



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 B.C. 4-H Program and working together with a variety of partner organizations in an environment of increased self-reliance.

The 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.

The 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 more 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.



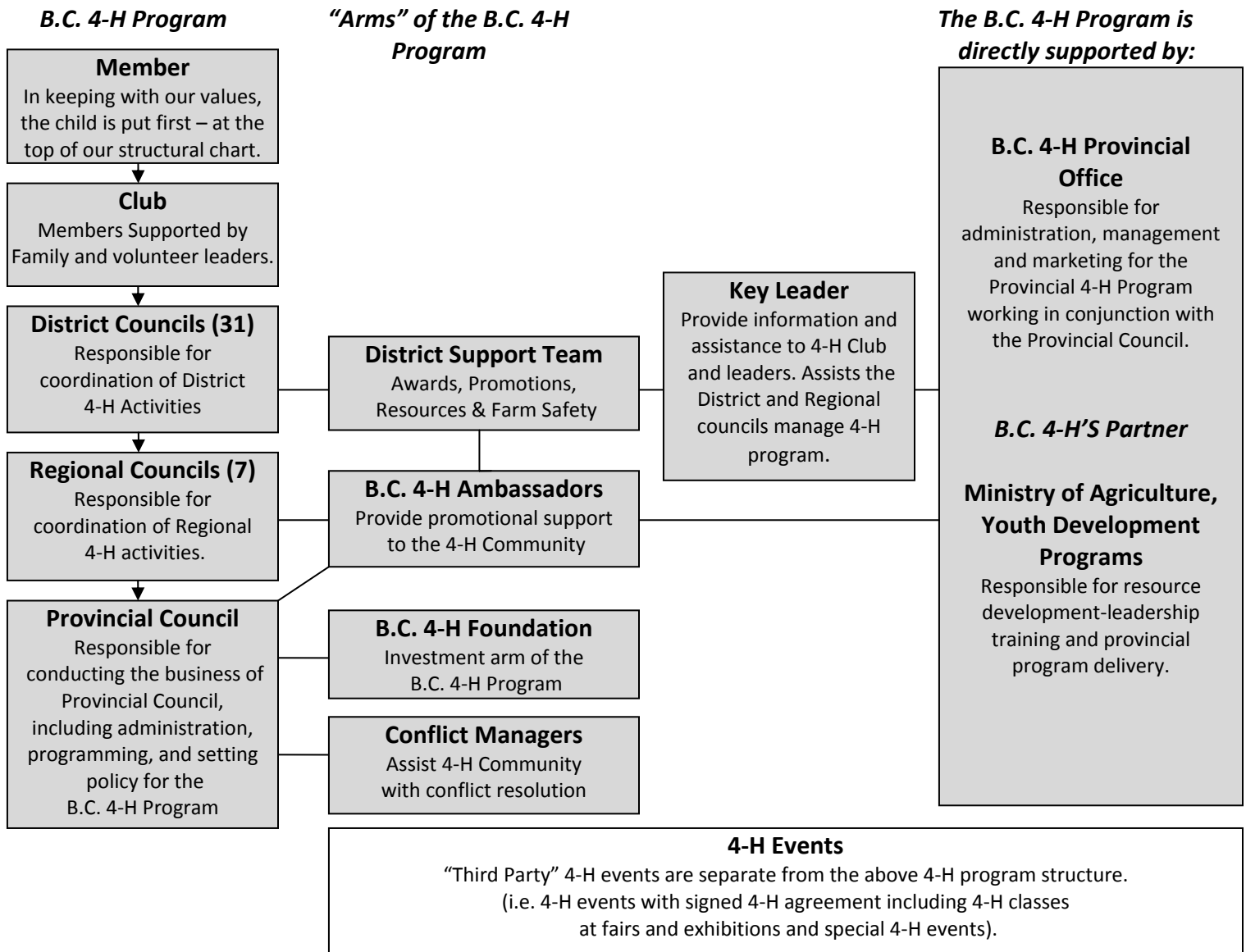
4-H is a real life experience that involves everyone:

- Members
- Leaders
- Families
- Alumni
- The community



B.C. 4-H Structure

Below is an illustration of the 4-H Organization from the club member to the provincial level.



B.C. 4-H Structure - Club

Club
Members Supported by Family and volunteer leaders

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.

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

B.C. 4-H Structure - District Councils

District Councils (31)

Responsible for coordination of District 4-H activities

District 4-H Councils are responsible for:

- 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.
- Supporting volunteers 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.

B.C. 4-H Structure - Regional Council

Regional Councils (7)

Responsible for coordination of Regional 4-H activities

Regional 4-H Councils are responsible for:

- Identifying 4-H needs within the region and coordinating Regional activities.
- Selecting an interested representative to attend the Provincial Council meetings. This representative should report back to the Regional Council.
- 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.”

The 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 Food for Thought.
- 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!

B.C. 4-H Structure - Provincial Council

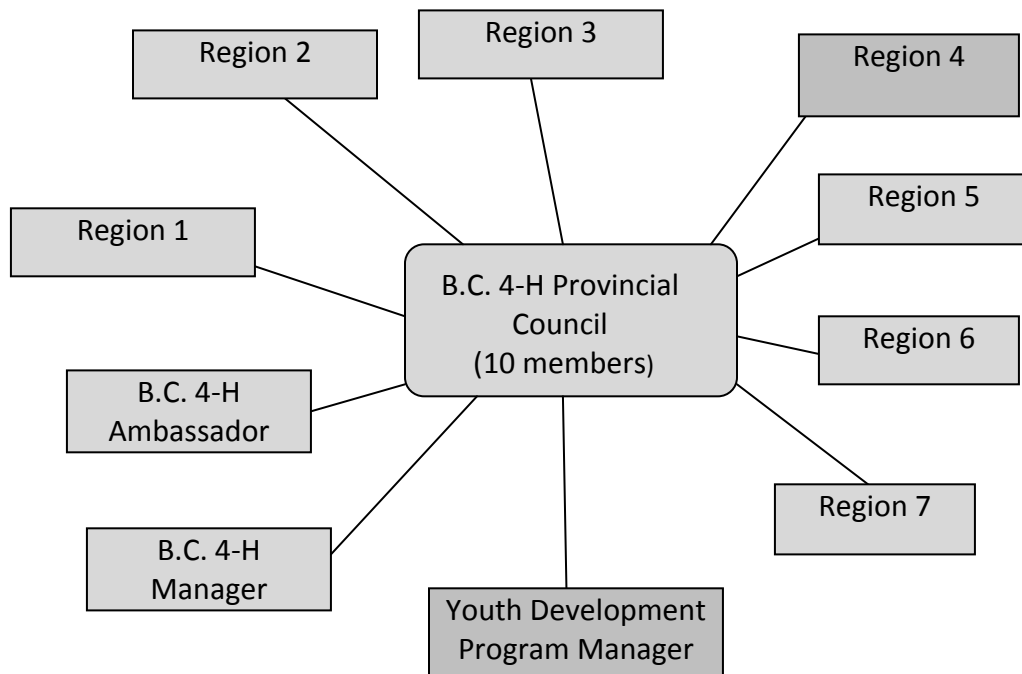
Provincial Council

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

The B.C. 4-H Provincial Council is a Registered Society 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.
- Initiating 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.

B.C. 4-H Provincial Council Structure



B.C. 4-H Structure - B.C. 4-H Foundation

B.C. 4-H Foundation

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

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

- 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.
- Accepting gifts, bequests and grants to be applied to the 4-H movement in British Columbia.

B.C. 4-H Structure - Key Leaders

Key Leader

Provide information and assistance to 4-H club and leaders. Assist the District and Regional councils manage 4-H program.

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.

B.C. 4-H Structure - Conflict Managers

Conflict Managers

Assist 4-H Community with conflict resolution.

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.

B.C. 4-H Structure - B.C. 4-H Ambassadors

B.C. 4-H Ambassadors

Provide promotional support to the 4-H Community

B.C. 4-H Ambassadors promote awareness of the 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.

B.C. 4-H Structure - B.C. 4-H Provincial Office Staff

B.C. 4-H Provincial Office

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

Responsible for:

- Administration, management and marketing for the provincial 4-H Program
- Working in conjunction with the B.C. 4-H Provincial Council Board and its partner, the BC Ministry Agriculture, Youth Development Program staff

B.C. 4-H Structure - BC Ministry of Agriculture, Youth Development Program Staff

Ministry of Agriculture Youth Development Programs

Responsible for resource development-leadership training and provincial program delivery.

Responsible for:

- Resource Development, leadership training
- Provincial program delivery

B.C. 4-H Regions and Districts

- 1 **Vancouver Island Region**
 - 01 South Malahat
 - 02 Cowichan
 - 03 Cedar
 - 04 Parksville-Qualicum
 - 05 Port Alberni
 - 06 Comox
 - 07 Powell River

- 2 **Fraser Valley Region**
 - 01 Surrey-Richmond-Delta
 - 02 Langley
 - 03 Abbotsford
 - 04 North Fraser
 - 05 Chilliwack

- 3 **Kamloops- Okanagan Region**
 - 01 Kamloops
 - 02 Salmon Arm
 - 03 Armstrong/Vernon/Lumby
 - 04 Kelowna
 - 05 Similkwan
 - 06 Boundary

- 4 **Kootenays Region**
 - 01 Creston
 - 02 Cranbrook

- 5 **Peace River Region**
 - 01 North Peace
 - 02 South Peace

- 6 **Central Interior Region**
 - 01 Prince George
 - 02 Quesnel
 - 03 Williams Lake
 - 04 Robson Valley

- 7 **Yellowhead West Region**
 - 01 Skeena
 - 02 Bulkley Valley
 - 03 Lakes
 - 04 Vanderhoof
 - 05 Kitimat/Snowflake

**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
- B.C. 4-H Foundation Constitution

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



Contact us:

2743 – 30th Street
Vernon, BC, V1T 5C6
TF: 1-866-776-0373

E-mail: mail@bc4h.bc.ca
www.bc4h.bc.ca