

Oct 1, 2026

Since our last Board Meeting on May 20th, there has been significant activity, programming and work happening at Odd Squad Productions. Below are some of the highlights.

PHYSICAL LITERACY:

OSP KIDS FESTIVAL – JUNE 28th, 2026

On June 28th Odd Squad hosted our annual Odd Squad Kids Festival as supported by Starlight Developments and the Rotary Club of Vancouver. This event was a huge success. Over 120 youth registered for the fun tournament and throughout the day, Odd Squad hosted over 400 attendees. Numerous volunteers of all ages helped to make this a special day for the young kids, including an all-day barbeque, the VPD Mounted Squad, the JIBC RP Demo Team, Youth Activities, and an ice cream truck! Special thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with this event, particularly Chin-I Hsiang for coordinating the event, Brian Shipper for all the production work, and Yuki Yokosawa on organizing all of the youth competitor brackets and divisions. No small feat to pull this type of Open House event off so well – months of preparation work went into this and a great team came together to make it a special day for youth.



Some images from the Annual Odd Squad Kids Festival held at OSP on June 28th, 2026

PHYSICAL LITERACY PATHWAY:

Outdoor Wilderness Program:

There has been significant growth and interest in the Odd Squad Wilderness program and this area of Odd Squad is expanding. The Railcraft van greatly assists the transport of youth for local mountain hikes, and our pre-existing inventory of hiking gear (from contributions by Doug Lunde and the Vancouver Rotary Club) allows us to equip youth properly for hiking. Several Odd Squad senior youth have developed a keen interest in hiking and are now developing leadership skills through taking on more challenging (independent) climbing to guide younger OSP youth. This is opening up physical literacy opportunities for many youth who have never hiked before.

Odd Squad Physical Literacy Hikes Summer 2026:

July 4th – Dog Mountain

July 5th – Mystery Lake – Dog Mountain

July 11th Dog Mountain

July 19th – Black Mountain

August 1 – Cheam Mountain (Lady Peak – Tobin, Michael)

August 4 – Dog Mountain

August 6th – Mt. Strachan

August 9 – Dog Mountain

August 13 – St. Mark's Summit

August 18-19 – Flat Iron Mountain – Needle Peak - Overnight

August 21 – Birkenhead Peak Summit

August 25-26 – Golden Ears Summit – Overnight

August 30 to Sept 5th – Nootka Island Hike – Gold Level Duke of Edinburgh Expedition



Hiking the North Shore and Valley Mountains with OSP Youth



The Flat Iron Expedition – Overnight in the Cascade Mountain Range!



The Nootka Island Expedition Team – prep work and setting out for the 5 day Expedition!

Summer International Judo Training for OSP Youth – France and Switzerland:

From July 11 – 26, OSP Youth Diego, Fernando, and Tobin were part of a BC team attending high-level youth judo training in France and Switzerland (over 500 athletes from all over the world at the Swiss training camp). Highlights included mountain climbing in Switzerland. Hard work, but a great international opportunity! This was a self-funded trip with a \$600 grant provided for attending youth with help from the Rotary funding.



Diego, Fernando and Tobin with fellow judo partners in France and on the hike in Switzerland!

Unified OSP Police Judo Training Programs – Sport/Judo BC:

Our youth Police Judo programs have all been brought under the Sport BC / Judo BC Umbrella (previously there was a split between adults/juniors and two different organizations). By having one unified registered program, sanctioned by a provincial agency, we now have better structure, better liability coverage, improved grant access, increased travel and training opportunities for youth and we are part of a national grading program.

Our new Odd Squad Police Judo training season with Judo BC started on September 7th, 2026. This required significant work from Physical Literacy Lead Chin-I Hsiang and help from our Instructor Adelphie Chang as well as Instructor Yuki Yokosawa. In addition, we have created a dedicated Police Judo website linked to the OSP website – thanks to Jane and Chin-I for developing this (it will allow community members to find Odd Squad Police Judo programs easier but still retain the linkage to the OSP Website as managed by Brendon). We also have developed a Odd Squad Police Judo App for registration, waivers and tracking through the work of a young judo student Lowan Lebris – and this will be a significant cost savings from our current registration software. Here is the link to the website: <https://policejudo.ca>

Our youth leaders are all supported to take their NCCP Coaching Certification as part of their development. Odd Squad has hosted this nationally-certified training program several times over the past few years – and we now have a strong stable of young certified coaches (DA and DI certification).



Physical Literacy Programs with Police Judo busy (Left) – NCCP Coaching Clinic (Right)

High-Performance Sport Camp – SFU August 14-16:

Odd Squad had a huge team of young students attending the annual Judo BC High-Performance Judo training camp at SFU from August 14-16. This was a demanding physical

training camp with over 200 top judo athletes from across BC, and included a comprehensive fit testing. Some impressive results from our young students including several in the top 3 for fitness for age divisions (Aidan, Tobin, Nicholas, Michael et al).



The Odd Squad Youth Team at the High-Performance Judo Training Camp at SFU

Girls Summer Camp August 23-25:

Sponsored through the Jim Byrnes Legacy Fund, OSP was able to send 5 female participants to the Judo BC Summer Camp at Loon Lake. This was a great opportunity for our younger OSP female students (Lena, Sophia, Soobin, Marisa and Nika): a weekend full of activities with judo and yoga training!



A Thank You card for the support from the Jim Byrnes Legacy Fund – Summer Camp 2026!

Vernon Training Camp with Olympic Gold Medallist Nagase Sept 25-27

Our OSP Police Judo Team was comprised of 21 for this inter-provincial training camp which was lead by 2x Olympic Gold medallist and world judo champion Takanori Nagase from Japan. This camp was attended by 470 athletes from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and the USA and was a challenging training camp providing lots of learning for our OSP youth!

Once again, the OSP Railcraft van came in handy for transporting youth – as did the help from our coaches and their personal vehicles...



The recent Vernon training camp (left) and our OSP Police Judo Team (right)

OSP Firewood Fundraiser:



Firewood from our OSP Firewood Fundraiser (thanks to Greg Kenny and “Chico” Heatherington for the donated wood) has been in steady demand now that we are supplying it in dedicated firewood bags. This is a great activity for youth to keep their fitness levels up – all of the firewood is hand split on site (under supervision!).

FILM AND EDUCATION PATHWAY:

Bob Stewart Retrospective:

- The Retrospective Bio on Bob Stewart was completed and delivered to the Ret. DCC Bob Rolls and Chief Steve Rai. Here is the link:
<https://vimeo.com/1219432397/a24101dc16?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

Knowledge Keeper Video Series:

- 4 more Knowledge Keeper Videos Completed for the JIBC Police Academy.
- Two more Knowledge Keeper Videos are yet to be completed. This will also conclude all of our outstanding film commitments. Further projects will only be taken on with a dedicated budget and committed team.

CPKN Film Partnership:

- We have secured CPKN support for distribution of a number of our videos which will expand our distribution.

Upcoming NWT Presentations:

The OSP Drug and Gang Education and Physical Literacy Training Presentations will be delivered in January 2027 through the lower region communities of the NWT. The NWT Team delivering the presentations will be Dave and Brendon. Launa will be running the Physical Literacy training for youth as part of this educational tour. There is another request in for a far-north presentation tour in the Beaufort Delta area, and this is still being worked out.

GRANTS:

Thanks very much to Dr. Rene Abi-Rached and the Rotary Club of Vancouver for their support grant support, all helping with the delivery of our youth programs at OSP.



Dr. Rene Abi-Rached providing Rotary Grant Support for OSP – Thank You!

WEBSITE:

- Odd Squad website – ongoing maintenance, updates and general cleanup of the main Odd Squad website. Work has been ongoing to make sure the site better reflects what OSP is actually doing now, particularly the youth programs. Physical literacy continues to be highlighted on the main Odd Squad site as an important part of the youth programming.
- Police Judo website / separation from the main OSP site – Police Judo with its own dedicated (but connected) web presence through PoliceJudo.ca.
- Christmas Fundraiser ticketing – built and updated the TicketSpice ticketing page for the November fundraiser, including the event information, ticket options, table purchases, donation section, QR/linking and associated graphics.
- Fundraiser marketing – produced the marketing materials for the fundraiser, including posters, sponsorship material, website graphics, TicketSpice graphics, individual/table ticket graphics and other promotional material needed for print, web and social media.
- Fundraiser website content – continued updating the OSP website with fundraiser information, sponsor material, event information and links so everything is consistent between the website, TicketSpice and the marketing pieces.
- Recent equipment rental generated revenue back Odd Squad.
- Northern youth outreach discussions – related early-stage work around potential northern youth outreach, including drug education, youth engagement and physical-literacy components. Still exploratory at this stage. Dave Steverding is lead.
- Vimeo OTT / payment administration – worked through the Vimeo OTT side and prepared the new profile with Vimeo for selling odd squad videos online.
- Facility and technical support – continued helping with the technical side of the OSP facility, including the classroom A/V setup, instructions for users and improving systems so the facility can be used without requiring someone to troubleshoot everything each time. Odd Squad is routinely reaching 3GBPs download / upload speeds - internet used to be a major issue with the facility and is improved now.
- Security/CCTV support worked on for OSP.
- We continue to capture updated content for current drug education and law enforcement B-roll for video projects.

FACILITY:

The OSP facility is currently very well used and visited by many people of all ages who attend our youth training programs and various other activities.

As the building is well over 30 years old, there are always maintenance and upkeep issues to deal with, but we have managed to stay on top of them economically. We have been

dealing with extremely high hydro bills due to the old HVAC system. We have managed to find a way to reduce our bills significantly, although this is still a project in progress.

Our day-to-day cleaning is well looked after by a hired part-time student, with additional help from volunteers.

We have built an extra storage shed in the backyard for auto parts and other items needed for the Baja Bug rebuild, which is moving slowly and steadily along. We completed the shed build at very little cost, thanks to the volunteer help of Jacob Irving, Vadim Slavin, and Tobin Hinton Jr. Most of the materials used were either donated or came from recycled materials.

We have also managed to re-bin and organize our assorted Odd Squad historical documents and items. The bins have been inventoried, clearly marked, and tucked away in an out-of-the-way storage area. Thanks to Al Arsenault and his team for taking on this much-needed task.

We have managed to keep the video equipment storage room, outdoor equipment storage room, judo inventory room, and change rooms well organized and in good order by staying on top of things on a daily basis.

Thanks to the generous donation from the Rotary Club of Vancouver, we are now able to use the classroom as a homework and snack room for youth attending judo classes. This provides a space for those who need to get their homework done or have an after-school snack before training.

Our exterior front yard has also been well used for the Baja Bug storage tent, our firewood sales stacks, and parking.

Our little garden and hanging baskets have looked very good this year, from the beginning of spring right through to now, and are still looking great.

If you have any questions or if there is anything I have missed, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Brian Shipper