

PROGRESS UPDATE AND LOOK AHEAD

DECEMBER 2025: MEDIA FACT SHEET

The FIFA World Cup 2026™ will be the biggest tournament in football history, uniting millions of fans across Canada, Mexico, and the United States. **Vancouver is proud to be one of 16 Host Cities, hosting seven matches at BC Place Stadium.**

Hosting the World Cup is a team effort. Local partners and communities are working together to deliver an extraordinary event creating opportunities that lead to lasting memories for all, and a warm welcome for hundreds of thousands of visitors during this once-in-a-generation moment.

This fact sheet provides updates from the City of Vancouver's FIFA World Cup 2026™ Vancouver Host Committee on key areas of preparation and a look ahead to priority work as we approach 2026.

FAN EXPERIENCE

FIFA FAN FESTIVAL™:

The renewed PNE Amphitheatre is a major investment in Vancouver's cultural infrastructure, creating a world-class venue for music, festivals, arts, and community events. In 2026 it will host the world during the official FIFA Fan Festival operating for most of the competition featuring live match broadcasts on large outdoor screens, entertainment and cultural programming, interactive activities, and diverse food and beverage options. Designed to be accessible, family-friendly, and enjoyable for thousands of fans, Festival planning continues in coordination with FIFA and the PNE, with festival announcements expected in early 2026.

LAST MILE:

The match day fan experience begins at Main Street–Science World SkyTrain station and winds along the False Creek waterfront to BC Place Vancouver, creating an immersive journey to welcome ticket holders. Planning is well underway and will soon be supported by a production team responsible for cultural programming and ensuring efficient, timely, and safe entry and exit at the stadium.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

The FIFA-led, City of Vancouver-supported program is well underway after an enthusiastic response to the fall call for about

3,800 VOLUNTEER POSITIONS IN VANCOUVER.

Selection is in progress, including try-outs for “starting line-up” leadership roles. Volunteer training and placement will continue into 2026 as FIFA finalizes assignments across all 16 host cities.

HOST CITY DRESSING PROGRAM:

The dressing program will bring the tournament atmosphere to Vancouver's streets, bridges, transit stations, and public spaces, creating a consistent visual identity. The official FIFA look, combined with Vancouver's “We Are a Force of Nature” branding, will support wayfinding and shape the fan experience from arrival to the stadium. Design work is underway, with select installations starting in Q1 2026. Thousands of elements featuring the signature look—flags, banners, signs, skirting, fence scrim, and more—will be installed leading up to the tournament, and plans are in development to sustainably upcycle materials afterward.



VENUE SPECIFIC TRAINING SITES (VSTS)

VSTS are a required and vital component for the event. Participating teams will use VSTS to train and prepare for matches at BC Place Vancouver.

KILLARNEY PARK VSTS

This project is 95% complete, on budget and ahead of schedule and includes a temporary team building with locker rooms, as well as a tournament-time pitch engineered for strength, density and safety. The grass was grown for nearly a year, treated under extreme heat and watered only when critical and will be replaced with a high-quality permanent pitch post-tournament. Additional features include energy-efficient high-mast lighting, a modern irrigation system, and future-ready utilities—all also part of a lasting community legacy that will support future recreation and community events.

NATIONAL SOCCER DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT UBC

This facility will serve as a Team Base Camp and VSTS during the competition. Home to Vancouver Whitecaps FC, it is already a world-class football venue requiring no upgrades. The site features a three-story,

38,000 SQUARE-FOOT

state-of-the-art fieldhouse and five constructed, refurbished and improved fields. A letter of intent was signed in January, and a usage agreement is in progress.

ENSURING AN ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY PLANNING:

The City of Vancouver is working with partners such as TransLink, Vancouver Police, and YVR Airport to manage traffic and ensure safe, efficient mobility during the event. Vancouver's centrally located stadium is well connected by rapid transit, bike routes, and a walkable downtown core. A comprehensive "Know Before You Go" plan is in development and will be shared in 2026 with residents, visitors, and stakeholders to outline what to expect and how to get around. To improve access to the stadium and the FIFA Fan Festival™ at the PNE, the City is enhancing greenways and bus routes and encouraging walking, biking, rolling, and transit use. Shared mobility options like Lime are also expanding.

SAFETY AND SECURITY:

The Integrated Safety and Security Unit (ISSU) is led by representatives from the Vancouver Police Department, the City of Vancouver, and the Province of BC, working together to ensure an enjoyable and safe experience for all. Preparations involve close collaboration with more than 18 core agencies and numerous local, national, and international authorities, including the Toronto Police Service, the City of Toronto, the RCMP, and law enforcement in all host cities. Key milestones completed include multi-agency operational plans and a comprehensive simulation exercise held in the fall for stakeholders and partners. Planning is now underway for a full-scale exercise next spring.

COMMUNITY ACTIVATION:

The City of Vancouver is working closely with businesses and community groups to help them prepare and get involved. The Community Activation Playbook, launched in the fall, offers tips on celebrating, permitting, public viewing, and activation ideas to help businesses and communities bring the FIFA World Cup 2026™ atmosphere to life across the province.

STAY TUNED, CONNECTED AND ENGAGED:

There are many more exciting milestones upcoming on the road to 2026 such as FIFA's release of the tournament song and album, and 100 Days to Go.

Visit www.vancouverfwc26.ca/media-hub or follow our Instagram, X and Facebook accounts @FWC26 Vancouver, to stay updated.

Learn more at:

[www.vancouverfwc26.ca/
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