

## Science World's Revitalized Ken Spencer Science Park Unveils Enhanced Nature and Sustainability Experience



*The park will re-open on March 15th with more opportunities to experience science and nature in the outdoors*

[Vancouver, BC, March 13, 2025] – Science World is thrilled to announce the grand reopening of the revitalized [Ken Spencer Science Park](#) on March 15, 2025. This beloved 35,000 square foot outdoor gallery will provide immersive opportunities to connect with nature in an urban setting, empowering visitors to make informed sustainability choices. Through interactive exhibits featuring diverse BC ecosystems, guests will discover how their actions contribute to a healthier, more regenerative community.

Key highlights of the reopened *Ken Spencer Science Park* include:

- **Immersive Living World Experience:** Explore 400 square feet of thriving food gardens and discover the benefits of companion planting. Buzz through pollinator-friendly gardens and learn practical tips for balcony gardening. Witness on-site landscaping and vermicomposting, managed circularly (meaning all materials are regenerated!), and learn about the park's commitment to minimizing waste.
- **Gardening Robot (FarmBot):** Observe and learn about the park's gardening robot, a CNC robot programmed to grow and tend to plants. It can plant seeds, water, weed and monitor the health of a garden bed. This innovative tool teaches about the use of technology in sustainable agriculture.

- **"What's In Your Lunchbox?" Exhibit:** Explore local food systems in the new garden-to-table exhibit, where common lunch ingredients are grown so visitors learn innovative ways to cultivate food locally. Harvests are donated to Strathcona Community Centre's food programs.
- **TD Rewilding Grant: Wetland Revitalization:** Witness the transformation of the park's wetland area, enhancing biodiversity and creating ecosystems and thriving habitats for visitors to explore. Explore the new mountain stream and waterfall area while viewing plants native to BC.
- **Reflection Walk:** Discover the Reflection Walk, a contemplative path featuring local BC plants and signage developed with Ethnobotanist Dr. Leigh Joseph of Squamish First Nation. Learn Indigenous plant names in Squamish and Hul'qum'inum (Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh Nation Language), see beautiful illustrations, and reflect on our reciprocal relationship with plants like Douglas Fir, Oregon Grape, Wild Rose and many more.
- **Meet the Hens:** Meet animal ambassadors Vanta, Marigold, and Marshmallow, the park's resident hens. Learn about their care, including enrichment, training, and how chicken care can be part of sustainable and ethical farming practices. Enjoy "Chicken Hour" daily from 3-4 PM, chat with our caregivers to learn more about backyard chicken keeping and all things chickens!

"This season, visitors can immerse themselves in new unique, educational and engaging experiences with the natural world," said Sarah Tulga, Climate Education Specialist and Curator of the Science Park at Science World. "This revitalized space is a testament to our commitment to creating thriving, sustainable communities and sustainability education."

"This walk is meant to be a space to reflect on the reciprocal relationship humanity has with each other, nature has with humanity, and nature has within itself. The exhibit content team collaborated with Dr. Leigh Joseph, Ethnobotanist from the Squamish Nation, for traditional plant use knowledge. Dr. Joseph and the Tsleil-Waututh Nation aided with ensuring the signs for each plant contain accurate and appropriate traditional names in each language: Skwxwú7mesh sníchim and hən'q'əmin'əm'. Indigenous people have used an observable, relational system since time immemorial, which is humanity's greatest lesson in climate action and positive land stewardship. It was truly my honour to work on this project to bring traditional Indigenous ecological knowledge to the Ken Spencer Science Park at Science World," said Ēlya White (Haida/Ts'msyen), Content Developer at Science World.

The *Ken Spencer Science Park* also features an outdoor stage with regularly programmed weather-permitting science demonstrations. The Outdoor Stage has been renovated with new siding and seating, thanks to the 2024 Cultural Spaces – Cultural Infrastructure Grant from the City of Vancouver. Community members can watch these shows from the Observation Deck outside on our Environmental Trail.

The park's produce and eggs are donated to [Strathcona Community Food programs](#), including the backpack program, breakfast buddies, community kitchen programs, and community educational workshops. Donations average 400–450 lbs of produce per season, benefiting approximately 800 individuals in the Strathcona neighbourhood and fostering community.

Opened in 2013, the *Ken Spencer Science Park* fosters a deeper connection to sustainability through interactive exhibits focused on key areas like water, energy, and community, all while promoting outdoor play and experiential learning.

The *Ken Spencer Science Park* will be open from March 15 to November 3 and is included with Science World admission.



## About Science World

Science World is a charity that provides engaging and playful STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art & design and math) learning experiences. Visitors to the iconic dome in Vancouver explore interactive, hands-on exhibits, galleries and events that nurture discovery and inspire connection with their natural, physical and built environments. Beyond the dome, outreach programs inspire students, teachers and families in every region of British Columbia through virtual and in-person visits and programs. Science World's mission is to ignite wonder and empower dreams through science and nature. And their vision is a sustainable future filled with critical thinkers, problem solvers and wonder seekers. Learn more at [scienceworld.ca](https://scienceworld.ca).

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