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# Three Indian nationals accused of killing Hardeep Nijjar appear before court amid pro-Khalistan slogans



Canadian officials have yet to confirm the visa status of the killers', according to media reports they came to Canada on student visa, raising questions on security lapse in Canadian immigration system

Pro-Khalistani protesters chanted slogans and held placards, outside the court, blaming the Indian government for the killing of their leader

Photo by Sukhwant Dhillon

Friends and family of slain Hardeep Singh Nijjar and supporters of Khalistan crowded outside a BC provincial courtroom on the day three accused killers of Nijjar made their first court appearance. The killers were not physically present but made the appearance by video. The suspects, Karan Brar, Karanpreet Singh,

and Kamalpreet Singh, charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy, were arrested in Edmonton last Friday. They were dressed in orange jumpsuits during their court appearance. The judge questioned the trio in brief.

Continued on page 08

# Indians will decide the fate of India, not foreigners: Indian High Commissioner

By Link News Desk

The arrest of three suspects in the killing of Khalistan supporter Hardeep Singh Nijjar stirred a flurry of sentiments and reactions within the community, among Khalistan supporters, Canadian dignitaries, and Indian diplomats. Some Sikh leaders welcomed the arrest and said they have faced threats for years, and they accused

the Indian government of trying to silence them. Canadian policy makers have asserted their duty to safeguard Canadian citizens on Canadian soil, vowing to investigate any potential foreign involvement in the incident. Canadian officials said that every Canadian citizen has a right to freedom of expression.

Indian authorities, on the other hand perceive advocacy for the secession of India on foreign

soil as a direct affront to India's unity rather than an exercise in freedom of expression. India has accused Canada of welcoming criminals and giving space to terrorists in the name of freedom of expression. But Ottawa has repeatedly insisted India has not proven that people it accuses of terrorism have actually done anything that meets the threshold under Canada's criminal code.

Continued on page 03

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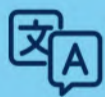
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Continued from Page 01

# Indians will decide the fate of India, not the foreigners: Indian High...

According to Global News in February, “a senior Canadian foreign-service bureaucrat told MPs that Canadian officials have been offering their Indian counterparts “workshops” on the rule of law, because India’s definition of terrorism “does not always compute in our legal system.” Here is what India and Canada have to say after the arrest of three suspects in killing of Hardeep Nijjar:



**High Commissioner  
Sanjay Kumar Verma**

Canada lacks “understanding” about New Delhi’s concerns, which stem from “national security threats emanating from the land of Canada. These threats are largely emanating from Canadian citizens. These represent “red lines” for India. Indians will decide what will happen to India. Indians will decide the fate of India, not the foreigners.

**Foreign Minister Melanie Joly**

Canada’s position has always been clear. Our job is to protect Canadians and we stand by the allegations that a Canadian was killed on Canadian soil by Indian agents. Now, the investigation by the RCMP is being done. I won’t further comment and no other on the question of our relationship with India is I think that is always better when diplomacy remains in private and Canada will continue to stand by first protecting Canadians, making sure that we also protect our sovereignty and in the end

also we need to protect our rule of law.



**Indian External Affairs Ministry  
Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal**

No specific or relevant evidence or information has been shared by the Canadian authorities till date. You will therefore understand our view that the matter is being pre-judged. Obviously, there are political interests at work. We have long maintained that separatists, extremists, and those advocating violence have been given political space in Canada. Our diplomats have been threatened with impunity and obstructed in their performance of duties. We have also pointed to the Canadian authorities that figures associated with organized crime with links with India have been allowed entry and residency in Canada. Many of our extradition requests are pending. We are having discussions at the diplomatic level on all these matters

**Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara**

While today’s action by Canadian authorities, which led to the arrest of those directly involved in the killing, is a step forward, it only scratches the surface. High-ranking Indian diplomats, provided logistical support and intelligence for the assassination. They must be charged. Canadian politicians of every stripe must stand with the Canadian Sikhs Right to peacefully advocate for Khalistan without facing any violent retaliation from the Indian Government. Canada’s

political leadership must stand on the right side of history in countering the Modi government’s transnational repression of pro Khalistan Sikhs on Canadian soil, to ensure this sort of violence never happens again.

**BC Premier David Eby**



The murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar has shaken the Sikh community in British Columbia, the larger South Asian community, and Canadians across the country. There is disbelief and anger in the community in addition to the terrible loss being felt by Mr. Nijjar’s family and loved ones. I hope that today’s announcement of charges against three individuals is an important step towards justice for his family and accountability to the whole community. I understand the investigation doesn’t end here and is ongoing. We will support this process however we can, as these criminal proceedings continue.”

**Pierre Poilievre, Leader of Conservative Party of Canada**

We are glad that there have finally been arrests that will bring some justice for Mr. Nijjar’s family and community. Those responsible should face the full consequences of their crimes, and the government’s law enforcement and intelligence agencies must relentlessly pursue any other person or entity that

was involved in this murder so that they can be held accountable and brought to justice. We wish the government was able to foil this plot and stop this murder from happening in the first place, as was the case in the United States. This only further demonstrates that the government must take further action to protect our country, including by immediately implementing a foreign influence registry.



**World Sikh Organization president  
Danish Singh**

While we welcome arrests, we believe these arrests raise disturbing questions about the nexus between the Government of India and criminal gangs. How is an Indian criminal who has been in Indian prison since 2014 able to operate a gang targeting Sikhs in Canada for murder and extortion, on this scale? Report by the Foreign Interference Commission has confirmed that India uses proxies in Canada who work with Indian intelligence officials in India and Canada. While the arrest of the hit squad is important, what’s even more important is identifying and bringing to justice those who directed these operations. It would seem that the trail leads to India’s embassies and consulates in Canada and directly to the Government of India.

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# India's Foreign Minister S Jaishankar accuses Canada of welcoming criminals

India's Foreign Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has accused Canada of welcoming criminals from India. His remarks came after the arrest of three suspected killers of Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Although Canadian officials have yet to confirm their immigration status many media outlets claimed that the suspects came to Canada

on student visas. Jaishankar said the protests in Canada have gone beyond the limits of free speech, and he reacted to last week's arrest by repeating claims that Ottawa allows Indian criminals to immigrate to Canada. He also accused Canadian politicians of various stripes of giving electoral clout to

people wanting to carve out a Sikh homeland separate from India, called Khalistan. Jaishankar made the comments Saturday at an event in the eastern city of Bhubaneswar at a forum of intellectuals.

One attendee asked Jaishankar about countries like the U.S. and Canada wanting to partner with India while allowing people to support a separatist movement there, which New Delhi deems to be unconstitutional. Another attendee inquired about last Friday's arrests, and Jaishankar addressed both questions.

"It's not so much a problem in the U.S.; our biggest problem right now is in Canada," Jaishankar said, adding the governing Liberals as well as other parties "have given these kinds of extremism, separatism, advocates of violence a certain legitimacy, in the name of free speech."

Jaishankar said he has asked Foreign Minister Melanie Joly about "attacks or threats" to India's diplomatic missions and staff in Canada.

"I tell the foreign minister (Joly) saying, 'Suppose it happened to you. if it was your diplomat, your embassy, your flag, how would you react?' So, we have to keep our position strong," he said.

Jaishankar reiterated his ministry's insistence that Ottawa is allowing criminal elements to operate in Canada and affiliate with Sikh separatists.

"Somebody may have been arrested; the police may have done some investigation. But the fact is (a) number of gangland people, (a) number of people with organized crime links from Punjab, have been made welcome in Canada," he said.

"These are wanted criminals from India, you have given them visas ... and yet you allow them to live there."

New Delhi raised that same concern a week before Trudeau announced that India was suspected of involvement in Nijjar's death last September. In its readout of Trudeau's meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jaishankar's ministry



S Jaishankar

had called out "the nexus of (Khalistan separatism) forces with organized crime, drug syndicates and human trafficking." Canada's Immigration Minister Marc Miller rejected External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's remark that Ottawa is "lax" about admitting criminals into the country, saying authorities conduct a thorough record check on people entering Canada on student visas.

Responding to a question on Monday about Jaishankar's remarks, Miller said, "We're not lax, and the Indian Foreign Minister is entitled to his opinion," reported the Cable Public Affairs Channel -- a Canadian specialty television channel.

When asked what the Canadian government planned on doing about it, he said, "About what the Indian Foreign Minister said? Let him speak his mind. It's just not accurate."

He said that Canada conducts a criminal record check on people entering the country on student visas.

Canada takes "any report like this very seriously", Miller said.

He refused to confirm if the three Indians arrested for Nijjar's murder were in Canada on a student visa, asserting that there's information that he can't share at the time because of the ongoing police investigation.

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# Budget 2024 invests in Sikh Canadian heritage projects



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on May 4 highlighted investments included in Budget 2024 to preserve Sikh Canadian heritage.

“The story of the Sikh community in Canada is, in fact, the story of Canada. The investments in Budget 2024 will help Sikh Canadians share their own stories, create their own spaces, and preserve their own heritage – because diversity is our greatest strength. Let’s keep working together to make Canada more inclusive, more vibrant, and more welcoming for everyone,” said Trudeau.

The investment aims to create the Gallery of Global Sikh Art and Culture in the Royal Ontario Museum. With a \$6 million investment, Canada will be working closely with the Sikh Arts and Culture Foundation and the Royal Ontario Museum to build a space dedicated to Sikh arts, culture, and heritage.

“The Royal Ontario Museum is tremendously grateful for the \$6 million commitment to the Gallery of Global Sikh Art and Culture in the 2024 federal budget. Developed with the support of the Sikh Arts and Culture Foundation of Canada, and the broader Sikh community, this future gallery will be an important expansion of the Museum’s suite of galleries devoted to South Asia, which was the first of its kind in Canada,” said Josh Basseches, Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Ontario Museum.

The budget will also support the completion of a short film on Canadian and Indian soldiers in the First and Second World Wars. “With a \$1.8 million investment, we’ll be supporting the Indus Media Foundation in Surrey, British Columbia, to complete this short film. By preserving this heritage and encouraging others to learn more, we’re keeping Sikh Canadian stories alive for the next generation,” said Trudeau. The Indus Media Foundation is a registered non-profit society based in lower mainland British Columbia. The Foundation seeks to foster appreciation for Punjabi culture.

“Canada is proud to be home to one of the largest Sikh diasporas in the world. The investments we are making are a recognition that Sikh Canadians have significantly contributed to making our country stronger, more prosperous, and more diverse. The new Gallery of Global Sikh Art and Culture at the Royal Ontario Museum will be a welcome addition to the community,” said Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.



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# Starting September international students can work only 24 hours per week

Immigration Minister Marc Miller this week announced the temporary policy allowing students to work more than 20 hours per week off campus will come to an end on April 30, 2024, and it will not be extended.

The minister has announced a new cap that will allow international students to work off-campus for up to 24 hours per week starting in September. However he said, "As we head into the summer session, students who have a scheduled academic break can continue working unlimited hours."

The Liberals temporarily waived the 20-hour cap on work hours for international students during the COVID-19 pandemic in a bid to ease labour shortages.

"Working off campus helps international students gain work experience and offset some of their expenses. As international students arrive in Canada, we want them to be prepared for life here and have the support they need to succeed. However, first

and foremost, people coming to Canada as students must be here to study, not work. We will continue working to protect the integrity of our student program."

IRCC informed that recent studies conducted in the US and Canada have shown that there is a considerable decline in academic performance for students working more than 28 hours per week, and that working more than 24 hours per week increases the chances that a student will drop out of their program.

"As such, allowing students to work up to 24 hours per week will ensure they focus primarily on their studies, while having the option to work, if necessary," he said.

In developing this change, we looked at the needs of students, policies in other countries, as well as research that has shown that academic outcomes suffer the more a student works while studying. It also strikes the appropriate balance so students have the option to work without



compromising academic outcomes. More details will be shared in due course.

Canada is also developing new Recognized Institutions Framework to reward post-secondary institutions that set high standards for selecting, supporting and

retaining international students. "We will continue to support and protect international students from financial vulnerability and keep protecting the integrity of the International Student Program," he said.

In December 2023, the Government of Canada raised the cost-of-living threshold that students must meet to be approved for a study permit so they are financially prepared for life in Canada and are not as dependent on working.

International students who begin a college program delivered through a public-private curriculum licensing arrangement on or after May 15, 2024, will not be eligible for a post-graduation work permit when they graduate. Those who already started this type of program prior to May 15, 2024, will still be able to access a post-graduation work permit, provided they meet all other criteria.

## Indo-Canadian Ontario Woman convicted of immigration fraud

An Ontario woman working in Edmonton as a fake immigration consultant has been convicted of defrauding newcomers of tens of thousands of dollars. On April 8, 2024, Maneet 'Mani' Malhotra, a resident of Ontario, pleaded guilty in an Edmonton courtroom to charging for immigration services without the legal authorization to do so. Malhotra was handed an 18-month conditional sentence, including six months of house arrest, and was ordered to pay \$148,000 in victim restitution.

In 2019, the CBSA began its investigation into Malhotra and her Edmonton-based



business, NAMI Immigration Inc., after a referral from the Government of Alberta's Temporary Foreign Worker Advisory Office.

*Continued on page 09*

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# BC United table bill to combat foreign interference in B.C.'s elections and universities

VICTORIA, BC: Amid escalating concerns about foreign interference, Todd Stone, the Opposition House Leader, has introduced a Private Member's Bill aimed at bolstering British Columbia's defences against threats to democracy. "Foreign interference poses a significant threat to the integrity of elections, universities, democratic institutions, and processes. It's critical that we take action to ensure the political landscape of British Columbia remains under the control of its residents," Stone stated. "For years, existing gaps in our election laws have been overlooked by the NDP. This bill modernizes and strengthens our laws to better counteract foreign influences in our political and educational systems." The Control of Foreign Funding and Electoral Influence Act includes measures to prevent foreign



interference, such as banning foreign-funded individuals and organizations from disseminating false or misleading information related to elections. The bill also bans contributions from foreign nationals, governments, or political entities for election-related activities, and forbids any collaboration with or acceptance of funds from foreign sources intended to influence electoral outcomes. "British Columbians are increasingly concerned about the risks of foreign interference and expect immediate action to address these risks in our electoral and educational systems," added Stone. This bill represents BC United's third effort to safeguard British Columbia's democratic and educational institutions through private members' bills, following two previous bills that the NDP government failed to bring to debate.

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Continued from Page 01

# Three Indian nationals accused of killing Hardeep Nijjar appear before...

Through their attorneys, Brar and Karanpreet Singh decided to appear again on May 21. However, the court has yet to decide on a new date for Kamalpreet Singh who has sought legal counsel, the Globe and Mail reported.

Pro-Khalistani protesters chanted slogans and held placards, outside the court, blaming the Indian government for the killing of their leader and Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara president Hardeep Nijjar. Some even carried signs featuring the faces of the three suspects and the words "Indian agents arrested."

One of the placards carried the photos of the killers along with picture of Indian PM Narendra Modi, and High Commissioner of India Sanjay Kumar Verma.

Moninder Singh, spokesperson of BC Gurdwara Council and a friend of Nijjar said, "Bhai Hardeep Singh's extrajudicial killing is not simply a matter of an isolated incident conducted by rogue elements within Indian intelligence. This is a matter of state responsibility in the context of a transnational assassination program targeting Sikh activists around the world. While investigators must pursue those government officials who directed the assassination, the Government of Canada must seriously reconsider its relationship with a hostile state that brazenly targets Canadian citizens and institutions."

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) investigators with the assistance of members from the BC and Alberta RCMP and the Edmonton Police Service, arrested three men after 10 months of investigation for the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar who was shot to death in the parking lot of Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara in



Pro-Khalistani protesters chanted slogans and held placards, outside the court, blaming the Indian government for the killing of their leader (Photo by Sukhwant Dhillon)

Surrey in June 2023.

Three individuals were charged with first degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in relation to the homicide: 22-year-old Karan Brar of Edmonton; 22-year-old Kamalpreet Singh of Edmonton; and 28-year-old Karanpreet Singh of Edmonton.

IHIT released photos of the accused men in hopes of furthering its investigation.

IHIT also released photographs of a Toyota Corolla, believed to have been used by the suspects in the time leading up to the homicide, in and around the Surrey area. Superintendent Mandeep Mooker said that the investigation does not end here. "We are aware that there could be others out there that played a role in this homicide and we remain dedicated to identifying and arresting each one of them. I would like to thank the Nijjar family, the citizens of Surrey and the members of the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara Executive, for your patience and support throughout this investi-



gation. I appreciate that the community still has questions, many of which we will not be able to answer at this time, as this investigation now proceeds through the courts system."

Assistant Commissioner David Teboul in a statement said, that the police cannot comment about the nature of the evidence collected by police nor can we speak about the motive behind the murder of Mr. Nijjar. "However, understanding this situation has attracted considerable and very broad public interest, I will say this matter is still very much under active investigation. I will underscore that today's



IHIT also released photographs of a Toyota Corolla, believed to have been used by the suspects in the time leading up to the homicide, in and around the Surrey area

to many media reports they came to Canada on a student visa and had connections with India's notorious Lawrence Bishnoi Gang.

According to Global News, one of the suspects entered Canada using a study permit that he said took only days to obtain. In a video posted online in 2019, Karan Brar said he applied for a student visa through EthicWorks Immigration Services in Bathinda, in India's Punjab state.

He said he received his study visa days later. The immigration company posted the promotional video on its Facebook page, along with a photo of Brar, whom the company said was from the city of Kotkapura, north of Bathinda. "Congratulations Karan Brar for Canada study visa," the caption below the video read. "One more happy client from Kotkapura." Immigration Minister Marc Miller has declined to answer questions about how the suspects came to Canada, but online posts indicate that Brar arrived on a student permit three years before the killing.



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# BC to create special team to solve complex gang-related homicide cases

VICTORIA, BC: The BC government has announced creation of a new Integrated Gang Homicide Team (IGHT) will focus on investigating gang-related homicides and improving intelligence co-ordination related to gang activities.

The announcement comes as part of province's plan to combat gangs, fight organized crime, and stop criminals from bringing violence and toxic drugs into communities.

"Gang violence and organized crime impacts all of us, and we are co-ordinating with local, provincial and federal agencies to ensure we are taking the right steps to keep people safe and hold those responsible for gang-related activities accountable for their actions," said Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. "This is a top priority for our government. We are continuing to



work alongside our policing partners to curb gang violence, and the development of this team is an important step forward in this collective responsibility."

The new team is part of B.C.'s comprehensive gun and gang strategy, and will leverage experts from agencies,

including B.C.'s Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU-BC), the Organized Crime Agency of British Columbia (OCABC) and the RCMP's Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT). The new team will prioritize complex gang-related homicide files in order to hold individuals accountable and disrupt gang activity in the Lower Mainland.

IGHT is expected to reach full operational capacity by late 2024 or early 2025. IGHT will have 18 positions, including 12 new positions within OCABC (five civilian support personnel and seven police), as well as five existing RCMP members from CFSEU-BC, and a team commander. All positions will be seconded into the RCMP-led IHIT and operate under the leadership of an existing IHIT member. IGHT will form part of IHIT and investigate priority gang homicide files in IHIT jurisdictions.

"For over 20 years, we have utilized an integrated policing approach, successfully

investigating and prosecuting those responsible for the most egregious crimes, including members of organized crime groups who have, time and again, neglected public safety in furtherance of their own personal agendas," said Supt. Mandeep Mooker, officer in charge of IHIT. "Now in 2024, as the gang landscape evolves, so must our approach to keeping Canadians safe."

Since 2003, gang-related homicides in British Columbia have risen, climbing from 21% of B.C. homicides to 46% in 2023. Gang-related homicides present unique challenges due to evidence tampering and witness reluctance, making them more time-consuming and resource-intensive to investigate.

As of December 2023, IHIT reported 356 unsolved homicides. The establishment of the new Integrated Gang Homicide Team will strengthen investigative capabilities, enabling IHIT to redirect team members to focus on these cases.

*Continued on page 30*

*Continued from Page 06*

## Indo-Canadian Ontario Woman...

It was determined that two clients paid Malhotra \$30,000 and \$45,000 to arrange employment in Alberta. Instead of receiving jobs, they were forced into a scheme where they were required to pay for fraudulent pay stubs.

During the investigation, the CBSA discovered more incidents where Malhotra charged for immigration services that included fake job offers and forged documents. In addition, Malhotra did not submit the required official paperwork to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). It was determined that Malhotra did not meet the requirements of IRPA to provide immigration-related services as she was not a registered immigration consultant or a practicing

lawyer.

On December 17, 2019, the CBSA executed a search warrant at the offices of NAMI Immigration and found fraudulent immigration-related documents as well as additional client information. On April 21, 2023, charges were laid against Malhotra and on May 1, 2023, the CBSA arrested Malhotra at her residence in Mississauga, Ontario.

"The Canada Border Services Agency is committed to investigating and pursuing the prosecution of individuals who abuse Canada's immigration system. By dismantling fraudulent immigration schemes, we are protecting the integrity of Canada's borders and safeguarding potential immigrants from exploitation," said Janalee Bell-Boychuk, CBSA.

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# Surrey Council approves \$10.6M contract for 80 Avenue improvements

Surrey City Council has awarded a \$10.6 million contract to United Earth Contractors Corp. for improvements to 80 Avenue between 132 Street and King George Boulevard. This contract is the final phase of a multi-phased program to widen the Newton corridor from two to four lanes from 120 Street to King George Boulevard, reducing congestion and increasing road safety.



A section of 80 Avenue that was widened to four lanes in 2023. Surrey Council has approved a contract to continue this road improvement and widening project to extend all the way to King George Boulevard.

“Adding additional lanes and making it safer to walk and cycle along 80 Avenue is vital to meeting the transportation needs of our residents today and preparing for the future growth in Newton,” said Mayor Brenda Locke. “This phase marks the completion of the City’s widening of 80 Avenue to four lanes all the way from 120 Street to King George Boulevard. This project is a key component in enhancing the flow of goods along a major truck route and is part of Council’s comprehensive \$300 million transportation improvements capital program.”

**Road improvements include:**

- Repaving and widening the road from two to four travel lanes to reduce congestion
- Adding a new traffic signal at 134 Street to improve access and safety

- Adding a new pedestrian crossing at 133A Street to improve pedestrian access
- Adding multiuse paths on both sides of the street to make it safer to cycle and walk.

TransLink contributed \$932,000 towards the multiuse paths.

There will also be storm sewer upgrades done from 134 Street to King George Boulevard as part of this contract. Funding for this contract is available in the approved 2024 Transportation and Utilities Budget.

# Dipping electoral numbers force BC NDP to reverse its radical “free drug” policies



By Maninder Gill

Premier David Eby has announced a significant reversal in his radical “decriminalization” policy for drug possession. The B.C. government faced backlash over its ill-advised drug policies but refused to back down until electoral surveys predicted a decline in the NDP’s fortunes. B.C. NDP had decriminalized the possession of small quantities of hard drugs, providing a rationale that this will remove the stigma from drug users leading to suc-

cessful efforts to reduce overdose deaths.

Even before the BC Coroner’s data busted NDP’s irrational approach towards the drug problem, there was mayhem on the streets due to this extreme action. Decriminalization effectively took away the limited tools the police forces had to dissuade drug users from consuming drugs at public places. As a result, young children have been exposed to the harmful sightings of open drug consumption at playgrounds, where they have to dodge needles in their playtime!

A leaked Northern Health memo shocked British Columbians when it was discovered that the health authorities had instructed the staff to allow drugs inside the hospitals. This is not the first time that the woke NDP government has crossed a red line in its pursuit of virtue signaling and dog whistling.

Endangering the safety of patients and the health staff, which is already under stress, was bound to face a strong pushback from the community. While the healthcare workers are worried about their safety and the community is facing a crying need for better healthcare, new hospitals, health care workers, the B.C. NDP’s priority is creating “safe” spaces for drug use inside every hospital in B.C.

Interestingly, whenever such extremist policies are promulgated by the woke NDP establishment, certain “evidence based” researches are cited to shut down criticism. People are never informed about the terms of reference of such research groups. A similar “evidence-based” research was cited at the time of the commencement of the “decriminalization” pilot program. However, the “researchers” never anticipated open drug use in restaurants and public transit. Who will hold such policymakers to account? Did the researchers account for the policing challenges while formulating this disastrous policy? Delta’s Chief Constable Neil Dubord had written an open letter criticizing the drug decriminalization policies, insinuating that these policies have failed to bring down overdose deaths. Is the BC government listening to experts?

The B.C. government has finally requested Health Canada to end B.C.’s exemption under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, paving the way for the reversal of Decriminalization of drug use policies. The Acts and omissions of this government hold important lessons for the electorate. Public safety concerns, expert opinions and protests are insufficient for course correction, the only thing that torments this government is a survey predicting defeat in the fall election.

(Maninder Gill is Managing Director of Radio India, Surrey)

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# Canada introduces legislation to counter foreign interference

The federal government tabled a bill on Monday to implement a package of reforms to better combat foreign interference including the much-awaited foreign agent registry. The bill comes just days after a public inquiry said attempts by other countries to meddle in Canada's past two federal elections undermined Canadians' trust in democracy.

The CBC reported, "If passed, the bill would introduce new foreign interference offence, shake up how Canada's spy agency collects and shares intelligence and launch a long-anticipated foreign influence transparency registry." Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of

Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs, and the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announced the introduction Bill C-70, An Act respecting countering foreign interference.

"Our government has been clear – we will not tolerate any form of malign foreign influence on Canadian soil. An Act Respecting Countering Foreign Interference will modernize our toolbox to protect our citizens and democracy while upholding Canadian values and principles," he said.

In a press conference, LeBlanc said that the many changes in the new 103-page legislation would

give Canada "new, modern tools" to combat foreign interference.

"Canada is a strong, open and free democracy. These strengths, however, can make Canada a target for those who wish to advance their interests to the detriment of our own," he told reporters.

The legislation would amend the CSIS Act, the Security of Information Act, the Canada Evidence Act and the Criminal Code to create new offences related to foreign interference.

Bill C-70 proposes to update existing laws to better equip the government to detect, disrupt, and protect against foreign interference threats against all people in Canada, including members of



**Dominic LeBlanc**  
Minister of Public Safety

diaspora, and marginalized or otherwise vulnerable communities. This includes proposed changes to the Security of Information Act, the

modernization of the 40-year-old Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act, and the sabotage offence in the Criminal Code. It also proposes amendments to the Canada Evidence Act to establish a standardized and streamlined regime for handling sensitive information in administrative proceedings in the Federal Court of Canada.

The CSIS Act is old and predates the modern internet. Amendments would address growing gaps caused by evolving threats

and technological advancements. Safeguards have been built in and are strong – the legislation was developed to ensure that CSIS activities comply with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Proposed warrant powers, while new to the CSIS Act, are not new tools; they are modelled on powers routinely relied on by Canadian law enforcement and intelligence agencies in other democracies. The threshold for accessing these tools is still high.

This bill also introduces the Foreign Influence Transparency and Accountability Act (FIT-AA), which creates a Foreign Influence Transparency Registry. Overseen by an independent Foreign Influence Transparency Commissioner, the Registry would promote transparency from people who advocate on behalf of a foreign principal (including a foreign state or state-owned business) and accountability from those who would do so in non-transparent ways.

*Continued on page 30*

## Almost 200 people die in BC due to drug overdose in one month

Data released by the BC Coroners Service shows toxic drugs claimed the lives of at least 192 people in March, and at least 572 lives in the first three months of 2024.

The data reflects an 11% decrease in the number of lives lost when compared with March 2023 (215), when 6.9 people died each day from toxic drugs. In March 2024, 6.2 deaths per day were tied to the unregulated drug supply.

So far this year, about seven in every 10 of those who have died from toxic drugs were between the ages of 30 and 59. While nearly three-quarters of those killed have been males, it is worth noting that the rate of death among females is climbing year over year: 23 deaths per 100,000 in 2024, compared with 20.6 deaths per 100,000 females for all of 2023.

For British Columbians between 10 and 59, unregulated drug toxicity is the leading cause of death, accounting for more deaths than homicides, suicides, accidents and natural disease combined.

Since the public-health emergency was first declared in April 2016, at least 14,400 people in the province have lost their lives to toxic drugs.

Additional findings from the latest report include that Vancouver, Surrey and Nanaimo continue to experience the highest number of unregulated drug deaths in 2024;

By health authority, the highest number of lives lost to toxic drugs has been in Fraser and Vancouver Coastal health authorities (147 and 143 respectively), making up 51% of all such deaths in 2024;

In 2024, 84% of unregulated drug deaths in 2024 have occurred inside (47% in private homes and 37% inside social and supportive housing, single-room occupancy buildings (known as SROs), shelters, hostels and other indoor locations) and 15% were reported to be outside in vehicles, sidewalks, streets or parks; and Fentanyl has been detected in 85% of unregulated drug deaths that have undergone expedited toxicology testing.

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# It's time for a guaranteed livable basic income: NDP

OTTAWA, ON: NDP MP Leah Gazan (Winnipeg Centre), joined by advocates for a basic income, called on the Liberal government and all other parties to support her private member's bill to establish a guaranteed livable basic income (GLBI) in Canada.

According to a recent Statistics Canada report, the poverty rate across the country is going up. A GLBI would help lift people out of poverty by allowing them to afford their basic needs like groceries, rent and medication.

"Across the country, we are seeing increased homelessness and food bank usage due to decades of cuts and corporate greed going unchecked under Liberal and Conservative governments," said Gazan. "Poverty is a policy choice, and it's time that the Liberal government chooses to sup-



NDP MP Leah Gazan

port all people in Canada. In a country as wealthy as Canada, no one should have to live in poverty—that's why a GLBI is needed now."

Gazan is proposing a GLBI for all

people living in Canada over the age of 17 regardless of participation in the workforce or an educational training program. Regional differences in the cost of living are considerations addressed in the bill.

Furthermore, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls explicitly called for a GLBI in its Call for Justice 4.5 to prevent Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people from being in a vulnerable situation.

"Women's organizations have been clear: if we want to tackle gender-based violence, we need a GLBI to provide women and gender-diverse folks with the financial resources they need to protect themselves from violence," added Gazan. "A GLBI will improve our social safety net. I call on all parliamentarians to join the NDP in support of this bill."

## Business Extortions Reach US: FBI Sacramento Encouraging Indian Community to Report Extortion

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Sacramento Field Office warned the public of an extortion scheme affecting individuals with familial or business ties to India.

The FBI informed that the field office was tracking several instances throughout its 34-county area of responsibility in which people were targeted for extortion and threatened with violence. "These criminal acts are believed to be underreported. The FBI and its law enforcement partners urge the public to report these crimes to ensure the individuals committing these alleged crimes face justice," said a release from the FBI which was issued in English, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu languages.

"We are deeply concerned for the safety and economic security of our neighbors of Indian



descent who have been targeted," said Acting Special Agent in Charge Mark Remily, who leads the FBI Sacramento Field Office. "Criminals are targeting hard working, law-abiding business owners and are using thug tactics to extort them in clear violation of the law. Timely reporting of attempted extortion to the authorities will help law enforcement to identify and disrupt this criminal scheme, ensuring the safety and economic security of the community."

In recent extortion attempts, subjects demanded a large sum of money and threatened physical violence or death if the demand was not met. Individuals who disregarded the demands subsequently became victims of violence, to include targeted shootings at their residences and vehicles.

Anyone who believes they are in immediate danger should call 911. Threats of violence intended to extort victims for a specified sum can be reported to the FBI by calling the local field office, submitting a tip online at tips.fbi.gov, or calling 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324). The FBI can connect callers with language services to ensure clear communication for callers.

Since October, police in the Lower Mainland and other provinces has also received reports of small businesses facing threats through phone calls, WhatsApp messages, and letters, compelling them to provide monetary concessions. Surrey had 3 confirmed cases, with the cities of West Vancouver, Abbotsford, Edmonton (Alberta), and Brampton (Ontario) also confirming similar threats.

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# Journey to Pakistan: Reflections on partition and reunion

By Balwant Sanghera

While visiting Pakistani Punjab, one can't help but think about the pre 1947 era when India was one unified country and Punjab was one of its most productive, powerful and prosperous provinces. Punjab's five rivers were a matter of great pride for every Punjabi. Unfortunately, the partition in 1947 not only split people and families but also the rivers. While growing up I still remember going to our neighboring Sutlej River on Vaisakhi Day and swim in it. Similarly, I have passed over River Bias many times while going to pay obeisance at Darbar Sahib in Amritsar or traveling in that direction. However, it was the first time I had the pleasure of crossing over Rivers Ravi, Chenab and Jhelum at the same time while travelling to Islamabad,



Rawalpindi, Taxila and Panja Sahib. It was a very enjoyable spiritual experience to look at these historic rivers. After visiting various Gurdwaras and other historical places, we returned to Lahore. My wife Baldev and I were now looking forward to visit her ancestral home Chak 106 Pharala in Jarahnwali Tehsil in Faisalabad (formerly Lyallpur) district. After enjoying our breakfast, we were well on our way to Chak 106 Pharala in the early morning. This place is less than two hours drive from Lahore. On the way, we passed through Chak105 Banga the place where Shahid Bhagat was born and raised. The government has preserved this historic monument. Some of the roads around these villages were still unpaved and in rough shape. The crops were still growing in the vast rural area. The overall condition of these villages

was not that great. Compared to the Indian Punjab, the overall conditions in Pakistani Punjab in the rural area still need a lot of improvement. As soon as we arrived in Chak 106 Pharala, the villagers welcomed us with open arms. They were extremely loving, friendly, and respectful. A lot of them stayed with us for nearly three hours we were there. They showed us Baldev's old house, her haveli, the site of the village Gurdwara and a few other places.

The village officials -sarpanch/lambardar and others shared their stories with us. Some of them mentioned the experience of their ancestors when they were forced to move from the Indian Punjab to the Pakistani Punjab.

An eighty-year-old told us that he was born in Pharala near Banga in East Punjab but moved as a child with his family to Chak 106 Pharala in West Punjab. It was exactly the opposite to my wife who was born in Chak106 Pharala in West Punjab but had to move to Pharala near Banga in East Punjab as a child with her family in 1947. These are very tragic stories of the partition. For us, it was a very emotional occasion. It was difficult to bid farewell to kind, loving, and friendly villagers.

On our way back, we stopped at couple of places to eat and rest. While returning to Lahore we had to go through a couple of toll plazas. This reminded us of the toll plazas in India. As we got closer to Lahore, the traffic jams started to build. At one of the toll plazas a truck had broken down and we had to wait for quite a while before the traffic got moving again. These traffic tie-ups, toll plazas, and the rural farms reminded us of our situations here in Canada and those in India. We reached our hotel in Lahore late evening keeping those smiling and friendly faces in our memories. (Balwant Sanghera is a retired School Psychologist and Community Activist. He has just returned from a trip to India and Pakistan.)

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# Dr. Ambedkar Equality Day celebrated at Parliament Hill



OTTAWA, ON: A sense of gratitude and pride was felt by more than two hundred delegates from across Canada and the United States of America who participated in the Dr. Ambedkar Equality Day and the Jayanti Celebration hosted by MP Don Davies (Vancouver-Kingsway) and MP Randeep Sarai (Surrey Center) on May 6 and 7 at Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

For many delegates, it was their first time to visit Canada's Parliament and participate in the educational sessions and celebrations of the many accomplishments of Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar.

On the opening day of celebrations, MP Sarai acknowledged the event and all delegates in his statement in the House of Commons and set a stage for the educational session and the celebration on the Parliament Hill. Sarai delivered a one-minute statement on Dr. Ambedkar's contributions.

A day after the event, on May 7, MP Davies read his statement in the House of Commons and described Dr. Ambedkar as a towering personality. Davies concluded his statement with the salutation, "Jai Bheem", a history-making moment to hear the salutation in the parliament outside of India for the first time! The event, planned and organized by Chetna Association of Canada and AICS Canada (Ambedkarite International Coordination Society), was inaugurated by Venerable Bhante Saranpala, Urban Buddhist Monk. Bhante Saranpala, along with four of his colleagues, recited Buddhist prayers. Land acknowledgment and gratitude were expressed on behalf of the organizers by Jasmine Balley.

The event included greetings by dignitaries and community leaders; a presentation on the caste movement across Canada by Professor Jangam of Carleton University; the host Members of Parliament MP Davies and MP Sarai; former member of parliament Frank Baylis; MP Chandra Arya (Nepean); MP Sukh Dhaliwal (Surrey Newton), and MP Param Bains (Steveston-Richmond East). Manoj Bhangu, and Bill Basra were presented with recognition awards for their services.

Manjit Bains, co-chair for the event representing Chetna Association of Canada described the purpose for hosting the event while Anand Balley described the history and contributions of

AICS Canada. "We are pleased to see the action planning was a key component of the celebration," said Bains.

"We applaud MP Davies and MP Sarai for their tremendous support in hosting the celebration and sharing their interest in working across the party lines to consider

adding caste as a stand-alone category," said Jai Birdi, executive director of Chetna Association of Canada and a director for steering the planning of the celebration. Surjit Bains, a treasurer for the event, along with a prominent researcher Dr. Smita Pakhale, welcomed the delegates to the celebration.

Harjit Sohpaal (president of Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha, Vancouver), Ratan Jakhu (President, Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha Montreal), Kuldeep Kailey (General Secretary, Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha Ontario), Makhan Tut/Deo (Mamta Foundation Canada), Roop Lal Gaddu (ex-president, AISRO), Rashpaal

Bhardwaj (president, AISRO), Prof. Arun Gautam (AIM Canada, Toronto), Gopal Lohia (of Shri 108 Sant Sarwan Dass Charitable Trust Western Canada and Punjabi Mela) represented their organizations and shared their greetings for the occasion.

*Continued on page 29*

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7688 115A STREET

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12978 61 AVENUE

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PANORAMA RIDGE partially RENOVATED HOME! This home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME and RENT WHILE YOU WAIT!

304 5535 HASTINGS ST.

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Alto, a project by Vivid Green Architecture, is set to be erected on Capitol Hill in Burnaby, precisely located at the intersection of Hastings Street and Ellesmere Avenue.

13956 56 AVENUE

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FOR SALE \$2,999,000



Prime Government Street address, in proximity to schools, shopping, public transportation, and nestled in privacy on a spacious quarter-acre lot.

279C 8635 120 ST.

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**2 Unit Warehouse**

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**Price 7,900,000**

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

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

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FOR SALE**

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

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

**WAREHOUSE  
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124st and 84ave. **LEASED** Total 15,146, on 2 levels. **Call for details**

**Warehouse  
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2637sq ft, Newton area 124st and 82ave., end of January. \$17 sq ft. plus \$6 additional rent.

**WAREHOUSE**

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

**FOR LEASE**

Space Scott Road and 84th ave area, 983 Sq FT, Available March 2024, Great Expo 15 SQ ft plus \$11 additional rent, ideal for Physiotherapy clinic **LEASED**

# Brampton to kick off Youth Cricket League similar to G20



Mayor Patrick Brown, Regional Councillors Rowena Santos and Gurpartap Singh Toor and City Staff celebrate construction of new cricket field at Blue Oak Park

Brampton is the cricket capital of Canada. Cricket is the fastest-growing sport in Brampton and throughout Canada. The City of Brampton is all set to give a big boost to cricket by introducing a series of new program and developing new infrastructure for most beloved sport of South Asians.

The City of Brampton announced a new initiative to bring the sport of cricket to more youth in Brampton. As a part of Brampton Sports League, an opportunity for individuals aged 18 and older of all skill levels to play recreational sports in a social and supportive environment, beginning July 2, the City will kick off the first-ever Youth Cricket League. This initiative aims to encourage youth to get active, lead healthy lifestyles and experience the power of sport.

“As the cricket capital of Canada and arguably North America, Brampton is proud to bring the excitement of cricket to even more youth in our community. Our

new Youth Cricket League provides an opportunity for young people to develop their skills and promotes active living and healthy lifestyles. I am thrilled to see this initiative come to fruition and look forward to the positive impact it will have on our youth,” said Patrick Brown, Mayor, City of Brampton

In recognition of the Global T20 (GT20) Canada, a cricket tournament hosted in Brampton annually, the new cricket league will mirror the GT20 tournament format, with six teams in each age group. Each team has 15 spaces made up of GT20 youth academy players and Brampton residents. The league will have three age groups for youth ages six to 15 and will run for nine weeks throughout the summer.

To support this new league and other recreation programming and to connect more Brampton residents to cricket, the City is building two new cricket fields and pitches at Blue Oak Park and County Court Park,

*Continued on page 30*

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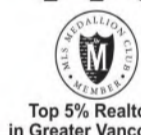
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<p>62 15175 62A AVENUE NEW LISTING OPEN HOUSE MAY 5 FROM 2-4 \$919,000</p> <p>FULLY RENOVATED! Beautiful 3 bed townhouse with TWO entrances 1st entry from 62a ave through backyard with no stairs . All new kitchen high end appl., granite waterfall countertop, 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 bedroom, and updated washer/dryer.</p>	<p>19913 72 AVE LANGLEY NEW LISTING \$1,849,000</p> <p>House with basement suite and a coach home Potential rent \$5000 or more per month (3 separate rental units)</p>	<p>UNIT 34 - 1010 EWEN AVE NEW WEST NEW LISTING OPEN HOUSE MAY 4 FROM 2-4 \$849,000</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>217 20696 EASTLEIGH CRESCENT NEW LISTING \$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 NEW LISTING \$1,599,998</p> <p>House with basement suite All ready to move in approx \$3000 per month Open house Sunday 1-4</p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p>	<p>11516 PARKWOOD PLACE DELTA NEW LISTING \$1,499,000</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, Sun God Rec Centre, transit, shopping and parks.</p>
<p>5105 ABERDEEN ST., VAN \$1,495,000</p> <p>Beautiful Corner House in the most desired area of Collingwood. Upstairs features three bedrooms and two bathrooms with a good size family room with separate entry and at the back. Downstairs for suite, it comes with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath along with its own laundry. Lots of parking and very close to all amenities . walking distance to Joyce Collingwood sky train and Gaston Park.</p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p>	<p>#37-8358 121A ST., SURREY \$699,000</p> <p>Welcome to Kennedy Trails. This house checks all the boxes. Cost effective &amp; environmentally friendly. GEOTHERMAL Heating &amp; Cooling, E-Star windows, Three in one living area, large dining area, Granite kitchen, bath and DEN/DR. Master Bed walk in closet. Below is very large recreation room with 4th bed and comes with a full bath and a huge Backyard approx 360 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 as well. This is a must see.</p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p>	<p>9750 128 ST., SURREY \$999,900</p> <p>Solid 6 bed and 2 bath home in the heart of Surrey. A perfect home for home buyers, investors. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, kitchen with granite counter tops, freshly painted. Downstairs comes with 3 bed, 1 den, 1 bath and kitchen. Lots of parking at the front and back. Detached garage . Some recent renos include roof, windows, paint.</p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p>
<p>#51-7090 180 ST., SURREY \$185,000 over asking</p> <p><b>SOLD</b></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**

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

**ASKING 589,000**

**5748 123 Street Surrey**



**7 BED - 8 BATHS - 20,211 SF**

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

**ASKING 2,999,000**

**MASSAGE PARLOUR FOR SALE IN SURREY**



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

**ASKING 249,999**

**GROCERY STORE FOR SALE IN CLOVERDALE**

**ASKING 500,000**

**MASSAGE PARLOUR FOR SALE IN RICHMOND FOR SALE \$99,000.00**

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# Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim and Terry Hui of Concord Pacific roll out 2024's Tour de Concord

VANCOUVER, BC: Concord Pacific will host the fourth annual Tour de Concord criterium cycling race, and its accompanying Free Family Bike Festival, on Sunday, July 7th, 2024, at Concord Pacific Place (88 Pacific Boulevard) in Vancouver. From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, witness the suspense and excitement of amateur and pro racers close-up. Events include Amateur Races, a Kids 3-12 Fun Track Lap, and Men's and Women's Pro Races – all on a fully contained and upgraded 900-metre cycling course. See some of the fastest cyclists around, including elite racers from the U.S. and other countries.

There will also be a Charity Race in support of the St. Paul's Foundation's drive to transform health care at the new St. Paul's Hospital on the Jim Pattison Medical Campus – bringing state-of-the-art, compassionate, care to patients and families in Vancouver and across BC. Teams of three cyclists will complete a 7 km race to raise funds for the foundation. "We are thrilled to welcome the fourth annual Tour de Concord back to Vancouver!" said Mayor Sim. "This isn't just a cycling race - it's a fun way to bring our city together and support the new St. Paul's campus. With thousands expected to join in, and tons of free activities for kids and families, this event really shows off the energy and spirit of our community!"

**Terry Hui, CEO Concord Pa-**

**cific Developments Corp** said, "This year's Tour de Concord is anchored by many synergies, with the community and St. Paul's. Vibrant communities, sustainably, health and wellness are all intertwined." Hui continued, "The success of our St. Paul's Burrard site will directly benefit the funding of the new St. Paul's Campus. The Burrard site together with the new North East False Creek site, will go a long way to delivering healthy communities and thousands of the homes mandated by the Province. We are ready to go." "St. Paul's Foundation is proud

new St. Paul's Hospital, opening right here in False Creek Flats in 2027."

"Cycling BC deeply appreciates Concord Pacific's commitment to cycling and hosting this event every year since 2021," said Joel Harwood, Interim CEO of Cycling BC. "With race proceeds going back into the cycling community each year, the Tour de Concord has become an integral part of the growing cycling community. It's now a destination race, with teams from the U.S. and overseas already registered." The Family Kids' Zone triples in size this year. The festival also has



mini tune-ups by Trek, and entry to lots of giveaways. The festival site also boasts a newly expanded HopOn bike

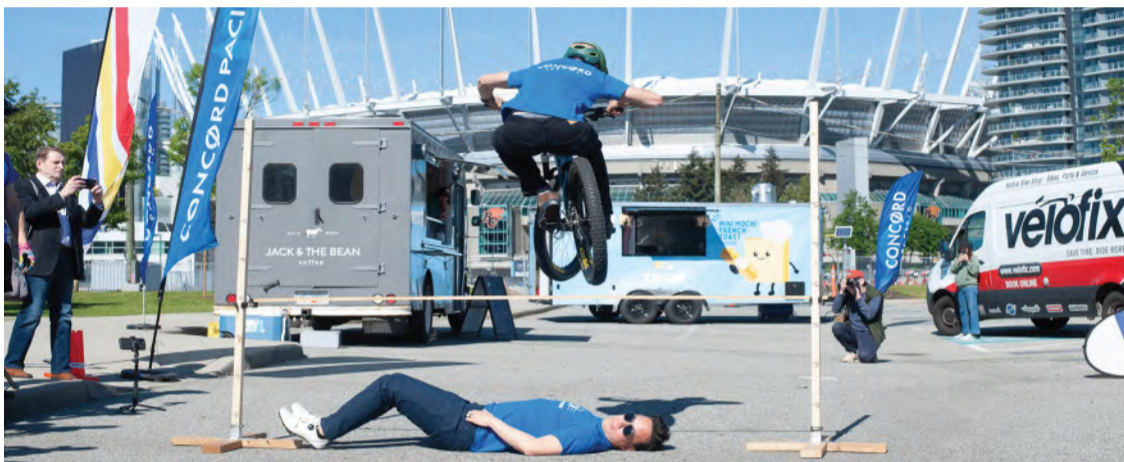
Tour de Concord is a part of Concord's returning Summer Wellness Series including the six-week Own Your Run series with a Global Run Day celebration finale and weekly summer Yoga at Concord Community Park. There will be upcoming announcements next week on the Honda Celebration of Light and more to come on the Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival and Canada Pride taking place at Concord Pacific Place.

**FAMILY BIKE FESTIVAL - PRE-REGISTER FOR FREE - INCLUDES DAY-OF-GIVEAWAYS**

To learn more, visit [tourdeconcord.com](http://tourdeconcord.com)

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to partner with Concord Pacific to co-host the Tour de Concord event. We appreciate the generous support of Concord Pacific and the cycling community," said Cecilia Tupper, Chief Development Officer of St. Paul's Foundation. "Your support will help us transform health care at the

a beer garden, more food trucks, free treats, various bike vendors, and direct up-close viewing access to the exhilarating races. By registering for free festival admission online, checked-in attendees receive complimentary bike valet service, free popcorn for kids, a bike safety check and

obstacle course by Cycling BC, thrilling live performances by Zero Gravity Trials showcasing their spectacular riding skills, and an arts and crafts tent to enjoy. Additionally, there will be two Fun Track Laps for kids to ride the professional cycling course, ages 3-6 and 7-12.



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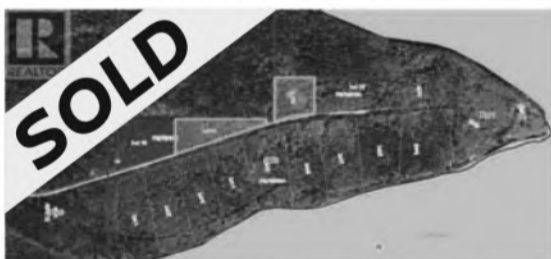
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# ICBC announces \$110 rebate to drivers, basic rates remain unchanged

VICTORIA - ICBC is providing a \$110 rebate to eligible drivers which it said was "through prudent financial management and better-than-expected investment income."

Additionally, basic rates will be maintained until March 31, 2026, marking six years in a row with no increases.

"Six years of stable rates and the fourth rebate for drivers comes as a result of years of work turning ICBC around so that it actually works for people," said Premier David Eby. "On average, drivers have saved \$2,000 in rebates and lower rates since our reforms to ensure that when auto insurance is properly managed, people in B.C. benefit."

Due to positive investment performance and responsible fiscal management, ICBC's preliminary net income for the fiscal year 2023-24 is an estimated \$1.5 billion. The total amount of the rebate is \$400 million, equivalent to \$110 per eligible insurance policy. As the law now requires, the balance will stay with ICBC, helping to stabilize rates for drivers over the long term. The final, audited net income figure, along with a full financial summary of the fiscal year, will be released this summer.

All personal and commercial ICBC customers who had an active eligible basic insurance policy in February 2024 will receive the rebate, totalling roughly 3.6 million policies.

"ICBC is able to return \$400 million to drivers because of prudent fiscal management that puts people first, and our commitment in law that ICBC's surplus should go toward benefiting drivers instead of going to government coffers," said Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and



Solicitor General. "This rebate, alongside the decision to not increase basic rates for six years in a row, underscores the benefit of a public auto insurer. When private insurance companies make a profit, it's at the expense of, not for the benefit of drivers." An important barometer of ICBC's financial strength is its ability to absorb adverse risks and to still fulfil its obligations to policyholders, referred to as the minimum capital test (MCT). In 2015, the indicator for ICBC's basic capital fell below 85%, and by 2018, it had effectively reached 0%. Following the introduction of Enhanced Care, ICBC's financial position has significantly improved, and today, the estimate for ICBC's basic MCT is above 160% and projected to remain strong.

"To receive your rebate as quickly as possible, we encourage customers to update their addresses and sign up for direct deposit on <https://icbc.com/> or through an Autoplan broker," said David Wong, ICBC's new president and CEO. "Initial rebate payments will commence in late May, with ongoing processing until the end of July."

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<p>2.5 Acres Development Land</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">SOLD</p>	<p>14512 90 AVE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">SOLD</p>	<p>#403-4830 Bennett St., Burnaby</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">SOLD</p>
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<p><b>FORECLOSURE SURREY BC</b></p> <p>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</p> <p><b>Asking-\$1,949,000</b></p>	<p><b>FORECLOSURE SURREY BC</b></p> <p>3 Acres Lot! older home, 3 bedroom, 3 bathrooms!</p> <p><b>Asking-\$2,379,000</b></p>	<p><b>FORECLOSURE SARDIS BC</b></p> <p>7 Acres lot, 4 bedroom, 2 bathrooms older Home!</p> <p><b>Asking \$2,389,000</b></p>	
<p><b>FORECLOSURE FLEETWOOD</b></p> <p>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!</p> <p><b>Asking-\$2,275,000</b></p>	<p><b>FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC</b></p> <p>1.6 Acres lot, older home, 4 beds, 3 baths, development land.</p> <p><b>Asking-\$2,950,000</b></p>		
<p><b>FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC</b></p> <p>16.97 Acres older home, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms!</p> <p><b>Asking-\$3,750,000</b></p>	<p><b>FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC</b></p> <p>34 Acres lot, 10,000 home, 9 bedrooms, 11 bathrooms, guest home, more buildings.</p> <p><b>Asking-\$6,880,000</b></p>		

# 2024 Honda HR-VEX-L: Stylish, Sporty, and Aspirational

**Auto Review**  
By Veeno Dewan

The sporty 2024 Honda HR-V is a five-door compact CUV designed for drivers with active lifestyles or young families. The latest

second-generation HR-V is now based on the Honda Civic platform rather than the previous smaller Fit model, so is now longer and wider. Major changes include more cabin space, more rear seat legroom and one of the largest cargo areas in its class. There is an all-new high-tech digital instrumentation, a wider track, and a larger engine. Exterior changes add new LED Headlights and taillights and as standard matte or gloss black grille finishes.

The HR-Vs larger engine is a 2.0L four-cylinder DOHC I-VTEC unit making 158 hp at 6,500 rpm and 138 lb-ft of torque at 4,200 rpm. It's paired with a Real Time AWD with Intelligent Control™ via continuously variable transmission (CVT) and arrives in both front wheel drive and AWD as on our EX-L trim as tested. Pricing starts at 28,370 for a front-wheel drive LX-FWD, the \$31,030 LX-AWD and up to \$37,130 for the EX-L Navi plus freight and taxes.

Key HR-V Features as standard include digital instrumentation, Standard 7-inch colour touchscreen with Apple CarPlay® & Android Auto™ integration. There is an available 9-inch colour touchscreen with wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto



integration (EX-L Navi). The EX-L Navi adds navigation system, 9inch display touchscreen, leather trimmed seats, steering wheel, and shift knob. EX-L Exterior add a black painted grille and body color front and rear parking sensors.

The HR-V interior features a bright, roomy cabin with Hondas typical neat fastidious design. Plastics, textiles, and trim material are uniformly of good quality and the dash is neat and orderly. There are more Civic styling cues such as the honeycomb design panel across the dashboard which cleverly hides the climate vents within it. Good to see there is some soft padded surfaces at the main touchpoints. Ergonomics are fine and the front seats are

comfortable enough. The floating bridge setup between the seats provides a bit of extra storage, and overall, the cabin has plenty of cubbies, large door pockets and a convenient storage area on each side of the transmission tunnel each with its own USB port for accessories. The rear cabin is well appointed and has more legroom thanks to the bigger Wheelbase. Downsides?- note that the HR-V offers dual zone climate control up front but has no air vents for the rear which is strange. More impressive is rear cargo volume with the 60/40 split rear seats up/down is 691L /1559L – best in class.

Safety is excellent on the Honda HR-V, with Standard Honda Sensing® system with new front

wide-view camera, new Traffic Jam Assist (TJA) and Traffic Sign Recognition (TSR) plus Standard knee and rear passenger side-impact airbags. The Honda Sensing which uses the wide-angle camera system to detect pedestrians, other vehicles, and even road signs and markings. Also, standard is a rear seat reminder, adaptive cruise control, lane keep assist, and low-speed follow system.

On the road the HR-V feels confident and sure footed. There is a smoother ride thanks to the HR-V's extended wheelbase and wider tracks that improves stability through the corners.

The steering is light and makes the CR-V engaging to drive, while the added ride height

means the suspension makes light work of bumps and irregular road surfaces. It's stable and planted on the highway and one of the best parts about the HR-V is its comfortable ride. The CVT setup and calibration in this Honda is much better than in the competition and can cleverly simulate actual gearshifts and is most effective when in the sport mode. However, a few extra horsepower would not be amiss I think. The HR-V accelerates well, but with a full complement of occupants and cargo it could do with tad more pep.

Overall, the HR-V offers an enjoyable, no drama relaxed driving experience. The slightly raised suspension absorbs irregular road surfaces and there is good driver visibility all around. Its no slouch, but don't expect rapidly fast acceleration or overly sporty antics as the quest for better fuel economy has been dialled in by Honda's engineers it seems. Speaking of fuel economy, the HR-V is rated at 9.4 L/100 km in the city and 7.8 L/100 km on the highway and 8.7 combined.

To sum up, the HR-V is a competent, spacious, roomy, extremely safe crossover that offers more quality and value than a lot of the competition. It is a great alternative to the Honda CR-V If you are looking for something al little edgier. It excels in its active lifestyle or stylish family compact CUV role with panache. A great buy all around.

2043 Honda HR-VCUV Priced from \$28,730 - \$39,080.



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# \$580K in Surrey arts, culture and heritage grants

The City of Surrey announced its 2024 Cultural Grants allocations. This year, City Council has awarded \$581,205 in grants to 78 arts, culture and heritage organizations to support a wide variety of cultural activities taking place in Surrey. Funding is available in three categories: Cultural Celebrations, Projects, and Operating Grants. In 2023, the City awarded over \$550,000 to 70 local organizations. Funding supports a diverse range of cultural experiences, including music, dance, theatre, visual arts, festivals and events, and more.



For more information, visit [surrey.ca/culturalgrants](http://surrey.ca/culturalgrants).

# City of Surrey's Seniors Week Celebrations Kickoff June 1



The City of Surrey's annual Seniors Week celebration is set to open with a Health and Wellness Forum on June 1 followed by a week filled with activities across Surrey. New this year is a 'Try It' 55+ Sports and

Games Passport Contest. Participants will receive a passport at their first activity, collect stamps at each subsequent event and earn entries for a chance to win an annual recreation pass. The opening event

on June 1 will offer valuable information on various programs such as the new dental care plan, medical equipment and caregiver tax credits, virtual health, primary care network, fall prevention, mental health program and resources, City of Surrey's Emergency notifications and much more. Participants can explore information booths, enjoy door prizes, complimentary welcome refreshments, and lunch. Fun activities throughout the week include 'Try It' Sports, WALKit sampler activities and a 'pop up' Storywalk. Registration for Seniors' Week activities is convenient with three easy ways to register: by phone at 604-501-5100, online, or in person at any City of Surrey recreation facility. Visit [surrey.ca/seniorsweek](http://surrey.ca/seniorsweek),

# Paid parking to be trialled at Spanish Banks this summer

Visitors driving to Spanish Banks Beach this summer will pay a \$1/hour parking fee, as part of plans to alleviate traffic and parking concerns at one of Vancouver's busiest destination beaches. The \$1/hour fee will be in effect during peak season (May-September), with staff working with the City's Engineering Services to determine a reduced charge for the off-season. In conjunction with the Park Board, the City plans to install paid parking along NW Marine Drive from Blanca Street to W 4th Avenue. New on-street paid parking would be charged at

a rate of \$1/ hour and would be in effect between 9am and 10pm from May 1 to Labour Day in September. As the only destination beach or park in the Park Board network currently without paid parking, Spanish Banks experiences a number of issues during peak season both in the beach parking lots and surrounding road network. Staff advised that paid parking at this location would help alleviate traffic and parking concerns and minimize unnecessary searching for parking that contributes to congestion, traffic safety risks and air pollution.

# New Forest Operations Map portal

Information about forestry development is now more easily available online for public review and comment. According to the province the new Forest Operations Map online portal will act as an online resource for the public to review and comment on proposed cutblocks and forestry roads throughout B.C. This update was one part of the amendments made to the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) to improve forest and range operational planning

and practices. The portal will allow greater public input on forestry activities, as well as greater transparency about forestry proposals within the province and what those proposed activities would entail, including roads, mapped areas of harvest and estimated time of harvest. Under the new system, the public can submit comments online. To see the Forest Operations Map online portal, visit: <https://fom.nrs.gov.bc.ca/public/projects>.

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My Name is Kuldip Mandair One of Our teanent parv his car in my property at 12666-114th ave Surrey B.C. V3V-3N9 on Nov. 2020 and left in April 2021. It's White Color 2015 Honda Civic. VIN Number is VIN-2HGFB2F56FH001467 If anyone has any concern with this car. Please Contact me at **778-861-3643**

4 weeks in Link

## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Canadian Citizen, Jatt Sikh Brar Boy lives in Surrey, 28 years old, 6' Looking for a family oriented girl. Girl should be Canadian citizen or PR. Study based, work permit can be considered. Vancouver and Calgary families will be preferred.

**604.818.5780**

## LOOKING FOR GROOM

Looking for a suitable match for Canadian PR Hindu girl, 30 years, 5'6", smart, beautiful, and well-educated. She is a kind-hearted and understanding person who values family and relationships. We are looking for Canadian citizen/PR who is well-educated, respectful, and compatible with her personality. If you are interested in knowing more about, please contact **+91 98728 30435 (whatsapp)**

## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Well Settled Jat Sikh Family from Vancouver Canada Seeks Matrimonial Alliance for their Son India Born OCT 87, 5'9" Commerce Graduate from Universaity BC. Employed as OFFICER with Canadian Federal Govt. Father Runs the Business Owns Residentials & Commercial Properties in Vancouver, Parents Also have Urban Rural Properties in Delhi & Haryana. Family is Looking for Nice Beautiful Educated Girl from a Decent Cultured Reputed Family. Please Contact & send Details along with Recent Photographs to **1(604) 649-6109**  
 Or email at: **jaschahal10@gmail.com**

## DATING

Older Caucasian Man, Very Clean Financially Independent, Interesting and Active. Would Like to Meet An Older (50ish) Indian Lady For Fun and Excitement. Possible Relationship. Please Call: **778-828-5069** exp.27/04/24

## DATING

South Asian 54 yrs Old Man looking for a female for campanionship. Must be outgoing. Divorce or Widow Welcome. Please Call: **778-713-6184** exp.08/06/24

## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Jatt Sikh Dhaliwal Educated, handsome boy, 25/5'11", Canadian Born, Lives in Surrey(BC) Canada, He has completed his Bachelor in Health science and Currently doing Medical Laboratory science. He has been working at Govt. Hospital from three years. Family would prefer Canadian born, sikh girl. **contact: parmhdhaliwal65@gmail.com**  
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**For all your insurance needs please call 604.377.4085**

## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Fiji Citizen Sikh Boy 40 Yrs Old, Looking For a Hindu or Sikh girl to marry. Girl Should be Canadian Citizen or PR. Divorce and widow is welcome. Boy is a Professional Truck driver and bus driver in Fiji.

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## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Well settled Jat Sikh family from Surrey looking for a bride for their son 36 yrs old, 5'10" tall, handsome, clean shaven, graduate from Canadian University, employed as officer with Canadian federal government. The girl should be educated, family oriented, beautiful and well versed with both cultures. Please send recent picture and bio data to **WhatsApp no. 604-808-9070**

## PERSONAL / DATING

Hi I am a fit 40s athletic male into working out and music. Looking for a female for friends and companion. Discretion assured and respected. **Cell: 604-618-2820**

## PERSONAL / DATING

East Indian Male 52 years old, Divorce, Canadian Born is looking ro a woman for Relationship, Age 40+Over, Divorce or Widow is Welcome. I'm a hard working person & straight forward kind.

**Call Peter at: 604-657-6013**

Email: **pjottey@hotmail.com**

## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Parents are looking for a suitable match for their 32 year old, 6'1" Canadian citizen boy. MBA from India. Currently working as Immigration consultant. Caste no bar. **Call 236.518.0679** for more details.

## LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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For more information Please Contact **604-729 8123.**

## LOOKING FOR GROOM

Jatt Sikh parents are looking for a boy for their beautiful 25 years old, 5'4", MBBS daughter. Boy should be a doctor from Jatt Sikh family and should be a Canadian citizen or PR. Girls family is very well reputed & settled in Vancouver. **Call 604-377-4085** for more details

## NAME CHANGE

I, Rajesh Kumar, holder of Indian Passport No.W4233618, issued at Vancouver, ON 21/10/2022, presently and Permanent residing at 13880-78A Ave, Surrey, BC V3W 2Y5 and former resident of 19836 C Street No 20, Ajit Road, Bathinda, Punjab 151 001 INDIA do hereby change my name from **RAJESH KUMAR to ROBIN GURANI**, with immediate effect.

## Nanda Jewellers Inc.,

Located at #6696 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C.V5X 3H2, is looking to fill the position for a Store Manager [NOC 60020].

Number of Positions Available: 1 [one]  
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 Job type: This is a full-time, permanent position.  
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 Salary: \$36/hour.  
 Language: English. Please mention in your resume if you have any Hindi or Punjabi language skills.  
 Hours of work: 11 AM-7PM, 5 days of the week depending on weekly schedule. 40 hours work week  
 Benefits- Benefits include extended health and dental benefits and minimum provincial benefits

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- A customer centric approach and informing clients about new designs in jewelry introduced in the store catalogue;
  - Preparing and coordinating schedules for staff;
  - Ensure team is knowledgeable of company policies and are proficient in solving customer service issues efficiently;
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  - Assisting management in the hire and training or new employees;
  - Developing sales strategies with online and offline marketing to boost store sales;
  - Monitor stock levels and place orders as needed;
- ### Job requirements
- Completed secondary school is required. In addition please highlight if you have a college diploma or university degree in business management and administration;
  - Minimum of one year or more previous sales experience preferably in the jewelry industry;
  - Strong leadership and management skills;
  - Candidate must be willing to work independently and manage team with a high level of accuracy, have excellent interpersonal skills and display a high level of professionalism;
  - Applicant must provide management with a recent Criminal Record check before joining

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 Please only reply by email as we are a busy store and this is the most efficient way for us to screen your application  
 Only qualified candidates will be contacted.  
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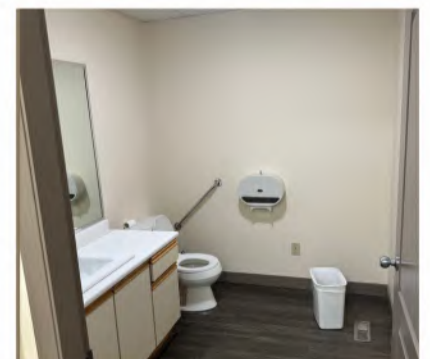
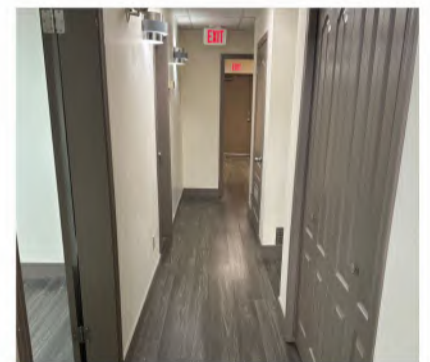
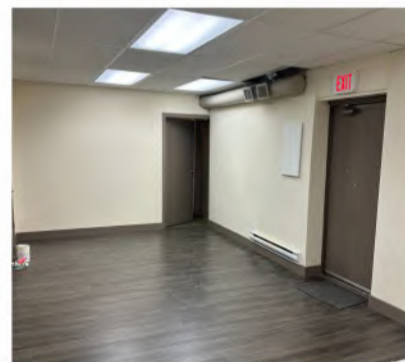
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## Upcoming Program

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS

- 7th May, Tuesday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Amandeep Hundal family.
- 8th May, Wednesday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Gurjit Singh Gill family.
- 9th May, Thursday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Taranjot Badesha family.
- 11th May, Saturday** at 11:30 am, Sehaj path bhog and antim ardas for late Gurmeet Grewal.
- 12th May, Sunday** at 10:30 am, Weekly kirtan diwan and langer sewa by the sangat.
- 13th May, Monday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Ravinderpal Singh Dhaliwal family.
- 15th May, Wednesday** at 6:00 pm, Kirtan diwan regarding Sangrand of Jeth month, Langer sewa by the sangat.
- 16th May, Thursday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Ranjit Singh Bhangu family.
- 17th May, Friday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Daljeet Singh Thandi family.
- 18th May, Saturday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Gurmeet Singh Sidhu family.
- 19th May, Sunday** at 9:00 am, Sukhmani sahib path, kirtan, ardas and langer sewa by Amraan Singh Gill family on the death anniversary of late Gurdev Singh Gill.

**In collaboration with Richmond Multicultural Community Services**

**Every Monday from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Chai Chaupal / Punjabi Sath's program is going on at Gurdwara Sahib. Women and men are invited to participate in this program.**

**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 Evening Diwan: 6:00 pm to 6:25 pm Rahras Sahib, 6:25 pm to 6:45 pm Kirtan, 8:00 pm Sukhaasan Seva!**

**For more information, log in to the Gurdwara Sahib website! [www.nanakniwas.ca](http://www.nanakniwas.ca)**

**Phone number of Gurdwara Sahib is (604) 274-7479**

# Manisha Koirala Reveals What Rekha Told Her About Heeramandi



New Delhi: Actor Manisha Koirala, who collaborated with director Sanjay Leela Bhansali after 28 years for his OTT debut Heeramandi, revealed in a recent interview that she was moved to tears when veteran Bollywood star Rekha called her after watching the Netflix series. Veteran actress Rekha, who was the director's first choice to play the role of Malikajaan in Heeramandi, lauded Manisha Koirala's performance over a call and also expressed her happiness at seeing the Khamoshi actor take on the role which she couldn't do. In a recent interview with Filmygyan, Manisha Koirala talked about Rekha's review of her performance in the series. She said the Umrao Jaan star told her, "Bachcha, I was praying if I couldn't do the role, you get to do it. My prayers have come true. You have done it marvelously, you have gone through so much in life. You have added soul to the role."

Talking about her reaction, Manisha Koirala said, "To get a blessing and praise from an artist of her calibre is something else. I had tears in my eyes, and I told her, 'You are making me cry.' She loves me a lot." Manisha Koirala also added, "Rekha ji was offered this role 18-20 years ago. Rekha ji is a goddess. I love her. She is the most graceful and poetic, and she is a great artist. Her voice, her dance, her adaa, her style, her aesthetics...she is a beautiful person. Ashok Mehta ji (cinematographer) would say about her, 'No actor can be compared to Rekha.'"

Continued from Page 15

## Dr. Ambedkar Equality Day...

Rajesh Angral, who contested in the Alberta Provincial Elections for the NDP, was also present and took notes of the proceedings. Dr. Paramjit Chumber and Dr. Harjinder Kumar of USA shared their poems. Santokh Jassi, a journalist based in Montreal, explained the prominence of Baba Sahib Dr. Ambedkar and why he should be nominated for the Nobel prize. Ratan Jakhu also included this sentiment in his message.

Several other dignitaries, including an MP of Bloc Quebecoise, participated and networked with the participants and organizers.

# No, The Great Indian Kapil Show Isn't Cancelled. Here's What To Expect Next

New Delhi: The Great Indian Kapil Show started streaming on Netflix earlier this year. After there were reports that the show will be cancelled due to low ratings, the makers have responded to all the rumours in the form of an Instagram post. The video posted on the official Instagram handle of The Great Indian Kapil Show begins with screenshots of articles stating that the show will go off air. This is followed by text on the screen, which reads, "Hume laga sirf hum achhi acting karte hain. Comedy ka ye blockbuster khatam nahi hua (We thought only we are good at



acting. The comedy blockbuster isn't over yet). The clip then showcases the impressive line-up of guests that includes Janhvi Kapoor, Rajkumar Rao, Farah Khan, Anil Kapoor, Badshah, Sania Mirza, Saina Nehwal, Mary Kom among

others. Wait, we forgot to mention that Ed Sheeran will be a part of the show. The caption on the post read, "Kuch toh log kahenge, logon ka kaam hai kehna, humara kaam toh hai apko hasate rehna. Yeh laughter kabhi nahi hoga

kam, kyunki there are more episodes to come (The world will speak, it is their job to speak but our job is to make people laugh because there are more episodes in the line-up)."

The first episode of The Great Indian Kapil Show witnessed Ranbir Kapoor, his mom Neetu and sister Riddhima Kapoor Sahni as guests. Aamir Khan, Sunny and Bobby Deol, Vicky and Sunny Kaushal also attended the show as guests. Heeramandi stars Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha, Aditi Rao Hydari, Richa Chadha, Sharmin Segal, Sanjeeda Shaikh will appear in the next episode.

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# Heeramandi Actor Sharmin Segal's Throwback Reaction To Criticism

Ever since Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar released, Sharmin Segal, who is Sanjay Leela Bhansali's niece, has been receiving flak for her performance in the web show. Now, a past interview has resurfaced where the actor talks about dealing with criticism, and people's opinion about her work. (Also read: Sanjay Leela Bhansali's niece Sharmin Segal disables comments after being criticised for Heeramandi)

In the show, Sharmin portrays the character of Alamzeb, the daughter of Mallikajaan, played by Manisha Koirala. The show also marks the debut of Sanjay in the streaming world. During an appearance in the BBC Asian Network podcast, the actor had earlier addressed the criticism and online trolling. While the exact timeline of the interview can't be figured, it seems it was done before the release of the show.

On criticism for her performance in Heeramandi

"There is a lot of pressure and sometimes it manifests in weird ways," she said, adding, "But I have a really good support system. I think my strongest support system is my sister. She also happened to be an assistant director on the show. So, it worked out in a way where I do have outlets where I can vent."

When it comes to her personal life, the actor shared that she is in a secure space, and knows how



to put her work aside before going back to her husband. "But I am not that person who's gonna constantly put that much pressure on it. Yes, I do want to prove myself; but today I am also a realist in that

way," she said, wondering how many people's opinions can she shape, or have control over.

Here, she shared that she wants to do a lot, and she would "love for everyone to love Alamzeb (her character)". "But, at the end of the day, there will be people who have to say what they have to say," Sharmin said at that point. Getting hate for Heeramandi Sharmin made her OTT debut with Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar. Her performance was criticised by a section of social media users.

One user wrote, "Just finished watching Heeramandi. Sharmin Sehgal had too much screen time for her abysmal acting skills. She can't act at all. Bad diction along with her lack of expressions ruined the entire experience." Another commented, "I think this web series was made to scam Netflix of some hefty payout and a relaunch pad for Sharmin".



# Sonakshi Sinha says she can't go back to being called 'maal' on screen

Sonakshi Sinha has is enjoying a newfound acting recognition on OTT. She's left her critics impressed with her nuanced and diverse turns in Dahaad last year and Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar this year. In an interview with Zoom, Sonakshi admitted that she did some problematic 'big films' when she was younger and she wouldn't go back to the ones where she was called 'maal'. (Also Read – Sonakshi Sinha exclusive interview: 'The entire set broke into standing ovation after the first take in Tilasmi Bahein')

## What Sonakshi said

"You can very clearly see the shift in the kind of roles that I have been playing from Akira, so I have not just said it for the sake of saying it. I am staying true to my words. I don't think I can ever go back to being called maal. It is a step everybody has to take," she said. Sonakshi considers AR Murugadoss' 2016 action thriller Akira as the turning point in her career. She plays a vigilante against acid attacks and female abuse in the film.

"As an artiste, you have a responsibility. There are a lot of people who look up to you. I do stand by the fact that yes I was young and was getting the opportunity to be a part of some very big films. Nobody in their right mind would have said no at that point in time. So I did them, but yes, certain things did feel off even then. Then you grow and people notice it, talk about it, and bring it to your attention. It's criticism, but it's constructive," Sonakshi added.

## Sonakshi's career

Sonakshi made her debut with much fanfare opposite Salman Khan in the 2010 blockbuster cop dramedy Dabangg. After that, she starred in hits like Rowdy Rathore (2012), Son of Sardaar (2012), Dabangg 2 (2012), and Holiday: A Soldier Is Never Off Duty (2014), also directed by Murgadoss.

Post Akira, Sonakshi starred in Force 2 (2016), Noor (2017), Ittefaq (2017), Welcome to New York (2018), Happy Phirr Bhag Jayegi (2017), Kalank (2019), Khandaani Shafakhana (2019), Mission Mangal (2019), Dabangg 3 (2019), Bhuj: The Pride of India (2021), Double XL (2022), and most recently, Bade Miyan Chote Miyan this year.

She'll next be seen in Kakuda, and Nikita Roy and the Book of Darkness.

Continued from Page 11

## Canada introduces...

Under this proposed framework, individuals or entities who enter into an arrangement with a foreign principal and undertake activities to influence a government or political process in Canada would be required to publicly register these activities.

NDP House Leader Peter Julian said that the announcement was long overdue.

He called it a welcomed first step to protect "democratic institutions and elections."

"Commissioner Hogue has been clear: foreign interference in Canada requires a fulsome, timely response. We're in this position because successive Conservative and Liberal governments have failed to treat these threats with the urgency required to protect Canadians and our electoral system from foreign interference. Today, after months of delay, the government has finally announced they'll move forward with a Registry of foreign agents."

Continued from Page 19

## Brampton to kick off Youth Cricket League...

with plans to add additional fields as a part of its \$8 million investment in the 2024 Budget.

Brampton is currently home to 19 cricket sites and is growing. During summer 2023, the City of Brampton hosted the GT20 Tournament, welcoming some of the top international cricket players and some of the biggest names in the sport. The City's cricket amenities host 42 unique seasonal organizations, tournaments and individuals that book over 14,000 hours of field time. The City Lands project is a proposed redevelopment of the municipal-owned site at Kennedy Road South, Highway 410 and 407, at the CAA sports and entertainment facility that includes a new state-of-the-art, multi-purpose cricket facility.

The City is also partnering with the International Cricket Council (ICC) and Cricket Canada to bring the T20 World Cup trophy to Brampton. Residents are invited to gather on Saturday, May 11, in Ken Whillans Square and take part in the official send-off for Team Canada ahead of the ICC T20 Men's World Cup Tournament in June.

Continued from Page 09

## BC to create..

Under the federal government's Initiative to Take Action Against Gun and Gang Violence, the B.C. government has received \$10.9 million from Public Safety Canada for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The funding will go toward anti-gang and crime initiatives throughout the province, including the Organized Crime Agency of BC, Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers, and the New Westminster Police Department's Gang Suppression Unit.



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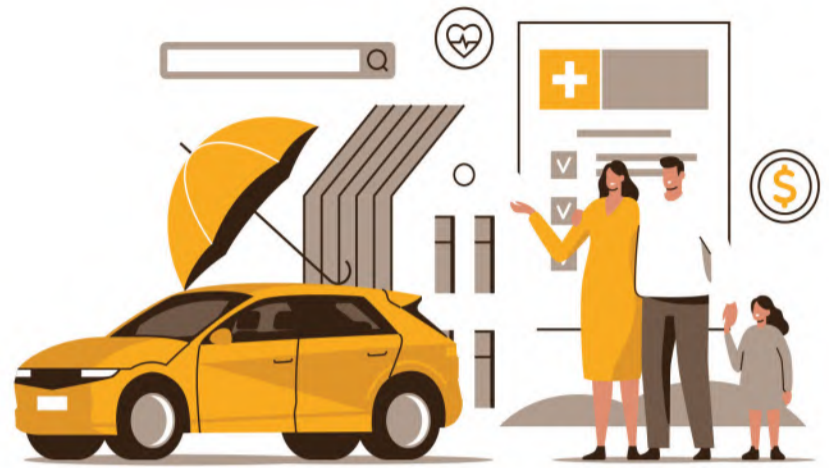
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**Fresh Ginger**



ਤਾਜ਼ਾ ਅਦਰਕ

**\$1.48**  
lb

**KTC Chick Peas 398 ml**



ਕੇ ਟੀ ਸੀ ਚਿੱਟੇ ਫੇਲੇ

**99¢**  
can

**Fri May 10, 2024 - Wed May 15, 2024**

**23 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU IN BC & ALBERTA**  
Head Office: 7676 Anvil Way, Surrey  
604-502-0005



**BUSINESS HOURS**  
**9 AM - 9 PM**  
7 DAYS A WEEK

Newton	13783 72nd Ave. Surrey	604-590-2080	Fleetwood	15230 84 Ave.	236-317-6272	Abbotsford	2785 Bourquin Crescent W.	604-744-0328
Newton	13174 64th Ave. Surrey	604-598-9220	Surrey	12990 72nd Ave.	604-503-5510	Abbotsford	31205 Maclure Rd.	604-504-5877
Scott Road	12047 80th Ave. Surrey	604-591-5032	Surrey	12788 76A Ave. Surrey	604-597-1676	Port Coquitlam	2807 Shaughnessy St.	604-464-0822
Scott Road	104-7028 120th St.	604-590-8864	Surrey	16788 64 Ave.	604-372-2023	Vancouver	6257 Fraser St.	604-321-9931
Cedar Hills	12867 96th Ave. Surrey	604-588-6620	Surrey	101-7228 192St.	604-575-3750	Richmond	4101 No.5 Rd.	604-244-9520
Fleetwood	101-15933 Fraser Hwy	604-593-5163	New Westminster	101-331 6th St.	604-395-3595			



We reserve the right to limit the quantities while they last  
**Specials valid for Lower Mainland only**