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Growing pains: 3 Surrey Schools close admissions for in-catchment students

SURREY: The ballooning population in Surrey Schools has led three schools to close admissions even for in-catchment students.

At the March 13 Surrey Board of Education public meeting, Deputy Supt. Andrew Holland provided an update on enrolment, noting that since the Sept. 30 enrolment tally, the district has grown by an additional 1,563 students, to a total of 83,401.

"This rapid growth is putting pressure on the Surrey School District," said Holland, noting it has affected certain schools more than others. "This spring, we have more kindergarten registrations at Latimer Road El-



Photo credit: Surrey Schools (Platform X)

ementary than that school can accommodate, and as a result, the district is closing Latimer Road Elementary to in-catchment students where there is

not space at a particular grade level, and redirecting these students to Hillcrest Elementary or Katzie Elementary." Board Chair Laurie

Larsen warned that Latimer Road Elementary will likely not be the only school forced to turn away new in-catchment students, as the district grapples with the ongoing growing pains of accelerated enrolment. Bayridge Elementary and Grandview Heights Secondary are already closed to students living in-catchment, and she predicts that list may grow.

"Hopefully there are not other schools this spring where we will have to redirect students, but when enrolment increases beyond our capacity, we have to look at other means to accommodate students' educational needs."

Continued on page 09

Himmat By Gavan Cheema Makes Surrey Debut



Himmat, which means courage in Punjabi, a play by Gavan Cheema will be making its Surrey debut this April at Surrey Civic Theatres. **Himmat** is an honest depiction of a working-class family's struggle with addiction, physical labour and finding connection. Credit: Gavan Cheema and Munish Sharma in the 2022 production of **Himmat** at the Cultch; set design by Kimira Reddy, costume design by Elika Mojtabaei, lighting design by Parjad Sharifi, projection design by David Mesiha; photo by S. Race. Read full story on Page 12.

Indian origin family of 3 killed in suspicious Brampton house fire

An Indian-origin couple and their teenage daughter were killed in what police called a "suspicious" fire.

Detectives from the Peel Regional Police Homicide Bureau identified the victims as Rajiv Warikoo, age 51, Shilpa Kotha, age 47, and Mahek Warikoo, age 16.

The police said on Thursday March 7, 2024, at 1:30pm, police were called to the area of Big Sky Way and Van Kirk Drive in Brampton for a residential home which was fully engulfed in flames.

Following the initial efforts of first responders to put the fire out, the fire Marshall's office was called in to help determine the cause of the fire. While examining the scene, investigators made an unfortunate discovery when they located what



was believed to be human remains within the destroyed house.

Peel police Constable Taryn Young said the fire had been deemed suspicious, the CTV news channel reported.

"At this time, we are investigating this with our homicide bureau,

Continued on page 09

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US Urges India to proceed 'Quickly' in Pannun murder plot investigation

The United States emphasized the need for an Indian high-level panel to "quickly and transparently" investigate allegations that agents of the Indian government orchestrated an assassination attempt on a Sikh US citizen, ensuring that justice is served.

In November, US prosecutors alleged that an Indian citizen named Nikhil Gupta tried to hire a hitman to kill a man who is believed to be Gurpatwant Singh Pannun on US soil at the behest of an Indian government official. At a public hearing on Wednesday of the US congressional committee on foreign affairs on the Pakistan elections, Democrat congressman from Minnesota Dean Phillips quizzed a senior state department official about the accusation made by US prosecutors, asking if the department has considered placing sanctions on Indian officials.

"The administration of course recently placed sanctions on more than 500 individuals relating to the killing of Alexei Navalny in Russia on Russian soil. So my question is, are any similar sanctions on or travel bans being considered



for those who we believe may be responsible for the attempted murder of Mr Pannun?", asked Phillips.

The US assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asia, Donald Lu, stated

that the Biden administration took the allegations "incredibly seriously and have raised it at the highest levels with India".

"This is a serious issue, a serious issue between the United States and India. The Department of Justice has alleged that an Indian citizen at the behest of someone working in the Indian government has attempted to kill an American citizen on American soil. We take this and the administration incredibly seriously and have raised it at the highest levels with India," Lu said.

"We are at the moment working with India to encourage India to hold accountable those responsible for this terrible crime. What we can see is that India itself has announced that they have created a committee of inquiry to look into this matter and we ask them to work quickly and transparently to make sure justice is done," he added.

Shots fired at Jewelry Store in Payal Business Centre

A jewelry store in Surrey's Payal Business Centre was targeted in a shooting this week. Surrey RCMP confirmed that police were investigating the shooting that targeted a Newton business.

"On March 18, 2024, at 2:52 a.m., Surrey RCMP responded to a report of a glass-break alarm at a business located in the area of 80 Avenue and 128 Street. When officers arrived on scene, they located evidence consistent with a shooting. The business was closed at the time of the incident and no injuries were reported," said Sgt. Tammy Lobb, Surrey RCMP Media Relations Unit.

The police said that initial information indicates that this was a



Photo by Sukhwant Dhillon

targeted incident but did not say if it was related to the ongoing extortion incidents.

Although police did not name the business, a video circulating on social media platforms captured a barrage of gunfire at ACC Jewellers.

Security video shows a vehicle pulling up in front of the business

and someone inside firing at least a dozen shots through the glass.

"At this time in the investigation, there are no links to the extortion series," Surrey RCMP Sgt. Tammy Lobb told Global News.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Surrey RCMP at 604-599-0502.

Jagpreet Singh of Abbotsford charged with second-degree murder of wife

Jagpreet Singh has been charged in relation to the murder of his wife Balwinder Kaur.

On March 15, 2024, at 10:50 p.m., the Abbotsford Police Department (AbbyPD) were called to the 3400-block of Wagner Drive, after a report of an on going assault.

Police attended and located a woman, later identified as 41-year old Balwinder Kaur of Abbotsford, inside the residence suffering from life-threatening stab wounds.

First responders attempted life-saving measures, but sadly,

the woman died in hospital shortly thereafter. A man known to the victim was arrested on scene in relation to the incident. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) has taken conduct of the investigation and is working closely in partnership with AbbyPD and the BC Coroners Service.

On March 16, 2024, 50-year old Jagpreet Singh of Abbotsford, the husband of Mrs. Kaur, was charged with second-degree murder.

"This was an isolated incident,"

says Sergeant Timothy Pierotti of IHIT. "IHIT will continue to work with AbbyPD over the coming days, not only to advance this investigation, but to support the community affected by this tragedy."

IHIT is asking anyone with information to contact the IHIT Information Line at 1-877-551-IHIT (4448) or by email at ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

As this case is now before the courts, there will be no media availability.

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Holi an occasion to celebrate diversity



By Zile Singh

Socially, culturally, and religiously, India is a vibrant and diverse country. Four important religions of the world, i.e., Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism took roots on Indian soil. Every year offers opportunity to celebrate this diversity through the medium of festivals. Each festival is grounded in a myth or a factual incident. Some of the festivals are celebrated to welcome a

change in natural phenomena. The joyous and colourful festival of Holi will be celebrated on Sunday March 24th in many parts of India and by the Indian diaspora abroad. The festival changes dates from year to year because it corresponds with the full moon of Phalguna, the twelfth month of Hindu calendar.

There are two legends behind this festival. One is that Hiranyakashipu, a demon king who believed he was immortal god, did not like his son, Prahlad – a devotee of Lord Vishnu. Hiranyakashipu asked his sister Holika to take Prahlad in her lap and sit in a fire.

Holika had a blessing that fire would not burn her. The opposite happened. Holika was burnt to death and Prahlad, protected by Lord Vishnu, remained unharmed. Lord Vishnu appeared in the form of a half-lion and half-man and killed Hiranyakashipu.

According to another legend, Lord Krishna used bright colours to liven-up the faces of his female lover Radha and others. Holi is celebrated as Rang Panchami in Maharashtra; Shigmo in Goa; Kumaoni in Uttarakhand; Meduru in Andhra Pradesh and Lathmar in Uttar Pradesh.

In Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand, some villages do not celebrate Holi. It is a local belief that the goddess Tripura Sundari, of the region does not like the noise.

On the night before the main



Holi festival, Holika Dahan is performed by burning wood and cow dung in bonfires. The next day people gather in the streets to dance, enjoy and throw powder and coloured water to soak others. A bhang (marijuana) mixed drink is quite popular to get to an ecstatic state. In Sikhism, Holi is celebrated as Holi Mohalla a day after Holi. Guru Gobind Singh, the 10th Guru of Sikhs started it as a martial feat.

Holi also marks the welcoming of Spring, fertility, harvest and bright colours in the world after the dullness of Winter. Socially, on the day of Holi people bid goodbye to their old animosity. Foes turn into friends by applying colours on each other's faces. Traditionally it is called 'Holi Milan.' (Bura na mano, Holi hai – Don't feel bad, it is Holi) is a popular chant.

The rainbow of colors thrown in the form of powder or water also carries symbolic meaning. Red is considered the colour of life and marriage and is often worn by women in India on their wedding day. Blue is associated with divinity, as many Hindu gods, including Krishna and Vishnu are often portrayed in blue skin, while green is associated with nature. My message on Holi.

*Better show your true colours.
Do not sail under false colours.
Break social barriers of colours.
You will pass with flying colours.*
Holi is a personification of 'multiculturalism' in Canada, 'unity in diversity' in India and an 'inclusion of race and ethnicity' worldwide.
Zile Singh is a columnist, author, poet, human rights activist, gofer and a vipassana meditator. He can be contacted at zsnirwal@yahoo.ca

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Canada announces changes to LMIAs application process

OTTAWA, ON: Employers planning to hire Temporary Foreign Workers for their businesses will have to explore other available options before applying under LMIAs. The government of Canada this week announced a series of changes to adjust the Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program due to a decrease in job vacancies in Canada. TFW Program is designed to be responsive to changes in the labour market. It helps Canadian employers fill labour and skills shortages temporarily when Canadians and permanent residents are not available. The Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program experienced a surge in demand due to the post-pandemic economy, low unemployment rates, and record-high job vacancy rates in 2022. According to the government, job vacancies fell by 25,400 (-3.6%) to 678,500 in the fourth

quarter of 2023, marking the sixth straight quarterly decline from the record high reached in the second quarter of 2022 (983,600). Randy Boissonnault, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages, announced that some time-limited measures under the TFW Program Workforce Solutions Road Map will not be renewed and will end, earlier than planned, this spring. "To address those labour shortages, the Program adopted a series of policy changes. With changing labour market conditions and declining job vacancies, the Government is adjusting the Temporary Foreign Worker Program to ensure the program continues to only be used in cases where there are no workers here in Canada that can fill the necessary role,"

Boissonnault said. Effective May 1, 2024 New Labour Market Impact Assessments (LMIAs) will be valid for six months (a decrease from 12 months) to ensure accurate labour market needs. Under the changes, all employers identified in the 2022 Workforce Solutions Road Map will have a reduction from 30% to 20% of their total workforce that can come in through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, under the low wage stream, with an exception for the construction and health care sectors. The minister said that the employers will need to explore every option before applying for an LMIAs — including recruiting asylum seekers with valid work permits here in Canada. In addition, as of January 1, 2024, employers are required



Randy Boissonnault,
Minister of Employment

to annually review the wages of temporary foreign workers to ensure they reflect increases to prevailing wage rates for their

given occupation and region of work. Through wage increases, these reviews will ensure that employers continue to pay temporary foreign workers at the prevailing wage level throughout their period of employment. For the vast majority of cases, when wages are reviewed, they are increased for the workers. If not, they remain the same and cannot go down upon review. As part of the Government's broader commitment to help protect temporary foreign workers from mistreatment and abuse, Budget 2021 committed \$49.5 million over three years to implement a new Migrant Worker Support Program to better support temporary foreign workers by addressing power imbalances between employers and workers.

Provinces tightens criteria for BC Provincial Nominee Program

VICTORIA - The Province has announced changes to the BC Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP) selection criteria based on level of education, experience and language skills.

The current International Graduate and International Post-Graduate streams will be replaced with three new streams:

The Bachelor's stream will be for recent graduates with bachelor's degrees from eligible post-secondary institutions. Graduates with an indeterminate full-time job offer can register for this stream.

The Master's stream will be for recent graduates with master's degrees from eligible post-secondary institutions, in any field of study. Graduates with a minimum one-year full-time job offer in a skilled occupation can register for this stream.

The Doctorate stream will be for graduates and candidates of doctoral level programs from eligible post-secondary institutions. Graduates and PhD candidates can apply directly to this stream.

Students who complete diploma or certificate programs in Canada (who will not be eligible for these new graduate streams) can still qualify for other BC PNP streams. The minimum language proficiency level will be increased program-wide, except for the Health Authority stream which has already been adjusted. A minimum of Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 8 is currently planned for the new graduate streams.

Continued on page 30



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Province opens first in BC unique affordable homes project for young adults, seniors in Chilliwack

CHILLIWACK, BC: Young adults and seniors in Chilliwack will soon have access to new affordable homes with the opening of the Paramount.

The Paramount is six-storey building at 46187 Yale Rd. and will be available to adults between the ages of 19 and 25, and seniors with low to moderate incomes. Priority will be given to young adults who were formerly in care. Eight of the Paramount's units will go to young adults, while 58 units will go to seniors in need. The project follows an increasingly popular housing trend in North America, which is new to Chilliwack. The Paramount connects young adults leaving the child welfare system with seniors in the community. This project will help grow an informal network of support between generations and address an established need for community and connections. The Chilliwack Community Service Society



is exploring community gathering and mentorship opportunities between young adults and senior residents.

in annual operating funding. 7 million dollars of joint funding from the Government of Canada, through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and Province of British Columbia through Canada Community Housing Initiative and BC Priorities Housing Initiative under the Canada - British Columbia Bilateral Agreement under the National Housing Strategy. The City of Chilliwack provided the land valued at \$1.4 million and approximately \$1 million in waived fees and development costs. Chilliwack Community Services contributed equity of approximately \$3.5 million.

"We need to make sure Chilliwack stays a place where young people can put down roots and seniors on fixed incomes can live comfortably," said Premier David Eby. "That's why our government is supporting unique housing solutions like the Paramount. This affordable intergenerational housing complex for young adults who were formerly youth in care and seniors is the first of its kind in British Columbia and will provide residents with community, support and belonging."

"The Paramount project is another example of what can be achieved when all levels of government work together," said Sean Fraser, federal Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. "This partnership will help ensure that Chilliwack's seniors and youth have safe and affordable homes where they can start new chapters. This is the National Housing Strategy at work and we will continue working to ensure that everyone from coast to coast to coast has a place to call their own."

The Paramount is a partnership between the B.C. government and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the City of Chilliwack and Chilliwack Community Services, which will operate the building. It contains commercial and residential spaces, as well as laundry and lounge spaces. Its studio, one- and two-bedroom units will have rents between \$445 per month for a studio and \$1,500 per month for a two-bedroom unit. Thirteen units are wheelchair accessible. This project is part of a \$19-billion housing investment by the B.C. government. Since 2017, the Province has approximately 78,000 homes that have been delivered or are underway, including nearly 500 homes in the City of Chilliwack.

The Province, through BC Housing, provided approximately \$105,500 toward construction of the project through the Building BC: Community Housing Fund and will provide approximately \$390,000

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North Surrey Truck Parking Facility opens next week

SURREY: Commercial long-haul drivers travelling through the Lower Mainland will soon have another safe, convenient place to stop and rest when the North Surrey Truck Parking Facility opens next week just off Highway 17 (South Fraser Perimeter Road).

"Commercial long-haul drivers are the lifeblood of our supply chain, and it's important they're supported with infrastructure that allows them to do their jobs safely, efficiently and comfortably," said Rob Fleming, B.C.'s Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. "The new North Surrey Truck Parking Facility is an important addition for commercial drivers travelling to and through the Lower Mainland, as it provides another safe, secure and convenient place to stop and rest."

The new North Surrey Truck Parking Facility is on Highway 17, about 600 metres east of the Port Mann Bridge. The facility is scheduled to open to commercial long-haul truckers on March 28, 2024.

"By investing in a designated truck parking facility, commercial drivers will be able to



rest safely and securely after driving long distances transporting goods and materials across Canada to support our economy," said Randeep Sarai, MP for Surrey Centre, on behalf of Sean Fraser, federal Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. The site was chosen for its proximity to major Lower Mainland truck routes. The secured site has parking for 106 commercial trucks, and includes facilities such as washrooms with showers, a sani-dump for drivers, and security measures, such as fencing, cameras and 24-hour security.

"Providing adequate parking facilities for commercial drivers to rest and recharge is vital to enhance safety in B.C.'s commercial

trucking industry," said Dave Earle, president and CEO, BC Trucking Association. "This is a great facility that I am confident will be extensively used. I am also pleased to hear that the Province is exploring additional parking options for commercial vehicles as it improves the Highway 1 corridor through the Fraser Valley."

Tybo Contracting Ltd. of Langley was responsible for construction of the new North Surrey Truck Parking Facility. The first phase of work, including a signalized intersection along Highway 17 to provide safe access to the new facility, was completed by contractor Jacob Bros. Construction.

The Province of B.C. contributed \$17 million to the construction of the new facility, while the federal government is contributing to this project as part of a larger \$109-million investment that also includes funding for the widening of the Trans-Canada Highway 1 between 216th and 264th streets. This initiative is funded through the New Building Canada Fund's Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component, National and Regional Projects.

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Support for BC Conservatives surges in province

BC NDP 39.6%, BC Conservative 34.2%, BC United 14.5%

A new poll from Mainstreet Research asked BC Voters about how they would vote in the next Provincial and Federal elections. If an election were held today, four in ten BC electors would vote for the Governing NDP (39.6%) with over a third saying they would vote for the BC Conservatives (34.2%) and less than two in 10 would vote for BC United (14.2%) and less than one in 10 for the BC Greens (9.6%).

The gender divide is quite clear in BC in Provincial vote intentions with BC Conservatives holding a 9 point lead among male voters while trailing the NDP by 20 points among female voters. Similarly along regional lines, the BC Conservatives lead in the interior by 10 points, are tied with the NDP on Vancouver Island and trail the NDP by 11 point in greater Vancouver.

When asked about the next Federal election, the results point to a federal Conservative rout with almost 1 in 2 voters supporting Pierre Poilievre and the Federal Conservatives (49.6%). The Liberals place second with just over two in ten



supporting (22.8%) and the NDP third with just below two in ten (19.4%).

There is a similar gender divide although the Conservatives lead Liberals among female voters by just 6 points, that lead among male voters is more than 45 points. Support for the Liberals is highest in greater Vancouver (26%) and highest for the NDP on Vancouver Island (22.7%).

"This deeper dive in to federal vote intentions in BC is consistent with our latest National polls" said President & CEO of Mainstreet Quito Maggi. "The Provincial numbers are interesting and continue to suggest that the BC United rebrand experiment is a failure" he added. "This is our first snapshot of BC of 2024 and is consistent with our last BC poll of 2023 that showed BC United in third. As voters come closer to an election, that support continues to erode benefitting both the NDP and the BC Conservatives."

B.C., YVR join hands to fight aviation pollution

A partnership aimed at fighting pollution in the aviation sector, growing investment and supporting clean, sustainable jobs and business opportunities for people in British Columbia has been made between the B.C. government and Vancouver International Airport (YVR).

"Vancouver's airport is one of our province's biggest employers and economic drivers of growth and revenue. They're also leaders in sustainability and innovation," said Premier David Eby. "By working together on shared priorities, like promoting made-in-B.C. clean tech and expanding trade diversification while reducing pollution, we can maximize benefits for all British Columbians, while strengthening our province's economic future."

Through a signed memorandum of understanding (MOU), YVR and the Province will collaborate with Indigenous



partners, communities and aviation and aerospace stakeholders over three years to deliver new products, projects and activities that reflect the following shared priorities to accelerate sustainable aviation to fight pollution and reduce emissions.

It will also support community resilience, leveraging YVR's expertise to support

communities in emergency preparedness, response and recovery.

The joint partnership aims to increase clean-tech investment to promote made-in-B.C. technology and good jobs and expand trade diversification, working to meet increased demand for B.C. export and grow B.C. tourism and good jobs for people.

Youth charged following assault at Surrey Spring Carnival

Surrey RCMP has charged a 15-year-old female youth after an assault at the Spring Carnival on the weekend in Surrey.

On March 16, 2024 at approximately 9:32 pm, Surrey RCMP responded to the north parking lot of Guildford Town Center to assist Surrey Fire Service.

While on scene, officers observed an assault allegedly occurring and quickly intervened. One female suspect was arrested for assault and one female victim was transported to hospital for medical treatment.

On March 17, 2024 the 15-year-old youth who was arrested, was charged with aggravated assault and assault causing bodily harm. She has been remanded until her next court appearance.

Surrey General Investigation Unit has conduct of this investigation and as the matter is now before the court, there will be no further details provided.

If anyone witnessed this incident or has any information to provide, please call the Surrey RCMP at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2024-37324.



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Continued from Page 01

Previous Government Neglected Surrey's Growth, We're Playing Catch-Up -- Minister Rachna Singh

"I did an interview in December, we were talking about growth in Surrey, and I made the comment that there will come a day when we'll have to say, 'Our doors are closed,'" said Larsen. "It's unfortunate, but unless we get more capital, this is going to be an ongoing issue for the district."

The Board observed that limited funding for new schools has worsened the issue. According to the Board, "Limited new funding for new schools and additions has exacerbated enrolment issues, leading to alternative solutions such as extended day schedules at five secondary schools and prefabricated additions at three elementary schools to accommodate swelling enrolment."

Holmes noted that the district has had to use funding from the operating budget to pay for portables and portions of some capital projects – funds that could otherwise be used for other important operating costs – and fellow Trustee Terry Al-

len echoed Holmes' concerns of balancing enrolment without further capital investment. Surrey Schools began the 2023-24 school year with 3,089 new students, a 3.9% increase and well above the traditional growth of about 800 students per year. Based on trends from last year, Holland said the district is on track to grow by another 2,200 to 2,500 students this September.

BC's Education Minister Rachana Singh while responding to this latest development contextualized the situation historically, attributing the strain to inadequate investment by the previous government. "Previous government did not invest in Surrey the way they were expected to. They sold more than 40 educational properties. Surrey has been growing for years. But no planning was done. We are playing catch-up," she said in an interview with The Link.

Singh underscored the current government's efforts to address these challenges, highlighting

investments in new schools and expansions totaling over \$750 million. She said, "Over the past six years, the Province has invested significantly in new and expanded schools in Surrey with more than \$750 million to create 12,400 new student seats. Construction is currently underway for the new Snokomish Elementary and Ta'talu Elementary, and additions to Semiahmoo Trail Elementary and South Meridian Elementary. In 2023, school additions opened at K.B. Woodward Elementary, Morgan Elementary, White Rock Elementary and Sunnyside Elementary with funding announced to expand Tamanawis Secondary, Guildford Park Secondary and Kwantlen Park Secondary school."

In fall of 2023, the Province also provided funding to start prefabricated additions at Walnut Road, Lena Shaw, and Woodland Park elementary schools to help meet increased enrolment in the school district. The prefabricated classrooms will de-



liver 875 new seats and are expected to be ready for students this fall.

Budget 2024 includes \$3.75 billion for school capital projects over the next three years, including new and expanded schools, seismic upgrades and replacements, and land purchases for future schools.

Two new Surrey school projects are planned to move forward as part of Budget 2024, including a new school and an addition. "A new Darts Hill area elementary and an addition to Grandview Heights Secondary are supported to begin planning as part

of Budget 2024, which is the largest school capital budget in the Province's history," she informed.

Singh acknowledged the discomfort faced by parents but reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring quality education for every child. "As a mother myself, I want quality education for my kids. We are proud of BC's education system which is considered one of the best in the country. Anytime a change happens it puts a burden on the family. But our focus is to ensure children get quality education."

Continued from Page 01

Indian origin family of 3 killed in suspicious Brampton house fire

and we are deeming this as suspicious as the Ontario Fire Marshal has deemed that this fire was not accidental," the report quoted Young as saying. "There's not much left to it," Young said when asked

about the possible cause of the fire. "Looking into something like that as a fire marshal, I'm sure it's very tough when there is not much left to look at. But we are exhausting all avenues," she said.

In a press release, police said they are continuing to investigate the deaths of the three family members and urged anyone with information to come forward. "The circumstances surrounding the

house fire remains the focus of an active investigation, and anyone with information or video footage (dashcam or otherwise) is urged to contact Homicide detectives," police said.

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Auditor General's report finds "significant deficiencies" in BC's response to toxic drug crisis

VANCOUVER, BC: B.C.'s auditor general recently issued an audit report on the province's implementation of overdose prevention and supervised consumption services. According to the report, two government programs aimed at curbing the death toll from the toxic-drug crisis were not "effectively implemented" by the province's Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and Ministry of Health.

The audits also reviewed whether the ministries included the perspectives of health authorities, Indigenous Peoples, and people with lived or living experience with substance use.

"Many thousands of people in B.C. are grieving the losses of family and friends from the toxic drug supply," Auditor General Michael Pickup said. "The crisis is also an immense challenge for those working to provide care and support for people who use substances. My team and I



Auditor General Michael Pickup

have a deep sense of empathy for everyone who has been touched by this continuing tragedy."

The audit found the ministries monitored

operational performance of overdose prevention and supervised consumption services, reported publicly on the implementation and adjusted funding as needed. However, the audit found that the ministries had not adequately responded to implementation barriers, such as municipal resistance, site selection and challenges related to the hiring and retention of staff. The report also notes that there were no minimal service standards to support consistency in the quality, access and availability of services.

The report states that provincial guidance did not always reflect consultations with Indigenous people and people with lived and living experience; and a new program evaluation was needed, given the evolving nature of the health emergency.

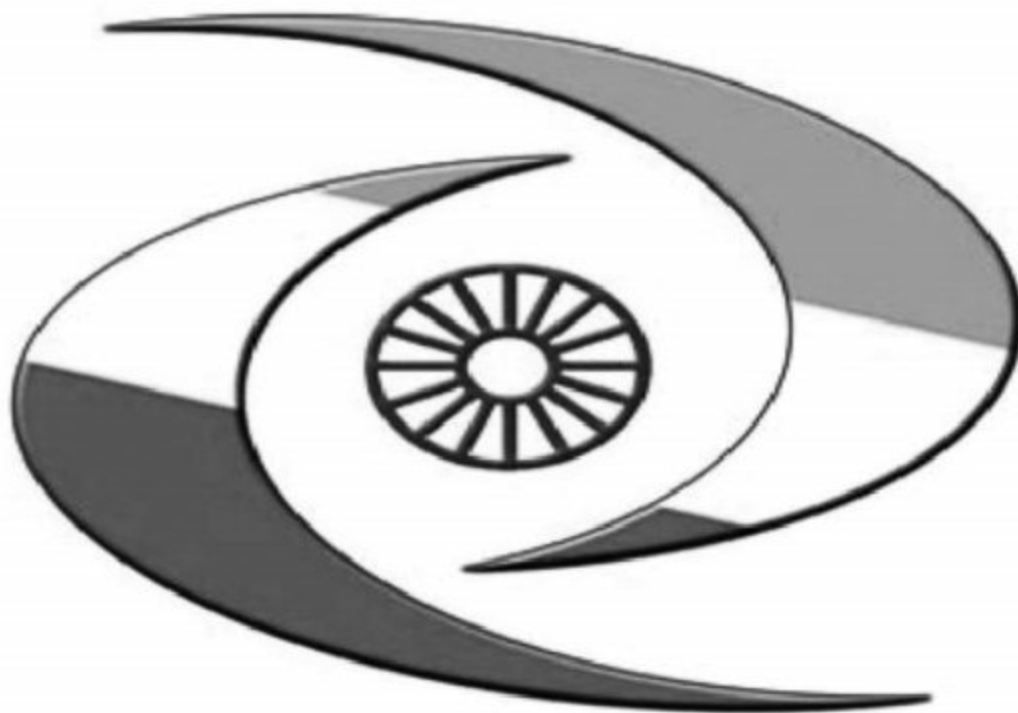
"These deficiencies have impacts on the people who need these services, their families and the health-care system. Overdose prevention and supervised

consumption services are critical to saving lives and connecting people to the supports they need," Pickup said.

The audit's five recommendations are aimed at improving service quality, accessibility, availability and cultural safety for overdose prevention and supervised consumption services across the province.

The Save Our Streets (SOS) a coalition of over 90 organizations from throughout BC that recognize the significant impact that drug addictions, mental health and homelessness, while responding to the report said in a press release, "BC must learn from this report and the policy failures such as those recently recognized in Oregon and refocus on designing and implementing a comprehensive continuum of care for those suffering from addictions and mental health issues."

"Those suffering from addictions need ready-access to detox, treatment and recovery services as well as long term counselling and community-based support. Those suffering from mental illness need access to professional assessment, diagnosis, and treatment," stated, "says Jess Ketchum, co-founder of SOS. "Those actions, in conjunction with necessary judicial reform and policing resources to deal harshly with the criminal element who prey upon the sick, is the only answer," Ketchum concluded.



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38 British Columbian cities break high temperatures record in Spring

Weather records in several communities were shattered this weekend as warm temperatures moved in across much of British Columbia.

Environment Canada said a high-pressure ridge brought an early start to spring, breaking or tying daily maximum temperature records in at least 38 communities, according to preliminary reports.

Temperatures reached the low 20s in several inland communities on Sunday, including 21.5 C in Abbotsford, 22.2 C in Osoyoos, 22.5 C in Princeton and 22.8 C in Quesnel, the forecaster said.

Merritt was the warmest place in Canada on Sunday, hitting a maximum of 23.2 C.

Meanwhile, Dawson Creek saw its warmest March 17 on record as it reached almost 21 C, smashing the record of 12.8 C in 1930.

Continued on page 28

Canada passes a non-binding motion calling on Israel Palestine war

OTTAWA, ON: Canada's parliament passed a non-binding motion calling on the international community to work toward a two-state solution to resolve the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, in line with government policy.

The Federal NDP introduced the motion that outlined steps the federal government can take to help end the violence in Gaza and Israel.

The NDP motion called on the government to demand an immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages; suspend trade in military goods and technology with Israel and increase efforts to stop the illegal trade of arms, including to Hamas; ban extremist settlers from Canada; and recognize the State of Palestine as a step towards a two-state solution, among other actions.

The motion also asked the government to ensure Canadians still trapped in Gaza can reach safety in Canada and urges the government to lift the arbitrary cap of



1,000 temporary resident visa applications for Palestinians. Media reports say not one person has reached Canada through the government's special immigration measures announced last December.

The motion was in the Parliament. "The vote

was delayed by last-minute wrangling over wording supporting Palestinian statehood, an idea that looked set to deepen splits inside the ruling Liberal Party," Reuters reported.

The initial version called on Canada to "officially recognize the State of Palestine" - a

step that no member of the Group of Seven industrialized nations has taken. After back-room negotiations between the NDP and the Liberals, that wording was dropped in favor of language calling on the international community to work toward the establishment of a Palestinian state as part of a two-state solution.

The motion prompted anger and disappointment among both pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian advocacy groups.

B'nai Brith Canada expressed outrage. Among other things, the motion calls on Canada to pressure Israel into agreeing to an "immediate" ceasefire in its war with Hamas. Far from addressing the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the region, the motion calls for measures that would help Hamas reclaim power in Gaza and resume attacks against Israeli civilians.



Liberals survive non-confidence vote on carbon tax

ting the planet burn while dismantling a tax-and-rebate program that pads people's pockets with quarterly cheques that mostly offset the carbon levy.

If Poilievre's motion had carried and a majority of MPs had voted no confidence in the government, this Parliament would have been dissolved and the country would be heading into an election.

In an address to Conservative caucus, Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre had announced that he is bringing forward a motion of non-confidence calling on Justin Trudeau and his NDP-Liberal MPs to spike the hike or call a carbon tax election. The federal government has decided to hike the carbon tax on April 1st by 23 percent.

"Now, in a desperate last-ditch effort to save his historically unpopular government, Trudeau is lying to Canadians about the carbon tax rebates. But the independent Parliamentary Budget Officer has been clear that most Canadian families will pay more in tax than they will receive

in the rebate. This year, Trudeau's carbon tax will cost families in Alberta \$911, Saskatchewan \$525, Manitoba \$502, Ontario

\$627, Nova Scotia \$537, Prince Edward Island \$550 and Newfoundland and Labrador \$377," Poilievre said.

The Liberal government survived a non-confidence motion on the carbon tax Thursday with the backing of the Bloc Québécois and NDP.

Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre urged MPs to back his motion to topple the government over its planned increase to the carbon tax.

In response, the Liberals painted Poilievre as a climate change denier intent on let-

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Himmat By Gavan Cheema Makes Its Surrey Debut April 18-20

After premiering at Vancouver's Cultch in 2022, *Himmat*, which means courage in Punjabi, a play by Gavan Cheema will be making its Surrey debut this April at Surrey Civic Theatres.

This is something of a homecoming for the play, as playwright and performer Gavan Cheema grew up locally. She said, "It's pretty magical that the play is coming to the Surrey Arts Centre. I live five minutes up the road, and I have been coming to Bear Creek Park since I was a baby. To know that the play is making its debut in the city that its set in, and the city that it's for, is so incredibly special."

Set in Surrey Memorial Hospital, *Himmat* is a powerful story about resilience, redemption, and the strength of family love. Told through flashbacks, the play explores the lives of a father and



daughter born generations and miles apart.

While Banth (Munish Sharma) awaits his cancer treatment, secrets are revealed to his daughter Ajit (Gavan Cheema), and the two begin to interrogate their memories and discover how their family dynamics have changed

over time.

Gavan wrote *Himmat* drawing on her family's experiences when her dad was ill. The play is loosely based on his life and his story, although Gavan says she gave herself permission to be creative with the facts, to make the play humorous and relatable

to a wider audience. Taking on such a personal project brought Gavan closer to her father, who has been an integral part of the play's journey from its development workshops, right up to its first performance. She said, "As cheesy as it sounds, working on this play gave me a better under-

standing of who I am and where I come from."

Himmat is an honest depiction of a working-class family's struggle with addiction, physical labour and finding connection. Gavan said writing the play also gave her a better appreciation of the sacrifices her parents made when they moved to Canada. "These were things that my parents had never really talked about, and that is quite common in South Asian households; people don't talk about the struggles, because they want to protect their kids from it."

The play is performed in English and Punjabi, a choice Gavan says adds to the audience experience. "I think when there are moments of the play that are just in Punjabi, people understand that it is alienating for a reason. It was a deliberate and intentional choice woven into the play. When my parents first moved to Canada they didn't understand English for a really long time, and so by having parts of the play in Punjabi, it helps audience members connect with that experience, no matter where they are from themselves."

She said her dad and family love the play, and says it is meaningful for him to see the story of an immigrant like him being shared. Gavan said, "What is great about my dad being so actively involved is that he has shared this journey with his friends and people he knows, many of whom might not normally come into a theatre space. It's been really great seeing *Himmat* reach a wider audience other than just a traditional theatre audience."

At its heart, Gavan says the play is about storytelling. She said, "Yes, my dad is a dump truck driver and that's integral to his identity, but he's also a storyteller. When my friends saw *Himmat*, it was no surprise to them to see my dad's story on stage, it's an epic one and he always tells it with a little extra spice. Whenever he would give us rides as teenagers, to Bhangra practice or wherever, he would share so many stories about life in the Punjab, or from his childhood. Stories that helped him remember, and stories that helped us not forget where we came from."

A Theatre Conspiracy Production By Gavan Cheema, Directed by Paneet Singh at Studio Theatre at Surrey Art Centre. Tickets: \$29-\$39

Audience advisory: coarse language and mature themes including substance abuse and racism. Minor strobe effects. Recommended age: 12+

Showtimes
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 • Friday, April 19th | 12:30pm | School Matinee. For more information, and to reserve tickets contact: surreycivictheatres@surrey.ca
 • Friday, April 19 | 8pm
 • Saturday, April 20 | 2pm (+ post-show talkback)
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Anil Arora, outgoing Chief Statistician of Canada, Statistics Canada.

Architect of modernized Statistics Canada, Chief Statistician Anil Arora to retire on March 31

six months, until the current process to appoint a new Chief Statistician of Canada is completed. Loranger has been Assistant Chief Statistician since 2013 and was Statistics Canada's Chief Data Officer until January 2023.

Arora, who was appointed Chief Statistician of Canada in September 2016, has had a 35-year career in the public service. His term was renewed in June 2018 for another five years and then extended until March 31, 2024.

He led Statistics Canada in several high-profile initiatives that saw greater authority for its statistical operations, including updates to the Statistics Act, the establishment of the Canadian Statistics Advisory Council and the overall modernization of the agency.

He also oversaw the successful conduct of the 2016 and 2021 censuses of population and agriculture and the introduction of numerous initiatives, including the

Disaggregated Data Action Plan, the Quality of Life Framework, and the Census of Environment. Over his 28 years at Statistics Canada, Mr. Arora has developed systems that provide Canadians with online access to interactive data and publications, and the current census methodology that allows Canadians to complete their questionnaire securely and online, as well as greater access to microdata for researchers and academics. Notably, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the agency adjusted its operations to provide Canadians with more relevant and timely data.

"It has been an honour to lead a world-leading statistical agency as it modernized and increased its relevance to Canadians. I am truly grateful to my colleagues and stakeholders for their support and for their commitment to high-quality and timely statistics, critical for decisions that impact us all," Anil Arora, outgoing Chief

Statistician of Canada, Statistics Canada. "Statistics Canada continues to be recognized as a world leader in collecting and disseminating national statistical data and providing credible, trustworthy and accurate information for businesses and Canadians. I am confident that André Loranger will fulfill the role of interim Chief Statistician as the Government of Canada seeks to fill this important position on a permanent basis. Anil Arora's stewardship helped Statistics Canada usher in the digital era, still powered by the agency's always reliable data. I wish him success in his future endeavours," said François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry.

Arora attended the University of Alberta, where he earned a Bachelor of Science, followed by further education in computing science and management, including a graduate certificate in Advanced Public Sector Management at the University of Ottawa, and the Advanced Leadership Program at the Canada School of Public Service.

The Government of Canada has announced the appointment of André Loranger as interim Chief Statistician of Canada, replacing Anil Arora, who retires on March 31. Loranger will remain in this role for

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The successful Our City beautification campaign will return this year, with Surrey City Council officially endorsing the city-wide initiative for 2024. 'Our City' campaign aims to motivate and enable Surrey residents to actively contribute to the improvement of their neighborhoods.

With Surrey projected to reach a population of one million people in less than 20 years, the campaign aims to mobilize this growth and residents' energy to create the community life they desire.

"The City of Surrey is excited for the launch of the 2024 Our City campaign, which aims to inspire and empower our citizens to help make Surrey a great place to live, work and play," said Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke. "The Our City campaign helps to build civic pride and fosters a sense of community ownership. By providing necessary tools and resources, residents and business owners will play an essential role in creating a vibrant and enriching community for all."

Throughout the 2024 campaign, residents will be provided with tools and resources to organize summer projects, including

Continued on page 30

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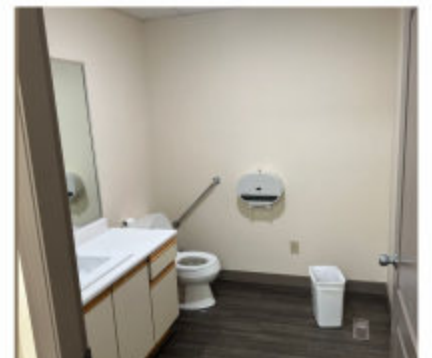
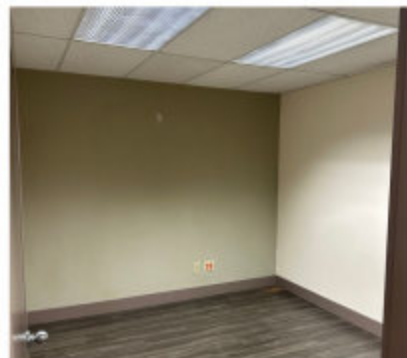
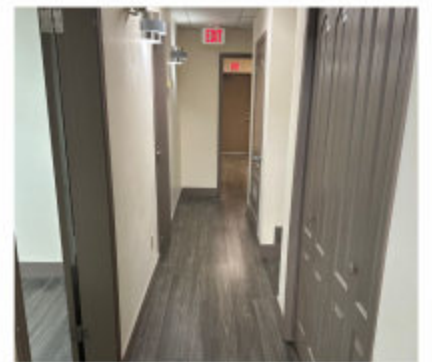
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<p>986 HABGOOD STREET FOR SALE \$1,299,900</p>  <p>Ideal location just steps from Marine Drive! This presents an excellent chance to construct your dream three-story home on this stunning ocean-view property. The rectangular lot comes with ready-to-go plans, allowing for a spacious 4,500 SF residence with a legal suite featuring two bedrooms. The fully serviced lot is conveniently situated within walking distance to both levels of school and public transit. With easy access to the Peace Arch Border and Highway 99, this location is perfect for those on the go. Embrace the finest aspects of White Rock's lifestyle, including top-notch restaurants, the beach, shops, and the iconic Pier.</p>	<p>12364 53 AVENUE FOR SALE \$6,199,000</p>  <p>This Property is located in the prestigious Panorama Ridge neighbourhood with development potential. 2.92 Acres of LAND! Property is free of creeks, right of ways and easements. Rectangular parcel. Please call for additional information.</p>	<p>3030 16 HIGHWAY FOR SALE \$3,199,900</p>  <p>"Pleasant Valley Motel" located at 3030 Highway 16 in Houston, B.C. This property consists of a 51 unit motel plus a full service restaurant and living quarters for the owner/manager.</p>	<p>12491 57A AVENUE FOR SALE \$2,349,900</p>  <p>PRESTIGIOUS PANORAMA RIDGE! Corner Lot! BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME. This 20,000+ SQ.FT Lot is located on one of the most sought after neighbourhoods in all of Surrey - PANORAMA RIDGE! Surrounded by multi-million dollar homes this is your chance to build your dream home. Corner lot location allows for easy design and loads of windows and ultimate privacy. Please call for more details.</p>	<p>12420 80 AVENUE FOR SALE \$1,899,000</p>  <p>WEST NEWTON HOME! Three level home built by experienced builder. This exceptional quality build includes an open concept plan, high quality throughout, radiant heat along with A/C and appliances. The main floor has a family room, BEDROOM with ensuite which could be used as a den, living & dining room, powder room, mudroom, dream kitchen with a spice kitchen and a covered patio area leading to the backyard. The floor above has 4 bedrooms plus 2 ensuites and one central bathroom. The floor below has a 2 bedroom suite and a 1 bedroom suite with separate entrances from below the covered patio. Lane access leads to the double garage. This home is centrally located close to Scott Road and other major routes. Perfect home for the growing family!</p>	<p>13422 60 AVENUE FOR SALE \$1,779,000</p>  <p>Concealed Gem! Pristine, impeccably kept, 4-bedroom home with a 1 bedroom suite! Located in a fantastic family-oriented community. Stunning craftsmanship evident throughout. Laminate flooring complements the aesthetic. Upgraded windows installed in 2017. Spacious garage boasting 8' high doors. Includes covered RV parking and two garden sheds. The backyard is a distinctive highlight, fully fenced and landscaped with charming park-like attributes facing south. Perfect for outdoor gatherings and leisure. Conveniently situated near Aspen Park, transportation, shopping centers, and schools. A delight to present!</p>
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<p>22442 125 AVENUE FOR SALE \$1,149,000</p>  <p>A fantastic opportunity awaits with this updated four-bedroom residence, ideally positioned at the cul-de-sac's end on a pie-shaped lot, just a short stroll from downtown Maple Ridge! The kitchen boasts quartz counters, stainless steel appliances (including a built-in microwave), and hardwood floors. Flowing seamlessly from the kitchen, the generous dining and living spaces feature a natural wood fireplace framed by a built-in entertainment unit. The master bedroom includes a 3-piece ensuite and a walk-in closet. The fully finished basement is perfect for guests or in-laws. Noteworthy features include a 2-year-old high-efficiency furnace and an 11-year-old roof. Commuters will value the proximity to Golden Ears Way! Book your showing today!</p>	<p>14753 62 AVE FOR SALE \$1,999,000</p>  <p>SULLIVAN STATION BRAND NEW HOUSE. Features 8 BEDROOMS & 7 WASHROOMS! You are welcomed into this custom built beauty with beautiful finishings. Bright and spacious living and dining rooms. Custom built kitchen along with a spice kitchen! Huge family room with big windows to soak in that natural light. There is also a den/bedroom on the main with a FULL washroom. Glass railings throughout. Modern design and finishing. Upstairs there are 4 bedrooms, 3 with their private ensuites and good size closets! Also a large patio! In the basement there is a large media room perfect for entertaining with a 2 piece washroom. There are also 2 MORTGAGE HELPERS! Fully finished 2+1 suites with their own separate entrances. This home truly has it ALL! Perfect for the growing family.</p>	<p>1081 EWSON STREET FOR SALE \$1,789,900</p>  <p>WHITE ROCK 3 bed and 2 Bath Home! This home sits on a 7973 Square foot rectangular lot. Located in the prestigious area of White Rock with close proximity to White Rock Beach, shopping centres and major bus routes. The home is currently rented to good tenants at \$2900 Month to Month. There is a possibility for a secondary suite down below. Build your dream home or watch your investment grow! Surrounded by multi million dollar new homes this property has a lot of options! Please call for more information.</p>	<p>13661 59A AVENUE FOR SALE \$1,349,000</p>  <p>6205 Square Foot Lot available in Surrey - PANORAMA RIDGE! Get ready to build your dream home! The subdivision is surrounded by brand new multi-million dollar homes, and yours could be next. This Lot will accommodate a 2 Storey + Basement Home. Make your dreams into a reality and design your dream home on this beautiful lot in the prestigious panorama ridge area. The lot is ready to build and fully serviced awaiting its next owner! Call for more information. Quiet neighborhood. Centrally located near schools, parks, highways, restaurants, and shops.</p>	<p>15451 KILMORE PLACE FOR SALE \$1,949,900</p>  <p>Arguably the best neighbourhood in all of Surrey! Located in what is known as the "K subdivision in Sullivan Station! RENOVATED 2 level executive home with over 2,500 sq.ft. of living space on a MASSIVE & CORNER lot 13,585 sq.ft. lot WITH 151 FT FRONT! The home is RENOVATED and features 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Renovations include new oak flooring, kitchen, mouldings, lights, railings, bathrooms, 5 y/o hot water tank, new windows and gutters. Main floor features living room, dining room, kitchen and eating area. Good size family room which leads into the backyard. Upstairs you have 3 good size bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Located in an excellent neighbourhood. Surrounded by 1/2 acre lots and tons of green spaces all within walking distance to parks, schools, the YMCA and shops at Panorama.</p>
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<p>11141 Ditton Street FOR SALE \$799,000</p>  <p>Investors and Builders Alert! CORNER LOT! Ready to build rarely available R-1 lot 5350+ Sqft. Great location, minutes walk to all levels of schooling, grocery shopping, transportation and many other amenities. Call today for more information. (11143 Princess Ave Subdivision) Princess Subdivision Lot 1 is facing Ditton St. Adjacent lot can also be purchased together. Seller financing available. Seller can provide Vendor Take Back Mortgage (28863376)</p>	<p>2940 16 HIGHWAY FOR SALE \$3,199,900</p>  <p>"Pleasant Valley Motel" located at 3030 Highway 16 in Houston, B.C. This property consists of a 57 unit motel plus a full service restaurant and living quarters for the owner/manager. 18 RV</p>	<p>12686 56 Avenue FOR SALE \$2,288,000</p>  <p>Experience luxury living in this exquisite 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment located in The Holland. Enjoy an abundance of amenities spread across 13,000 square feet, including a concierge service, gym, yoga studio, music studio, guest suite, indoor/outdoor social and dining lounge, and more. Located in the heart of the city, this apartment offers convenient access to nearby walkways, cafes, shopping malls, and two Skytrain stations. Enjoy a park-side living experience with an amenity-rich lifestyle, including easy access to all of the City Centre's retailers, as well as \$FU/future UBC campus and Surrey Memorial Hospital.</p>	<p>7688 115A STREET OR SALE \$2,149,000</p>  <p>Situated on an expansive 4600+ square foot lot within the highly desirable Scottsdale community, this newly constructed, custom-designed contemporary residence epitomizes opulent living. Boasting over 3500 square feet of living space, this home is tailor-made for a growing family. The main level greets you with an impressive foyer leading to commodious living and dining areas. A seamless integration of the family room and kitchen establishes a central gathering point for daily activities. Upstairs, four bedrooms await, including two lavish master suites featuring walk-in closets and en-suite bathrooms, alongside two additional bedrooms connected by a Jack and Jill bathroom. The lower level presents versatility with a two-bedroom legal suite along with rec room and a full washroom!</p>	<p>12978 61 AVENUE FOR SALE \$1,479,000</p>  <p>PANORAMA RIDGE partially RENOVATED HOME! This home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME and RENT WHILE YOU WAIT! This home is perfect opportunity for a builder or an investor. Sitting on a MASSIVE 7100 sq ft lot that is rectangular! Located in the prestigious Panorama neighbourhood. Updates include New flooring, new paint, new pot lights and more! Loads of parking- Double car garage and large driveway. Centrally located and close proximity to both levels of schools, hwy 10 & hwy 99. Please call for more information. EASY TO SHOW!</p>
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<p>13956 56 AVENUE FOR SALE \$6,599,000</p>  <p>TRANSFORM YOUR LIVING EXPERIENCE & ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOR in PANORAMA RIDGE! Nestled within a secure gated community, this magnificent residence sprawls across an impressive 2.109 acres and showcases mesmerizing OCEAN/VALLEY VIEWS! Crafted with impeccable attention to detail, every facet of this 10,000 sq.ft. home exudes world-class quality craftsmanship. Step into the grandeur of a TOWERING FOYER, adorned with breathtaking chandeliers and dual staircases. Custom-designed, this mansion boasts ULTRA-LUXURIOUS features, including a spacious gourmet kitchen with top-grade appliances, a convenient wok kitchen, in-floor heating with custom stonework. The residence offers a</p>	<p>13265 80 AVENUE, FOR SALE \$1,999,000</p>  <p>WEST NEWTON BRAND NEW HOME! 8 BEDROOMS & 6 WASHROOMS! You are welcomed into this custom built with beautiful finishings. Bright and spacious living and dining rooms. Custom built kitchen along with a spice kitchen. Huge family room with big windows to soak in that natural light. There is also a bedroom on the main with full washroom, can be a separate office. Central Air Conditioner & HRV. Glass railings throughout. Modern design and finishing. Upstairs there are 4 bedrooms, 3 with their private ensuites and good size closets! In the basement there is a large media room perfect for entertaining.</p>	<p>8316 Government Rd FOR SALE \$2,999,000</p>  <p>Prime Government Street address, in proximity to schools, shopping, public transportation, and nestled in privacy on a spacious quarter-acre lot. Home has 10 bedrooms 11 washrooms, under construction. Sold as is where is.</p>	<p>105 7511 120 Street FOR SALE \$1,624,999</p>  <p>Located on the busy SCOTT ROAD! Very HIGH EXPOSURE UNIT perfect for a family doctor! The unit is a 1404 square foot. Very tastefully built with modern finishes. There is a good size reception desk, 6 examination rooms, lunch room and 2 washrooms, personal office. Ample parking in the parking lot. Please call to schedule your private viewing.</p>	<p>7784 DUNSMUIR STREET FOR SALE \$6,880,000</p>  <p>Sale by Court Order: 3.27 acres development opportunity situated in Mission's prime location. The property boasts Urban Residential zoning (R558) and is earmarked for Attached Multi-Unit Residential development. Land value only.</p>
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IN COQUITLAM**

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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.

COMMERCIAL BUILDING

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.

Price 7,900,000

ASSIGNMENT 19 ACRES IN CLOVERDALE

Low Assignment fee 1 house and barn can build dream home of December 2025 ON 168ST. **Contact for price**



**HOUSE IN
FLEETWOOD**

3 separate suites, 3 separate laundry, 3 Potential Home with subdividable potential. Great investment property \$1,500,000. **SOLD**

INVESTOR ALERT

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

**HOUSE
FOR SALE**

A house for sale on \$2,300,000, rancher with loft on 25,000sq ft. lot.

FOR LEASE

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)

**SURREY TRUCK
BODY SHOP**

Extremely busy location. **SOLD** Option can buy building alone, business alone or together. **Call for details**

**WAREHOUSE
FOR LEASE**

124st and 84ave. **LEASED** Total 13,146, on 2 levels. **Call for details**

**Warehouse
for Lease**

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 **Call for details**

**WAREHOUSE
FOR SALE**

2817 Sqft in Newmarket, auto etc. 16 foot ceiling. **LEASED** Only \$1,199,000.

FOR LEASE

Space Scott Road and 84th ave area, 983 Sq FT, Available March 2024, Great Expo 13 SQ ft plus \$11 additional rent, ideal for Physiotherapy clinic **LEASED**

Women unite in Surry to honor diversity and uniqueness on International Women's Day

SURREY: Happiness Wellness Community Society (HWCS) organized an event in Surrey to celebrate International



Women's Day on March 16th, 2024. The event titled Unique You was a continuation of the Women's Day Celebration from 2023 and promoted in 2024 the theme of 'Accelerate Progress'.

The event provided a platform to discuss challenges women face in today's world. The participants also discussed solutions and next steps that HWCS could take going forward.

The dialogue was supported by Keynote speeches from prominent women community leaders. Surrey City Councillor Linda Ann's inaugurated the event with a lamp-lighting ceremony. The event was supported by community partners including Manasvini Society and local sponsors the Dhot Group, Sarika Gupta Financial Services, Keyways Mortgage Inc and many others.

Guest Speakers Panorama MLA candidate Dupinder Saran and Sushmita Misra congratulated the team led by Mrs Tarana Kaur for creating a successful platform to encourage women's networking and

dialogue. Ramya Vinod complemented the team for the marvellous name of this event i.e. Unique You.

Cultural Entertainment by versatile local community artists was followed by refreshments offered to make for a delightful afternoon. Over sixty attendees got together to build connections and inspire each other toward a path of progress.

Fun games were also planned by Shikha Porwal and Asmita Lawrence from Manasvini and prizes offered by local businesses added to the excitement and the buzz around this event.

As the key organizer and HWCS Director, Tarana Kaur thanked her supporters and members including Deepa Sharma, a well-known community leader, Asmita and Payal Vashishth. When asked about their motivation for supporting this event, the volunteering team of Geeta Garg, Nidhi Sood, Aradhana Sharma, Rajashree Garg and others unanimously said, "This was designed to be an inclusive event; we all felt appreciated and welcome."

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<p>6 16655 64 AVENUE</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>This 2 storey plus 10 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.</p> <p>\$909,800</p>	<p>1001 13380 108 AVENUE</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>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.</p> <p>\$424,900</p>	
<p>14103 110 AVE., N. SURREY</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>Truly delightful home on a large lot in a desirable area. Home sits on a rectangular 100x150 ft lot. Main floor has 11 bedrooms & 10 washrooms built with quality materials. Living room features a fireplace and opens up to a large deck. Kitchen has granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, and a breakfast room. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet and a private bathroom. Full basement with 2 bedrooms, a living area, and a full kitchen. Close to schools, shopping, and transit.</p> <p>\$1,779,000</p>	<p>26964 28 AVE., LANGLEY</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>Truly delightful home in a desirable area. Home sits on a rectangular 100x150 ft lot. Main floor has 11 bedrooms & 10 washrooms built with quality materials. Living room features a fireplace and opens up to a large deck. Kitchen has granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, and a breakfast room. Master bedroom has a walk-in closet and a private bathroom. Full basement with 2 bedrooms, a living area, and a full kitchen. Close to schools, shopping, and transit.</p> <p>\$920,000</p>	<p>5235 UPLAND DRIVE</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>This 4 bed / 4 bath home has an outstanding 2nd floor view of the city. Home above garage renovated in 2007 and features a 2014 1/2" x 1/2" tile in the living room, kitchen, and bathroom. Master bedroom with a walk-in closet and a private bathroom. Full basement with 2 bedrooms, a living area, and a full kitchen. Close to schools, shopping, and transit.</p> <p>\$1,635,000</p>
<p>5843 180 STREET, CLOVERDALE</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>Sold 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, patio, or garden. Home features a main floor living area with a fireplace, a dining room, and a kitchen. Full basement with 2 bedrooms, a living area, and a full kitchen. Close to schools, shopping, and transit.</p> <p>\$912,500</p>	<p>14030 GROSVENOR RD., NORTH SURREY</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>This well-maintained family home with 4 beds, a suite potential down and a detached workshop, garage has everything you and your family need. Home features a main floor living area with a fireplace, a dining room, and a kitchen. Full basement with 2 bedrooms, a living area, and a full kitchen. Close to schools, shopping, and transit.</p> <p>\$955,000</p>	

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<p>62 15175 62A AVENUE</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE MAR 24 FROM 2-4</p> <p>\$919,000</p> <p>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</p>	<p>19913 72 AVE LANGLEY</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>House with basement suite and a coach home Potential rent \$5000 or more per month (3 separate rental units)</p> <p>\$1,849,000</p>	<p>UNIT 34 - 1010 EWEN AVE NEW WEST</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE MAR 23 FROM 2-4</p> <p>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.</p> <p>\$849,000</p>
<p>217 20696 EASTLEIGH CRESCENT</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>\$699,000</p> <p>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!</p>	<p>19917 72 AVE LANGLEY</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>House with basement suite All rent approx \$3000 per month Open house Sunday 1-4</p> <p>\$1,599,998</p> <p>SOLD</p>	<p>11516 PARKWOOD PLACE DELTA</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>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, San God Rec Centre, transit, shopping and parks.</p> <p>\$1,499,000</p>
<p>5105 ABERDEEN ST., VAN</p> <p>\$1,495,000</p> <p>Beautiful Corner House in the most desired area of Collingwood. Unit features three bedrooms and a full bathroom with a good size living area, dining room with separate kitchen and a full bathroom at the back. Home is perfect for sale, it comes with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath along with the full kitchen. Lots of parking and very close to all amenities, walking distance to Joyce Collingwood sky train and Gaston Park.</p> <p>SOLD</p>	<p>#37-8358 121A ST., SURREY</p> <p>\$699,000</p> <p>Located in Kennedy Trails, this house checks all the boxes. Cost effective & environmentally friendly! BETHURMAL, Hardwood floors, 4th floor windows, Three fireplaces, 2nd floor laundry room, Gas fireplace, Granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, Full bath and 3/4 bath. Master bedroom with walk in closet. Below is very large morning room, 4th bed and comes with a full bathroom. Backyard approx 300 sq ft. 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 and school. This is a must see!</p> <p>SOLD</p>	<p>9750 128 ST., SURREY</p> <p>\$999,900</p> <p>Sold 6 bed and 2 bath home in the heart of Surrey! A perfect home for those who love home buyers. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms with granite laundry. Massive 2nd floor master bedroom freshly painted. Downstairs corner unit 3 bed, 1 den, 1 bath and kitchen. Lots of parking at the front and back. Detached garage. Some recent renovations include roof, windows, paint.</p> <p>SOLD</p>
<p>#51-7090 180 ST., SURREY</p> <p>SOLD</p> <p>Sold in 7 days \$185,000 over asking</p>		

14379 66A AVENUE

OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4 PM



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

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2024 Lexus TX 350: Versatile New Three-row SUV is Impressive!

Auto Review
By Veeno Dewan

2024 hails the entry of the brand-new Lexus TX, a mid-size three-row SUV sharing a platform with the also-new Toyota Grand Highlander. The Lexus TX is designed to offer seating for up to seven passengers with the second-row bench seat, or up to six passengers with the available captain's chairs. Looks wise, this new addition to the Lexus lineup offers a revised spindle grille and a chrome accent spanning the top of the grille. Blacked out pillars offer a floating roof effect. It is one of the better-looking Lexus SUVs in my opinion with its unfussy looks, tasteful exterior and interior.

The 2024 TX is offered in five grades: Premium, Ultra Luxury, Executive and F SPORT Performance 2 and 3. This all-new Lexus is offered with three powertrain options, include two electrified models. The TX 350 AWD as tested offers a 2.4L turbocharged inline-4 engine with 275hp. Peak torque is between 1,700 and 3,600 rpm. There is also a Lexus-first 3.5L V6 plug-in hybrid. An eight-speed automatic transmission is matched to all engines. In Canada, an all-wheel drive (AWD) drivetrain is standard equipment. The version in the TX 350 AWD defaults to a 75:25 front-to-rear ratio and sends up to 50 per cent of available torque to the rear wheels when additional traction is required.

Other models in the lineup include the TX 500h (Hybrid with 366 horsepower and the Lexus TX 550h (Hybrid)+ This is the plug-in hybrid version of this three-row SUV available with a six-cylinder engine. Fuel economy for the 2024 Lexus TX 350 AWD is estimated by Lexus at 11.5 litres per 100 kilometres in city driving, 8.9

on the highway, and 10.3 combined. It requires premium fuel. Each version of the 2024 Lexus TX is rated at a maximum towing capacity of 2,268 kilograms. The 2024 Lexus TX 350 AWD is priced from \$72,600 to \$84,100 plus freight, PDI and taxes. Our TX 350 tester (Base price \$71,500) came with added Executive package (\$8,750) that's added a slew of extras including: Panoramic View Monitor, Blind Spot Monitor with RCTA, Head-Up Display, Power Rear Door with Kick Sensor, Lexus Assistant, Digital Display Rear View Mirror with Homelink, Advanced Touch Steering Wheel, 21 Speaker Mark Levinson Premium Audio System, Driver Monitor Camera and much more. The additions of the option package boosted the price from \$71,500 to \$84,588.

Inside, the TX has a high-tech driver-focused cockpit design. Lexus's latest 14-inch touchscreen infotainment system is also standard and is capable of receiving over-the-air updates. The dashboard layout is clean and attractive in its simplicity. There is a head up display and touch controls plus a few hard buttons. The second row comes standard with a three-position bench with heated outboard seats. Captain's chairs are available with the base powertrain and standard with the hybrids. There is also an adaptable centre console between them that can be removed entirely to provide access to the third row. The standard panoramic sunroof makes for light and airy cabin. Safety is very high with full Lexus suite of safety aids.

Note, the third-row seat row offers only two seats not the three as in the Toyota Grand Highlander, but they are wider and



model's handling also benefits from some additional bracing and stiffening more refined drive feel. Overall, the TX handles and maneuvers exceptionally well for its size. The engine provides decent acceleration and plenty of torque. Highway cruising is effortless and smooth with the responsive engine and transmission combination. To sum up, there is not a lot to complain about. The TX350 is probably

more comfortable. There is plenty of headroom and legroom making for a pleasant roomy cabin experience front and rear. The 2024 Lexus TX has 572 litres of cargo capacity behind the third row. Lose the second row and you gain 1,625 litres of space, with 2,747 litres if all the seats are folded.

On the road - The TX is steady, flat, and composed over a variety of terrains with a minimum of pitch or body roll. This

is the best value in the TX line up with its mix of good equipment levels and performance. I see this impressive new SUV doing very well with families. It has good versatility, plenty of room to stretch out, the bonus third row seats and so much more. Highly recommended.

2023 Lexus TLX priced from: \$72,600 to \$84,100 plus freight, PDI and taxes. TLX 350 as tested - \$82,588. More info at www.toyota.ca



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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!

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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.

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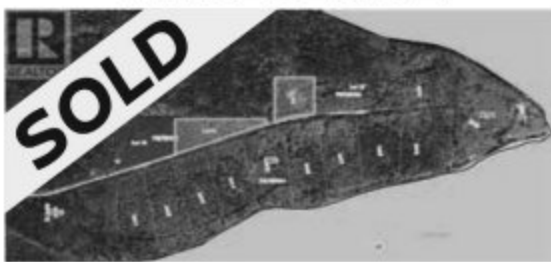
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Arvind Kejriwal arrested over corruption claims

Delhi Chief Minister and prominent opposition leader Arvind Kejriwal has been arrested by India's financial crime agency in connection with corruption allegations related to the city's liquor policy, his party has said. Atishi Singh, Delhi's finance minister, rejected the allegations and said that the AAP was seeking to quash the latest arrest. "We have asked for an urgent hearing by the Supreme Court tonight itself," she said. Kejriwal will continue to be Delhi's chief minister while the party fights the accusations, Singh said. She described his arrest as a "political conspiracy" orchestrated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's governing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).



The financial crime agency, the Enforcement Directorate (ED), is investigating allegations that a liquor policy implemented by the Delhi government in

2022, which ended its control over the sale of liquor in the capital, gave undue advantages to private retailers. Kejriwal's administration's controversial policy ended a government monopoly on the sale of liquor. The policy has since been withdrawn. The AAP has said no evidence of wrongdoing has emerged in the investigation and Kejriwal has previously said that if he is corrupt, "then there is no one in this world who is honest". The ED had issued nine summons to Kejriwal for questioning but he did not answer them, saying that he feared he would be arrested. He also sought protection from arrest from court, saying his party would be weakened in elections if that were to happen.

Central government seeks report on Sidhu Moosewala's mother

The Union Ministry of Health asked the Punjab Government to determine the truth behind media reports stating that late Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala's mother Charan Kaur delivered a baby boy through in vitro fertilisation (IVF) this Sunday at an age of 58 years. "Under Section 21(g) (i) of the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021, the age limit prescribed for a woman going under ART Services is between 21-50 years," the notice reads. Recently, parents of the late Pun-



jabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, Balkaur Singh, and Charan Kaur welcomed a baby boy on Sunday, almost two years after the singer was killed in Punjab. In a video posted on Facebook, Moosewala's father Balkaur Singh said he had all legal documents and was greatly troubled by this enquiry.

"With the blessings of millions of souls who love Shubhdeep, the Almighty has put Shubh's younger brother in our lap. However, the Government is now troubling me asking me to prove his legal status. I want to request the CM (Bhagwant Mann) that please let me get the treatment done with then I will come wherever the government calls me. I am an ex-Army man; I will never run away from the law. I have all the legal documents and I will prove it. However, if the state does not believe me they can file an FIR" Balkaur Singh posted on Facebook.

The AAP Punjab unit in-turn put the onus on the central government for asking for the documents related to the IVF treatment. "The BJP ruled Central Govt has sought a report from Govt of Punjab regarding IVF treatment of Smt. Charan Singh (Late Sidhu Moosewala's mother). CM Bhagwant Mann always respects the sentiments and dignity of Punjabis, it's the Central Govt that has asked for the documents. Urge the people to have a look at the facts and not to believe in any rumours" the AAP Punjab unit posted on X.

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<p>FORECLOSURE HOPE BC 9000, SQ.Ft lot. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom house rented \$2,400 Per month Asking-\$458,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE ABBOTSFORD BC One Acre! 3 bedrooms, 3 bathroom, good rental house! Asking-\$1,549,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE CHILLIWACK BC 9583, SQ.Ft lot, 3 bedroom 1 bath house long term rented good investment. Asking-\$699,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE CLOVERDALE BC 12 years old, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 bedrooms suite, 4279 SQ. Ft lot, 3 Storey home, double garage Asking-\$1,499,000</p>
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<p>FORECLOSURE SURREY BC 12 years old, 8 bedrooms, 6 bathroom, 7300 SQ.Ft lot, 2 Storey, 4033 SQ.Ft home, 2 rental suites, double garage, taxes \$6,884 Asking-\$1,949,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE SURREY BC 3 Acres Lot! older home, 3 bedroom, 3 bathrooms! Asking-\$2,379,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE SARDIS BC 7 Acres lot, 4 bedroom, 2 bathrooms older Home! Asking \$2,389,000</p>	
<p>FORECLOSURE FLEETWOOD 4 years old just like new, 6,760 SQ.Ft lot, 3506 SQ.Ft 2 Storey home, 7 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 2 bedroom suite, taxes \$7,372, double garage! Asking-\$2,275,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC 1.6 Acres lot, older home, 4 beds, 3 baths, development land. Asking-\$2,950,000</p>		
<p>FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC 16.97 Acres older home, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms! Asking-\$3,750,000</p>	<p>FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC 34 Acres lot, 10,000 home, 9 bedrooms, 11 bathrooms, guest home, more buildings. Asking-\$6,880,000</p>		

HDFC Bank and TD Bank Group sign an agreement to simplify banking experience for Indian students in Canada

TORONTO, ON: HDFC Bank and TD Bank Group (TD) this week announced an expanded relationship supporting Indian students planning to study in Canada.

With this agreement, TD and HDFC Bank are announcing a new referral program. HDFC Bank will refer students planning to study in Canada to TD's International Student GIC Program, which enables students to conveniently comply with the Government of Canada's Student Direct Stream (SDS) study permit pathway.

The TD International Student GIC program will provide students with:

TD International Student GIC: A GIC designed to meet the needs of the SDS program via a simple online application process.

Students incur no application fees.

Students will also start earning interest on their GIC even before arrival in Canada.

TD Student Chequing Account: A chequing account designed for students with no monthly plan fee (until 23 years old or with proof of enrolment in full-time post-secondary education), unlimited transactions and additional benefits.

Exclusive One-time credit: HDFC Bank customers will receive a fee rebate to cover their first wire payment into their TD account.

International Student in Canada



Once students arrive in Canada, they will benefit from the ease, value, and trusted advice TD is known for. The benefits under this Program will include:

Accessible Banking: TD has longer branch hours than any other Canadian bank, with over 1,000 branches coast to coast, and advisors speaking more than 80 languages. Banking services are also available online, as well as at your fingertips with the TD app.

Advice at the ready: Whether students are looking for expert advice on managing day-to-day expenses or long-term financial planning, TD colleagues are here to help, both in branch and over the phone.

TD International Student Banking Package: Students can get up to \$635 CAD in value

when they start by opening a TD Student Chequing Account.

This referral partnership builds on the two banks' existing relationship where TD has acted as HDFC Bank's main correspondent banking partner for Canadian Dollar clearing since 2015.

As part of the Canadian government's requirements to apply for an expedited study permit, students are required to provide proof of financial support, which is accomplished via a Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) from a participating Canadian financial institution.

The TD International Student GIC Program is designed to enable students to open accounts digitally and help them meet their study visa and living

expense requirements.

Bank is India's leading private sector bank.

As of December 31, 2023, the Bank's distribution network was at 8,091 branches and 20,688 ATMs across 3,782 cities and towns. TD is the second largest Bank in Canada, and sixth largest in North America by assets, and serves over 27.5 million customers around the globe. TD has over 1,000 branches across Canada, with advisors speaking more than 80 languages, including Hindi, Punjabi, Tamil, Gujarati, and Urdu.

"We continue our focus on helping Indian students to navigate the process to study abroad," said Sampath Kumar, Group Head Retail Branch Banking "Canada is a leading education market and our relationship with TD aims to

simplify the process for students and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) who want to study there."

Smita Bhagat Group Head Retail Branch Banking further added, "The association is designed to support the study permit requirements of Indian students planning to study in Canada. The curated program also offers a wide range of financial benefits to amplify their living experience while studying there."

In 2023, there were over 425,000 Indian international students with active study permits in Canada, making the country the top source for international students in Canada.

"We are thrilled to announce our expanded relationship with HDFC Bank, and the benefits it will provide for those beginning their journey to study here", says Sona Mehta, Executive Vice President of Canadian Personal Banking, TD Bank Group.

"With this expanded relationship, HDFC Bank and TD can provide the financial offerings that will make for a smoother transition to the Canadian banking environment. We look forward to welcoming and serving these students throughout their journey. We understand that there's a lot to manage when coming to study abroad, and through this partnership, we will simplify the process, and deliver the ease, value, and trusted advice that TD is known for."

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International students studying in Canada: Doing your taxes helps you

If you're an international student studying in Canada and a resident for tax purposes, you could get benefit and credit payments that can help with your cost of living.

Check out CRA's 3-minute benefits and credits video for everything you need to know about benefit and credit payments in Canada.

Apply for benefit and credit payments on arrival

Many Canadians receive benefit and credit payments, and you could too. Once you've applied, you will need to file your income tax and benefit return each year to continue to receive them.

Goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit

→ Every three months, eligible individuals may get money to help offset what they pay in GST/HST

Canada Carbon Rebate

→ Every three months, eligible individuals may get money to help offset the cost of the federal carbon pollution pricing (note that this rebate was previously known as the Climate action incentive payment)

Canada child benefit (CCB)

→ Every month, eligible individuals may get money to help with the cost of raising a child

There are also provincial or territorial payments that may help with your costs.

How to apply for benefit and credit payments

STEP 1: Apply for a social



insurance number

STEP 2: Apply for benefits and credits

Check your eligibility for the GST/HST credit or CCB on the benefits, credits, and taxes for newcomers web page and complete these forms:

If you have children: fill out and sign Form RC66, Canada Child Benefits Application and include Form RC66SCH, Status in Canada and Income Information for the Canada Child Benefits Application.

If you do not have children: fill out and sign RC151 GST/HST Credit and Climate Action Incentive Payment Application for Individuals Who Become Residents of Canada (note that this rebate has been renamed the

Canada Carbon Rebate, but you can still use this form to apply).

STEP 3: You and your spouse or common-law partner (if applicable) must each continue to file a tax return every year to keep receiving the payments you are eligible for.

Do you need to do your taxes in Canada?

In Canada, individuals are responsible for completing and filing their personal tax return. As an international student, you may need to file a return whether you stay in Canada part-time or are here year-round, even if you do not have any income in Canada. You will also need to file a return to continue to receive the benefit and credit payments you are eligible for.

Determine your residency status

Most international students who study or carry out research in Canada establish residential ties with Canada, are considered residents of Canada for income tax purposes and may need to file a Canadian tax return.

Your residency status determines your income tax obligations to Canada. Note that your residency status can be different from your immigration status. For tax purposes, international students studying in Canada are typically considered one of the following:

- resident (includes students who reside in Canada only part of the year)
- non-resident
- deemed resident

deemed non-resident

Residency status is based on the residential ties you have with Canada. Residential ties can include having a home in Canada, a spouse or common-law partner, or a dependent who is moving to Canada to live with you. Other residential ties can include having:

- Canadian bank accounts or credit cards
- a Canadian driver's license
- health insurance with a Canadian province or territory

You may be considered a deemed resident of Canada if you have not established significant residential ties, but you stayed in Canada for 183 or more days in the year.

If you return to your home or another country on a regular basis or for large portions of the calendar year and you do not have significant residential ties with Canada, you may be considered a non-resident of Canada for income tax purposes.

Read more about residential ties and determining your residency status.

Learn more about the Canadian tax system

Learn about your taxes is a free online learning tool designed to help you understand what taxes are, how to do them, and what's in it for you. We want to empower people to do their own taxes and to make sure they know about the benefit and credit payments they could be eligible for. We have 5-minute lessons, fun quizzes, and quick videos on everything you need to know.

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Jatt Sikh family looking for a suitable match for their Canadian born, good looking boy, age 34, height 6'4", BSc in Kinesiology, minor in psychology, film actor and health coach. Girl should be a Canadian citizen/PR, minimum 5'8". For more information please call 604-585-9766

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Randeep Hooda opens up about his low phase: 'I was depressed, had to sell everything'

Randeep Hooda poured his heart out on how he was depressed after *The Battle of Saragarhi* got shelved.

Randeep Hooda, who makes his directorial debut with his first home production *Swatantra Veer Savarkar*, recently opened up about a low phase in his career. In an interaction with *Humans of Bombay*, the actor spoke about the financial challenges that came up when he had no work. (Also read: Randeep Hooda says Alia Bhatt was 'terrified' of him while shooting for *Highway*: 'I made sure of that')

Randeep on *Battle of Saragarhi*, financial setbacks

In his recent interview, while speaking about his low phase, Randeep said, "11 years out of these three 23 or so odd years I have not been on the set even once a year. Many times I had zero money and I didn't know what I am going to do next. I sold everything in my house, car, microwave and everything but I never sold my horses. There is an Arabic saying 'Apni

tankha badhao, karcha kam karne se kuch nahi hoga (Increase your income instead of reducing your expenses)'. Once, I sold my horse Ranji for a dear some of money and I just couldn't take it. I returned the cheque and got my horse back. Mental stamina comes from the fact that what else is there. Going through movies like *The Battle of Saragarhi* where I had grown a full Sikh beard for three years, prepped for *Gatka* and that movie didn't get completed."

He added,

"That was a very low time for me and I was very depressed. It

was like life chopped in half because I had to leave that. I almost left *Extraction* for it.

But then I went to Gurudwara and said sorry. Because I had taken a pledge

on the Guru

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at Amritsar's Golden

Temple that

'Sikhs have given

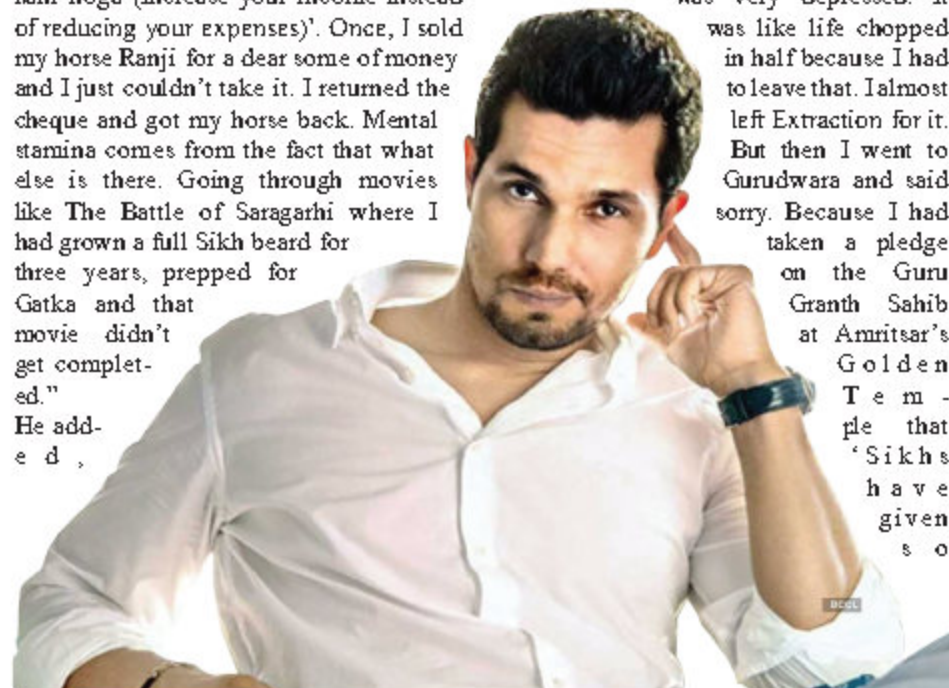
so

many sacrifices, I will not cut my Kesh till this movie comes to its conclusion.'

Then I moved on. After that it was a struggle because for three years I had no work, I had put on weight. So then I said ok 'one-step at a time.' My parents were worried. When I did *Extraction*, I was not fully there. Then you pick yourself again and my parents made me promise not to do it again. Then I did it again in *Veer Savarkar's* biopic."

Randeep's career
Randeep made his screen debut with Mira Nair's NRI comedy-drama *Monsoon Wedding*. His first Hindi movie was *Ram Gopal Varma's D* directed by Vishram Sawant.

Swatantra Veer Savarkar releases on March 22. Directed and co-written by Randeep Hooda with Utkarsh Naithani, the epic-drama is produced by Anand Pandit Motion Pictures and Randeep Hooda Films with Legend Studios and Avak Films.



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Continued from Page 10 38 British Columbian cities break high temperatures record in...

NDP Environment and Climate Change critic Laurel Collins called on the federal government to create a climate youth corps to generate more training and job opportunities for young people in clean energy and conservation.

"Young people are bearing the brunt of record-breaking temperatures and the more frequent and extreme weather events we've been seeing. It's their future on the line, and they want to get involved in protecting it," said Collins. "They also face a tough economy, where finding good-paying jobs has become increasingly difficult. The government needs to give young people the tools needed to get good-paying jobs that protect our planet."

"What we're seeing in B.C. is very alarming. Our communities, especially on the coasts, are dealing with a rapidly changing climate impacting people's livelihoods and our health. All the while, the Liberals keep delaying and breaking their climate promises, and the Conservatives can't even make up their minds on whether climate change is real or not," added Collins. "New Democrats believe that taking on climate change can and should also create good paying jobs and engage young people. So, we're pushing to get young people the tools they need to take on the climate emergency while creating good jobs."



Rani Mukerji says it's 'traumatic' she can't give a sibling to daughter Adira: 'I tried for a second baby for 7 years'

Rani Mukerji recently opened up about her miscarriage during the pandemic before she said yes to Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway, a film about motherhood.

Rani Mukerji turned 46 this past Thursday.

In an interview with Galatta India, the actor spoke about how she feels a deep sense of pain due to her miscarriage a few years ago. She said she feels 'traumatic' that she can't give a sibling to her eight-year-old daughter Adira. (Also Read: Revisiting Rani Mukerji's 5 iconic roles on her birthday that broke stereotypes)

What Rani said

"I tried for my second baby for seven years. My daughter is 8 years old now. Immediately after her, I tried for my second baby.

I kept trying. I finally got pregnant, and then I lost the baby. Obviously, it was a testing time for me," said Rani. She recently opened up about having a miscarriage during the pandemic, right before she was offered her latest film, Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway, a film about motherhood which ran successfully in cinemas last year.

Rani also added that her age was a major factor that led to her miscarriage. But she's learning to deal with the loss. "It's not an age where I can have another baby. And it is traumatic for me that I can't give a sibling to my daughter. That really pains me. But then I think that we really have to be always grateful for what we have and what we don't. For me, Adira is my miracle child. And

I'm really happy that I have her because I look at parents who are struggling to have even that one baby. So I feel I have to be grateful for what I have. It's a saying, but to actually work on it and believe that you've to be grateful for what you have, it takes a lot of courage. To just be content with what you have. So I'm working on it. I'm telling myself that yes, Adira is enough," she added.

About Adira

Rani and her filmmaker-husband Aditya Chopra had their daughter Adira on December 9, 2015. They've since then kept her face away from the paparazzi and social media. On the work front, Rani is writing a memoir, in which she'll talk at length about her relationship with Aditya Chopra.



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- | Reducing child care costs

Learn how BC is taking action on the issues that matter at StrongerBC.ca



Continued from Page 14

'Our City' beautification campaign..

grants, training workshops, and volunteer opportunities. The campaign will also feature in-person outreach events, information sessions on Neighbourhood Enhancement Grants, learning opportunities, and a volunteer program for clean-up and beautification projects. Launched in 2023, the Our City campaign focuses on engaging the community in placemaking projects, community clean-ups,

volunteerism, and beautification projects to improve livability, cleanliness, and civic pride in Surrey. Last year, 49 grants were awarded through the campaign, and over 600 participants contributed more than 300 volunteer hours. Their work resulted in over 80 neighbourhood-led improvement projects, cleanups and events in 2023. The 2024 Our City campaign will launch this spring. To learn more visit surrey.ca/ourcity.

Continued from Page 05

Provinces tightens criteria for...

According to the province, these updates will lead to better outcomes for people and help them understand what is required to be nominated for permanent residency in Canada through the BC PNP.

The BC PNP is one of several pathways available to newcomers who want to build a good life in British Columbia. It is the Province's only tool for directly selecting immigrants for permanent residency. The program helps identify people who will strengthen B.C.'s economy and prioritizes workers in health care, construction, early childhood education and other in-demand jobs.

The BC PNP is competitive, but

some recruiters misrepresent it as an easy pathway to permanent residency. These updates will give people a better understanding of the education, experience and language skills that they need to be considered for nomination. The program updates align with new measures to protect international students from predatory institutions and recruiters, such as:

For more information about the updated criteria, visit: <https://www.welcomebc.ca/Immigrate-to-B-C/News>

For more information about new measures to protect international students, visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024PSFS0002-000094>

Ankita Lokhande gets 'thumbs up' from mom-in-law as she calls her 'A1' at Swatantra Veer Savarkar screening

Ankita Lokhande's mother-in-law Ranjana Jain, who was also seen visiting her on Bigg Boss 17, attended Swatantra Veer Savarkar's special screening on Thursday. Ankita Lokhande's relationship with her mother-in-law Ranjana Jain made headlines when the actor participated in Bigg Boss 17. The latter made many shocking remarks about Ankita after the actor's alleged rift with husband Vicky Jain on national TV. However, recently Ranjana lauded Ankita for her commendable performance during her film Swatantra Veer Savarkar's special screening on Thursday. (Also read: Ankita Lokhande admits she is willing to do films and shows for free: 'Money has never been priority')

Vicky Jain's mother lauds Ankita Lokhande Vicky Jain's mother was recently spotted at the screening of Randeep Hooda's magnum opus based on the life of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Ankita portrays the role of Yamunabai Savarkar in historical biopic, which was released in theatres on Friday. When the paparazzi asked Ranjana about Ankita's performance, Vicky's mother said, "Ankita to humesha achhi lagti hai beta, humari Ankita ekdum A1 hai (Ankita always looks good, she is A1)." When asked if she wanted a daughter-in-law like Ankita, she told, "Haan, toh mil gayi na (Yes, so we got her)."

Ankita's tension with in-laws on Bigg Boss 17 Things took an ugly turn on national television when during their Bigg Boss 17 stint Ankita threw a slipper at Vicky after she got angry at him. The latter later came to know about the interaction between her husband's father and



her mother.

She told, "Meri mummy ko papa (Vicky Jain's father) ne phone kiya tha. He asked 'Aap aapke pati ko aisi maarti thi kya chappal jute phek ke?' Papa ne aur bhi bola tha. He said 'Aapki aukat kya hai (Papa had called my mother up and asked if she used to hit her husband with slippers. He also humiliated her by questioning her status in society?)" She further added, "I politely told mummy (Vicky Jain's mother Ranjana Jain) that she was alone, my papa recently passed away. I genuinely felt guilty and apologised to her. Later, my mom revealed that papa had told her many other things. But I asked her to not bring all this up right now."

Hrithik Roshan Lauds Ananya Panday's Performance In Kho Gaye Hum Kahan: 'You Are A Star'

Hrithik Roshan is a little late to the party, but all praise for Arjun Varain Singh's directorial debut Kho Gaye Hum Kahan, particularly for Ananya Panday. Hrithik Roshan was busy promoting his aerial action entertainer, Fighter, when Arjun Varain Singh's directorial debut and buddy 'digital-coming-of-age' movie Kho Gaye Hum Kahan released on Netflix India in December last year. The actor has finally managed to watch the film and can't stop raving about it. (Also Read - Fighter drops on Netflix India: X users want Hrithik Roshan and Deepika Padukone to do another movie)

What Hrithik said

Hrithik took to his X handle on Friday and wrote, "Saw

Kho gaye hum kahaan a few days back. Thoroughly enjoyed it. Not an easy genre. @ananyapanday you are a star. What a performance (applause emoji) @SiddyChats and @gauravadarsh you guys were great. So well directed @ArjunVarain. Congrats to the entire team. It's a must watch!"

About Kho Gaye Hum Kahan

Kho Gaye Hum Kahan is about three friends in their mid-20s navigating life in the world of social media. Apart from Ananya Panday, the film also stars Siddhant Chaturvedi and Adarsh Gourav in the lead roles. Set in Mumbai, it is produced by Excel Entertainment's Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar in collaboration with Tiger Baby's Reema Kagti and Zoya Akhtar.

Kho Gaye Hum Kahan chronicles the lives of Imaad (Siddhant), Ahana (Ananya) and Neil (Adarsh) through the very relatable journey of three best friends together navigating aspirations, relationships and emotions.

After getting rave reviews for her performance in the film, Ananya had penned a note of gratitude on her Instagram handle. She wrote, "Overwhelmed by all the love for #KhoGayeHumKahan and Ahana. All your love and kind words mean more to me than you will ever know. I can never ever ever

Ananya will be next seen in the Prime Video India Original show Call My Bae and Vikramaditya Motwane's cyber thriller Control. Meanwhile, Hrithik has War 2 in the pipeline.

thank @arjunvarain.singh @zoiesakhtar @reemakagti1 @ritesh_sid @faroutakhtar enough for bringing me on this journey - I'm eternally grateful and the boyzzzzzz Ahana Imaad Neil 4evrr @siddhantchaturvedi @gouravadarsh."





Gurdwara Nanak Niwas



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Upcoming Program

- 20th March, Wednesday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Gian Singh Gill family.
- 22nd March, Friday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Harbhajan Singh Samra family.
- 23th March, Saturday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Beant Singh Sekhon family.
- 23th March, Saturday** at 5:00 pm, Sukhmani sahib path and langer sewa by Sukhi Sangha Family.
- 24th March, Sunday** at 10.30 am, Weekly Kirtan Diwan on the event of Hola Mohalla and Langar sewa by sangat.
- 28th March, Thursday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Simran Riar family.
- 29th March, Friday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Paramjit Lalli family.
- 31st March, Sunday** at 9:00 am, Sukhmani sahib path. Kirtan and langer sewa by Gurmeet Singh Kahlon Family.

Congratulations and best wishes to Sangat from Gurdwara Committee Nagar Kirtan on 24th March 2024 on the event of Hola Mohalla.

21 June 2024 (Friday) are free for booking for Anand Karj and other programs.

Special Note: Punjabi classes have started at Gurdwara Sahib.

For registration of children please contact at 604-274-7479.

Every Tuesday at 10.00 am, Sukhmani Sahib Path by women.

**Daily Program: 5:00 am Prakash Guru Granth Sahib, 6:00 am to 6:45 am Nitnem, 7:00 am to 7:30 am Kirtan Dewan, 7:30 am to 1:45 am Katha, 7:45 am to 8:00 am Ardaas
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