

The Graduation Strategy is a **comprehensive and holistic place-based** initiative designed to improve graduation rates for inner city children. Eligible children and families live in the inner-city. The school-based programs are based at both high school and elementary levels. Comprehensive supports include: tutoring, peer support, mentorship, primary health care and assessments, family support, sports and recreation, counselling and advocacy.



The Graduation Strategy is part of Our Place, a collaboration of parents, community organizations, and professionals working together to make the inner-city a place where children and families thrive. This is a **place-based** initiative.

**Place-based** means that programs and services are adapted to the inner city. It's not a "one size fits all" approach that rarely accommodates the specific socio-economic challenges of Inner city families who are often unable to access main stream services.

Our families often struggle with higher levels of family violence, addiction, and untreated mental health issues. The inner-city is home to many new Canadians who speak multiple languages but face barriers speaking English navigating complex systems and accessing resources and services. Our First Nations families still suffer from the inter-generational impacts of residential schools.

Place-based programs and services are provided where inner-city children and families naturally gather, e.g. daycares, schools, community centres.

Place-based programs build on the capacity of residents to grow, develop and to solve their own

**Comprehensive and Holistic** because we realize that school ready children don't just appear out of the blue. Early learning, good nutrition, supportive families all contribute to ensuring that children come to school ready and able to learn. Comprehensive and Holistic because this is not just a collection of programs, but a collaborative approach that maximizes the overall impact of any one program intervention, ensuring smooth transitions and consistent supports.



Partners include: Aboriginal Life in Vancouver Enhancement Society (ALIVE), Ray-Cam Community Cooperative Association, RICHER, a social pediatric program of Women's and Children's Hospital, Strathcona Community Centre, the Network of Inner City Community Services Society (NICCSS).

Joining Our Place Partners on the Graduation Strategy Management Committee are: Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS), the Vancouver School Board, the Britannia Homework Club. We acknowledge the generous financial support for the Graduation Strategy of the Canada Post Foundation and Pathways Canada

Participating schools include: Britannia High School, Lord Strathcona, Admiral Seymour, and Macdonald Elementary Schools.

Supporting Partners include: The City of Vancouver Healthy City for All, Ministry of Children and Family Development, VACFSS, NICCSS,

For more information visit: [AboutOurPlace.ca](http://AboutOurPlace.ca)