

The Vernon and District Immigrant and Community Services Society is a central resource for new immigrants, providing settlement services, English language classes, employment services, referrals, and more.

This non-profit society offers many services for newcomers, immigrants, refugees, visible minorities and first-generation Canadians, helping with their settlement and integration into Vernon.



Kids Activities

Vernon has many groups for children and youth outside of school including Boys & Girls Club, sports organizations and weekend programs at Silver Star Ski Resort. Plus, pick up your copy of the Active Living booklet at the Recreation Centre to learn about a variety of activities, groups and places for children to explore.

Shopping

With over 250 retail and service shops, department, brand, and specialty stores, you will find everything here for your home, family, and entertaining needs.

Be sure to visit our artisans, craft and lifestyle trade shows and indoor and outdoor markets to find something unique and local. Vernon offers vibrant downtown, neighbourhood, and mall shopping areas.

Transportation

Our public transit services run regularly in the City and connect to smaller and larger centers across the region, including Kelowna, the College and University. Private transportation can get you to the airport, up to Silver Star Mountain Resort and to many lakes and wineries on tours.

Vernon has taxis, tour buses, seniors' buses, handi-buses, and school buses taking children to nearby and special program schools.

We're also just 30 minutes away from the Kelowna airport (YLW) which has direct routes to major hubs in Canada and select US destinations. Vernon also has a commercial airport with an active flying club and businesses offering general aviation services, manufacturing, lessons and skydiving.

Health Care

Vernon boasts a newly expanded hospital as well as other health services including mental health and substance use services, public health nursing, Indigenous health, home and community care programs, residential and assisted living facilities as well as laboratory and diagnostic services.

There are resources to help you find a family doctor, naturopath, chiropractor, dentist and other health providers. To apply for your Medical Service Card, visit the BC Services Centre at 3201 30 Street, downtown Vernon.



BC IDENTIFICATION & DRIVING

To get BC identification and drivers licenses, visit the BC Services Centre at 3201 30 Street, in downtown Vernon. You have 90 days to switch to a BC drivers license.

You have 30 days to register, license and insure your vehicle after arriving in BC. Your vehicle license plates can be transferred when you get your insurance at any ICBC or private insurance agency.





Social Planning Council  
for the North Okanagan  
socialplanning.ca



CITY OF  
Vernon  
movingtovernon.ca

Funded by:


 Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

# What's in Vernon for Me?

Information to help you enjoy moving to and living in Vernon BC



WITHIN 30 MINUTES: **10 BEACHES**  
**7** golf courses, **3** lakes,  
**SKI AREAS**, bike trails,  
walking paths, fitness centres,  
**spas, WINERIES**, galleries,  
international airport, **ATTRACTIONS**,  
parks, **AND MORE.**

Visit [TourismVernon.com](https://www.tourismvernon.com)





# WELCOME TO VERNON

Vernon is a city with a population of 44,000 situated on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Okanagan First Nation. The North Okanagan region offers an exceptional, relaxed quality of life with a mix of urban amenities, world class resorts, and amazing recreational opportunities all situated in a natural setting. Vernon is a great place to live and work for all ages.



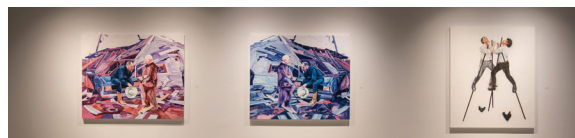
## ACTIVATE YOUR LIFE Recreation

Outdoors and indoors, you can enjoy an active lifestyle in Vernon. Lakes, golf courses, and ski areas are nearby, while right in the city are gyms, swimming pools, tennis courts, arenas, bike park and indoor walking. Check out the Active Living Guide booklet available at the Recreation Centre for activities for all ages.

For something extraordinary, experience the Splashdown Waterpark, the Okanagan Rail Trail, the Allan Brooks Nature Centre and Silver Star Mountain Resort (in both summer and winter) just minutes from downtown Vernon.

## Culture

Vernon is an active hub for all kinds of cultural activities. We have art galleries, studios, heritage sites and organizations, performing arts centres, live music venues, an interactive museum and library.



## Dining

Eating out in Vernon is a treat! We have many different styles of food to choose from as well as unique locations on the waterfront, on the top of a hill, in a castle or on the beach. There is something for every taste bud in your group!

Plus, you may enjoy samples from our area wineries, cideries, distilleries and meadery.

## SOCIALIZE & GET INVOLVED

Making new friends can be fun for all ages and help you get to know your neighbours and community faster. Some ways to start connecting is to look for groups you're interested in such as multicultural groups, faith groups, fitness groups, environmental groups and political organizations. As well, check out drop-ins at the library, recreation centre, or seniors' centres.

Download the City's events app called Vernon Connect from your app store to discover activities through your smartphone. Also, look for events and activities on Facebook, and on posters around the city, especially in coffee shops.

You can also meet fun and friendly people by joining in with charities and fund-raisers to support your favourite cause.

## Work Interests?

Vernon has many free services that can help you find employment or start a business. Connect with Community Futures of the North Okanagan and Nexus BC for assistance.

A great way to make your skills known and meet people is to volunteer. Check out the opportunities online at [vernon.bcvolunteer.ca](http://vernon.bcvolunteer.ca).



## GET SETTLED Learning

Like many cities, Vernon offers a variety of educational options for pre-school and kindergarten through Grade 12 including specialized sports, language and outdoor programs. Most neighbourhood schools are within walking distance or on school bus routes.



For adults, the Vernon campus of Okanagan College and the University of UBC Okanagan provide many post-secondary programs allowing students to live at home.

Okanagan College publishes a continuing education booklet promoting classes for non-credit education, personal interest, and business-related training.

You may also be interested in Okanagan Valley College of Massage which is Canada's first Accredited Massage Therapy program.

## Finding a home

Vernon has a variety of home types and locations close to community amenities. Some people start by renting while others connect with a realtor to purchase a home before relocating.

When searching online for homes for sale, visit [realtor.ca](http://realtor.ca). For rentals, try [kijiji.ca](http://kijiji.ca) or [castanet.net](http://castanet.net) websites.

Consider the benefits of various styles of apartments, townhomes, single-family homes, multi-family homes, as well as homes on acreages for farming, ranching or recreational use such as beachfront.

The CMHC housing market information portal offers information online about the average rental and buying costs.