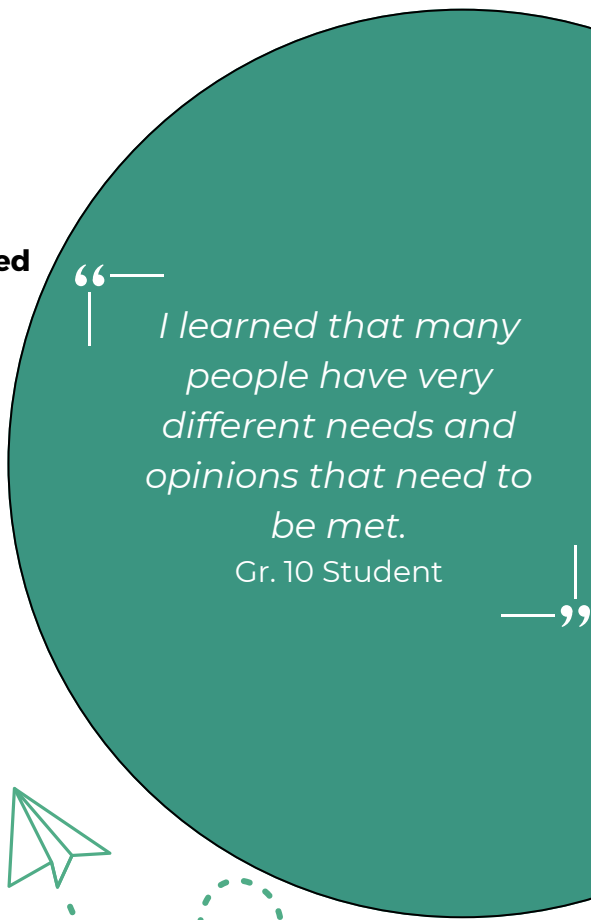
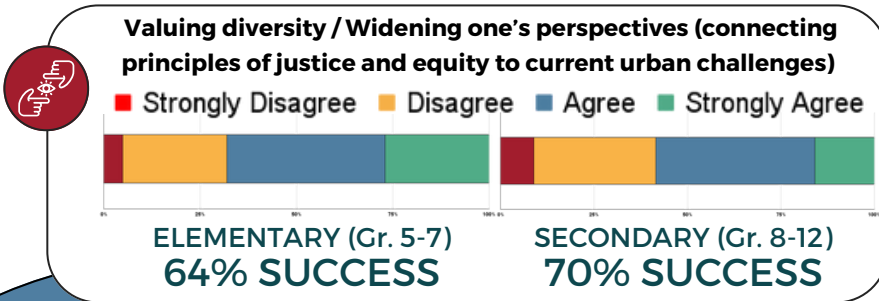
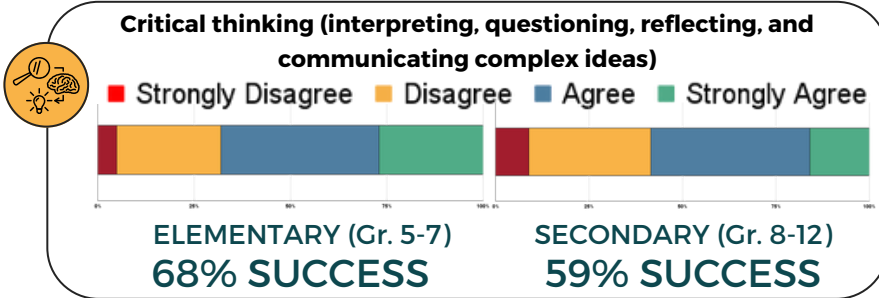
“
I learned about innovative ways we can rethink how our city is structured.
”

Gr. 11 Student

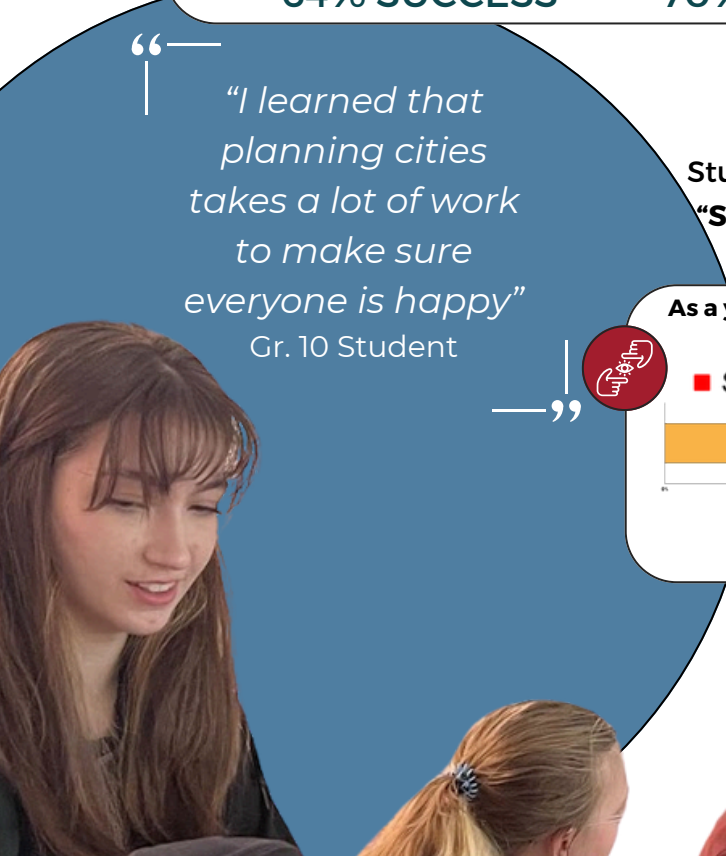


SUPPORTING SKILL-BUILDING

Student survey responses to the following statements:
“Since participating in the program, my skills have increased in the following...”



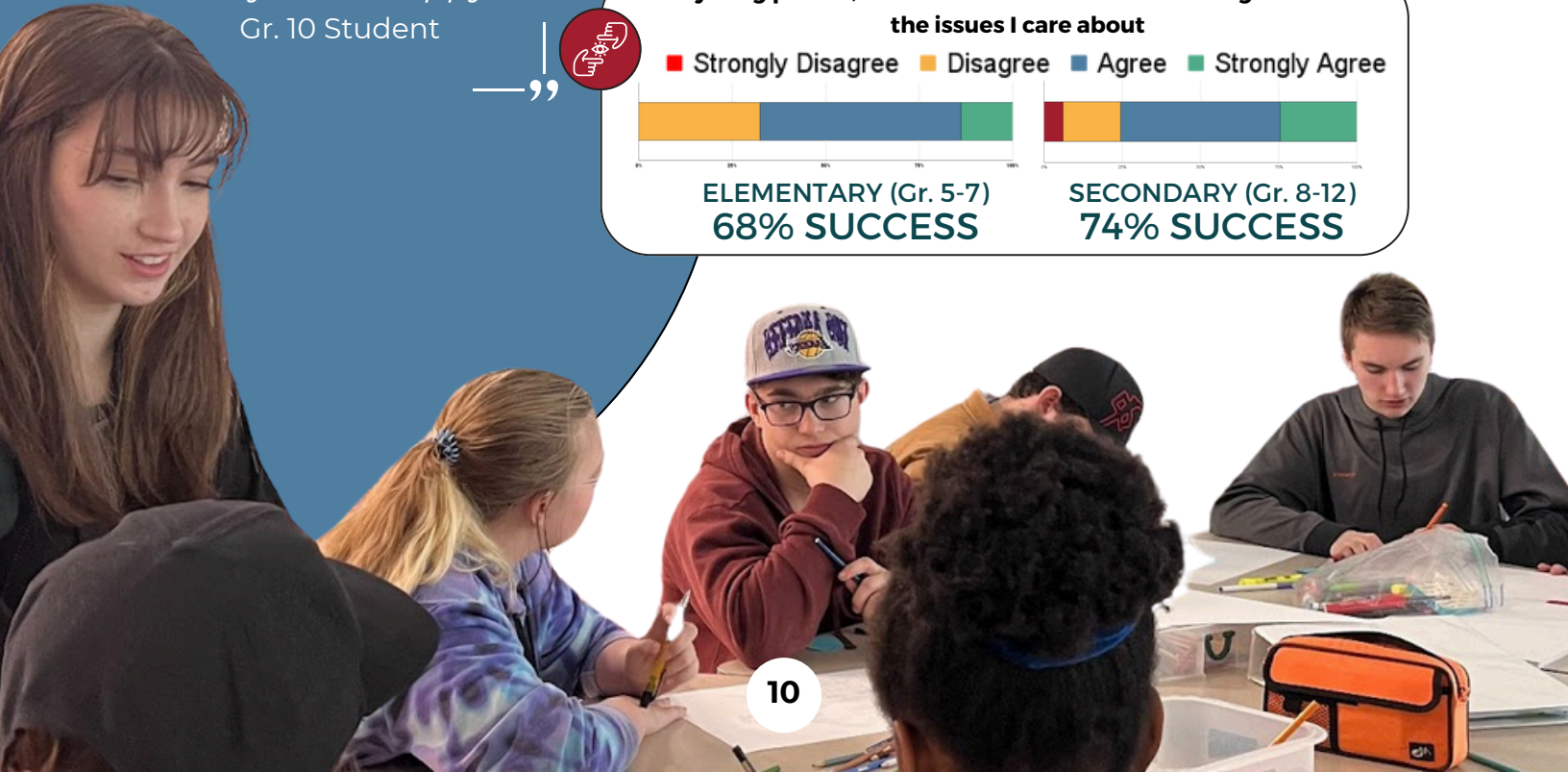
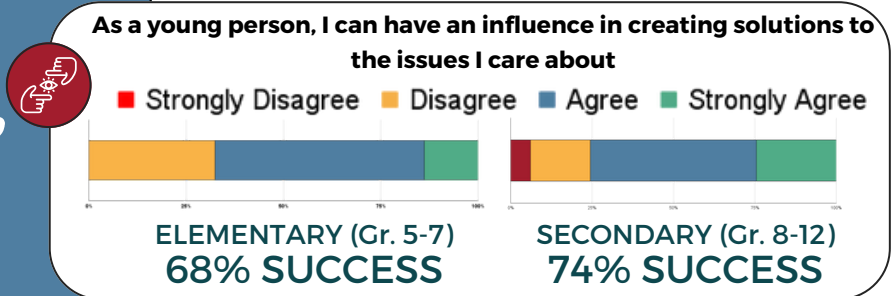
“I learned that many people have very different needs and opinions that need to be met.”
 Gr. 10 Student



“I learned that planning cities takes a lot of work to make sure everyone is happy”
 Gr. 10 Student

SUPPORTING CIVIC AGENCY

Student survey responses to the following statement:
“Since participating in the program, my belief in the following statement has increased:”



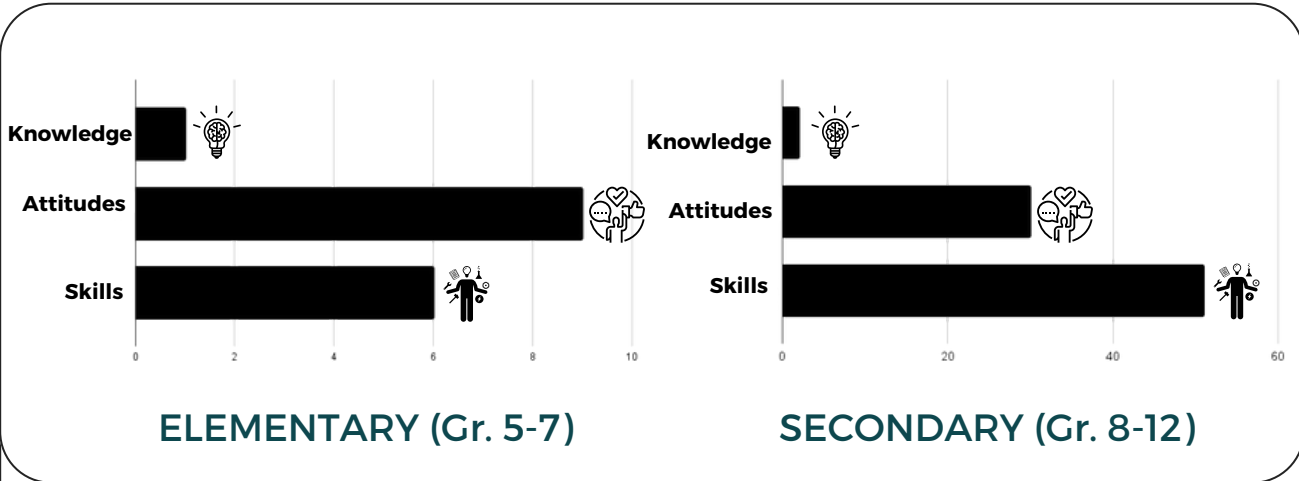
Even if you're just 1 kid you are still able to promote change.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES ON CHANGEMAKING

Gr. 11, Student

Qualitative student survey responses to the following question:

“What do you feel is the most important when trying to make local change?”

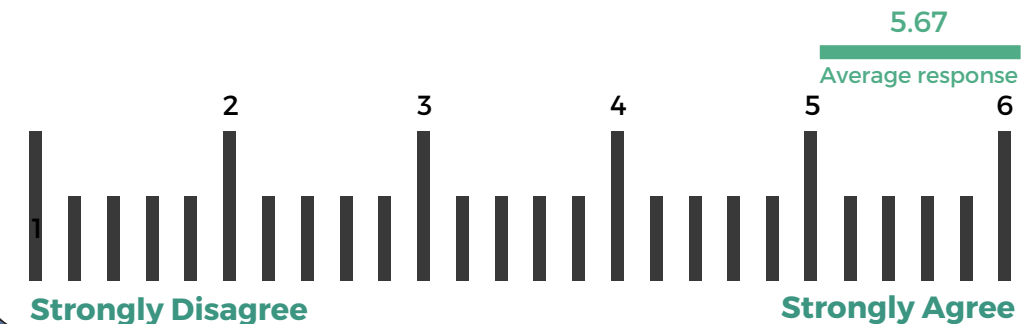


Elementary students named attitudes as being a more prominent factor in change-making, identifying characteristics such as confidence, bravery, passion and perseverance as notable qualities in support of community action. Secondary students were more likely to name specific skills related to communication and leadership. These results serve as a reminder that effective youth civic capacity-building involves supporting students to apply and strengthen their skills through structured experiential programming, that help foster attitudes of agency.

SUPPORTING PROGRAM ACCESS & ENGAGEMENT

Teacher evaluations on the following program areas:

- ✓ My students were engaged throughout the CityShapers sessions.
- ✓ Learning formats were multimodal and accessible
- ✓ My students learned how government decisions impact urban realities
- ✓ I feel that my students learned how to get involved in their community?



It was such an enriching experience having the CityShapers program back in my classroom! The content is really engaging and dynamic, there's a great variety of activities and I feel it's a great catalyst for meaningful learning.

You have an incredible program that I hope gets the chance to be introduced to all school across Vancouver. Both facilitators were outstanding presenters.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Planning for steady program delivery and growth for 2025 and beyond requires a multi-pronged fundraising approach via donations, grants and sponsorships.
- Organizational plans in place to close the funding gap of \$32,570



COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING for PROGRAMS TEAM



- Trauma-Informed Training
- De-escalation Training
- Burn-Out & Self-Care
- Decolonization Training



ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

- UBC Urban Studies Community-Engaged Capstone Course
- Student projects to support the development of:
 - K-12 Educational urbanism and civic engagement Toolkits



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



EMBEDDING PROJECT EXTENSIONS



- Supporting CityShapers host teachers means empowering them with diversified options for classroom-based program extensions
- 2024-2025 programming will extend student participation beyond session 4 and spotlight student visions at annual CityShapers advisory meetings.



DIGITAL LIBRARY - EXTENDING CURRICULUM

- 2024-2025 program year includes the development of a digital library of case studies across the Metro Vancouver that celebrate future-forward capital projects that showcase climate and community resiliency in action.



PROGRAM TEAM

STAFF



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Team Lead



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Scot Hein



Architect and
Urban Designer/
Programme Founder

Lindsey Fryett Jerke



MODUS

FACILITATORS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Facilitators

- Anastasiia Shitova
- Carlos Eduardo Lopez Sandoval
- Carli Ng
- Chloë Fraser
- Hafsah Dastgir
- Jason Fan
- Jose Reyeros Sanchez
- Mackenzie Kuenz
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- Molly Steeves
- Nicole Armos
- Shanna Albrecht
- Tru Taylor

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