

FIFA World Cup 2026™ Vancouver Fact Sheet

Seven spectacular match days

- According to FIFA, 367,479 fans attended matches at BC Place Vancouver across seven FIFA World Cup 2026 fixtures, creating a vibrant and unforgettable match-day atmosphere.
- [The Match Day Spectator Route](#) safely and efficiently moved tens of thousands of ticketholders and fans between transit hubs, downtown gathering spaces and the stadium on each match day.
- Fourteen fan marches showcased the global passion that defines soccer culture as diaspora communities from around the world filled Vancouver's streets with flags, songs, colours and traditions. The celebrations highlighted not only Vancouver's diversity and international connections, but also its ability to mobilize quickly, coordinate across partners and deliver major initiatives with confidence and precision.

Training days

- At Killarney Park Venue Specific Training Site hosted 14 training sessions as teams prepared for match days. The upgraded site hosted Türkiye, Australia, Qatar, Egypt, New Zealand, Switzerland, Algeria and Colombia.
- Further west, the National Soccer Development Centre at UBC hosted the Canadian and Swiss National Men's teams.

Supporting communities and businesses

- Vancouver businesses and communities harnessed FIFA World Cup 2026™ to build a celebration that reflected the city's energy and hospitality and showcased B.C. as a global destination to visit and conduct business. From soccer-themed patios with flags that welcomed the world to oversized Trionda soccer balls atop Aquabus and False Creek Ferries and "The Beautiful Dome" Science World activation, the city came alive in a uniquely Vancouver way.
- No fines for brand non-compliance were issued by the City's bylaw enforcement team and communities harnessed the FIFA World Cup energy in a uniquely Vancouver way.
- Through the BC Place Community Benefit Program, 520 match tickets were allocated to 56 organizations that assist children and youth facing barriers so they could attend FIFA World Cup 2026 matches at BC Place Vancouver.

- The Province provided over \$1.7 million to 33 municipalities, regional districts and First Nations to host free public events that celebrate the unifying power of sport, creating more opportunities for British Columbians to participate in and feel connected to the FIFA World Cup experience within their own communities.
- Government of Canada funding helped make the FIFA World Cup 2026 a truly national experience. Through the “Celebrate Canada” program, more than 330 communities incorporated soccer-themed activities into celebrations for National Indigenous Peoples Day, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, Canadian Multiculturalism Day and Canada Day. The Government of Canada also contributed funding to FIFA’s “Canada Celebrates the FIFA World Cup 2026,” a 40-stop countrywide program that brought tournament-related activities to communities across the country, ensuring the program reached every province and one territory.
- The [Host City Human Rights Action Plan](#) integrated human rights considerations into the planning and delivery of FIFA World Cup 2026 Vancouver. To support vulnerable residents during the event period, 11 community-based non-profit organizations were contracted to deliver temporary event-time measures and expanded drop-in centre capacity and programming at five sites within the downtown core.
- The Host Committee and tournament delivery partners worked closely to identify social, local and inclusive procurement opportunities associated with event delivery. The Host Committee contracted with 15 B.C. based vendors, including a waste sorting social enterprise, a traffic management and control services provider that support inclusive employment, and a not-for-profit that donates edible surplus food to over 130 local community partners.
- Hosting FIFA World Cup 2026 Vancouver was a truly local endeavour which generated over 6,200 jobs across FIFA Fan Festival Vancouver and other Host Committee sites.

Safety and security

- Vancouver successfully delivered a safe, secure and welcoming FIFA World Cup experience, with no major incidents reported across the event. Planning drew on lessons learned from previous FIFA World Cups, UEFA European Championships and other major international sporting events to ensure readiness for teams, fans and visitors from around the world.

- Safety and security operations were led through an Integrated Safety and Security Unit (ISSU), bringing together 18 core member agencies from the local, provincial and national levels to coordinate planning, intelligence, preparedness and response efforts.
- Years of planning, training and major-event experience strengthened Vancouver and the province's public safety capabilities for hosting large-scale international events now and in the future.

Sustainability programming

FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver integrated sustainability best practices into its planning with initiatives that:

- Reduced single-use items with water refill stations across the site and crack and pass drink service into reusable cups.
- Promoted recycling through compostable food service at all vendors, returnables bins and a bidders program for sorting to reduce waste in landfill.
- Minimized carbon emissions through a free bike valet with storage, dedicated bus shuttle, pick-up and drop-off areas for taxi and ride-share and LEED green building standards at the Amphitheatre.

At the Match Day Spectator Route:

- The Host Committee partnered with a local social enterprise to support public waste sorting at nine zero waste stations along the route and in The Porch beer garden.
- Eighty-six per cent of waste collected at these zero waste stations was diverted to recycling or compost.

Accessibility highlights

FIFA Fan Festival Vancouver:

- Accessible viewing platforms at the Festival with companion seating in the Amphitheatre and main viewing areas.
- Accessible washrooms, a nursing space and sensory nook with calming, sensory-friendly features in the Family Hub.
- Implementation of the [Hidden Disabilities Sunflower program](#) for people who have non-visible disabilities.

- Accessibility supports throughout the site such as hearing assistance devices and wheelchairs at information booths, tables at varying heights, clear wayfinding signage, accessible washrooms and accessible entrances at every gate.
- Accessibility training for staff and volunteers.

Along the Match Day Spectator Route:

- Accessible loading zones for HandyDART and designated accessible taxi passengers close to the stadium area and accessible loading zones for active drop-off and pick-up.
- Transport to stadium gates for spectators with accessibility support needs.

A city in motion

- City dressing transformed Vancouver into a vibrant FIFA World Cup destination, appearing along two major viaduct corridors, at five transit stations, Vancouver International Airport, ferries, City Hall and surrounding neighbourhoods. Many dressing components featured French, hən̓q̓əmiñəh and Skwxwú7mesh.
- Dressing and wayfinding components supplemented by volunteers were integrated to create a simple, visual navigation system for visitors to move around the city.
- On tournament match days, downtown Vancouver saw significant pedestrian volume with Robson and Beatty streets seeing over 34,000 daily pedestrian movements.
- Cycling saw a significant uptick with an overall increase of 20 to 40% across the city. Closer to BC Place Vancouver, cycling infrastructure counters recorded an average increase of approximately 120%.

Vancouver on the world stage

- The Host Committee has amassed over 63,000 newsletter subscribers, 100,000+ followers across all social media channels and generated over 70 million impressions across all social channels in the last two months alone.
- Viral moments including the [spectacular drone footage](#) ahead of the Canada v Switzerland match generated over 1 million impressions and was picked up by several major international outlets.
- 173 letters were submitted to the Host Committee's "[Dear Soccer](#)" campaign, providing football fans and icons the opportunity to share in their own words

what the beautiful game has meant to them.

xʷməθkʷə́yəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) on the global stage

- Ensuring the Nations were meaningful partners in delivering the event was essential to authentically reflecting the place, people and cultures that make Vancouver unique, while recognizing Vancouver's location on the shared ancestral and unceded territories of xʷməθkʷə́yəm ([Musqueam](#)), Skwxwú7mesh ([Squamish](#)) and səliłwətał ([Tsleil-Waututh](#)) Nations.
- səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)'s fifteen FIFA Fan Festival ambassadors welcomed thousands of visitors to its activation site. Fourteen Tsleil-Waututh artisans and performers shared culture through drumming, singing, dancing, carving and weaving at FIFA Fan Festival™ Vancouver and the Match Day Spectator Route.
- Musqueam Nation and Vancouver International Airport welcomed all ten participating national teams. Each arrival featured a welcome from the Musqueam Chief and cultural representatives in keeping with protocol and culture and emphasizing the importance of a traditional welcome from the moment teams arrived.
- Over 15,000 people visited the Musqueam's activation site at FIFA Fan Festival to learn about the Musqueam First Nation and the hə́ńqə́mihə́ language.

Legacies

This month, Vancouver [City Council voted to extend the Granville Pedestrian Zone](#) due to the success of the FIFA World Cup 2026 activation. The pedestrianized space transformed Granville Street into one of Canada's busiest and most vibrant public spaces while supporting local businesses, restaurants, arts organizations and entertainment venues. Long-term physical legacies from the tournament include:

- BC Place Vancouver upgrades, including new hospitality spaces, updated technology including increased Wi-Fi capacity and new videoboard screens, the stadium's first permanent merchandise store, accessibility upgrades including three new passenger elevators (doubling previous elevator capacity), additional washrooms including gender neutral facilities, and modernized locker rooms with renovated bathroom and shower facilities.

- Enhanced sports fields, modern infrastructure and field lighting [at Killarney Park](#) that will leave a lasting community legacy.
- Global exposure for the brand-new 10,000-capacity Amphitheatre on the PNE grounds, a world-class host for future music, sports and cultural programming.
- The strong volunteer turnout for FIFA World Cup 2026 in Vancouver will leave a lasting legacy, building a skilled and experienced volunteer base that can support future major events across the region.

Soccer is one of the fastest growing and most accessible sports in Canada. New investments will grow opportunities for young athletes, including:

- A \$13 million investment through the Province, viaSport and Vancouver Whitecaps FC to build up to 20 soccer mini pitches in communities throughout British Columbia, supporting grassroots sport participation and creating more accessible places for children and youth to play, learn and develop their skills.
- Government of Canada investments connected to the tournament are supporting up to 25 community soccer pitches across Canada, advancing plans for a future national training centre and creating more opportunities for young people to play soccer.
- [The Musqueam Next Generation Soccer Program](#) will live on for years after the tournament is over providing opportunities for youth in Musqueam to participate in the sport and learn from elite soccer talent, such as Russell Teibert, former Vancouver Whitecap and Canadian Men's National Team player.