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If there was no protest or community support, a student might have committed suicide: says Ontario's international student

Hundreds of international students, including a large number of Sikh students from Punjab, have had their enrolments suspended by the College, despite having paid upwards of \$15,000 in tuition. The College claims that it has insufficient resources to enroll the students this semester – WSO

The plight of international students is now a full-blown crisis.

Three prominent Sikh organizations have written to the leaders of Ontario's political parties calling on them to address what they call a "crisis" of exploitative practices affecting International Students in Ontario.

By Surbhi Gogia

The statement about the mental stress of international students came right from the heart of Jaspreet Singh who was protesting for over a week outside an Ontario college over the abrupt suspension of many students' enrolment for the Spring 2022



semester. Students staged a sit-in protest, lasting over seven days to draw attention to their predicament and demand justice from the College.

CBC reported that many students of the Alpha College of Business and Technology were protesting outside since they had paid "upwards of \$15,000 in tuition" and yet "their enrolment has been unilaterally suspended — placing their study permits in jeopardy." They were told by the College that they would have to take a drop semester, despite many having been attending online classes for the past two weeks and

having already paid their enrollment fees. Some students were told that they could enroll again in September and others, in the January 2023 semester. Affected students have not been provided refunds as the College continues to hold hundreds of thousands of dollars of the students' tuition fees without providing any education or support, World Sikh Organization (WSO) said in a statement.

Jaspreet Singh, an international student from Bhatinda, Punjab came to Canada in September 2021 to study at Alpha College.

Continued on page 09

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Three incredible seniors at the PICS Assisted Living facility (Guru Nanak Niwas), Gian Kaur Badiyal and Vrajkuvar Devraj were honoured by staff, family, community members and civic, provincial and federal politicians on their special day when they celebrated 100th birthday. And their valuable advice: Dhanoa's message was there's "no secret to a long life, only live your life & be happy." Badiyal said the "key to a happy & long life is always doing something." And Devraj said, "be spiritual, be happy and believe in God."

(Full story on Page 8)

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Muslim Groups Call on NHL to Implement a Lifelong Ban of Racist Fans in Aftermath of Attacks on Nazem Kadri

TORONTO, ON: Over the long weekend, while Canadian families from across the country tuned into NHL playoffs, Arab-Muslim-Canadian former Maple Leaf's star and Colorado Avalanche player, Nazem Kadri, and his family were the subject of fierce anti-Arab-racist and Islamophobic social media posts and death threats, after he was involved in a collision at a game on Saturday night that left another player out for the rest of the series.

The torrent of hatred came following Kadri's team, the Colorado Avalanche, sinking the St. Louis Blues 6-3 on Monday night. The win gave the Avs a 3-1 lead in the Western Conference series.

Kadri — of Lebanese descent — collided with Blues goaltender Jordan Binnington in Game 3. Binnington was scratched for the rest of the series with a lower-body injury.

Some Twitter posts called Kadri an "Arab scum" and a "towel head". On Instagram, Kadri received hate mail from people calling him a "stupid Arab" and a "f***ing immigrant" who "should've never came to America." Other posts, which have been deleted, included death threats. Kadri was also subject to Islamophobic attacks, insinuating that he is a terrorist. Kadri, who



Nazim Kadri (Credit : NHL.com)

was born in London, ON and is of Lebanese descent, acknowledged that he has been dealing with racial slurs for much of his life.

Kadri's wife Ashley too took to social media and shared some of the sickening racist messages targeting the forward and his family. "Great game tonight, very proud of Nazem. But I want to shine light on what the last 48 hours has looked like for us as a family."

It is Kadri's Muslim faith that was targeted. She called the hateful missives "just a small example". "This behavior doesn't belong in sports, or anywhere. If you are not condemning racism, then you are tolerating it," she wrote. "Praying for the world to be a better place with more love and less hate."

Kadri himself had thoughtful comments on this in a post-game interview on TNT. "Unfortunately, I've been dealing with that for

a long time. It's sad to say, but it's just the fact of the matter. I'm just putting it in the rear-view mirror. It's a big deal, but I try to act like it's not and just keep moving forward. That's what I do. And I know that, some of the messages I got, doesn't reflect every single fan in St. Louis, but for those that hate, that was for them."

The Canadian Arab Institute (CAI) and the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM) unreservedly condemn the anti-Arab racism and Islamophobia targeting Kadri and his family. CAI and NCCM call on the NHL to amend their Fan Code of Conduct to ban fans who direct death threats and racist slurs towards players and their families. "Kadri is not alone in his fight against racism. Time and time again, we see racialized players experiencing double the consequences and hate when incidents in the game happen," NCCM and CAI said in a joint statement.

In the last few months, Kadri, Akim Aliu (Calgary), Matt Dumba (Minnesota), Wayne Simmonds (Toronto) and Anthony Duclair (Florida), among others, formed the Hockey Diversity Alliance, and have come forward about the racism that they've endured by fans, coaches, and the League itself.

Continued on page 13

Kannada spoken in Canadian parliament for first time MP Chandra Arya's speech goes viral in India



CHANDRA ARYA, Nepean, ON | LIBERAL

The video of a speech in Kannada — spoken mainly by the people of the southwestern Indian state of Karnataka — by Canadian parliamentarian Chandra Arya in Canada's House of Commons has gone viral on the social media. The gesture of love for his mother tongue is being appreciated all over the country amid the Hindi-national language row. Arya wrote on Twitter: "I spoke in my mother tongue (first language) Kannada in Canadian parliament. This beautiful language has long history and is spoken by about 50 million people. This is the first time Kannada is spoken in any parliament in the world outside of India."

Arya addressed the Canadian parliament: "Respected chairperson, I am happy that I got an opportunity to address the Canada parliament

in my mother tongue. It is a matter of pride for 5 crore [50 million] people of Karnataka that a person from the village Dwalalu in Sirataluk of Tumakuru district has been elected as the member of Parliament in Canada and addressing the house in his language.

"In 2018, Kannadigas of Canada have celebrated the Kannada Rajyotsava Day in the parliament. I will end my address with the lines of a song written by Rashtrakavi Kuvempu and sung by late Kannada cinema legend Dr Rajkumar, 'no matter wherever you are, be a Kannadiga'. Thank you Chairman."

The video shows other Canadian parliamentarians applauding. The 59-second video has been shared by dignitaries including Karnataka Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan.

First work of fiction in Hindi wins International Booker Prize

Tomb of Sand (originally 'Ret Samadhi') is the first book originally written in any Indian language to win the International Booker Prize, and the first novel translated from Hindi to be recognised by the award.

Written by Geetanjali Shree and translated by Daisy Rockwell, the novel is set in northern India and follows the adventures of an 80-year-old woman who unexpectedly gains a new, and highly unconventional, lease of life.

The result is a book that is engaging, funny and utterly original, at the same time as being an urgent and timely protest against the destructive impact of borders and bound-



(Photo credit: The Booker Prize Facebook page)

aries - whether between religions, countries or genders.

The International Booker Prize is awarded annually for a single book, translated into English and published in the UK or Ireland.

The Booker Prize 2022 winner will be announced in October.

It was not safe for PM Trudeau to attend Surrey's fundraiser due to size of protest group

SURREY: What started as a protest by a small group outside Aria Banquet Hall gates during Justin Trudeau's visit to Surrey this week, took shape of a monster. Concerns about PM's safety led to canceling of his in-person attendance to a fundraiser.

Several media reports appeared that PM Trudeau was in Surrey to attend a Liberal party fundraising dinner on Tuesday, May 24 evening. However, Surrey RCMP informed that at approximately 4:40 p.m. there was a small group of protestors outside of the banquet hall gates. "The number of protestors continued to grow in size and included with the protest were several cars, larger trucks, and vehicles towing trailers that were travelling in a convoy style loop around the roadway," said Cpl. Vanessa Munn, Surrey RCMP.

Due to the size and composition of the protest group and for the safety of everyone in attendance, a decision was made that it was not safe for the Prime Minister to attend the location, Munn informed. Police remained on site to ensure the safety of all parties involved. Munn said the police could not disclose whose decision it was to cancel PM's participation. "For security reasons, the RCMP doesn't comment on specifics when it comes to security measures afforded to the Prime Minister," she said.

Trudeau did not enter the building and spoke to a crowd for about three minutes by Zoom instead of making a speech in person. He said no one should be intimidated or stopped from exercising their



democratic freedoms because that's what this country is all about. Trudeau said he would return to see his supporters in Surrey in the future.

Apart from being disappointed for not meeting PM in person, the attendees of the event expressed their concern for the racial slur that was hurled on them by the protestors.

Two speakers at the fundraiser told The Canadian Press that dozens of protesters were yelling racial slurs at mostly South Asian attendees entering the convention centre.

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Surrey Police Service Third Largest Municipal Police Agency in BC

Surrey Police Service (SPS) informed that according to most recent Police Resources in British Columbia report it is now the third largest municipal police agency in the province, with only Vancouver and Victoria having larger municipal agencies.

The current SPS officer number also makes the service the sixth largest in BC when all municipal departments and RCMP detachments are considered, SPS said in a release.

SPS continues to attract and hire highly qualified experienced officers and new recruits. Over the past month, 39 police officers were officially sworn in, and five civilian employees were welcomed to SPS.

In just 18 months, Surrey's new municipal police service has grown from one employee to 275 employees, which is made up of 235 police officers and 40



civilian employees.

SPS recently closed its second application pool for new recruits, with 409 applications received. The SPS recruiting team will now review all applications and begin testing for qualified applicants in order to fill 13 spots for the fall 2022 class at the Justice Institute of BC Police Academy. SPS also continues to hire experienced police officers for positions in its Community Policing Bureau, with 60% of the 2022 positions already filled.

On May 24th, another group of SPS officers was deployed to respond to calls for service in Surrey. This brings the total number of deployed SPS officers to 85, with more being added every two months, as outlined in the SPS-RCMP Human Resources Strategy and Plan.

Prior to being deployed, SPS officers are provided with five weeks of training with SPS, followed by a three-day orientation with the Surrey RCMP. These officers bring a wealth of

experience from their previous agencies, and a desire to contribute to the historic creation of a brand-new police service for one of Canada's most diverse cities.

"With every additional SPS officer hired and deployed, the transition to the City's own police service advances," says Chief Constable Norm Lipinski. "Our officers are increasingly being noticed in the neighbourhoods and town centres of Surrey and they regularly receive positive feedback from citizens. They are doing outstanding work and I'm extremely proud of them."

Surrey RCMP remain the police of jurisdiction at this point in the transition. Their detachment, community offices, and phone numbers remain the primary points of contact for non-emergencies. As always, 911 should be utilized in emergency situations.

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PM Trudeau Lends a Hand at Surrey's Guru Nanak Food Bank

SURREY: Amidst PM Justin Trudeau's troubled visit to Surrey, something good emerged when PM Trudeau shared some pictures of his visit to Surrey's Guru Nanak Food Bank. He informed on his Twitter how grateful he was to the team and volunteers who work selflessly at the food bank to feed families and international students. PM himself helped packing some food supplies at the food bank. He took to Twitter admiring the team and wrote: "Every month, @GNFB-Surrey supports hundreds of people – providing families with food, international students with supplies, single mothers with diapers, and more. We stopped in there today to help pack some boxes, and to thank them for the work they do. What a team they have."



Photo Credit:
@JustinTrudeau/Twitter

Prime Minister at Surrey's Guru Nanak Food Bank

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Anureet Dosanjh of Surrey charged after alcohol fueled crash

ABBOTSFORD, BC: Abbotsford Police announced that twenty-three-year-old Anureet Dosanjh of Surrey has been charged with six counts of Impaired Operation Causing Bodily Harm and three counts of Dangerous Operation Causing Bodily Harm in connection to a crash that involved Volkswagen Jetta and Honda Civic in May last year. On May 24, 2021, at 8:13 pm, Abbotsford Emergency Services was called to Whatcom Road and North Parallel Rd to report a serious crash involving a Volkswagen Jetta and Honda Civic. The Honda Civic was traveling westbound on North Parallel at a high rate of speed, travelled into the on-coming lane and collided head on with the Volkswagen Jetta. The Honda, occupied by driver and passenger, and the Volkswagen, occupied by the driver, passenger, and two small children, sustained injuries and were taken to hospital by BC Ambulance Service.

To date, the front passenger of Volkswagen is recovering from severe, life-altering injuries. The front passenger of the Honda Civic was in hospital, on a ventilator, with serious injuries.

Calling it a "preventable collision", the AbbyPD General Investigation Section (GIS) tirelessly followed the evidence advancing this file to the charge approval stage. The police suspected alcohol and speed as prime factors of collision even at the early stage of investigation.

And on this collision's first anniversary, Dosanjh has been charged.

"From the onset, the General Investigation Section was grateful for the assistance from the public, which included witnesses and businesses in the area, allowing this investigation to advance. The investigative team remains dedicated to holding those responsible accountable," said Sergeant Chris Brown-John.

41-year old Abbotsford Man Dies Following An Assault

ABBOTSFORD, BC: The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) informed that three individuals were in police custody following an assault in Abbotsford where one man died.

On May 25, 2022, at around 10:30 p.m., Abbotsford Police Department (AbbyPD) responded to an assault within the 32900-block of South Fraser Way. When first responders arrived, they found a man suffering from serious life-threatening injuries. Emergency care was provided, but the man succumbed to his injuries. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team

(IHIT) was called in to investigate.

The victim has been identified but his name is not being released pending next of kin notification. The victim is 41-years old and from Abbotsford with no connection to gangs. An initial canvass was completed by AbbyPD Major Crime Unit and with assistance of AbbyPD patrol officers and the Lower Mainland Police Dog Service (IPDS), one adult and two youths were located and taken in custody for their suspected involvement. This is believed to be an isolated incident.

Continued on page 30

Missing person to locate: Pranav NAIR

Burnaby RCMP is requesting the public's assistance with locating a 13-year old boy, Pranav NAIR, who was last seen around 6:00 pm on Friday, May 20.

On May 20, at 6:40 pm, Pranav NAIR was reported missing. He was last seen in the 4700 block of Rumble Street in Burnaby.

Pranav is described as:

5'7

skinny build, black hair, brown eyes

Pranav was last seen wearing:

blue jeans, blue hat, brown jacket

Pranav's family and police are concerned for his well-being and are urging anyone who may have seen him or have any information on his whereabouts to call the Burnaby RCMP at 604-646-9999. If they wish to remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers, at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).



Surrey man accused of sexually assaulting 4 women around Skytrain stations

VANCOUVER: Metro Vancouver Transit Police informed public of arrest of a 37-year-old man from Surrey known to police after he allegedly sexually assaulted four different women at or near Granville SkyTrain Station in downtown Vancouver.

On Friday, May 13, 2022, just before 4:30 p.m., a woman was sitting on a bench inside Pacific Centre Mall, near Granville Station, when a man allegedly approached her, touched her hip and attempted to pull her toward him. The suspect was interrupted by a Paladin Security Guard who shouted at him to stop and then called police. The suspect then made his way inside Granville SkyTrain Station where he al-

legedly attempted to grab a second woman's pubic area, which she was able to block using her hand. The suspect continued his behaviour with a third woman, allegedly touching her breast while uttering sexually explicit comments. The woman used the emergency phone on the SkyTrain platform to call for help.

The fourth and final known woman to be victimized by the suspect was walking out of the station when the suspect allegedly stepped in front of her, grabbed her wrist and attempted to forcefully pull her into a nearby business.

The woman screamed for help as the suspect allegedly shouted sexually explicit and vulgar comments.

Continued on page 30

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It's not every day that our community gets to celebrate the birthday of three centenarians but Thursday (May 26th 2022) was an exception. Three women at the PICS Assisted Living facility (Guru Nanak Niwas) - , Gian Kaur Badiyal and Vrajkuvar Devraj were honoured by staff, family, community members and civic, provincial and federal politicians in a special way. Mrs. Badiyal was actually turning 103, but was unable to celebrate her 100th-milestone due to the pandemic.

Satbir Singh Cheema, the CEO of Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society, said it was a very special celebration. He noted the facility usually celebrates birthdays on the last Thursday of the month, and this was one of the first big ones since the pandemic halted most events.

"It's pretty impressive to see a loved one live to see their magical 100th birthday, and it's certainly deserving of a very special celebration when three of our beloved seniors are celebrating their 100+ birthdays with us here. These birthday celebrations are important to us as it gives us a chance to honor our elderly and celebrate these well lived meaningful lives", said Satbir Singh Cheema.

Moments like these reinforce the need for such culturally sensitive senior's facilities in our communities. Volunteers, staff and board of PICS Society have been compassionately caring for many elders by providing a home where they feel like they belong, a place where they are living their lives comfortably, ageing in grace surrounded by friends and staff.

"On behalf of all my colleagues and everyone at PICS, I feel blessed to be a part of their life journey's. As we celebrate this remarkable moment, I hope the community will support PICS Society so that we are able to provide more culturally sensitive services to many more seniors", said Satbir Singh Cheema.

Continued from Page 01

If there was no protest or community support, a student might have...

Talking to the LINK about his and other students' plight, said, he along with many other international students did not receive any timetable from the college at the beginning of the semester whereas the classes had already started. "When we went to the college to know what the issue was, we were sent from one campus to another without any satisfactory response. And then the same email was sent out to most of us."

"After repeated attempts, some of us including me got our timetables. But many were still left without any answers, and they decided to organize. I joined my other fellows who were still left without any answers," he informed.

The students protested day and night outside the college. Organizations like Khalsa Aid and World Sikh Organization stepped up their support once reports of the College allegedly suspending enrolment, started emerging on social media and national media platforms. The College issued a statement on May 23 that it would like "to make it public that all Spring 2022 fully paid returning students have now been issued a time-table. Additionally, the Alpha College team has also worked through the weekend to issue enrolment letters to all returning students."

Jaspreet said that although according to the College the issue seemed resolved, students have expressed a lack of trust in the College administration because of a different set of information coming from officials about the enrolment.

The Canadian Federation of Students – Ontario informed that students were met with strong resistance and security presence, with security personnel throwing away their personal belongings to deter them from protesting. Jaspreet said the stress and mental harassment that the students have gone through is beyond imaginary. "I have seen students crying because their future and money were at stake. I personally feel if there was no protest someone would have committed suicide."

WSO too said that the unreasonable actions of the College have had a severe impact on the lives of these students, both in India and Canada, including financial hardship and mental and emotional stress. "The College needs to recognize the severe impact its actions are having on these students. These students have left their homes to come to Canada to study and are paying tuition fees that are much higher than domestic students. Many of their families have sold their land to send their children here to pursue their education. Forcing students to take one or more drop semesters because the College didn't plan properly on how to accommodate them is hurtful and unreasonable," said Tejinder Singh Sidhu, WSO.

Along with WSO, many local organizations have stepped out in support of the students. Khalsa

Aid, the organization with a mandate to support people affected by natural disasters played an important role to support students with food and other supplies while they were protesting. Manpreet Singh, director, Khalsa Aid, Ontario, called it "a systematic process of exploitation" where children who have paid their tuition, followed all the rules, and done everything got their enrolment deferred. He said that it has become a pattern for many private colleges to charge multiple levels of fee.

Three prominent Sikh organizations, the Ontario Gurdwaras Committee, Khalsa Aid Canada, and the World Sikh Organization of Canada, have written to the leaders of Ontario's political parties calling on them to address what they call a "crisis" of exploitative practices affecting International Students in Ontario.

The letter mentions it is now clear that the plight of international students has reached a crisis state in Ontario. Many Private Career Colleges are generating large profits at the expense of international students while engaging in exploitative practices and not providing adequate education or support. As a result, international students are encountering serious financial hardships, deteriorating mental health, immigration complications, and an overall loss of trust in the Canadian post-secondary education system.

Canadian Federation of Students too reported a similar situation. It said that upon landing in Canada and paying upwards of over \$30,000 a year in tuition fees, students find themselves scrambling to retain their status as they often find out that their courses do not meet the requirements to apply

for a valid Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP). This happens for multiple reasons, with the most common ones being unofficial "drops", or the institution not being a Designated Learning Institute (DLI). With various colleges in Québec and British Columbia already being scrutinized by the government for malpractice, Ontario is now experiencing a similar and growing trend with the rise of such institutions.

The letter that was sent out to the politicians states that "St. Lawrence College was listed as one of five colleges that had more international students at private career colleges than what they were allowed."

In a report released in December 2021, The Auditor General of Ontario found that if St. Lawrence College were to suddenly lose their partnerships with private ca-

reer colleges, the college would face a \$6.51 million dollar deficit next year. It is clear that St. Lawrence College and its affiliate, Alpha College are treating international students like cash cows and not providing them the education and respect they deserve."

The exploitation of international students is not, however, limited to just St. Lawrence College. Students at other private career colleges in Ontario are complaining of similar practices.

"We call on you to publicly commit to reviewing and revising private career college accountability measures and the public-private partnership framework to ensure current and future student harms are addressed," said Amarjeet Mann, Spokesperson, Ontario Gurdwaras Committee.

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Your Airbags Weren't Deployed During a Car Accident: Can You Sue the Car's Manufacturer?



By Adam Ueland
Partner
Email: aueland@simpsonthomas.com
Phone: 604 697 3987
Simpson, Thomas & Associates

Airbags are supposed to protect you if you are involved in a motor vehicle accident. They should quickly deploy to protect your upper body and head from hitting the steering wheel or inside of the vehicle. When airbags fail, you may suffer more severe injuries that would otherwise have been prevented such as brain injury or a concussion.

Lawsuits Against Airbag Manufacturer



If airbags do not deploy or fail to work as expected during a motor vehicle accident, you may be able to sue the manufacturer for personal injury compensation. There are many reasons that an airbag can fail, including faulty design, errors in manufacturing or producing the airbag, and use

of defective or poor-quality components in the airbag system (e.g., sensors, modules, electrical parts/wiring). Courts can hold manufacturers liable to pay compensation for personal injury caused by negligent design, manufacturing defects, and/or failure to warn of dangers.

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To succeed in a personal injury lawsuit that involves a defective airbag, you must prove that:

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- You suffered loss or damage as a result of the manufacturer's negligence.

You will be required to prove each element of the claim on a balance of probabilities. Preservation of evidence and expert evidence can often make or break a product liability case. It may be necessary to have your vehicle examined for defects or have the airbag or its components tested to determine why the airbag did not deploy. These types of claims are highly complex and you should expect that the manufacturer will aggressively defend itself against all claims. If you are considering a lawsuit against an airbag manufacturer, it is highly recommended that you get advice as soon as possible from an experienced personal injury lawyer.

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Vaisakhi celebration at Queensborough Middle School

Queensborough Middle School (QMS) has been a good model for Punjabi. For many years, the Punjabi classes there have been flourishing at a fast pace. This has been possible only with the support and co-operation of the

was followed by an enchanting Dilruba performance by Sukhman. Dilruba is a very special musical instrument invented by Guru Gobind Singh ji, the tenth and last Guru of the Sikhs and creator of the Khalsa (The Pure One).

Happy Vaisakhi!
Balwant Sanghera, is President, Punjabi

Language Education Association (PLEA)



school board, district administration, school administration, staff, students and parents of QMS. However, the teachers make a big difference in this regard. On behalf of Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA) I would like to commend the teachers, especially Mr. Deep Sangra, who has made the success of the Punjabi program at QMS one of his top priorities. For many years, Mr. Sangra has made the celebration of Vaisakhi as one of his top priorities. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this celebration had to be put on hold. Finally, this year, this celebration has come back with a great deal of enthusiasm. This year, QMS celebrated Vaisakhi and Sirjna (Creation) of the Khalsa on Wednesday, May 4, 2022... Since early morning, the entire school was buzzing with enthusiasm. Students were welcoming and greeting guests at the main school entrance. Few minutes before the start time, teachers ushered in their students to the gym. Within minutes, as Principal John Lekakies gave the signal to start, student MCs Asha and Hehan sprang into action. Gurveen Kaur Dhaliwal, Chairperson of the New Westminster School District and her fellow trustee brought greetings from the school district and congratulated the school administration, staff, students and parents for the Vaisakhi celebration. This

Any Punjabi celebration won't be complete without the Punjabi folk dances. Harleen, Grade 6 students led by Dilshan, Aikam, Akashvir, grade 8 students led by Harkirat and Jaskaranjit and Mr. Ha and his grade five class, all did an excellent job in displaying their skills in Bhangra. Speeches in English and Punjabi by students about Vaisakhi and Creation of the Khalsa by Jaya, Guneet, Gurleen, Iknoor and Diya were very impressive. This writer was honoured to bring greetings from PLEA and congratulate the students, staff and parents for putting on this celebration. Later on, staff, parents and invited guests enjoyed socialization and light refreshments. Incidentally, Vaisakhi, named after Vaisakh, second month of the Punjabi calendar, signifies beginning of the harvesting season in Northern India. Also, on this day in 1699 Guru Gobind Singh ji created the Khalsa Panth. Now Vaisakhi has become an international celebration as the South Asian community in general and Sikhs in particular are well settled in many countries around the globe. In Canada, to its credit, the month of April has been declared as the Sikh Heritage Month. Similarly, in the U.S. Vaisakhi Day is now known as the Sikh Heritage Day. In this context, it was great to see the students at QMS put on an impressive celebration of Vaisakhi.

Congratulations!



Aashutosh's graduation on 24 May 2022. With father and mother Kishor and Lata Nandha and brother Chaitanya. Lots of blessings families and friends from Fiji and India.

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BC extends deadline for flood-recovery help for farmers

VICTORIA - B.C. farmers whose farms were damaged by floods in November 2021 can now apply to the Canada-BC Flood Recovery for Food Security Program until Aug. 31, 2022.

The enrolment deadline for farmers to begin their claim process is being extended from June 1 to Aug. 31. Processing of claims will continue after the deadline and farmers can continue submitting documents outlining their expenses after that date. The program helps farmers return to production by reimbursing them for uninsured expenses they incurred on activities such as:

- * cleanup, repair and restoration of land, barns and animal shelters, and water and waste systems;

- * returning flood-affected land and buildings to a safe state for agricultural production;
- * repairing uninsurable essential farm infrastructure;
- * repairing structures such as live-stock-containment fences;
- * renting temporary production facilities;
- * installing drainage ditches and land-stabilization materials;
- * animal welfare activities such as replacing feed, transporting livestock, veterinary care and mortality disposal; and
- * replacing perennial plants not grown for sale.

Funding for the Canada-BC Flood Recovery for Food Security Program is provided by the govern-

ments of Canada and British Columbia.

Program criteria and application forms are available online: gov.bc.ca/agrifloodrecovery

One-on-one assistance in English and Punjabi for completing applications: agrirecovery@gov.bc.ca (mailto:agrirecovery@gov.bc.ca) or toll-free: 1 888 332-3352.

Income-protection programs for B.C. farmers: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/programs#Insurance>

B.C.'s emergency management planning for agriculture: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/business-market-development/emergency-management>

BC Cancer launches lung-screening program

VANCOUVER - BC Cancer has launched a provincewide lung cancer screening program, providing access to eligible high-risk people at 36 sites throughout the province.

The Lung Screening Program expects to start screening close to 10,000 patients in the first year of the program, with this number expected to increase by approximately 15% per year. It is estimated the program will diagnose approximately 150 lung cancer cases annually, with more than 75% of these diagnosed at an earlier stage than without screening. Lung screening is available provincewide through 36 sites across all health authorities using the existing computed tomography

(CT) scanning capacity.

Lung screening is best suited for those who are at high risk for lung cancer and who are not experiencing symptoms. Eligible participants may include those who are:

- * between 55 and 74;
- * currently smoking or have previously smoked; and
- * have a smoking history of 20 years or more.

Patients who meet the above criteria are encouraged to call the Lung Screening Program at 1 877-717-5864 to complete a consultation and risk assessment to determine eligibility.

Key benefits of a provincewide screening program:

- * equitable access for eligible Brit-

ish Columbians;

- * early detection resulting in improved survival rates; and
- * consistent, high-level screening and prevention delivered via a centralized program.

BC Cancer clinicians and researchers led by Dr. Stephen Lam, medical director of the BC Cancer Lung Screening Program, are leading the program's implementation.

The centralized program will determine who is eligible, communicate results to patients, provide a pathway to cancer care if required and provide information on smoking-cessation programs.

To learn more about BC Cancer's Lung Screening Program, visit: www.screeningbc.ca/lung

BC government says cost to repair more than building new Royal BC museum

VICTORIA - The BC government released the final business case for a new, state-of-the-art Royal BC Museum (RBCM) online.

It contains detailed analyses to inform decisions, including project rationale, service delivery and procurement options, labour alternatives, and implementation plans and timelines.

The government informed that the business case resulted from extensive project evaluation during a five-year period, confirming the museum is at the end of its useful life with costs to upgrade existing buildings more than those to replace them with a new, modern facility.

The plan developed in 2018 identified that the museum buildings require extensive remediation and reconstruction to meet current building codes, including seismic, accessibility and energy efficiency standards, as well as to safely remove hazardous materials such as asbestos, lead and arsenic, and bring the museum up to international standards for hosting world-class exhibitions.

According to the government this is the first public release of a business case and concept plan for a vertical infrastructure project in B.C.

However, not convinced with the business case, BC Liberal



Calling it NDP's billion-dollar vanity project, BC Liberal leader Kevin Falcon slammed the business case "unconvincing and incomplete"

Leader Kevin Falcon, said, "It's unacceptable that today's plan, informed by zero public consultation, fails to disclose vital information such as the value for money analysis, construction costs breakdowns, or even the project's risk matrix."

"This half-baked project must be cancelled before it's too late, and the money reinvested in people. British Columbians need help today, whether it's accessing healthcare or addictions supports, finding affordable housing, or getting some relief from the pain at the pumps. It's not the time for John Horgan's billion-dollar vanity project," Falcon said.

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Punjab CM wants more direct international flights from Chandigarh

Directs the State Civil Aviation dept to immediately tie up with Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airport Authority of India

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has directed the Punjab's Civil Aviation department to immediately tie up with the Indian Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airport Authority of India for starting direct international flights from Mohali International Airport, especially to Canada, the US and the UK. At present, only two international flights are operational from Mohali International Airport to Dubai and Sharjah.

Mann said since the major chunk of Punjabi population is settled in various countries including Canada, the US, the UK, New Zealand and Australia, this initiative would facilitate the Punjabi diaspora settled abroad to visit their native places in Punjab in a seamless manner.

To give impetus to the agro and food processing industry in the state, the CM asked the department to immediately start cargo flights from Mohali International Airport to make Punjab an open market.

He said the step would go a long way in giving the much-needed boost to the export of food products across the globe, especially in supplementing manifold the income of state farmers.

Mann asked the department to immediately convene a meeting with the

Haryana Civil Aviation department to evolve a broad consensus so that the Mohali International Airport be named after Bhagat Singh.

He stressed the need to make International Civil Enclave at Halwara operational at the earliest so

that the trade and industrial activities in the vicinity of Ludhiana could get a boost.



Continued from Page 03

Muslim groups Call on NHL to Implement A Lifelong Ban of Racist Fans in Aftermath of Attacks on...

"This year, CAI is campaigning for April to be designated as Arab Heritage Month. Last month, we celebrated Kadri, as his story and resilience has inspired thousands of racialized youth across the country to get on the ice. Today, we are condemning the attacks he is facing for being Arab and Muslim on the ice. Representation matters, but it must also be accompanied with support mechanisms to combat racism because these online threats translate to offline violence – 66% of hate crimes reported by

Arab-Canadians last year were violent," said Jad El Tal, Director of Research and Policy at CAI.

"Discrimination and racism in all of their forms have no place in sports. We hope for a future in hockey where young Arabs, Muslims, and other racialized youth in Canada, can dream to play in the NHL, without fearing for their safety due to their identity. The NHL must do the right thing and take a stand against racism," said Omar Khamissa of NCCM.

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It is Time to fix crisis at Royal Inland Hospital

KAMLOOPS: BC Liberals MLAs from Kamloops Todd Stone and Peter Milobar have expressed their loss of confidence in the ability and commitment of the Interior Health Authority (IHA) as according to them the situation at Royal Inland Hospital (RIH) is becoming more dangerous and stressful by the day. They are calling on Health Minister Adrian Dix to fix this crisis now — and if he can't, for the Premier to step in and appoint a new minister who can. Just this past weekend, IHA put out an urgent call to all healthcare workers in the region, looking for volunteers to redeploy to Kamloops to address critical staffing shortages on and beyond the May long weekend, the MLAs informed. Calling the situation a "the chronic mismanagement", Stone said that actions must be taken today to address the workplace conditions "that are burning out our nurses and other healthcare professionals and forcing them to leave their jobs in droves." A release issued by BC Liberals quoted an anonymous nurse saying "Nurses are be-



MLA Peter Milobar



MLA Todd Stone

yond done. They are beyond the point of exhaustion. They are defeated. Every shift is grossly short-staffed, and we are being subjected to moral injury. Staff are taking stress leaves, or they are outright leaving the profession. We need strategies set in place to retain our current staff, to stop the hemorrhaging of experience from this

hospital." The MLAs also mentioned that in addition to the worsening nurse and staffing shortage, the overall situation at RIH is getting worse by the day. "The closure of the Coronary Care Unit (CCU) means the loss of four critical care beds. Other units, like Pediatrics, are being hit with

temporary closures. A lack of operating room capacity is leading to longer wait times for surgeries — or to surgeries being performed in Okanagan hospitals, often by Kamloops surgeons. Patients are also increasingly being sent to Salmon Arm for diagnostics. Acute care beds at RIH are filled with patients who continue to face year-long waits to get into long-term care. And the E.R. at RIH is facing increased pressure due to routine E.R. closures in rural communities like Clearwater and Ashcroft; other services like home care deteriorating; and 1 in 5 British Columbians finding themselves without a family doctor," said Milobar.

The BC Liberal MLAs are proposing the following actions:

- A concrete health human resources plan for RIH with a focus on retention and recruitment. This should include a strategy for short-term, medium-term, and long-term solutions to the staffing shortage at RIH.
 - Replacement of the current HR administration structure at RIH — which clearly isn't working — with a model similar to that at Kelowna General Hospital.
 - The immediate addition of more operating hours in Kamloops, as well as a roadmap for adding more fully-staffed and resourced operating rooms as soon as possible.
 - A resolution to the family doctor crisis, which will ease pressure on hospital and staff resources.
 - Regular public communication by the IHA's CEO and all levels of management to ensure maximum transparency on the true state of RIH and plans to address this challenging situation.
- "RIH is one of the two tertiary hospitals in IHA, and it's one of the largest and busiest trauma hospitals in B.C. What's happening at RIH is inexcusable. Staff shortages are getting worse by the day, patients are suffering, the workplace has been described as toxic — yet IHA administration continues to publicly downplay concerns, if acknowledging them at all," added Milobar. "RIH is either a tertiary hospital or it is not. The NDP can no longer blame this situation on the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires and floods."

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Canadians want Bank of Canada to hold on to current rates

As inflation reaches a 31-year high, Canadians are more likely to want the Bank of Canada to stand-pat than continue to push up the cost of borrowing.

A new study from the non-profit Angus Reid Institute finds approaching half (45%) of Canadians say they would like the country's central bank to hold firm at one per cent for its key benchmark rate and see how that affects

inflation before taking further action. One-quarter (27%) would continue to increase the rate in a more aggressive attempt to mitigate rising prices, while half that number (13%) say that they would keep rates low as they worry about the impact any changes may have on the housing and investment markets.

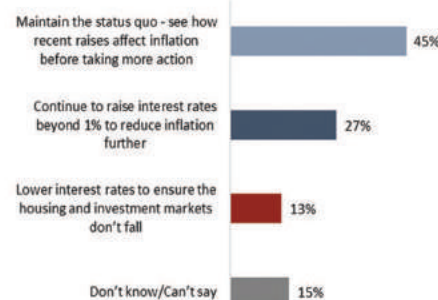
While inflation is one economic bogeyman hounding the country, Canadians are

facing other financial challenges. One-in-five (22%) say they have major debt concerns currently, while another two-in-five (42%) say this is a more minor problem, but still a source of stress. For the one-in-five who have heightened debt concerns, most say they are cutting back on "going out", trimming phone and streaming expenses wherever possible, changing their diet to consume cheaper foods, and driving less.

As the BoC debates further rate hikes this summer to ease inflation, Canadians' expectations are more negative now than they have been over the last decade. Nearly three-in-ten (28%) say that they expect to be worse off financially by this time next year – a seven-point increase in the number who said this last year, and the highest mark recorded in 13 years of tracking.

Continued on page 24

Suppose you were governor of the Bank of Canada. Would you ...
(All respondents, n=1,992)



Kristina Eng

MA, MCNE, CIPS • 604-365-0991



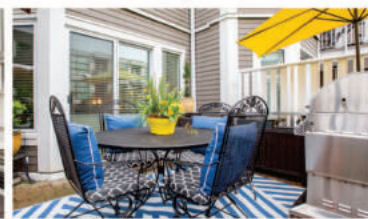
From Condos to Castles...



MLS: R2671121

14834 Beachview Ave, White Rock
\$599,000

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Video, photos, floorplan: www.cotala.com/63493



MLS# R2687442

66 - 15233 34 Ave, South Surrey
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325 - 1952 152A St.,
Surrey



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Coquitlam



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South Surrey



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over asking



\$955,000



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4 BED • 4 BATHS • 1,563 SQ.FT.





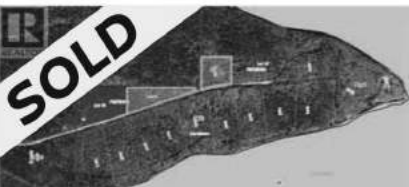






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<p>45468 WELLINGTON AVE, CHILLIWACK</p>  <p>ASKING \$1,250,000</p>	<p>1698 SLATER AVENUE, KAMLOOPS</p>  <p>ASKING \$750,000</p>	<p>#34 15030 28 AVENUE, SURREY</p>  <p>ASKING \$1,159,900</p>	<p>259 HOLLY AVENUE, KAMLOOPS</p>  <p>ASKING \$675,000</p>
<p>LOT 11 CHIEF LAKE ROAD PRINCE GEORGE</p>  <p>Beautiful 5.48 acre property. \$28,776</p>	<p>LOT 12 CHIEF LAKE ROAD PRINCE GEORGE</p>  <p>Beautiful 4.94 acre property \$45,540</p>	<p>LOT 10 CHIEF LAKE ROAD PRINCE GEORGE</p>  <p>Beautiful 4.95 acre property. \$45,540</p>	<p>8134 112A STREET DELTA</p>  <p>Great investment property</p>
<p>56-8168 136A ST, SURREY</p>  <p>ASKING \$795,000</p>	<p>5533 CHESTNUT CRE, LADNER</p>  <p>ASKING \$1,325,000</p>	<p>16669 31B, SOUTH SURREY</p>  <p>ASKING \$2,640,000</p>	<p>5192 MANOR ST, BURNABY</p>  <p>ASKING \$1,567,000</p>

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12261 66 AVE, SURREY

**OPEN HOUSE :
SAT & SUN 2-4 PM**

9 BED • 6 BATHS • 7,199 SF LOT

Welcome to Desirable and conveniently located in the heart of West Newton. Featuring 9 Bedrooms, 6 wash rooms including one bedroom on the main floor with a full washroom Over 3400 sq of living space on 7200 sq ft of rectangular lot .Bonus 3 rental incomes in property(2+2+1) total rent generating from suites \$3850/month .New Kitchen cabinets with quartz countertops & stainless steel appliances for the main kitchen; New Paint , New Windows New hot water tank Newer Roof and Siding. Large driveway for multiple parking .Huge Sundeck and a private fenced backyard .close to shopping and minutes to transit, Beaver Creek park and Beaver Creek Elementary school Tamenawis Secondary, and Khalsa private school. Will not last long !Book your private viewing today!

\$1,999,000

103 19835 64 AVE, LANGLEY

**OPEN HOUSE :
SAT & SUN 12-2 PM**

2 BED • 2 BATHS • 1,132 SF

Welcome to Your Future dream Home in the most desired neighbourhood Willoughby Heights! This Beautiful & Well kept 2 Bedroom 2 Washroom Condo features with 1132 Sq. ft of space & 91 Sq.ft covered completely private north facing Balcony overlooking Greenbelt. Very Spacious Living Room. Master bedroom is ensuite with good size Walk in Closet. Second Washroom is fully renovated. Kitchen comes with one year old appliances. Very Quiet & Calm Unit. Very Close to Canadian Superstore, Costco , Willowbrook Shopping Center, Schools, Parks & Recreational facilities. Comes with 1 Parking Stall & 1 Storage Locker And Second Open Parking Stall is available for all the residents along with lot of Visitor Parkings

\$599,000

104 7349 140 ST, SURREY

**OPEN HOUSE :
SAT & SUN 2-4 PM**

3 BED • 2 BATHS • 1,375 SF

Welcome to Your Dream Home in the Most Wanted & Centrally located neighbourhood in Newton Park!! This Beautiful & Well Kept 1375 Square Feet 2 Storey Townhouse features with 3 Bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms. Very Spacious layout with Separate Living and Dining Area & Renovated Kitchen, In Suite Laundry and TWO Parking Stalls. Laminate Flooring in Living Area was done in 2021, New Hot water tank was replaced in 2020. Close to Schools, Shopping Centre, Public Library, Restaurants, Newton Wave Pool, Canadian Super Store, Fruiticana, Costco and Public Transit. Amenities include Club House/Tennis court and Playground. Very easy access to All Major Routes.

\$799,000

45804 REECE AVE, CHILLIWACK

**OPEN HOUSE :
SAT & SUN 2-4 PM**

3 BED • 1 BATH • 2,316 SF

Investor's Alert! SUBDIVIDED LOT WITH BACK LANE ACCESS WITH PLA APPROVED. Two Bedrooms on the main floor with 1 Bedroom upstairs. Already rezoned, ready to tear down the Livable house down & start construction or rent it out now & start construction next year. Currently Tenanted on month to month Bases, Tenant willing to stay. Gardner's delight with amazing arts and crafts all off the large patio.

\$1,199,000

14974 RAVEN PL, N. SURREY

3 BED • 1 BATH • 1,155 SF

Investor's Alert! Updated Home on a 7280 Sq. Feet Lot with a 70 feet wide front with 3 Bedrooms & 1 Washroom in Boliver Heights. Good condition for Living now & Build later. Roof was done in 2016. Full exposure for lot of natural light with a huge backyard. Very close to Guildford Mall, T&T Super Market & Walmart. Easy Access to Highway 1. The Best thing is that this property comes with a Back Lane Access.

\$1,399,000

103 6299 144 ST, SURREY

3 BED • 3 BATHS • 1,541 SF

Welcome to Your Future dream Home in the most desired neighbourhood Sullivan Station! This Beautiful & Well kept 3 Bedroom 3 Washroom Townhome features with a good size Living Room & dining Room with 9' High Ceiling. Living Room directly walks in to fenced backyard. Open Concept Kitchen with Granite Countertops. Generous sized Bedrooms on top floor with Master ensuite. Double tandem Garage with lot of cabinets for storage. Lots of Visitor Parkings Nearby. Amenities include a 7800 sqft club house with OUTDOOR POOL, sauna/hot tub, yoga studio, 2 guest suites & much more. Very Close to shopping, transit, Highway 10, Bell Center.

\$799,000

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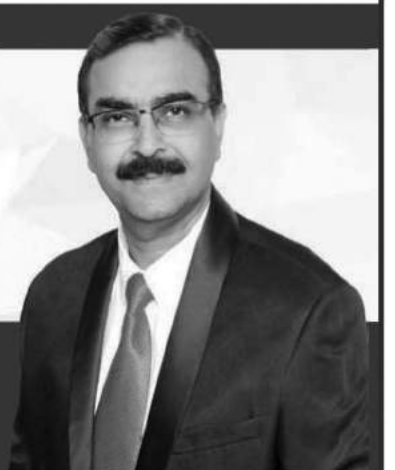
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Events In My City

SFU's Varshney Visiting Scholar To Address Interventions For Optimal Heart Health

Heart diseases, diabetes and their risk factors are the leading cause of death and disability worldwide. Some ethnicities such as South Asians have high propensity to develop heart diseases and diabetes as compared to other populations. These diseases are potentially preventable or can be postponed to an older age so that premature death can be avoided by following the right lifestyle and diet. However tremendous confusion abounds regarding the right diet. This talk will clarify the right diet and lifestyle for a health heart. Professor Prabhakaran Dorairaj is an internationally renowned cardiologist, epidemiologist and researcher is a visiting professor from India Professor Prabhakaran Dorairaj will be delivering the 2022 Varshney Visiting Scholar Public Lecture on Monday, May 30 at 7:00 pm. His talk, "The Right Diet and Lifestyle for a Healthy Heart," will focus on how conditions such as heart disease and diabetes can be potentially prevented or postponed by following the right life lifestyle and diet. His research has illuminated the underlying mechanisms for the high propensity of diabetes and heart disease among South Asians, and he will be highlighting



Professor Prabhakaran Dorairaj (Photo submitted)

this population during his lecture. "There is a lot of conflicting advice about what a diet for optimal heart health looks like," says Dorairaj. "Here in Canada where the population is very diverse, the needs of specific groups – such as South Asians who are especially vulnerable to heart diseases and diabetes – is at best not well understood and at the worst highly confusing. During my lecture, I hope to offer my research and experience to help clarify which diet and lifestyle choices should be prioritized to achieve and/or maintain optimal heart health for everyone, with a

special emphasis on South Asian community." The lecture and Dorairaj's appointment as a Visiting Professor with the Faculty of Health Sciences was made possible by an endowment provided by the Hari and Madhu Varshney Visiting Scholars Program in Indian Studies. This program was first established by SFU and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) through donations made by Hari and Madhu Varshney for whom the endowment is named.

Continued on page 25

Surrey's Summer Fun Pass Provides Affordable Recreation for All Age Groups

SURREY: Beginning June 1, Surrey residents will be able to purchase a Summer Fun Pass for the first time in over two years. Valid from July 1 to September 5, the pass provides unlimited, citywide access to all drop-in activities, including swimming, skating, gym activities, fitness classes and fitness centres (13 yrs+) for all groups. The Summer Fun Pass is offered as part of Surrey's ongoing commitment to provide affordable

recreation for residents of all ages and abilities. **Summer Fun Pass Pricing:** • Child/Youth: \$49.00 • Adult: \$97.75 • Senior 60+: \$73.50 • Senior 70+: \$24.50 Summer Fun Passes are pro-rated and automatically expire at the end of summer without needing to cancel. Purchase online at surrey.ca/passes, call 604-501-5100, or visit any Surrey Parks, Recreation & Culture facility.

Vancouver's Odd Squad Productions Society's 25th Anniversary Gala

Vancouver's Odd Squad Productions Society's 25th Anniversary Gala is here. That's the evening of June 16th at Fairmont Vancouver for Vancouver's premiere fundraising event. With both a silent and live auction, and entertainment by Vancouver Bluesman Jim Byrnes – with special guest Colin James – the evening will be spectacular. Don't miss it, or the chance to win a 1971 Barracuda resto-mod high-performance collector car! The Society has been reaching out to troubled youth and

young adults, leading them away from a future of drugs and criminality with a new start. It's founded upon our four prevention-based Pathways: Digital Media (film and documentaries), Peer-to-Peer (youth supporting youth), Presentations (drugs and gangs and more), and Physical Literacy (Judo and healthy choices). Gala tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available at www.oddsgala.com A short video highlight of the work of Odd Squad Productions can be found here: <https://youtu.be/rDkfky3zR0>.

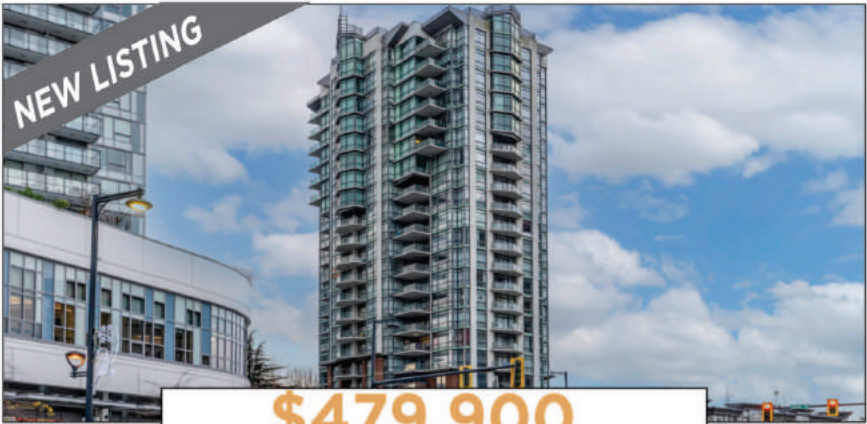
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9860 HUCKLEBERRY DRIVE



Luxury living at its finest; this mesmerizing 3600 sqft home sits on a pristine 3700 sqft lot situated in one of the most desirable subdivisions in Fraser Heights. This custom-built property has great accessibility to Highway One and is located in close proximity to the highly esteemed Pacific Academy. ??With 4 spacious bedrooms & 3 bathrooms, this home is equipped with an exquisite kitchen/spice kitchen with stainless steel appliances and quartz countertops throughout. Furthermore, this property boasts two impressive basement suites.?? Undeniably an entertainer's dream, with a purpose-built theatre room and bar, you will be able to cherish those life-long moments shared with family and friends. ?? Do not miss out, this one will not last!

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\$479,900

D'Corize, Surrey Central! This stunning concrete high-rise comes with first-class amenities. Located in close proximity to the Skytrain, SFU, recreational facilities, and amazing shopping centers. This building offers secure underground resident and visitor parking, bike storage, gym/exercise room with change rooms, theatre room, clubhouse, a large patio for your outdoor activities, and a beautiful entrance with a waiting area. With wall-to-wall windows, this 5th-floor unit has a beautiful balcony. This complex permits 1 pet as well rentals - great for both investors & owner-occupiers. Call today!



Sunny Sangha
604-356-5555



Ram Johal
604-356-5555



PRINCE GEORGE One Acre lot , 58 years old home 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, South Blackburn airport area, good holding property. \$198,000	FORECLOSURE Prince George BC 53 years old home 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 23,552 sqft lot (0.54 acre) concrete foundation, taxes \$1295.76, very close to taborlake. \$199,000	PRINCE GEORGE 1.34 acre , 56 years old home, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 bedroom suite, also has shop, garage and lots storage \$264,000
PRINCE GEORGE Split level 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, single garage all fenced yard 8000 sqft. lot rented to good tenants \$1750 per month plus tenants pay heat and light \$398,000	FORECLOSURE 5 Acres Maple Ridge 35 years old, 4 beds, 3 baths, good house \$2,700,000	CHILLIWACK M-1 Zoned commercial property. 2 bed, 2 bath older, rancher with 8700 sqft lot running a small business for 22 years rented \$48,000 per year. \$1,248,000
FORECLOSURE South Surrey Morgan Creek 17 years old home, 13,900 sqft lot, 6100 sqft 3 storey home with 6 bedrooms, 5 bathroom, 3 garages lots more to see \$2,700,000	FORECLOSURE Mission BC! 61 acres development potential with 27 years old home, 2 homes, pool hot tub, barn, storage, lots buildings, paved driveway, lots details. Pls call \$1,999,900	FORECLOSURE Burnaby South Deer Lake , 15 years old, 12,000 sqft lot, 6 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 5900 sqft home, 3 storey, 3 garages. \$4,800,000
8 UNITS TOWNHOUSES Prince George two storey, 2 bedrooms, fully rented, all renovated brings \$90,000 per annually, close to down town, victoria medical building. \$1,400,000	PRINCE GEORGE 4PLEX Side by Side duplex with basement suites both side makes 4plex rents total \$3900 per month tenants pay heat & light \$749,000	FORECLOSURE Vancouver West South Granville 13 years old, 5 bedroom, 5 bathrooms, 9500 sqft lot, 4600 sqft home, double garage. \$6,700,000
FORECLOSURE Prince George BC , 60 years old, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 6000 sqft lot size, house with one bedroom suite (rents \$750) and main floor rent \$1550 per month. Tenants pay heat & lights. \$398,000	DEVELOPMENT Townhouse site to develop in Vancouver E , 6700 sqft land, application approved for "8 stacked town homes" town homes 4 level of total 8342 sqft to be built \$3,450,000	

VIPAN SHARMA

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BC Partners With Netherlands To Develop New Ways To Produce Healthy, Sustainable Food

Surrey Board of Trade calls it a great business opportunity for Surrey

VICTORIA - A new agreement has been signed between B.C. and the Netherlands with an aim to help further secure British Columbia's food supply by developing agricultural technology (agritech) opportunities in both the counties. The partnership will deliver initiatives and cross-cultural learning exchanges to support sustainable agricultural and agritech opportunities for people and businesses in B.C. and the Netherlands. Encouraging collaboration in agriculture and agritech will increase food security, good jobs for British Columbians and help feed the world by fostering innovative solutions to create more productive, diverse and

stronger food supply chains, according to Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, co-who signed the new action plan agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nature Quality of the Netherlands, on B.C.'s trade mission. "The ongoing international unrest, and the ever-evolving changes to regional and global food systems, has shown us the importance of a more collaborative approach to develop new ways to produce healthy and sustainable food," Kahlon said. B.C. has more than 150 agritech companies, including in areas of food processing, precision agriculture, bi-



oproducts, food safety/traceability and soil/crop technology. Positioning B.C. as an agritech leader while ensuring provincial food security and protecting farmland is a priority, said Kahlon. Anita Huberman, President & CEO, Surrey Board of Trade (SBOT) said that SBOT and the Surrey International Trade Centre were pleased to see the BC Government securing agreements with international jurisdictions to cement industry opportunities in the agritech sector. "One third of Surrey's land base is agricultural land, and with our advocacy to allow agritech to occur on light-industrial land, that number may be increasing. Innovation and international partnerships are needed to secure supply chain efficiencies," she said. This action plan focuses on specific strategies to further collaboration between the government, science, academia and companies in B.C. and the Netherlands. This model, referred to as the Triple Helix in the Netherlands, has contributed to the northern European country's success as the second largest food exporter in the world. Part of the Netherlands' long-term strategic vision focuses on circular agriculture, which aims to produce food with as little impacts on nature, environment and the climate as possible.

Continued from Page 15

Canadians want Bank of Canada to hold on to...

More Key Findings:

- The percentage of Canadians who say they are worse off now than they were 12 months ago is also at its highest mark since 2010 at 36 per cent (34% in 2021, 32% in 2020).
- The Angus Reid Institute's Economic Stress Index finds 22 per cent of Canadians Struggling, 25 per cent Uncomfortable, 26 per cent Comfortable and 27 per cent Thriving.
- One-third (32%) of Canadians express difficulty in paying for their housing costs, whether renting or paying a mortgage. This includes 93 per cent of those who are categorized at Struggling.
- Men of all ages are considerably more likely than women to say that the Bank of Canada should increase interest rates further (37% to 17% overall).

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Local Surrey Director Vinay Giridhar's Documentary Wins Big At Various Film Festivals

SURREY: A Canadian indie documenta-
Sry is heading to Frameline in San Fran-
cisco, having a double festival premiere at
KASHISH and MIFF in Mumbai, and has
picked up a major award at the UK Asian
Film Festival in London.
Local Surrey film director Vinay Giridhar's
debut feature indie documentary, Emer-
gence: Out of the Shadows, is an official
selection at Frameline: The San Francisco
International LGBTQ+ Film Festival which
is entering its 46th year.
The documentary is about Kayden, Jag, and
Amar, awakening to and expressing their
sexuality within conservative South Asian
families was a lonely and terrifying expe-
rience. Denial, shame, and despair haunted
their youths, even threatening their lives.
Yet, they've emerged. In the gripping fea-
ture documentary Emergence:
Out of the Shadows, the dis-
parate journeys of Kayden,
Jag, and Amar candidly con-
verge around a shared sense
of compassion and healing as
they bravely convey their often
heart-wrenching stories.
Confronted with tradition and
taboo in their Punjabi Sikh cul-
tures, resisting silence, Jag's
parents and Amar's mother
choose love over rejection, of-
fering courage and inspiration
to individuals and communi-
ties struggling with acceptance.
Tender, thoughtful and teary,
Emergence: Out of the Shad-
ows asserts a potent and trans-
formative voice in support of
marginalized queer youth and
their families.

Continued from Page 22
**SFU's
Varshney...**

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In-person at the Fletcher The-
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Date May 30, 2022, Monday
Doors Open: 6:30pm
Lecture and Q&A: 7:00-
8:30pm
Light refreshments will be
served before and after the
lecture.
Those attending the talk
in-person will be invited to
stay for a networking recep-
tion following the talk. Tick-
ets at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-right-diet-and-life-style-for-a-healthy-heart-tickets-317170644937>
This lecture will also be live-
streamed on YouTube for on-
line audiences. You can ac-
cess the livestream using this
link: <https://youtu.be/ASTPz-FAHppA>

It is screening on Saturday, June 18, 2022,
at 11 am PST at the Roxie Theatre at 3117
16th Street in San Francisco.
In addition, the documnetary is on its way
to the film and entertainment capital of In-
dia at the KASHISH Mumbai International
Queer Film Festival which is entering its
13th year. It has also been selected in the In-
ternational Competition Section, in the cat-
egory of Documentary Film at the Mumbai
International Film Festival (MIFF).
The documentary just had its London and
England premiere on May 6, 2022, at the
UK Asian Film Festival (UKAFF) where it
picked up one of the major awards of the
festival for the Best Film Award for Cham-
pioning Change.
"As an emerging BIPOC filmmaker, I am
so grateful that my film is being embraced

by some of the biggest LGBTQ+
and South Asian film festivals in the
world. I made Emergence: Out of
the Shadows to educate the South
Asian and broader community and
break down barriers so no kids are
disowned because of their sexuali-
ty. I want to give hope and spread
a message that we must all love
one another and be kind," states the
film's director and editor Vinay Gi-
ridhar.
Emergence: Out of the Shadows has
been picked up for broadcast televi-
sion by TVO, Knowledge Network,
and OUTtv in Canada, and by Mov-
ing Images Distribution of Vancou-
ver for the Canadian educational
market.



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Kate Moss Denies Rumour Johnny Depp Once Pushed Her Down The Stairs, Court Hears

Los Angeles: Supermodel Kate Moss appeared at Johnny Depp and Amber Heard's \$100 million defamation lawsuit via video link to deny rumours that her ex-boyfriend had pushed her down the stairs.

Heard, 36, previously referenced the model during the ongoing court case, when she discussed an alleged altercation between Depp and her sister, Whitney Henriquez, saying: "(Whitney's) back was to the staircase, and Johnny swings at her. I don't hesitate, I don't wait - I just, in my head, instantly think of Kate Moss and stairs."

When asked in court by Benjamin Chew, a member of Depp's legal team, if the 58-year-old Hollywood actor had ever pushed her down the stairs while they were dating, Moss replied: "No, he never pushed me, kicked me or pushed me down any stairs."

She told the court how during a holiday in Jamaica with Depp he had picked her up and "got (her) medical attention" after she had fallen down some stairs.

She explained: "We were leaving the room and Johnny left the room before I did. There had been a rainstorm and as I left the room I slid down the stairs. I hurt my back. And I screamed because I didn't know what had happened to me and I was in pain. He came running back to help me, carried me to my room and got me medical attention."



Moss, who gave evidence in less than five minutes, was not cross-examined by Heard's team.

Heard first made the allegation during her testimony in the UK in 2020.

She said at the time: "I remembered information I had heard [that] he pushed a former girlfriend - I believe it was Kate Moss - down the stairs. I had heard this rumour from two people and it was fresh in my mind."

But Depp's legal team were seen pumping their fists when she first mentioned Moss' name during the ongoing defamation case in Fairfax, Virginia.

The reference gave them the opportunity to call the model as an impeachment witness to disprove the allegation.

Harry Styles Halted Sold-Out London Show To Help Fan In Distress

Los Angeles: Harry Styles played to a sold-out crowd at London's O2 Academy Brixton and the singer halted the gig to help a fan in distress.

Styles, who draped a Ukrainian flag over his microphone stand, asked fans if they could "split, make a pathway down, please", and addressed the rest of the crowd, saying: "Everyone else good? You OK? We're going to keep going if everyone feels good."

Just under 5,000 fans flocked to the South London venue to

take in the barnstorming performance, as Styles treated his supporters to a number of songs from his latest album 'Harry's House', as well as his 2020 hit 'Watermelon Sugar', among others, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Also during the show, Styles told a fan she is "better off" without her ex after the supporter claimed, via a sign, he had cheated on her.

After spotting the notice in the crowd, he said: "This sign says, I might paraphrase, 'My



boyfriend slept with my best friend,' and then it says, 'Boyfriends s**k.'"

Harry then asked the fan, Jess, what her boyfriend's name was, and she responded: "Luke."

The 'As It Was' hitmaker said: "It's a s*** name anyway. Not going to lie, Jess, that's brutal."

Amber Heard Expected To Testify Again In Johnny Depp \$50 Mn Defamation Trial

Los Angeles: Actress Amber Heard apparently will have the last word in Hollywood star Johnny Depp's \$50 million defamation trial against her over a 2018 op-ed on domestic violence.

As the marquee name in the defense's short rebuttal, the 'Aquaman' star is expected to take the stand again Thursday, we hear. Depp's side has one more rebuttal witness left, which will likely eat up the first hour or so of the morning, reports aDeadline.

If nothing changes, Heard will



close out the last day of witness testimony in the six-week-long trial that started on April 11.

With around an hour of time left in the defense's case and

just over a week after Heard was last on the stand, the actress will be the very last witness before closing arguments start bright and early on May 27.

Relentlessly attacked on social media before and during the trial and claiming her career has been hobbled, a frequently tearful Heard testified that the dirty laundry airing trial was "torture".

Testifying in early May and last week, Heard added on May 16: "I want to move on; I want Johnny to move on."

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For Ayushmann Khurrana, Credibility of Content Comes Before Commercial Success

Mumbai: Ayushmann Khurrana, who has carved a niche for himself courtesy his choice of scripts and offbeat characters, is currently busy with the promotions of his upcoming political thriller ‘Anek’ in which he has joined forces yet again with director Anubhav Sinha after their last project ‘Article 15’.

The actor has put the stories with middle of the road cinematic sensibilities in the mainstream and there’s a conscious choice behind the same, for he believes in “cinema for change”, and for him credibility comes before commercial success.

In a recent conversation with IANS, the ‘Anek’ actor spoke about socially relevant stories, the equation of art and rebellion and how he strives for his films to age well.

Historically, art has been hard-wired with rebellion; be it Sarojini Naidu, whose poetry was instrumental in India’s freedom struggle, the powerful playwright-writer Saadat Hasan Manto or the more recent satirical painter Banksy. However, Ayushmann views the

relationship of art and rebellion through a different lens.

He says, “People romanticise that art is an instrumental factor in rebellion. But, I think we cannot really depend on rebellion and revolution and wait for it to create something great. You can also create something unique without the need of a revolution, that’s what my school of thought is. I think it’s a very destructive mindset where we think that artistes can create when they are in a very destructive mode and I think that is a very pessimistic way of creating art.” He is a firm believer of the thought that cinema should bring about a change in the society and that star value plays a key role in driving the message of a film. He mentions, “It (star value) widens the reach of a film and if a film has not reached a lot of people then what is the use of a social message?”

“I believe in cinema for change and I also believe that every adult has essential responsibility and if they utilise it properly we can actually make changes at the grassroot level”, he adds.

Talking about his approach for his part in ‘Anek’, he says, “It was more for the physicality and the body language and how calm and composed you are while delivering a dialogue. I also borrowed emotionally from my friend as he is in the army and is currently serving in the northeast.”

In closing, he expresses how he would like to see his filmography 20 years down the line, “if I look back after 10 or 20 years into my filmography, I should rather be proud of the work I did, it should age well. I want

my films to age well where the future generations would also be proud.” “For me credibility comes over commercial success and if you get both then there is nothing like that. But the priority is essentially the credibility of content”, the actor signs off.

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Archana's Response As Kapil Teases Her: Will Travel To The Us On My Own Expense

Mumbai: TV personality and actress Archana Puran Singh recently gave a witty reply to host Kapil Sharma after he pointed out that the entire team of 'The Kapil Sharma Show' is going to the US without her.

Replying to his question, Archana replied that: "I will go with my own ticket and need not to go on the expenses of the producers or sponsors."

Kapil asked: "So, you are sitting in this show with your own money?"

To this Archana said that she earns from the show and then spends the money to travel.

In the recent episode, Guru Randhawa, Honey Singh and



Divya Khosla Kumar appeared as special guests.

Meanwhile, Archana is going to appear as a judge with Shekhar Kapur in reality show 'India's Laughter Champion'.

Shraddha Tripathi makes her TV debut with 'Appnapan...Badalte Rishton Ka Bandhan'

Mumbai: Actress Shraddha Tripathi is all set to make her TV debut with the show 'Appnapan Badalte Rishton Ka Bandhan'. The show stars Cezanne Khan and Rajshree Thakur in the lead roles.

Shraddha says: "I was on cloud 9 when I was first offered the role of Barkha as I have always dreamt of becoming an actor. Appnapan being my first TV show, I am blessed that I am making my debut with two powerhouses like Sony TV and Balaji Telefilms. To top it all, I feel really fortunate to be working along with such great stars of the TV world, Rajshree Thakur and Cezanne Khan who I have grown up watching."

The show revolves around the story of an estranged couple, Pallavi and Nikhil who are also single parents.

"I am thrilled about the things

that I will be able to learn from them, being new to this industry. I am well versed with theatre, dance forms like Bharatanatyam and other contemporary forms of the art, so I will be sure to put my skills into my character as well. My character Barkha is an opinionated girl, much like myself," she adds.

The actress briefs about her character, saying: "She is a run-of-the-mill teenager who craves freedom, away from her mother's protective shelter. Thus, a lot of times she is at loggerheads with her mother, Pallavi, as both have opposing views about how Barkha should lead her life." "As stubborn as they come, Barkha knows how to make Pal-



lavi agree with her and accept her demands. I hope the audience enjoys my performance because I surely will be working hard to make my presence felt in the show! Looking forward to this beautiful new chapter of my life to begin," she concludes.

'Appnapan...Badalte Rishton Ka Bandhan' will be airing soon on Sony Entertainment Television.

Continued from Page 07

41-year old Abbotsford..

IHIT is working in partnership with AbbyPD and their Forensic Identification Section (FIS). The BC Coroners Service has also been engaged. Statements are being taken and the forensic examination continues. The investigation is still in its early stages and a timeline of events is being constructed.

"Homicide detectives are canvassing the area looking for witnesses and CCTV," said Sergeant David Lee of IHIT,

"Although arrests have been made, we are still searching for key evidence, and priority tasks are being completed."

IHIT is looking for dashcam footage or CCTV from the area within the 32900-block of South Fraser Way around 8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. on May 25, 2022.

Anyone with information is being asked to call IHIT on the Information Line at 1-877-551-IHIT (4448) or by email at ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

Continued from Page 07

Surrey man accused of sexually...

The struggle drew the attention of several bystanders who intervened and helped the woman break free.

Metro Vancouver Police officers rushed to the scene where they were assisted by multiple witnesses, including several loss prevention officers from an adjacent Hudson's Bay department store. As a result, the suspect was quickly located and arrested without incident.

"While these types of offences often don't leave serious physical injury,

they can be especially traumatizing to those who experience them, which is why reducing sexual offences on transit is a Transit Police operational priority. Transit Police would like to thank the bystanders who assisted the women. We would never ask that anyone to put themselves into harms way, but these individuals' actions can only be described as heroic" – Constable Amanda Steed

Transit Police are recommending four counts of sexual assault for a

37-year-old man from Surrey, who is known to police. The suspect was released from jail the following morning with multiple conditions, including, a "No Go" to any Sky-Train property and Pacific Centre Mall, and a court appearance scheduled for July 13, 2022.

Anyone who may have witnessed these events, and who has not yet spoken to officers, is asked to contact Transit Police by phone at 604.515.8300 or by text at 87.77.77



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