

Boys & Girls Club of Fort Saskatchewan

Partners in supporting
children and youth
and their families



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Mission Statement

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

We are a member of Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada.

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History

The doors of the Boys and Girls Club of Fort Saskatchewan opened on February 1, 1986 in the old fire hall in downtown Fort Saskatchewan offering a variety of programs and services for children and youth aged 6 – 18.

Approximately 10 years ago the Board of Directors committed to finding a new location. This was in response to the increase in participation in programs and the size of the existing location.

In June 2000 construction began and our new facility opened in December 2000.

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Who We Work With

The Boys and Girls Club works with children and youth aged 6 and up and their families. Each year we work with approximately 1000 people.

We offer a number of programs that promote healthy development. The programs we offer specifically focus on self-esteem, self awareness, opportunities to try new things, connect to resources, build skills, and develop healthy relationships with their peers and adults.

Many of the children and youth we work with are not involved in other activities.

No one is ever turned away due to financial barriers.

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Programs

Youth Programs

These programs offer children, youth and families the opportunity to enhance life, communication and coping skills in a warm caring and confidential environment. It also offers opportunities to grow leadership skills, increase independence, self-esteem, and social and recreational skills.

- Individual and Family Counselling
- Educational/Support groups for children, youth and caregivers
- Supported Referrals to resources and other community agencies
- Advocacy
- Youth Leadership
- After school and evening drop-in grades 5 and up
- Youth Transition after school grades 7 and up

Most of these are free services provided to all families in the community.

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Programs

New Initiatives

The Fifth Generation Project (a collaborative project with Boys & Girls Club, Families First, and Restorative Justice) has allowed us to provide some new programs.

In School Mentoring

This program provides male and female youth with a role model and friend to talk and share positive experiences with in school. They will engage in reading, talking, participating in physical activities or just spending one on one time together. Mentoring helps youth reach their full potential and leads to positive outcomes such as increased self confidence, improved leadership skills, increased school attendance and improved overall school performance. This will be in addition to our Community mentoring program "Be a Buddy"

Fourth R Program

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Drop In/Tween/Teen Programs

- Teen nights
- Special events/outings
- Skill based programs
- Computer lab
- Youth employment program
- Hotdog Cart
- Leadership Programs and Volunteer Opportunities

Community Service and Leadership

We are out and about in the community often as it allows our children and youth to be a part of something big.

We participated in:

Legacy Park Family Festival, Canada Day, Santa Parade, Movie Under the Stars, Farmers Markets, Humane Society and many other events.

Transition Program

For youth that have aged out of our Out of School Program, we offer the opportunity for youth to continue to have supervision, master skills they are learning and socialize with peers.

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Summer Programs

A number of overnight summer camps to a variety of locations throughout Alberta to allow children and youth the opportunity to experience a variety of outdoor activities.

820 children and youth participated in summer programs.



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Be a Buddy Program

Mentorship program that provides children and youth with a 1-1 positive adult role model once a week indefinitely but for a minimum year commitment.



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Out of School Program

This is a registered/licensed and accredited program that provides a safe, supervised place for school aged children to be before school starts and during the after school hours. The program is open at 6AM Monday-Friday and closes at 6PM.

Approximately 16,000 breakfasts were served to children and youth before school in 2014, and 10,500 healthy bag lunches that kids took to school just in that year alone.

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Out of School Program

After school our busses pick children and youth up at all the schools and they are able to participate in a variety of programs such as:

- Cooking/Healthy Choices
- Educational Programs
- Cultural Programs
- Fitness and Sports/Rockwall
- Arts/Crafts
- Homework/Tutoring
- Computers
- Music/Drama
- Support Programs

The program is accredited and the program is offered at the Boys & Girls Club facility and at Ecole Parc School. We have experienced considerable growth and in September of 2015 we opened a third satellite program. We currently accommodate 240 children and youth in all three sites and have large wait lists.

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Annual Revenue

Grants and Subsidies	45%
Fundraising/Donations	23%
User Fees	20%
United Way	8%
City of Fort Saskatchewan	4%

This year our annual operating budget is just over
\$1,000,000

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Annual Expenses

Salaries and Benefits (25 Staff)	70%
Program	12%
Office/Administrative	9%
Building Expense	6%
Vehicle (busses)	3%

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Financial Support Requested

The City of Fort Saskatchewan has provided the Boys & Girls Club with financial support through a grant from FCSS since 1986. These funds are crucial to ensuring that all kids are able to participate. Each year we provide full subsidy to over 150 children and youth to participate in Out of School, Summer and Special Event Programs.

Without the support of the City we would need to find additional funding to ensure that all kids have the opportunity to participate.

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