



## A Cultural Capital



Welcome to the traditional territory of the Tla'amin Nation. The Tla'amin people have used and occupied these lands since time immemorial and their rich culture is celebrated. Named a Cultural Capital of Canada in 2004, Powell River offers a wide and varied range of activities for arts and culture enthusiasts.

Powell River's mill town roots are on display in the Historic Townsite. Check out landmark buildings as well as the nearby Catalyst paper mill and the floating breakwater of ships' hulks. The wide and varied collection of historic items at the nearby Powell River Historical Museum is a highlight.

The City boasts Canada's oldest continuously operating move house in the Patricia Theatre. Located in the heart of the Townsite Heritage District, the Theatre has been beautifully restored to its former glory, but boasts the best in audio/video technology. Vaudeville shows and weddings are hosted in this stunning venue.

### **Powell River Academy of Music**

In its short history (founded in 1982) the Powell River Academy of Music has grown to become a performing arts school, encompassing music, dance, visual arts and theatre with a student body of over 800 and a faculty and staff of 34. The Academy has not only grown in scope and size but also has established world renowned festivals; the International Choral Kathaumixw; the Symphony Orchestra Academy of the Pacific as well as the Annual Concert Series to enrich the lives of the students and the citizens of Powell River.

### **Kathaumixw**

The community hosts many festivals, art galleries and regular musical and theatre performances, including the International Choral Festival 'Kathaumixw' (hosting over 2500 performers from 5 continents).

### **Prisma**

It is also home to an International Symphony Academy with a faculty from some of the world's finest orchestras and students working on their doctorate or masters degree in music.

### **Malaspina Art Society**

Powell River also has many active fine arts organizations such as the Malaspina Art Society. The community is home to many privately run galleries catering to a wide range of tastes. Whether its paintings, sculptures, carvings or luthiers, there are many artists in the region producing very impressive work.



## Performance Venues



The Community is also proud to have two large state of the art performance venues in the Evergreen Theatre (800 seats at the Recreation Complex) and the Max Cameron Theatre (500 seats at Brooks Secondary School).

### Patricia Theatre

Powell River is also home to Canada's oldest continuously operating movie house in the Patricia Theatre. Located in the heart of the Townsite Heritage District, the Theatre is a little over a hundred years old and has been beautifully restored to its former glory, but also boasts the best in digital technology.

## Celebrations and Community Spirit



<b>May</b>	Shellfish Festival
<b>June</b>	Pacific Region Int'l Summer Music Festival Academy
	BC Bike Race
<b>July</b>	Sea Fair
	Texada Sandcastle Weekend
	Diversity Festival
<b>August</b>	Arts Alive in the Park
	Blackberry Festival
<b>September</b>	Aurora Festival
	Sunshine Music Festival
<b>October</b>	Sunshine Coast Art Crawl

For a full calendar of events go to [www.powellriver.info](http://www.powellriver.info)



## Recreation and Outdoor Adventure

Powell River boasts a stimulating blend of sport and recreation, outdoor adventure, and cultural amenities. At the heart of this active community is the Recreation Complex which features twin ice sheets, aquatic centre, fitness gym and studio, 720 seat performing arts theatre, and several meeting rooms to accommodate all your needs. Green spaces, sports fields, and trails are abundant throughout the community and opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts include kayaking, canoeing, rock climbing, golfing, boating, hiking, biking, fishing, and scuba diving. The city is also host to world-class art galleries, tremendous dining opportunities, and memorable events and festivals.

The Powell River area is a dream destination for people looking for year-round, unforgettable experiences. The area offers world-famous hiking and biking trails, tranquil lakes and more beaches than can be imagined.

### Trails

#### Duck Lake Trails

The Duck Lake Protected area is home to a vast network of well-maintained, multi-use trails popular with hikers, bikers and horse riders. The area boasts incredible wood bridges and boardwalks, waterfalls and lakes. Powell River also hosts one of the stages of the world-famous BC Bike Race offering the ultimate single-track mountain biking experience.

#### Inland Lake

Inland Lake, established as a Provincial Park in 1997, has a 13 km multi-use trail which incorporates a series of boardwalks, bridges and a crushed limestone path that loops around the entire lake and is fully wheelchair-accessible. There are drive-in and walk-in campsites available at this park, as well as opportunities for swimming, cycling, fishing, canoeing and boating.



#### Sunshine Coast Trail

The 180 km Sunshine Coast Trail is Powell River's crown jewel, offering the longest hut-to-hut hiking experience in Canada. The SC Trail can be explored in smaller sections for shorter day hikes, or via one extraordinary multi-day hiking vacations. Thirteen shelters (free to all visitors, no reservations required) now dot the trail at stunning locations showcasing incredible vistas of fresh water lakes and the Salish Sea.

#### Willingdon Beach Trail

This well-maintained beachfront trail right in the heart of the city offers a relaxing level walk through a forested park setting. Along the trail there are interesting flora and fauna finds as well as turn-of-the-century logging equipment with interpretive signage of the area's industrial history.



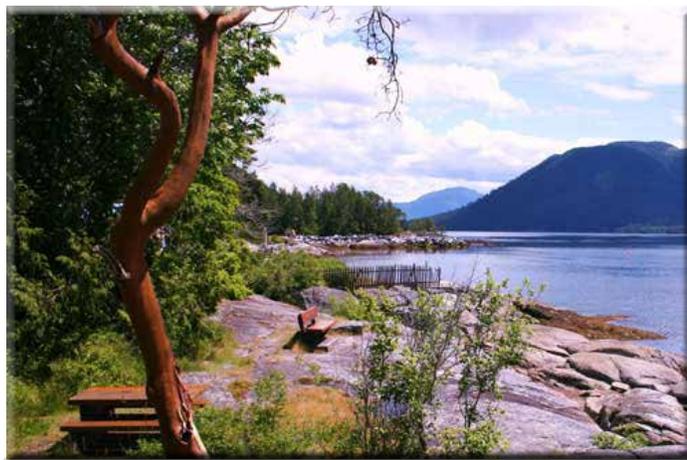
## Beaches and Parks

### Donkerley Beach

Located 16 km south of Powell River just off Highway 101 on Donkersley Road. A lovely stretch of white, sandy beach with pebbles above the high-tide mark. A favourite for swimmers, beachcombers, families and dog walkers.

### Gibson's Beach Regional Park

Located 2 km north of city centre down a 1 km gravel road. Grassy picnic area above a rocky/sandy beach overlooking Malaspina Strait and Harwood Island. Boat launch available.



### Haywire Bay

Located at the Haywire Bay campsite on Powell Lake. Take Haslam Street and follow the signage to get to this sandy lakeside beach.

### Heisholt Lake

Located on Texada Island, Heisholt Lake, aka "the quarries" is an abandoned mine just south of the Ferry terminal that offers emerald green, warm swimming waters with limited clay-based beach. A favourite swimming hole for locals.

### Mowat Bay City Park

Located on Powell Lake in the Cranberry neighbourhood. Sandy beach with freshwater swimming for families. Also with boat launch, playground, washroom facilities.

### Myrtle Rocks Regional Park

Located alongside Highway 101 across from Maris Road. Use beach access trail. Rocky beachcombers beach with some swimming opportunities with the right tide.

### Palm Beach Regional Park

Located in Lang Bay, featuring a sand and pebble beach with large playing field, public washrooms, playground and covered picnic/barbecue area.

### Saltery Bay Mermaid Cove Provincial Park

A provincial campground with a beautiful nature trail. A pathway leads to a small island idea for swimmers at high tide and beachcombers at low tide. Also offers an excellent shore dive to a 9-foot bronze sculpture.



## **Savary Island**

Located a 20-minute water taxi ride from Lund. The island is all sandy beaches and summer fun with the warmest ocean swimming waters in the Pacific Northwest.

## **Shelter Point Regional Park**

On Texada Island with mixed pebble and sand beaches. Beach-front picnic areas, campsites, boat launch, food concession, showers and nature trail with old-growth forest just up the hill from the park.

## **Willingdon Beach City Park**

Located in the heart of Powell River, Willingdon Beach features sandy beach areas, a water park, playground, fishing pier, picnic areas and a fish bearing creek.

## **Recreation and Water Adventure**

### **Boating**

Pristine waters, countless islands, private coves and harbours, abundant wildlife; what more could a boater want in a destination? With several of the world's most stunning Marine Parks in the immediate area, including Desolation Sound, Harmony Islands, Copeland Islands and Teakerne Arm, the boating adventure on the Sunshine Coast is second to none. Fresh water adventure is also plentiful – the 50-km-long Powell Lake is a boater's dream come true, complete with endless opportunities for exploration and discovery.



### **Kayaking**

For ocean kayakers, Powell River is a world-class experience. Some of the premiere spots include Desolation Sound, the Copeland Island, Mitlenatch Island, Savary Island and Texada Island. Not only does the natural setting feature rugged mountains and glittering ocean waters, but it's also well-sheltered from the elements thanks to the bulk of Vancouver Island and nearby Texada Island. Kayaking to the Hulks provides an opportunity to touch the side of a WWII ship, the 10 ferro-concrete ships that now comprise the world's largest floating breakwater.

Powell River presents easy access to more than 30 lakes including the world-famous Powell Forest Canoe Route – a semi-circle of eight major lakes and portages. The best time of year to go is between June and October.



## Fishing

Powell River is the cutthroat capital of Canada! From fly-fishing our countless freshwater lakes and rivers or angling in saltwater, fishing is a year-round pastime on the upper Sunshine Coast. Coho Point and Blubber Bay on Texada Island and the waters around Harwood Island are some of the best spots for salmon. Or, hire a charter and fish the pristine waters while you take in the signs of world-famous Desolation Sound Marine Park. Bottom fish for lingcod, snapper or chicken halibut around Powell River, or drop a trap for prawns or crabs. Hit the beaches for clamming or pick oysters.

## Recreation and Sports

### Powell River Recreation Complex

There are two adjoining NHL-sized ice sheets: a 1,500 seat arena and a 150 seat rink which provides space for figure skating, minor hockey and recreational skating. The Complex also houses a 25-metre swimming pool with an adjoining shallow free-form children's pool. Two air-conditioned fitness rooms offer Apex strength training equipment and Olympic free weights and space for aerobics or fitness classes.



### Powell River Kings

If you enjoy sports, you will love Powell River. Powell River is home to the Powell River Kings Junior 'A' Hockey Club of the British Columbia Hockey League (BCHL). The Kings play their home games at Hap Parker Arena.

## Outdoor Recreation and Groups



### Powell River Cycling Association

In August of 2009 a group of local mountain bikers, road cyclists, cycling advocates and the Wild Women Cycling Club decided it was time to join together to provide a common voice for the cycling community in Powell River. The Powell River Cycling Association (PRCA) was incorporated as a society on October 1, 2009. The society promotes, assists and advocates for the use of the bicycle for sport, recreation and transportation.



## **Powell River Parks and Wilderness Society**

The Sunshine Coast Trail (SCT) was conceived in 1992 when a handful of outdoor enthusiasts realized the amount of accessible old growth on the Upper Sunshine Coast was vanishing. They formed the Powell River Parks and Wilderness Society (now known as PAWS), a registered non-profit charitable society, to set aside protected areas linked by forested trail corridors.

Over the years PAWS has attracted many members, somewhere around 500 in total. Members get involved on a number of levels – from financial or in-kind contributions to trail-building/maintenance and hut-building to lobbying for the protection of the trail and other greenspaces in this area.





## Clubs and Organizations

Powell River's clubs and organizations cover the full spectrum of interests, with something for nearly everyone. Service groups such as Beta Sigma Phi, Freemasons, Gizeh Shrine Club, Kiwanis Club, Knights of Columbus, Lions Club, Moose Lodge, Order of the Eastern Star, Rotary Club, Royal Arch Masons, and the Sons of Norway represent the area very well. There are clubs and associations for all interests and all ages.

### Powell River Arts Council

The Malaspina Art Society (MAS) is a charitable non-profit organization that operates a public art gallery at Malaspina University College. It exhibits the work of local and visiting artists. In addition, MAS displays the work of Powell River artists at the Culinary Arts Program restaurant located in Brooks Secondary School on Marine Avenue in the Historic Townsite. The Malaspina Art Society is a part of various associations. It supports twelve dance groups, theatre, film, various music groups including many facets of choir and band, as well as camera clubs, arts such as painting, woodworking, sculpture, pottery and glassmaking, to name a few.



### Academy of Music

The Academy of Music is a performing arts school encompassing music, dance and theatre. With a student body of 700 and a faculty and staff of 28 it has established significant festivals for the students and community.

### Senior Resource Centre

Formed in 1953, the Senior Citizens Association became a chartered branch in 1954 and has followed the provincial charter since. Currently, the centre is home to more than 230 members, and offers weekly activities, monthly meetings, events, a Seniors One Stop resource centre, a genealogy centre, computer classes and a meeting space for different community groups.

### Powell River Library

The Powell River Public Library is a fully functional library, opened six days per week (closed Sundays). It has programs such as the Story Times, Internet and Computer Basics Tutorials, Book Clubs and LearningExpress (an interactive, on-line learning platform designed to assist people of all ages succeed on academic or licensing tests they must pass).

### Townsite Heritage Society

Formed in 1992 to protect, enhance, maintain and promote the historical character and integrity of the traditional neighbourhood and business section of the Powell River Townsite by educating children, adults and tourists.  
[powellrivertownsite.com](http://powellrivertownsite.com)



## Healthcare

Powell River Community Health operates under the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, and they ensure that residents of Powell River are given the best care possible. The Powell River General Hospital, opened in September 1994, and is the only hospital serving the Region. With 33 beds, a fully equipped Intensive Care unit, operating and emergency rooms, x-ray and physical therapy facilities, oncology department, laboratory, hydro-therapy pool and a helipad for air ambulance, the hospital provides state of the art services 24 hours a day. Other health services available in the area include audiologist, speech pathologist, dental hygienist, licensing officer, environmental health officer, public health nurses, home care nurses, continuing care case managers, and a dietician.

Available Health Practitioners	Powell River	British Columbia
Physician per capita	191 per 100,000	110 per 100,000
Specialists per capita	45 per 100,000	94 per 100,000
Supplementary practitioners	131 per 100,000	133 per 100,000

Sources: BC Community Health Profile Powell River, 2014

