



# CSI SUMMER LEARNING ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

## 2025 REPORT

# 2025 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

BGC Winnipeg's CSI Summer Learning Enrichment Program (CSI) offers youth from grades 1 to 6 a range of experiential, recreational, and educational activities over five weeks in the summer. Participants enjoy free, life-changing opportunities they might not otherwise experience in safe, supportive, and nurturing environments.

This year, CSI celebrated 20 years of empowering youth through hands-on learning, mentorship, and community connection, delivering programming to students from 13 schools within the Winnipeg School Division across 12 sites. Our theme for the summer was "Under the Sea," blending exciting adventures with enriching educational experiences.

Each day from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (2:00 p.m. on Fridays), participants engaged in a variety of activities designed to enhance numeracy, literacy, and social-emotional skills such as communication and teamwork. Instructors delivered hands-on, interactive sessions that integrated STEAM learning, literacy and numeracy development, physical activity, and social-cultural experiences. These experiences included community walks, land-based learning, guest presentations, field trips, and recreational sports.

To assist families with transportation, Instructors and Classroom Assistants operated a "walking school bus," accompanying children to and from the program each day. Each morning, participants had the opportunity to take part in the ceremony of smudging. To ensure children remained focused and energized throughout the day, nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and snacks were provided—prepared by on-site cooks and supported through deliveries from Sysco Prairies.

*"Why is CSI so short? I wish it was all summer long!" – CSI Participant*

*"I have made a new family this year with my awesome crew, and I can't wait to work with them if they are coming back next year." – CSI Volunteer*

*"CSI has helped my kid build more confidence." – CSI Parent*

# 2025 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This summer, Manitoba wildfires changed how the CSI program operated. With poor air quality, many outdoor activities were moved indoors or cancelled to keep participants and staff safe. Staff responded quickly, creating alternative activities and adjusting schedules to ensure children still had active and engaging experiences. The fires also provided a chance to explore topics like environmental responsibility and community resilience, linking current events to meaningful learning opportunities.

This year, we updated our CSI learning outcomes to better align with the mission and goals of BGC Canada and BGC Winnipeg. These changes reflect a renewed focus on fostering:

- Lifelong Learners
- Sustained Well-being
- Positive Relationships
- Inspired Leaders

In addition, a new emphasis was placed on connecting daily programming to BGC's five core program areas. All CSI sites intentionally designed activities that allowed students to explore:

- Leadership and Service to the Community
- Education and Career Exploration
- Sports, Recreation, and Physical Activity
- Arts and Cultural Appreciation
- Health Awareness and Life Skills



# OUR REACH ACROSS THE CITY

Champlain  
David Livingstone  
Dufferin/Pinkham  
John M King  
King Edward  
Lord Selkirk  
Machray  
Norquay  
Shaughnessy Park  
Sister MacNamara  
Victoria Albert  
William Whyte

This year, William Whyte operated as its own site, while the school division delivered another program at Niji Mahkwa. Dufferin and Pinkham schools were combined into one location. Due to summer construction projects, the Shaughnessy Park program was held at Sisler High School, and the Victoria-Albert program took place at Sacré-Coeur, with additional spots for Victoria-Albert students available at Norquay.

# BURSARY UPDATE

Participants who attended 80% (19/24 days) of the program were eligible for the \$400 Bright Futures bursary for post-secondary education.

Supporting Employment and Economic Development (SEED) Winnipeg plays a key role in administering the bursaries. This includes helping families move the bursary money into a RESP which leverages other educational grants.

In 2025, 431 participants were eligible, which represents 68% of the children who attended CSI (431/635).

# JUMPSTART DAY

On July 31st, approximately 433 children enrolled in CSI were disappointed to learn that Jumpstart Day had been cancelled due to poor air quality. This marked the first time the annual event had to be called off. As an organization, we had to prioritize safety and the health of everyone involved. A big thank you to Winnipeg Canadian Tire, Sport Chek, Mark's Work Warehouse, Atmosphere, Part Source, and all their volunteers for their continued commitment to Jumpstart Day.

# CSI OUTCOMES

## Outcome #1: Lifelong Learners

Each week, participants engaged in hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) learning designed to strengthen problem-solving, creativity, critical thinking, curiosity, decision-making, leadership, and collaboration skills.

Highlights from this year's STEAM activities included:

- **Market Day** – a program favourite each year. Participants created their own mini “markets,” gaining experience with financial literacy and entrepreneurship. Staff were impressed by the creativity on display—children sold play tickets, bracelets, crafts, and more.
- **Solar Ovens** – students designed and built solar ovens, applying science, engineering, and math concepts to harness solar energy. They then used their ovens to roast marshmallows and make s'mores.
- **Miniature Roller Coasters** – youth applied engineering and design principles to construct small-scale roller coasters.

Building on these STEAM lessons, participants also took part in a variety of experiential and physical learning opportunities that connected classroom learning to the community:

- **Experiential Learning** – field trips and guest presentations brought learning to life through activities such as beading, dancing, and sewing, as well as visits to the Winnipeg Public Library.
- **Physical Activity** – movement and recreation were integrated into each day to support physical literacy and overall well-being. Participants enjoyed swimming and splash pad visits through the City of Winnipeg, learned Indigenous games with the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Council (MASRC), and took part in active play at the University of Winnipeg's Rec Plex.

# CSI OUTCOMES

To better understand the impact of these experiences, youth completed end of program surveys. Results showed that CSI had a strong positive influence on participants' confidence and curiosity.

## Youth Survey Results:

### Grades 1-3

- 68% feel better prepared to do schoolwork (132/194)
- 75% are more excited to try new things (140/187)
- 69% use their imagination more (129/186)

### Grades 4-6

- 59% feel better prepared to do schoolwork (130/221)
- 73% are more excited to try new things (163/224)
- 74% use their imagination more (161/217)
- 66% enjoy challenging themselves (144/217)

*"For a lot of my students having a safe place to take risks and try math questions or experiment with their ideas was all they needed to do well. I also loved being a positive role model for my students. I loved showing them what a thoughtful instructor looks like and helping them develop their fundamental skills."*

– CSI Instructor



# CSI OUTCOMES

## Outcome #2: Sustained Wellbeing

To promote sustained well-being, CSI incorporated activities that emphasized self-care, nutrition, and overall wellness throughout the summer. Sites hosted a Self-Care Day, allowing participants to explore strategies for supporting their mental and emotional health through mindfulness, relaxation, and creative expression. Youth also had daily access to regulation tools and trusted adults they could turn to for support. Nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and snacks prepared by on-site cooks helped participants stay energized and focused throughout the day. Together, these efforts encouraged healthy habits and fostered an understanding of the importance of caring for both body and mind.

Survey findings indicated that participants strengthened their self-care practices, prioritized their health, and demonstrated growth in personal well-being.

## Youth Survey Results:

### Grades 1-3

- 69% make better choices for themselves (128/185)
- 68% are more physically active (128/187)

### Grades 4-6

- 75% make better choices for themselves (163/216)
- 74% are more physically active (165/224)
- 72% feel more confident about their future (153/213)

*"I feel safe because I'm surrounded by people that care about children's welfare and to the community." – CSI Site Cook*

# CSI OUTCOMES

## Outcome #3: Positive Relationships

To support the development of positive relationships, CSI created an environment where youth could build meaningful connections with peers, mentors, and staff. Classroom Assistants, Junior Leaders, and Youth Volunteers served as approachable role models, fostering trust and belonging among participants. Instructors and Team Leaders from post-secondary programs also benefited by gaining hands-on experience in mentorship and teamwork. Together, these interactions strengthened the sense of community within each site, helping participants feel supported, valued, and connected to others.

Survey results showed that participants strengthened their connections with peers and mentors, experienced a greater sense of belonging, and became more comfortable expressing themselves while demonstrating increased empathy.

## Youth Survey Results:

### Grades 1-3

- 74% have more people they like to spend time with (138/186)
- 65% feel they matter to more people (122/187)
- 67% feel more comfortable being themselves (125/187)
- 67% are more aware of the feelings of others (117/185)

### Grades 4-6

- 79% have more people they like to spend time with (173/220)
- 62% feel they matter to more people (135/217)
- 74% feel more comfortable being themselves (160/216)
- 71% are more aware of the feelings of others (154/217)

***“From beginning to end, I felt surrounded by very kind and welcoming people who would soon become valuable friends in my life. They made the experience a hundred times better and unforgettable. Watching them work hard and care so deeply about others reassured me that my decision to volunteer in CSI was worthwhile.” – CSI Volunteer***

# CSI OUTCOMES

## Outcome 4: Inspired Leaders

CSI focused on enhancing the skills and employment experiences of local youth, whether as program participants, Junior Leaders, Youth Volunteers, or high school students serving as Classroom Assistants. The program also provided post-secondary students, including Instructors and Team Leaders, with meaningful hands-on experience in education and youth work. Through these opportunities, CSI aims to help young people see themselves as capable and confident leaders, inspiring them to continue developing their leadership potential as they grow.

Survey results indicated that participants strengthened their leadership skills, improved their ability to work with others, and gained confidence in helping out and positively influencing those around them. Volunteer and staff feedback further confirmed that the program successfully fostered an environment where they could practice leadership, collaboration, and initiative, reinforcing CSI's goal of developing confident, capable, and inspiring leaders.

## Youth Survey Results:

### Grades 1-3

- 77% are better at helping out when needed (144/187)
- 58% are better able to calm down when upset (108/186)
- 72% work better with others (133/185)

### Grades 4-6

- 63% have a more positive influence on others (138/220)
- 78% are better at helping out when needed (160/205)
- 70% are better able to calm down when upset (151/217)
- 72% work better with others (156/218)

# CSI OUTCOMES

## Junior Leaders

- 100% feel they matter to more people (4/4)
- 100% feel more comfortable being themselves (4/4)
- 75% feel more confident about their future (3/4)
- 100% are more excited to try new things (4/4)
- 100% like challenging themselves more (4/4)
- 75% are more comfortable leading (3/4)
- 75% have a more positive influence on others (3/4)
- 100% are more confident in their abilities (4/4)
- 100% are better at helping out when needed (4/4)
- 100% work better with others (4/4)

## Youth Volunteers

- 80% feel they matter to more people (4/5)
- 100% feel more comfortable being themselves (5/5)
- 100% feel more confident about their future (5/5)
- 80% are more excited to try new things (4/5)
- 100% like challenging themselves more (5/5)
- 80% are more comfortable leading (4/5)
- 100% have a more positive influence on others (5/5)
- 100% are more confident in their abilities (5/5)
- 100% are better at helping out when needed (5/5)
- 100% work better with others (5/5)

## Classroom Assistants

- 86% are more aware of the feelings of others (24/28)
- 79% like challenging themselves more (22/28)
- 89% have a more positive influence on others (25/28)
- 79% feel more confident about their future (22/28)
- 96% are more comfortable leading (27/28)

# CSI OUTCOMES

A total of 39 high school students were hired to support the CSI program as Classroom Assistants and mentors. Most were recruited from local high schools and existing connections with BGC Winnipeg, while seven students joined through CEDA Pathways as part of a partnership designed to expand employment opportunities for inner-city youth.

In their roles, the teens worked directly with children in their assigned classrooms, helping prepare materials and activities, providing mentorship through positive interactions, participating in the daily walking school bus, and collaborating with the broader team. Each Classroom Assistant was also responsible for planning and facilitating one Instant Challenge per week for their class. These responsibilities gave the Classroom Assistants valuable hands-on experience in activity leadership and program planning, skills that will support future opportunities to work with children, including potential positions as CSI Instructors.

A total of 18 Junior Leaders and Youth Volunteers supported the program by assisting with food preparation, helping on field trips, and acting as positive role models in the classroom. The Junior Leader program, formerly known as the junior volunteer program, was created for students who had graduated from CSI in grade 6 and wanted to stay connected to the "CSI family." Under the guidance of the Program Coordinator, Junior Leaders received professional development opportunities to help them build skills for future Classroom Assistant positions. The Youth Volunteer role, on the other hand, is designed for teens who wish to remain involved with CSI but are unable to commit to a full-time Classroom Assistant position. Both roles gave young people meaningful opportunities to gain work experience and build essential life skills.

This summer, 39 university students were hired as Instructors for the CSI program, with most coming from the Faculties of Education at the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba. Each site had between three and five Instructors, working under the supervision of a Team Leader.

# CSI OUTCOMES

With guidance from their Team Leaders and Teacher Coordinators, Instructors were responsible for designing their own curriculum and lesson plans while leading their classrooms. This role provided invaluable experience for aspiring educators, as they gained practice in classroom management, creating safe and inclusive learning environments, developing lessons to meet specific learning goals, and adapting their teaching styles to meet the needs of their students. It also gave them important insight into how children's lives outside of school can influence their learning and behaviour in the classroom.

Twelve university students were hired as Team Leaders for the program. In this role, they mentored Instructors and managed key administrative responsibilities for their sites, including communicating with families, tracking attendance, purchasing supplies, scheduling presenters, and addressing safety concerns. Eleven of the twelve Team Leaders have completed or are currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education.

In addition, six certified teachers were hired as Teacher Coordinators. Each Teacher Coordinator supported two sites, providing mentorship to their staff teams. Of these, four were from the Winnipeg School Division, one from Seven Oaks School Division, and one from a division outside Winnipeg.



# TRAINING

In June, Team Leaders and Instructors took part in an integrated training model to prepare for the summer program. On Mondays and Tuesdays, they attended workshops and presentations led by BGC Winnipeg staff and community partners. From Wednesday to Friday, they worked in their assigned schools, shadowing in classrooms and planning lessons. This approach allowed staff to start building relationships with students early while making clear connections between their training and the realities of the school setting.

Some of the training highlights include:

- Instant challenges with Dr. Dawn Sutherland from the University of Manitoba: Instructors were taken through fun, interactive, and simple activities to learn about design criteria, material selection, and the overall critical thinking process. This was crucial for preparing them for the STEAM elements of their curriculum.
- Our Team Leaders and Instructors participated in weekly community walks hosted by O.P.K. (Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatawin) at 605 Main Street. These walks provided our staff with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of Winnipeg's inner-city communities. Along the way, they handed out food and water to those in need and engaged in meaningful conversations with community members.
- BGC Winnipeg's own Voices: Manitoba's Youth in Care Network came to talk to staff about supporting youth in care and their rights.
- Cadin Dupasquier and his team from Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council (MASRC) spent time with the Instructors teaching them some traditional games.
- Kaylee Wood led a meaningful smudging workshop for our Team Leaders and Instructors, providing valuable teachings and guidance on the cultural significance and respectful practice of smudging.
- Doug Taylor, Director of Student Presence & Engagement at Winnipeg School Division, introduced the concept of "ungraded" assessment, emphasizing a holistic approach to learning. He highlighted key outcomes such as active learning, collaboration, critical thinking, risk-taking, and responsible citizenship.
- Classroom Assistants took part in a full day of training before heading to their program sites. The day included fun icebreaker activities they could use with the kids, along with practical sessions on behavior management, professionalism, and what to expect during a typical day at CSI. They also learned how to plan and lead Instant Challenges, equipping them with engaging tools to use throughout the summer.

# STAFF

## Program

### Coordinators:

Rachel Launder  
Taylor Farkas

### Food Coordinator:

Katelin Diehl

### Program Liaison:

Talia Landgraaf

## Teacher

### Coordinators:

Alora Anis  
Ben Fountain  
Corinne Cloutier  
Encarleen (Charly)  
Panelo  
Nathan Leitao  
Robyn Andrews

### Team Leaders:

Abbey Chubaty  
Anika Olfert  
Bennett Harrison  
Erica Zhou  
Jane Marie  
Cegayle  
Lanz Domingo  
Nicholas Yeo  
Owen Gaber  
Rachel Spridzans  
Rebecca Cooke  
Victoria Nguyen

### Instructors:

Ajwora Oman  
Alexis Hios  
Allison Ryznar  
Angel Aibangbee  
Annabelle Sta.  
Brigida

Annie Tran  
Aurelia Sigurdson  
Ava Tome  
Bailey Thiessen  
Caleb Kirton

Carmen Cope  
Charizze Balaswit  
Cora-Lynne Pare  
Emily Fars  
Evelyn Creed  
Gene Saria  
Georgia (Joey)  
Sims

Halle Fedorowich  
Isabelle (Isa)  
Santianez  
Jasmine

Consolacion  
Jesse Regunay  
Jessie Taylor  
Josh Cabildo

Julia Garcia  
Kisha (Julie) Yumul  
Lorielyn Bautista  
Maia Gonzales  
Mc Jayson (MJ)  
Dela Cruz  
Miguela (Miggy)  
Castro

Muhammad  
(Daniyal)  
Chaundhry

Oluwabukunmi  
(Bukunmi) Falana  
Oreoluwa (Ore)  
Adewumi

Rosemary Perez  
Roshan Haroon  
Shane English  
Shergilyn (Red)  
Daquis  
Thai Nguyen

Trinity Mineault  
Victoria (Vicki)  
Pruden

## Classroom

### Assistants:

Adam Alhasumi  
Alexandra (Xandra)  
Amparo  
Andrew Chambers  
Angelica (Faith)  
Camaclang

Arnea Romero  
Bienna Liwanag  
Bitna Oh

Caleb Reales  
Charlaine Balaswit  
Christian Bautista  
Donivan Thomas  
Eliana

Gebreselassie  
Elroea

Woldeselassie  
Franco Lapuz  
Isla Schneider  
Jolomi Eddi  
Kassandra Pascua  
Kiara Blyth-Azure  
Kim (Kayden)  
Santos

Kiya (Angelle)  
Parisien

Laveah Richard  
Liel Vaserman  
Louise Marhale  
Madyson Favel  
Mae Manimtim  
Mannat Gupta  
Mary Adebayo  
Miles Ehlers  
Mwiza Nyampundu  
Nicole Caballero

Nicole (Senait) Teka  
Leon

Oluwanifemi  
(Grace) Adio  
Sarian Kagbanda  
Simbo Zelalem  
Simran Gurung  
Temilola (Lola)  
Odugbesan  
Tomisin (Tomi)  
Odugbesan  
Yashica Rana  
Zubayda (Zu)  
Sherefa

### Site Cooks:

Bora Muliri  
Coleen Antonio  
Dan West  
Dion Ternent  
Joan Hamili  
Lorenna Wong  
Mariam Akeredolu-  
Adebisi  
Melina Williams  
Mozit Tesgai  
Nicole Bailey  
Romina Mamaradlo  
Victoria Moorhouse

# THANK YOU!

The CSI Summer Learning Enrichment Program is made possible by the following supporters:

## DONORS

Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities

CEDA Pathways

Government of Canada – Canada Summer Jobs Program

Kenny Family Foundation

Lount Foundation

NETES (Neeginan Education, Training and Employment Services)

Province of Manitoba

Manitoba Education & Training – Bright Futures

Municipal Affairs - Urban Green Team

Thomas Sill Foundation

United Way of Winnipeg

Winnipeg School Division

And a host of individual donors

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Assiniboine Park Zoo

City of Winnipeg's Community Recreation Department

Hot Sauce Dinner Committee

Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council

S.E.E.D. Winnipeg Inc.

Sergeant Tommy Prince Place

Share the Magic

Sinclair Park Community Centre

University of Winnipeg

And a host of individual partners

# THANK YOU!

A very special thanks to the Winnipeg School Division (WSD) for their continued commitment and support of the CSI program. For the past 20 years, WSD has played an essential role in the success of CSI. Their collaboration ensures that children and youth have access to safe, enriching, and high-quality summer learning experiences.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the school administrators and staff who hosted our teams in June and throughout the summer, and to the Superintendent's team for their ongoing support with recruitment and coordination. Our gratitude also goes to the Permits Department for facilitating access to school spaces, and to the Transportation Department for ensuring participants and staff could travel safely to and from field trips and program sites.

WSD's continued dedication and support strengthen the impact of CSI—helping build skills, foster positive relationships, and inspire the next generation of leaders. We are deeply grateful for their ongoing commitment and look forward to many more years of working together to support students and the communities we serve.





**FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT**

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