



Digital Equity & Inclusion

LOWER SUNSHINE COAST

Connecting digital resources in our community to people & organizations who need them.

FEATURING FOUR MAIN AREAS OF DIGITAL INCLUSION:

- Digital Skills & Support
- Access to Devices
- Access to the Internet
- Accessibility



SUNSHINE COAST
Resource Centre

What is Digital Equity?

Digital equity is about raising awareness that not everyone in our community has the same opportunities for access to technology, the internet, digital skills and digital content needed to connect and be safe online.

What is Digital Inclusion?

Digital inclusion is about having equitable access to affordable digital technology and the internet and knowing how to use a technology for day-to-day activities. As a community, we can support digital equity for all by providing and advocating for:

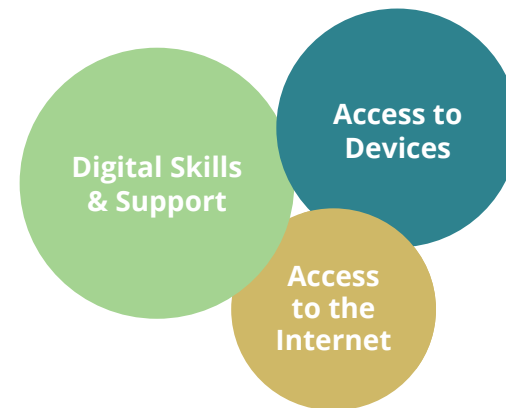
DIGITAL SKILLS & SUPPORT: Access to help with learning how to use a device and be safe online

ACCESS TO DEVICES: Access to affordable internet enabled digital devices that meet people's needs

ACCESS TO THE INTERNET: Access to affordable and reliable internet

ACCESSIBILITY: Access to digital experiences designed to work for all people, whatever their hardware, software, language, location or ability

What does Digital Inclusion look like on the Sunshine Coast?



Many residents on the Sunshine Coast experience digital exclusion, whether that is related to cost, skillset or accessibility. Digital Inclusion is important as more of what we do in our daily lives requires participation in the online world - accessing services, information, healthcare, lifelong learning, work, social connections & community participation. Free & low-cost resources are listed below.



Free Public Wi-Fi on the lower Sunshine Coast

Digital Skills & Support

IN-PERSON RESOURCES

Gibsons Public Library

Gibsons Library Tech Help can provide in-person assistance with your smartphone, tablet or laptop, and online documents. Contact the library to make a half-hour appointment.

604-886-2130

470 South Fletcher Road, Gibsons

gibsons.bc.libraries.coop/series/tech-help

Sechelt Public Library

Sechelt Library has a Technology Education Coordinator who can help in-person with accessing ebooks; computers; library databases; smartphones; tablets; websites; and more. Contact the library to make a half-hour appointment.

604-885-3260

5797 Cowrie Street, Sechelt

sechelt.bc.libraries.coop/discover/tech-ed-coord

ONLINE RESOURCES

GLUU Society

Gluu Society is a Canadian nonprofit that helps older adults learn to use technology. They provide free online learning resources and online courses for older adults. Including information on being safe online.

gluusociety.org

Sunshine Coast Resource Centre (SCRC), Sechelt

The SCRC can provide support with navigating online forms, websites and information. Appointments are encouraged. Drop-in hours: Monday to Thursday, 10AM - 2PM

604-885-4088

107A-5710 Teredo Street, Sechelt

resourcecentre.ca

Work BC, Sechelt

WorkBC in Sechelt helps you find jobs, explore career options, and improve your skills. You can visit WorkBC in person to use their computers, phones, printer and photocopier for job search needs. WorkBC also provides funding for assistive technology services in the workplace. You need to be registered to access their services.

604-885-3351

5674 Cowrie Street, Sechelt

workbccentre-sechelt.ca

Access to Devices

Digital inclusion involves access to affordable digital devices that are able to connect to the internet and that meet people's needs.

LIBRARIES

Sechelt and Gibsons libraries have computers available to use in the library for free & publicly accessible Wi-Fi. You need a library card or guest pass from the help desk to access the computers.

Gibsons Public Library

604-886-2130 | 470 South Fletcher Road, Gibsons

Sechelt Public Library

604-885-3260 | 5797 Cowrie Street, Sechelt

DONATE & ACCESS FREE/LOW COST DEVICES

Sunshine Coast Computer Kindness Program

A volunteer-run donation-driven program for rebuilding older, donated computers—desktops, laptops and tablets—and putting them into the hands of people in need at low or no cost.

computerkindness.ca

Sunshine Coast Computer Kindness Corner

A drop-off and pick-up location at the Resource Centre in Sechelt accepting donations of phones, tablets and laptops in good working order with their charger cables. Connecting people in need with devices.

resourcecentre.ca/programs/computer-kindness-corner

Access to the Internet

Need Help With Affordable Access To The Internet? Telus has programs for people on a low income and need support connecting. Each program has an eligibility requirement:

TELUS MOBILITY FOR GOOD

Provides eligible youth aging out of foster care and low-income seniors with a subsidized cell phone and data plan. There are also Mobility for Good programs for Indigenous Women at Risk and Government Assisted Refugees.

TELUS INTERNET FOR GOOD PROGRAMS

Connect eligible families in need, youth aging out of care, people with disabilities and low-income seniors with low-cost internet.

For more information visit:

telus.com/en/social-impact/connecting-canada

Accessibility

Accessibility is about creating digital experiences designed to work for all people, whatever their hardware, software, language, location or ability. We all have a role to play—whether you are a business, not for profit organization, groups and individuals on the Coast—making digital information inclusive and accessible for everyone is important.

Additional Resources

DIGITAL RIGHTS & ADVOCACY

Canadian Wireless Code

Every Canadian with a mobile plan is protected by the Wireless Code. The code explains your rights as a consumer and also the rules your provider must follow.

crtc.gc.ca/eng/phone/mobile/code.htm

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

The internet can provide information, opportunities and connections, but there are risks to being online.

The BC Provincial Government has an Information Security Awareness website, while the Government of Canada operates the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

These resources provide up-to-date information, events and valuable resources to help individuals stay safe online and stay informed about emerging cyber threats.

⌋ If you are a group or organization on the coast that is supporting people to connect in our increasingly digital society and you do not see your group's information in this resource guide, please reach out and let us know.

NEED MORE HELP?

Sunshine Coast Resource Centre

Visit the Sunshine Coast Resource Centre at 107A - 5710 Teredo Street in Sechelt if you need more help with getting connected, or visit our online Resource Guide.

resourcecentre.ca/directory

Newsletter

Sign-up for our newsletter for new digital equity resource resourcecentre.ca

Get in Touch

CONTACT US

604.885.4088

help@resourcecentre.ca

resourcecentre.ca

FIND US

107A - 5710 Teredo Street,
PO Box 1443, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

HOURS

Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



SUNSHINE COAST

Resource Centre