

Success Skills Summit

PROGRAM REPORT

2024-25



JA
British
Columbia

Member of
JA Canada



SUCCESS SKILLS SUMMIT OVERVIEW



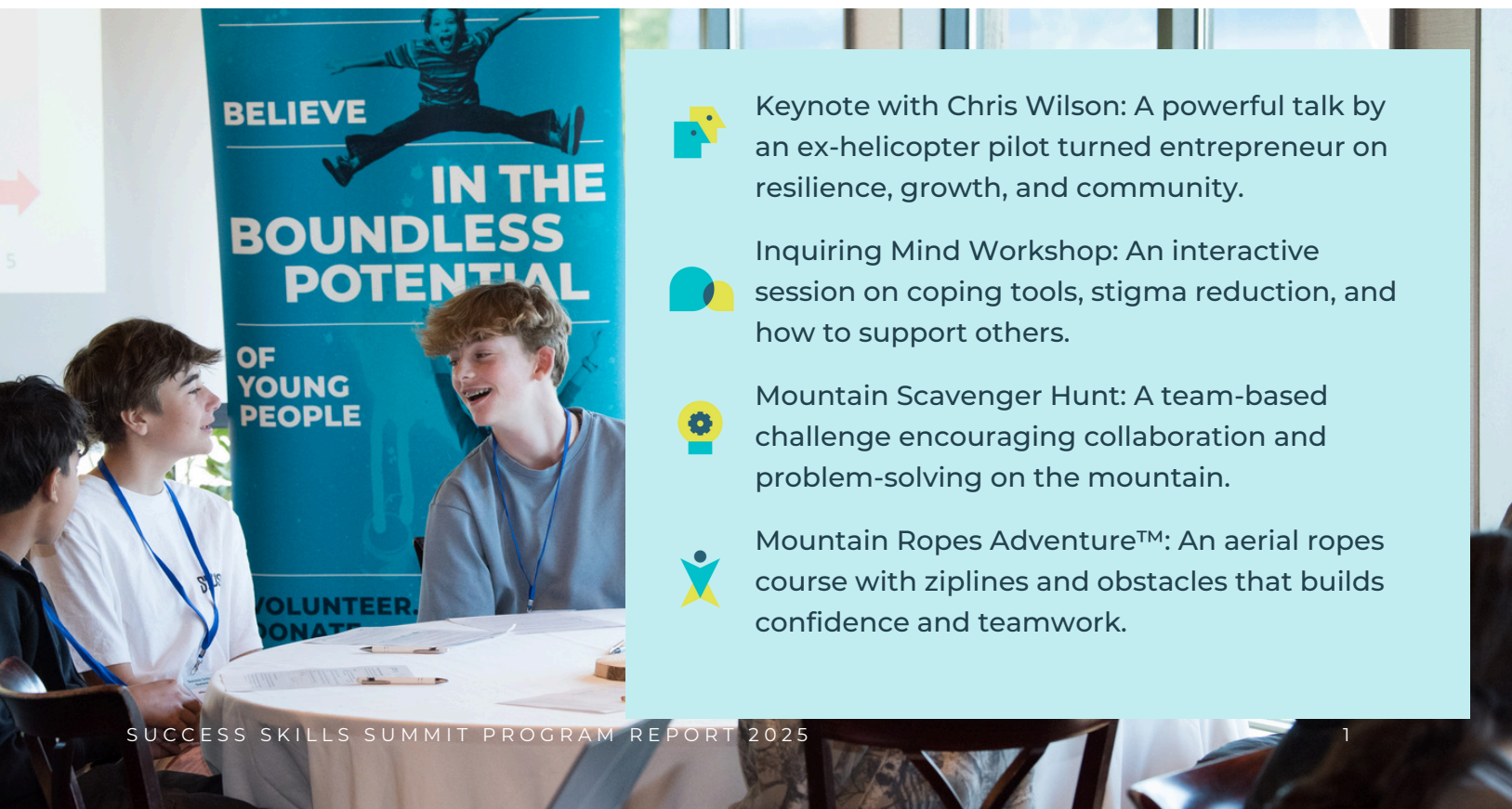
EMPOWERING YOUTH: HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES TO STRENGTHEN MENTAL WELL-BEING AND EASE THE TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

On Wednesday, May 28, 2025, nearly 100 Grade 8 students from Handsworth, Sutherland, Windsor, and West Vancouver Secondary Schools in North and West Vancouver, BC took part in a special JA experience at Grouse Mountain.

This one-day, in-person summit—rooted in the JA Success Skills program—was designed to ease the transition to high school by equipping students with tools to strengthen mental well-being, build resilience, and develop life skills. Students engaged in experiential learning, peer connection, and self-reflection in a natural setting.

The day began with remarks from JA alumni, followed by a traditional welcome from the Grouse Mountain Resident Elder. Wendi Campbell (JA British Columbia) and Cam Mitchell (Zurich Canada) also shared encouraging messages to set a positive tone.

A keynote by Chris Wilson, TEDx speaker, bestselling author, and entrepreneur, inspired students to reflect on their journeys, embrace challenges, and look ahead with purpose. Throughout the day, students took part in interactive workshops on stress management, emotional awareness, communication, and goal setting.



Keynote with Chris Wilson: A powerful talk by an ex-helicopter pilot turned entrepreneur on resilience, growth, and community.



Inquiring Mind Workshop: An interactive session on coping tools, stigma reduction, and how to support others.



Mountain Scavenger Hunt: A team-based challenge encouraging collaboration and problem-solving on the mountain.



Mountain Ropes Adventure™: An aerial ropes course with ziplines and obstacles that builds confidence and teamwork.

STUDENT OUTCOMES



To support ongoing improvements to our programs, we surveyed students after this year's sessions. Below are the results that reflect their learning experience.

77%

of students said they plan to use what they learned to advocate for and support others.

76%

of students reported an increased understanding of how to use skills to build resilience and better manage future challenges.

79%

of students said they learned new skills and knowledge to support their mental well-being.

63%

of students reported a greater understanding of the importance of mental health as a key factor for success in life, school, and work.



THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SUPPORTERS

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We gratefully acknowledge the support of the City of North Vancouver through their Community Grant program.



Special thanks to our keynote speaker:



PHOTO GALLERY



SUCCESS SKILLS SUMMIT
MAY 28, 2025 | GROUSE MOUNTAIN



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images
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"On behalf of all our West Van students and staff, thank you so much for a great day! What a privilege to participate in this learning opportunity. All our kids went home with a smile and the day was excellent."

- Amy Rice, West Vancouver Secondary

ABOUT JABC



JA British Columbia (JABC) is a not-for-profit impact organization that delivers hands-on, immersive education in work readiness, financial health, and entrepreneurship. Through JA, young people are equipped with the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities. Learn more at jabc.org.



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