

## Science World Announces Record Breaking Visitor Attendance This Past Year

*Surpassing 1 million visitors in 2018, Science World attributes remarkable success to compelling exhibitions, new initiatives, and provincial outreach*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Vancouver, BC, January 7, 2019** - Science World announced this week that it surpassed the 1 million mark for visitor attendance in 2018, a 20 per cent increase in visitors in comparison to 2017. This increase in visitors can be attributed to outreach programs all over British Columbia, revitalization of permanent exhibits, high-profile feature exhibitions and films, and programs such as the [Class Field Trip Bursary Program](#) that enable thousands of youth from underserved schools to visit Science World.

Recently installed permanent exhibitions include *Wonder*—an amazing hands-on learning space for children aged 0-5 years—and *Tinkering Space: The Worksafe BC Gallery*, designed to spark imagination, creativity, and ingenuity in older kids.

Meanwhile, temporary exhibitions such as *The Science of Ripley's Believe It or Not!* and *The Science Behind PIXAR* were major traffic drivers to the geodesic dome in 2018, helping bring new and repeat visitors through the doors.

“We’re thrilled to have served a record number of visitors over this past year. It speaks to the remarkable impacts of experiential learning, and to the important role of science centres,” said Scott Sampson, President & CEO of Science World. “Science World is empowering youth with skills in critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity, all of which are essential for success in the emerging innovation economy.”

Science World recently launched [Symbiosis](#), a deeply collaborative, province-wide STEAM-learning (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Design and Math) initiative designed to provide equal access to high quality learning opportunities for youth throughout British Columbia. Together with partners in K-12 schools, higher education, business, government, and the non-profit world, *Symbiosis* is connecting students across the province with mentors, resources and technology. Recent events related to this bold, new initiative, such as a day-long [Girls and STEAM](#) celebration, brought Science World programming to thousands of youth.

Additionally, Science World’s outreach programs bring exciting, hands-on learning to youth across the province who may not have access to TELUS World of Science in Vancouver. Last year, over 120,000 students throughout BC had the opportunity to increase their STEAM literacy by participating in interactive Science World programs that came to their communities. Outreach programs include [On The Road](#), [Future Science Leaders](#), [BC Green Games](#) and [Super Science Club](#).

“Science World is committed to bringing STEAM learning opportunities to people all over British Columbia, and to ensuring that these opportunities reach children and youth in underserved communities. The amazing work of our team members, both here in Vancouver and all over the province, are driving us closer to achieving our vision; that within a generation, Canada will be a country of thriving, sustainable communities rooted in science, innovation and a deep connection to nature,” said Sampson.

This year, Science World will celebrate its 30th anniversary, having served over 18 million people since Expo ‘86 with attendance increasing annually.

### **About Science World**

Science World is a BC-based charitable organization that engages the people of British Columbia in STEAM literacy. Their mission is to ignite wonder and empower dreams through science and nature. Their vision is that within a generation, Canada will be a country of thriving, sustainable communities rooted in science, innovation and a deep connection to nature.

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### **Media Contact**

Larissa Dundon

[larissa@larissadundon.com](mailto:larissa@larissadundon.com)

604.649.5506