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Justin Trudeau Resigns: His Move To Prorogue Parliament Faces Legal Battle

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau this week announced that he intends to resign as Liberal Party leader, amid mounting internal dissent.

The resignation brings a long political chapter to an end. Trudeau has been in office since 2015, when he brought the Liberals back to power. Trudeau said he will remain at the helm until a new Liberal leader is selected.

His announcement on January 6th has raised many concerns and created uncertainties. Peter John Loewen at Cornell University, says there are three major uncertainties right now. "First, how a new Liberal leader will be selected. The



party's internal rules require several months for a campaign, culminating in a vote open to all 'supporters' of the party. Second, it is uncertain that the Liberal caucus will agree to Trudeau's wish to stay on until

a new leader is chosen. They may wish to choose an interim leader. Third, whether the three largest opposition parties will give a new leader a chance to govern as PM. They may instead defeat a new leader at

their earliest chance, forcing elections."

The other most concerning uncertainty is Trudeau has prorogued the parliament until March 24. When Parliament is prorogued, the parliamentary session is terminated. Cabinet ministers stay in their roles and the government's day-to-day operations carry on, but members of Parliament can't vote on any new laws or new spending—or hold confidence votes. This means Parliament cannot pass no-confidence motion and Canadians do not know when the next election take place. Some feel this action of Trudeau was for self benefit.

Continued on page 08

BC Wrestlers Shine In Calgary Tournament



A record-breaking Punjabi wrestlers represented BC in a national tournament in Calgary at the 2025 Jurassic Classic and Dino Cup from January 3-5. The BC wrestling team went with 24

wrestlers and came back with 21 medals, including 11 Gold, 3 Silver and 7 Bronze Medals. Punjabi women and men gave a fantastic performance with Taranpreet Dhillon, Gurleen Dhillon, Tamn Mundi

and Ambika Sehrawat winning gold medals in women championship. Gaurav Bahi, Jovan Johal, Harjot Shergill and Udaypartap Billen won gold in men championship. (full story on Page 12)

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Donald Trump threatens to take over Canada using “Economic Force”

Donald Trump's suggestion for Canada becoming part of US have been afloat for quite sometime. People have joked about it or some dismissed it as wishful thinking. But in a recent press conference, he made it crystal clear that he was not joking. He is serious about Canada becoming 51st state of the US. According to him, US has protected Canada for far too long. He feels US has nothing to lose in the trade war and Canada has everything at the stake if US withdraws its support. Voicing his frustrations he said, US is supporting Canada in defense and with unnecessary trade sanctions. So, Canada becoming

part of US was the logical option. Within hours of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau making announcement of his resignation as Liberal Party Leader, Trump took to social media to write, “The United States can no longer suffer the massive Trade Deficits and Subsidies that Canada needs to stay afloat. Justin Trudeau knew this, and resigned,” he continued, adding that if Canada “merged” with the U.S., “there would be no Tariffs, taxes would go way down, and they would be TOTALLY SECURE from the threat of the Russian and Chinese Ships that are constantly surrounding them.”



The following day he was addressing a press conference, when a journalist asked him if he was serious about making Canada the 51st state and whether he would consider military force to annex Canada.

Trump said not military force but he would consider “economic force” to annex Canada. He said, “Because Canada and the United States, that would really be something. You get rid of that artificially drawn line, and you take a look at what that looks like, and it would also be much better for national security.”

Continued on page 05

There is no mechanism for Canada to accede to the U.S: UBC professor

US President-elect Donald Trump has stirred an array of emotions across Canada when he floated the idea of Canada becoming part of US. Some have shrugged off Trump's suggestion Canada as an old joke or mere posturing, while most of the Canadians dismiss it as a bad political idea. According to a study by the Angus Reid Institute, 6% of Canadians say they want Canada to join the United States.

Here is what Canadian leaders and experts said:

There isn't a snowball's chance in hell: Justin Trudeau

There isn't a snowball's chance in hell that Canada would become part of the United States. Workers and communities in both our countries benefit from being each other's biggest trading and security partner.

Canada will never be the 51st state. Period: Pierre Poilievre

Canada will never be the 51st state. Period. We are a great and independent country. We are the best friend to the U.S. We spent

billions of dollars and hundreds of lives helping Americans retaliate against Al-Qaeda's 9/11 attacks. We supply the U.S. with billions of dollars of high-quality and totally reliable energy well below market prices. We buy hundreds of billions of dollars of American goods. Our weak and pathetic NDP-Liberal government has failed to make these obvious points. I will fight for Canada. When I am Prime Minister, we will rebuild our military and take back control of the border to secure both Canada and the U.S. We will take back control of our Arctic to keep Russia and China out. We will axe taxes, slash red tape and rapidly green-light massive resource projects to bring home paycheques and production to our country. In other words, we will put Canada First.

Cut the crap: Jagmeet Singh
Cut the crap, Donald. No Canadian wants



to join you. We are proud Canadians. Proud of the way we take care of each other and defend our nation. Your attacks will hurt jobs on both sides of the border. You come for Canadians' jobs, Americans will pay a price.

Canada not for sale: Doug Ford

Our country is not for sale — it will never be for sale But I think we work together for an incredible trade deal. With a new administration set to take office in the White House, our government has an ambitious plan to build up Fortress Am-Can to usher in a new American and Canadian century defined by unprecedented growth, job creation and prosperity. We can only do so by working together and respecting each other.

We are not becoming the 51st state: David Eby
Canadians are proud. I'm proud



to be Canadian. We are not becoming the 51st state. And I think that one of the recognitions of both Canadians and Americans is that we are different places. We have different priorities and yet we're good neighbours and friends and in many cases family and that there's no benefit that comes from hurting both sides of the border.

As insulting as it is deeply flawed: Werner Antweiler, UBC

Trump's proposal to use economic coercion to the effect of making Canada the U.S.'s 51st state is as insulting as it is deeply flawed economically, politically, and legally. First, economic integration is already close, and Trump is doing his best to undermine this economic integration by threatening tariffs—much against the spirit of our existing free trade agreement. Politically, Leger Marketing conducted a poll in December 2024 that showed, unsurprisingly, little support for a merger—



Continued on page 23

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Many Indian-Origin Leaders Have Important Role In Liberal Leadership Race

The Liberal Party of Canada will soon be holding its election to choose a new leader after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stepped down. There is no date yet for the Liberal Leader elections, many candidates have expressed their interest to run for the race. What is more interesting is the number of Indian-origin people who will be playing a crucial role in this Liberal

voting either by running as a candidate or by making decisions and policies for the Liberal party as board of directors or party workers.

The top name in the list is Sachit Mehra. Mehra is the President of the Liberal Party of Canada. Trudeau said in his address that he asked party president Sachit Mehra to start preparing for the contest. Mehra



Sachit Mehra

in matters both fiduciary and strategic. We meet regularly in person and by phone with the objective of ensuring the Party is prepared for the next federal election. It is an honour to work with such a distinct and talented group of individuals.”

Hardam Mangat, is the National Vice-President (English), Ranbir Hundal is Director of Liberal Party of Canada (Nunavut) and Prachi Shah is Constitutional and Legal Adviser (French). Apart from directors, Indian Origin Liberal MP Chandra Arya has announced his bid to run for the leadership. Arya was first elected by Nepean voters in 2015 and has been a backbench MP ever since.

He said, “I am running to be the next Prime Minister of Canada to lead a small, more efficient government to rebuild our nation and secure prosperity for future generations. We are facing significant structural problems that haven’t been seen for generations and solving them will require tough choices. I have always worked hard for what is best for Canadians, and for the sake of our children and grandchildren, we must make bold decisions that are absolutely necessary. If elected as the next Leader of the Liberal Party I offer my knowledge and expertise to do so.”

Anita Anand is another potential candidate to enter the leadership race. Although she has not officially released any statement to confirm her bid, a source close to Transport Minister Anita Anand confirmed to 680News Radio that she is also seriously considering a leadership bid.

Anand has packed a lot into her over five years in Parliament after she was first elected to the Oakville riding in 2019. She began as the Minister of Public Services and Procurement during the COVID-19 pandemic before becoming the Minister of National Defence until 2023.

She was later named President of the Treasury Board before settling into her latest role as Transport Minister.

Continued on page 11

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Canada's Richest 100 CEOs Make 210 Times More Than An Average Worker



By Harinder Mahil

Canada's top CEOs made 200 times more than the average worker in 2023, according to a new report released by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) last week.

The CCPA's report, *Company Men: CEO Pay in Canada, 2023*, shows that, on average, these 100 CEOs were paid 210 times more than the average worker's wage in 2023. CEOs have always made more than the average worker, but the gap is growing.

The gap between executives and employees narrowed slightly during 2023, as workers' wages rose and corporate profits declined during high inflation. However, the gap was over 240 times greater in 2022 and 2021.

It's hard to conceive of income gaps that large," says David Macdonald, senior economist with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) and a co-author of the report. "By the first working day of the year, January 2 at 10:54 a.m., these 100 CEOs already made, on average, \$62,661. It took the average Canadian worker all year to earn that amount."

In the 1980s, CEOs made about 50 times the average worker. In the '90s, it was 100 times. Now, it is over 200 times.

According to the CCPA report, the average CEO earns \$7,162 an hour, and the minimum CEO wage for the top 100 is \$3,220 an hour. The top 100 CEO list is almost all men—there are only three women

on this list. In fact, there are more CEOs named Scott or Micheal than there are women on this list.

The mythology of CEOs' supposed path to the top chair also doubles as justification for ever higher pay: that companies' extreme pay packages are needed to attract top talent. However, the report says that the truth of the matter is much more mundane. Of the 100 highest-paid CEOs in Canada, 76 per cent of them weren't parachuted directly into the CEO chair; they were promoted from within the company and had worked there for on average 21 years. In other words, they had been with the same company for, on average, half of their career.

These excessive CEO salaries are not just a symbolic issue—they contribute to rising inequality. The major reason CEO pay is growing so much more rapidly than worker pay isn't their salary, pension or benefits—it's their juicy bonuses. In 2023, the cash bonus was, on average, \$2.3 million per CEO. This isn't



the average workers' holiday bonus and it is double the 100 CEOs' average salary line. In theory, bonuses are supposed to be tied to how well the company is doing. In reality, CEO bonuses rise regardless of

performance.

CEO compensation does not reflect the greater productivity of executives but their ability to extract concessions from corporate boards—a power that stems from dysfunctional systems of corporate governance in Canada.

This concentration of earnings at the top leave fewer dollars for ordinary workers.

How should we deal with this situation? We must develop policies that limit CEOs' ability to collude with corporate boards to extract excessive compensation to prevent Canada from becoming a society like the one in the US where corporations control everything. Such policies could include reinstating higher income tax rates at the very top, using tax policy to incentivize lower CEO pay, allowing shareholders to vote on CEO compensation, and using regulation to rein

in the market power of the corporate sector. Harinder Mahil is a human rights activist and is secretary of Dr. Hari Sharma Foundation.

Continued from Page 03

Trump's tariff threats...

We basically protect Canada." He told US is losing \$200 billion a year and more to protect Canada. "Why are we supporting a country with 200 billion plus a year. Our military is at their disposal. They should be a state. And I said that to, as I called him, 'Governor Trudeau.' I said, 'Listen, what would happen if we didn't subsidize you?' He said, 'Canada would dissolve,'" Trump claimed.

He said the U.S. doesn't need "anything" that Canada exports like dairy, cars and lumber. He said he'd rather make cars in Detroit instead of relying on the highly-integrated continental auto supply chain, and not buy Canadian lumber or dairy. When discussing lumber, Trump said he could use an executive order to "un-restrict" it, implying the U.S. could ramp up domestic supply.

Later Trump posted a pair of maps to his Truth Social platform: one shows the American flag covering both Canada and the U.S., while the other displays the two countries with the words "United States" emblazoned over them.

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It's Time for Punjabi Language to Get Its Rightful Place in Canada's Education System



By Balwant Sanghera

Currently, close to 2 million Punjabi speakers call Canada their home. Punjabi language is now the third most spoken language in Canada. In cities like Brampton, Edmonton, Calgary and Metro Vancouver, Punjabi is the second most spoken language after English. Punjabi was recognized as one of several second languages to be available in BC's public schools. Students in B.C.'s public schools also have the option to study one of six recognized second languages including Punjabi, from grades 5 to 8. It is optional from grades 9 to 12. PLEA would like to request the B.C. Government that the second language requirement for our students should be



changed from the existing requirement of grades 5 to 8 to grades 4 to 7 as compulsory and grades 8 to 12 as optional. For Middle schools, it should be compulsory from grades 6 to 8 and optional from grades 9 to 12. Our reason for this is that in our current school system there is a natural break from Primary to Intermediate grades- Kindergarten to

grade to 3 being Primary and grades 4 to 7 being Intermediate. As such, it should be made compulsory from grades 4 to 7 and optional from grades 8 to 12. However, for the Middle Schools, it will make sense to have it compulsory from grades 6 to 8 and optional from grades 9 to 12. Furthermore, PLEA requests that Punjabi is the third most spoken language. As such, the provincial government and the local school districts should have appropriate support, messaging and information available to parents about the availability of Punjabi as a second language in our public schools. Also, the province should ask the post secondary institutions to include teaching of Punjabi as a second language in B.C.'s public schools as part of the teacher training programs in their universities. In addition to that, the school districts and the province should assist with professional development opportunities for teachers of Punjabi language. In certain schools/school districts, it may be difficult to have enough students or qualified teachers. As such, providing online Punjabi classes throughout the province should be given

careful consideration and support. In some of the Metro Vancouver schools/school districts where there are many students who may be interested in taking Punjabi, the process of determining their interests should start early in the calendar year so that the schools/School Districts get enough time to hire teachers, provide classrooms and other support structure to ensure the success of the Punjabi classes. At the secondary school level, it should clearly be stated at the time of course selection early in the new year that Punjabi is available as an option from grade 9 onwards. Incidentally, Punjabi is the tenth most spoken language in the world with more than 150 million speakers worldwide. In Canada and many other countries, it has now become an asset in employment opportunities. PLEA urges all political parties to give serious consideration to these recommendations. At the same time ,PLEA would like to appeal to parents of six elementary schools in Surrey to enroll their children for Punjabi classes . These schools are: Newton, Chimney Hill, T.E. Scott, Beaver Creek , Green Timbers and Strawberry Hill. Surrey has become the centre for the Punjabi community. As such, we expect and hope to have large number of Punjabi and non Punjabi students benefit from this opportunity. Like previous years, PLEA will be celebrating the International Mother Language Day on Sunday, February 23 at Taj Park Convention Centre, 8580 -132 Street in Surrey. There is no admission fee. Parking is free. Refreshments will be available. For this, we are very thankful to Mr. Kultarjit Singh Thiara. For further information please feel free to contact me (Balwant Sanghera) at 604-836-8976 or Sadhu Binning at 778-773-1886. Happy New Year !
Balwant Sanghera is President, Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA Canada)

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BC Conservative Leader Calls For Inquiry Into 2024 British Columbia Election

John Rustad, the leader of the B.C. Conservative Party, says his party has uncovered what he calls voting irregularities in the critical Surrey-Guildford riding – where the margin of victory was just 22, and which gave the provincial New Democratic Party its majority.

Rustad claims that there is evidence of 45 votes cast in the riding of Surrey-Guildford in the 2024 election “that fail even the most basic smell test in a democracy.”

Rustad is demanding the appointment of a senior justice of the Supreme Court to lead a formal investigation by an independent Commission of Inquiry, pursuant to the Public Inquiry Act.

He said that 21 mail-in ballot votes were cast by residents of Argyll Lodge, a licensed addiction and substance abuse recovery facility. The licensed capacity of Argyll Lodge is 25 beds. Argyll Lodge is across the street from Guildford Park Secondary School, the nearest polling station, located



just 80 metres away. According to Rustad, “Some residents of Argyll Lodge deny requesting a mail-in ballot or being aware that a provincial election was even taking place.”

The party alleges one resident was told how to fill out their mail-in package by a third party, and that others received mail-in ballot packages they did not ask for.

“We need an independent inquiry to get to the bottom of these election irregularities while the election is still fresh in the memories of those individuals who are said to have cast mail-in ballots, and those voters who did not actually live in Surrey-Guildford on election day,” said Rustad.

Honveer Singh Randhawa, the Conservative Party of British Columbia candidate for Surrey-Guildford in the 2024 election, also gave notice that he will file a petition in the Supreme Court of British Columbia to declare that, pursuant to the Election Act, the election of Garry Begg as MLA for Surrey Guildford is invalid, and that the office of MLA for Surrey-Guildford is vacant.

“Justice must be done, and democracy must prevail,” said Randhawa.

Rustad says the Commission of Inquiry must address serious systemic concerns with the election process arising from the 2024 provincial election.

Continued on page 10

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Trudeau’s Resignation Changes Nothing: Pierre Poilievre

Canadians desperate to turn the page on this dark chapter in our history might be relieved that Justin Trudeau is finally leaving. But what has really changed? Every Liberal MP in power today and every potential Liberal leadership contender fighting for the top job helped Justin Trudeau break the country over the last 9 years. All Liberal politicians actively worked to pass into law the job-killing, inflationary carbon tax—a tax that Carbon Tax Carney endorsed in his book.

All supported a law quadrupling the tax over the next 5 years. All voted for or actively supported Trudeau’s out-of-control spending, debt and immigration. All passed Trudeau’s housing policies that doubled the cost of homes. All Liberal politicians helped pass catch-and-release bail and house arrest for the most rampant reoffenders, policies that increased violent crime 50%, gun crime 116% and hate crime by 250%. So, given that Liberal MPs and leadership contenders unanimously supported

everything Trudeau has done, why dump him now, right before an election? Have they had a change of heart? Is it because they feel guilty that they doubled housing costs, hiked taxes, unleashed crime, broke immigration, forced a quarter of the population into poverty? No. They continued supporting Trudeau when he did all those things. No. Their only objection is that he is no longer popular enough to win an election and keep them in power. They want to protect their pensions and paycheques

by sweeping their hated leader under the rug months before an election to trick you, and then do it all over again. Now, while leaderless Liberals focus on saving their jobs and fighting each other for power—the country spirals out of control—an out-of-control housing emergency, an out-of-control migrant crisis, an out-of-control \$62 billion deficit, not to mention tariff threats from the United States, oh, and another NDP-Liberal carbon tax hike kicks in this April 1st ... everything is out of control...



and now, the government is out-of-control.

Continued from Page 01

Justin Trudeau Resigns; Canadians...

One legal advocacy group has already taken the issue to court. The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms, an organization that to defend the constitutional freedoms of Canadians through litigation and education, announced that it is providing lawyers on an urgent basis to two Canadians, David MacKinnon and Aris Lavranos, seeking a Federal Court declaration that Prime Minister Trudeau’s recent prorogation of Parliament is unreasonable and must be set aside.

Among its many grounds arguing that Trudeau’s decision to advise the Governor General to exercise her prerogative power to prorogue Parliament to March 24, 2025, this application argues that the decision to prorogue Parliament was “incorrect, unreasonable or both.”

The court application, filed on January 7, contends that the Prime Minister’s decision to prorogue “was not made in furtherance of Parliamentary business or the business of government, but in service of the interests of the LPC [Liberal Party of Canada].”

At his news conference, on January 6, 2025, the Prime Minister’s stated justification for the prorogation was to “reset” Parliament and to permit the Liberal Party of Canada time to select a new party leader. No

explanation was provided as to why Parliament could not recess instead.

“No explanation was provided as to why Members of Parliaments could not immediately exercise their right to vote on a motion of non-confidence in the government. A majority of MPs have now repeatedly promised to do just that, which would trigger an election and provide the needed “reset” in a democratic and legitimate way,” said a release from the Justice Centre.

“No explanation was provided as to why a prorogation of almost three months is needed. No explanation was provided as to why the Liberal Party of Canada ought to be entitled to such a lengthy prorogation simply so it can hold an internal leadership race,” the release further said.

This Federal Court application includes language taken from a decision of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, which ruled in 2019 that then-Prime Minister Boris Johnson had prorogued Parliament unlawfully, as a means of avoiding Parliamentary scrutiny over the government’s “Brexit” negotiations concerning the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

The application contends, among other things, that “in all of the circumstances surrounding it, the [prorogation] has the effect of frustrating or preventing, without reasonable justification, the ability of Parliament to carry out its constitutional functions as a legislature and as the body responsible for the supervision of the executive, particularly insofar as it relates to Parliament’s ability to deal quickly and decisively with especially pressing issues, such as the situation caused by President-Elect Trump’s stated intention to impose a 25% tariff on all goods entering the United States from Canada.”

“This prorogation stymies the publicly stated intent of a majority of MPs to bring a motion for non-confidence in the government and trigger an election. Prorogation serves the interests of the Liberal Party, but it does not further Parliamentary business or the business of government. It violates the constitutional principles of Parliamentary sovereignty and Parliamentary accountability,” stated lawyer James Manson. “We will invite the Court to conclude that the Prime Minister’s decision to advise the Governor General to prorogue Parliament was without reasonable justification.”

Applicant David MacKinnon feels strongly about this case. He stated, “This case concerns a living tree – our Constitution – and how that living tree

withers without proper care. If we are to fight tyranny – for it is tyranny that confronts us – we must find the answer within the memory of our historical past. We call this memory ‘the common law.’ It is enshrined in the preamble of our constitution. The common law is the repository and guarantor of our justice and our wealth and happiness. Had we nurtured our living tree, and looked to our past, we would have read Lord Denning’s admonishment to the Attorney General of an earlier time: ‘Be ye never so high, the law is above you.’”

Although some experts and Canadian professors argue that the decision to prorogue parliament is concerning but certainly not unconstitutional.

Adam Dodek, professor from University of Ottawa, ““It is constitutionally possible for Parliament to be prorogued to allow for first a war table led by an interim Liberal Party leader. This will allow Canada to prepare for the imminent attack by Donald Trump and the U.S. against Canada’s economy and allow a short Liberal leadership race to choose a new leader by March 24, when Parliament will be called back to session. Some will argue the proroguing is unconstitutional, but I disagree and it is significantly different from the unconstitutional proroguing by former Canadian PM Stephen Harper to avoid a confidence vote in 2008.”

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Police arrest pickup truck driver who crossed US border and hit vehicles in Surrey

On Sunday, January 5, 2025, at approximately 8:45 am, RCMP Surrey Provincial Operational Support Unit and Surrey Police Service (SPS) officers were advised by Canada Border Services Agency staff that a white pickup truck with Washington State plates had driven north through the Pacific Highway Border Crossing without stopping. Officers attempted to locate the vehicle in the area. A few minutes later the vehicle was seen travelling northbound on King George Boulevard driving erratically and near 64th Avenue driving into oncoming traffic. SPS officers then successfully stopped the vehicle and arrested the driver,



who was the lone occupant of the pickup truck. Although vehicles were damaged, there were no injuries to the officers, the suspect or other drivers on the road. The investigation into the incident is continuing. Anyone with information, including any

video footage of the incident, is asked to please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-806 (SU) or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.solvecrime.ca if you wish to remain anonymous.

Two found dead inside burnt vehicle at Abbotsford park

A vehicle was found burning at Sumas Mountain Regional Park in Abbotsford on January 3. First responders located a 2014 Mitsubishi Outlander that was engulfed in flames and upon extinguishing the fire, they discovered what appeared to be human remains inside the vehicle. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) deployed to Abbotsford and has been working diligently with Abbotsford Police, Forensic Identification Services, and the BC Coroners Service to advance the investigation. With assistance from the RCMP Tactical Troop, a thorough search

of the park was conducted for evidence. IHIT can now confirm that the remains of two individuals were located inside the burnt vehicle. "Although the circumstances surrounding the deaths are still being examined, we do not believe this was a random incident, and therefore, there is no ongoing risk to the public," says Sgt. Freda Fong of IHIT. We would like to thank several patrons at the park who rendered assistance and came forward to speak with the police. The details of this case may be disturbing to some and those who are feeling affected are encouraged to seek support.

Man standing between parked vehicles struck by car in Surrey

On Saturday, January 4, 2025, at approximately 10:15 pm, Surrey Police Service (SPS) and Surrey Fire Service responded to a reported collision in the area of 75 Avenue near 124 Street. Surrey Fire Service personnel arrived on scene first and provided life-saving care to a seriously injured male pedestrian. It is believed that this man was standing between parked vehicles which were struck by a Maserati travelling eastbound on 75 Avenue. A second individual who was inside a stopped/parked vehicle

suffered less serious injuries but was also transported to hospital. The occupant(s) of the Maserati fled immediately following the collision. SPS officers are investigating the crash and traffic in the area will be impacted for several hours. Anyone with information, including any video footage of the incident, is asked to please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-1078 (SP) or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.solvecrime.ca if you wish to remain anonymous.

Body discovered inside Surrey house after fire

Surrey Fire Service firefighters on January 5, 2025, located a dead man inside a structure fire at an abandoned house in the 9800 block 138th Street, Surrey. Surrey Fire Service firefighters located the adult man dead body inside the residence while they controlled the active structure fire. Frontline Surrey Police officers

attended and asking for witnesses and surveillance video. At this early stage of the investigation, it is unknown how the man died, and his death is being treated as suspicious until deemed otherwise. Surrey Police Service Frontline Investigative Support Team (FLIST) detectives have been called in to lead the

investigation in collaboration with Surrey Fire Service. Anyone with information, including any video footage of the incident, is asked to please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-1244 (SP) or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.solvecrime.ca if you wish to remain anonymous.

Overnight shooting at Newton resident

Surrey Police Service were investigating an overnight shooting at a residence in Newton that has resulted in property damage. Shortly after 1 am a resident of a house in the 7100 block of 128th Street, Surrey returned home to discover several gun shot holes in the side of their

house. The shooting is suspected of happening sometime between 10 pm on January 5th and 1 am on January 6th. Police said no one was home at the time of the shooting and there are currently no suspect descriptions. BC RCMP SPOSU General Investigation Unit officers

have been called in to lead the investigation. Anyone with information is asked to please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-1382 (SP) or 2025-939 (SU), or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.solvecrime.ca if you wish to remain anonymous.

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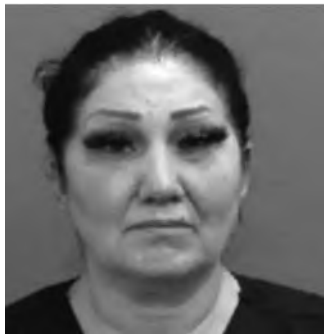
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Fake Nurse Who Treated 1,000 Patients Sentenced to 7 Years

A West Shore RCMP investigation that began in 2021, involving a woman who acted as a nurse has led to her being convicted for several crimes.

West Shore RCMP Serious Crimes Unit investigated 52-year-old Brigitte Cleroux for using stolen and forged documents and impersonating as a nurse while working in a medical facility in View Royal. Brigitte Cleroux was also convicted of several similar crimes in other B.C. jurisdictions and on December 20, 2024, Brigitte Cleroux was sentenced to a total of 7 years in prison for the



crimes committed which include Assault, Using a Forged Document, Impersonation, and Fraud over \$5000.

Cleroux has also been convicted of similar crimes in Ontario and is currently incarcerated, serving prison time in that province. This sentence will add years to her current incarceration.

“We want to thank the West Shore RCMP officers and the investigators in other B.C. jurisdictions who worked diligently throughout this investigation,” said Nancy Sagar, West Shore RCMP.

Suspicious death in Port Moody

On January 1, 2025, at approximately 9:19 a.m., Port Moody Police Department responded to a report of a deceased woman in the water at Reed Point Marina located at 850 Barnet Highway, Port Moody, BC. With assistance from the Coast Guard, the body of a woman in her 60s was retrieved from the water. The Port Moody Major Crime Section led the initial investigation into the woman’s death.

The circumstances surrounding the death have been deemed suspicious and criminality cannot be ruled out at this time. As part of its mandate, IHIT has assumed the conduct of the investigation and investigators are in the area canvassing for witnesses and video surveillance. IHIT continues to work in close partnership with the Port Moody Police Department, the RCMP Integrated Forensic Identification Services (IFIS) and the BC Coroners Service to advance this case.

Investigators believe this to be an isolated incident with no further risk to the public. The victim is not being identified out of respect to her family’s privacy during this very difficult time. “We are interested in speaking with anyone who was in the area of Reed Point Marina between 3:00 p.m. on December 31, 2024, and 9:30 a.m.

on January 1, 2025,” said Sgt. Freda Fong of IHIT. Dashcam video would be especially helpful and we are asking you to contact IHIT as soon as possible.

Anyone with information regarding the investigation is asked to contact the IHIT Information Line at 1-877-551-IHIT (4448) or via email at ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

Vancouver police dog arrests armed suspect hiding in dumpster in Port Moody

VPD officers deployed a police dog and used a beanbag shotgun to arrest an armed suspect in Kitsilano, who tried to evade police by hiding at the bottom of an industrial dumpster earlier today. Police responded around noon on Sunday to reports of a suspicious man going through people’s

backyards along the Arbutus Greenway, near Maple Street. As officers arrived, police received additional reports that the same man was threatening people in the neighbourhood, and was armed with a pair of gardening shears.

Police located the suspect in a lane near Arbutus and West 11th, however, the suspect fled into a compound behind a business and attempted to barricade himself. After the suspect failed to surrender, a police dog was deployed into the compound and located the suspect at the bottom of a dumpster. He was still armed with the gardening sheers and was hiding under several layers of garbage.

The suspect was bitten by the police dog during the arrest and struck with non-lethal rounds from a beanbag shotgun after he fought with the dog and attempted to injure it. He remains in custody and is receiving medical treatment for injuries sustained during the arrest.

At the time of his arrest, the 31-year-old suspect was wanted BC-wide for assault, assault by choking, uttering threats, and mischief. Vancouver Police are recommending additional charges related to mischief, weapons possession, and breaching bail conditions.

Continued from Page 07 BC Conservative Leader Calls...

He said the Official Opposition will bring forward legislation in the spring session of the legislature to correct some of the glaring shortcomings identified in the election.

“We identify four areas that the Commission of Inquiry should address, and that we will address as the Official Opposition,” said Rustad.

In a statement on Wednesday, an Elections B.C. spokesperson confirmed it had received a complaint from Randhawa on Jan. 3. “The complaint is under review,” the spokesperson wrote. “We are unable to provide further information at this time.”

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all the truth spoken by pt. ji. His friend did not believe on the predication. Pt. Vijay told his friend that after one and half year there will be hard time for you. It happened true there will be hard time for you. It happened true when Gursharan Singh went for interview at Canadian embassy for appearance to Canada immigration the officer asked him where are your kids. They were in India she immediately asked gursharan Singh that very shortly the will be here. You can apply

for them today onwards. He is living a good life at Canada with his wife. His son and daughter done there medical. All family members are very thankful to pt. Vijay shastri ji for guiding him properly and done something special for his family. Anybody who wants to know about this incident or any of their miseries, pain, they can call pt. Vijay shastri ji on the following members: Toll free number 1-833-844-0624 Whatsapp number 1-347-593-7064

Two Indian Chemical Companies And A Senior Executive Charged For Distributing Fentanyl Precursor Chemicals

The US department of Justice has charged 2 India-based companies Raxuter Chemicals and Athos Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. (Athos Chemicals) and Bhavesh Lathiya, a founder and senior executive of Raxuter Chemicals, with criminal conspiracies to distribute and import fentanyl precursor chemicals to the United States.

Lathiya was arrested on Jan. 4, in New York City and was ordered detained pending trial. Raxuter Chemicals and Lathiya are charged with conspiracy to distribute and import a listed chemical, distribution and importation of a listed chemical knowing it would be used to manufacture fentanyl, smuggling, and other related offenses. Athos Chemicals is charged with similar offenses, including conspiracy to distribute and import a listed chemical and distribution and importation of a listed chemical.

As alleged in court documents, the defendants supplied precursor chemicals to the United States and Mexico, among other places, knowing they would be used to manufacture fentanyl. They also sent their chemical products to the United States and Mexico using international mail and package carriers. The chemicals distributed by the defendants included all the materials necessary to manufacture fentanyl via the most common methods or pathways. To prevent detection and interception of chemical products at the borders, the defendants employed deceptive and

fraudulent practices, such as mislabeling packages, falsifying customs forms, and making false declarations at border crossings.

"The Justice Department is targeting every link in fentanyl trafficking supply chains that span countries and continents and too often end in tragedy in the United States," said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. "We allege these companies, and a company founder and senior executive who is now in custody, conspired to distribute and import fentanyl precursor chemicals from India to the United States and Mexico. We made a promise that the Justice Department would never forget the victims of the fentanyl epidemic, and that we would never stop working to hold accountable those who bear responsibility for it — that is what we have done, and that is what we will continue to do."

Fentanyl, a Schedule II controlled substance, is the deadliest drug threat currently facing the United States. It is a highly addictive synthetic opioid that is approximately 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. Fentanyl is designated as a Schedule II controlled substance while various precursors that can be used to produce fentanyl are included on the controlled substance schedules List I and List II.

For example, on or about June 29, 2024, a package shipped by Raxuter Chemicals was delivered to an address in the Eastern

District of New York. The package had a false manifest that listed its contents as Vitamin C. In truth, the contents were a List I chemical, 1-boc-4-piperidone, an unlawfully imported fentanyl precursor. On or about Oct. 2, 2024, and Oct 15, 2024, Lathiya appeared on a video call to discuss sale of fentanyl precursor chemicals with an Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) undercover officer. After being told by the undercover officer that his "clients in Mexico were very happy with the quality of what you sent me" and with "the yield they got of the final product," Lathiya agreed to sell 20 kilograms 1-boc-4-piperidone, which is a List I chemical used in fentanyl synthesis. Lathiya also proposed mislabeling the chemical as an antacid. The undercover officer replied and asked if it would be easier to ship the product to Mexico, stating "This is a very controversial product ... Because like you said it's banned and in Mexico I think it could be easier but there's so much pressure on them because of fentanyl." On or about Nov. 23, 2024, Raxuter Chemicals and Lathiya shipped approximately 20 kilograms of 1-boc-4-piperidone to the Eastern District of New York. The package was mislabeled as an antacid.



If convicted, Lathiya faces a maximum penalty of 53 years in prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

HSI New York investigated the case. The Justice Department's Office of International Affairs and U.S. Customs and Border Protection's New York Field Office provided assistance.

HSI New York investigated the case. The Justice Department's Office of International Affairs and U.S. Customs and Border Protection's New York Field Office provided assistance.

An indictment is merely an allegation. All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Continued from Page 04

Many Indian-Origin Leaders Have...

Currently, non-Canadian residents are also allowed to vote in Liberal Party riding nomination and leadership contests. The Liberal Party told CBC News on Monday that it doesn't intend to change or reinterpret rules in its 2016 constitution that Elections Canada has suggested could make the vote be at least as vulnerable to such efforts as previous leadership races. That includes allowing international students to vote. Although many Liberal MPs are pushing to change the eligibility criteria of who can vote in election of Liberal leader.

Innovation Minister François-Philippe

Champagne, Natural Resources Minister Jonathan Wilkinson and Employment Minister Steven MacKinnon have all said they are considering a run.

Former central banker Mark Carney has also said he's interested. Former finance minister Chrystia Freeland, former B.C. premier Christy Clark and House Leader Karina Gould are said to be gathering supporters, too.

Finance Minister Dominic LeBlanc said he would not seek the top job, saying he's better placed to focus on Canada's relationship with the U.S.

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AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHY BY Kulbir Mahi

BC wrestlers shine in Calgary championships

A record-breaking Punjabi wrestlers represented BC in a national tournament in Calgary at the 2025 Jurassic Classic and Dino Cup from January 3-5. The team had 24 wrestlers and came back with 21 medals, including 11 Gold, 3 Silver and 7 Bronze Medals. According to BC Wrestling Association the Provincial Wrestling Team was comprised of 24 athletes. Out of these 24, 15 are Punjabi athletes. Out of the 12 Girls, 7 of them are Punjabi and out of the 12 Boys, 8 of them are Punjabi! In total, there were 15 Punjabi athletes on the provincial team out of the 24. This is the first time this many Punjabis are on our provincial team.

The team's head coaches were Gurjot Kooner & Sukhan Chahal. Along with assistant coach, Jess Tang and physiotherapist, Vic Sanghera of River District Physio.

There were athletes from all across Canada competing, including athletes from: BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Newfoundland, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories.

10 different clubs were being represented on the provincial team, 6 of them are Punjabi based wrestling clubs from the



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Lower Mainland.

For the team results, both the Men's and Women's from BC were undefeated. The team faced off against Team Ontario, Team Saskatchewan, Team North/ Newfoundland, Team Alberta 1 & Team Alberta 2. Team BC are now 3 time Dino Cup Champions in both the Men's and Women's divisions.

The individual results are the following:

Women

Iraabir Sooch - 47kg - Bronze
Isabelle Chen - 50kg - 4th
Gurleen Dhillon - 53kg - Gold
Taranpreet Dhillon - 56kg - Gold
Jaireet Bahy - 56kg - Bronze
Agnia Krakovska - 59kg - Gold
Cassidy Pace - 62kg - 5th

Natalie Wojciechowski - 65kg - Gold
Khushi Jhalli - 69kg - Gold
Tamn Mundi - 73kg - Bronze
Jolina Healey - 80kg - Gold
Ambika Sehrawat - 90kg - Gold

Men

Gaurav Bahi - 48kg - Gold
Karanjot Dhillon - 52kg - Bronze
Ethan Ochoco - 56kg - Bronze
Gurshar Johal - 56kg - 5th
Riley Jhuty - 60kg - Bronze
Dominic Wendt - 65kg - Bronze
Illia Anoshyn - 71kg - Silver
Jovan Johal - 77kg - Gold
Coen Enthoven - 85kg - Silver
Harjot Shergill - 92kg - Gold
Gurkaran Gill - 100kg - Silver
Udaypartap Billen - 120kg - Gold

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Surrey Art Gallery's 50th year begins with a journey through Rajni Perera's imagined Futures

Surrey Art Gallery is kicking off their 50th anniversary with the touring exhibition Rajni Perera: Futures at Surrey Art Gallery from January 25 to March 16, 2025. Admission is free.

Perera was born in Sri Lanka in 1985 and lives and works in Toronto. She explores issues of hybridity, futurity, ancestorship, migrant and marginalized identities/cultures, monsters, and dream worlds. These themes come together to fuel explorations within a multimedia practice that includes drawing and painting, clay, wood, lanterns, new media sculpture, textile, and most recently, synthetic taxidermy.

Perera seeks to open and reveal the dynamism of the icons, beings, and objects she creates by means of a subversive aesthetic that counteracts antiquated, oppressive discourse and acts as a restorative force. Her work is in the collections of the Art Gallery of Ontario, the National Gallery of Canada, the Sobey Foundation, and the Musée De Beaux Arts De Montréal.

Experimenting with mediums as varied as painting, sculpture, and photography, Toronto-based artist Rajni Perera expresses her vision of imagined futures in which mutated subjects adapt to exist in dystopian realms through strength and resilience. Perera draws deeply on the artistic traditions of Sri Lanka, her childhood home. Indian miniature painting, medieval armour, South Asian textiles, and science fiction also factor into her body of work that spans feminist and diasporic narratives while contemplating survival in an environmentally degraded future.

Her work responds to existential threats with creativity and invention, offering a vision charged with humour, critique, hope, and dread. Looking to the past and to the future, and endowed with a powerful imagination, Perera is singularly equipped to express the increasingly chaotic, often frightening, and sometimes hopeful world in which we find ourselves today.

Futures includes nearly thirty works from various stages of the artist's career. Through the manifestation of various mediums from functional sculptures to intricate paintings, Perera looks ahead to uncertain

times threatened by climate change and looming social inequities. Her future goddesses and inventive armours prevail over dystopic realms, mutating to adapt to challenging environments.

This exhibition is organized and circulated by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. It is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue featuring an interview with the artist by curator Sarah Milroy, as well as essays by leading international literary figures Fariha Róisín and Britt Wray. Surrey Art Gallery is the only West Coast stop on the tour.

The winter opening and art party on Saturday, January 25 will also celebrate Cheryl Pagurek: Winter Garden—an interactive digital

collage developed out of a still life photography series.; Pass the Mic!—a range of artworks curated by the Semiahmoo Arts Society; and Nicolas Sassoon: Liquid Landscapes—a Surrey-inspired series of animations returning on the new UrbanScreen venue at Surrey Civic Plaza. The evening includes artmaking with Claire Cilliers and Gallery art educators, poetry with Heidi Greco, a conversation between guest curator Sarah Milroy and Gallery Curatorial Assistant Zoe Yang, sound installation with Ruby Singh, and much more!

Also in connection to Rajni Perera: Futures is a tour and conversation between the artist and Negarra A. Kudumu on Saturday, March 1 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Rajni Perera, Traveller 5, 2019, mixed media on paper, Royal Bank of Canada Art Collection, commissioned by the RBC Curatorial Department. Photo courtesy of the artist and Patel Brown © Rajni Perera.

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Dr. Koonar Returns to Cedar Dental Centre: A Warm Welcome Awaits!

After a temporary absence, Dr. Koonar is back at Cedar Dental Centre, ready to serve the Surrey community with top-notch dental care. Located at Unit 201, 8434 120 Street, Surrey, BC, Cedar Dental Centre is once again buzzing with activity as Dr. Koonar reopens his practice doors to both old and new patients alike.

Dr. Koonar, known for his commitment to excellence and personalized care, is eager to reconnect with familiar faces and extend a warm welcome to those seeking a trusted dental professional. Whether you're due for a routine check-up, interested in cosmetic treatments, or simply want to say hello, Dr. Koonar invites you to book an appointment today by calling 604-581-1362.

New patients are also encouraged to experience the difference at Cedar Dental Centre. Dr. Koonar welcomes individuals and families seeking comprehensive dental solutions tailored to their unique needs. From preventive care to restorative treatments, Cedar Dental Centre is your one-stop destination for all things dental.

In a special note, Dr. Koonar expresses his gratitude to the community for their continued support and loyalty. He emphasizes his commitment to providing the highest standard of care and looks forward to serving the Surrey community for years to come.

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A Missed Opportunity: A Diplomatic Vision for a Union of the Americas



By Alex Sangha

The incoming President Donald Trump had the opportunity to consider a transformative vision for North America: a closer economic, political, social, and cultural union between Canada and the United States. Instead of resorting to tariffs, insults against our Prime Minister, and coercion in pursuit of integrating Canada as a 51st state, the approach could have been collaborative, respectful, and visionary. A proposed “Union of the Americas” (UA) could have unlocked benefits for both nations while addressing shared challenges in a democratic and civil manner.

The Potential Benefits of a Union

The idea of a closer union between Canada and the United States is not without merit.

Both countries share a border, extensive trade ties, and intertwined histories. A structured and consensual partnership could build upon these commonalities to create new opportunities:

Economic Growth and Prosperity:

A union could harmonize trade policies, reduce tariffs, and eliminate other economic barriers, creating the largest free trade area in the world. By integrating infrastructure projects, energy grids, and supply chains, businesses could thrive under a more unified economic framework, and workers on both sides of the border could benefit from increased job opportunities and mobility.

Enhanced Security:

A closer union would strengthen cooperation in border security, intelligence sharing, and defense. This collaboration could better address common threats such as cyberattacks, organized crime, and climate-related disasters.

Cultural Exchange and Social Progress:

Canadians and Americans already enjoy deep cultural ties, but a formal union



could encourage even greater exchanges in arts, education, and innovation. Joint programs could celebrate diversity while fostering mutual understanding and respect.

Environmental Stewardship:

Both nations face pressing environmental challenges, from managing shared water resources to tackling climate change. A coordinated strategy within a union could lead to robust policies and investments in renewable energy and sustainable development.

Global Influence:

Together, Canada and the United States would wield unmatched economic, military, and diplomatic influence. A union could present a unified front in addressing global challenges, from advocating for human rights to shaping the international order.

Addressing Concerns

However, a union of this magnitude would undoubtedly raise significant concerns, which must be addressed through open dialogue and democratic processes.

Sovereignty and Identity:

Many Canadians fear losing their national identity and autonomy in a closer partnership with the United States. To address this, the UA could adopt a federal model that respects the unique political and cultural structures of each nation as sovereign states, similar to the European Union. Canada’s bilingualism, Indigenous rights, and healthcare system must remain protected.

Economic Disparities:

While a union could bring economic growth, it must also address the disparities between regions and industries in both countries. Policies should ensure that smaller communities and vulnerable populations are not left behind in the pursuit of integration.

Democratic Accountability:

A union must be built on democratic principles, ensuring that citizens on both sides of the border have a voice in shaping its governance. Transparency and public participation would be essential to building trust.

A Democratic, Civil, and Respectful Process

The success of such a union would hinge on its development through a democratic and civil process. This would require extensive consultation with citizens, elected officials, Indigenous leaders, and civil society organizations. A referendum in both nations could serve as a cornerstone of legitimacy, ensuring that the UA reflects the will of the people.

Negotiations should emphasize mutual respect, with each nation entering as an equal partner. The process would also need to include robust protections for minority rights, cultural heritage, and environmental sustainability.

Moving Forward

The opportunity to explore a Union of the Americas was a missed chance to forge a groundbreaking partnership between Canada and the United States. President Trump’s approach, characterized by tariffs and insults, strained relations and squandered a moment to lead with vision and diplomacy.

While such an ambitious idea may not have been politically feasible during Trump’s presidency, it remains a concept worth revisiting in the future. A thoughtfully crafted union, built on respect and mutual benefit, could set a precedent for global cooperation and demonstrate the power of collaboration in an increasingly divided world.

Continued on page 25



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Free standing non strata building in the heart of west newton. Rare find 5 loading docks plus one level loading. Almost half a acre of land. 22 feet ceiling height. Total 5 units, 3 are used by the owner and 4500 sq ft leased for app \$12000.00 a month gross. Owner is in the process of legalizing Mezzanine. Very long possession is possible. Very convenience location and only steps away from 84 ave and 124 street.

\$8,990,000

FOR LEASE

11316 CONFIDENTIAL



A highly profitable, busy and well established convenience store for sale in the Heart of downtown Vancouver. Close to Skytrain and surrounded by offices, this convenience store enjoys plenty of foot traffic and fantastic daily sales boosted by vapes and accessories.

PIZZA FOR SALE

120 30485 CARDINAL STREET

\$210,000

Very nice and clean business with double oven, walk in cooler, walk in freezer, food prep cooler, storage and many many more. Open 3pm and been operating from long time on this location. Great potential for adding food etc to this location and there is lots of extra space for that. 1400 sqft space.

FOR SALE OR LEASE

103 8363 128 STREET



\$1,988,900

Red FM Plaza with heavy exposure, popular plaza in front building exposure. Presently tenant occupied however tenants are willing to move any time. Ground floor and double door entry. Assets or share sale. Building can be used for multi-purpose, like schools, offices, etc. High ceiling and beautifully built mezzanine office. Retail style unit. Also have lease option see MLS C8062002.

2 Unit
Warehouse

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

FOR SALE

\$1,688,800



11933 96 AVENUE

This stunning custom-built home in the desirable Royal Heights neighbourhood of Surrey sits on an expansive 8,500 sq. ft. lot, offering ample outdoor space and privacy. On the market for the first time, this home features a bright and airy interior designed with modern finishes, and large windows that flood the home with natural light. Two separate laundry. A separate rental suite provides excellent income potential or an ideal in-law suite. Located within walking distance to shopping, restaurants, parks, and schools, this home offers convenience and ease of living. Extra-large garage with additional room for your hobbies or extra storage.

FOR SALE

\$619,999



118 225 FRANCIS WAY

Located in the heart of New Westminster, this stunning one-bedroom unit at the Whittaker combines elegance and comfort for an exceptional living experience. With large windows that flood the space with natural light, the open-concept layout features a modern kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. Move-in ready, this home is perfect for those seeking both urban convenience and a peaceful escape. The Whittaker's exclusive "Boiler Room" clubhouse enhances the lifestyle with a fully equipped fitness center, media room, and a party space for larger gatherings.

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Extremely busy location. Land app. 1/2 acre (including) 8000 sq ft. 24 hr. business alone or together.

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FOR LEASE

124st and 84

Total 12,000 sq ft, on 2 levels.

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

WAREHOUSE

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

\$2,049,000

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WAREHOUSE
FOR SALE

2817 Sqft in 1/2 acre, New 1000 sq ft. auto etc. 16 foot ceiling.

Only \$1,199,000.

Warehouse for Lease

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

Vedic Senior Parivar



Vedic Senior Parivar held its Birthday Celebration on January 6th at Laxmi Narayan Temple

New Listings At 10-Year High In 2024, But Affordability Still The Elephant In The Room In Fraser Valley

The Bank of Canada interest rate cuts that began mid-year were not enough to ease the affordability crisis for many home buyers in the Fraser Valley in 2024, leading to a decline in annual sales. The Fraser Valley Real Estate Board reported new listings of 35,698 for the year ended December 31, 2024, a 10-year

high and nine per cent above the 10-year average. However, annual sales recorded on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) were the lowest seen in ten years at 14,570, a decline of one per cent over 2023 and 24 per cent below the 10-year average. The City of Surrey accounted for the majority of 2024 sales at 51 per cent, with Langley

and Abbotsford accounting for 24 per cent and 15 per cent respectively. “2024 marked another subdued year for Fraser Valley home sales on the heels of a ten-year low in 2023,” said Jeff Chadha, Chair of the Fraser Valley Real Estate Board. “Slight declines in home prices across some areas of the region provided

negligible relief for buyers looking to get into the market. At the same time, the modest price adjustments did not discourage sellers from listing.” The composite Benchmark home price in the Fraser Valley closed the year at \$965,000,

Continued on page 30

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62 15175 62A AVENUE
NEW LISTING

\$919,000

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

19913 72 AVE LANGLEY
NEW LISTING

\$1,849,000

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

UNIT 34 - 1010 EWEN AVE NEW WEST
NEW LISTING

\$849,000

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

217 20696 EASTLEIGH CRESCENT
NEW LISTING

\$699,000

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

19917 72 AVE LANGLEY
NEW LISTING

\$1,599,998

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

11516 PARKWOOD PLACE DELTA
NEW LISTING

\$1,499,000

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

5105 ABERDEEN ST., VAN

\$1,495,000

Beautiful Corner House in the most desired area of Collingwood. Upstairs features three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Main floor with a good size family room and dining room with separate entry and at the back of the house is a large deck. It comes with its own laundry. Lots of parking and very close to all amenities, walking distance to Joyce Collingwood sky train and Gaston Park.

#37-8358 121A ST., SURREY

\$699,000

Welcome to Kennedy Trails. This house checks all the boxes. Cost effective & environmentally friendly. GEOTHERMAL Heating system. E-star windows. Three level home. Large dining area, Gourmet kitchen, master bedroom with walk in closet. Below is very large room with 4th bed and comes with a full bath and a large Backyard approx 360 SQ FT Double side by side car garage, additional 1 car parking New Paint. Professionally Cleaned Carpet. Close to all amenities: superstore, restaurants and very easy access to the highway as well. This is a must see.

9750 128 ST., SURREY

\$999,900

Solid 6 bed and 2 bath home in the heart of Surrey. A perfect home for home buyers. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen with gas stove, separate laundry. Massive deck, freshly painted. Downstairs comes with 3 bed, 1 den, 1 bath and kitchen. Lots of parking at the front and back. Detached garage. Some recent renos include roof, windows, paint.

#51-7090 180 ST., SURREY

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14379 66A AVENUE

OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4 PM




6 BED - 4 BATHS - 10,318 SF

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

ASKING 1,599,000

5758 131 A STREET SURREY



11BED - 11 BATHS - 20,255 SF LOT

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE
UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PRIME
NEIGHBOURHOOD OF PANORAMA

ASKING 4,000,000

9097 BROADWAY STREET



3 BED - 1 BATH - 10,019 SF LOT

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

ASKING 924,000

11956 98 AVENUE, SURREY



7 BED - 5 BATHS - 6,600 SF

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

ASKING 1,699,000

7028 142 STREET, SURREY



5 BED - 5 BATHS - 7,107 SF

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

ASKING 1,699,000

10095 FAIRVIEW DRIVE, CHILLIWACK



4 BED - 2 BATHS - 9,750 SF LOT

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

ASKING 929,000

1001 14881 103A AVENUE



2 BED - 2 BATHS

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

ASKING 589,000

5748 123 Street Surrey

SOLD! SOLD! SOLD!



7 BED - 8 BATHS - 20,211 SF

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

ASKING 2,999,000

MASSAGE PARLOUR
FOR SALE IN SURREY



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

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PARLOUR
IN RICHMOND
FOR SALE

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2024 Acura ZDX Type S Review: Luxury brands first EV!

Review by Veenoo Dewan

The brand new 2024 Acura ZDX all-electric battery powered SUV is a sleek five-door compact with a wide low athletic look to it. The ZDX is the prestige brands first ever electric vehicle and has its own design language. Of course there is Acura's Pentagon front grille surrounded by jewel-eye headlights and the sharp defined body lines- It's a looker for sure. By the way, the ZDX is the most powerful vehicle Acura



has ever made. In typical Acura style, there is an exceptional interior cabin and a host of advanced technologies.

The compact ZDX sport-utility seats up to five passengers and offers two model ranges. The 2024 Acura ZDX arrives as the A-Spec or the Type S, both with two electric motors and as standard all-wheel drive (AWD). Both versions use a 102-kWh battery. The A-Spec's combined motors produce 490 horsepower and 437 lb-ft of torque, the more powerful Type S (As tested) amps up to an impressive 500 horsepower and 544 lb-ft of torque.

As standard features on the 2024 Acura ZDX A-Spec include an 11.3-inch infotainment touchscreen with Google Built-In and WiFi hotspot, wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, 11-inch digital instrument cluster, and 18-speaker Bang & Olufsen sound system. Also added is

, wireless charger, dual-zone automatic climate control, 12-way power-adjustable heated and ventilated front seats, perforated leather upholstery, power-adjustable heated steering wheel, auto-dimming mirror, and panoramic sunroof.

The S-Type further adds a head-up display, tri-zone climate control with rear climate panel, 16-way seats with memory, heated rear seats, and digital rearview mirror. The Type S version features the AcuraWatch suite of systems that includes, alongside a host of drive-assist functionalities, Hands Free Cruise allows for hands-free driving on many highways in Canada and the U.S. There is also a Power lift hatch with hands-free access.

In performance terms, the Acura S type adds height-adjustable air suspension, adaptive shock absorbers and unique yellow 15.6-inch Brembo front brakes,.

It rides on wider 22-inch wheels compared to the 20-inch wheels on the A-Spec version.

Standard driver-assist technologies on the A-Spec are very comprehensive and the Type S further adds hands-free cruise control, six parking sensors front and rear, surround-view camera, self-parking system, and rear pedestrian alert.

2024 Acura ZDX Canadian pricing starts at \$84,990 for the A-Spec, while the as tested Type -S is \$91,490 –The Type S includes all the extras, but I do recommend the optional gorgeous red leather and Ultrasuede interior A towing package of trailer hitch, is also offered. . Both trims can tow up to 3,500 lbs. According to Acura, charging capacity in the ZDX can reach up to 190 kW, and can regain up to 100 km of range in about 10 minutes in ideal conditions. There is an official 447 km of maximum electric driving range. (Range with the regular dual-motor ZDX is 489 km on a full charge). Both

trims use regenerative braking, and level of regeneration can be adjusted for one-pedal driving.

Interior wise, the ZDX has a spacious interior with roomy seats and plenty of space to stretch out. The low dashboard features the 11.3-inch multimedia screen. two screens (11-inch for the driver data

cluster and 11.5-inch for the multimedia system). And reconfigurable instrumentation capability. The look is clean, uncluttered and ergonomic. The full-on head-up display and digital tech is balanced by controls with large physical buttons and knobs for often used functions and features.

Continued on page 25

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Continued from Page 03

There is no mechanism for...

just 13 per cent of Canadians favoured the idea. And legally, while Canadian provinces can secede under Canada's constitution, there is no mechanism for Canada to accede to the U.S. short of a constitutional amendment, for which the hurdles are enormous.

It is Trump's dated imperialist rhetoric: Max Cameron, UBC

The best guarantee Canada will never join the U.S. is Trump himself. His statements are unserious, but that doesn't change the fact that we should take them seriously. In an asymmetrical relationship, the weak cannot ignore threats by the strong. I expect Canadians will set aside their differences and, with a single voice, reject Trump's dated imperialist rhetoric.

Canadians are three times more likely to support Kamala Harris: Terri Givens, UBC



The main concern should be focusing on a clear and

direct response to Trump. The president-elect has been trying to bully Canada's leadership so that they will be more likely to make concessions around trade and defense issues. This will likely continue, but the GOP as a party has nothing to gain from having Canada as a 51st state that would likely be more liberal, and adding another set of representatives and a senator would hurt the party. Polling showed that Canadians were three times more likely to support Kamala Harris than Trump in last year's election."

It is not just a joke but a form of bullying: Stewart Prest, UBC

Canadians should take seriously president-elect Trump's musings about the possibility that Canada become the 51st state, including [Tuesday's] musings about using economic force to annex Canada. It is not just a joke but a form of bullying intended, at a minimum, to place Canada at a negotiating disadvantage. As with all bullying, it will continue until the target stands up to it. Accordingly, while we will have to wait for the days after the president-elect's inauguration to see whether the threats are enacted, Canadian leaders ought to act now to make clear that our sovereignty is non-negotiable, and that Canada will defend itself and its prosperity integrity with all means at our disposal."

Sukhbir Singh Badal Resigns As Shiromani Akali Dal President

Facing "tankhah" (punishment) from Akal Takht, rebellion within the party and repeated debacles in elections, Sukhbir Singh Badal today resigned from the post of SAD president. His five-year tenure as the party chief was to end on December 14 this year.

The resignation ended his nearly 16-year tenure as the party chief and the reign of the Badal family. Sukhbir's father and five-time Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal was the SAD president from 1995 to January 2008, when he handed over the reins to Sukhbir. Sukhbir had, on August 29 this year, handed over the charge of the party affairs to senior leader Balwinder



Singh Bhundar by appointing him as the working president of the party. Bhundar has also been a loyalist of the Badal family, and he will continue to lead the party till the new

president is elected. Party spokesperson Daljeet Singh Cheema, who announced Sukhbir's resignation, said an emergency meeting of the working committee had been called on November 18 at the party headquarters here to consider Sukhbir's resignation and chart out the next course of action, including the conduct of elections for picking the new president of the party. Cheema said the last election to the post of president and the organisational structure of the party was held on December 14, 2019. He said as the elections were due next month, Sukhbir had chosen to resign to clear the way for the conduct of this exercise.

Surge In Cases Of HMP Virus In China Raises Fears Of Another Covid-Style Pandemic

A surge in cases of the flu-like human metapneumovirus (HMPV) in China has raised fears of another Covid-style pandemic. HMPV spreads through direct contact between people, or when someone touches a contaminated surface.

The virus leads to a mild upper respiratory tract infection for most people. It is usually almost indistinguishable from flu. Symptoms for most people include a cough, a fever and blocked nose. The very young, including children under two, are most vulnerable to the virus. It also poses a greater

risk to those with weakened immune systems, including the elderly and those with advanced cancer, according to Hsu Li Yang, an infectious diseases specialist in Singapore. If infected, a "small but significant proportion" of immunocompromised people can develop more severe disease where the lungs are affected, with wheezing, breathlessness and symptoms of croup. Indian officials have already confirmed first cases of HMPV, with seven people said to have contracted the virus as of Tuesday, according to the Indian Council

of Medical Research. Two of the HMPV infections were reported in the central Indian city of Nagpur on Tuesday, while two cases were reported in cities of Bengaluru, and one each in Ahmedabad, Chennai and Salem. The cases include a three-month-old girl who tested positive for HMPV on Monday. Another case involved an eight-month-old boy who tested positive for both HMPV and respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV. At least eight HMPV cases have been detected. On Thursday, an 80-year-old man tested positive for the infection in Ahmedabad city of Gujarat.

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FORECLOSURE	FORECLOSURE	
Delta; 55 years old, 8869 SQ.ft lot, 3300 SQ.ft home, 9 beds, 4 bath. Asking-\$1,390,000	Langley; Look at this beauty only 7 years old, 3 story 5100 SQ.ft home, 12,500 SQ.ft lot, 6 bed, 6 bath, 2 suite, double garage. Asking-\$2,150,000	
FORECLOSURE	FORECLOSURE	Cloverdale
White Rock; 6800 SQ.ft lot, 1060 SQ.ft home, 2 bed, 1 bath, 53 years old. Asking-\$1,300,000	White Rock; 54 years old home, 5134 SQ.ft lot, 3 beds, 2 bath, 1926 SQ.ft home. Asking-\$1,399,000	Exclusive; Just like new, 3450 SQ.ft lot, 3 storey, 4 beds on top floor, 1 bed suite, double garage, backs to school culdisack location. Asking-\$1,649,000
FORECLOSURE	FORECLOSURE	FORECLOSURE
Panorama Ridge; 15 years old, 6 beds, 4 baths, 3515 SQ.ft lot, 2873 SQ.ft home. Asking-\$1,439,000	Surrey; 13 years old, 4000 SQ.ft lot 3835 SQ.ft home; 7 beds, 6 bath, double garage. Asking-\$1,529,000	Langley; 5 Acres older home, 5 beds, 3 bath, 3200 SQ.ft home. Asking-\$2,950,000
FORECLOSURE	FORECLOSURE	FORECLOSURE
Surrey; 23 years old, 9747 SQ.ft lot 3914 SQ.ft home, 7 beds, 5 bath, 2 suites. Asking-\$1,900,000	Langley; 40 Acres blurberry farm with two homes, 3 car garage, main home is 4100 Sq.ft 5 beds, 5 bath. Asking-\$4,000,000	Abbotsford; 5 Acres with older home, 5 beds, 3 baths, great. Asking \$1,399,000

SikhRI Launches Online Guru Granth Sahib Dictionary

Sikh Research Institute (SikhRI) has released the online The Guru Granth Sahib Dictionary. This unveiling, inspired by the Gurburab of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib on 6 Poh Nanakshahi 197 (5 Jan 1666), commemorates a significant milestone. In homage to this historic event, SikhRI and The Guru Granth Sahib Project (TGGSP) Team presented a user-centric, immersive platform for seekers, scholars, and students of Sikhi worldwide. “The launch of GuruGranthSahibDictionary.io is a pivotal step in making the wisdom of the Guru Granth Sahib accessible to audiences worldwide. This comprehensive platform and user-friendly interface will help seekers understand its sacred words,

deepening our connection to the spiritual and linguistic heritage of Sikhi,” said Professor Mohanbir Sawhney, TGGSP Strategic Advisor. “It showcases how technology and tradition can come together to educate, inspire, and connect generations.” Powered by dedicated research from the TGGSP team and in collaboration with trusted technology partner Sequent, the platform is continually updated with new entries, enriched definitions, and refined interpretations. This website is a companion to the TGGSP platform, offering seekers profound translations, in-depth interpretations, illuminating commentaries, and groundbreaking research on the compositions’ historical,

musical, and poetic essence in Panjabi and English. “Our vision is to make the Guru Granth Sahib accessible to all, transcending all boundaries, including linguistic and cultural barriers,” says Harinder Singh, SikhRI Co-founder and TGGSP Project Lead. “Through this initiative, we open a new door to engage with the infinite wisdom coded in the words-sounds of Sabad.” “The new online dictionary makes the multivalent scriptural vocabulary and rich nuances wonderfully accessible!” says Dr. Nikky-Guninder Kaur Singh, Chair of Religious Studies at Colby College. “It can be used in a Panjabi or English version, which presents entries in Gurmukhi



or Romanized Panjabi, their complete grammatical analysis, and present Prakrit, Old Panjabi, Persian, Arabic, Braj, Sindhi, Gujarati, and Sanskrit etymologies. The website is indeed an invaluable linguistic resource for the layperson and the scholar alike. My heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to SikhRI.”

Money Buys Happiness In Different Ways Depending On Where You Live

New research from a multinational UBC psychology study suggests that money can buy happiness—but what you spend it on matters, depending on where you live.

Does money buy happiness? New research from a multinational UBC psychology study suggests that it can—but what you spend it on matters, depending on where you live. Happiness from spending varies significantly between high- and lower-income nations. “Our research shows that spending on gifts and time-saving services, such as paying for house cleaning or take-away food, led to a greater boost in happiness for those in wealthier nations,” said Dr. S  de Stenlund, first author of the study published recently in Communications

Psychology. “On the other hand, paying off debt or paying for housing was perceived as bringing less happiness in the wealthier countries.” Regardless of region, happiness derived from purchases was long-lasting and led to higher feelings of overall well-being even months after the purchase. The study, funded by an anonymous donor couple and the TED organization, is the largest to date examining spending and happiness across diverse cultural and economic settings. The researchers examined the happiness impacts of a one-time \$10,000 US windfall spent by 200 participants across seven countries, on 3,225 purchases ranging from smartphones to housing. The participants recorded their purchases and rated how happy each made them. Six months later, the researchers reassessed their overall well-being. The findings reveal intriguing cultural and economic differences in what brings people joy.



Certain types of purchases bring happiness globally. The study highlights how the practical and cultural realities in different contexts shape the happiness people derive from spending. While certain types of purchases such as donations and experiences increased happiness regardless of where participants lived, other types of purchases had more impact in certain countries. Participants in wealthier nations like Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. found more joy in gifts and time-saving services, while participants in lower-income nations such as Kenya

and Indonesia valued investments in basic needs and financial stability. “In countries where everyday life involves greater financial stress, paying off a significant debt or securing a home is naturally more impactful,” said Dr. Stenlund, a postdoctoral researcher at Harvard’s T.H. Chan School of Public Health who conducted the research at UBC with guidance from psychology professor Dr. Elizabeth Dunn. “However, it’s also remarkable how certain types of purchases such as donating, buying experiences or investing in education and personal care brought similar happiness to individuals across the globe.” Key discoveries from the study include: Gifts: Spending on gifts brought high levels of happiness globally but had a stronger emotional impact in wealthier nations. Housing and debt relief: These brought less happiness in wealthier countries.

Continued on page 25



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Buy BC Program Helps More Local Farmers, Processors Succeed

British Columbians will experience a wider variety of local food and beverage options as more farmers and small businesses get support through Buy BC.

Through the Buy BC Partnership Program, \$2 million is available to support those eligible to participate in provincewide marketing projects to help boost awareness, demand, and sales of B.C. products. The funding will help additional local food and beverage companies and industry associations share their stories with more people around the province.

“British Columbians know the Buy BC logo represents local products that are produced and processed by people in their communities, from small family farms to innovative food producers,” said Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture and Food. “Buy BC is supporting the people who make up our province’s diverse agriculture and food industry so, together,

we can continue to shine a light on many unique and delicious products produced here at home, while strengthening local food systems and economies.”

Examples of B.C. companies that have increased sales through Buy BC include Rad Jamz and Preserves in Kelowna, which uses only B.C. produce with a focus on the Okanagan region for its high-quality jams, jellies and preserves. The company used Buy BC funding to attend a trade show and promote its products through a series of advertising campaigns that included print and digital components. As well, it partnered with former Buy BC chef ambassador Ned Bell for a local TV segment.

“This was the second round of Buy BC funding for Rad Jamz and we were able to change our packaging from glass jars to flexible packaging, a more economical and user-friendly package,” said Kyla King, owner, Rad Jamz and Preserves. “We knew it would be an interesting

transition for consumers, so with the funding, we were able to share why we made the switch. Now we are getting more sales than ever and extremely positive feedback on our products.”

In Surrey, Not Too Sweet Craft Sodas received funding to redesign its packaging with the Buy BC logo so consumers could easily identify its products’ local roots. The company participated in a trade show with new marketing collateral that helped lead to new retail partnerships and more stores carrying its craft soda beverages.

“With the help of Buy BC, we gave our packaging and marketing materials a much-needed glow-up,” said Elaine Van, owner, Not Too Sweet Craft Sodas. “We also used the funding to attend a key trade show and the results have been game-changing. It’s opened the door to a whole new channel, connecting us with more customers than ever and fuelling some truly exciting growth for our business.”

Since relaunching in 2017, the Buy BC



Partnership Program has supported more than 600 B.C. producers, processors and associations with \$13.7 million to support their efforts to increase food sales, product promotion and food security in B.C. Applications will be open from Monday, Jan. 6 until Jan. 27, 2025.

Continued from Page 24

Money Buys...

Time-saving purchases: Services like hiring help or cutting commuting time were appreciated more in high-income nations, where time scarcity is often a stressor. Donations, experiences, education, personal care: These brought similarly high levels of happiness across the global population. The findings move beyond stereotypes—and even existing research—to offer a nuanced perspective on how to maximize happiness through daily spending. The researchers hope their study will lead to more inclusive advice on happiness and financial well-being. What works in New York might not work in Nairobi, so it’s important to tailor financial advice to cultural and economic contexts. Happiness is shaped not just by how much money we have, but by how wisely we align spending with our unique circumstances and needs.

Continued from Page 21

2024 Acura ZDX Type S Review...

The seats are comfortable with good lumbar and support. Overall, the cabin design, Luxury and ambience is upmarket and modern. The rear cabin is also spacious and equally well appointed with cargo space s 793 litres with the rear seats in place, and 1,722 litres when they’re folded down.

On the road, The more powerful S-Type has audacious high performance with the 544 lb-ft of torque and the dual motor setup. Acceleration and tenacious grip is immediate is and the ZDX is very quick on the uptake. The ride is smooth and comfortable thanks to the Type -S dedicated An Adaptive air suspension, with a lift function and adaptive dampers. The air suspension delivers a finely

tuned balance between ride comfort thanks to Normal mode and sporty, more responsive dynamics when Sport mode is selected. Maneuverability is good too with agile handling and quick responsive steering overall. Braking is exemplary thanks to the uprated Brembo brakes system.

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) rates the 2024 Acura ZDX A-Spec at 489 km of range. The S-Type is rated at 447 km of range,

Downsides are few- the top tier models are pricy – that’s all really. Top draws for me include the sporty exterior styling, the EV power and sheer fun-to drive quotient. Simply wonderful.

2024 Acura ZDX S-Type. Priced from \$91,490.

Continued from Page 14

A Missed Opportunity...

As both nations look ahead, let this idea remind us of the potential that arises when leaders choose unity over division, dialogue over discord, and partnership over coercion. The vision of a Union of the Americas offers a blueprint for what is possible when nations work together to achieve shared prosperity, security, and progress.

Alex Sangha has an MSc in Public Administration and Public Policy from the Department of Government at the London School of Economics. He is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal from the Governor General of Canada.

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NAME CHANGE

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

Nanda Jewellers Inc.,

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is looking to fill the position for a Store Manager [NOC 60020].

Number of Positions Available: 1 [one]

Start Date: As soon as possible

Job type: This is a full-time, permanent position.

Location of work: Location of work is only at our only location in the address above.

Salary: \$36/hour.

Language: English. Please mention in your resume if you have any Hindi or Punjabi language skills.

Hours of work: 11 AM-7PM, 5 days of the week depending on weekly schedule. 40 hours work week

Benefits- Benefits include extended health and dental benefits and minimum provincial benefits

Job duties:

- A customer centric approach and informing clients about new designs in jewelry introduced in the store catalogue;
- Preparing and coordinating schedules for staff;
- Ensure team is knowledgeable of company policies and are proficient in solving customer service issues efficiently;
- Achieving monthly and quarterly sales targets by demonstrating strong personal selling skills and training team by transferring skills to sales teams;
- Assisting management in the hire and training or new employees;
- Developing sales strategies with online and offline marketing to boost store sales;
- Monitor stock levels and place orders as needed;

Job requirements

- Completed secondary school is required, In addition please highlight if you have a college diploma or university degree in business management and administration;
- Minimum of one year or more previous sales experience preferably in the jewelry industry;
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- Candidate must be willing to work independently and manage team with a high level of accuracy, have excellent interpersonal skills and display a high level of professionalism;
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Please send your resume by email to: nandaonmain2024@gmail.com

Please only reply by email as we are a busy store and this is the most efficient way for us to screen your application

Only qualified candidates will be contacted.

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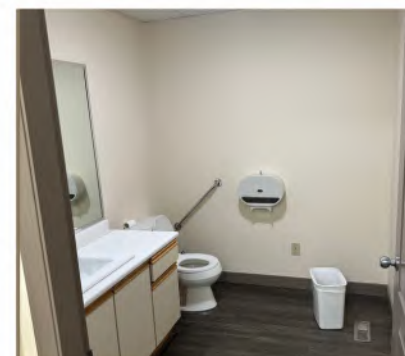
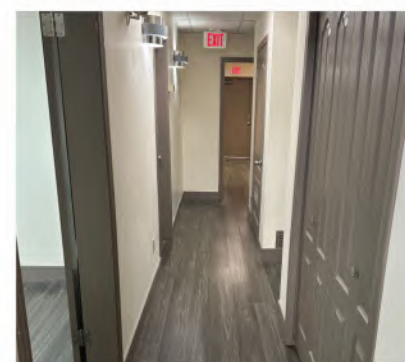
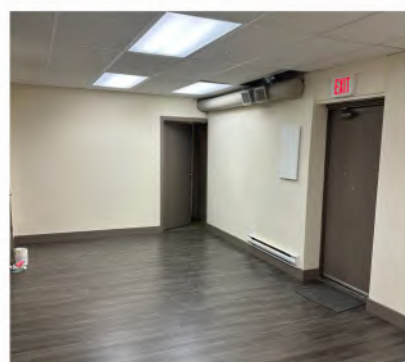
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Upcoming Program

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

- 10th January, Friday** at 10:00 am, Sri Akhand Path Sahib parkash by Saraaj and Neena Gosal family.
 - 11th January, Saturday** at 10:00 am, Sri Sukhmani Sahib path, Gurbani kirtan, katha vichar and langer seva by Jaswant Singh Sidhu family.
 - 12th January, Sunday** at 10:00 am, Weekly diwan, Bhog Sri Akhand Path Sahib by Saraaj and Neena Gosal family.
- All the three days, the langer will be served by the Gosal family.**
- 12th January, Sunday** at 3:30 pm, Sehaj path bhog and antim ardas for late Santokh Singh Koonar by the Koonar family

*Important Information:

The last day of Punjabi school is December 22nd, then Punjabi classes will start from Sunday, January 5th. Please enroll your children in the school so that they can able to speak, read and write Punjabi.
For more information, contact Secretary S. Balwant Singh Sanghera at 604-836-8976.

Special Notice (Lohri)

- 13th January 2025, Monday** at 6:00 pm, As in previous years, the social festival of Lohri will be celebrated with those lucky families who have been blessed by God with the gifts of children. There will be Gurbani kirtan and langer sewa on this occasion. A Dhuni Balan ceremony will also be held in the parking lot behind the Guru Ghar. The fortunate families who have received the gift of children are requested to contact the Gurdwara Sahib to join this joyful event.
- 14th January 2025, Tuesday** at 6:00 pm, A special Diwan will be arranged on the occasion of Maghi Sangrand in memory of the unique sacrifice of the 40 Muktas. The service will be provided by the Sangat.

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: Rehras Sahib 5.30 pm to 6.00 pm, Kirtan 6.00 pm to 6.15 pm, Ardas/Hukamnama 6.15 pm to 6.30 pm, Sukh Aasan 8.00 pm

For more information, log in to the Gurdwara Sahib website! www.nanakniwas.ca
Phone number of Gurdwara Sahib is (604) 274-7479

Kangana Ranaut Says Oscars Pick Anti-India Films That ‘Make The Country Look Like A S**Thole’

Since Kiran Rao and Aamir Khan’s Laapataa Ladies failed to make the cut for the Oscars, there has been a lot of chatter about it. In an interview with Times Now, Kangana Ranaut, who is busy promoting Emergency, criticised the kind of films that are chosen for the Oscars. Kangana Ranaut says Oscars pick anti-India films

Kangana Ranaut stated that films portraying India as a “s**thole” are often selected for the Oscars. She said, “Usually, the agenda they push for India is very different. Jo Oscar pick karta hai is anti-India. Abhi bhi jo film praise garner kar rahi hai (even now, the film that is garnering praise), I was very excited about it. I heard the director say, in India, you don’t have the freedom to love the way you want to love because of religious intolerance. I haven’t even seen the film. For the Oscars, it has to be a film that makes the country look bad. Slumdog Millionaire, etc. It always has to be a film that makes the

country look like a s**thole.” She further added, “Emergency is not that film. The West is ready to see how India stands today. I have never cared about these awards. I don’t care about Indian awards or Western awards. It is a film that’s brilliantly made, and it is as good as any international film. But at the same time, I know how geopolitics works. We, as nationalist people, don’t have much hope with these award functions.”

About Emergency Emergency is a

biographical action-drama film directed by and starring Kangana Ranaut. The film also features Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Vishak Nair, Mahima Chaudhry, Milind Soman, and Satish Kaushik in pivotal roles. Based on the Emergency imposed in India for 21 months from 1975 to 1977 and its aftermath, the film will see Kangana portraying former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. It is scheduled to release in theatres on January 17, following multiple delays.



When Vidhu Vinod Chopra Bit Manoj Bajpayee’s Wife Shabana Raza’s Hand



Manoj Bajpayee’s wife Shabana Raza is more popularly known as Neha Bajpai, which is stage name. An actress who made her film debut with Bobby Deol in Kareeb in 1998, she stopped working in films after 2009. Recently during an interview, her actor husband revealed the reason why she stopped doing films and did not pursue a career after 2009. “She didn’t quit films, she stopped getting work for some reason. Too many politics here and there. She is also an outsider and didn’t have any mentor,” he said. However, there’s more that he shared about her time in Bollywood. Recalling an absurd incident, Manoj Bajpayee shared how filmmaker Vidhu Vinod Chopra bit her hand once. Sharing the incident, the Gangs Of Wasseypur actor revealed, “Because Shabana didn’t have any film training of that sort, in the song she was raising a different hand altogether. In the scene, she was supposed to raise her left hand, but she ended up raising her right hand...” “So for her to raise the left hand without forgetting, Vidhu bit her there. Nobody can do this with me,” he stated. Manoj Bajpayee added that this action confused his wife, who was new to films at the time and didn’t know how the film industry worked. He added, “Because she was so new, she didn’t know if the action was appropriate. She thought this is the way filmmakers behave. She must have thought they are all mad geniuses, they are capable of doing anything they want.”

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Farah Khan Thinks “It Is Harder Now” To Work With Shah Rukh Khan. Here’s Why

Shah Rukh Khan and Farah Khan’s friendship is more than three decades old. The two have collaborated on a number of songs and movies. But the filmmaker and choreographer feels it is harder to work with SRK now. During a recent interview with ETimes, Farah Khan spoke about the friendships she developed in Bollywood, since before her actor friends even became big stars. Among this is one of her dearest friends, Shah Rukh, who she has been friends with since before Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa and Deewana. Farah fondly recalled their friendship and expressed gratitude for it. However, she admitted that it is quite challenging to work with the superstar now. “If it was hard working with him then, it is harder now. Every time we work on a song, the pressure doubles because we have created such iconic songs together,” she said. Interestingly, Farah’s last directorial venture Happy New Year was with SRK in 2014. During the same interview, she shared that she wanted to take a break from direction after Happy New Year as she could not find anything exciting. She still wants to get back to direction, but only when she finds the right project at the right time. On Shah Rukh’s work front, he is currently working on his upcoming movie King, which will also star his daughter Suhana Khan, along with Abhishek Bachchan. King was earlier reported to be directed by Sujoy Ghosh, but latest



reports state that it will be directed by Siddharth Anand, who also directed SRK in the 2023 blockbuster Pathaan.

Deepika Padukone Shares Message For Women Who Became Mothers In 2024

New Delhi: Deepika Padukone loves to keep posting messages and reels for new mothers. The Chhapaak actor, who embraced motherhood in September, shared a heartwarming message for new mothers on her Instagram stories. Deepika shared a reel in which a sunset can be viewed against the backdrop of a sea. The message read, “Mums who gave birth in 2024... Remember this... When you see everyone’s highlight reel at the end of the year, remember your body Grew and Birthed a whole human this year! Nothing tops that.” Sharing the reel, Deepika Padukone wrote “Amen”. Deepika and Ranveer Singh rang in their New Year celebrations outside Mumbai. They, reportedly, observed Deepika’s birthday in the Maldives. On Tuesday evening, the couple delighted the Mumbai shutterbugs at the airport. The happy couple posed with the paparazzi. They were all smiles. For the airport look, Deepika chose stripes and looked super chic. Ranveer Singh tied his hair in a pony tail and was dressed in his casual best. A paparazzo also wished Deepika a belated happy birthday and she responded with a smile, “Thank You.” Last month, Deepika and Ranveer hosted a special meet and greet for the paparazzi and introduced daughter Dua to the shutterbugs. Pictures from the event went crazy viral as Deepika and Ranveer posed for picture-perfect snaps. Paparazzo Pallav Paliwal, who was in attendance, shared details of his first impression about Dua. Speaking to Hindustan Times, he said, “When we arrived, Deepika and

Ranveer greeted us. Later, Deepika went inside and brought baby Dua in her arms. Dua clung to her mother throughout. She was dressed in a simple white dress.” “They asked us to keep the noise down as Dua had just woken up from her nap. Deepika later took Dua back inside,” he added. The couple welcomed their first child, a baby girl, on September 8. On Diwali, Deepika and Ranveer shared the first picture of their daughter and revealed her name. “‘Dua’ : Meaning a prayer. Because she is the answer to our prayers. Our hearts are filled with Love & Gratitude. Deepika & Ranveer,” they captioned the post. Take a look: On the professional front, Deepika has had a busy few years, with recent films including Pathaan, Jawan, Fighter, Kalki 2898 AD and Singham Again. Ranveer Singh is currently working on Aditya Dhar’s upcoming espionage thriller, which features an ensemble cast including Sanjay Dutt, R Madhavan, Arjun Rampal, and Akshaye Khanna.



Continued from Page 19

New Listings At 10-Year High In 2024, But Affordability Still The Elephant...

down two per cent year-over-year, and down four per cent from its 2024 peak in March.

December 2024

The Board recorded 994 sales on its MLS® in December, a decline of 13 per cent from November, but 19 per cent above sales from December 2023.

New listings declined 46 per cent from November to December, from 2,367 to 1,288, contributing to a 23 per cent decline in overall inventory in December. With a sales-to-active listings ratio of 16 per cent in December, the overall market closed out the year in balance. The market is considered balanced when the ratio is between 12 per cent and 20 per cent.

“While the Fraser Valley saw overall balanced market conditions for most of 2024, the low levels of buying and selling activity reflected a challenging year for many as would-be buyers waited for affordability to improve,” said Baldev Gill, CEO of the Fraser Valley Real Estate Board.

“Interest rate cuts by the Bank of Canada along with recent government policies aimed at boosting overall housing supply and improving affordability, should help to increase market conditions in 2025.”

It took longer to sell townhomes and condos in December compared to November. Townhomes spent 36 days on the market, up from 33 days in November, while condos spent 38 days on the market, up from 36 days in the previous month. Single-family homes spent 43 days on the market — no change from November.

The composite Benchmark home price in the Fraser Valley continued to slide for the ninth straight month, down 0.5 per cent compared to November.

MLS HPI Benchmark Price Activity

Single Family Detached: At \$1,480,400, the Benchmark price for an FVREB single-family detached home decreased 0.1 per cent compared to November 2024 and increased 0.9 per cent compared to December 2023.

Townhomes: At \$827,900, the Benchmark price for an FVREB townhome decreased 0.9 per cent compared to November 2024 and increased 0.3 per cent compared to December 2023.

Apartments: At \$533,900, the Benchmark price for an FVREB apartment/condo decreased 0.4 per cent compared to November 2024 and decreased 0.2 per cent compared to December 2023.



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