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Structure of the 4-H Program in British Columbia



The 4-H Vision

A high profile youth organization with 4-H members and volunteers exhibiting leadership and personal pride in the British Columbia 4-H Program and working together with a variety of partner organizations in an environment of increased self reliance.

The 4-H Mission

The B.C. 4-H Program will strive to develop the skills in our youth and volunteers to achieve personal development, leadership, awareness, citizenship and a sense of community in an exciting and challenging environment.

4-H Pledge

I PLEDGE

My Head to clearer thinking,
My Heart to greater loyalty,
My Hands to larger service,
My Health to better living, for
my club, my community, and
my country.

WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is a community based organization dedicated to the personal growth and development of youth and volunteer adult leaders.

The 4-H program provides young people with an opportunity to learn how to become productive, self-assured adults who can make their community and country a good place in which to live. This is fostered through project and program work, experiences with their 4-H club members and leaders and their participation in district, regional and provincial programs.

The name 4-H is derived from the first letter of the four words, Head, Heart, Hands and Health; the significance of which is expressed in the 4-H pledge.

THE PROGRAM

The B.C. 4-H program develops 4-H members in such a way that they become effective and responsible members of society. 4-H project work and programs help members to:

- Increase their knowledge and develop skills in subject matter areas which are of interest and value to the individual.
- Acquire a positive attitude towards learning and develop the ability to make wise decisions.
- Learn how to work effectively in groups.
- Enlarge their horizons by participating in new experiences.
- Acquire a responsible attitude toward community service.
- Develop physically through healthful living and active recreation.



**4-H is a real life
experience that
involves everyone:
members,
leaders, families,
alumni and the
community.**



BRITISH COLUMBIA 4-H STRUCTURE



4-H Program: The 4-H Organization from the club member to the provincial level. In keeping with our values, the child is put first – at the top of our structural chart.

The B.C. 4-H Program is directly supported by:

Clubs (approx. 200+)
Members supported by family and volunteer leaders.

District Councils (31)
Responsible for co-ordination of District 4-H Activities.

Regional Councils (7)
Responsible for co-ordination of Regional 4-H Activities.

Provincial Council Board
Responsible for conducting the business of Provincial Council, including administration, programming and setting policy for the B.C. 4-H Program.

District Support Team
Awards, Promotion, Resources, Farm Safety

4-H Foundation
Investment arm of the B.C. 4-H Program.

Key Leaders
Provide information and assistance to 4-H clubs and leaders. Assist District/Regional Councils to manage 4-H program.

Conflict Managers
Assist 4-H community with conflict resolution.

4-H Ambassadors
Provide promotional support to 4-H community.

B.C. 4-H Office
Responsible for administration, management and marketing for the provincial 4-H Program working in conjunction with the Provincial Council Board.

B.C. 4-H's Partner

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Youth & Community Development Programs

Responsible for human resource development – leadership training and provincial program delivery.

4-H Events
"Third party" 4-H events are separate from the above 4-H program structure. (E.g. 4-H events with signed 4-H Event Agreement including 4-H classes at fairs and exhibitions and special 4-H events.)

THE 4-H CLUB

The basis of the 4-H program is the 4-H club. A club is composed of youth members and supported by leaders, families and a club sponsor. The responsibilities of the local 4-H club are to:

- Plan club activities as well as decide the time and location of 4-H club meetings.
- Organize community service projects and activities.
- Plan and hold the club Achievement Day.
- Publicize local club activities.
- Raise funds for club activities.

Clubs (over 200 enrol annually)
Members supported by family and volunteer leaders.

A Family Affair

Parents support members by encouraging their efforts, offering rides to meetings, chaperoning field trips and camps, lending their homes for meetings and helping out at 4-H activities.

4-H Members improve their “H’s” in the following ways:

Head

- Developing leadership skills
- Practicing decision making
- Learning about agriculture, food and life skills

Heart

- Making new friends
- Accepting responsibilities
- Developing a positive attitude
- Gaining self-confidence
- Being a good citizen

Hands

- Learning new skills
- Working with others
- Doing your best
- Helping in your community

Health

- Maintaining a healthy lifestyle
- Being aware of safety
- Using free time wisely

DISTRICT 4-H COUNCIL

District 4-H Councils are responsible for:

District Council (31)
Responsible for co-ordination of District 4-H activities.

- Planning district activities that are of interest to club members and leaders, including rallies, exchanges, judging instruction, public speaking, demonstrations, etc.
- Identifying the needs of 4-H leaders and holding leadership training with assistance from the Key Leader.
- Communicating with local 4-H clubs about suggestions and changes to 4-H project manuals, registration procedures, member programs, etc.
- Recognizing 4-H leaders and 4-H members who have won trips, received leadership awards, etc., and inviting and encouraging them to speak at District events and meetings.
- Allowing time at meetings for 4-H clubs to report on the highlights of their club year.
- Planning ways and means to raise funds for District activities.
- Selecting an interested representative to attend the Regional council meetings. This representative should report back to the District Council
- Designating volunteers to assist in the following areas: Awards, Promotion, Resources and Farm Safety.
- Supporting the District Junior Council to provide senior 4-H members with the opportunity to work with other seniors outside of their own club and promote district events such as camps, fundraising, workshops, and recreational activities.

REGIONAL 4-H COUNCIL

Regional 4-H Councils are responsible for:

Regional Council (7)
Responsible for co-ordination of Regional 4-H activities.

- Identifying 4-H needs within the region and coordinating Regional activities.
- Collecting information from District Councils which require provincial discussion and solution.
- Acquiring and administering funds for the promotion of Regional 4-H activities.
- Handling problems of a Regional nature and problems unsolvable at a District Council level.
- Promoting, encouraging and developing 4-H members and leaders through recognition and training opportunities.

Learn to do by doing.

4-H Motto

Learning through experience is a key objective of the 4-H Program. Through 4-H, members learn to take responsibility, make decisions and work as a team. Members and leaders develop skills and interests, discover special talents and gain the self-confidence that comes from achievement.

Did you Know?

- There are over 7 million 4-H members in over 80 countries worldwide.
- The first 4-H club in B.C. started in 1914.
- B.C. offers Provincial Programs for senior 4-H members: Provincial Club Week, Youth Action and Rural Urban Connections.
- 4-H is not just about animals – members can choose from exciting and challenging projects like Livestock, Foods, Small Engines, Crafts, Marketing or create their own 4-H Project!

4-H PROVINCIAL COUNCIL BOARD

The B.C. 4-H Provincial Council is a Registered Society and the Board is responsible for:

- Provision of administrative and programming services to B.C. 4-H.
- Receiving and acting on recommendations from 4-H Regional Councils.
- Taking action to improve the Provincial 4-H program by resolving problems and issues of a Provincial nature.
- Instigating new programs to meet identified needs of the Provincial 4-H program.
- Establishing all provincial 4-H policies.
- Legal and budgetary operation of the B.C. 4-H Program.
- Directing B.C. 4-H programming through strategic plans.
- Maintaining contact with the Canadian 4-H Council on 4-H programs of a national and international nature.

Provincial Council Board

Responsible for conducting the business of the Provincial Council including providing an administrative, programming service and setting policy for the BC 4-H Program

4-H FOUNDATION

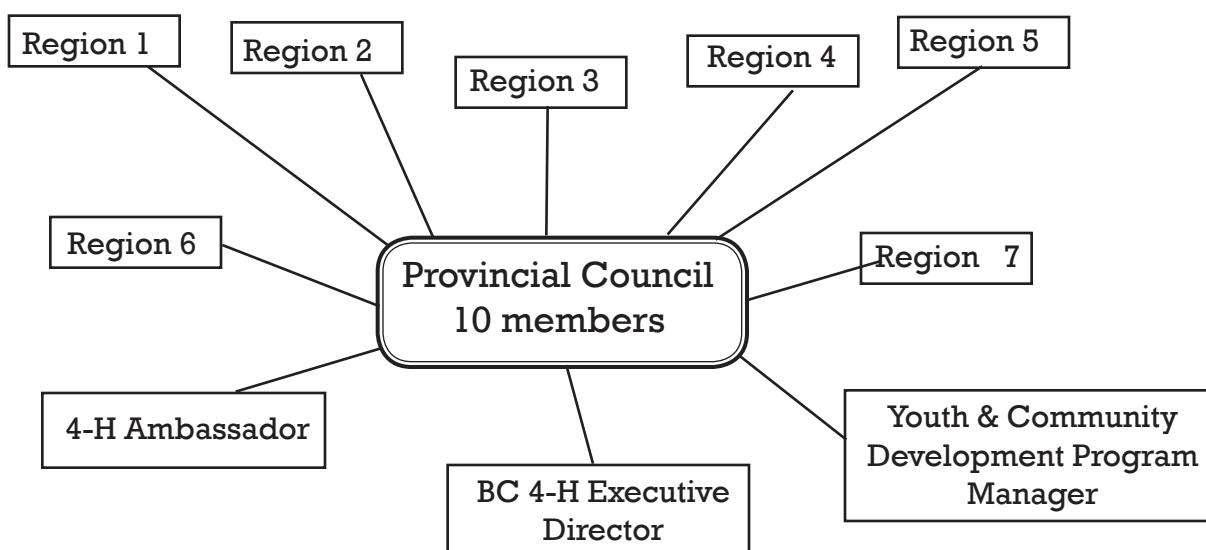
The B.C. 4-H Foundation is a Registered Charitable Society responsible for:

- Accepting gifts, bequests and grants to be applied to the 4-H movement in British Columbia.
- Providing a venue for all interested persons and organizations to contribute financially to the 4-H movement in British Columbia.
- Providing long term continuity of funds to enable the B.C. 4-H Provincial Council to carry out programs and services.
- Receiving and holding in trust for the B.C. 4-H Provincial Council, all property of the Foundation and using it only for the purposes of the Foundation.

4-H Foundation

Investment arm of the B.C. 4-H Program.

B.C. 4-H Provincial Council Board Structure



BC 4-H REGIONS & DISTRICTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Vancouver Island Region
 South Malahat
 Cowichan
 Cedar
 Parksville-Qualicum
 Port Alberni
 Comox
 Powell River</p> | <p>4. Kootenays Region
 Cranbrook
 Creston</p> |
| <p>2. Fraser Valley Region
 Surrey-Richmond-Delta
 Langley
 Abbotsford
 North Fraser
 Chilliwack</p> | <p>5. Peace River Region
 North Peace
 South Peace</p> |
| <p>3. Kamloops-Okanagan Region
 Kamloops
 Salmon Arm
 Armstrong-Vernon-Lumby
 Kelowna
 Similkamean
 Boundary</p> | <p>6. Central Interior Region
 Prince George
 Quesnel
 Williams Lake
 Robson Valley</p> |
| | <p>7. Yellowhead West Region
 Skeena
 Bulkley Valley
 Lakes
 Vanderhoof
 Kitimat/Snowflake</p> |

The B.C. 4-H Program is Directly Supported By:

KEY LEADERS

Volunteer District Key Leaders are responsible for:

- Providing information and support to all clubs, leaders, potential members, potential leaders and the community.
- Working with the District and Regional councils to develop and manage the district 4-H program.
- Assisting the training and instruction of all leaders.
- Collecting and checking 4-H registration forms from the district and forwarding to the B.C. 4-H office.
- Reviewing new and revised program information from the B.C. 4-H Office for discussion at council meetings.

CONFLICT MANAGERS

Volunteer Provincial 4-H Conflict Managers are responsible for:

- Communicating the B.C. 4-H conflict Resolution Policy and Process to all parties involved in a conflict.
- Managing the conflict resolution process for all parties involved in the conflict.
- Assisting in the evaluation of the process and outcome of each conflict.

4-H AMBASSADORS

B.C. 4-H Youth Ambassadors promote awareness of 4-H opportunities in their region and throughout the province. Specific responsibilities include:

- Highlighting B.C. 4-H through displays, speeches, and news reports.
- Acting as resources for 4-H members, leaders and the public.

BRITISH COLUMBIA 4-H PROVINCIAL OFFICE STAFF

Responsible for administration, management and marketing for the provincial 4-H Program working in conjunction with the BC 4-H Provincial Council Board and its partner, the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Youth & Community Development Program staff.

B.C. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LANDS YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM STAFF

Responsible for human resource development, leadership training and provincial program delivery.

4-H develops more than great skills – it develops great people too!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- B.C. 4-H Policy and Procedures Manual
- 4-H Junior Council Constitution
- 4-H District Council Constitution
- 4-H Regional Council Constitution
- B.C. 4-H Provincial Council Constitution
- BC 4-H Foundation Constitution

The above information is available from the B.C. 4-H Office.



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