



## Victoria Fringe Festival 2023

# Accessibility Guide

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## Introduction

The Victoria Fringe is committed to creating an inclusive environment and creative home for patrons, artists, staff, and volunteers. We are continually working to identify and break down barriers so that the Fringe can be enjoyed by all.



This is a guide to accessibility at the Fringe. It's intended to be your one-stop-shop to decide if shows are right for you.

If there's information that's missing, or you have any questions, please contact Fringe associate producer **Kaylee Cavanagh** at (email) [pa@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:pa@intrepidtheatre.com), (voice/VRS) 250-383-2663, or in person at the Intrepid Studio, 2-1609 Blanshard Street (at Fisgard).

Fringe staff and volunteers wear lanyards and name tags during the festival, and can assist you at any of our venues.

# Venue & Box Office Physical Accessibility

## Venue Information

The Fringe has 5 venues this year and 4 unconventional show venues:

1. The Metro Studio, 1411 Quadra Street (at Johnson)
2. The Roxy, 2657 Quadra Street
3. The Baumann Centre, Pacific Opera, 925 Balmoral Road
4. The VCM Wood Hall, 900 Johnson Street
5. The SKAM Satellite Studio, 942 Fort Street

## Unconventional Venues:

Site A: Finnerty Gardens - University Dr, Victoria, BC V8P 3E6

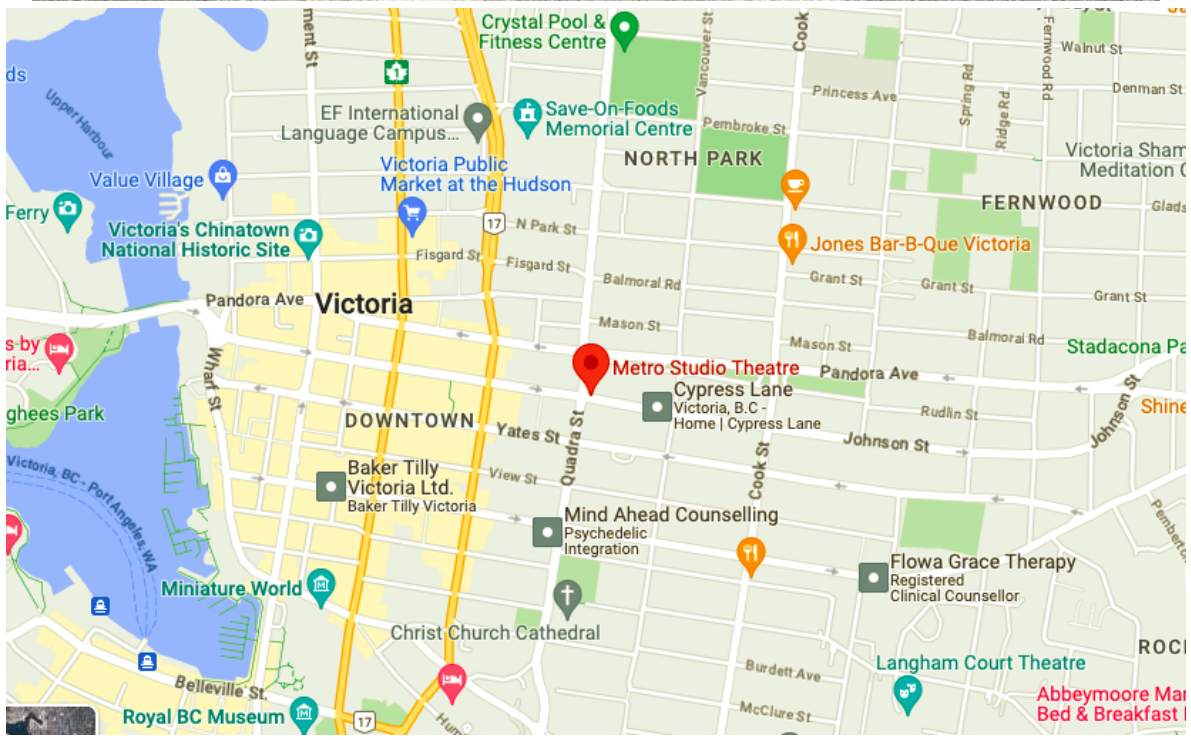
Site B: Banfield Park DockSite - 500 B Selkirk Ave, Victoria, BC V9A 2T1

Site C: Macauley Point Park - 304 Clifton Terrace, Victoria, BC V9A 5X9

Site D: Philippine Bayanihan Centre - 1709 Blanshard St, Victoria, BC V8W 2J8

# Wheelchair Accessibility

The Metro Theatre: 1411 Quadra St.



The Metro Theatre is wheelchair accessible, with seats on the ground floor for audience members using mobility devices. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom on the main level, through the door that also leads to backstage. Please let a Front-of-house manager or volunteer know if you need to use the accessible washroom (they will be wearing Fringe lanyards and nametags), and they will be happy to show you through. The main patron washrooms are up a set of stairs and are not wheelchair accessible.

**Wheelchair accessible seating:** Please indicate that you need wheelchair accessible seating in the provided field when you book your tickets online, or let our box office coordinator know when you book tickets in person.

**Other seating needs:** When you book tickets, there is a field that asks if you have any accessibility needs. You can type any needs or requests there.

# The Roxy Theatre: 2657 Quadra Street



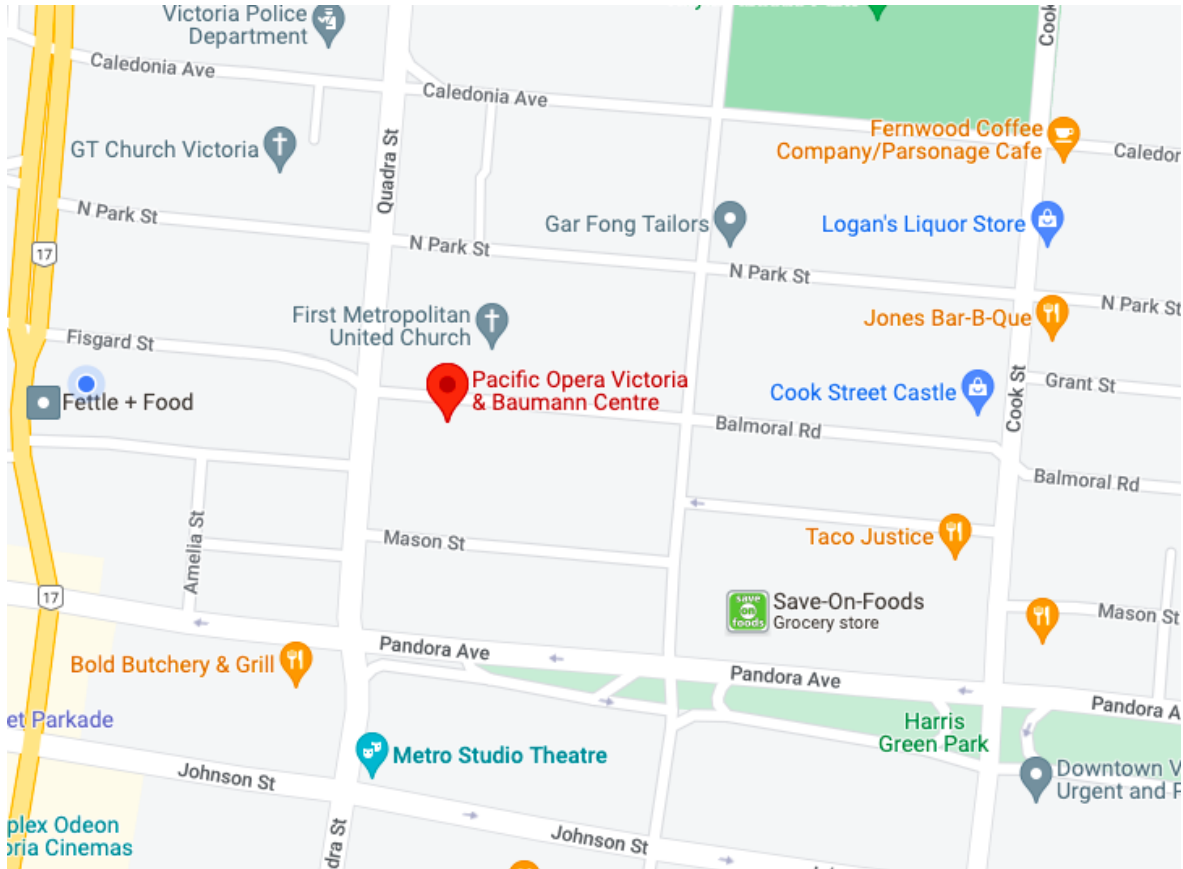
The Roxy theatre is wheelchair accessible, with both bathrooms at ground level, once including a grab bar. The stage is down a slope, however accessible seating remains at ground level near the left entrance. If you need assistance, please ask the Front-of-House manager (they will be wearing Fringe lanyards and nametags) or a Fringe Volunteer.

**Wheelchair accessible seating:** Please indicate that you need wheelchair accessible seating in the provided field when you book your tickets online.

**Other seating needs:** When you book tickets, there is a field that asks if you have any accessibility needs. You can type any needs or requests there.

## The Baumann Hall: 925 Balmoral Road





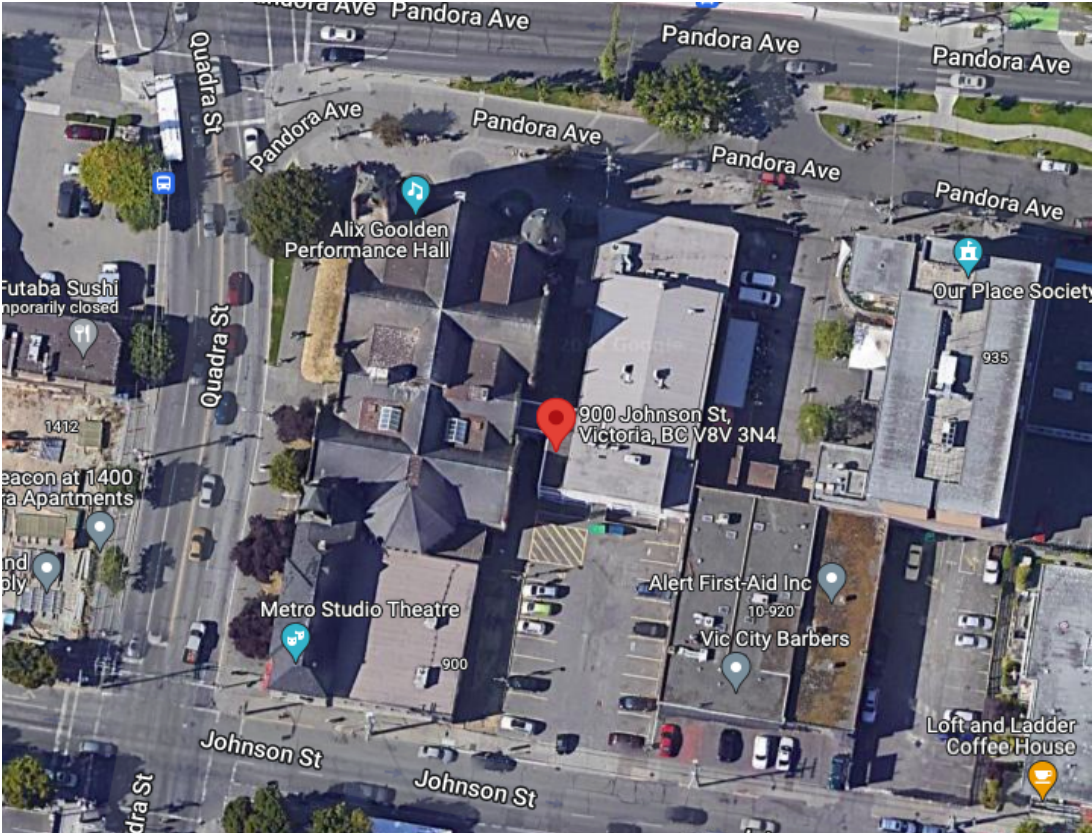
The Baumann Centre is accessible, with a ramp leading to the entrance and an elevator to the performance space. Washrooms are located upstairs, and both have grab bars in their accessible stalls. To use the elevator, notify the Front-of-house manager (they will be wearing Fringe lanyards and nametags) or a Volunteer.

**Wheelchair accessible seating:** Please indicate that you need wheelchair accessible seating in the provided field when you book your tickets online, or let our box office coordinator know when you book tickets in person.

**Other seating needs:** When you book tickets, there is a field that asks if you have any accessibility needs. You can type any needs or requests there.



# VCM Wood Hall: 900 Johnson Street



The VCM Wood Hall is an accessible venue, with a ramp leading up to the hall, and large floor-level space with adaptable seating. Washrooms are accessible by ramp and have grab bars in both, one of them being much larger and designed specifically for mobility aids.

**Wheelchair accessible seating:** Please indicate that you need wheelchair accessible seating in the provided field when you book your tickets online, or let our box office coordinator know when you book tickets in person.

**Other seating needs:** When you book tickets, there is a field that asks if you have any accessibility needs. You can type any needs or requests there.

# SKAM Satellite Studio: 942 Fort Street



The SKAM Satellite studio is entirely on ground level, and has one accessible washroom near the theatre space. The stage itself is up a short ramp, and seating is adaptable.

**Wheelchair accessible seating:** Please indicate that you need wheelchair accessible seating in the provided field when you book your tickets online, or let our box office coordinator know when you book tickets in person.

**Other seating needs:** When you book tickets, there is a field that asks if you have any accessibility needs. You can type any needs or requests there.

## Intrepid Box Office and Fringe Cabaret





**The in-person box office** is located at Fringe Headquarters (Intrepid Theatre), at 2 - 1609 Blanshard Street (at Fisgard). The box office area is wheelchair accessible. There is no public washroom at the box office.

**Hours:** 12pm-5pm starting August 1st, and then everyday from Monday, August 21st to Sunday, September 3 from 12-6:30pm.

## Visual Venue Guide

A visual venue guide (visual story) is available for each venue. Visual stories were created with folks on the autism spectrum in mind, but may be useful for everyone. The visual guide gives written information and pictures about what to expect at each venue when you come to see a show, including transit & parking, arriving at the venue, bar/concessions, what to expect during a show, and Covid safety information.



[Click here to open the Metro Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Roxy Theatre Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Wood Hall Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Baumann Hall Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the SKAM Satellite Studio Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Intrepid Studio Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Victoria Event Centre Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Market Square Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Finnerty Gardens Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

[Click here to open the Macaulay Point Park Visual Story](#) (screen-reader accessible PDF)

## Free Accessible Tickets Program

Free tickets are available to all companions to patrons who identify as a part of the d/Disability community. Just call our



box office at 250-383-2663 and ask for a companion ticket when booking.

We are also offering a new 'Fringe on the House' program\* this year. If for any reason the cost of a ticket is beyond your means, we have a select number of tickets per show available for free, no questions asked. Just call our box office at 250-383-2663 or e-mail [tickets@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:tickets@intrepidtheatre.com) to book.

\*Fringe on the House tickets are limited to one ticket per person, per show, up to a maximum of 5 shows.

**All tickets need to be booked in advance.** To guarantee a Fringe on the House or companion ticket, tickets must be booked before 3pm for weekday shows, and 12pm for weekend shows.

There are two ways to book these tickets:

1. **In person.** The in person box office is located at 2-1609 Blanshard Street.
  - a. Box Office is open 12:30pm-5pm starting August 1st, and then everyday from Monday, August 21st to Sunday, September 3 from 12:30-6:30pm. Wren and other festival staff members will be there to offer support.
2. **By phone.** If you prefer, you can call the box office at 250 383 2663 during the above Box Office hours.

## Front of House and Arriving at the Theatre

Seating begins 15 mins before showtime for all venues, except Venue 1 - The Metro Studio, where seating begins 30 mins beforehand.

Bring your confirmation email (on a phone or printed) to the show for entry.

**If you have booked an accessible ticket, it will be accompanied by a free Fringe Button.**

If you feel unwell at all, please email [tickets@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:tickets@intrepidtheatre.com) before the performance begins to exchange your ticket.

Masks are recommended in indoor venues. For more info on COVID-19 policies, [click here](#).

See the venue visual guides and accessibility info [here](#) for more details on venues and specific shows.

**If you require priority seating, please arrive 25 minutes in advance and the Front of House team can assist you.**

All shows start on time. Depending on the show, latecomers may not be seated.

## Accommodations

### Script Library

Some shows have provided scripts, in case it is useful for audience members to read in advance of attending the show. While building the script library, we have in mind people whose first language isn't English, people who process information better textually, d/Deaf and h/Hard of hearing people, people who would like to review the script for content that may be sensitive or triggering, and anyone who would like to know more about a show's content in advance.



*Scripts are all provided in PDF format. If you require a different format, please contact Kaylee at [pa@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:pa@intrepidtheatre.com) or 250-383-2663.*



[Visit the Script Library here](#). The password is **readfringe23**

**The following shows have a script in the script library:**

[Sadec 1965: A Love Story](#)

[Pico and the Golden Lagoon](#)

[Oh Mother](#)

[Moby Dick](#)

[Bad Dog](#)

## Accessibility Resources: Visual Stories & Show Introductions



*Scripts are all provided in PDF format. If you require a different format, please contact Kaylee at [pa@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:pa@intrepidtheatre.com) or 250-383-2663.*

### Visual Stories

A visual story is a guide for people to look at prior to going to the theatre so that they know what to expect during the performance. Visual stories were developed for people on the autism spectrum, and go hand in hand with relaxed performances (though there are no dedicated relaxed performances at the 2023 Fringe), but they may be useful for anyone who wants to get a sense of what a show is like before experiencing it.

**The following shows have a visual story/sensory guide** (*click to view or download*):

[\*Pico and the Golden Lagoon - Sensory Guide\*](#)

[\*New Earth Bandits\*](#)

[\*Bad Dog\*](#)

## **Relaxed Elements**

Shows with relaxed elements may include reduced lighting and sound effects, keeping house lights on so audiences can see themselves throughout the show, and allowing patrons to exit and re-enter the performance as they feel comfortable.

**The following shows have relaxed elements** (*click to view or download*):

[\*Pico and the Golden Lagoon - 1 Show Saturday, September 2nd 12:00pm\*](#)

[\*The Big Wail - 1 Show Thursday, August 31st 6:00pm\*](#)

[\*Oh Mother - 2 Shows; Tuesday, August 29th 2:15pm & Saturday, September 2nd 2:00pm\*](#)

[\*Infinity Gardens - 2 Shows; Sunday, August 27th 4:00pm & Friday, September 1st 4:00pm\*](#)

## **Show Introductions**

A show introduction outlines audio or visual elements that are essential to understanding a show, often a show that has minimal audio or visual elements, in an effort to make the show accessible to Deaf and Hard of Hearing patrons, or Blind and low vision patrons, without ASL interpretation or audio description.

**The following shows have pre-show introductions included in their show:**

[\*Sadec 1965: A Love Story - Written & Audio\*](#)

[\*Bad Dog - Written & Audio\*](#)

## Theatre Buddies

The theatre buddies program pairs a volunteer with patrons who would like assistance during a show. The theatre buddy volunteer meets the patron(s) at the venue or at another requested location, accompanies them into the theatre and sits with them during the show, and can provide information such as giving a description of the set and stage to a patron who is Blind or has low vision. Please email [pa@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:pa@intrepidtheatre.com) or call 250 383 2663 to request a theatre buddy. Requests need to be made in advance.

## At-a-Glance Show Guide

This is a quick guide that outlines key information about each show to help you decide if it will work for you, including:

- Show dates
- Genre
- Suitability
- Venue
- Content and trigger warnings
- Audio and visual elements
- Accommodations
- Whether there is a script or accessibility resources



[View or download the Show Guide here.](#)

## See you at the Fringe!

If you have any questions or would like further info, please reach out to Kaylee at [pa@intrepidtheatre.com](mailto:pa@intrepidtheatre.com) or 250-383-2663.