



## Veronika Parkinson

2020 4-H Canada Leadership Excellence Award of Distinction Recipient, Community Engagement & Communications

Veronika Parkinson is an extraordinary young leader and experienced speaker. She joined the 4-H program in British Columbia at nine years old, following in the footsteps of her mom, a former 4-H beef member of ten years. Veronika has gone on to complete projects in rabbit, fibre arts, crafts, photography, and foods.



At age six, Veronika founded a non-profit organization called 'The Juicebox Project'. By collecting refundable beverage containers, they have sponsored over 100 wheelchairs for children in Guatemala who otherwise would not have been able to afford one.

Veronika has always been a strong communicator, and that has shown in her high-level placings in 4-H communication events. In 2014, Veronika had the opportunity to present a TEDxKids BC talk on the Juicebox Project.

Veronika is an active member of her community both in and outside of school. She sits on the City of Surrey Youth Council, a group of youth who amplify youth voices in city politics, and volunteers with local youth groups, and in a care home for seniors. Veronika has attended multiple high schools and has been a part of the leadership team at each one.

In her free time, Veronika enjoys baking cookies, cupcakes, cakes, or anything delicious, curling with her local curling club, and snowboarding with Vancouver Adaptive Snow Sports.

Veronika will be attending the University of British Columbia – Okanagan. She hopes to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy-Political Science-Economics.

## L.E.A.D. Perspective

"I plan to gain the skills necessary to grow my non-profit organization and further that work, then go on to do an education degree. I intend to work in a sector that allows me to continually create change in the lives of others and make the world a better place for everyone."

