

Visual Impairment Services - BC

Health- Diagnosis– Treatment Services

- Community – Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, www.optometrists.bc.ca , Orthoptists
Hospital – BC Children’s Hospital- Paed. Ophthalmology, Oncology
- Vancouver UBC-VGH Eye Care Centre (sub-specialist services)
- Community Hospitals, surgery-corrective procedures (Ophthalmology)
VI Specific – Sunny Hill Health Center for Children, PHSA
- Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health, VIHA
Terminology - Royal National Institute for the Blind, www.rnib.org (eye info.)
* Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) – diagnosis & dev. across a range of vision skills *

1. Blindness Specific Services

- Community- Ophthalmologists, SHHC-QACC VI Programs & Vision Consultants,
Ocularist, Teachers Visually Impaired, PRCVI, www.prcvi.org, CNIB

2. Low Vision Specific Services

- Community – Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, Teachers Visually Impaired,
SHHC-QACC VI Programs & Vision Consultants, PRCVI, CNIB
Clinics – Vancouver Eye Care Low Vision Clinic*, Kelowna General Hospital*
Victoria, Royal Jubilee Low Vision Clinic* (*adult orientated)
Children’s Low Vision Project, BC, www@sd23.bc.ca, - Student Support Services

Early Intervention Services (Birth – 5yrs)

- Vision Consultants - Sunny Hill Health Center for Children, PHSA
Vision Consultant - Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health, VIHA
Early Interventionist - Canadian Deafblind & Rubella Assoc., www.cdbrabc.ca,
Early Interventionist – CNIB (Bowen Island family camps, library), www.cnib.ca,
Preschool Orientation & Mobility – contracted services through Sunny Hill.
Community Child Development Centres, (OT/PT, SLP therapy services-Psyc. consult)
Infant Development Program – developmental screening, family consult-support.
Supported Child Care Program – staff support/educ. for daycare/preschool placements.
Hadley School f/t Blind- free, parent correspondence courses (Play, Reach Out, Braille)

Education (K – Gr. 12)

- School District – Teachers o/t Visually Impaired (TVIs), Resource Teachers, O&M Instr.
Provincial Resource Centre f/t Visually Impaired, (PRCVI)- materials, supplies, educ.
SET BC- equipment, technology consult, resources and materials for school districts
Provincial Outreach Program for Deafblindness, Richmond SD – in-service & consults
Provincial Integration Support Program, (PISP)- Victoria SD– assess, resource, in-service
UBC Program for Teacher Education and training in visual impairment and blindness.
* National Agenda – mandate to develop life skills beyond the classroom *

Education – Life Skills Training (post high school)

Vancouver Community College - technology training, prerequisite college skills
UBC Crane Resource Library – resource materials, adapted textbooks-materials
BC College and Institute Library Services– Langara College, adapted materials
On-Sight Independence, (Project Ability, Camp Timberline)
CNIB- employment counselor services, Rehabilitation teaching/ O&M instruction.
Mobility Instruction – Private Contractors, CNIB, BC Guide Dog Service
Canadian Guide Dogs f/t Blind

Technology

Ministry of Education, SET BC/PRCVI, www.setbc.org
Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children– Aug. Comm.
Aroga Group- Vancouver, assistive and adaptive technology
CNIB, Gretzky Score Program and Bowen Is. partnership technology camps
School District- Teacher o/t Visually Impaired, district technology consultants
National Braille Factory- production of everyday Braille materials

Recreation & Camps

BC Blind Sports & Recreation Assoc. www.bcblindsports.bc.ca,
Sunny Hill Health Center for Children, PHSA, (Rec. Therapy assessment, consult)
QACC – Tandem Teens, Goal Ball, summer programs and volunteer activities
Community Parks and Recreation Programs & Resources
Recreation Integration Victoria - Active Living Alliance Canada, www.rivonline.org
CNIB- Bowen Island Camp, teen club - On-sight Independence- Camp Timberline
Camp Hornby – Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Society
Camp Hope – Christian Record Braille Association
Space Camp - partnership program with BC Vision Teachers
QACC - VIVI Activity Day – annual social/recreational program for children & families

Associations

Assoc. for Education & Rehab. o/t Blind & Visually Impaired, (AER)- BC Chapter
BC Vision Teachers Association
Canadian Deafblind & Rubella Association- National/BC Chapter

Family Advocacy & Education

Sunny Hill Health Center for Children, PHSA, www.bcchildrens.ca/sherc
Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health, VIHA
CNIB, www.cnib.ca and Canadian Council of the Blind, www.ccbnational.net
National Federation of the Blind; Advocates for Equality, www.nfbae.ca
Blind Childrens Resource Center, www.blindchildren.org
Diagnosis Specific Organizations & Associations (APH.org– cortical visual impairment,
ONH- optic nerve hypoplasia, NOAH- albinism, IRPA- retinitis pigmentation,...)