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# Court dismisses Surrey's petition on policing; Mayor Locke concerned about "extremely onerous impact" of transition cost

The BC Supreme Court has dismissed a petition filed by the City of Surrey for a judicial review of the policing transition from RCMP to Surrey Police Service.

"In a 27-page written decision, Justice Kevin Loo said regardless of whether the July 2023 transition order was reasonable or within the minister's authority, the provincial legislature's exercise of its authority over policing in the city, through last fall's legislation, was valid," Vancouver Sun reported.

The court ruling came as a relief for the province and the Surrey Police Service (SPS), however, Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke expressed her deep concerns over the financial implications of the transition. She said the true costs of the transition "will have an extremely, extremely onerous



impact on the city of Surrey and especially on Surrey taxpayers." And the massive cost increase, she said, "will result in some very

difficult choices to be made ahead, not only for taxation but for other infrastructure projects as well."

In July 2023, BC's Public Safety Minister Mike Farnworth determined that the transition from the RCMP to SPS must be completed and that decision was subsequently put into law with the Police Amendment Act, 2023. The City of Surrey filed a petition for judicial review of the Minister's July decision and Bill 36 (Police Amendment Act, 2023).

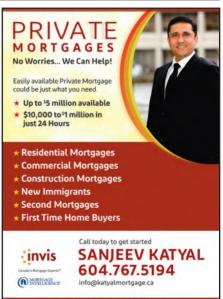
Speaking at a news conference, after the court decision, BC Solicitor General and Public Safety Minister Mike Farnworth said that he hopes the court's decision brings stability to police officers in the city. "People in Surrey want this to be over.

Continued on page 08

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# Komagata Maru: A dark chapter in Canada's History



110 years ago, on May 23, the steamship Komagata Maru docked in Vancouver's harbour after a long journey across the Pacific Ocean. Aboard the ship, 376 people – Sikhs, Muslims, and Hindus of Punjabi origin - were ready to start a new life in Canada. But instead of being welcomed as newcomers, they were refused entry by Canada. They were detained for two harrowing months without food, water, or medical care. Ultimately, the Komagata Maru was forced to return to India where many of its passengers were killed or imprisoned. May 23, 2024 was remembered across Canada as Komagata Maru Remembrance Day. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called it "a dark chapter in our country's history." Read full story on page 9

# **New legislation will allow Canadian parents to pass** citizenship to kids born abroad

Canada's immigration minister Marc Miller has introduced Bill C-71, An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2024) that would extend citizenship by descent beyond the first generation.

The new legislation would automatically confer Canadian citizenship to persons born abroad to a Canadian parent who is also born abroad prior to the coming into force of this legislation.

"As long as a Canadian parent who was born outside of Canada has accumulated three years of time spent in Canada before the birth of their child abroad, they will be able to pass down their citizenship," said Miller.



amended the Citizenship Act to add a first-generation limit to citizenship by descent, which means that a Canadian citizen parent can pass on citizenship to a child born outside Canada if they were either born in Canada or naturalized before the birth of the child.



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# Surrey leaders outraged over frequent release of dangerous sex offenders in community

ithin six weeks 3 dangerous sex offenders have been released and they will all be residing amongst us. The police have issued warnings. Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke has asked Corrections Canada to proportionality release offenders throughout BC not just in Surrey.

Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke and the Surrey Board of Trade (SBOT) have voiced their profound concern and frustration over the recent release of another dangerous sex offender into the community. The mayor and the Trade are also demanding a comprehensive review of the current laws and protocols related to the sentencing, release, and monitoring of dangerous sex offenders who are at high risk of re-offending.

For the third time in approxi- In 2019, Ezaz Razak was con-



Ezaz Razak

mately six weeks, the RCMP has issued a public warning about an individual who poses a serious and imminent risk to vulnerable women and intimate partners. The latest notification concerns Ezaz Razak, who has been identified as a significant threat.

victed of sexually assaulting two women in 2017. Ezaz Razak will be released into the community after completing his federal sen-

Surrey Mayor called it "unconscionable." In a statement, she said, "It goes without saying that Mr. Razak is not welcome in our city. I urge anyone who sees this sexual predator out after 10 p.m. or using drugs or alcohol to call 9-1-1 immediately. I am sending a letter to both the federal and provincial Ministers responsible for public safety to demand a comprehensive review of the laws pertaining to sentencing, release, and monitoring of dangerous sex offenders with a high risk of re-offending, to determine more appropriate measures in order to protect all communities from harm."



Michal Popak

In a letter addressed to BC's public Safety Minister Mike Farnworth and BC's Attorney General Niki Sharma, SBOT president Anita Huberman said, "From a business perspective, the repeated release of dangerous sex offenders into our community has far-reaching implications. The safety and



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well-being of our employees, customers, and the general public are paramount.

The perceived and real threats posed by such individuals can lead to a decline in consumer confidence and foot traffic in local businesses,

Continued on page 30

# Nijjar Murder Suspects make second court appearance

hree Indian nationals accused of killing ■ Khalistan leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar appeared in person for the first time in a BC court on Tuesday with the judge ordering them to have no contact with several people in the community.

Karan Brar, 22, Kamalpreet Singh, 22, and Karanpreet Singh, 28 appeared in person at the British Columbia Provincial Court in Surrey and Amandeep Singh, 22, appeared via video link, the Vancouver Sun reported. Supporters of Khalistan carrying Khalistan flags and posters showed up at the courthouse.

IHIT with the assistance of members from the BC and Alberta RCMP and the Edmonton Police Service arrested three men on May 3rd 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 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.



On May 11, BC investigators arrested one more individual, 22-year-old Amandeep Singh, for his role in the shooting Nijjar. The police informed that Amandeep was already in custody for unrelated firearms charges out of Peel Region in Ontario.

According to CBC News, "Amandeep Singh had been arrested in Surrey, B.C. on a warrant after fleeing from police in March 2023. He was charged with flight from police and dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and made a first court appearance on June 16, 2023. Nijjar was killed on June

The police confirmed the arrested suspects were Indian nationals meaning they were not on PR or Canadian citizens. The Canadian officials including the immigration minister have not commented on the visa status of the killers, but according 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.

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# Late poet Surjit Patar celebrated during Ghazal Manch Surrey's musical evening

By Hardam Maan

Ghazal Manch Surrey celebrated a melodious musical evening at Surrey's Reflection Banquet and Conference

Center. The Manch dedicated this evening of ghazals to late poet Surjit Patar. Ghazal singer Sukhdev Sahil, Parakhjit Singh, Dr. Randeep Malhotra and Meshi Bangar created a beautiful musical at-

mosphere with their melodious tunes.

At the beginning, the speaker of the forum, Rajwant Raj, paid an emotional tribute to the great Punjabi poet Surjit Patar and expressed his grief over his sudden demise. Everyone paid obeisance the late poet by keeping a minute's silence. Singh, the first young singer of

sudden demise.
Everyone paid obeisance to the late poet by keeping a minute's silence.
P a r a k h j i t
Singh, the first

Singh over his sudden demise.
Everyone paid the melodious evening, presented his talent, artistry and musical insight with two ghazals.
Dr. Randeep Malhotra shared his tunes with the audience by expressing deep understanding

and emotions of ghazal through

his art. Meshi Bangar from New York enthralled the audience with soulful tunes. He presented the ghazals of the poets of Ghazal Manch Surrey very beautifully.

Continued on page 05



# Obituary:

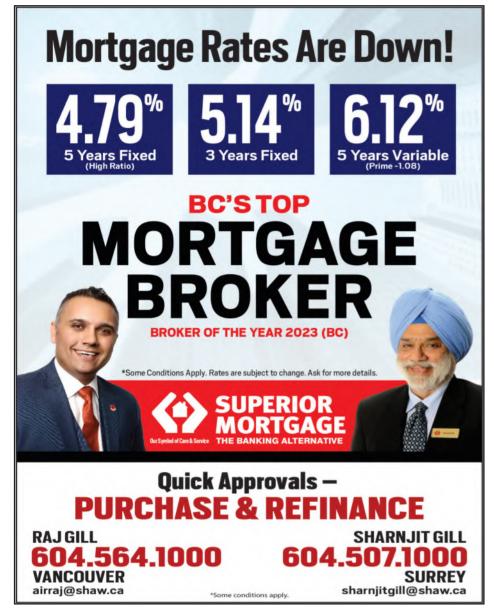
# **Davinder Singh Jassal**



ife came full circle for Davinder Singh Jassal, who was born in Jagraon, India on May 18, 1940, and passed May 18, 2024, at the age of 84. He settled in Vancouver in 1972, where he started to grow roots for his family. He was a devoted husband to the late Amarjit Kaur Jassal and a caring father to Sukhminder Rattan, Avtar Jassal, and Harinder Jassal and a welcoming father in law to Darshan,

Sanjina and Harbinder. He was an adoring and proud grandfather to Parveen, Raiya, Jiya, Priya, Asha, Esha, Aria, Kareena, and Armaan. He will be missed by many around the world.

Funeral service will be held at River Side Funeral Home on May 26th at 2pm and Bhog to follow at Akali Singh Gurdwara. Any further information, please contact 604-240-6259 or 604-720-7772





TOP NEWS www.thelinkpaper.ca SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 A5

# Khalsa Diwan Society Ross Street Annual Sports Tournament











Khalsa Diwan Society Ross Street, Vancouver, annual sports tournament was organized this week with various soccer and Kabaddi competitions.

> Photos by Sukhwant Dhillon

Continued from Page 04

# Late poet...

Famous singer Sukhdev Sahil, who arrived from California, paid tribute to Surjit Patar by his ghazal 'Balda Birkh Hain, Khim Hain, Bas Sham Tik Hain...' With very emotional and charming ghazals, he won the appreciation of the audience.

His delivery reflecting vast experience and depth of artistry sent a heartwarming wave of musicals. Guest lyricist Preet Sangredi also appeared with his words. Sukhdev Sahil and Parakhjit Singh's beautiful performance was the highlight of the melodious evening which will leave the audience with musical notes for a long time.

The biggest support for this musical evening was Jitender J Minhas and he expressed his happiness and promised to continue such support. Ghazal singers and associates were honored by Manch.

At the end, Ghazal Manch president Jaswinder thanked the audience, colleagues and media personalities for the overwhelming response and said that the forum will continue such programs in the future as well.

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# First of its kind Haida Aboriginal title legislation receives royal assent

legislation that recognizes the Haida Nation's Aboriginal title throughout Haida Gwaii received royal assent in the B.C. legislature on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

It is the first law of its kind in Canadian history. "The Gaayhllxid/Giihlagalgang "Rising Tide" Haida Title Lands Agreement upholds the nation's right over the land of Haida Gwaii under Section 35 of the Constitution — which affirms the rights of Indigenous people," according to a CBC report

"Negotiating acknowledgment of Haida title with the Province of B.C. not only marks a welcome departure from an adversarial court process, but also uplifts the honor of the Crown by resolving the issue through negotiation rather than litigation," said Gaagwiis, Jason



Gaayhllxid • Giihlagalgang "Rising Tide" Haida Title Lands Agreement, a first-ofits-kind negotiated agreement between the Haida Nation and B.C. The legislation, the Haida Nation Recognition Amendment Act, 2024, recognizes Haida's Aboriginal title throughout Haida Gwaii. The legislation

also supports the agreement's

implementation approach, which provides for a staged transition Haida jurisdiction, while also protecting and maintaining private property rights existing government services and infrastructure in Haida Gwaii"For the first time Canadian history, Aboriginal title is being recognized and

it's happening here in British Columbia," said Premier David Eby. "It was a long road to get here, spanning more than two decades and multiple governments. This agreement represents our path forward together, as we continue working to create prosperity and opportunity for the Haida Nation, all residents of Haida Gwaii and the people of British Columbia." Over the next several years, the Council of the Haida Nation and the Province will work together and negotiate how provincial and Haida Nation laws can work together. Local governments, residents and others will have opportunities to have input in the discussions. Over the transition period, land and resource decisions will continue to be made through existing processes. "Reconciliation requires all of us to work together. As we move forward with this legislation and agreement as the foundation for this work, I hope everyone recognizes this as a historic and positive step forward for Haida Gwaii residents, businesses and

British Columbians," said Murray

Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. "After careful deliberation by the legislature, we are doing what the courts have asked us to do. This is truly an extraordinary moment that we are witnessing."

Since the 2021 GayGahlda • Kwah. hlahl.dáyaa "Changing Tide" Framework for Reconciliation, the Council of the Haida Nation (CHN) and the Government of B.C. have been actively working on a negotiation approach to formally recognize Haida Aboriginal title in Haida Gwaii. The staged approach reflected in the legislation means that the CHN and B.C. can determine in a planned and orderly way how that title will be implemented. The legislation is expected to come into force in 2024.

The agreement is explicit: Recognizing Aboriginal title will not impact anyone's private property, or local government jurisdiction, bylaws and local government lands in Haida Gwaii. Provincial laws continue to apply. Provincial leases, permits or other approvals to use areas of Crown land remain in effect. There is no change for private property, local governments, or public infrastructure, programs or services.

Airports, ferry terminals, highways, public infrastructure, health-care services and schools are not affected. Provincial and municipal services will continue as they are, including health, education, transportation, fire and emergency services.

and purpose that was present at the negotiation table will further enable both governments to address the realities on the ground. Putting the question of title to rest enables us to embark on building a future with all the peoples of Haida Gwaii based on our relationship to the land and

Alsop, President of the Haida

Nation. "That clarity of vision

sea." The legislation confirms the

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# **BC NDP** nominates **Rachna Singh in Surrey North**

BC's Education Minister Rachna Singh has pledged to take action to improve housing, affordability, education, and health care in Surrey North after being nominated as the BC NDP's candidate in the riding for the fall provincial election.

Singh moved from India to Canada in 2001 and chose British Columbia to build a better life for her young family. Before her election as the MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers in 2017 and 2020, Rachna worked as a support worker for women facing domestic violence, and as a community activist. She is currently the Minister of Education and Child Care and proudly serves the people of Surrey as the MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers.

"I chose to raise my family in British Columbia because I knew what a great community we have here — and I'm not alone," said Singh. "Families in Surrey



are benefitting from the action our BC NDP team has taken, from eliminating tolls on bridges, to investing in housing people can afford, improving healthcare, increasing spaces for students and creating affordable childcare spaces. People are counting on us, and we can't risk the reckless cuts John Rustad's Conservative party would bring."

"Rachna has spent her entire life advocating for others," said Premier David Eby. "As an MLA and Cabinet Minister, she has been an effective champion for the people of Surrey for more schools and improving health care. She will ensure the residents of Surrey have good services and good jobs to build a good life here."

Rachna Singh will join David Eby and 91 other exceptional BC NDP candidates in this fall's provincial election, all committed to real action to help people build a good life here in BC.



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Continued from Page 01

# Court dismisses Surrey's petition on policing; Mayor Locke concerned about "extremely onerous impact" of transition cost

I am hopeful that today's ruling is the time to come together to complete the transition to the Surrey Police Service."

SPS Chief Constable Norm Lipinski, said, "The court's decision also brings an end to an 18-month dispute over the future of policing in Surrey that has unfortunately been plagued with delays and misinformation by those who wanted to reverse the transition after SPS had already been well-established. While the City of Surrey's judicial review petition did not directly involve SPS, it obviously impacted our 427 employees and their families - today's ruling brings them significant reassurance."

In a press conference held a few hours after the court's ruling, Mayor Locke said that she would respect the decision of the honorable Court. But it was too early to discuss the future course of action about the transition. She did not say if the City was considering appealing

the decision.

She said, "We have just received the decision hours ago. There's a lot for us to fully understand and look at. Next there will be a decision that council as a whole will be making. The fact remains the majority of council continues to be concerned with the financial burden this transition is placing on our taxpayers."

The Mayor's interaction with the reporters focused on the financial burden of the transition. "I would respect the decision of the honorable Justice Loo and I do. However, he did find in his reasons for judgment that the court has confirmed it will be more expensive for Surrey to transition to SPS when compared to maintaining the RCMP both by way of transition costs and incremental annual costs."

"That was made clear in the government's own commission, the Province of British Columbia's own commissioned third party report that was done by Deloitte that found that the cost will be more in the range of \$75 million per year based on 900 officers, not the \$30 million that had been based on 734 officers and that Chief Lipinski was not being forthright when he told counsel that he did not know how many SP's officers would be needed to staff up," she continued.

Mayor Locke said, "All this information only came to light as a result of the city's court challenge. I very much look forward to the release of the court's transcripts for you to read. Policing is a municipal matter and that was the sentiment shared by the solicitor general, by Premier Eby, by the former Premier Horgan, as well as every single MLA in Surrey. The fact is, the court challenge has revealed huge holes in this transition to the SPS's on multiple levels. And the true costs will have an extremely, extremely onerous impact on the city of Surrey and especially on Surrey taxpayers."

She said, "Next there will be a decision that council as a whole will be making. The fact remains the majority of council continues to be concerned with the financial burden this transition is placing on our taxpayers. The Deloitte report clearly states that the extra cost to fund the transition will be in the range of \$75 million more every year. And frankly, that massive cost increase will result in some very difficult choices to be made ahead, not only for taxation, but for other infrastructure projects as well." Echoing Mayor's Sentiments Surrey Board of Trade president Anita Huberman said, "We are deeply disappointed with today's judgement. The financial implications of this decision will be significant, particularly for the business community.

Higher taxes will not only increase operational costs but may also lead to a reduction in services that are vital for the economic health and overall quality of life in Surrey. It is crucial for the City's leadership to carefully consider their next steps to mitigate these impacts. We are frustrated that there will be higher taxes in Surrey, especially for businesses. Mayor and Council are reviewing their options. This enormous tax burden will make Surrey more expensive to live, work, and play in."

Questions still remain about whether this move will reduce crime, what the infrastructure and technology costs will be, how it will affect communication and support mechanisms for the community (residents and businesses), the collaboration with border agencies, the handling of investigation files, and many other related issues, Huberman said.

Continued from Page 01

# New legislation will allow Canadian parents to pass citizenship to kids...

As a result of the first-generation limit, Canadian citizens who were born outside Canada cannot pass on citizenship to their child born outside Canada, and cannot apply for a direct grant of citizenship for a child born outside Canada and adopted.

"The current rules generally restrict citizenship by descent to the first generation, excluding some people who have a genuine connection to Canada. This has unacceptable consequences for families and impacts life choices, such as where individuals may choose to live, work, study, or even where to have children and raise a family. These changes aim to be inclusive and protect the value of Canadian citizenship, as we are committed to making the citizenship process as fair and transparent as possible," said Miller.

The new legislation would also

extend access to a direct grant of citizenship to children born abroad and adopted by a Canadian parent beyond the first generation. Following the coming into force of the legislation, parents born abroad who have or adopt children also born outside Canada will need to have spent at least 1,095 cumulative days of physical presence in Canada prior to the birth or adoption of their child to pass on citizenship.

The new Bill would also restore citizenship to "Lost Canadians"—individuals who lost or never acquired citizenship as a result of outdated provisions of previous citizenship legislation. Bill C-71 would also provide citizenship to the descendants of "Lost Canadians" and to anyone born abroad to a Canadian parent in the second or subsequent generations, before the legislation comes into force.

"People who may be impacted by the changes proposed in Bill C-71, An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2024), will no doubt have questions about what this means for them and their families. If the bill passes in Parliament and receives royal assent, we will work as quickly as possible to implement these changes and will provide more information for eligible individuals on our website," informed Miller.



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# Komagata Maru remembered across Canada

n May 23, 110 years ago, the **U**Komagata Maru arrived Vancouver carrying 376 prospective immigrants from India, including among them students, labourers and former soldiers. The passengers, who were Sikhs, Muslims and Hindus, sought to build a new life here. Instead, they were met with hostility in one of the most notorious acts of discrimination in Canadian history. This was due to Canada's racially restrictive immigration laws at the time. Canadian immigration officials refused to allow most of the passengers to disembark or communicate with members of the South Asian community already living in British Columbia. On board, conditions deteriorated as supplies of food and drinking water were limited. After two months, the Komagata Maru was forced from the harbour under the escort of a warship. On May 18, 2021, Vancouver City Council formally apologized for the historical discrimination against 376 passengers travelling on board the Komagata Maru ship. Council declared May 23 as Komagata Maru Remembrance Day to be marked in Vancouver.

### Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau

This tragic incident is a dark chapter in our country's history. The deplorable treatment of those on board was reflected in Canada's racist and discriminatory laws of the time. Eight years ago, I apologized on behalf of the Government of Canada for what happened to the passengers of the Komagata Maru. We must never allow this event to repeat itself, and on this day of remembrance, we reflect on the importance of promoting diversity and treating everyone with respect and dignity. "In the years since this tragedy, we have come a long way as a country to build a more inclusive, welcoming society for

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Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau

people of all backgrounds. And through initiatives like our Anti-Racism Strategy, we are removing barriers, so that everyone in Canada can reach their full potential.

"Today, we remember and honour the lives lost in the Komagata Maru incident. As we pay tribute to the victims, I encourage all Canadians to learn more about the invaluable contributions that members of the South Asian community have made, and continue to make, to Canada. Let's keep working together to build a better, fairer, and more inclusive country for

### **Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre**

The tragedy of the SS Komagata Maru remains a shameful mark on Canada's past. 110 years on, we remember the 376 Punjabis denied entry to our shores due to the discriminatory laws of the time and recommit to our work of making Canada the freest country on earth for all.

### NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh

On May 23, 1914, over 110 years ago, the steamship Komagata Maru arrived in Canada, carrying 376 people who were

1-866-790-8984



Raj Singh Toor

looking for a better life.

Shamefully, they were denied entry by Canada, detained for two months and frequently denied food or water. Eventually, these people looking for refuge were forced back to India where 19 passengers were killed.

While Canada has been a haven for thousands of newcomers over the years, these people were not allowed to set foot on Canadian soil. They faced racism and hatred when they were trying to find safety.

As we reflect on this moment, let us remember those who were turned away and commit to rooting out the racism, discrimination and prejudice that still is alive today. We must dismantle systemic racism and xenophobia wherever it occurs.

Multiculturalism has always made Canada stronger and, by working together, we can continue to build a more inclusive and welcoming country."

### Raj Singh Toor

I am the grandson of one of the

passengers on the Komagata Maru, and Vice President and spokesperson for the Nonprofit Descendants of the Komagata Maru Society.

SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 **A9** 

Maru Society.
The City of Vancouver declared and Proclaimed the May 23, 2024, as a "Komagata Maru Day of Remembrance" in the City of Vancouver on my request.

On May 23, 2024, Mayor Ken Sim and Councillors City of Vancouver presented me a May 23, 2024 "Komagata Maru Day of Remembrance "in the City of Vancouver Proclamation original copy,

I would like to say thank you to Mayor Ken Sim and Vancouver City Councillors for proclaiming May 23, 2024, as the Komagata Maru Day of Remembrance.

It is a great tribute to those passengers who suffered a lot during the tragedy. We can't undo the past but we can move forward and leave a legacy for future generations by educating them about the past.

### **BC** Premier David Eby

This disgraceful event remains a dark mark on the history of our province. In 2008, the Province of British Columbia issued a formal apology in the legislative chamber for its role in this incident.

For more than a century, people from South Asia have been calling this province home, though it has not always been a welcoming place. Public engagement has begun so British Columbians can share their vision for a Canadians of South Asian Heritages B.C. museum. This museum will be the first of its kind in Canada and will preserve the rich history of the diverse South Asian communities in this province for generations to come.

It is important to share and preserve the stories of all who call B.C. home. We all benefit from living in a more inclusive province that is safer and more equitable for everyone.



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A10 SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 www.thelinkpaper.ca TOP NEWS

# In a time of growing intolerance, Buddha's message of non-violence is relevant more than ever



By Zile Singh

elieve nothing, no matter where you read it or who has said t, not even if I have said it, unless it meets with logic and common sense." - The Budha Buddha Purnima, (Full Moon Day) marking the birth, enlightenment and passing of Gautama the Buddha is celebrated worldwide. This year the day was celebrated on May 23. Siddhartha Gautam (The Buddha) was born into a royal family in Lumbini, now located in Nepal, in 563 B.C. At the age of 29, he realised that wealth and luxury did not guaran-

tee happiness. After six years of study and meditation, he finally found 'the middle path.'

He called it enlightenment or a stage of mindfulness. After Enlightenment, the Buddha spent the rest of his life teaching the principles of the Eightfold-Path – called the Dhamma, or Truth – until his death, in 483 BC, at the age of 80, someone asked Buddha, "What have you gained from meditation?" He replied "Nothing. However, let me tell you what I have lost: anger, anxiety, depression, insecurity, fear of old age and death."

Buddha was an apostle of logic, reason, equality, liberty, fraternity, love, and compassion. He, to start with, preached in the northern parts of India almost 500 years before Christ, and over time, he

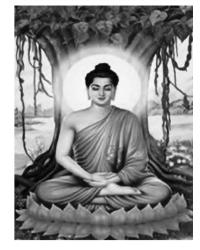
became the "Light of Asia" and finally his Dhamma spread in the neighbouring Asian countries and the western hemisphere.

Unfortunately, in India, Hinduism could not tolerate this path of reason and logic devoid of rituals, blind faith, and superstitions. In the West, his teachings are like the 'New Testament.' Today, there is a clear and consistent demand for the teachings of Buddha all over the world. His Dhamma is not in search of God but is in search of human happiness.

After attaining Enlightenment on the Vaisakha Purnima in 588 B.C. the Buddha taught the Dhamma for 45 years on the truth of suffering, the origin of suffering, the cessation of suffering. His Dhamma differed fundamentally from what was called 'Organised

Religion' at that time. It is based on a doctrine which is rationally possible. In no other religion, the values of knowledge and evil of ignorance are so much insisted upon as they are in Buddhism. Buddhism has the glory of judging rightly the capability of man to work out his salvation without any outside aid or assistance. According to Buddha, (The Blessed One), human misery is caused by the stupidity of blind faith. The Dhamma exalted human consciousness to the highest level of love and compassion.

Pythagoras, the rationalist (570 BC - 490 BC) and after that for centuries, men have sought to know what Buddha called "equanimity", what Epicurus called "tranquility" and what the poet Whittier called "the harvest song



of inward peace." Pythagoras was the father of western rational philosophy like the Buddha in the east. The verdict of the Buddha is that "nothing can bring you peace but yourself. No one can give you the gift of a serene mind, a calm and tranquil way of life, but yourself. It is something you must develop for yourself with the help of yourself."

Buddha's Dhamma, for the first time, placed the man and his actions above everything. The God, the priest, the dogmas, rites, rituals, and all blind faiths were pushed in the background. The Buddhist philosophy, in brief is the Four Noble Truths- the suffering, the origin of suffering, the cessation of sufferings and the true path leading to the cessation of sufferings. His Eightfold Path is – right view, right resolve, right speech, right conduct, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right Samadhi, and the Five Precepts - no killing, no stealing, no lying, no intoxication, and no undue sex.

Buddhism is becoming popular in western countries for a number of reasons. The first good reason is that Buddhism has answers to many problems in the modern materialistic societies. It also includes a deep understanding of the human mind. It is tolerant of all other beliefs and religions. Buddhism goes further by providing a long- term purpose of our existence, through wisdom and true understanding. Buddhism has never tried to convert people. It only preaches and leaves the decision to the individual. It depends more on understanding than on blind faith.

Every living being has the potential to become a Buddha by completely purifying his mind of all faults and delusions such as hatred, greed, and ignorance. By applying the appropriate methods these vices can be completely eliminated and one can experience supreme happiness and enlightenment. The three jewels of Buddhism are: Buddham Sharnam Gachhami. Dhammam Sharnam Gachhami and Shangham Sharnam Gacchami. (I go in refuge of the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Sangha)

The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, in one of his messages on Buddha Purnima (Vesak) said, "In a time of growing intolerance and inequality, the Buddha's message of non-violence and service to others are more relevant today than ever. Let us renew our commitment to building a world of peace and dignity for all."

**ADVERTORIAL** 

# NEW YORK BASED ASTROLOGER HELPED GET VISA FOR KIDS.

and brought up in Pakistan and moved United States considered it a bad move till the time he met Pandit Vijay. Since Javed came to America, he was surrounded by issues and comp-His lications. life troublesome. was Many of his friends told him about Pandit Vijay and how he had helped people many get out of these issues. Being born Muslim family, Javed believed in horoscope and astrometry. With the help of one of his close friends, Javed met the Pandit Vijay. Pandit Vijay made his birth chart and

Connecticut:

was

born

Javed

before Javed could anything, ask the Pandit Vijay told Javed a lot about his past, He even told Javed about his accident few years ago and the visa issue of his kids, which left Javed spell bound. He was taken aback that how somebody could be so precise. After conversation his with the **Pandit** Vijay, Javed was convinced that he is the one who can get him out of his worries and troubles.

Vijay Pandit told Javed to do some Upaay's (rituals perfor-med to be in a certain way) and Pandit Vijay performed some prayers for Javed.

Few weeks passed and Javed came back to meet the Pandit Vijay with some sweets and good news. His kids got the visa which got denied several times in the past. Javed's business flourished. Javed wrote a letter saying that he is indebted to the **Pandit** Vijay who changed his life. He urges people to get in touch with Pandit Vijay once if they have any problem in their life. "Pandit Vijay is a God sent person"- Javed says! For more information contact Pandit Vijay Shastri ii Toll Free: 1 833 844 0624 WhatsApp: 1 347 593 7064

# Two Surrey elementary schools to have additional classrooms

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CURREY, BC: BC's Education Minister Rachan Singh announced two elementary schools in Surrey will have additional classrooms which will create 250 more student spaces.

"As our population grows in B.C and Surrey welcomes many new students to their schools, we are finding better solutions to deliver more classrooms as quickly as possible," said Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care. "We are taking action through record investments in Surrey and these new additions will serve students for decades to come."

A new six-classroom addition will be coming to École Martha Currie Elementary and four additional classrooms will be coming to Walnut Road Elementary. The use of prefabricated materials means students will be getting modern learning environments, including multiple classrooms and corridors that are built quickly. The new classrooms are expected to be ready in fall 2025. The new classrooms for Walnut Road will be added to the addition announced in fall 2023. With sustainable and energy-efficient designs, the additions also align with the Province's CleanBC targets and meet B.C.'s enhanced energy requirements.

"As one of B.C.'s fastest-growing communities, it's important we continue to invest in Surrey schools," said Mike Starchuk, MLA for Surrey-Cloverdale. "This addition to Walnut Road Elementary and Martha Currie Elementary will bring much-needed student spaces to our com-



munity."

"Both of these projects will help to address some of the exponential growth we're experiencing in these neighbourhoods and expand our capacity to meet the needs of

our rapidly increasing student population," said Laurie Larsen, chair, Surrey Board of Education. "Funding announcements like this are crucial in allowing us to keep students in their neighbourhood schools and providing the best learning and working environments possible for our students and staff."

Since September 2017, the B.C. government has provided more than \$4 billion for new and improved schools, and land purchases for future schools throughout the province. This has resulted in more than 25,000 new student spaces and more than 35,000 seismically safe seats at B.C.

for a safer, inclusive province for everyone."

# Dr Pravjot Nijjar of Burnaby gets Family Doctor Award

ANCOUVER, BC: Family physicians play a vital role in supporting the health and wellbeing of people living across British Columbia. In recognition of BC Family Doctor Day, celebrated annually on May 19, the BC College of Family Physicians (BCCFP) celebrated leaders in family medicine across the province who make a difference in the lives of their patients and peers.

The annual BCCFP Awards Celebration, took place on May 16, recognizes family physicians who demonstrate exceptional leadership, professional excellence, and an unwavering commitment to their patients' health, now and into the future

- BC Family Physician of the Year: Dr. Laura
- My Family Doctor Award (Prince George): Dr. Jessica Zimbler
- My Family Doctor Award (Vancouver): Dr. Alison MacInnes
- My Family Doctor Award (Lumby): Dr. Moa Sugimoto
- My Family Doctor Award (Burnaby): Dr. Pravjot Nijjar
- My Family Doctor Award (Comox): Dr. Jonathan Kerr
- First Five Years of Practice Award: Dr. Charmaine Ma
- First Five Years of Practice Award: Dr. Christie Chan
- R2 Resident Award: Dr. Olivia Anglin
- R2 Resident Award: Dr. David Luu
- R2 Resident Award: Dr. Haley Smith
- Dr. Manoo and Jean Gurjar Award: Dr.

Celine McCaughran-Contreras

- Dr. Manoo and Jean Gurjar Award: Dr. Erin Slade
- College Coin Award: Dr. Julia Stewart, Dr. Fiona Duncan, Dr. Brenda Hefford, Sarah
- Exceptional Teaching Honour: Dr. Tracy Lee, Dr. Dale Dhillon, Dr. Duncan Etches, Dr. Rusanna Mitchell

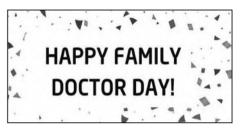
"Every year, we are impressed by the dedication, passion, and care that BC's family physicians provide for their patients," said Kendra Johnson, Executive Director of BCCFP. "They are unrelentingly committed to advancing family medicine, and pursuing innovative, hands-on ways of delivering care for their patients in every part of BC."

"Family doctors play such an important role in the health and well-being of people across British Columbia, helping navigate life's biggest joys and biggest challenges," said Premier David Eby. "On BC Family Doctor Day, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the care, compassion, and unwavering dedication that all of B.C.'s family doctors provide, while recognizing the invaluable contributions they make to the communities they serve."

"Family doctors are vital in providing essential primary care to people in British Columbia," said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. "Their dedication and commitment to their patients' health and wellness is deeply appreciated. I want to thank every one of them for choosing family practice and their

contributions to the profession in a wide variety of ways. Congratulations to this year's award recipients!"

"As the President of BCCFP, I am proud to celebrate the unrelenting and inspiring dedication of our members to providing compassionate, innovative, and high-quality care to patients across the province," says Dr. Vincent Wong. "BC Family Doctor Day is



an opportunity to recognize their invaluable contributions, and restate our collective commitment to excellence in family medicine."

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AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHY BY ......Kulbir Mahi

# L.A. Matheson Secondary students raise another \$2K for Guru Nanak senior care facility

For the fourth year in a row, students at L.A. Matheson Secondary have raised thousands of dollars for the Guru Nanak Diversity Village long-term care facility, bringing in \$2,000 for the 2024 campaign.

The annual fundraising drive is part of L.A. Matheson's Sikh Heritage Month initiative and was started in 2021 to support community seniors impacted by COVID restrictions.

"Our Punjabi language students were looking for a way to celebrate the ideals of Vaisakhi by giving back to your community and uplifting others during a time when we weren't able to take part in the traditional celebrations," said Gurpreet Kaur Bains, L.A. Matheson languages department head.



The L.A. Matheson fundraising team presented a cheque to PICS for the Guru Nanak Diversity Village on Friday, May 17. (Photo: Gurpreet Kaur Bains)

"While the celebrations have since returned, we wanted to keep this going."

For the fundraiser, students solicited donations from their own networks and communities, reaching out to family, neighbours and local businesses.

"We started out with an initial goal of \$700, and in the four years since, we've raised a total of \$15,508," said Bains.

Set to open later this year, the Guru Nanak Diversity Village is named after Guru Nanak Dev Ji. and will feature 125 care beds. The facility will have a unique focus on incorporating South-Asian values, traditions and beliefs into a senior care environment, something Bains said was very near and dear to her students' hearts.

"A lot of our kids live with their grandparents and they saw first-hand how the social isolation caused by COVID had a negative impact," said Bains.

For their efforts, students were recently recognized by Premier David Eby at a PICS fundraising gala.

"He acknowledged them for their work, which was really special," said Bains.

# City of Surrey hosting Family-friendly Open Houses

The City of Surrey is hosting Open Houses on Saturday, May 25, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Newton and South Surrey Operations Centres to celebrate National Public Works Week (May 19-25, 2024).

The public is invited to drop in at either of the open houses for free, family-friendly fun including firetrucks, painting of snowplows, and RC boat races. Everyone is welcome to tour the facilities, see the heavy machinery behind the scenes and enjoy hot dogs and

"I'm so proud of our dedicated staff who work tirelessly every day to maintain and improve essential services to advance the quality of life of our residents," says Mayor Brenda Locke. "From repairing potholes to ensuring clean drinking water, their efforts contribute to safer streets, healthier environments, and more efficient infrastructure. The open houses are an opportunity for the public to meet our operations staff and learn about the great work they do to keep the City running smoothly." The Operations Centre in Newton

The Operations Centre in Newton is located at 6651 148 St., and the Operations Centre in South Surrey is located at 2236 166 St.

Last year, Surrey operations staff were busy keeping our city clean, and our roads and community safe:
• 2 City-wide Clean Blitz litter clean-ups ensured 4,200 kilometres of roads were litter free.

Continued on page 14



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# **IHIT** investigate death of two men in Newton home

SURREY: The Integrated Homicide further risk to the community or public. Investigation Team (IHIT) is The two men were known to each investigating after two people were located dead inside a Newton residence in Surrey, BC. On May 15, 2024, first responders from the Surrey RCMP conducted a check of the occupants of a residence in the 6100-block of 151 Street, Surrey. On arrival, officers found two men deceased inside this residence with indications of homicide. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) was called to investigate.

Homicide investigators have completed evidence collection from the scene but forensic analysis is continuing. The names of the deceased are not being released pending confirmation of identification and notification to their families. This is believed to be an isolated incident, contained to the residence, with no The two men were known to each other. Neither of the men have criminal records. IHIT isworking in partnership with the Surrey RCMP, the BC Coroners Service, and the Integrated Forensic Identification Section (IFIS). Canvassing efforts are ongoing in that Newton neighbourhood for witnesses and CCTV.

"We are in stages of determining exactly what transpired at this Surrey residence," said Staff Sergeant David Lee of IHIT, "but can assure the community that this is an isolated incident and we are not seeking additional suspects at this time." IHIT is asking anyone with dash-camera or CCTV video in the area around the 6100-block of 151 Street to contact the IHIT Information Line at 1-877-551-IHIT (4448) or by email at ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

# False report of firearm leads to lockdown at Delta's Burnsview **Secondary School**

ELTA, BC: On May 16, the Delta Police Department (DPD) received a report of an individual with a firearm at Burnsview Secondary School. In response, the school administration was requested to initiate a lockdown and subsequent hold and secure

DPD officers arrived swiftly to assess the situation and ensure the safety of students and staff. Officers determined that the report was false and there was no threat. This incident was classified as a "swatting call." Swatting involves making a false report of a critical incident to elicit an urgent and substantial police response. DPD said in a release, "The preservation of life is the primary duty of law enforcement. All calls reporting potential threats are taken seriously and treated as genuine until verified otherwise. Consequently, a significant police presence is deployed to ensure safety."

However the police urged public to avoid spreading unverified information on social media, as it can cause unnecessary alarm within the community.

Filing a false report is a criminal offence under the Criminal Code, classified as mischief. The DPD has launched an investigation to identify the individual responsible for the swatting call.

# **Police seeking** witnesses and video footage in a pedestrian hit

Currey RCMP is asking Ofor the public's help after a pedestrian was seriously injured in a hit and run possibly involving two vehicles.

On May 16 Surrey RCMP responded to a pedestrian hit and run in the 1600-block of Martin Drive. Emergency Health Services transported the elderly female victim to hospital with serious injuries. She remains in hospital, and extent of her injuries is unknown at this time.

Surrey **RCMP** Criminal Collision Investigation Team (CCIT) has taken conduct of the investigation. CCIT is looking for any witnesses or anyone whose vehicle is equipped with a dash camera who was driving in the 1600-block of Martin Drive between 9:15 am 9:45

If you have any information regarding this incident, please call Surrey RCMP at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2024-

## Continued from Page 12 City of Surrey...

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- 16,000 potholes filled.
- 4.4 kilometres of additional trails constructed in parks.
- 12,215 service resident requests responded to.
- 2,033 metres of sidewalk repaired.
- 2 kilometres of dykes upgraded and 6 flood control drains constructed.
- 13,562 signs made in the Sign Shop.
- 626 graffiti tags removed.
- 300 animals received care at the Surrey Animal Resource Centre and 97 pets adopted.
- 1,792 metric tonnes of recycling diverted from the landfill.
- 5,315 metric tonnes of organics diverted from the landfill.



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# Queensborough Middle School students continue to inspire community during Vaisakhi celebration

By Balwant Sanghera

Queensborough Middle School (QMS) in New Westminster has been a good model for Punjabi. For many years, the Punjabi classes have been flourishing with the support and cooperation of the school board, district administration, school administration, staff, students and parents of QMS.

On behalf of the Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA) I would also like to commend teachers' role especially Mr. Deep Sangr. Punjabi program at QMS celebration of of Vaisakhi has always remained one of the top priorities of Mr Sangr.

This year, QMS celebrated Vaisakhi and Creation of the Khalsa on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, with a great deal of enthusiasm. The school was buzzing with excitement. Students welcomes and greeted guests at the main school entrance.

Vice Principal Sukh Rai gave a brief outline of the Vaisakhi festival and the creation of the Khalsa Panth in 1699 in Anandpur Sahib by the tenth and last Guru of Sikh faith, Guru Gobind Singh ji and the huge strides the Punjabi community has made in Canada for more than 125 years. He then called upon the two student MCs, to conduct the program.

Punjabi class students displayed their skills and expertise in the Punjabi folk dance Bhangra and brief speeches in Punjabi and English about Vaisakhi and creation of the Khalsa.

On behalf of Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA) it was an honor for me to congratulate the students, staff and parents for putting on this celebration. Staff, parents and guests enjoyed light refreshments provided by Gurdwara Sukh Sagar and parents. QMS Principal Joun Lakakkis concluded the assembly by thanking his staff, students and parents for making the Vaisakhi celebration very enjoyable.

Vaisakhi, named after Vaisakh, second month of the Punjabi calendar, signifies the beginning of the harvesting season in Northern India. Also, on this day in 1699 Guru Gobind Singh ji created the Khalsa Panth. Now Vaisakhi has become an international celebration as the South Asian community in general and Sikhs in particular are well settled in many countries around the globe.

In Canada, to its credit, the month of April has been declared as the Sikh Heritage Month. In the U.S. Vaisakhi Day is now known as the Sikh Heritage Day. Happy Vaisakhi!

Balwant Sanghera is President, Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA)



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### 15451 KILMORE PLACE



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Arguably the best neighbourhood in all of Surrey! This stunning residence in West Newton partially Arguably the best neighbourhood in all of Surreyl This stunning residence in West Newton partially Located in what is known as the "K subdivision in encovated with new paint, flooring, updated Sullivan Station! RENOVATED 2 level executive washrooms, kitchen/appliances and more! It's home with over 2,500 sq.ft. of living space on a MASSIVE & CORNER lot 13,585 sq.ft. lot WITH elementary school, is sure to captivate you! 151 FT FRONT! The home is RENOVATED and Features 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, Renovations include new oak flooring, kitchen, mouldings, lights, railings, bathrooms, 5 y/o hot water tank, new windows and gutters.Main floor teatures living room, dining room, kitchen and windows, hot water heating, crawl space, security eating area. Good size family room which leads into system with surveillance, smoked mirrors, mirrored

features living room, dining room, kitchen and windows, hot water heating, creaw space, security eating area. Good size family room which leads into system with surveillance, smoked mirrors, mirrored the backyard. Upstairs you have 3 good size closets, coffered ceilings, and marble fixtures, bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Located in an excellent neighbourhood.

## 12491 57A AVENUE



PRESTIGIOUS PANORAMA RIDGE! Corner Lot! BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME. This 20,000+ SQ.FT Lot is located on one of the most sought after neighbourhoods in all of Surrey - PANORAMA RIDGE! Surrounded by multi-million dollar homes this is your chance to build your dream home. Corner lot location allows for easy design and loads of windows and ultimate privacy. Please call for more details. Seller can provide Vendor Take Back Mortgage (28863376)

### living quarters for the owner/manager.18 RV

Pleasant Valley Motel"

located at 3030

Highway 16 in Houston, B.C. This

property consists of a

57 unit motel plus a full

service restaurant and



City Centre's retailers \$FU/future UBC campus.

8316 Government Rd



Experience luxury living in this exquisite 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment located in the The Holland. Enjoy an abundance of amenities spread across 13,000 square foet industries spread across 13,000 square foet, including a concierge service, gym, yoga studio, music studio, guest suite, indoor/outdoor social and dining lounge, and more. Located in the heart of the city, this apartment offers convenient access to nearby walkways, cafes, shopping malls, and two Skytrain stations. Enjoy a park, and two Skytrain stations. Enjoy a park, side living experience with an amenity-rich including two lavish master suites featuring in the part of the city, side living experience with an amenity-rich including two lavish master suites featuring in the part of the city, side living experience with an amenity-rich in bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this home has 3 bedrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME this howe washrooms and 2 full washrooms. BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME! This home side living experience with an amenity-rich including two lavish master suites featuring and large driveway. Centrally located and lifestyle, including easy access to all of the walk-in closets and en-suite bathrooms, close proximity to both levels of schools, hwy City Centre's retailers, as well as alongside two additional bedrooms EASY TO SHOW!

units will come in various configurations, ranging from studios to 1, 2, and 3-bedroom layouts, spanning between 828 and 1,170 square feet. Residents will have access to shared amenities including a meeting room and a landscaped rooftop deck furnished with lounge seating.



PANORAMA RIDGE 3 bedroom rancher on beautiful half Fantastic Development Opportunity: Situated in acre (19994 sq ft) lot. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to own one of the best on highly sought after 6 avenue. Surrounded by multi million dollar homes. Ultra clean home with open layout, enclosed sunroom newer roof, detached garage & RV parking. Plan to build your 3 level dream home. Rectangular Large Lot 154' ntage x 129' deep. Sewer connected. Walking distance to Colebrook elementary & bus stop. Easy access to hwy 10 & hwy 99.Easy to show.North Facing South Facing sunny backyard

The residence offers a total of 7 bedrooms and 11 process. Moreover, its proximity to key

ashrooms- 5 master bedrooms with 6 ensuites for



the highly sought-after Newton Area, this property boasts remarkable potential for Prime Government Street development. Spanning over 8000sqft, its address, in proximity to schools, generous lot size combined with advantageous zoning regulations for a low-rise structure make it an enticing prospect for savvy investors and it an enticing prospect for savvy investors and developers keen on maximizing future gains. Its and nestled in privacy on a environment, surrounded by a sprawling Cherry Blossom tree about to blossom strategic location promises growth, with easy access to utilities, roads, and essential under construction. Sold as is attractions such as the Wave Pool, library

### 279C 8635 120 ST

connected by a Jack and Jill bathroom.



Fresh, well-lit, and spacious Unit. Hassle-fre establishment. A single-bedroom apartmer located off Scott Road and 86 Avenue Remarkably roomy second-floo shopping, public transportation, condominium set amidst a tranquil spacious quarter-acre lot. Home Recently renovated with meticulous attention to detail. Comes equipped with brand new appliances. Enjoy amenities such as a pool, seniors center and Scott Road SkyTrain.

### 7784 DUNSMUIR STREET



Sale by Court Order: 3.27 acres situated in Mission's prime Nestled within a peaceful farm environment Urban Residential zoning (R558) and is earmarked for Attached boasts approximately 1700 sq ft of living space development. Land value only.

17351 80 AVENUE

Experience tranquil living on a spacious 10 acre property in Surrey, offering a perfect blend development opportunity of rural serenity and urban convenience. location. The property boasts this flat, square parcel of land is just a short drive away from all essential amenities. The charming 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom Ranche sauna, and more. Conveniently close to bus Multi-Unit Residential providing a comfortable and inviting retreat Ideal for multi-generational families, this

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**FATHER & DAUGHTER** 



# **FARM** 33 ACRES

33 Acres with high exposure and multiple buildings.2 buildings, 6 bedroom house. Potential for fill permit, winery.

# **FOR LEASE**

CD zoned property in Red Fm plaza for Sale or Lease \$2,200,000. Total Sq ft. 1,925sq ft.

# **PUB FOR SALE IN COQUITLAM**

Primery Liquor



# 2 Unit Warehouse

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

## **COMMERCIAL BUILDING**

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

# Price 7,900,000

# **HOUSE**

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

# **ASSIGNMENT 19 ACRES IN CLOVERDALE**

Low Assignment fee 1 house and barn can build dre home q December 2023 ON 168ST. **Contact for price** 



## **HOUSE IN FLEETWOOD**

3 separate suites, 3 separate laundry, 3 Potenia subdividable potential. Great investment property \$1,500,000.

# **INVESTOR ALERT**

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

# **FOR SALE**

rancher with loft on

# **FOR LEASE**

4.363 acres of prime land in the heart of Surrey. Near 152st and 68ave. ALR is designated as an industrial business park. (Truck parking only not allowed)

# **SURREY TRUCK BODY SHOP**

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

# **WAREHOUSE FOR LEASE**

124st and 84

on 2 levels. Call for details

# Warehouse for Lease

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

# **WAREHOUSE**

3000sq ft. warehouse, 1500sq. ft. up and down, near payal business center Call for details

# **WAREHOUSE FOR SALE**

2817 Saft; y, ale. auto etc. 16 foot ceiling. Only \$1,199,000.

# FOR LEASE

Space Scott Road and 84th ave area, 983 Sq FT, Avail SED arch 2024, Great Expo SQ ft plus \$11 additional rent, ideal for Physiotherapy clinic

### SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 **A19**

# NDP MLA Bains celebrates new elevator for Surrey-Delta seniors society



SURREY: New Democrat MLA Harry Bains joined the Surrey-Delta Indo Canadian Seniors Society to celebrate the installment of a new elevator funded by the provincial government.

**NEWS** 

"I am so pleased that our government was able to provide funding to fix the elevator in the seniors centre," said Harry Bains, MLA for Surrey-Newton. "The second floor is an important gathering space for seniors in our community, particularly women, and I'm glad that everyone will be able to enjoy it once again."

The elevator had been inoperable for close to two years, which meant seniors had to climb a flight of stairs to the second floor. Many social activities for the 600 members of the society are offered on the second floor of the building, including meditation, shared meals, and cultural programs.

A grant of \$140,000 was provided by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction to replace the elevator and improve access to the building.

The elevator replacement "will not only improve the seniors' access to food, but also enhance their overall quality of life by enabling them to participate in various activities and programs at the centre" said Harpal Singh Brar, president of the society. Surrey-Delta Indo Canadian Seniors Society provides culturally relevant food and activities that make seniors feel more connected to their community.

# VIPAN SHARMA **CENTURY 21.** Email: sharma.vipan@yahoo.ca www.c21coastal.ca #1 Ranked Top 1% #1 Ranked Inked by unit units sold in By Production In 2016 d & GCC 2012 2013 ,2014 & 2015 2017,2018 & 2019

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# 15611 ROPER AVENUE, WHITE ROCK \$1,649,000 Listing ID: R2577672 NEW LISTING

Well cared 4 bed/2 bath 2185sf House . Large FLAT LOT, Great Location to walk to Uptown or Beach, Open floor plan is perfect for family living. New Paint Bright Kitchen & dining with walk-out to oversized side deck Hardwood floors throughout. Living upstairs boasts a feature Fireplace. Spacious Kitchen Lower level has 2-Bedroom Suite with separate entry. Large Double garage with storage. Earl Marriott French Immersion Sec & WR Elementary +(Peace Arch) French Immersion Catchment.Large deck 578sqft nice patio 105sqft with double garage. Buyer agent to verify with city for duplex option. VIEWING SATURDAY 6:00pm to 8:00pm AND SUNDAY 1:00PM TO 5:00PM.

## 2880 169 ST., SURREY \$3,599,000 Listing ID: R2584077



Welcome to North Grandview Estate! Immaculat Mansion on quiet serine street on very private one acre lot All custom designed and extremely high quality construction. Lots of updates made recently inside the consuction. Lots of updates made recently inside the house, Garage and in backyard landscaping, Breathtaking garden of Eden. Enter through the 8' high double solid oak doors into the grand foyer, 4 tier "Wiltshire" Gold plated chandelier. 8 zone radiant hot water in all three floor heating. 2 by 6 construction with Truss Joist "silent floor" 12 on centre. The formal living room offers a 20' double trayed ceiling featuring intricate mouldings and woodwork. There is a butler's pantry. Two staircases. Fully finished basement triple garage, plus much more! South ridge School nearby. Showing Saturday and Sunday 2:00Pm to

THREE TOWNHOUSE SITE AVAILABLE IN LANGLEY FOR MORE DETAIL **CALL VIPAN SHARMA.** 

6922 202B ST., LANGLEY

\$3,678,400 Listing ID: \$3,678,400



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Canada's fastest developing communities.

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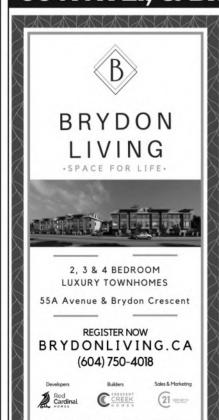
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come to The Georgia. . Langley's newest collect homes centrally located in Langley City close to lops, restaurants, parks, schools and walking distance to the future Skytrain. Modern open concept lesigns, featuring inviting 9ft ceilings, high-quality aminate flooring, air conditioning in the master pedrooms, and granite stone kitchen countertops. ontact sales for more information! Don't miss out nly a handful of homes remaining!



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



Open house Sunday 1-4





#51-7090 180 ST.,SUR









### **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

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 SEEII 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 Kancher with Basement house sits on a huge 9750 Sq. Feet Lat 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 & pol lights. All these appliances & renovations were done two years and Carpot in the whole unit is one years ald You green. arnet in the whole unit is one year old Yo walk to Guildford Town Centre, TNT Supermarket, dining, public library and highways. The maintenance fees include gas & hot water, One Storage locker & One Parkina. There is also a bike room and lots of outdoor Visitor Parking.

**ASKING 589,000** 

### 5748 123 Street Surrey



7 BED - 8 BATHS - 20,211 SF

Welcome to Your Dream Home! This Beautiful & Luxurious Architectural Masterpiece on a CORNER HALF ACRE LOT in the most prestigious neighbourhood of Panorama Ridge Features with Elegant Porte-Couchette Hotel Like Entrance with circular driveway, Italian Bricks Exterior, Open Concept Kitchen with Custom Italian Cabinets & Italian Black Marble, High Ceiling, Gorgeous sunken Living Room with oversized windows, which provide excellent Lighting, Circular Cherrywood Staircases, Huge Family Room & Dining Room with Master Ensuite on the Main Floor, High End Wool Carpet, 5 Bed rooms with 3 Washrooms upstairs. Downstai 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



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

ASKING 249,999

# **GROCERY STORE FOR SALE IN CLOVERDALE**

**ASKING 500,000** 

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

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# **2024** Genesis GV70 Electrified. Premium SUV Stands Out.

Auto Review By Veeno Dewan

K orean luxury performance brand Genesis' increases its line up of fully electric powered SUVs with the Genesis electrified GV70. The sleek looks remain with minor changes for 2024. The four-cylinder 2.5T models receive upgraded brakes and new design 19-inch wheels. There are also new insignias and new exterior colours.

The GV70 Electrified arrives equipped with a 77.4 kWh lithium-ion battery, and an electric motor at the front and rear axles, with a claimed 383 km of fully electric driving range. Combined power is 429 hp and 516 lb-ft torque with a Boost Mode function that allows a heady 483 hp rush in a ten second burst. The GV70e offers an impressive 0-100 km/h time of around 4 seconds through a single speed transmission

The base GV gasoline 2.5L turbocharged four cylinder offers a hefty 300 hp and 311 lb-ft of torque. The Sport has the 3.5L turbocharged V6 with an impressive 375 hp and 391 lb-ft of torque. Both engines are mated to 8-speed auto, with AWD as standard. The top 3.5T Sport Plus weighs in ELSD (electronic limited slip differential). Our tester was the all-wheel-drive Electrified GV70 Prestige AWD version

The GV70e also packs an impressive electrical charging system that allows the vehicle to recharge from a claimed 10 to 80 percent in 18 minutes. No access to a fast charger? Charge time with a Level 2 charger takes about 7 hours. and with a 50 kWh Level 3 charger to 10-80% charge in just over one hour. The GV70 interior as you can expect from the upstart luxury brand includes an attractive premium design, materials and Mercedes and Audi like

attention to detail.

Upon entering the cabin, there is a light airy feel and an air of opulence. The choice of materials is upscale, and the fit and finish are about on par with the best of German premium autos;. Lots of buttery soft leather Nappa draping the seats, high quality milled and knurled aluminum trim and high-quality switchgear and fixtures. The GV70 is also loaded to the gills with features There are also heated massaging Front and rear seats. The infotainment system is easy to navigate and the digital gauge cluster has a cool 3D effect. Overall cabin ambience is luxurious with enough room to stretch out in front and rear. Fit and finish is exemplary.

The vehicle has all the safety you could want with Driver Assist systems such as highway driving assist that can automatically perform lane changes, and auto collision avoidance.

On the road, the EV powertrain is delightfully smooth and powerful whipping the GV70 instantly to high speeds. The electrified GV70 features a Boost button, which literally does "boost" the combined output of the motors to 483 hp for 10 seconds in a stunning whoosh of power- addictive! There are several regenerative brake settings and a one-pedal driving function. The different drive modes have been well calibrated and there is a smooth seamless power delivery that is well metered out. There are multiple modes of brake regeneration, adjustable via the paddle shifters, and a dedicated mode allowing for one-pedal driving. Road handling and stability is well composed, as Genesis went for a slightly softer suspension for comfort, but there is tad inoffensive body roll on sharp cornering. The GV70e is a rather portly SUV thanks to its heavy batteries and EV



hardware under the floor, but hustles along fairly well with no genuine issues.

Aside from rapid acceleration the GV 70e drives in everyday situation in a refined manner in near silence making for a relaxed luxurious drive. There are few downsides, the EV driving range is between 380-400km, let could be better with 400 km now common in EVs. However, its not terrible either translating to 2.6L /100km

combined

Highlights include the stunning forward-looking design that is so unique and of course the Genesis buying experience. You do not need to haggle as Genesis has a fixed price structure with few additions and no hidden surprises and fees. Heck you do not even need to go to the dealership! Buyers can order a Genesis online; the car will be delivered to you for your test drive or if you deice you want it. The Genesis Concierge service will drop the car off and includes a pickup and drop off valet service for maintenance, and a courtesy car. You can organise this all from your armchair or desk. Genesis also includes a fiveyear/100,000 km of complementary scheduled service. The GV70 Electrified is a stand out and comes highly recommended. 2024 Genesis GV70 Electrified prestige: Priced from \$84,500

More info at www.genesis.com.



### SUNNYSANGHA • PERSONAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION

### 14317 31A AVENUE, SURREY



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

### #92 15111 EDMUND DRIVE



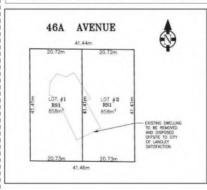
Welcome to Townsend! This beautiful unit is one of the largest in the entire complex. boasting 1,976 sq ft. of living space. Built in 2019 by award-winning builder, Polygon, this beautiful townhome features 4 spacious 3 on the top floor, ground floor as guest quarters, 3.5 bathrooms, as well as a grand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

### **UNIT 2808 13615 FRASER HWY**



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

### LOT B 20444 46A AVENUE, LANGLEY



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

### LOT A 33734 MAYFAIR AVENUE, SURREY

Welcome to Central Abbotsford this brand new three-lot subdivision. The lots will be ready to build in 4-6 months. You can build a 3600sqft home.



Sunny Sangha **604-356-5555** 



CENTURY 21.



Ram Johal **604-356-5555** 



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# UNY ORS I your house with me.

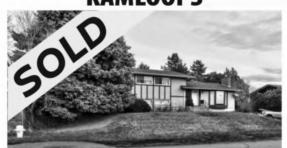
# I WILL PAY THE LEGAL FEE **OF THAT HOUSE!!**

### **#7 11077 RAVINE ROAD, SURREY**



ASKING \$760,000

### **1698 SLATER AVENUE, KAMLOOPS**



ASKING **\$750,000** 

#34 15030 28 AVENUE, **SURREY** 



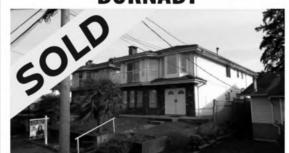
ASKING \$1,159,900

### **LOT 11 CHIEF LAKE ROAD PRINCE GEORGE**



Beautiful 5.48 acre property. \$28,776

### **5192 MANOR ST, BURNABY**



ASKING \$1,567,000

### **259 HOLLY AVENUE, KAMLOOPS**



ASKING \$675,000

### 56-8168 136A ST, **SURREY**



ASKING \$795,000

### 5533 CHESTNUT CRE, **LADNER**



ASKING \$1,325,000

### 16669 31B, **SOUTH SURREY**



ASKING **\$2,640,000** 

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# **North America's Live** Bhangra Band En Karma **Drop The Party Track**

on stage and in

the studio. The

band has been on

it, taking breaks

from rehearsals

and big stages by

jumping into the

studio and mak-

ing tons of tunes!

The band En

Karma is made

up of Nick (key-

boards/producer)

Pip (Drummer)

and Inder Koon-

er (vocalist) with

(Dhol). The band

formed in 2007.

Nick and Pip,

born in England,

moved to Canada

Their songs En

Boliyan, and To-

har Naal Jeena

ranked high in

the charts glob-

ally. Most re-

cently they also

soundtracked

the mainstream

prime time Ca-

nadian TV show

"Our Big Punjabi

Family"!

2 decades ago.

Karma

Cooner

Diyan

Karm



n Karma - North America's Biggest Live Band - follow up their catchy Bhangra banger Tere Te Marda with The Party Track, to get you ready for the sum-

The Party Track dropped on 17th May is a feel-good tune with a timeless Bhangra sound already on TV! It was featured on the Canadian prime-time comedy show 'Our Big Punjabi Family'.

They went in and bumped up the bpm to damage some dance floors.

The band of choice for massive names such as Malkit Singh, Jazzy B, Miss Pooja and Sukshinder Shinda, En Karma have brought the energy once again.

The only live Bhangra band in North America, they bring the vibes whenever they get

# A new film festival on the horizon backed by strong community and industry support



By Alex Sangha

The countdown is on. In just one month, on June 15 and 16, Centre Stage at Surrey City Hall will host the inaugural Sundar Prize Film Festival. This exciting event will bring together nine award-winning films from Canada, the USA, and the UK, complemented by panel discussions with filmmakers and networking receptions featuring Indian and Western fusion appetizers and snacks.

The festival is backed by 58 official sponsors and supporters from the community, including prominent entities in the film and television industry such as the Department of Canadian Heritage, the BC Arts Council, Creative BC, Knowledge Network, Warner Bros Discovery Access Canada, Rogers Group of Funds, Vancouver Film School, Global BC, and the Canadian Media Producers Association -BC Producers Branch.

Every major film festival in Metro Vancouver is supporting the Sundar Prize in some capacity, including the Vancouver International Film Festival, Vancouver Asian Film Festival, Vancouver Queer Film Festival, DOXA, and fellow local

Surrey film festivals like KDocsFF and the International South Asian Film Festival. This level of support underscores the festival's significance and the collaborative spirit of the film community in the region.

The Sundar Prize Film Festival stands out for its impressive array of prizes. Filmmakers will be awarded over 17,000 CAD in cash prizes, distribution opportunities through Moving **Images** Distribution, 20,000 CAD in equipment rental gift certificates, and free courses at the Vancouver Film School. These prizes not only provide financial support but also offer invaluable resources for filmmakers to advance their projects and careers.

A particularly unique aspect of the festival is the Emerging Filmmaker Residency Prize, offered in partnership with KDocsFF. This prize provides an emerging local filmmaker with a dedicated workspace and equipment at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Surrey to complete their film over a four-month residency with the support of expert faculty and student test audiences. This initiative reflects the festival's commitment to nurturing new talent and supporting the local filmmaking community.

The Sundar Prize Film Festival is an official project of Sher Vancouver, a registered charity established nearly 16 years ago in

Sher Vancouver's social justice film production and screenings in schools program, which has been promoting awareness and dialogue on critical social issues for the last six years.

One of the festival's core values is its commitment to fair compensation. The Sundar Prize Film Festival prioritizes providing a living wage to its jury, staff, and team members. This commitment to fair pay reflects a broader ethos of respect and equity that permeates all aspects of the festival.

Created by filmmakers for filmmakers and film enthusiasts, the Sundar Prize is deeply filmmaker-centric. It represents an evolution of Sher Vancouver's mission, focusing on social justice through film. This focus ensures that the festival not only showcases high-quality films but also supports the filmmakers behind them in meaningful ways. Financial support extends beyond prize winners. Producers benefit from screening fees, and panelists, moderators, and volunteers receive honorariums for their valuable contributions. This comprehensive approach to compensation underscores the festival's commitment to valuing the work and expertise of all participants.

Continued on page 29







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Asking-\$1,699,000

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3 bathrooms! Asking-\$2,379,000

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### FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC

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### **FORECLOSURE LANGLEY BC**

34 Acres lot, 10,000 home, 9 bedrooms, 11 bathrooms, guest home, more buildings

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# PM Modi invokes 1971 at Patiala rally

Toting that more than 90,000 Pakistani soldiers surrendered in the 1971 Indo-Pak War, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asserted if he had been in power he would have taken Kartapur Sahibfrom Pakistan before freeingtheir troops.Addressing a rally at Patiala, his first in the state for the seventh phase of Lok Sabha polls on June 1, Modi said Punjab and the Sikh community have always been at the forefront of national-building efforts, even as he lambasted the current AAP government over issues of corruption and drugs trade. He called Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann only a 'kagazi CM' -chief minister only on paper. PM Modi began his address by paying rich tributes to the land of 'Guru Tegh Bahadur.' Modi brought up the emotive issue of the gurdwara in Kartarpur Sahib, a place sacred to Sikhs as Guru Nanak Dev spent the last years of his life there, and blamed the Congress for country's partition, saying they did it for sake of

power. The partition left Kartar Sahib in Pakistan's Punjab, just a few kilometers away from the border with India. "For 70 years, we could have a 'darshan' of the Kartarpur Sahib gurdwara only with binoculars," Modi said. He said opportunity presented itself to take back the Kartarpur Sahib gurdwara in 1971 when more than 90,000 Pakistani soldiers surrendered before the Indian Army and "we had the trump card in our hands".

"Had Modi been there at that time, I would have taken Kartapur Sahib from them (made it part of Indian territory) and then freed their troops," he said."They (Congress) did not do that, but I did as much I could," Modi added, referring to the opening of the Kartapur Sahib Corridor in 2019 that made it easier for Sikh pilgrims to travel to the shrine.Campaigning for Preneet Kaur, the wife of former chief minister Amarinder Singh, who is BJP's Lok Sabha candidate from Patiala, Modi said he had come to seek the blessings in the land of



Gurus "by bowing my head". Other BJP candidates -- Parampal Kaur Sidhu from Bathinda, Arvind Khanna from Sangrur, Hans Raj Hans from Faridkot and Gejja Ram Valmiki from the Fatehgarh Sahib seat -- were also present on the stage as Modi spoke, donning the traditional Sikh turban. Punjab has given leadership to the country in various sectors, from agriculture to industry, Modi said. But, the current "fiercely corrupt" Bhagwant Mann government has changed all that, he added."Trade and industry are leaving Punjab while the drug trade is growing.

The entire state government is running on debt."Highlighting how Congress-AAP has trampled upon the spirit of Punjab, PM Modi said, "Rampant corruption and dampened industrial prospects have destroyed the state of Punjab." He added, "Today, resource mafia, drugs mafia, and shooter gangs rule the roost in Punjab." He criticized the state government, saying, "The state government of Punjab is debtridden, and its CM is only CM on paper." PM Modi added, "Corrupt Congress and AAP are two sides of the same coin," aiming to plunder Punjab and deprive it of any development.

Keeping up the attack on the INDIA bloc, he said "they neither have a leader, nor intent" and their biggest aim is the appeasement of their vote bank while the BJP's mantra is 'Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas'.

Slamming the Congress for opposing the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, Modi said Sikh families were persecuted in countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and his government decided to give them citizenship. "It is not for vote bank," he stated. He said the INDIA bloc lies to farmers. "They made a promise with farmers but did not fulfill it. It is the BJP which gives priority to the welfare of farmers."

In the last 10 years, there was a record purchase of wheat and paddy from Punjab, he said. "We raised MSP two-and-a-half times in the last 10 years," he added. Security was beefed up in view

Security was beefed up in view of the call given by farmer bodies to hold a demonstration against Modi.

# No respite from searing heat: 'red' warning for Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh

Large parts of India sweltered under a heat wave with the mercury soaring to 48.8 degrees Celsius in Rajasthan's Barmer, the highest temperature recorded in the country this year so far.

Official data showed that at least 16 places in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh recorded maximum temperatures of 45 degrees Celsius or above on Thursday.

The brutal heat wave will continue for at least one more week, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said

In Rajasthan, Churu logged a high of 47.4 degrees Celsius, Phalodi 47.8 degrees, and Jaisalmer 47.2 degrees. Maximum temperatures settled at 46.6 degrees in Madhya Pradesh's Guna, 45.9 degrees in Gujarat's

Ahmedabad, 45 degrees in Uttar Pradesh's Orai, 45.4 degrees each in Punjab's Bathinda and Haryana's

However, in Delhi, the maximum temperature dipped slightly on Thursday but remained around a notch above the normal for this time of the year. The IMD said the maximum temperature was recorded 0.8 notch above normal at 41 degrees

Celsius.

The Met office issued a 'red' warning for Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, and west Uttar Pradesh, emphasising a "very high likelihood" of heat illness and heatstroke in all ages.

The punishing heat is straining power grids and drying up water bodies, triggering drought-like conditions in parts of the country.

According to the Central Water Commission, water storage in 150 major reservoirs in India plunged to their lowest level in five years last week, exacerbating water shortages in many states and significantly affecting hydropower generation.

In the absence of adequate coldchain infrastructure, extreme heat can cause major damage to fresh produce.





# **Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month: Richmond Cop shares tips**

Engaging the community with vital safety tips and personal insights from Corporal Peter Somerville of Richmond RCMP Road Safety Unit.

With over 31 years of service and extensive expertise as a certified RCMP motorcycle operator, Cpl. Somerville, who was instrumental in developing the Motorcycle Course Training Standard for the RCMP, shares key advice from his long-standing experience, both personally and professionally. He stresses the importance of defensive riding and proper preparation before every riThis May, during Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, Richmond RCMP is de.

Cpl. Somerville's Top Motorcycle Safety Tips:Always wear full, proper gear including gloves, eyewear, and an approved helmet

Be vigilant of the road ahead, and do not exceed your riding abilities.

Regularly check your motorcycle's condition before each ride.

Take time to warm up. Practice maneuvers in safe areas and pay attention to your own alertness and mental state.

Addressing common motorcyclist offenses, Cpl. Somerville warns against speeding and maneuvering down the shoulder of



the roadway, especially during rush hours. Such actions dramatically increase the risk of accidents due to limited protection offered by motorcycles compared to cars Cpl. Somerville also shared a personal account of his own motorcycle accident, which underscores the unpredictable nature of motorcycle riding. "Three months after taking the motorcycle

course, I had a close call when trying to pull over a vehicle. I decided to pass one more vehicle before making a sharp right turn; however, I was going too fast, and my bike hit a patch of sand, causing my rear brake to lock up, and my motorcycle skid into a streetlight, throwing me off. Thankfully, I was not seriously injured and could learn from the mistake. It was

a stark reminder of the importance of adjusting speed to match road conditions and the value of always being prepared and aware."

Highlighting the difference between personal and RCMP motorcycle operations, Cpl. Somerville notes, "The biggest difference for me personally is I can't pull people over on my personal motorcycle. I ride very defensively; however, I am required to be confident in my ability to ride very assertively when necessary on the job. Assertive riding is physically and mentally demanding and can be very tiring. In contrast, an afternoon cruise on my personal bike is quite relaxing and enjoyable."

In his closing remarks, Cpl. Somerville adds an essential piece of advice for all road users: "Don't assume visibility. Just because you see them—whether a car, pedestrian, or cyclist—doesn't mean they see you."

Richmond RCMP collaborates closely with ICBC and B.C. Highway Patrol to promote road safety. These efforts are part of a broader commitment to ensure the roads are safe for all users, particularly as warmer weather increases motorcycle traffic.

# **BC** Lottery Corporation awards \$5,000 to Richmond **Community Services Society**

Richmond Community L Services Society (RMCS) has been serving the community of Richmond for more than 40 years. It helps new immigrants settle in this country. In recognition of its services, BC Lottery Corporation awarded RMCS \$5,000. The presentation

ceremony was held in cooperation with Richmond's River Rock Casino on Thursday, May 16, 2024. This was also in recognition of the Asian Heritage Month Celebration. In picture -- Balwant Sanghera with members of RMCS, BC Lottery Corporation, and River Rock Casino.



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### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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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

# 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

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Well Established Cocnrete breaking and coring business is available for sale. We can provide training as well. This business is a very good money making business and is very much in demand. Owner ir retiring. Call for details at

604-250-7893

For all your insurance needs please call 604.377.4085

+++++++

### LOOKING FOR GROOM

Looking for a suitable match for Canadian PR girl, 26 years jat, 5'3", background from Amritsar working in diploma-in-Early Childhood & Daycare as a manager. We are looking for Canadian Immigrant / Citizen Jat Sikh. knowing more about,

please contact 778-708-2931

### 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

## **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**

Seeking a beautiful girl for Ramgarhia boy, Canadian Citizen, grew up in India, 37 years, 5' 11", Commercial Pilot in Air Canada, based in Vancouver, never married, The girl should be family oriented from respected family, tall, educated with good job, Canadian Citizen/PR respected to elders and loving toward family members and Living with her family in Surrey / Van, region.

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

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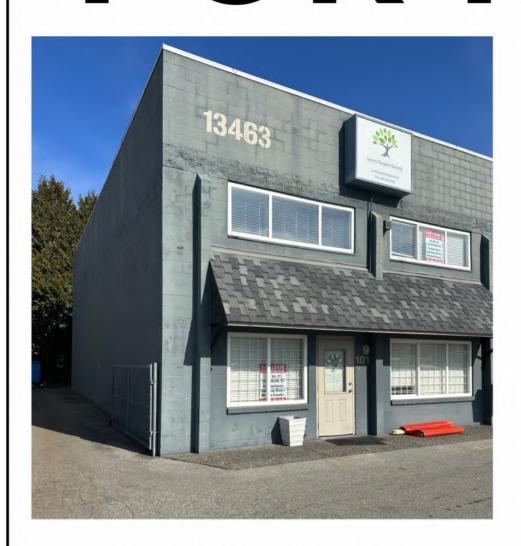
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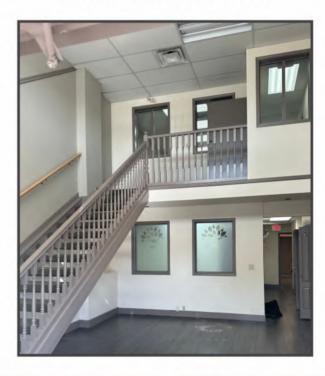
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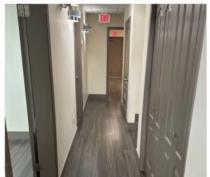






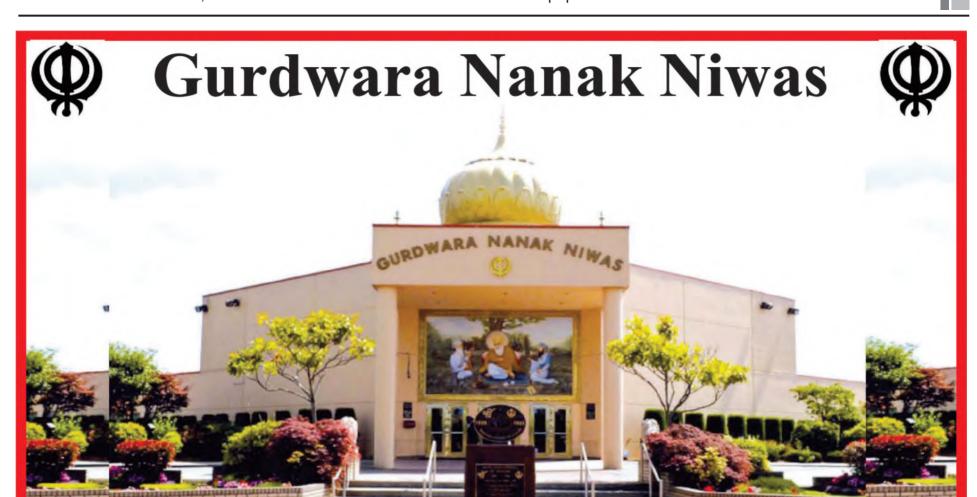








For more information and inquiries call: 604-767-5194



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# **Upcoming Program**

### **WEEKLY PROGRAMS -**

**22nd May, Wednesday** at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Maninder Singh Bajwa family.

23th May, Thursday at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Paramjit Sandhar family. 24th May, Friday at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Amrik Singh Sandhu

family. 25th May, Saturday at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Parminder Singh family. 26th May, Sunday at 9:00 am, Sri Sukhmani sahib path and langer sewa by Kulwinder Kular family at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Kulwinder Kaur family. 31st May, Friday 1st June, Saturday at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Shininder Singh

Dhariwal family.

1st June, Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sri Sukhmani Sahib path and langer sewa by Kulwaran Bains family. 2nd June, Sunday 10.15 am to 11.00 am, Weekly kirtan diwan. After that prominent Sikh scholar Bhai Hari Naam Singh Khalsa will be talks about Sikh religion and Gurbani from 11.00 am to 11.30 am.

at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Jasmen Gill family. 6th June, Thursday at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Arshpreet Atwal family. 7th June, Friday 8th June, Saturday at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by Devinder Singh Sidhu family.

at 10:30 am, Weekly kirtan diwan, langer sewa by trhe sangat. 9th June, Sunday

9th June, Sunday at 5:00 pm, Sri Sukhmani Sahib path and langer sewa by Jasvir Sidhu family.

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.

We are pleased to announce that prominent Sikh scholar Bhai Hari Naam Singh Khalsa will be starting a series of talks about Sikh religion and Gurbani at Gurdwara Nanak Niwas, 5 Road Richmond every Sunday from 11:00 am to 11:30 am. Starting June 2, 2024 and every Sunday after that.

Special Note:- The last Punjabi class will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2024, The new session of Punjabi classes will begin on September 8, 2024. The parents of the children are requested to enroll the children in the Punjabi school in the new session Get the children to learn to speak and write good Punjabi

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

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

BOLLYWOOD www.thelinkpaper.ca SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 A29

# Neha Sharma On Paparazzi Culture



umbai (Maharashtra): Actor IVI Neha Sharma, who is all set to come up as lawyer Niharika Singh in the upcoming series Illegal 3, got candid about the Pap (paparazzi) culture. Sharing her thoughts, Neha said, "The industry is speaking a lot about the pap culture and I feel they work very hard. Actually, when you meet them, you hear their stories and it's very interesting and fun to connect with them. There are times when you look your absolute worst and don't want to be photographed, but I give in and pose because they have put all that work for me. They have their family and it's a means for their 'Rozi Roti'"

Talking about her upcoming series, 'Illegal 3,' is directed by Sahir Raza. Piyush Mishra, Neha Sharma, Akshay Oberoi, Satyadeep Mishra, Neil Bhoopalam, Ira Dubey, and Zayn Marie Khan, the series delves into the complexities of the legal industry, blending drama with themes of love, lust, trust, betrayal, and ambition. In this new season of the series, lawyer Niharika Singh, played by Neha Sharma, starts on a thrilling journey driven by her desire to become Delhi's top legal luminary, abandoning her once-cherished beliefs.

# Continued from Page 23 A new film...

The festival also prides itself on its diverse and inclusive team. The Sundar Prize Film Festival hires a diverse group of BIPOC, LGBTQ+ individuals, friends and allies, as well as both emerging and experienced filmmakers to run the festival. This diversity enriches the festival, ensuring a wide range of perspectives and experiences are represented.

In summary, the Sundar Prize Film Festival promises to be a landmark event in the Metro Vancouver film scene. With its strong support from the community and the film industry, substantial prizes, unique residency opportunities, and a commitment to fair wages and diversity, the festival is set to make a significant impact. The fact that the festival is taking place in the heart of Surrey is also a reflection of Surrey's growth as a major city and cosmopolitan and cultural centre in BC.

The Sundar Prize Film Festival is a celebration of film and a testament to the power of community and collaboration in the arts.

Shah Rukh Khan Admitted To Ahmedabad Hospital Due To Heat Stroke

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan has been admitted to a hospital in Ahmedabad after suffering a heat stroke. The actor was in Ahmedabad to watch the Indian Premier League (IPL) match between his Kolkata Knight Riders and Sunrisers Hyderabad on Tuesday. "The actor was suffering from dehydration amid a high temperature of 45-degree Celcius in

perature of 45-degree Celcius in Ahmedabad. He is under medical observation although his health is stable. Security has been tightened around the hospital," news agency IANS reported, quoting sources.

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The actor's dear friend and ac-

tress Juhi Chawla visited the actor at the hospital. An official statement from the hospital is expected soon, news agency IANS reported.

Shah Rukh Khan, co-owner of IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), celebrated the team's triumph on Tuesday night with a lap of honour at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

Accompanied by his chil-

dren, Suhana Khan and AbRam Khan, Shah Rukh Khan greeted the audience following KKR's impressive win over Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH), which secured their place in the IPL 2024 finals. The official Instagram pages of KKR and the Indian Premier League (IPL) shared pictures and videos of the family's celebratory walk. SRK chants filled the stadium, and Shah Rukh delighted fans with his iconic open-arms pose. KKR's official Instagram page shared snapshots of Shah Rukh Khan thanking fans, captioning them with, "Our lucky charm, our King Khan!"

On the professional front, Shah Rukh Khan was last seen in the film Dunki. His upcoming movie, reportedly titled King, is anticipated to feature him alongside his daughter,

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Suhana Khan. Music for the film is rumoured to be composed by Anirudh Ravichander. However, an official announcement regarding King is still awaited.



CONSUMER

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A30 SATURDAY MAY 25, 2024 www.thelinkpaper.ca BOLLYWOOD

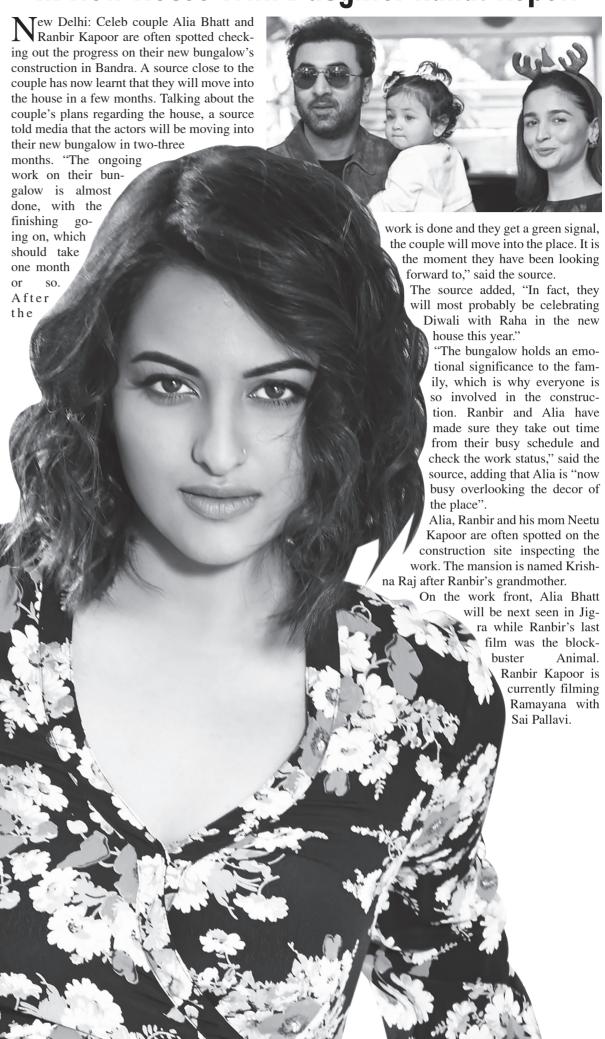
# Sonakshi Sinha

# On What Went Into The Making Of Her "First One Shot" Song Tilasmi Bahein

New Delhi: Sonakshi Sinha, who starred as Fareedan and Rehana in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Heeramandi, shared a post from the making of Tilasmi Bahein on her Instagram profile. She shared a couple of pictures with Sanjay Leela Bhansali and she wrote, "Can't get over that day! From on the spot rehearsal just minutes before the take to getting the perfect take for my first one shot song - Tilasmi Bahein... Swipe right to see Sanjay Sir's reaction, and what we did right after pack up coz we couldn't believe the song was done but we didn't get enough... uff pure magic. Also to everyone who helped create this magic - Kruti Mahesh and her team." Sonakshi added in her post, "Indresh Malik, Jason Shah, Mitakshara Kumar, Ashhna Srrivastava, Vama Gor, Kalika, Drashti, Shivam, Palak Sharma, Namrata, I'm sorry if I've missed out a few but u know who u are) - you brought the song to life... everyone so perfect in their parts... I thank you and am so proud to share this with you." Sharing an anecdote from the making of the track, Sonakshi told NDTV earlier, "I still don't even know how to narrate entire expe

rience because I still can't believe that it happened. So I rehearsed a couple of days before the choreography of the song that it was supposed to be. I have landed up on set after rehearsing. We've shot till about 3 PM, done the hook steps that were taught. Kruti Mahesh choregraphed the song beautifully and suddenly Sanjay Sir said, 'You know what, I don't want to do this' and he scrapped the whole thing on the set that day." About the track - Tilasmi Bahein presented and composed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali, has been sung by Sharmistha Chatterjee. The lyrics are by AM Turaz and it has been choreographed by Kruti Mahesh.

# Alia Bhatt-Ranbir Kapoor To Celebrate Diwali In New House With Daughter Raha: Report



Continued from Page 03

# Surrey leaders outraged over frequent release of dangerous sex...

negatively impacting economic activity and the overall business climate. Moreover, businesses may incur additional costs for security measures to protect their premises and patrons, diverting resources that could be better used to grow and innovate."

The Surrey Board of Trade is also demanding a comprehensive review of the current laws and protocols related to the sentencing, release, and monitoring of dangerous sex offenders who are at high risk of re-offending. It is imperative that we explore and implement more effective measures to ensure the safety and security of all communities in British Columbia.

The police informed that Ezaz Razak is bound by a series of conditions which include, in part, obeying a curfew by being inside your residence for a certain time of the day, not consuming alcohol or hard drugs.

Anyone who sees or knows of

Ezaz Razak violating any of these conditions is asked to call 9-1-1 immediately.

In April, two other dangerous sex offenders were released in Surrey. The mayor called it "blatant disregard for the safety and security of our community, particularly our most vulnerable individuals, is a grave injustice that cannot be overlooked."

Mayor Locke had called on Corrections Canada to to ensure that such individuals are released

throughout all B.C. jurisdictions in a proportionate manner. "This burden must be borne by all communities. I further call for rigorous monitoring following the release of any such individuals into this community so that it does not further task our police service and create risk for our residents. The protection of our community must be prioritized above all else," she had said in a statement, when 56 year old Leonard Ramstead, and 44 year old Michal Popek were

released

In 2020, Popek was convicted of sexually assaulting four women from 2015-2016 and poses a risk to adolescent girls and adult women, including strangers.

In 2019, Ramstead was convicted of sexual interference of a person under 16-year-old and in 2021 he was convicted of sexual interference of a person under 14-years-old; and poses a risk to young children and adolescent girls.



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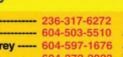
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