



YWCA BACKPACK DRIVE

Help students start the school year with confidence

Each fall, YWCA supports families by providing school-aged children from low-income, single mother-led households with new backpacks and essential supplies. Your donation helps ease the financial pressure of back-to-school season and allows children to focus on what matters most – learning and growing.

We're seeking **275 new backpacks and school supplies** for children living in Coquitlam, Surrey, North Vancouver, Vancouver and the Fraser Valley.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD BACKPACK?

- **Kindergarten – Grade 3:** Small, age-appropriate backpacks. Themed designs (unicorns, dinosaurs, ocean, space, etc.) are welcome.
- **Grade 4 – 7:** Sturdy backpacks with multiple compartments. Solid or subtle patterns preferred.
- **Grade 8 – 12:** Durable backpacks that can carry heavy textbooks. Subtle, solid-coloured or neutral bags preferred.

Backpacks can be delivered pre-filled or with school supplies packed separately. We also accept supplies without backpacks so families can refill one they already have.

MESSAGES FROM FAMILIES

“Thank you for supporting their sense of self and their education.”

– YWCA Single Mothers' Support Group participant

“We are so grateful for everything we received. It means more than you think.”

– Anonymous

“Such a great way to start the school year.”

– Resident, YWCA Housing Community

KEY INFORMATION

All backpacks should be delivered to the Program Centre (535 Hornby St, 4th Floor, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2E8) by August 15th, 2025. Please arrange drop-off at least 48 hours in advance. Please do not show up unannounced.

To arrange drop-off or ask questions:

Contact the Gift-In-Kind team by email at donations@ywcavan.org or call us at 604 895 5850

Tax receipts are available for in-kind donations if the items are new and sales receipts are provided.

SUGGESTED SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

Kindergarten - Grade 3	Grade 4 - 7	Grade 8 - 12
1 small school supplies box	1 small school supplies box	1 pencil case
1 package of HB pencils	1 package of HB pencils	1 mechanical pencil with refill lead or 1 dozen HB pencils
1 pencil sharpener	1 pencil sharpener	1 pencil sharpener
1 box of crayons (24 count)	1 box of coloured pencils	1 pack of blue or black ballpoint pens
1 box of coloured pencils	1 box of non-permanent coloured markers	1 variety pack of highlighters
1 box of washable markers	2 dry erase markers	1 glue stick
1 large glue stick	1 glue stick	1 pair of scissors
1 pair of scissors	1 pair of scissors	1 clear plastic ruler 12" (cm and inches)
1 ruler 12" (cm and inches)	1 ruler 12" (cm and inches)	1 eraser
1 large eraser	2 erasers	1 scientific calculator
1 pack of post-it notes	1 pack of post-it notes	1 pack of post-it notes
1 pack of facial tissues	1 pack of cue cards	1 pack of cue cards
-	1 pack of loose lined paper (500 sheets)	1 pack of loose lined paper (500 sheets)
-	1 variety pack of coloured duotangs or 1 large 3-ring binder	1 variety pack of pocket folders
-	1 large carabiner	1 large 3-ring binder (for all subjects)
-	1 mesh gym bag for gym shoes and shorts	1 combination lock
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