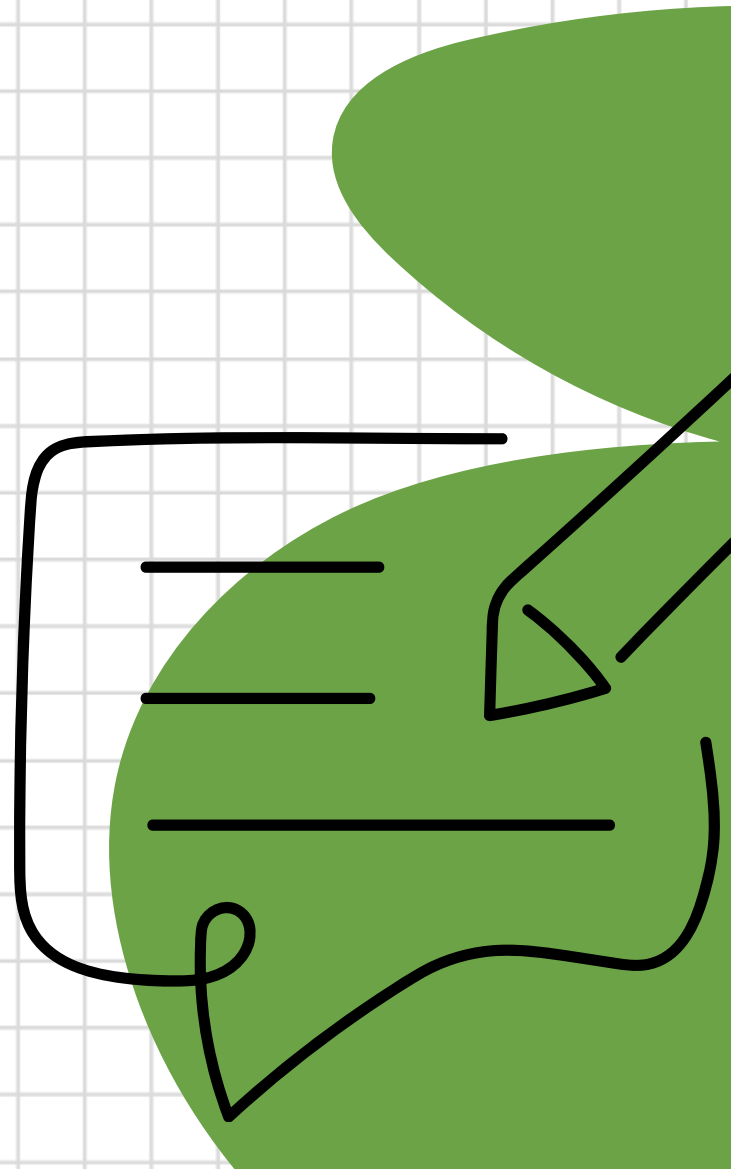
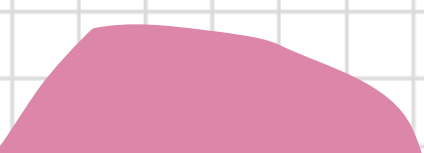
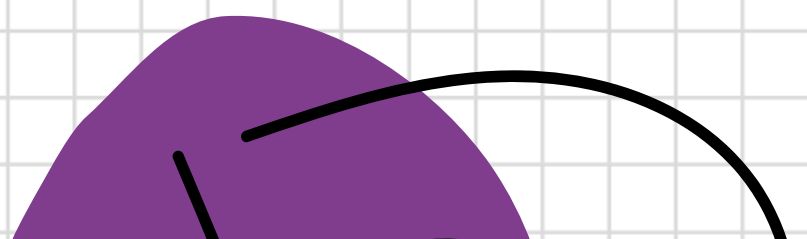
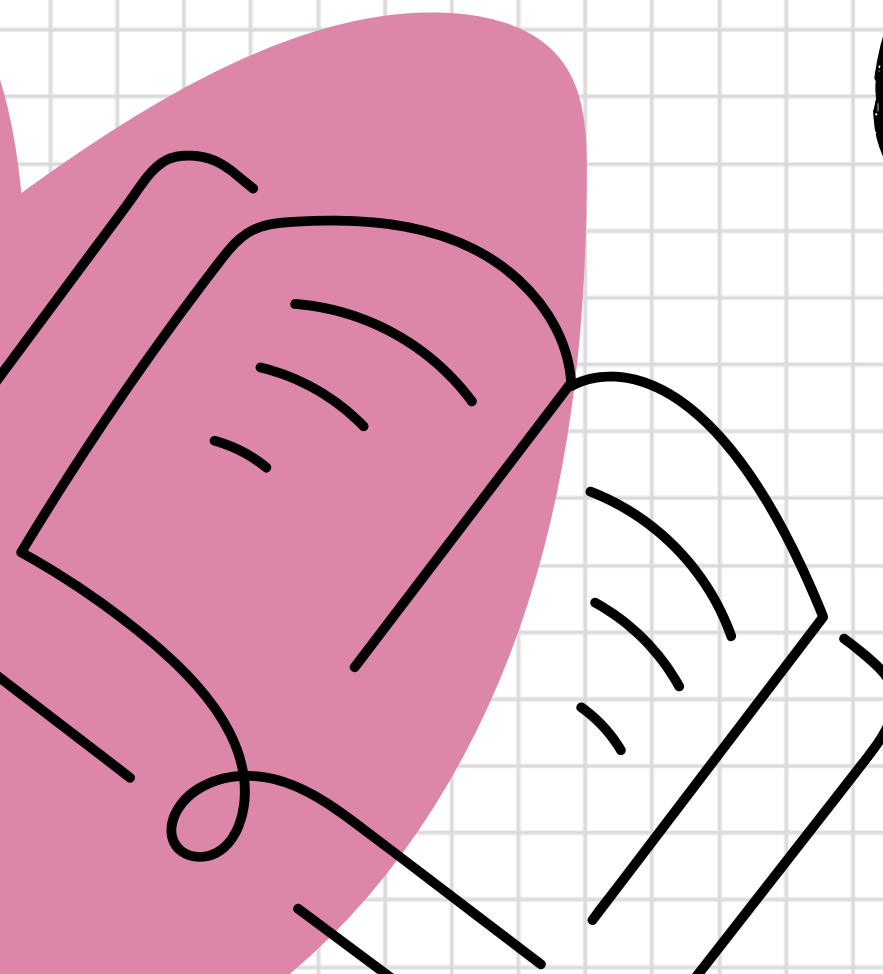


GOV 2026

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Join us on the territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm
(Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ
(Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS



Haley Regan/
Syilxwa Spu?us
Volunteer Coordinator



Alaysha Funk
Secondary Volunteer
Coordinator

TODAY'S INTENTIONS

1.

Lot's of information about what to expect at GOV 2026 (**you do not need to remember it all**)

2.

Where to sign in/out

3.

Parking and transportation

4.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

5.

Tasks and responsibilities

4.

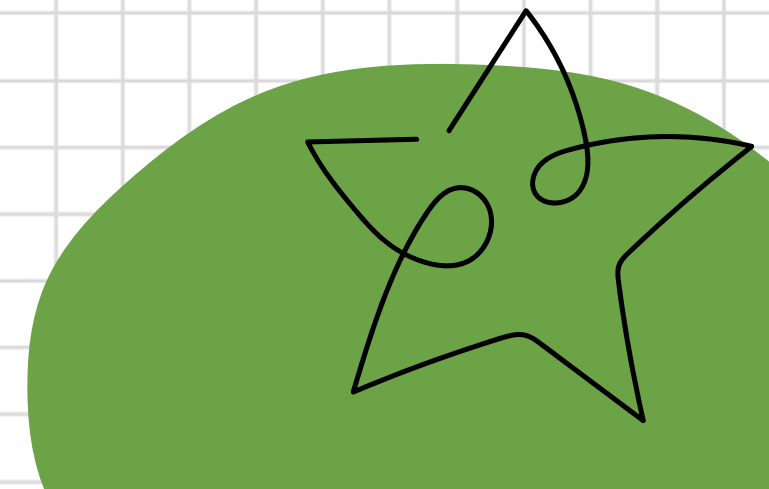
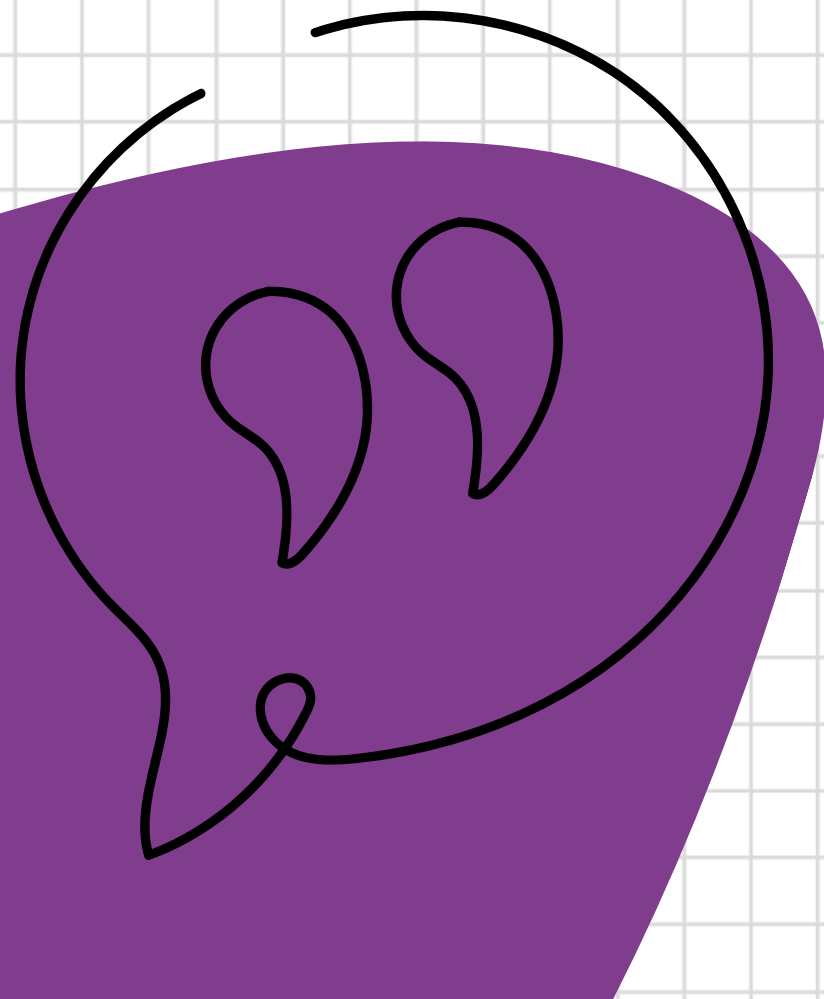
Safety Protocol

6.

Emergency response/ Cultural Support

7.

Day by day overview



HOUSE KEEPING ITEMS

1.

Please go into your SignUp.com profile and make sure your **first and last name** is listed

2.

While you are there, ensure your **emergency contact info is correct**. First and last names, please.

3.

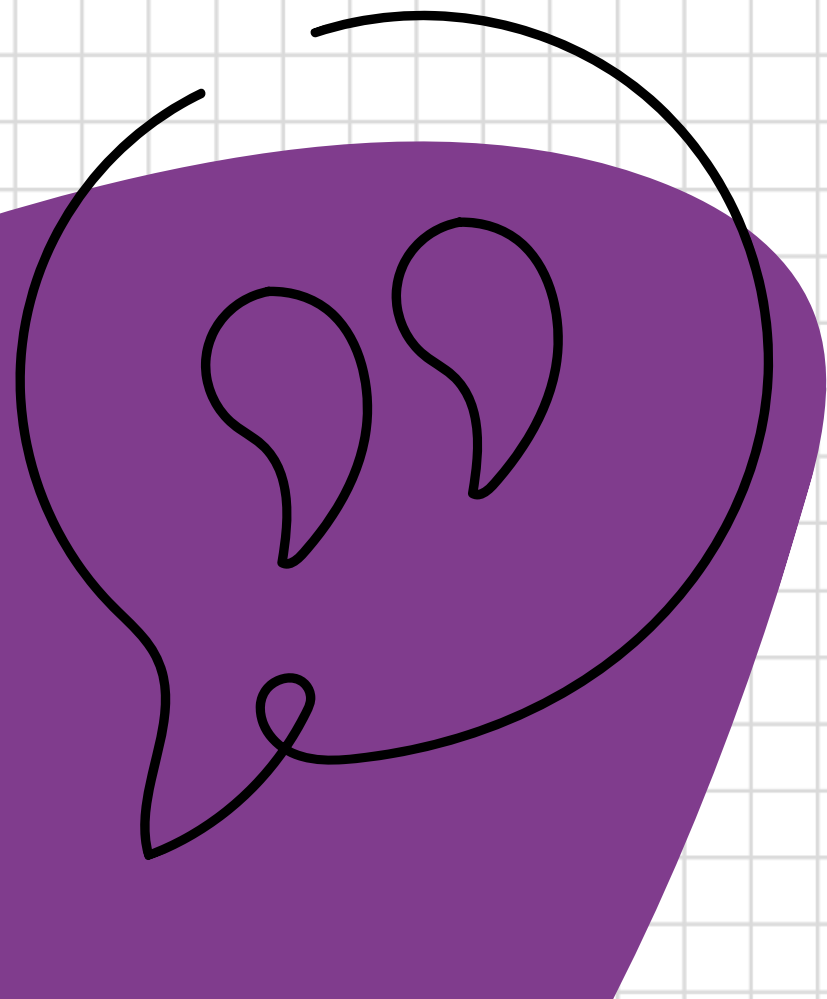
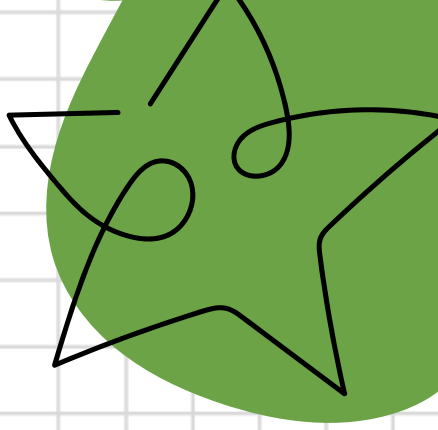
There are still approximately 60 shifts left to fill—some shifts are only 2 hours! Please feel free to share with friends

4.

Make sure you are only signing up for your own shifts and not trying to sign up for multiple people on one profile. All volunteers require their own profile and need to be 18 years or older (unless previously discussed).

5.

If you are a group, organization, class/ student cohort, etc. Please get in contact with me so we can give you recognition at our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and in our final reports. GOV loves its volunteers, and we want to acknowledge our partners!



MAIN VENUES

MARCH 15-20, 2026

VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE- EAST BUILDING

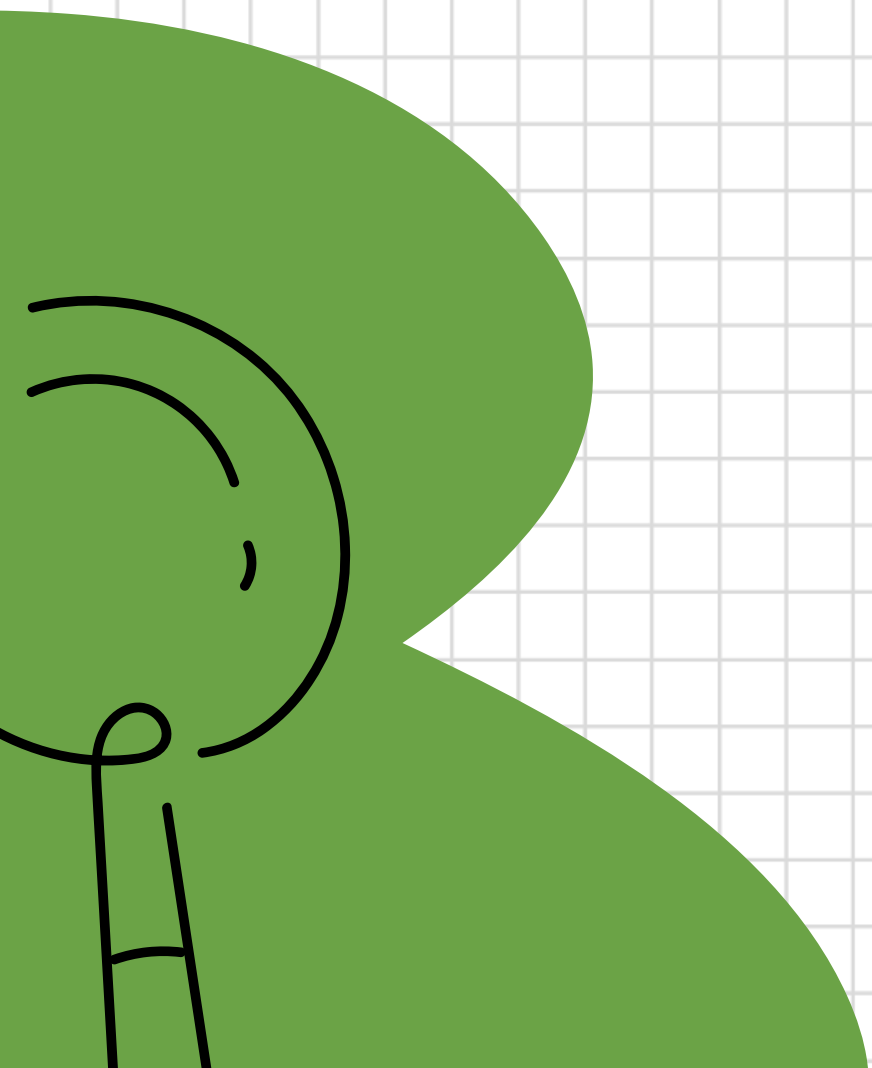
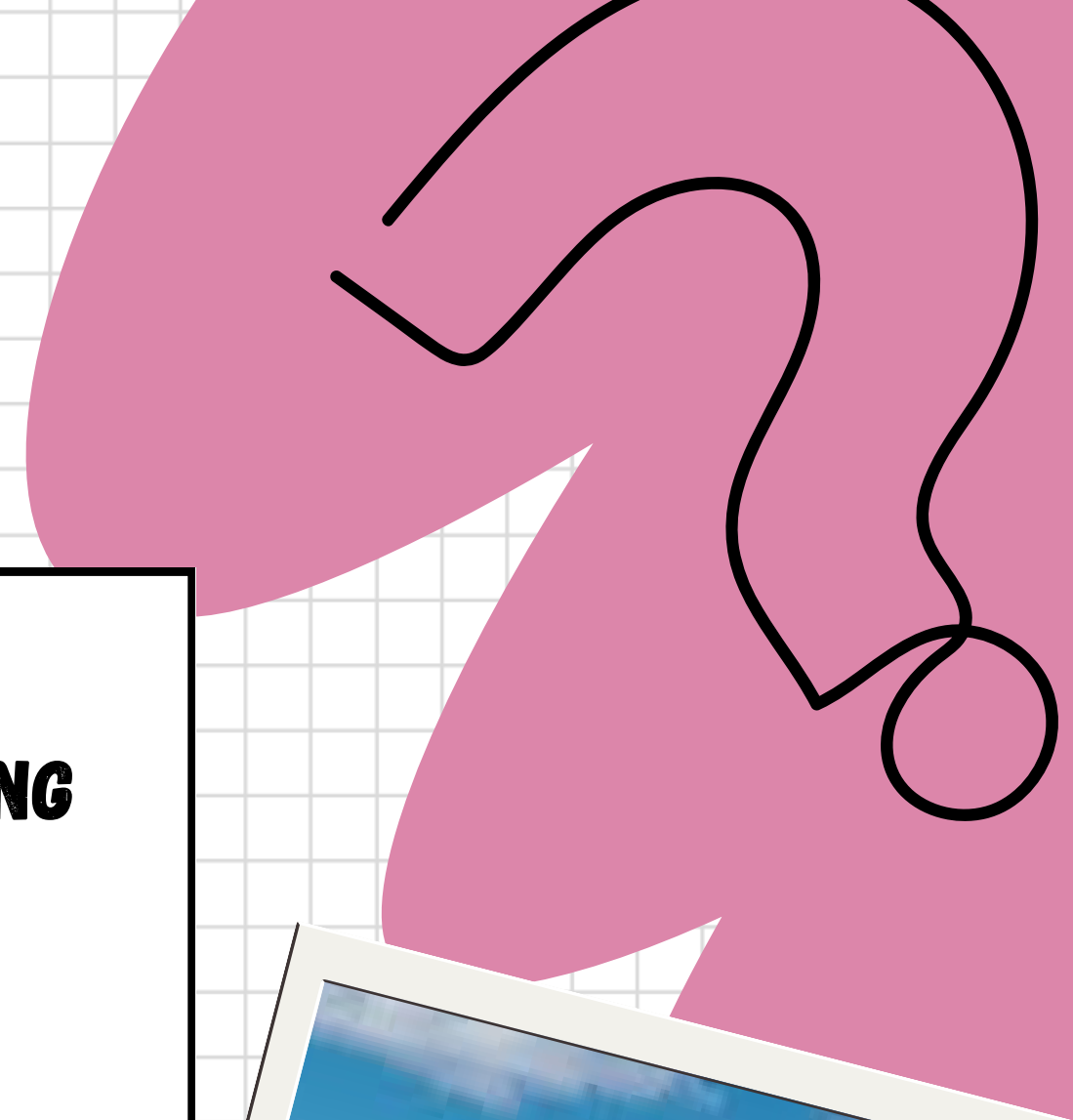
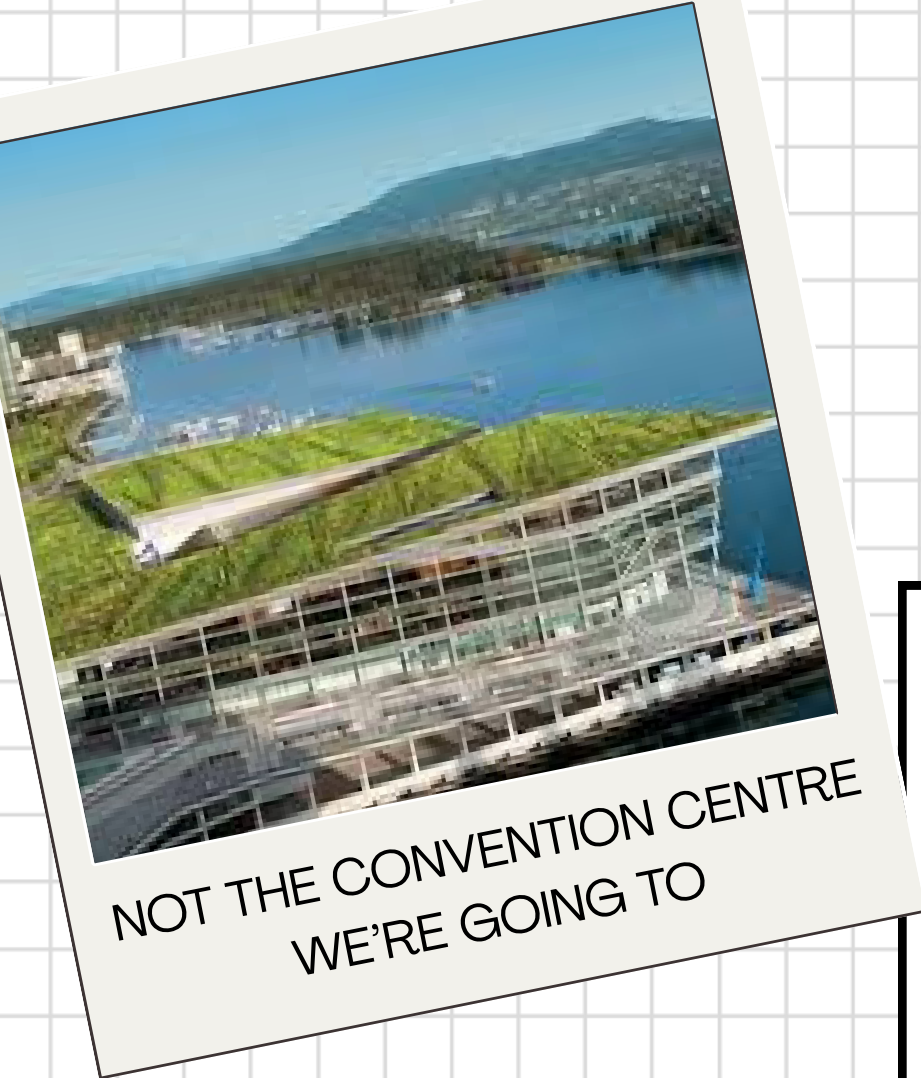
1055 Canada Place

PAN PACIFIC HOTEL

999 Canada Place

PINNACLE HOTEL HARBOURFRONT

1133 W Hastings St

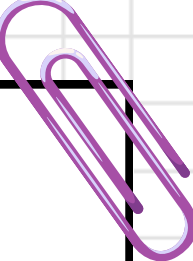


SIGNING IN:

VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE PAN PACIFIC HOTEL

Before the start of your shift, you will need to go to the Volunteer Room to sign in get your volunteer swag, and enter the iPad draw.

You will receive your t-shirt, wristband, and lanyard after you've signed in. All attendees of GOV receive these items in a certain color to represent their role and for easy identification.



You're more than welcome to leave personal belongings in the Volunteer Room. There will be folks stationed there, but it is an open room so please leave your valuables at home.

Please let us know when you are leaving to go on break. When you're finished your shift please sign out in the Volunteer Room.

Folks stationed at the Pinnacle Hotel will sign in at the Pinnacle Hotel. But you're more than welcome to come over to the Convention Centre before or after your shift to check out the Exhibitor and Artisans Market.

SIGNING IN

MULGRAVE SCHOOL & PINNACLE HARBOURFRONT HOTEL

Before the start of every shift, you will need to check in with the Venue Lead Team Member at the venue you're volunteering at to sign in.

Volunteers are welcome to pick up their volunteer swag in advance on Sunday March 15th and Monday March 16th at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

If you are not able to pick up your swag on those days, please email volunteers@bcaafc.com prior to the conference and we will arrange to have it brought to the venue.

There is no Volunteer Room at these venues so please pack light and leave any valuables at home.

Please let us know when you are leaving to go on break. When you're finished your shift please sign out with your Venue Team Lead.

GRAB YOUR VOLUNTEER SWAG EARLY

MARCH 15-16

MARCH 15-16

Grab your volunteer swag early at the Vancouver Convention Centre in Ballroom A + B during the following times. Stick around to ask questions and meet the Volunteer Coordinators.

Sunday March 15:
2:00pm-5:00pm

Monday March 16:
9:00am-3:00pm

MARCH 16-19

If you can't get your volunteer swag between March 15-16 and are volunteering **off-site**, please email volunteers@bcaafc.com ASAP so that we can send your swag with the staff to that venue.

It's very important that you notify us at least a day prior (before 8pm) so we have enough time to pack it. We need all attendees to have their GOV identification.

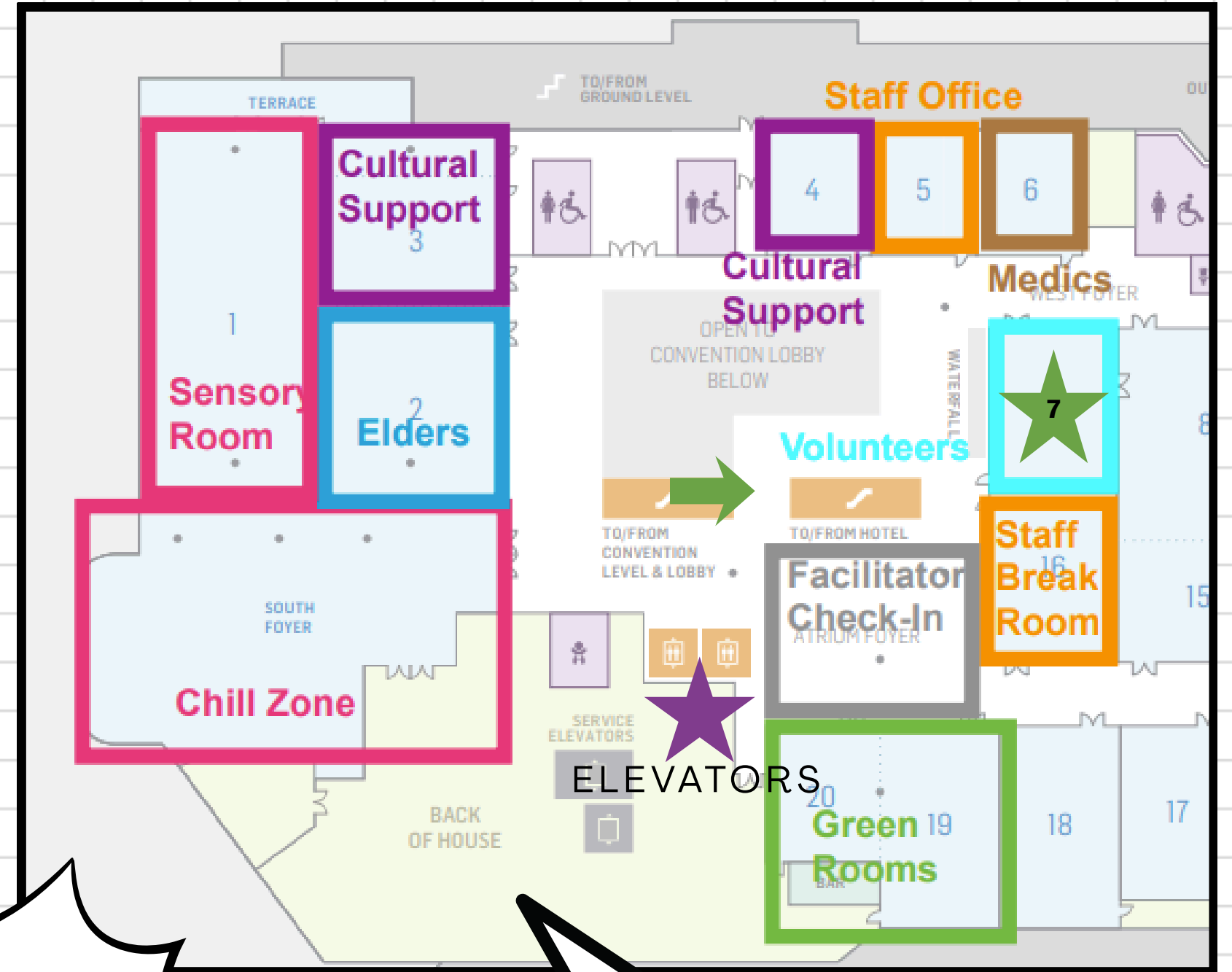
SIGN IN SUNDAY MARCH 15- MONDAY MARCH 16



You'll enter through the main lobby of VCC and proceed to Ballroom A+B past the totem pole.

For folks who are only picking up their volunteer swag- you will also go into this space.

SIGN IN TUESDAY MARCH 17- FRIDAY MARCH 20



Head through the Convention Centre lobby and proceed up the escalator.

You're looking for the sign that says "Meeting level + Hotel"

Right ahead of you there will be a green volunteer sign and a waterfall. Head straight for room 7.

PARKING AND TRANSIT

****Volunteers are responsible for their own travel and parking costs****

PARKING

- Unfortunately, GOV cannot secure specific parking for volunteers at the venues.
- It is often difficult to find parking in these areas, so we encourage you to take public transit, ride share, get dropped off, or carpool.
- Please email volunteers@bcaafc.com if you require accessible parking. GOV has a very limited number of accessible spots that I can try to obtain for your shift- but can't guarantee.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Skytrain Station**
 - **Waterfront Station:** 2 min walk
 - **Burrard Skytrain Station:** 8 min walk
 - **Granville Skytrain Station:** 11 min walk
- **Seabus Station**
 - **Waterfront Station:** 2 min walk
- **Bus Lines**
 - Multiple bus routes all within a 2 minute-15 minute walk

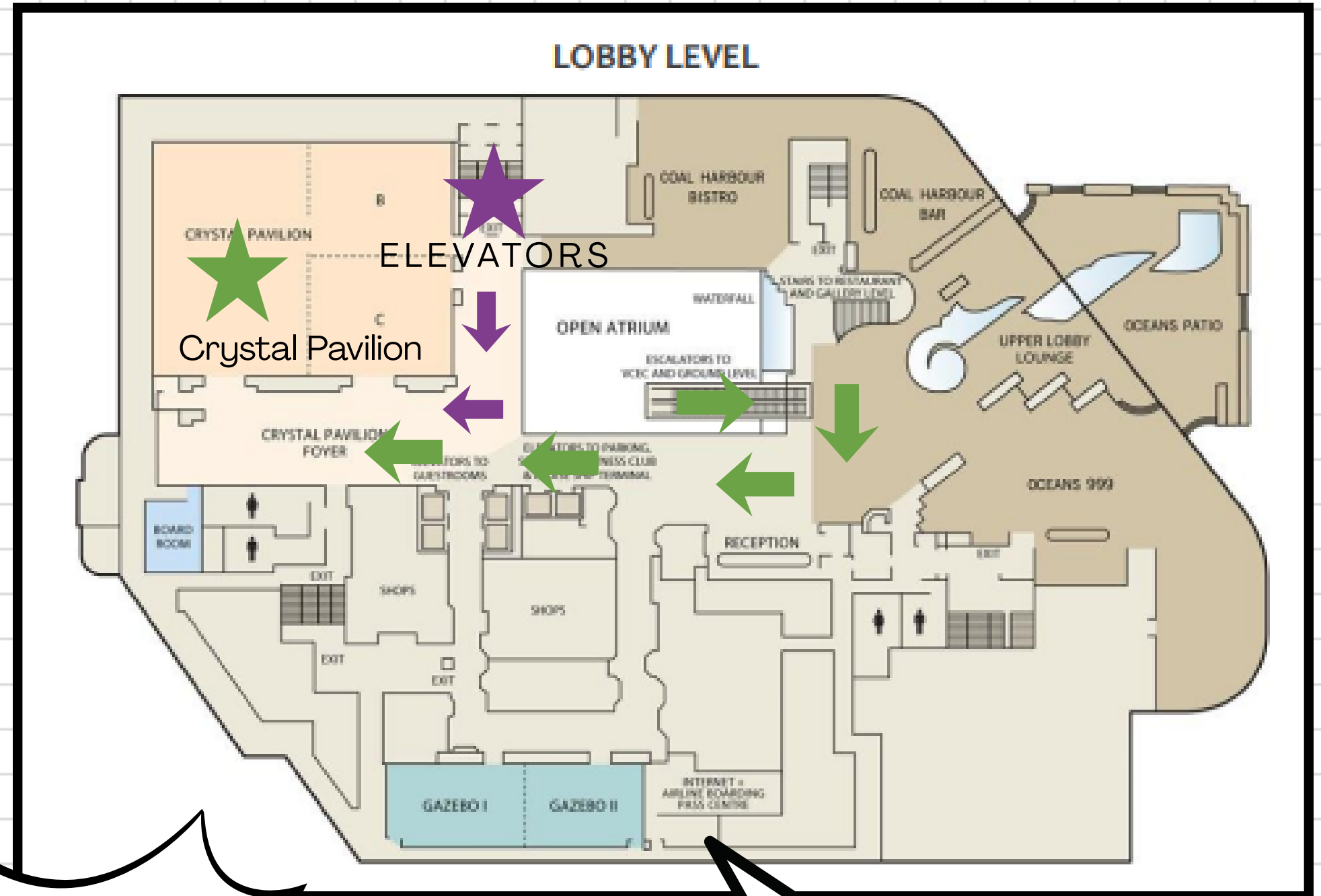
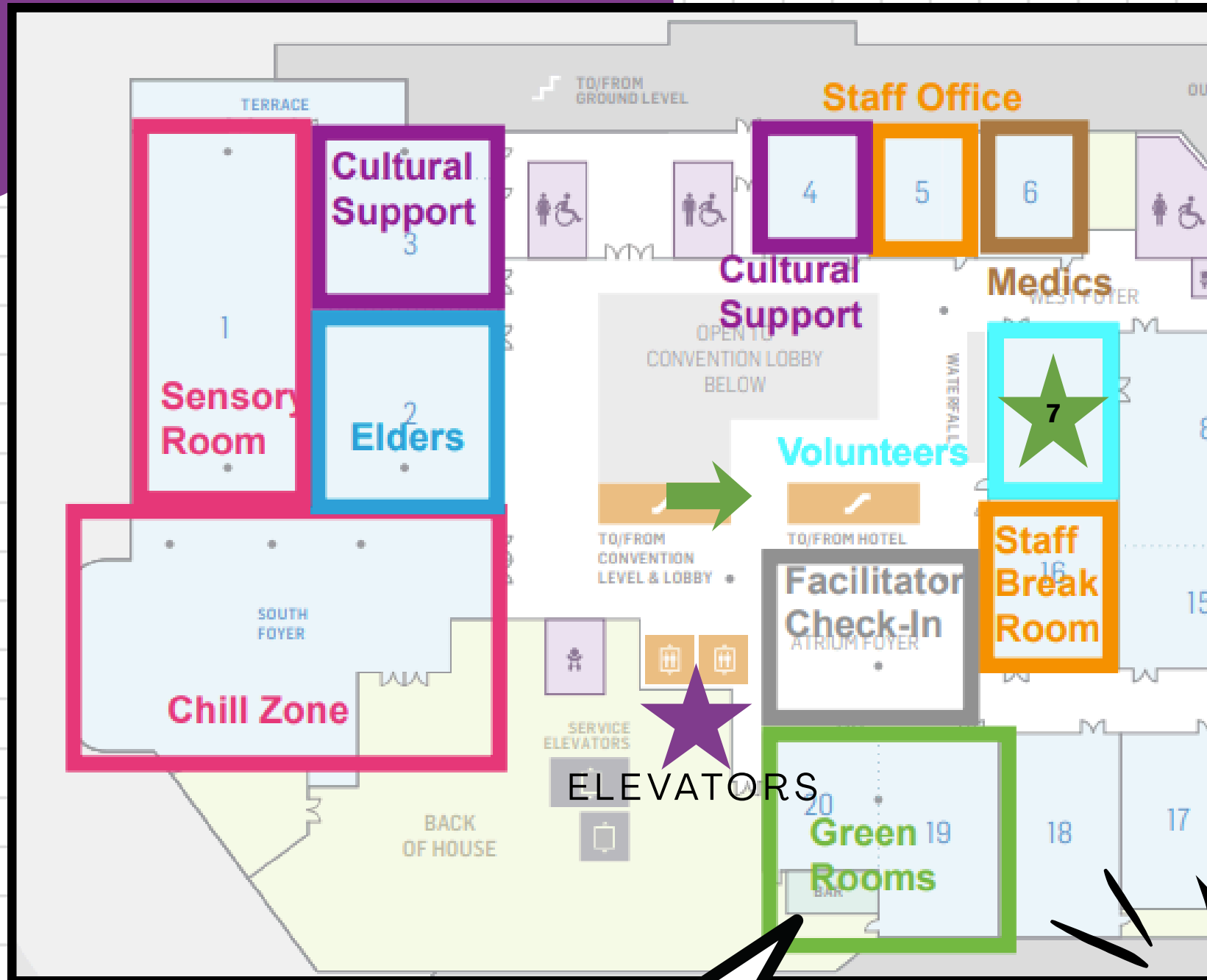
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

**PAN PACIFIC HOTEL- CRYSTAL PAVILION
WEDNESDAY MARCH 18TH, 5PM-7PM**

Join us for an open house style celebration! Enjoy some food, volunteer appreciation gifts, recognition, and some remarks from our BCAAFC and GOV Leadership Team:

- **Come and go as you please!** We will be having a relaxed schedule and just want the chance to celebrate your hard work and say thank you.
- **Remarks and recognition is happening from 6-6:30** by our BCAAFC Executive Director: Celeste Hayward, GOV Event Manager: Richelle Williams, and representatives from the BCAAFC Elder and Youth Councils.
- **iPad Draw will be between 6:20-6:30:** Enter any last minute tickets for your shifts. You do not need to be present to win the iPad, we can arrange for you to pick it up during GOV or we can mail it to you.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER



Head through the Convention Centre lobby and proceed up the escalator to the Meeting Level.

Go up the second escalator to the Hotel Level.

Follow signage to the Crystal Pavilion

IPAD DRAW INSTRUCTIONS

Enter our volunteer door prize draw for a new iPad!
1 shift = 1 entry into the draw

SHIFTS BEFORE WEDNESDAY

Every time you sign in for a shift add a ballot to the draw in the volunteer room.

If you are an offsite volunteer (Musqueam or Mulgrave) we will send ballots with the Venue Team Lead for you to fill out and they will make sure you are entered.

SHIFTS AFTER WEDNESDAY

Make sure you fill out your ballots for shifts after Wednesday prior to the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner - or at the dinner!

We will have extra ballots on hand for any last minute entries!

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

***** Our #1 priority is to be friendly, welcoming, and helpful. 90% of our job is helping folks with directions and what time certain events are happening- which will all be provided in the programme that you, and all of the GOV delegates will receive*****

- Be an extra set of responsible eyes and ears. Look out for emotional distress, exhaustion, dehydration. These are all very common occurrences that happen at GOV.
- It's ok to not know the answer or recognize that certain situations may call for staff intervention. Being aware of your surroundings is key at a big event like this and you can always escalate certain issues to staff, medics, and cultural support.
- Keep the energy up and help make our delegates feel excited! This is a life changing event specifically designed for their enrichment and enjoyment.

SAFETY PROTOCOL

- **Air goes in and out, blood goes round and round- if either of those things aren't happening, call 9-1-1,** flag staff, or ask another volunteer to go grab a staff or medic.
- No volunteer is to be left alone in enclosed spaces with any delegates- this is for your safety and theirs.
- Gathering Our Voices is a completely dry event. We ask that you do not attend if you are under the influence and abstain from substances during your shifts. If you are going out after your shift, we ask that you do not wear any GOV swag while doing so.
- Sometimes GOV is such a safe space that delegates come forward to report that they may be in an unsafe situation. This is considered a critical incident and must be handled with the utmost care by our critical incident team.
- GOV is a closed and private event. Please don't bring friends or family to tag along to your shift. Everyone needs to be registered and volunteers must be over the age of 18. You cannot attend workshops- those are for the delegates, and you may only attend events if you are volunteering for that shift.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Asthma or panic attacks
- Allergic reactions
- Physical injuries
- Possible concussions
- Cuts and scrapes
- Overdose (all staff have naloxone training)

CULTURAL SUPPORT

- Smudging
- Cedar brushing
- Eagle fan work
- Emotional Distress
- Conflict
- Feeling overwhelmed
- Feeling overstimulated

We will have lots of incident reports available. We may ask you to scribe for us while actively dealing with a situation, or we may ask for your contact info to follow up with you for additional information.

GOV 2026 SCHEDULE

Sunday March 15th	Monday March 16th	Tuesday March 17th	Wednesday March 18th	Thursday March 19th	Friday March 20th
<p>Swag Early Pickup</p> <p>Event Set Up</p>	<p>Swag Early Pickup</p> <p>Event Set Up</p>	<p>Registration</p> <p>Exhibitor + Artisan Market</p> <p>Opening Ceremonies</p>	<p>Late Registration</p> <p>Late Workshop Sign-Up</p> <p>Exhibitor + Artisan Market</p> <p>Workshops</p> <p>Youth Cultural Exchange</p> <p>Volunteer Appreciation Dinner</p> <p>Talent Show</p>	<p>Workshops</p> <p>Fashion Show</p> <p>Honouring Feast</p> <p>Dance Party</p> <p>Movie Night</p>	<p>Closing Ceremonies</p> <p>Great Giveaway</p> <p>Event Pack Up</p>



**THANK YOU FOR
VOLUNTEERING!
SEE YOU IN 23 DAYS**