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# Is Canada's Cap on International Students Fair, or Will It Create Further Loopholes?

By Surbhi Gogia

*As the nation adapts to these changes, the next two years will be crucial in assessing the effectiveness and consequences of this policy shift. Will the minister's one-size-fits-all announcement become a blunt instrument to damage good institutes, further exploit students and not do much to rein in the bad actors?*



The Government of Canada's recent move to put a cap on international students' study permits for two years has evoked diverse sentiments across Canada and around the world. While some view it as an anticipated and essential step, others argue that it may adversely impact businesses and the educa-

tion sector, given the significant contribution of the international student community to their sustenance.

The announcement brings forth concerns about potential fee increases for domestic students by some colleges striving to offset the impact on their operations. Changes like getting

an attestation letter from the province are seen as an extra administrative hurdle. The government has also decided not to give postgraduate work permits to students who come for a diploma, certificate or undergraduate program.

Canada's Immigration Minister, Marc Miller, defended the cap, as a necessary move because as rapid increases in the number of international students have put pressure on housing, health care and other services. He also said the changes were necessary "to better protect international students from bad actors and support sustainable population growth in Canada."

*Continued on page 08*

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## Miri Piri Wrestling Club power packed performance



Miri Piri Wrestling Club players were on the roll at the Western Canada Age Class Tournament which took place last weekend at the Richmond Olympic Oval. Thirty of the club's athletes gave great performances winning 21 medals.

(Read full story on page 12)

## Poilievre Affirms Business-Driven and 'Canada First' Approach towards India



Conservative Party Leader Pierre Poilievre was in Surrey with his party politicians Jasraj Hallan, Tim Uppal, Tracy Gray, Ed Fast and others

By Surbhi Gogia

Pierre Poilievre, the leader of the federal Conservative Party in Canada, has emerged as the proponent of a common sense approach towards every pressing issue that Canada is struggling with, these days like housing, inflation, taxes or public safety concerns.

His ability to distill intricate issues into straightforward and simplest of solutions was prominent during his interaction with representatives of ethnic media in Surrey this week. Poilievre put aside difficult terminology or jargon to offer answers that resonate with a common person.

*Continued on page 10*

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# Surrey Police Board's 2024 Budget Will Be \$141.5 Million

The Surrey Police Board released information on its 2024 Surrey Police Services (SPS) provisional budget, what SPS say, "to provide clarity, transparency, and accountability during the transition from an RCMP detachment to a municipal police department."

"There is a lot of misinformation on the policing costs in the City of Surrey, and I believe that budget transparency is important for the people of Surrey to understand the costs and the transition plans for SPS," said Mike Serr, Surrey Police Board Administrator.

The budget, provided to the City of Surrey on November 30, 2023, was developed with guidance from Jessica McDonald, Strategic Implementation Advisor, and

with support from Deloitte, an independent accounting firm.

The total 2024 budget is \$141.5 million. "Based on the City of Surrey's current financial reports, the 2024 provisional budget fits within the City of Surrey's financial framework and accounts for only 42% of their allocated policing funds," said Serr.

Breaking down the budget he said, "\$119.5 million will for ongoing operations, \$6.6 million for equipment and capital expenditures and \$15.4 million for investments through the previously established Policing Transition Project Fund," he said.

Based on this budget, by the end of 2024, SPS will have 526 police officers, making up approximately 67% of the

City's targeted policing strength for 2024, he added.

"The budget is predicated on the growth of Surrey Police Service and the corresponding winding down of the RCMP. The efficient and orderly transition to SPS follows the guidelines set out by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and will reduce transition costs by eliminating the administrative overlap of running two police agencies in Surrey," said Serr.

SPS is currently made up of 346 police officers and the 2024 budget allocates a hiring target of 180 additional police officers, which would bring the total number of SPS officers to 526 by the end of 2024.

"The Board remains committed to transparency and open dialogue and will take every



step available to make sure people are heard and, most importantly, kept safe through this transition," said Mr. Serr. "I have an open and standing offer to brief the Surrey City Council on this budget submission and to have open discussions about any amendments. To date,

this invitation to discuss this budget proposal has not been accepted."

Of the 180 new police officers, SPS is targeting 135 experienced officers from across Canada and 45 recruits that will be trained at the Justice Institute of British Columbia.

## Surrey Mayor says SPS Public Announcement Of 2024 Budget Will Not Change Anything

Brenda Locke, Mayor of Surrey, in a statement responded to the Surrey Police Service release of 2024 budget. She called it the same one brought to the City of Surrey in November of last year. She said, "There is nothing new here and the fact is nothing has changed on our end. The City of Surrey's 2024 budget is being worked on by our Finance staff. Until that is done, and only once that is

done, will we know what effect the SPS budget will have on the property tax rate."

She said that Solicitor General Mike Farnworth is suggesting that the transition can go forward over the next three years without the Surrey taxpayers being forced to pay more. "To suggest such a thing is not only disingenuous but reveals the continued lack of knowledge and due diligence on the part of



the NDP government when it comes to the financial ramifications of this transition to Surrey. The province has already estimated that the switch to the SPS will cost a minimum of \$30M extra per year. Unless the Province plans to fund 100% of all of the SPS's extra costs, not just for three years but beyond, any shortfall will fall on the backs of Surrey residents and

businesses."

"We are five years into this transition, which was supposed to be completed by April 1, 2021, and the SPS current staffing levels are only at 25%. The SPS plan is to have enough funds to hire 180 officers in 2024. That's an unrealistic goal when you consider it is like trying to hire enough officers to staff an entire police department the size of Delta Police," she added.

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# Suspect Arrested in Ontario for Homicide of Surrey's Juvraj Jabal

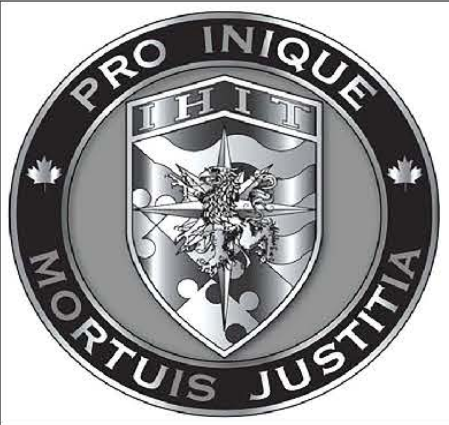
After two years of a deadly shooting of an Indo- Canadian man near a Surrey elementary school, police have arrested a suspect in Ontario. The 23-year-old suspect Yusuf Kontos is an Ontario resident who was believed to be staying in Delta at the time of the homicide.

On February 8, 2022, the Surrey RCMP responded to a report of a shooting in the area of 168 Street and 104 Avenue, Surrey.

Officers attended and located two victims inside a vehicle, suffering from gun shot wounds.

A 20-year old woman, identified as Jasmine Lindstrom, and a 24-year old man, later identified as Juvraj Jabal of Surrey, were found with serious injuries and were taken to hospital for emergency care. While Lindstrom survived the shooting, Jabal later succumbed to his injuries in hospital. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) took conduct of the investigation and continued to work closely with the Surrey RCMP, the Integrated Forensic Identification Section and the BC Coroners Service.

Through extensive video canvassing, it was determined that the shooting had occurred in the 10200-block of 170a Street, Surrey, in close proximity to an elementary school. On January 23, 2024, Kontos was arrested in Richmond Hill, Ontario and was subsequently charged with one count of



first-degree murder for the homicide of Jabal and one count of attempted murder in relation to Lindstrom.

"This was a two-year long investigation, in which we utilized every tool at our disposal to locate Kontos," said Sergeant Timothy Pierotti of IHIT. "IHIT will continue to be relentless when it comes to bringing those responsible for these senseless homicides to justice. We're thankful as always for our partners at the Surrey RCMP Detachment and the South Simcoe Police Service for their ongoing support during this investigation."

## Amritpal Saran killed in targeted shooting in Abbotsford mall parking lot

Investigators have identified 25-year-old Amritpal Saran as the victim of a shooting in Abbotsford.

According to police Saran was found dead inside a vehicle after a shooting at an Abbotsford Mall in the 32900-block of South Fraser Way on January 20, 2024 at approximately 5:45 p.m.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) took conduct of the investigation and will be working closely in partnership with the AbbyPD and the BC Coroners Service.

Shortly after the shooting, AbbyPD were advised of a vehicle fire in the 2900-block of Townshipline Road, in Abbotsford.

IHIT investigators are working with AbbyPD forensic experts to determine any connection between the two scenes.

"Initial evidence suggests this was a targeted shooting. Investigators have identified the victim as Amritpal Saran of Abbotsford and are now releasing his name in hopes of furthering their investigation,"

Continued on page 21

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# Nisha Pahuja's To Kill A Tiger Nominated For Academy Award For Documentary Feature Film

Canadian film maker Nisha Pahuja's documentary To Kill a Tiger has been nominated for the Oscar for Documentary Feature Film at the 96th Academy Awards. In To Kill a Tiger, Ranjit, a farmer in Jharkhand, India, takes on the fight of his life when he demands justice for his 13-year-old daughter, the survivor of sexual assault. In India, where a rape is reported every 20 minutes and conviction rates are less than 30 percent, Ranjit's decision to support his daughter is virtually unheard of, and his journey unprecedented. The nomination is the latest honour for To Kill a Tiger, which to date has received over 20 Canadian and international awards. "I am beyond thrilled that To Kill a Tiger has been nominated for an Academy Award. This is an extraordinary honour for the creative team behind this eight-year journey, and it's a testament to the tireless group of women working outside the normal ecosystem to ensure this story is seen and does what it needs to in the world. We're here, at this moment, because a farmer in India, his wife and their 13-year-old daughter had the courage to demand her human rights. We are grateful to the National Film Board of Canada, our executive producers and everyone on the team for their support. It is our hope and intent that this film will encourage other survivors to seek justice, and that men stand with us in our fight for gender equality," said Nisha Pahuja.

Suzanne Guèvremont, Government Film Commissioner and NFB Chairperson said, "Congratulations to Nisha Pahuja and her entire production team on a powerful film that follows the unprecedented journey of Ranjit and his courageous daughter as they fight for justice. Today's nomination is a tribute to them as well as to Nisha's dedication and vision as a talented filmmaker. As co-producer, the National Film Board of Canada is proud to have helped bring this moving work of non-fiction storytelling to the screen, and to share it with audiences across Canada and around the world." Nisha Pahuja is an Emmy-nominated filmmaker based in Toronto. Her latest film, To Kill a Tiger, had its world premiere at TIFF, where it won the Amplify Voices Award for Best Canadian Feature Film. Since then, it's won over 20 awards, including Best Documentary Feature at the Palm Springs International Film Festival and three Canadian Screen Awards. The film grew out of a long career of addressing various human rights issues, notably violence against women in India. In 2015, Pahuja won an Amnesty International Media Award for Canadian journalism after making a short film about the Delhi bus gang rape for Global News. Her other past credits include the multi-award-winning The World Before Her (2012)



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# BC Coroner Marks 2023 As Deadliest Year Of Overdose Deaths In Provincial History

VICTORIA, BC: Preliminary reporting released by the BC Coroners Service confirms that toxic, unregulated drugs claimed the lives of at least 2,511 people in British Columbia in 2023, the largest number of drug-related deaths ever reported to the agency. "Tragically, toxic, illicit drugs are continuing to cause unprecedented numbers of deaths across our province," said Lisa Lapointe, chief coroner. "This crisis, driven primarily by unregulated fentanyl, has cost our province dearly in the loss of much-loved and valued members of our communities. We cannot bring our deceased loved ones back, but we can and must do much more to protect the lives of tens of thousands of our family members, friends and colleagues

still at risk." The total number of lives lost in 2023 equates to an average of 6.9 deaths per day and is 5% more than the previous high of 2,383 deaths recorded a year earlier in 2022. "Today's report is a damning indictment of the NDP government's disastrous decriminalization policy which has recklessly endangered lives," said BC United Leader Kevin Falcon. "The consequences of this government's negligence can be seen in the lives lost, families broken, and communities suffering." As has been the case throughout the public health emergency, no area of B.C. was spared the devastation caused by toxic drugs in 2023. The Vancouver-Centre

North local health area, which includes Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, reported a rate of death more than 12 times greater than the provincial average. The next highest rates were observed in Hope, Alberni/Clayoquot, Terrace and Greater Campbell River. Four of the province's five regional health authorities saw record-high numbers and rates of death. Toxicological testing confirms that illicit fentanyl continues to drive the toxic-drug crisis. Fentanyl and its analogues were by far the most regularly detected substances, appearing in more than 85% of test results conducted in 2023. The Coroners Service continues to monitor closely for the presence of prescribed safer-supply medications in its testing, with hydromorphone detected in about 3% of

tests. Unregulated drug toxicity is the leading cause of death in British Columbia for persons aged 10 to 59, accounting for more deaths than homicides, suicides, accidents and natural disease combined. The lives of at least 13,794 British Columbians have been lost to unregulated drugs since the public-health emergency was first declared in April 2016. "As we approach the eighth anniversary of the declaration of the public-health emergency that has cost so many lives across B.C., our province needs a co-ordinated, evidence-based response that is commensurate with the scale of this health crisis," Lapointe said. "Deaths due to drug toxicity are preventable, and I urge our political leaders at all levels to collaborate on a



Lisa Lapointe, Chief Coroner

thoughtful, comprehensive plan that puts people first." The townships experiencing the highest number of unregulated drug deaths in 2023 were Vancouver, Surrey and Greater Victoria. Additionally, smoking was the most common mode of consumption in 2023 with 65% showing evidence of smoking followed by injection (14%), nasal insufflation (14%) and oral (4%).

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Surrey RCMP is assisting Surrey Fire Services following a fatal residential fire in Surrey. On January 22, 2024 at 3:22 am, Surrey RCMP received a report of a structure fire in upper residential suites of a commercial building in the 13400-block of 71A Avenue. Police arrived on scene as the Surrey Fire Department were evacuating the occupants of other suites. Surrey Fire Department located a man in a suite, and with the assistance of BC Emergency Health Services (EHS) performed lifesaving efforts; unfortunately, the 54-year-old Surrey man did not survive. Two pets also died in the fire. Surrey RCMP General Investigation Unit (GIU) investigated alongside the Surrey Fire Inspector, and have determined the cause of the fire was not suspicious. If you witnessed anything or have any additional information and have not yet spoken to police you are asked to contact Surrey RCMP at 604-599-0502 and quote file 24-10078.

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# Surrey Police Budget Makes Sense And Should Be Approved



Mike Farnworth, Public safety

The budget shows the path forward in a way that is responsible, respectful of Surrey's three-year fiscal plan as it relates to policing, and that there's not a need for more tax increases which the mayor has been talking about, and they want to work cooperatively with the City of Surrey.

The 2024 SPS budget is 42 per cent of the total police budget for the city and counts on the RCMP downsizing as the SPS staffs up. Mayor Locke has had the budget since November and has not made an effort to deal with it, so making the budget public gives our community the numbers that taxpayers need to better understand the transition process that is underway. The budget

makes sense and fits within the overall policing envelope we have for our city. Running two police departments costs our taxpayers time and money, and we need to get on with this transition which the province has made law. The SPS is becoming the police department here in Surrey, so let's get on with it and build the very best police service.



Councillor Linda Annis



Former Mayor Doug McCallum

As the SPS ramps up its operations, there will be a proportional decrease in RCMP expenses. This means there should be no overall increase in the policing service budget and is in line with the City of Surrey's 2024 budget allocation. SPS's proposed budget was reviewed by auditor Deloitte and would use \$142 million of the city's \$337 million available funds for policing in the

city, according to city financial plans and reports. This further discredits Mayor Brenda Locke's claim that there will be a double-digit property tax increase, if there is a double digit property tax hike it is not due to SPS policing budget constraints but rather a result of Brenda Locke hiring expensive consultants, poor financial mismanagement and petty vindictive political motivations.

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Continued from Page 01

# Is Canada's Cap on International Students Fair, or Will It Create...

Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre called the cap justified but said it will not control the damage that has already been done. He blamed the government for unleashing the chaos in the system by inviting students without doing homework to ensure enough housing, infrastructure, and credible education institutions.

Neera Agnihotri, a volunteer with One Voice Canada and an immigration consultant highlighted the strain on major cities like Toronto, Vancouver, Quebec, and Calgary. She argued that the uncontrolled influx of international students, coupled with rising immigration targets, has jeopardized housing, healthcare, and infrastructure services, impacting not only students but also compromising affordability for locals.

Brampton City Council unanimously passed a motion calling on the federal government to require international student visas to include a housing address consistent with local by laws as a component of the approvals process.

**KEY CHANGES AND IMPLICATIONS**

The first change is the limit on study permits. Canada is expected to approve approximately 360,000 study permits reduced from nearly 560,000 issued in 2023, a decrease of 35%. This will have a direct impact on a number of international students enrolling in education institutions. A group of 24 colleges in Ontario has also said in a statement that this rushed decision will create havoc for students, the labour market, and reputation of good colleges. "The federal government failed to recognize that public colleges have a year-round intake of students, designed specifically to meet employer needs. Colleges work year-round, as the demand for more people in the labour market is year-round. That means there are students already well into the application process, ready to start in May in programs for key sectors of Ontario's economy."

Indian students are poised to bear the impact as they constitute the largest cohort of international students in Canada in recent years. Media reports indicate that in 2022,

Canada to stabilize growth and decrease number of new international student permits issued to approximately 360,000 for 2024

Canada

more than 41%, totaling 225,835 permits, were granted to Indian students.

**NO WORK PERMIT FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**

There will be a cap on number of students coming to each province. IRCC will allocate a portion of the cap to each province and territory, who will then distribute the allocation among their designated learning institutions. To implement the cap, as of January 22, 2024, every study permit application submitted to IRCC will also require an attestation letter from a province or territory. Provinces and territories are expected to establish a process for issuing attestation letters to students by no later than March 31, 2024. The Ontario College group called it a new and unexpected administrative hurdle that is halting all student visa processing right now, "as the provincial government currently has no process for generating such letters."

Also starting September 1, 2024, international students who begin a study program that is part of a curriculum licensing arrangement will no longer be eligible for a postgraduation work permit upon graduation. "Under curriculum licensing agreements, students physically attend a private college that has been licensed to deliver the curriculum of an associated public college. These programs have seen significant growth in attracting international students in recent years, though they have less oversight than public colleges and they act as a loophole with regards to post-graduation work permit eligibility," the minister said. Neera Agnihotri says that not giving work

permits to undergraduate students will certainly limit the number of students coming to Canada. Gaining international experience is one of the important aspects of studying in a different country. "Students who have spent thousands of dollars to study and get work permit will not be eligible for it. Many would look to get LMIA's." She warns students to be aware of exploitation since they might be lured to pay extra to get LMIA.

Ontario colleges in a statement have also expressed concerns about undergraduate students not able to work after diplomas or certificates. "College graduates fill key needs across sectors that include advanced manufacturing, mining, the electrical vehicle industry, early childhood, health care, housing construction and others that our economy depends on."

The exemptions for students in master's and PhD programs don't reflect the current and future demands in Ontario's labour market. For example, 60 per cent of the current vacancies in health care in Ontario are for college graduates. The colleges are proposing exemptions for students in high-demand programs – not just for master's and PhD students.

**NO WORK PERMIT FOR SPOUSES**

The government has also announced that open work permits will only be available to spouses of international students in master's and doctoral programs. The spouses of international students in other levels of study, including undergraduate and college programs, will no longer be eligible.



Neera Agnihotri,  
Immigration Consultant And  
Volunteer One Voice Canada

**THE GOOD NEWS**

The announcement of cap may have strangled hopes of many students who are planning to study in Canada but there is a good news. First, these are all temporary measures that will just be in place for two years. Also, the government has made it clear that with this announcement study permit renewals will not be impacted. Those pursuing master's and doctoral degrees, and elementary and secondary education are not included in the cap. Current study permit holders will not be affected. The minister said, "In the coming months, we will continue to work to provide clear pathways to permanent residence for students with in-demand skills and explore new measures to better transition international students to the labour force."

As the nation adapts to these changes, the next two years will be crucial in assessing the effectiveness and consequences of this policy shift. At the end it is important to note that the minister's one-size-fits-all announcement should not become a blunt instrument to damage the good actors in college education and not do much to rein in the bad actors.



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# Police Data Reveal Shocking Number Of Drivers In BC Are Operating Without Insurance

BC Highway Patrol and Coquitlam RCMP said that they are experiencing a dramatic rise in vehicles without valid insurance.

From December 1, 2023, to January 11, 2024, BC Highway Patrol - Kootenay has located 177 drivers operating uninsured vehicles. Each driver received a violation ticket for no insurance for \$598 dollars.

On the other hand Coquitlam RCMP have issued 24 violation tickets for driving without vehicle insurance. "This is a dramatic increase compared to January 2023 which saw 11 violation tickets for the entire month. With only 18 days into January, this is a 46% increase," Staff Sergeant Mark McCutcheon, Coquitlam RCMP's Traffic Services Commander.

Throughout the past year, Police have seen a steady increase in the number of vehicles on our roadways that are travelling without vehicle insurance. On May 1, 2022 licence plate decals were



discontinued by ICBC and were no longer required on vehicles.

"When our officers stop vehicles for no insurance, drivers are often saying that they forgot or didn't realize because they don't have the decal reminder on their vehicle anymore," said McCutcheon. "We strongly encourage drivers to ensure that their vehicles are properly insured before traveling."

"Drivers should think about the risks

of operating without insurance which include paying a significant fine, being financially responsible for a collision, and expensive towing costs," said the Officer in Charge of Kootenay Highway Patrol, Inspector Chad Badry. "There is a risk of a driver's license suspension or increased sanctions in court for repeat offences."

Driving without insurance can result in a \$598 violation ticket and the vehicle being towed. In addition to the violation ticket, if the vehicle is involved in a collision while it is not insured, the driver could be sued or held liable for damages. BC Highway Patrol has compiled the top 10 excuses encountered:

ICBC never sent me a reminder.

I am on the way to purchase insurance right now.

I forgot.

I don't have a decal anymore.

My insurance is paid for automatically, so I thought I didn't need to renew.

The registered owner is my mom, dad or friend and it's their job.

This is a company vehicle.

My vehicle is actually insured, but I don't have the documents.

I cancelled the credit card that was making the preauthorized payments.

I know I don't have insurance, but I really needed to go somewhere.

Police advice to registered owners and drivers:

Owners must renew their own insurance as is not automatically renewed

Drivers should check the expiry dates on vehicle's documents before driving

Renewal notices are sent only as a courtesy and your address should be up to date

Set a reminder in your phone's calendar

Documents must be kept in the vehicle or drivers may receive an \$81 dollar fine Insurance can often be renewed online or over the phone.

## Young Indo-Canadian Man Arrested In Shooting Death Of Nishan Thind

Peel police have arrested a man and continue to look for a teenage suspect in connection with the fatal shooting of an 18-year-old Brampton man last month.

Police said they were called to a local hospital on the afternoon of Dec. 19 in the evening after being notified that a shooting victim had been dropped off.

A male 18-year-old had been admitted and subsequently died.

It was determined he had been shot at an unknown location and time and dropped off at the hospital. The victim was identified as Nishan Thind of Brampton.

On Tuesday, January 9, 2023, police executed a search warrant at a Brampton residence and subsequently arrested 18-year-old Preetpaul Singh.

He has been charged with Accessory After the Fact to

Commit an Indictable Offence. He was held in custody to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton.

The police have not yet revealed the reason behind shooting.

Meanwhile, the alleged shooter, who police said is a 16-year-old boy, continues to be at large. He is wanted on a Canada-wide warrant for manslaughter.

Police cannot release his name

under the provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

This remains an active investigation; anyone with information or video footage (dashcam or otherwise) is urged to contact Homicide detectives at 905-453-2121 extension 3205.

Anonymous information may also be submitted by calling Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or by



**Shooting victim  
Nishan Singh**

visiting peelcrimestoppers.ca.

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Continued from Page 01

# Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre Affirms Business-Driven and

Regardless of the complexity of questions like diplomatic tensions with India or the straightforward question of constructing a community center for the Filipino community in BC, the Conservative leader's answers were driven by two overarching solutions ie putting Canada first on the diplomatic front and on domestic front putting more money in pockets of people so they can afford things they want.

When asked about diplomatic relations, especially with India, Poilievre said all his foreign policy would reflect a commitment to prioritize Canadian interests. "All of my foreign policy will be driven by one thing ie what's good for Canada. We are going to start

putting our own country first for a change. This idea that we have had for eight years under Trudeau to cower to foreign governments, and multinational bureaucracies, to get seats to different UN commissions and let US walk all over us -- would be over. We will stand for Canada."

He said when it comes to India, he sees it as a big powerful democracy, emphasizing the importance of doing business with the second biggest populous nation on Earth while keeping Canada's welfare at the forefront. "I want more trade and jobs for our people."

His focus on bilateral relations with India will be in terms of business. "My priorities with India will include selling our natural gas so that we can



shut down coal fire plants and replace them with clean Canadian gas that is liquefied here in British Columbia. And we want to get a direct flight from Vancouver to Amritsar so that we can shorten travel time for the largest diaspora and Punjabi community. Singapore Malaysia, Italy, UK all have direct flights to Amritsar so why not Canada?

Trudeau signed an open skies agreement with no direct flights to Amritsar. He took our Punjabi community for granted and didn't care inconvenience it caused particularly seniors and business owners who visit Punjab. I want to fix that."

With respect to increasing foreign interference, he said Canada needs to protect its citizens from foreign influence

by any government and Canada needs a public registry for agents of "foreign authoritarian regimes who influence or manipulate" Canadian politics. Apart from foreign issues, the leader criticized the current government's handling of economic issues too. He blamed the rising cost of living, increased housing prices, and higher taxes on Justin Trudeau's eight-year tenure. "Our country has never been in worse shape than it is after eight years of Trudeau. Two million people forced to a food bank every single month in Canada."

Poilievre's solution involves a 'common sense' conservative approach, advocating for lower prices through the elimination of the carbon tax on gas, heat, and groceries. "We're going to bring home lower prices by axing the carbon tax on gas, heat, and groceries by capping, spending, and cutting waste to balance the budget and bring down inflation and interest rates."

In the realm of immigration, Poilievre criticized Trudeau for failing to help immigrants get licensed in their professions. "We'll bring on powerful paychecks of lower income taxes that reward hard work by bringing in a blue -sealed national testing standard to allow our brilliant immigrant doctors and nurses to take a test prove they're qualified and get to work in their field. We have, for example, 32 ,000 immigrant nurses that can't work. Many of them are Filipino."

To address the housing crisis, Poilievre proposed incentivizing local bureaucracies to speed up the permitting process for home building. "We'll create financial incentives for the local bureaucracies to speed up lower the cost of building permits, free up land, so we can build."

On crime prevention, Poilievre advocated for stricter measures, including keeping repeat violent offenders in prison and banning hard drugs. "We will also ban hard drugs, stop giving out opioids, and instead provide recovery and treatment services so we can bring our loved ones home drug free."

In essence, Pierre Poilievre's 'common sense' approach involved breaking down complicated issues and finding simple answers for all the things the Trudeau government is finding difficult right now ie inflation, housing and cost of living. However, it will not be uncommon to point that the true test of his common sense agenda will only be possible if he secures victory in the upcoming elections!



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# BC To Restrict Use Of Cell Phones In Schools

SURREY, BC: The Province is moving forward on three important actions to keep kids and young people safe from on-line threats, restrict cellphones in school and hold social media companies accountable.

"Today, kids live with different challenges than they did a generation ago, and they face them all in the palm of their hand," said Premier David Eby. "While cellphones, the internet and social media help us connect with each other, they also present risks that can harm kids. The impact and influence of

these tools is so great, and the corporations so powerful, it can be overwhelming for parents. That's why we are taking action to protect kids from the threats posed by online predators and the impacts of social media companies."

The announcement includes three concrete actions to keep kids and young adults safe:

- \* restricting the use of cellphones in schools;
- \* launching services to remove images from the internet and pursue predators; and
- \* legislation to hold social media compa-

nies accountable for the harm they have caused.

Research shows that frequent cellphone interruption in the classroom, social media platforms with addictive algorithms and predators who seek to exploit young people all present significant risks to young people. Studies have found that children's mental health and physical safety can suffer as a result of body-image distortion, cyberbullying, images shared without consent and disturbing instances of sextortion.

The Province will work with school districts to ensure all schools have policies in place by the start of the next school year to be able to restrict students' cellphone use in the classroom.

"Having cellphones in the classroom can be a distraction from the kind of focused learning we want kids to experience at school," said Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care. "There also is a time and a place for cellphones, including when they support student accessibility purposes. By learning in a safe school environment how to use their cellphones responsibly and respectfully, including when to put them away, students will be better able to develop healthy habits around technology and social media use in their everyday lives."

The Province is also ensuring more digital literacy training is available for students



so they have the knowledge and tools they need to stay safe from online predators, become good digital citizens and develop healthy relationships with technology.

On Monday, Jan. 29, 2024, the Province will launch two new services to help people stop or prevent the distribution of explicit images of them and pursue damages from the perpetrators. These services will improve access to justice and offer a clear path to legal action.

"Technology can be an extremely useful tool, but when used by bad actors it can have devastating impacts on people's lives," said Niki Sharma, Attorney General. "That's why we are providing supports for people, especially young adults, to take down their private images from websites and pursue damages against predators."

## Burnaby Woman Driving Wrong Way With Flat Tire Also Failed Breath Test

A Burnaby, B.C. woman has been issued a 90-day Immediate Roadside Prohibition (IRP) after failing a breath test. She was travelling in a white Kia west bound in the east bound lanes with a flat tire on Highway 1 near Lynn Valley exit. Officers were quickly dispatched and located the vehicle near Westview Drive exit on the highway, after multiple reports and calls. The vehicle had stopped in front of a flagger's vehicle after the flagger noticed the Kia traveling the wrong way with 3 functional tires.

When officers engaged with the driver of the Kia, they noted signs of impairment. An impaired investigation was launched. The driver, a Burnaby woman in her thirties, was administered a road side breath test and provided a sample of Fail. She was issued a 90-day immediate roadside prohibition and the vehicle was impounded for 30 days.

"Wrong way drivers on a highway pose an extreme danger to motorists, especially when they are impaired," said Constable Mansoor Sahak, Media Relations Officer for the North Vancouver RCMP. "Fortunately, officers were able to act quickly and with assistance of the public were able to locate this dangerous driver before a collision occurred."

If you witness a suspected impaired driver, call police as soon as it is safe to do so. Try and provide as much information about the vehicle (make, model, license plate), the driver (physical description), the vehicle's direction of travel and what activity you observed (weaving, swerving off the road,



etc.).

The Risks of Impaired Driving  
Driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs is often a prominent factor to serious and fatal motor vehicle incidents. The consequences of impaired driving can be severe and have the ability to change the course of one's life. B.C. has the toughest drinking and driving laws in Canada. If you're caught driving impaired, you could face these penalties:

- Driving suspensions from 24 hours to 90 days
- Vehicle impoundment
- Fines, from \$600 and up to \$4,060
- Jail time
- Mandatory rehabilitation
- Installation of ignition interlock in your vehicle

You may also have to pay a Driver Risk Premium, on top of your insurance, and if you crash while driving impaired, you're likely in breach of your insurance policy. That means you could be personally responsible for 100 per cent of the costs if you damage someone else's property or injure them (source: ICBC).

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# Miri Piri Wrestling Club shines at Western Canada Age Class Tournament

The Club is also inviting wrestling enthusiasts for the 17th Annual Miri Piri Wrestling Championship Tournament which will be taking place at the Ag-Rec Center in Abbotsford on Jan 28



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Miri Piri Wrestling Club players were on the roll at the Western Canada Age Class Tournament which took place last weekend at the Richmond Olympic Oval. Thirty of the club's athletes gave great performances winning 21 medals. Here is the list of winners:

Elementary Boys  
Kiran Zverev - Gold  
Jagshaan Mangat - Gold  
Balraj Lidder - Gold  
Daniel Gurevich - Silver  
Jashenveer Cheema - Silver  
Jasnoor Jhaggi - Silver  
Akath Gill - Silver  
Armaan Cheema - Bronze  
Fateh Brar - Bronze

Elementary Girls  
Jagnoor Mangat - Silver  
Sukhmani Brar - Silver  
Harnoor Gill - Bronze

U15 Boys  
Diljot Mangot - Gold  
125kg - Jorawar Dhadwal - Gold  
92kg - Jagshaan Mangat - Bronze

U17 Boys  
110kg - Gurkaran Gill  
55kg - Gurshar Johal - Bronze

U19  
Boys 55kg - Gurshar Johal - Gold  
92kg - Mantaj Grewal - Silver  
60kg - Dominic Wendt - Bronze

U23 Men 92kg - Rohan Tomer - Silver

The Club is also inviting everyone to attend the 17th Annual Miri Piri Wrestling Championship Tournament at the Ag-Rec Center in Abbotsford on Sunday, Jan 28. Tournament Registration Link: <https://2mev.com/#!/events/17th-miri-piri-wrestling-championship>.





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# A Call For Support And Awareness For Senior Care In Canada

By Balwant Sanghera

With nearly 8 million seniors in Canada and over 20% of them are over age 65, it is time to address the challenges faced by our aging demographic. Many seniors, who have significantly contributed to the country's growth, now find themselves grappling with hardships such as inflation, emotional, physical, and financial abuse, and social isolation.

Urgent attention from provincial and federal governments is needed to address these challenges and make life more comfortable for seniors.

As seniors age, their physical and cognitive abilities decline, often accompanied by mental health issues like anxiety, depression, and dementia. Those most affected include older

adults with health challenges, individuals with low income, older caregivers, Indigenous people, and newcomers.

A multipronged approach is essential to improve the lives of seniors, particularly older adults. Family members play a crucial role in ensuring the safety and well-being of senior members, but for those without close family support, caregivers must step in with patience and compassion.

Unfortunately, some of the seniors may not have a close family member or members to look after them. In this case their close relatives and/or well wishers need to step in. These caregivers need to be patient and compassionate in working with seniors as some of the seniors may not be easy to work with. Once these caregivers gain the senior's trust things usually move smoothly.



The financial strain on seniors has intensified with the rising cost of living, forcing some to choose between groceries and medications. A lot of seniors depend heavily on provincial and federal assistance programs such as OAS, GIC, CPP etc. The recent unprecedented increase in the cost of living has made it very

difficult for most Canadians to cope with the financial pressures especially seniors, most of whom are on fixed income.

One often hears stories of some of the seniors who are forced to choose between buying groceries or paying for their medications. This should not be happening in a wealthy country

like Canada. Our provincial and federal governments need to pay more attention to such situations. Also, especially our federal government, should be focused more on making lives of Canadians in general and seniors in particular more comfortable rather than issues outside our jurisdiction. We need to pay more attention on promoting and facilitating healthy lifestyles for all Canadians in general and seniors in particular.

Every level of government—municipal, provincial, and federal—must provide adequate facilities and resources for seniors to socialize, exercise, and share their experiences. A concerted awareness campaign addressing ageism, social isolation, and elder abuse is crucial to ensuring that seniors can adopt healthy lifestyles and enjoy a productive and fulfilling life. It is a responsibility we owe to those who have contributed so much to our country.

## Federal Commission Requests Information on Alleged Interference by India

Canada's Foreign Interference Commission is looking to examine the alleged meddling by India in the country's last two general elections.

The commission, in a statement on Wednesday, said it had asked the federal government to produce documentation related to these allegations. "Pursuant to its Terms of Reference, the Foreign Interference Commission has requested that the Government of Canada's collection and production of document relating to paragraphs clause (a)(i)(A) and (a)(i)(B) of its Terms of Reference include information and documents relating to alleged interference by India related to the 2019 and 2021 elections."

The commission's terms of reference, published last year, direct it to assess possible interference by China, Russia and other foreign state- or non-state actors in the 2019 and 2021 federal elections, the CTV News reported.

The commission's initial hearings will begin on Monday. The hearings, which will last five days, will identify the challenges, limitations and potential adverse impacts associated with the disclosure of classified national security information and intelligence to the public.

Continued on page 21

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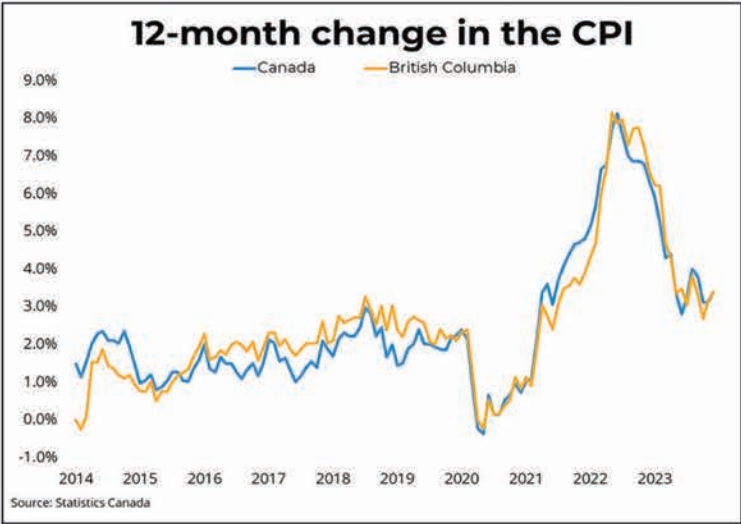
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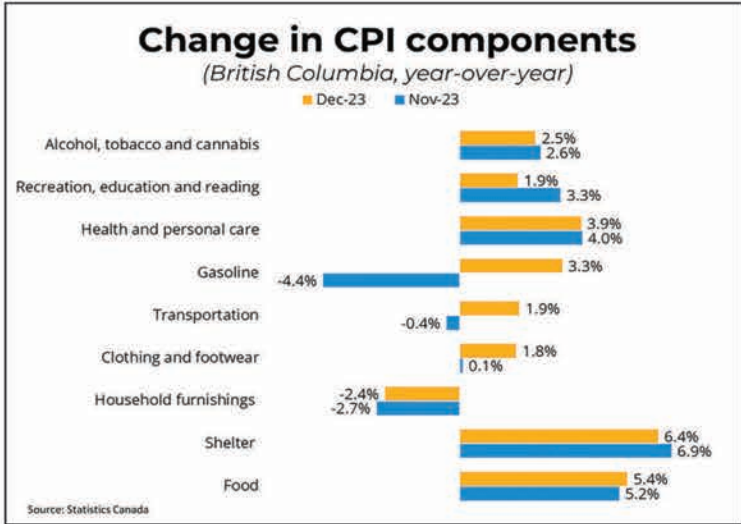
# Shelter Costs Continue To Be A Major Driver Of Inflation In Canada

Canadian prices, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rose 3.4 per cent on a year-over-year basis in December, up from a 3.1% increase in November. The increase was largely driven by base-year effects from gasoline, which were low in December of 2022. Excluding energy costs, CPI rose 3.7 per cent year-over-year in December, down from 3.8 per cent in November. Shelter costs continue to be a major driver of inflation, with mortgage interest costs up 28.6 per cent and rent up 7.7 per cent from last year in December. Grocery price inflation remained unchanged from November at 4.7 per cent year-over-year in December. Month over month, seasonally adjusted CPI rose 0.3 per cent. In BC, consumer prices rose 3.4 per cent year-over-year. The Bank of Canada's preferred measures of core inflation, which



strip out volatile components, remained between 3.5 and 4 per cent per cent year-over-year in December. Despite a disappointing uptick in the year-over-year percentage change in CPI, the general picture remains similar. CPI is stubbornly high, still within

the 3-4 percent territory that it has occupied since roughly the spring. Although gasoline prices drive volatility in the measure, including most of the December increase, shelter and food costs remain well above their pre-pandemic norms and are causing



the CPI to remain broadly elevated. The annualized 3-month percentage change in the Bank of Canada's preferred measures of inflation, including CPI-median and CPI-trim, both ticked up last month and remain between 3 and 4. Amid tepid GDP growth

and softening labour markets, financial markets continue to expect the Bank of Canada to cut rates substantially by the summer of 2024, but this will, of course, depend on the rate of economic growth and price appreciation in the first half of the year.

## Tickets are on sale for Mahalakshmi Temple's 2024 Holi Show

Shree Mahalakshmi Temple is organizing its annual Holi Show at Michael J. Fox Theatre on Saturday, March 16, 2024. It kicks off with dinner from 5:00 - 6:30 pm and the show starts at 6:30 pm to 9 pm. Refreshments will be served from 9 pm to 10 pm. The ticket price - \$30 & \$35 including food. For info and tickets please contact Surinder Vashisht at 604-671-5612, or Bipen Mehta and Temple at 604-874-0175.



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One is located in Abbotsford Great deal can be purchased in \$249,000

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priced to sell. Seller will finance if needed.

2 Unit Warehouse

total 2625 Sq ft, prime location 123st and 84 ave area, \$2,900,000 for both.

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Prime Scott road location with lots of potential.  
4 storey with elevator  
6 units rented month to month and balance owner using a business but can be vacant possession.  
Great Future potential.

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3 separate suites,  
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Large 1.3 Acres development site for sale in the heart of Fleetwood. Location Location potential to acquire 3.25 floor space Ratio (FSR)

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25000 Sqft. Industrial Bldg for Sale or For Lease. Lease From 11000 to 25000 Sqft. in Surrey.  
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4.363 acres of prime land in the heart of Surrey. Near 152st and 68ave. ALR is designated as an industrial business park. (Truck parking only not allowed)

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Extremely busy location.  
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can buy building alone, business alone or together.  
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124st and 84ave.  
Total 15,146,  
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2637sq ft, Newton area 124st and 82ave., end of January. \$17 sq ft. plus \$6 additional rent.

WAREHOUSE

3000sq ft. warehouse, 1500sq. ft. up and down, near payal business center  
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WAREHOUSE  
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2817 Sqft in Newton area.  
New paint etc.  
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Only \$1,199,000.

NEWTON WAREHOUSE

available January 1304sq ft, with approved paint booth warehouse for sale or lease.  
Only \$1,200,000

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Space Scott Road and 84th ave area 982 Sq FT, Available for lease 2025 exposure 1000 sq ft plus \$11 additional rent, ideal for Physiotherapy clinic  
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**6 16655 64 AVENUE**

This 2 storey place with a basement corner townhome is located in desirable Ridgewood at Northview. Boasting 3 bedrooms including an oversized master suite with gas fireplace as well as a den and flex space. Spacious living area with gas fireplace opens up to the rear deck while the generous basement rec room accesses the lower patio. Additional features are an oversized garage, AC/2017, new deck/2020.

**\$909,800****1001 13380 108 AVENUE**

Welcome to prestigious City Point, one bedroom condo in the heart of downtown Surrey with outstanding view of the bridge, mountains, city & park. Open concept floor plan. Fabulous design with Quartz kitchen countertops, S/S appliances & in suite laundry. One parking & storage. Free exercise room, common lounge, bike room. Security cameras at every excess in parking & elevators. Steps away from SFU campus, new city hall, public library, recreation facility, gateway sky train, parks, playground & shopping. 24 hours notice for showing. Amust see to appreciate the view.

**\$434,900****14103 110 AVE., N.SURREY**

Truly delightful huge 11 bedrooms & 10 bathrooms build on a rectangular 7920 sq ft lot. Main floor has 5 bedrooms & 4 full bathrooms. Living room, kitchen & spicework. Ground level has a 27' x 8' media room with bar & washroom for upstairs. The house has 3 spacious ground level bedrooms (3 bed, 4 bed & 1 bedroom). Total rent of the suites is \$3500/month. Very nice tenants. Easy access to Pattullo bridge, Port Mann bridge & shopping center. Motivated sellers. Easy to show.

**\$1,779,000****26964 28 AVE., LANGLEY**

Truly delightful 3100 sq ft home sits on a rectangular 7920 sq ft lot. Main floor has 5 bedrooms & 4 full bathrooms. Living room, kitchen & spicework. Ground level has a 27' x 8' media room with bar & washroom for upstairs. The house has 3 spacious ground level bedrooms (3 bed, 4 bed & 1 bedroom). Total rent of the suites is \$3500/month. Very nice tenants. Easy access to Pattullo bridge, Port Mann bridge & shopping center. Motivated sellers. Easy to show.

**\$920,000****5235 UPLAND DRIVE**

This 4 bed / 4 bath home sits on a rectangular 7920 sq ft lot. Main floor has 5 bedrooms & 4 full bathrooms. Living room, kitchen & spicework. Ground level has a 27' x 8' media room with bar & washroom for upstairs. The house has 3 spacious ground level bedrooms (3 bed, 4 bed & 1 bedroom). Total rent of the suites is \$3500/month. Very nice tenants. Easy access to Pattullo bridge, Port Mann bridge & shopping center. Motivated sellers. Easy to show.

**\$1,635,000****5843 180 STREET, CLOVERDALE**

Solid family home on almost 10,000 square foot rectangular lot in Cloverdale with loads of potential. Large open lot offers plenty of space for a pool, playground & trampoline, or use the extra space to build a new house. The house is in a central location close to schools, shopping, and transit. The house has 3 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms. Total rent of the suites is \$3500/month. Very nice tenants. Easy access to Pattullo bridge, Port Mann bridge & shopping center. Motivated sellers. Easy to show.

**\$912,500****14030 GROSVENOR RD., NORTH SURREY**

This well-maintained family home with 3 beds up, suite-potential down and a detached workshop garage has everything you and your family need. All located on a 100' x 100' lot with a 100' x 100' lot. The house has 3 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms. Total rent of the suites is \$3500/month. Very nice tenants. Easy access to Pattullo bridge, Port Mann bridge & shopping center. Motivated sellers. Easy to show.

**\$955,000****RICHI SINGH**

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 FULLY RENOVATED! Beautiful 3 bed townhouse with TWO entrances 1st entry from 62a ave through backyard with no stairs. All new kitchen high end appl., granite waterfall countertop, backsplash, country sink and faucets. Elegant wide plank vinyl flooring resists kids, pets and spills! New electric fireplace and custom built walnut wall unit perfect for entertainment and storage. Upstairs features 3 good size beds, lush bathroom, and updated washer/dryer.

**19913 72 AVE LANGLEY**

House with basement suite and a coach home  
 Potential rent \$5000 or more per month  
 (3 separate rental units)

**UNIT 34 - 1010 EWEN AVE NEW WEST**

Hot location in New Westminster! Just minutes from Walmart shopping outlet and restaurants, 10 min to Richmond, 10 min to Metrotown. Walking distance to Queen Elizabeth School. Corner unit townhouse w/spacious layout. Spacious 3 bedroom and 2.5 bathroom. Shows beautifully! Living and dining room faces inside of complex and the other side has kitchen, family room and a den with large balcony for family entertainment.



**\$699,000**  
 Welcome to The Georgia, Langley's newest collection of homes centrally located in Langley City close to shops, restaurants, parks, schools and walking distance to the future Skytrain. Modern open concept designs, featuring inviting 9ft ceilings, high-quality laminate flooring, air conditioning in the master bedrooms, and granite stone kitchen countertops. Contact sales for more information! Don't miss out, only a handful of homes remaining!



House with basement suite  
 All rent approx \$3000 per month  
**SOLD**  
 Open house Sunday 1-4



**\$1,499,000**  
 Check out this well maintained, beautifully updated basement entry home in the heart of North Delta. Main floor boasts 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, spacious living room/dining room, beautiful kitchen, sundeck. Downstairs features 2 bedroom legal suite with separate entry. Single garage and driveway can fit up to 4 cars. Steps away from Chalmers Elementary and Burnsville Secondary, Sun God Rec Centre, transit, shopping and parks.



**\$1,495,000**  
 Beautiful Corner House in the most desired area of Collingwood. Upstairs features three bedrooms and two bathrooms with a good size family room with a fireplace and a large dining area. Ground floor has a large living area, a kitchen, a breakfast room and a bathroom. Below is a large master bedroom with a walk-in closet, a full bathroom and a large bedroom. Double side by side car garage, additional 1 car parking. New Paint, Professionally Cleaned Carpet. Close to all amenities, superstore, restaurants and very easy access to the highway as well. This is a must see.



**\$699,000**  
 Welcome to Kennedy Trails. This house checks all the boxes. Cost effective & environmentally friendly. BIODERMA Thermal Heating system. E-start windows. Three large bedrooms. Large dining area. Ground floor has a large living area, a kitchen, a breakfast room and a bathroom. Below is a large master bedroom with a walk-in closet, a full bathroom and a large bedroom. Double side by side car garage, additional 1 car parking. New Paint, Professionally Cleaned Carpet. Close to all amenities, superstore, restaurants and very easy access to the highway as well. This is a must see.



**\$999,900**  
 Solid 6 bed and 2 bath home in the heart of Surrey. A perfect home for buyers. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a kitchen with gas stove, a large living area, a fireplace, a sun deck, a large balcony, a large patio, a large deck, a large yard, a large driveway, a large garage, a large lot, a large house, a large family, a large community, a large area, a large space, a large time, a large life, a large love, a large dream, a large hope, a large faith, a large grace, a large mercy, a large kindness, a large compassion, a large understanding, a large wisdom, a large knowledge, a large power, a large strength, a large courage, a large faith, a large hope, a large love, a large dream, a large hope, a large faith, a large grace, a large mercy, a large kindness, a large compassion, a large understanding, a large wisdom, a large knowledge, a large power, a large strength, a large courage, a large faith, a large hope, a large love, a large dream, a large hope, a large faith, a large grace, a large mercy, a large kindness, a large compassion, a large 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14379 66A AVENUE

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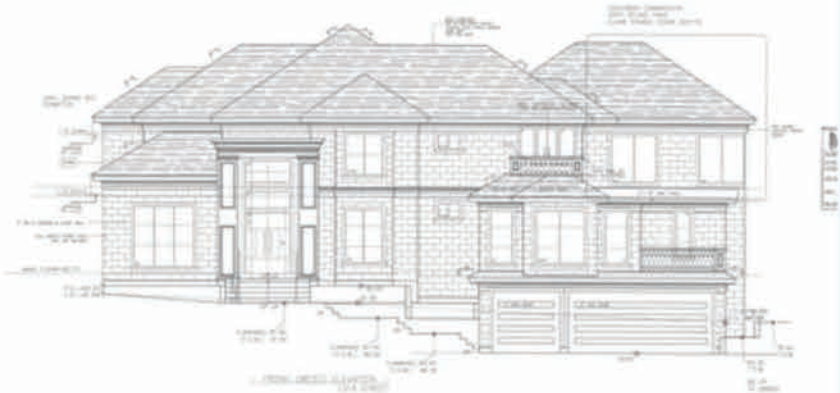


6 BED - 4 BATHS - 10,318 SF

This Beautiful House sits over a 10318 Sq. Feet Lot in prime neighbourhood of East Newton & features with Three Bedrooms & Two Washrooms including extra large master bedroom with ensuite and a Balcony, Huge Living Room, Dining Room & a separate Family Room UPSTAIRS. Downstairs comes with two mortgage helpers (2+1), Fully Renovated with lot of updates like both new Kitchens, Bathrooms, flooring, Lighting, Hot Water tank & Furnace. Enjoy the tranquility & quietness of Cul-de-sac with your morning tea sitting on the Front Patio. Close to all Amenities.

ASKING 1,599,000

5758 131 A STREET SURREY



11BED - 11 BATHS - 20,255 SF LOT

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE  
UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PRIME  
NEIGHBOURHOOD OF PANORAMA

ASKING 4,000,000

9097 BROADWAY STREET



3 BED - 1 BATH - 10,019 SF LOT

Builder's Alert! The Property is sub dividable and has been rezoned R1-C. PLA Application has been submitted to City & is in process. Excellent Heritage style home with three bedrooms and one bathroom . Large Private backyard.

ASKING 924,000

11956 98 AVENUE, SURREY



7 BED - 5 BATHS - 6,600 SF

Welcome to Your Dream Home! This beautiful renovated home at a prime location in a quiet neighbourhood of Royal Heights features with 7 Bedrooms & 5 Washrooms, very spacious open concept kitchen with quartz countertops & stainless steel appliances, Huge Living Room & Family Room, tons of Natural Light, Stone front, Glass Railing, Air Conditioning Upstairs. 2+1 Bedroom Suites as great mortgage helpers. Enjoy your morning tea in the open front deck or the covered sundeck in the backyard. Easy Access to Hwy 17, Scott Rd Skytrain station, Schools and Shopping.

ASKING 1,699,000

7028 142 STREET, SURREY



5 BED - 5 BATHS - 7,107 SF

Welcome to this well-maintained and updated home in the heart of Newton with over 7100 sqft lot with 77 feet Front just steps away from school and Bus Stops. Upstairs there are 3 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms with a living room, dining room and kitchen along with a bonus Family room. There are 2 separate balconies off the Family & Living Room. 2 Mortgage helpers (1 bedroom each) currently rented to Nice tenants. There is one full extra bath Downstairs. This home has lots of options to rent. The home features an updated kitchen (2015) updated washrooms (2017) and has been freshly painted. The roof has been updated as well in 2017. Walking distance to George Vanier Elementary school, daycare and to public transportation. THIS IS A MUST SEE!! Please book your private Showings.

ASKING 1,699,000

10095 FAIRVIEW DRIVE, CHILLIWACK



4 BED - 2 BATHS - 9,750 SF LOT

Welcome to Your Dream Home! This is a well kept home in one of the best & prime neighbourhood of Fairfield Island in Chilliwack. This Beautiful Rancher with Basement house sits on a huge 9750 Sq. Feet Lot with a wide frontage of 75 feet & a Subdivision Potential ( Please confirm with City) features with 3 Bedrooms & 1.5 Washroom on the main floor with a spacious kitchen equipped with Stainless Steel appliances. Downstairs you got a very spacious space, complete with two large Recreation/family rooms plus a bedroom and storage area. Roof was replaced 2-3 years back. Close to all shopping amenities, plenty of schools nearby and more parks within walking distance than any other neighbourhood.

ASKING 929,000

1001 14881 103A AVENUE



2 BED - 2 BATHS

Best Opportunity for the first time home buyers & nature lovers to enjoy the scenic beauty, spectacular north shore & panoramic coastal mountain views. This amazing Corner unit features with 2 Bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms with a Huge Master Bedroom Ensuite, A Good Size Living Room, Dining Room with fully renovated kitchen with quartz countertops & new kitchen cabinets, New stainless steel appliances & pot lights. All these appliances & renovations were done two years ago. Carpet in the whole unit is one year old. You are minutes walk to Guildford Town Centre, TNT Supermarket, dining, public library and highways. The maintenance fees include gas & hot water, One Storage locker & One Parking. There is also a bike room and lots of outdoor Visitor Parking.

ASKING 589,000

5748 123 Street Surrey



7 BED - 8 BATHS - 20,211 SF

Welcome to Your Dream Home! This Beautiful & Luxurious Architectural Masterpiece on a CORNER HALF ACRE LOT in the most prestigious neighbourhood of Panorama Ridge Features with Elegant Porte- Couchette Hotel Like Entrance with circular driveway, Italian Bricks Exterior, Open Concept Kitchen with Custom Italian Cabinets & Italian Black Marble, High Ceiling, Gorgeous sunken Living Room with oversized windows, which provide excellent Lighting, Circular Cherrywood Staircases, Huge Family Room & Dining Room with Master Ensuite on the Main Floor, High End Wool Carpet, 5 Bed rooms with 3 Washrooms upstairs. Downstairs Open & Bright Basement with Separate entrance with Wet Bar, which could be converted into a suite. Triple Car Garage with Ample Parking , Private Sports Court & Lot more. Must Visit

ASKING 2,999,000

MASSAGE PARLOUR  
FOR SALE IN SURREY



Location! Location Location! Great opportunity to own a well established & profitable MASSAGE CENTRE in the prime neighborhood of East Newton. The seller is running this centre for last eight years & wish to retire. This unit has three massage chambers with one chamber for tradition Indian Ayurvedic Shirodhara Table & a separate kitchen area & washroom. Lease is expiring in March 2024 but has two renewal options of 5 years each but the seller is getting it renewed by himself. Please contact for more info.

ASKING 249,999

GROCERY  
STORE  
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CLOVERDALE

ASKING 500,000

MASSAGE  
PARLOUR  
IN RICHMOND  
FOR SALE  
\$99,000.00

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# Canadian Punjabi band En Karma launch latest track, 'Tere Te Marda'

En Karma launched their latest track, 'Tere Te Marda,' featuring Harj Nagra. Recognized as North America's leading live Bhangra band, En Karma has spent the last two years dominating festivals and sharing stages with notable artists like Malkit Singh, Jazzy B, Miss Pooja, and Sukshinder Shinda. Known for infusing vibrant energy both on stage and in the studio, En Karma is taking a brief pause from live performances to unleash a wave of new releases. Their upcoming single, 'Tere Te Marda,' is a collaboration with the

acclaimed Canadian Producer Harj Nagra, featuring lyrics penned by Manni Sekhon. En Karma comprising Nick Chowlia (keyboards/producer), Pip Dhaliwal (drummer), Inder Kooner (vocalist, and Karm (Dhol); En Karma was formed in 2007. Originally from England, The band's previous hits, such as 'Tohar Naal Jeena', 'Tere Bina Nahi Nachna' ft HDhami and 'Anakh Naal Din Kateya' ft KS Makhan, achieved global chart success. Notably, their music was also featured in the mainstream prime time

Canadian TV show "Our Big Punjabi Family." 'Tere Te Marda' promises to bring a unique flavor to the Bhangra scene, with En Karma's distinct sound resonating through the speakers of hardcore Bhangra enthusiasts. Accompanied by a picturesque backdrop in the music video, the track was released on January 18th. Credits: Artist: En Karma; Vocals: Inder Kooner; Lyrics: Manni Sekhon; Music: Harj Nagra; Video: True Roots Productions



Continued from Page 14

## Federal Commission Requests...

"This is one of the biggest challenges that the Commission will face," said Commissioner Marie-Josée Hogue. "I look forward to hearing from experts, academics and practitioners in the field of national security to help us identify strategies that will allow us to share as much information with Canadians as

possible through our hearings and reports, even though much of the information that we receive will originate from classified documents and sources," she said. The Government of Canada created the Foreign Interference Commission to respond to concerns about foreign interference in the 2019 and 2021

federal elections. The Commission will also examine the flow of information within the federal government in relation to these issues, evaluate the actions taken in response, assess the federal government's capacity to detect,

deter, and counter foreign interference, and make recommendations on these issues. The Commission will complete an interim report due by May 3, 2024, and deliver its final report by December 31, 2024.

Continued from Page 04

## Amritpal Saran Killed in targeted...

said Sergeant Timothy Pierotti of IHIT. "This was a careless shooting, showing no concern for public safety. We are looking to speak with witnesses who were at either the mall parking lot where the shooting occurred, or scene of the vehicle arson," Pierotti said. IHIT is asking anyone with information who has yet to speak with police, or

anyone who was driving in north-east section of the mall parking lot between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. or in the 2900-block of Townshipline Road between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. with dash-camera footage to contact the IHIT Information Line at 1-877-551-IHIT (4448) or by email at [ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca).

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Care Home Mobile Service ਮੁਫਤ ਸਲਾਹ ਲਈ ਆਜ਼ਾਦ ਹੀ ਮਿਲੇ

ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਹੇਠਲੇ ਜਾਂ ਉਪਰਲੇ ਦੰਦ ਢਿੱਲੇ ਹਨ ਜਾਂ ਹੱਡੀ ਘਸੀ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ?

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ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਇੱਕ, ਦੋ, ਤੇ ਵੱਧ ਦੰਦ ਨਿਕਲ ਚੁੱਕੇ ਹਨ, ਦੰਦ ਲਗਵਾਉਣੇ ਹਨ, ਦੰਦ ਪੁਰਾਣੇ ਹਨ ਜਾਂ ਹੁਣ ਨਵੇਂ ਲਗਵਾਉਣੇ ਹਨ। ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਗਵਾਏ ਦੰਦ ਢਿੱਲੇ ਹਨ ਜਾਂ ਟੁੱਟ ਗਏ ਹਨ ਤਾਂ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਰੀਅਲਾਈਜ਼ ਜਾਂ ਰਿਪੇਅਰ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਆਜ਼ਾਦ ਹੀ ਮਿਲੇ।

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### SUNNY SANGHA • PERSONAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

#### 14317 31A AVENUE, SURREY

Architectural elegance at its finest; this West Vancouver-inspired property is located within the prestigious Elgin Park Estates neighborhood in South Surrey. This extravagant home portrays the unique blend of timeless sophistication and secluded park-style living. Sitting on approximately 14,000 sqft of land, this property offers 6488 sqft of luxurious living space; meticulous by design, it features four opulent bedrooms upstairs and similarly one spacious bedroom on the main floor. The kitchen is equipped with Miele appliances throughout and features a beautiful transparent wine cabinet. Furthermore, the property possesses an abundance of outdoor entertainment space in conjunction with a designated theatre room, gymnasium, games room, and bar. Call now to book your private showing!

#### #92 15111 EDMUND DRIVE

Welcome to Townsend! This beautiful unit is one of the largest in the entire complex, boasting 1,976 sq. ft. of living space. Built in 2019 by award-winning builder, Polygon, this beautiful townhome features 4 spacious bedrooms - 3 on the top floor, and 1 on the ground floor as guest quarters, 3.5 bathrooms, as well as a grand main floor which includes a large family room and separate dining area. The guest quarters on the ground floor feature a spacious bedroom and a full bathroom, and a double side-by-side garage. In addition to the double garage, there are an additional two parking spots outside. The home has been exceptionally maintained by its current owners. Call to book your private showing today.

#### UNIT 2808 13615 FRASER HWY

Welcome to King George Hub, built by PCI is one of the most sought-after locations in central Surrey. Move in or Invest in the fastest-growing city in BC. This bright north-facing unit is located in the master-planned community with all of your needs at your doorstep. The unit is finished with laminate flooring, quartz countertops, and wall-to-wall windows for natural light. The unit has one parking, one storage locker, and an already paid-for EV charger.

#### LOT B 20444 46A AVENUE, LANGLEY

9000 sqft lot available to build your dream home in Langley City's one of the best pockets. You can build a 3 story house on a flat rectangular lot. The location is close to all shopping and the newly approved sky train.

#### LOT A 33734 MAYFAIR AVENUE, SURREY

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<div>LOT 11 CHIEF LAKE ROAD PRINCE GEORGE</div> <div></div> <div>Beautiful 5.48 acre property. \$28,776</div>	<div>5192 MANOR ST, BURNABY</div> <div></div> <div>ASKING \$1,567,000</div>	<div>259 HOLLY AVENUE, KAMLOOPS</div> <div></div> <div>ASKING \$675,000</div>
<div>56-8168 136A ST, SURREY</div> <div></div> <div>ASKING \$795,000</div>	<div>5533 CHESTNUT CRE, LADNER</div> <div></div> <div>ASKING \$1,325,000</div>	<div>16669 31B, SOUTH SURREY</div> <div></div> <div>ASKING \$2,640,000</div>

Call for a no obligation FREE evaluation of your home.



# Federal Court of Canada rules Trudeau's use of the Emergencies Act 'unconstitutional' and unreasonable

In a landmark ruling, a Federal Court judge ruled this week that the Liberal government unconstitutionally and unjustifiably invoked the Emergencies Act in response to ongoing Freedom Convoy blockades in early 2022. On Feb. 14, 2022, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government announced it was invoking the exceptional powers of the Emergencies Act for the first time in response to ongoing, weeks-long Freedom Convoy blockades in Ottawa that thwarted police control. This was the first time the Act was invoked since its enactment in 1988. The Act, invoked for just over

one week, was used to freeze some convoy participants' bank accounts, compel tow truck companies to co-operate with local police clearing out blockades and mark parts of downtown Ottawa as a no-go zone. It was also meant to prevent protesters who had blockaded the US-Canada border in Ontario and Alberta from returning. Four groups applied for judicial review of the decision. The Applicants/Parties raised issues which lead to the following three key questions. Was the Proclamation unreasonable? The Court concluded that the Proclamation was unreasonable and illegal.

"The Proclamation applied the temporary special measures in all of Canada's provinces and territories, despite the lack of evidence that it was necessary. Apart from the situation in Ottawa, the police were able to enforce the rule of law by applying the Criminal Code and other legislation," the court document mentions. Also the Court said that there was not enough evidence to support that the activities reached a threshold defined as "threats to the security of Canada". The Court found that there was no infringement of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

Regarding the argument raised by the two men whose bank accounts were frozen, that their rights to due process and the peaceful enjoyment of property under the Canadian Bill of Rights were violated the Court found that there was no infringement. "I have concluded that the decision to issue the Proclamation does not bear the hallmarks of reasonableness – justification, transparency and intelligibility – and was not justified in relation to the relevant factual and legal constraints that were required to be taken into consideration," stated Federal Court Justice Richard Mosley. At a press conference from the



cabinet retreat in Montreal, Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland said the federal government plans to appeal the decision. "I would just like to take a moment to remind Canadians of how serious the situation was in our country when we took that decision," she said. "The public safety of Canadians was under threat. Our national security, which includes our national economic security, was under threat."



## Brampton mayor suggests changes in foreign student visa to tackle housing crisis

Calling for a cap on the number of international students arriving in Canada, Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown announced that the City Council has unanimously passed a

motion urging the government to require study visas to include an accommodation address. The move comes in the wake of an exacerbating housing crisis, leading to unaffordable rentals that are forcing students, many of them Indians, to live in unsafe and illegal conditions in the country. "We can't have international students living in 3rd world conditions while being used as an ATM for the college they are

going to," Brown, whose city has seen a large influx of international students, wrote in a post on X on Saturday. "Brampton City Council has unanimously passed a motion calling on the federal government to require international student visas to include a housing address consistent with local by laws as a component of the approvals process," Brown said. According to the Mayor, the current system allows

international students to be routinely taken advantage of and is exacerbating the housing crisis. "Requiring a housing address as part of the visa approval process would ensure every college has an appropriate housing plan and spur new student housing construction," Brown wrote. According to official figures, the number of international students in Canada has crossed the one million mark, just as the country mulls capping their arrival.

There were more than 800,000 international students in Canada in 2022, and the federal government has said previously it expected more than 900,000 in 2023. As the housing crisis has been blamed on an increase in migrants and international students, Brown said it is the immigration system that needs to be fixed while supporting the arrival of international students in Canada. *Continued on page 27*

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# Vancouver Coastal Health Sounds A Warning About Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) is issuing a warning to the public about carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning as B.C. heads into the coldest winter months. During the colder months, when people spend more time indoors, VCH hospitals see an increase in CO poisoning with an average of 31 emergency department visits each month, compared to 19 visits per month during the warmer months of the year (when comparing April – September to October – March 2018-2023). CO is produced by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal and other fossil fuels. Improperly

ventilated appliances and engines using these fuels in a tightly sealed or enclosed space may allow the gas to accumulate to dangerous levels. Prolonged exposure to this invisible, odorless gas can cause significant damage to an individual's internal organs and, in some situations, may be fatal. There are many simple steps people can take to reduce their risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. These include installing a carbon monoxide detector in your home and checking its batteries every year. If you live in a home with a furnace, ensure it is checked by an accredited professional annually.

The BC Drug and Poison Information Centre receives about 350 CO exposure referrals each year and between 20-40 of those cases are treated in Vancouver General Hospital's hyperbaric chamber. VCH has the only publicly-funded hyperbaric chamber in B.C. It provides 100 per cent oxygen in a high-pressure environment, which increases the level of oxygen in a patient's bloodstream, helps the body rid itself of CO, and aids healing. Given exposure can cause very subtle symptoms, many people may not even be aware that they require care. Symptoms include



headache, blurred vision, nausea, shortness of breath and/or confusion. If you think you or someone you're with may have carbon monoxide poisoning, immediately seek fresh air and emergency care.

# Funding Available For Farmers, Ranchers Prepare For Extreme Weather


VICTORIA: B.C. farm and ranch business owners can now apply for funding to help prepare and protect their farms and animals from extreme weather emergencies. Funding that opened on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024, will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis with up to \$50,000 available per applicant and per project category. Through the Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture program, \$2 million is available to support producers with projects that help prepare farms for wildfires, flooding, and extreme heat. The program began in 2022 and has supported more than 150 projects on B.C. farms in the poultry, dairy, beef,

tree fruit, and berry sectors. Examples include: improving cooling systems for barns, enhancing shade and heat protection for livestock and crops, protection and storage of feed and fuel, protection of wells, FireSmart critical infrastructure assessments and retrofitting farm buildings in preparation of wildfires. The Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture program is part of B.C.'s Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy and is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC (IAF), with funding from the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), and CleanBC.



The Sustainable CAP is a five-year, \$3.5-billion investment


by federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5-billion commitment that is cost-shared 60% federally and 40% provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories. Learn More: To find out more about the Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture funding opportunities, visit: <https://iafbc.ca/ewp/>




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# Not Just Your House, Declutter Your Emotions For A Fresh Start

Surrey Memorial Hospital Site Medical Director Dr. Marietta Van Den Berg offers tips to deal with six common types of clutter. According to her clutter can affect our stress and anxiety levels

Out with the old, in with the new. For many people, the new year is a time to clean house. By now, the tree is probably down and the holiday decorations put away. But what to do with the things that accumulate over the year and clutter our homes and lives?

According to psychiatrist and Surrey Memorial Hospital Site Medical Director Dr. Marietta Van Den Berg, clutter can affect our stress and anxiety levels, as well as our productivity. It can influence our ability to focus and may trigger coping and avoidance behaviors.

“Think about how hard it is to concentrate when you are in a noisy mall or restaurant, how draining it is,” says Dr. Van Den Berg. “Visual stimuli and the physical environment also drain cognitive resources.”

Clutter, she says, represents postponed decisions.

“When we do not make decisions, we end up with stuff in our lives. We have things in our homes because we have not made decisions around whether we need them, whether to get rid of them or where to put them, and we have clutter in our lives because we have not decided what is and is not important. When we avoid making decisions, we then get decision fatigue and then we avoid the issue altogether and the clutter



**Dr. Marietta Van Den Berg**

grows.”

Dr. Van Den Berg offers some tips to deal with six common types of clutter:

**Waste clutter**  
No one wants to contribute to landfills. We can choose to sell, donate or toss items. We must learn to live with and tolerate the difficult feelings that come with disposing of items we don’t want or need, and then use those feelings to make better decisions when buying more stuff in the future.

**Aspirational clutter**  
This includes the clothes in the closet that we have had for years because we intend to lose weight, and the craft and hobby supplies that we will use when we have more time. This represents our past selves and our future selves, not our present reality. The solution, says Dr. Van Den Berg, is to change and close the gap between the desired and current self, or let it go.

**Progress clutter**  
The parts you ordered that need to be installed, the projects you



started that need to be completed, or even the letters that need to be posted all represent progress clutter. Close the gap, schedule the task and complete it, or have an “in-progress” basket that you keep out of the way.

**Sentimental clutter**  
Decide how many useless things holding sentimental value you can accommodate without them becoming clutter. For example, perhaps allocate one banker’s box per child for elementary artwork, school reports and year books. Find a way to hold onto the memory, not the item. Offer larger items, like furniture, to family members, or repurpose them to fit your current needs.

“This includes the gifted and inherited stuff that you may

hate but feel obliged to keep,” says Dr. Van Den Berg. “I have that – a whole house full of antique furniture where nothing matches in case my children want it someday. I intend to have two antique chairs sanded, painted white and distressed...I feel if I must bear the burden of ownership at least I can do it in a manner that looks pretty to me and works for me.”

**I-might-need-this clutter**  
Keeping something because you might need it is centered on fear. Fear of not having something when it is needed, fear of regret and fear of not being able to afford or find the item in the future. It represents a fear of loss of control of future possible needs.

Ask yourself: When did I last

use it? If not in two seasons, you probably do not need it. If you decide to keep an item, remember it is a tradeoff of the cost of your time, space, and attention against a possible future need.

**Emotional and mental clutter**  
Rather than creating a “to-do” list, consider scheduling items or doing them immediately. Worries and thoughts take up headspace, time and attention. Consider writing them down. To reduce emotional clutter, be realistic about your capacity and capabilities. If people in your life constantly “take” from you, bring you down or clutter your emotional space, time, energy and attention, either reduce the impact they have on your life or cut them out.

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Continued from Page 23

## Brampton mayor suggests changes in foreign student visa to tackle housing...

"Enough is enough. It's time to clean up this broken federal program," he said.

In a letter to the federal immigration and housing ministers last month, Brown also called on the government for a more restrictive visa policy, according to The Globe and Mail newspaper.

This included capping student permits issued annually, and prioritising postsecondary institutions that have a housing plan.

"Data demonstrates Ontario has more international students than all other provinces and territories combined, and a substantial portion of new international students settle in Brampton where they face issues such as housing affordability and as a result, insufficient living conditions," the letter read.

"These changes to the international student program will help alleviate the pressures international students face and municipalities like Brampton who carry the responsibility of creating conditions to help international students thrive."

Brown told The Globe that many students reside in his community while attending colleges hundreds of kilometres away.

"It's a massive resource drain. The city gets no compensation for the fact that they're not paying taxes. They're living quite often 16 people in a basement apartment," Brown said.

Earlier this month, Immigration Minister Marc Miller said he will closely analyse the number of international students and temporary residents entering into the country with the government facing backlash over housing affordability and rising cost of living.

Further, he called on the provinces to stop licensing substandard private colleges that he says churn foreign graduates out like "puppy mills".

Brown also mentioned in his letter that public and private colleges have significantly increased international enrollment to up their profit over the past 10 years, but have added little to no new on-campus housing.

## NEHA DHUPIA Says Her Army Background Gave Her 'A Little More Self-Assurance'

Actor Neha Dhupia feels the free and fearless side of her personality is largely because of being an army kid. Dhupia's father served in the Indian Navy. "Even if one family member wears the uniform in your house, your entire thought process towards patriotism changes," she told us.

The 43-year-old recalled how days like Republic Day had a big lead-up in the cantonment area she lived, for instance putting flags on bicycles and dressing up in the tricolor even before the big day. "In Delhi, we would go and see the Republic Day preparations. The excitement in the air would be great. Even now, I would sit in front of our TV in the morning to watch the parade. My kids have also learned to do that," she said.

For Dhupia, it was a memory down the lane recently when she visited Kerala, where she grew up. "Everything has changed, yet things haven't changed at all! I saw the trees I climbed, subtle memories of always being outdoors. It used to be a sweet, secure life," the A Thursday (2022) actor added.

She however refused that she was an "army brat". "It's not over-confidence, arrogance or attitude. It's just that we have a little more self-assurance than others," Dhupia said.

The mother of two did assert that the least parents and schools can do today

is tell their kids the importance of Republic Day. "We should watch the parade even if on TV. People work so hard for it for months," the former beauty queen told us.

Ask her what quality she inculcated from her army household that helped her in Bollywood, and she said, "That one ability to walk into a room and make a conversation. And this is for all fauji kids. Since we played a lot of sports, we also learned to fail, stand back and compete. All of this said in a very positive way. Non-fauji kids might also have it but in a different skill set."

Dhupia signed off by repeating her father's words to "be fearless and keep your chin between your shoulders."



## John Abraham on one year of Pathaan: 'Film made industry bounce back'

As 2023's biggest blockbuster Pathaan starring Shah Rukh Khan clocked a year of its theatrical release, actor John Abraham said he has fond memories of the film in which he plays the role of the antagonist who received immense love and acclaim from audiences.

John Abraham on 1 year of Pathaan

"Pathaan's anniversary will always be nostalgic for me personally and also for the Hindi film industry because this was the film that made us as an industry bounce back," said John Abraham.

"This film brought a lot of respect and glory back to the industry. It changed perception, emotion and the forward journey of the Hindi film industry. Just see how the film industry bounced back with Pathaan to deliver its biggest year ever in cinema!"

John expressed his gratitude for the love and support he received for his performance in Pathaan. "I will always have extremely fond memories of Pathaan for this reason because this industry is my home. The amount of love I have got for Pathaan is incredible. Playing an anti-hero and winning hearts is a very special feeling," he said.

The actor also shared his desire to be part of Aditya Chopra's fabled YRF Spy Universe. He said, "I hope I continue to be a part of this YRF Spy Universe and enthrall you all with my craft and passion towards cinema."

Pathaan

Helmed by Siddharth Anand, Pathaan, which was released on January 25, also stars Deepika Padukone in the lead role. Apart from "seeti maar" dialogues and high-octane action scenes, it's Salman Khan's extended cameo as Tiger that has made the film more special.

Why is Pathaan special?

After a few years of tough phase, Shah Rukh Khan in 2023, made a grand comeback and let his work silence the detractors. He returned to silver screen with Siddharth Anand's Pathaan in January. In the film, he donned an action avatar and left everyone in awe.

The film broke several records at the box office and managed to grab a name in the list of one of the highest-grossing films in the Indian film industry. Remember the clamorous death knell tolling for the Hindi film industry all through 2021 and 2022? His film ended Bollywood's dry spell at the box office.

Pathaan will always remain special for Shah Rukh

Khan and his fans as the film marked his first hit after his sabbatical of four years post delivering a series of duds like Zero and Jab Harry Met Sejal.



## When Lord Of The Dance Hrithik Roshan Copied Deepika Padukone's "Effortless Style"

New Delhi: Fighter co-stars Deepika Padukone and Hrithik Roshan had only nice things to say about each other as they alongside Anil Kapoor and Fighter director Siddharth Anand attended the film's press conference. On being asked about his experience while working with Deepika Padukone in Fighter, the Dhoom 2 star narrated an incident during the filming of the song Sher Khul Gaye. Hrithik talked about getting "lost in the technicality of the step" and how his co-star Deepika came to the rescue. "Say nice things," Deepika was heard telling Hrithik in the video and her co-star did exactly that. "There is a thing that helped me a lot, this is when we were shooting for Sher Khul Gaye. I had obviously put in a lot of effort in getting the steps right but when I saw Deepika doing the same step, I was like



this is looking so effortless man and then I asked Deepika, 'can you please do the step for me'. We are on set, camera is on and I was like, I am not doing it until I understand what is going wrong with my step. So I asked her to do the step, I saw what she was doing and then I copied what her style was," Hrithik elaborated. Deepika Padukone chimed in, "Basi-

is doing and that enhanced my dance as well," added Hrithik Roshan. ICYDK, Hrithik Roshan is deemed as one of the finest dancers in the Bollywood fraternity. The 50-year-old actor has exhibited his magnificent dance skills in some of the most iconic film songs like Ek Pal Ka Jeena, Main Aisa Kyon Hoon among others.

cally I was doing it so badly that there was no other choice than to follow me." Hrithik Roshan however asserted that it was infact Deepika who, "enhanced" his dance in the song.

"Sometimes you just get lost in the technicality of the step. Jab maine unhe dekha (when I saw her), I said this is looking effortless. I am going to now change the step a little bit and do it in the way she

is doing and that enhanced my dance as well," added Hrithik Roshan.

ICYDK, Hrithik Roshan is deemed as one of the finest dancers in the Bollywood fraternity. The 50-year-old actor has exhibited his magnificent dance skills in some of the most iconic film songs like Ek Pal Ka Jeena, Main Aisa Kyon Hoon among others.

# Ajay Devgn's Maidaan To Clash With Akshay Kumar's Bade Miyan Chote Miyan On Eid

Mumbai (Maharashtra): January 23 : Actor Ajay Devgn on Tuesday unveiled a new poster of his upcoming sports drama film Maidaan. Taking to Instagram, Ajay shared the poster that he captioned, "The much-awaited game is about to flag off worldwide. Mark your calendars as #Maidaan takes over fields this Eid, April 2024, promising an inspiring tale that will leave you cheer-



ing & celebrating with pride."

After multiple delays, Maidaan is all set to hit the theatres on the occasion of Eid 2024. In the new poster, Devgn could be seen donning formal attires with his foot on a football.

Interestingly, the film will face a big Bollywood clash with Akshay Kumar and Tiger Shroff's action thriller film *Bade Miyan Chote Miyan*.

Helmed by Amit Ravindernath Sharma and co-produced by Boney Kapoor and Zee Studios, *Maidaan* is a sports drama dedicated to the golden years of Indian football.

Ajay is essaying the role of the legendary coach Syed Abdul Rahim, who is widely known as the founding father of Indian football. The film also stars Priyamani, Gajraj Rao, and Bengali actor Rudranil Ghosh.

Last year, the makers of Maidaan unveiled the film's teaser which received massive responses from the audiences.

The teaser opens with dynamic shots of sportsmen playing football in the rain. What stands out about them is how they are playing the 'greatest game' barefoot. Ajay then makes a striking appearance in a grey coat, holding an umbrella while overlooking a match.

The teaser concludes with Ajay's power-packed dialogue, "Aaj Maidaan mein utarna gyarah lekin dikhna ek (today when you step out on the field, you should be 11 in number but should look like one)."

In 2020, producer Boney Kapoor had to dismantle the film set due to the lockdown imposed to curb the novel coronavirus pandemic. In May 2021, the set of Maidaan was destroyed by Cyclone Tauktae.

Talking about Akshay-Tiger's Bade Miyan Chote Miyan the film is helmed by Ali Abbas Zafar and the makers will be unveiling the film's official teaser tomorrow.

Bade Miyan Chote Miyan also stars Prithviraj Sukumaran and Sonakshi Sinha in the lead roles. Which film are you eagerly waiting for?




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# Parineeti Chopra

## Announces She's Becoming A Singer, Says Having Two Careers Will Be 'Fun, Chaotic'

Actor Parineeti Chopra on Thursday announced that she is officially making a foray into music as a singer. Parineeti, who has a background in classical music, has signed up with Entertainment Consultant LLP, a renowned entertainment company affiliated with TM Ventures Pvt Ltd and TM Talent Management. What Parineeti said

"Music, to me, has always been my happy place. I've watched countless musicians worldwide performing on the stage and now it's finally my time to be a part of that world," Parineeti wrote in the caption of an Instagram post on Thursday.

"I feel so lucky, blessed and stressed

about starting off a whole new chapter in my life and I honestly can't describe how excited I am to embark on this musical journey. A journey that gives me the opportunity to have two careers at once! How fun (and chaotic). So here's to embracing the unknown and facing all my fears and kicking off my singing debut," she added.

Parineeti said she is excited to collaborate with Entertainment Consultant for her singing ventures. "We've got some amazing things in store for you all this year. I hope you're as excited for this as I am," she wrote.

The 35-year-old actor is familiar to the music world as she sang the track

Maana Ke Hum Yaar Nahin for her 2017 movie Meri Pyaari Bindu.

Parineeti as an actor

On the movie front, the actor was last seen in Mission Raniganj, co-starring Akshay Kumar. She will next appear in filmmaker Imtiaz Ali's Amar Singh Chamkila, which is based on the life of the iconic music star of Punjab from the 1980s. The film also stars Diljit Dosanjh in the titular role, and Parineeti has lent her voice to the movie's soundtrack.

## Kangana Ranaut's Indira Gandhi Film 'Emergency' Sets Release Date



"Emergency," written, directed and produced by Bollywood star Kangana Ranaut, has set a release date. The film focuses on one of the most controversial periods of post-Independence Indian history from 1975 to 1977 when then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared a nationwide state of emergency. During that time civil liberties and press freedom were curtailed and elections were canceled.

The film is produced by Zee Studios and Ranaut's Manikarnika Films. Ranaut stars as Indira Gandhi and the cast also includes Anupam Kher, Mahima Chaudhary, Milind Soman, Shreyas Talpade, Vishak Nair and the late Satish Kaushik. "Indi(r) a's Emergency," a three-part documentary series from Applause Entertainment and Vikramaditya Motwane's Andolan Films, deals with the same subject. It is yet to be released.

Ranaut told Variety: "Emergency" is the most controversial, sensational, and scathing event in the history of Indian democracy. It is also a deeply engaging and dramatic story of the rise and fall of one of the most popular world leaders and India's first woman Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. "Emergency" will release theatrically worldwide on June 14.



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# Neetu Kapoor's Shout Out To Alia Bhatt-Ranbir Kapoor After Love & War Announcement: "Raha's Parents, You Make Me Proud"

The news of Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor's collaboration with director Sanjay Leela Bansali for his new film Love & War has made Ranbir Kapoor's mom Neetu Kapoor immensely happy and her latest Instagram post stands as proof. Moments after Alia Bhatt shared the news of her featuring in Sanjay Leela Bansali's epic sage Love & War along with her husband Ranbir Kapoor and actor Vicky Kaushal, Neetu Kapoor reshared the post on her Instagram wall. In her loud shout



out to her kids, Neetu Kapoor wrote, "Love & War! Raha's parents, you both make me so proud with my all time favourite film maker #SANJAYLEELABHANSALI. Can't wait to see your magic #VickyKaushal." See what Neetu Kapoor posted: Earlier in the day, the happy news was shared by the actors Vicky Kaushal and Alia Bhatt on their respective Instagram pages. Sharing the post, Vicky wrote, "An eternal cinema dream has

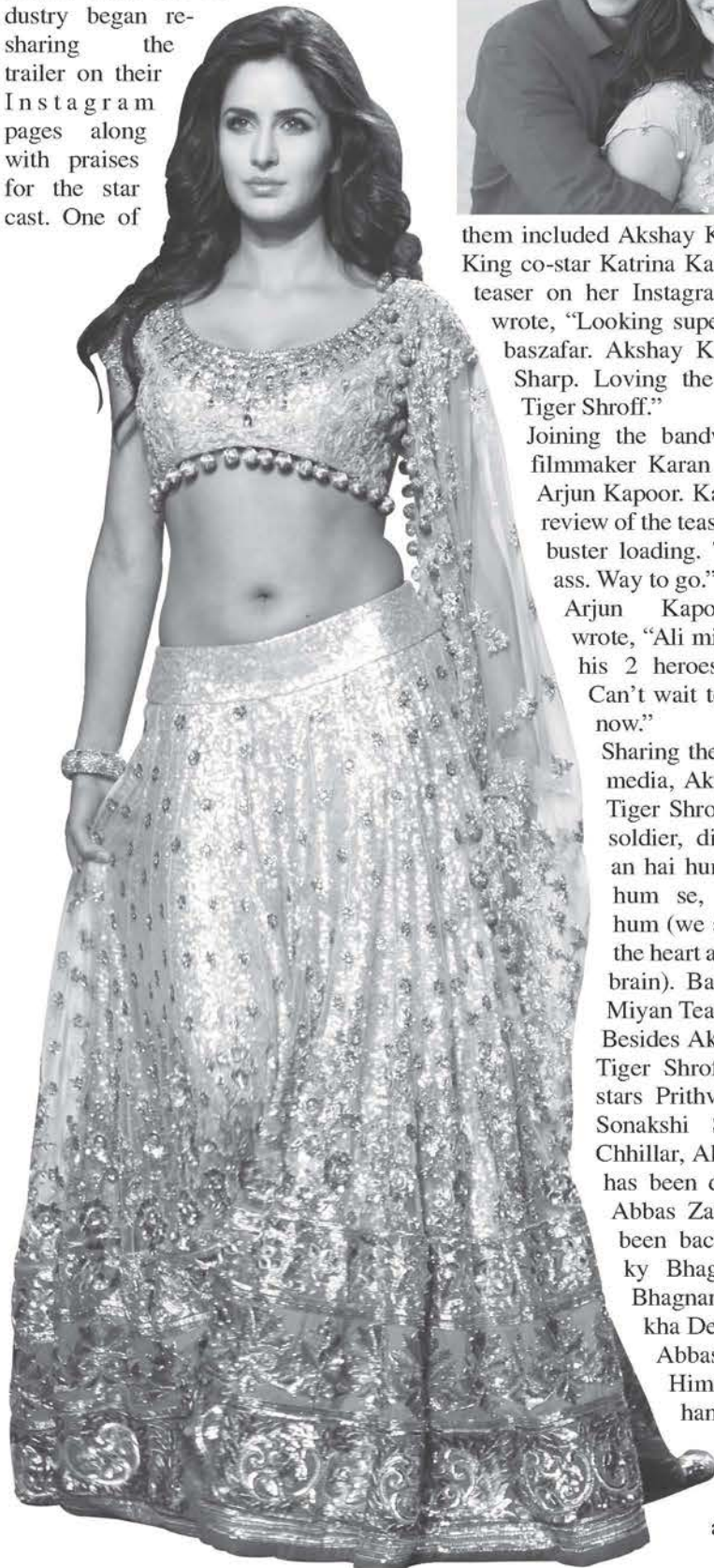
come true. #SanjayLeelaBhansali #RanbirKapoor @aliaabhatt @prerna\_singh6 @bhansaliproductions # Love & War." Vicky's post got big love from his brother Sunny and dad Sham Kaushal. Sunny commented, "Je baat," while dad Sham Kaushal wrote, "Congratulations & blessings Puttar. Dreams do come true. Feeling so happy & blessed. Jor di jhappi. Shukar Rab da te sab da(a tight hug. Big thanks to the god and everyone else)." For the unversed, Love & War marks the filmmaker's first film with Vicky Kaushal. He has however worked with Alia Bhatt in Gangubai Kathiawadi and Ranbir Kapoor in his debut film Saawariya. Love & War will hit the theatres on Christmas of 2025.

# Bade Miyan Chote Miyan Teaser: Katrina Kaif's Shout Out To Akshay Kumar - "Looking Sharp"

New Delhi: The teaser of Bade Miyan Chote Miyan released on Wednesday morning and it has been trending big on social media ever since. Hours after the teaser hit the Internet, Akshay Kumar's friends from the industry began re-sharing the trailer on their Instagram pages along with praises for the star cast. One of



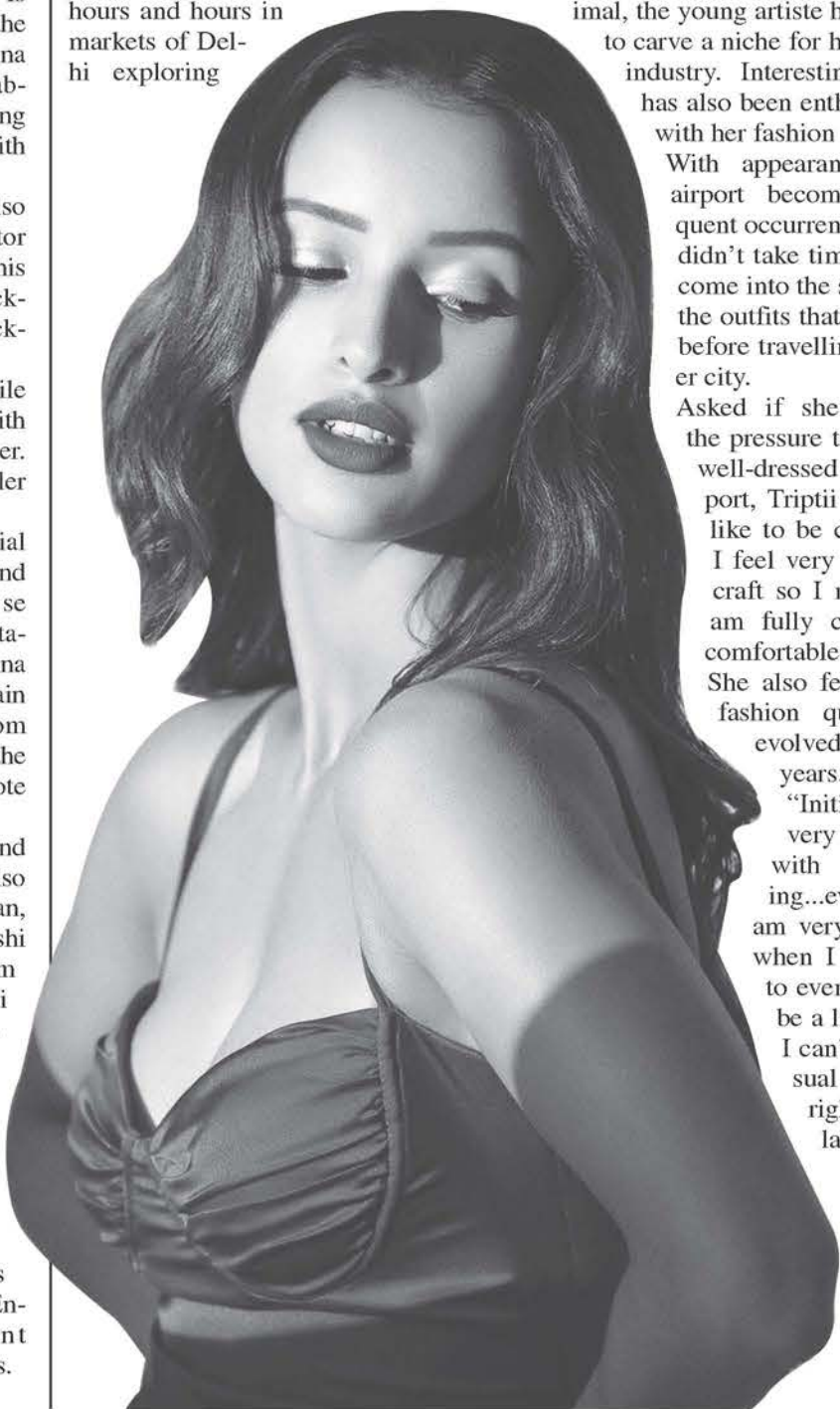
them included Akshay Kumar's Singh Is King co-star Katrina Kaif. Resharing the teaser on her Instagram feed, Katrina wrote, "Looking superb buddy Aliabaszafar. Akshay Kumar is looking Sharp. Loving the chemistry with Tiger Shroff." Joining the bandwagon was also filmmaker Karan Johar and actor Arjun Kapoor. Karan Johar, in his review of the teaser wrote, "blockbuster loading. This looks kick-ass. Way to go." Arjun Kapoor meanwhile wrote, "Ali miyan is back with his 2 heroes packed teaser. Can't wait tomsee the trailer now." Sharing the teaser on social media, Akshay Kumar and Tiger Shroff wrote, "Dil se soldier, dimaag se shaitaan hai hum. Bachke rehna hum se, Hindustan hain hum (we are soldiers from the heart and devil from the brain). Bade Miyan Chote Miyan Teaser out now." Besides Akshay Kumar and Tiger Shroff, the film also stars Prithviraj Sukumaran, Sonakshi Sinha, Manushi Chhillar, Alaya F. The film has been directed by Ali Abbas Zafar and it has been backed by Jacky Bhagnani, Vashu Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, Ali Abbas Zafar and Himanshu Kishan Mehra under the banners of Pooja Entertainment and AAZ Films.



# Animal Star Triptii Dimri On Her Airport Fashion: "I Like To Be Comfortable"

New Delhi: Delhi will always hold a special place in actor Triptii Dimri's life as she grew up here. On Wednesday, she made a quick stop-over in the national capital for an event, where she briefly spoke to ANI and recalled her fond memories associated with Delhi. "I have spent 21 years of my life in Delhi. While coming to South Extension market today, I undoubtedly became nostalgic. I have spent hours and hours in markets of Delhi exploring

delicious street food items like momos. I miss my family, friends and of course food in Delhi," Triptii shared on the sidelines of the launch of Twamev's flagship store in Delhi. Triptii originally hails from Uttarakhand but has spent a major part of her life in Delhi. After studying in Delhi, she moved to Mumbai to pursue an acting career. And now with her acting stint in films like Laila Majnu, Bulbul, Qala and Animal, the young artiste has managed to carve a niche for herself in the industry. Interestingly, Triptii has also been enthraling fans with her fashion statement. With appearances at the airport becoming a frequent occurrence for her, it didn't take time for her to come into the spotlight for the outfits that she donned before travelling to another city. Asked if she underwent the pressure to always be well-dressed at the airport, Triptii said, "No...I like to be comfortable. I feel very cold in aircraft so I make sure I am fully covered and comfortable." She also feels that her fashion quotient has evolved over the years. "Initially, I was very casual with my dressing...even now I am very casual but when I have to go to events I have to be a little careful. I can't be too casual all the time right?" Triptii laughed.





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