

Optional Activity 4: What's in a Name?

Our cities are made up of a series of choices: The Vancouver Plan is about how and where Vancouver will grow in the future and it will guide Mayor and Council as they make decisions, both big and small. In being part of Planning Vancouver Together you, the city's youth, will have a chance to tell the city what choices you think it should make!

As the video showed, not everyone has been party of city decision-making in the past. These choices ranged from the big things like where and how the city would grow, to smaller things like the names of streets and schools. Cities work much differently now than they used to (if you're interested you can join a committee of diverse citizens that helps decided what public assets, like streets, should be named!), but we're still making up for those left out of the city building process in the past.

The history of many Vancouver landmarks, places, and spaces can tell you who was part of the decision, whose input was missed and how Mayor and Council made the choices that allowed them to happen.



History is all around us: Let's look at how it was made!

We can learn a lot about what (and who!) were important to the city in the past by looking at the choices that were made, what those choices allowed to be built and even how things were named! Let's do a bit of research into some city spaces you might be familiar with to learn about how they were made and who was involved in the process!

Choose something to investigate: On your own, or in small groups, choose a place, building or thing (your school might be a good place to start) and brainstorm some questions that could help you learn more about how it was made:

- When was your place, building or thing first built? What information can you find about how it was created and who was involved in creating it?
- Who is your place, building or thing named after? How was it approved? Who was involved in first making it? Who do you think was not involved in making it that should have been?
- Does it still have it's original name? If it's name was changed, when and why did the change happen? If not, do you think it's name should change?

Think about how you want to share what you've learned: Could you make **a drawing, a short comic, a video, a story, or a report?** You might need to do some internet research, but you can also interview people you know, like your teachers, parents, or guardians.