



Indoor Children's Play Centres Maintain Year-Round Programming as Fall Season Drives Demand for Family Activities

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Richmond's population growth to over 209,000 residents is driving sustained demand for indoor children's recreation as one of the city's dedicated play centres marks its 10th year of operation.

The World of Kidtropolis, an indoor playground and miniature city destination that opened in Richmond in 2016, is continuing its year-round programming through the fall 2026 season as the centre marks a decade of serving Metro Vancouver families. Its offerings include drop-in play sessions seven days a week, birthday party packages, a toddler program, group events, and school-break programming. The centre's miniature city spans approximately 10,000 square feet with themed role-play stations where children aged three to twelve engage in supervised imaginative play. The 10-year milestone coincides with broader demographic trends in Richmond, which recorded 209,733 residents in Statistics Canada's 2021 census, a growth rate of over six percent from the 2016 census count of 197,965.

"Reaching 10 years in the Richmond community is a marker of consistent local demand for indoor play options that are not tied to weather conditions," said Aleem Kassam, Owner at The World of Kidtropolis. "We

have operated seven days a week through all seasons since opening, and the school year continues to be one of our busiest periods. Families rely on having a space where children can play in a supervised indoor environment regardless of whether it is raining outside, and that need has only grown as the Richmond area has expanded."

Kidtropolis offers supervised activity options suited to different age groups and family schedules. Its program lineup includes the Stop Drop and Play toddler program designed for children aged five and under, supervised open play for school-age children, and birthday party packages for private group celebrations on weekends and after school hours. A cafe with on-site dining is available for families spending extended time at the facility. The centre also accommodates field trips during school hours, kids' night out events, and specialty programming during summer, winter, and spring school breaks. Its drop-in admission model shifted to include timed entry after the pandemic period as a way to manage capacity and maintain availability for families throughout the day. Complete hours and admission information is available on the centre's website.

Richmond's population has grown by approximately 6,000 residents per year on average between census periods, reaching over 209,000 in 2021, according to federal census data compiled by Statistics Canada. The Metro Vancouver region overall grew to 2.6 million residents during the same period, with family-age demographics driving demand for child-oriented recreation spaces in suburban communities. Indoor play facilities in the region typically see higher utilization during the October through March period when rainfall in coastal British Columbia limits outdoor activity options for school-age children. Kidtropolis, located at 110-10551 Shellbridge Way near the Richmond Centre area, maintains year-round access for families regardless of seasonal weather patterns, positioning indoor play as a consistent option throughout the fall and winter months when outdoor recreation is less accessible.

The centre was founded in 2016 and operates under local independent ownership in Richmond. Its interior design recreates a miniature city environment with storefronts, a vehicle track, and interactive stations that encourage role play and social interaction. Kidtropolis's play model aligns with early childhood development principles around the role of pretend play in supporting language development, cooperative problem-solving, and emotional regulation for pre-school and school-age children. Research published by the Canadian Paediatric Society has highlighted the developmental value of unstructured and semi-structured play in peer group settings, supporting the case for dedicated indoor play spaces in communities with significant rainfall periods. The centre maintains a full-year operating calendar with no seasonal closures, continuing to serve Richmond families through its 10th anniversary year as the local population base continues to grow.

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For more information about The World of Kidtropolis, contact the company here:[The World of Kidtropolis](https://www.kidtropolis.ca)
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The World of Kidtropolis

Kidtropolis is an interactive miniature city where kids become community members like doctors and shop owners. Kids explore careers through play, developing social and cognitive skills. It's perfect for birthdays, events, and field trips.

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