

North Vancouver's LGBTQ2SA+ Community and The RCMP

Creating a better connection

A CityStudio project one-pager by Ian Lau, Carmen Taylor and Mackenzie Smith.

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Background:	The goal is to better connect and understand the LGBTQ2SA+ community. We plan to address this situation by bringing awareness to things that the LGBTQ2SA+ community experience in North Vancouver. A range of age groups must be considered as the LGBTQ2SA+ community applies to numerous groups of people.
Relevance to City Goals:	The City of North Vancouver's main goal is for the RCMP to better connect with the LGBTQ2SA+ community. This can be done through frequent communication with members of the LGBTQ2SA+ community to ensure ideas and opinions are being heard. From this, a stronger relationship between the RCMP and the LGBTQ2SA+ community can be formed.
Overview of the project:	Our project aims to further understanding of various potential problems that the LGBTQ2SA+ community may face in their lives. These issues may arise at home, at work, or anywhere else. By understanding the depth of these everyday obstacles that the LGBTQ2SA+ may encounter, we can more effectively cater to the community's needs in areas that they may need assistance. This project not only serves to help the LGBTQ2SA+ community but also to inform those outside of the community and improve relationships between them and the LGBTQ2SA+ community.
Methods / Project Details:	In order for the relationship between the RCMP and the LGBTQ2SA+ to strengthen, regular communication must be present. Ways for LGBTQ2SA+ voices to be heard is important for those outside of the community to understand what is going on within. This allows the RCMP to assist the community in areas that are needed most. This is important because it provides the LGBTQ2SA+ community with a way to inform others about what they may not get the opportunity to say otherwise.
Key findings / Recommendations:	After talking with community partners such as North Shore Pride Alliance, one recommendation was to have monthly or bi-monthly briefings with the RCMP to raise any concerns from the community. This would strengthen the bond with the LGBTQ2SA+ Community and offer the RCMP a chance to ask questions and gain a better understanding of the community. Other organizations such as Out On Patrol provide a safe space to bridge the gap between LGBTQ2SA+ members and the Vancouver police.
Next steps / Future research:	Further involvement within the school system is needed to interact with the younger generation of the LGBTQ2SA+ Community to form bonds earlier in life with the RCMP. Continual community events such as the Pride Parade are necessary as it gives the community a chance to connect with others and have a visible platform.

This student project was developed as part of a CityStudio North Vancouver course collaboration.

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