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# Cities Of Surrey And Delta Call On Province To Review Local Tax Policies Amidst Tariff Threats

US President Donald Trump on Monday agreed to a 30-day pause on his tariff threats against Canada after Canada agreed to take steps to enhance border security and Fentanyl trafficking. This pause may have come as a relief for businesses, but experts feel it is temporary and no one knows how things will unfold after one month. In the wake of this uncertainty, the cities of Surrey and Delta that share borders with the US, have stepped up to deal with the looming tariffs. Both the cities are urging the province to review the local tax policies and



**Surrey Mayor  
Brenda Locke**



**Surrey First Councillor  
Linda Annis**



**Delta Councillor Dylan  
Kruger**

give relief to businesses and households. Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke is calling on Premier David Eby to immediately cut the gas tax, suspend PST on B.C.-made goods and review all other provincial relief measures to address the economic pressures. "These tariffs will have devastating impacts on families and businesses across Surrey and B.C. and immediate relief is essential. A gas tax cut will help alleviate the crushing financial

burden on our businesses and residents, ensuring that families can continue to thrive in our community." Before Trump announced the pause, Surrey Mayor Locke had already joined newly formed Border Mayors Alliance that aims to protect local economies and advocate for the interests of communities along the Canada-U.S. border.

*Continued on page 09*

## Trailblazing Punjabi-Canadian and former Alberta NDP leader Raj Pannu dies at 91



Raj Pannu, a renowned Punjabi-Canadian educator, politician, and community leader, passed away on January 30, in Edmonton, Alberta, at the age of 91. Known for memorable 'Raj against Machine' campaign, Pannu was first elected as an MLA for Edmonton-Strathcona in 1997 and held the seat until he retired in 2008. He served as party leader from 2000 to 2004. As one of the first Canadians of South Asian descent to lead a major political party, Pannu paved the way for a diverse new generation of politicians. Read full story on page 12

## US Military Plane Flies More Than 100 Illegal Immigrants Back To India

A U.S. military plane carrying 104 deported Indian migrants arrived in Amritsar on February 5. US authorities say it is part of a crackdown on illegal immigration ordered by the Trump administration. The U.S. aircraft that landed in Amritsar, Punjab, returned 104 Indian immigrants, said Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal, Punjab's minister for Non-Resident Indian Affairs. A US military plane landed at the Shri Guru Ramdas Ji International Airport in Amritsar at 1.55 pm on Wednesday. Of those deported, 33 each are from



Haryana and Gujarat, 30 from Punjab, three each from Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, and two from Chandigarh. Questions are being raised in Punjab about landing the plane in Amritsar. Punjab AAP president and cabinet minister Aman Arora accused the Centre of meting out "step-motherly" treatment to Punjab at every step.

*Continued on page 23*

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## 19-Year-Old Dies Following Abduction in Abbotsford, Found Gravely Wounded at Crescent Beach

On January 27, 2025, at 1:52 a.m., the Abbotsford Police Department (AbbyPD) responded to a suspicious occurrence in the 2900-block of Victoria Street in Abbotsford. Witnesses reported seeing a man being assaulted before being taken away in a vehicle. Around three hours later, the 19-year-old victim was located in the Crescent Beach area of Surrey with severe injuries. He was transported to the

hospital where he remained for treatment.

On February 1, 2025, the victim succumbed to his injuries at the hospital and the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) assumed conduct of the investigation.

“The victim had his whole life ahead of him and sadly, his family is now left in grief with many unanswered questions,” says Sgt. Freda Fong of IHIT. “You can expect investigators

to be in the area canvassing for video evidence. A number of witness interviews are underway in an effort to determine the motivation behind the attack.”

This appears to be a targeted incident with no ongoing risk to the public.

Anyone with information regarding this case can contact the IHIT Information Line at 1-877-551-IHIT (4448) or by email at [ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:ihitinfo@rcmp-grc.gc.ca).

## Abbotsford daycare owner Indu Takhar charged for assaulting children

Abbotsford police have arrested 60-year-old Indu Takhar after reports of children being assaulted by the owner-operator of a daycare in East Abbotsford.

The alleged incidents, dating back to 2022, involved children aged 2 to 6 years old. Over the past few months, the AbbyPD Major Crime Unit diligently followed the evidence and advanced the investigation.

On February 4, 2025, Major Crime Detectives arrested 60-year-old

Indu Takhar. Mrs. Takhar has been charged with six counts of assault and has been released from custody under several court-ordered conditions that include not going to any daycare centres and having no contact with any person under the age of 16 years old.

The AbbyPD Major Crime Unit Detectives are asking you to contact the Abbotsford Police Department at 604-859-5225 if you have any information that may be related to this investigation.

## Richmond Elections Are Determined By Canadians And Nobody Else



By Parm Bains  
MP, Steveston-Richmond East

For the past three years, Richmond became a political victim in the national conversation on foreign interference, which led to unfair targeting of our local diaspora communities.

Last week, the Foreign Interference Commission published the Public Inquiry into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions report, which stated clearly to Canadians what our community has always known. The 2021 federal election in Richmond was free and fair.

The Commission was created to investigate the strength of our electoral systems and claims there were MPs that owed their election wins to foreign powers. While the threat of foreign interference is real, these accusations proved to have no merit as affirmed by Hon. Justice Marie-Josée Hogue.

To combat the rise in foreign interference from hostile and friendly nations, I immediately committed myself to protecting our community from this serious threat, and from those who took aim to undermine the results of the 2021 election.

As your MP, and as a member of the House of Commons Committee on Access to Information, Privacy, and Ethics (ETHI), the process of informing and engaging the public began with our study on Foreign Interference. One of the key findings in our study spoke to the threat misinformation

and disinformation pose to vulnerable communities, and the need to properly educate Canadians.

A fundamental problem that allowed foreign influence claims to surge was the lack of information available to Canadians on the threat of foreign interference, and what the government is doing to counter it.

My work on the ETHI committee, combined with debates in the House, accounted for over 200 personal interventions related to strengthening our democratic institutions, including the following important measures:

**Political Interference, Violence, or Intimidation on Canadian Soil**

I co-drafted and seconded the unanimously passed M-112, introduced by MP Sukh Dhaliwal, to recognize and immediately review cooperative agreements with

various foreign states where we share security intelligence. To protect democratic institutions, maintain the rule of law, and prevent violence and terrorism, to ensure that diaspora communities are protected from acts of political interference, violence, or intimidation on Canadian soil.

**Bill C – 70 An Act respecting countering foreign interference**

**Foreign Influence Transparency and Accountability Act (FITAA)**

FITAA passed unanimously to amend, after almost 40 years, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act, the Criminal Code, the Security of Information Act, and the Canada Evidence Act. New offences were established, and many of the ETHI study recommendations our committee reported were adopted in the FITAA. This included strengthening enforcement under

the Security of Information Act. Canada is a rich and influential country, and there are bad actors in many nations, some unfriendly and some friendly, that want to influence our politics. Times are changing. Rising global conflict, instability, and hostility require new safeguards to protect our democracy. This includes pushing back on attempts to divide and misinform Canadians through mass media platforms.

An educated public is an essential line of defence to help identify, counter, and prevent the spread of misinformation and disinformation. I will continue to push for stronger frameworks to provide that education and modernize legislation as Parliament did last year with the Security of Information Act and CSIS Act, which gives our security and intelligence agencies the enforcement and investigative tools they need to protect Canadians.

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# Indo-Canadian wrestlers shine at 18th Annual Miri Piri Wrestling Championship

The 18th Annual Miri Piri Wrestling Championship was organized in Abbotsford, last weekend, with over 300 kids and nearly 30 clubs competing from across BC and beyond, including Vancouver Island, Kelowna, Bella Coola, as well as Calgary, Alberta.

The club says this was the best and biggest championship event so far. “We would like to thank all of our volunteers, parents, supporters, and sponsors who made this event possible. It truly felt like the entire community came together to create something



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special. Shout out to DME McDonalds, Abbotsford Police Department, City of Abbotsford, Kelly Chahal, Dave Sidhu, Jag Khosa, and Spice TV. Thank you all for coming out and supporting our event and the community,” said the club in a media release.

Congratulations to all of the athletes, clubs and coaches! And the two-time Miri Piri Cup Champions, Canadian Mal Wrestling Club. Full individual and team results can be found at [www.trackwrestling.com](http://www.trackwrestling.com)

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# Supreme Court Of Canada To Hear Challenge To Quebec’s “Secularism Law”, Disproportionately Affecting Sikhs And Muslim Women



By Harinder Mahil

The Supreme Court of Canada on January 23 agreed to hear a challenge of Quebec’s “secularism law”, known as Bill 21, which prohibits public sector workers in positions of authority from wearing religious symbols on the job. This law prohibits turban wearing Sikhs or hijab-wearing Muslim women from being hired as judges, teachers, police officers, and prison guards. The law prohibits public sector workers from wearing religious symbols while at work. The legislation does not specify religious symbols that are prohibited at work, but critics say it disproportionately affects Sikhs and hijab-wearing Muslim women. The legislation forces people to choose between their careers and their faith. It is

a blatant violation of religious freedoms, a right protected under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Although freedom of expression and religion are enshrined in Canada’s constitution, provincial and federal governments can set aside certain rights in favor of their own policy objectives, through the rarely used “notwithstanding clause.” The clause was adopted in 1981 as something of an override button after provinces expressed concern that they would have to cede authority to the courts to interpret some rights. Quebec’s National Assembly passed the bill into law on June 16, 2019. To protect the law from the courts, Quebec legislators invoked the Constitution’s notwithstanding clause, a provision that must be renewed every five years. It was last renewed in 2024. The federal government has said it would intervene in the case and make arguments against the law in front of the Supreme Court. The decision by the Supreme Court of Canada to grant leave to appeal is an important opportunity to examine



the fundamental protections for religious minorities and the limits of the notwithstanding clause in a case where it has been weaponized to override fundamental freedoms and disproportionately target members of certain religions. By using the notwithstanding clause within the Charter to shield Bill 21 from legal challenges, the Quebec government set a precedent for politicians to attack Canadians’ rights without fear of consequence. Since the law came into effect,

many members of Sikh and Muslim communities have lost their jobs and had to leave Quebec. The law infringes upon individuals’ rights to freely practice their religion. The law is discriminatory, as it targets specific religious groups. It marginalizes these communities and unfairly stigmatizes them as being “other.” Human rights advocates say the law contributes to social divisions within Quebec society. They argue that it fosters an atmosphere of intolerance and exclusion and may deepen existing divides between different cultural and religious groups, making it harder for people to live together harmoniously. People should not be forced to make the choice between their religion, their identity and their profession. The government should not be allowed to impose their beliefs on the people of Quebec, nor should they be dictating to individuals what they can and cannot wear. I sincerely hope the Supreme Court will see the law as discriminatory and suspend its operation. Harinder Mahil is a human rights activist and is secretary of Dr. Hari Sharma Foundation.

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## Obituary: Satwant Kaur Dhani

Beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Satwant Kaur Dhani, resident of Coquitlam, BC, peacefully passed away on February 2nd, 2025 at the age of 90. Funeral Service will be held at Riverside Funeral Home (7410 Hopcott Road, Delta, BC) on Sunday February 9th, 2025 at 3:00 pm followed by Antim Ardaas at Akali Singh Gurdwara (Vancouver, BC) Contact Davinder Dhani at 604 506 4639

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## Surrey Police Board Re-Established; Rob Stutt to represent city

On December 30, 2024, the Lieutenant Governor signed an Order in Council to appoint a new Surrey Police Board, effective January 31, 2025. Under the amended Police Act, the Provincial Government appoints up to seven members and City Council appoints one elected representative and one city representative.

Nerissa Allen, Sarbjit Bains, Bilal Cheema, James Carwana, Harley Chappell, Christine Mohr and Rob Stutt (Elected City Council representative) have been appointed to the board.

The Surrey Police Board is an independent governance body established under the BC Police Act. It is responsible for providing civilian oversight of policing in Surrey, setting policy direction, and ensuring that police services meet the community's needs. In November 2023, the provincial government paused the appointments of Surrey Police Board members and appointed Mike Serr as Board Administrator to advance the policing transition. The appointment of



the Board Administrator is rescinded, as of January 31, 2025.

During January, the new Police Board members have been going through an onboarding process to become orientated to the role, in order to assume their responsibilities immediately upon the effective date of their appointment. There are currently two additional vacancies to be filled: one city Council Appointment and one Provincial Cabinet appointment.

"I would like to thank Police Services Branch, Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office and Surrey City Council for their efforts in re-establishing the Surrey Police Board. Civilian oversight is integral to public trust and confidence of the police, and I am impressed with the diverse expertise that the new Police Board members will bring.

It has been an honour to serve as Board Administrator and I am proud to have been a part of the significant milestone of SPS assuming police of jurisdiction in Surrey. There is more work ahead to fully complete the transition, and I have full trust in this new Police Board and Chief Lipinski and his team to build a police service that will make a difference in Surrey," says Mike Serr, Surrey Police Board Administrator.

"We are delighted to have Councillor Stutt join the Surrey Police Board," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "His extensive experience in policing, combined with his dedication to community service, will be a great asset.

*Continued on page 30*

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# Four BC Rural Areas Selected By IRCC To Attract New Immigrants

Four areas in BC have been selected by the immigration ministry to attract and retain more immigrants. West Kootenay, North Okanagan Shuswap, Peace Liard and Kelowna, BC are part of two new pilots to help rural and Francophone minority communities attract and retain newcomers with the right skills to help their regions succeed as we work to establish the RNIP as a permanent program.

Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, announced the launch of the Rural Community Immigration Pilot and the Francophone Community Immigration Pilot, and the communities chosen to participate. These pilots will provide 18 communities with a permanent residence pathway to attract and retain newcomers who can fill key jobs and who want to live long-term in these areas.

The Rural Community Immigration Pilot ensures that rural communities have access to programs that address labour shortages and help local businesses find the workers they need. The Francophone Community Immigration Pilot focuses on increasing the number of French-speaking newcomers settling in Francophone minority communities outside of Quebec. This ensures the economic development of Francophone minority communities, while also helping to restore and increase their demographic weight. Each selected community is represented by a local economic development organization, which will work with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to identify its critical labour gaps, designate trustworthy employers and recommend suitable candidates to IRCC for permanent residence. IRCC has begun training the economic development organizations, and each community will provide details and timelines on when employers and prospective permanent residence candidates can expect to have a chance to apply.

Other communities that will participate in the Rural Community Immigration Pilot (RCIP): Pictou County, NS; North Bay, ON; Sudbury, ON; Timmins, ON; Sault Ste. Marie, ON; Thunder Bay, ON; Steinbach, MB; Altona/Rhineland, MB; Brandon, MB; Moose Jaw, SK; Claresholm, AB; West Kootenay, BC; North Okanagan Shuswap, BC; Peace Liard, BC

The following communities will participate in the Francophone Community Immigration Pilot (FCIP): Acadian Peninsula, NB; Sudbury, ON; Timmins, ON; Superior East Region, ON; St. Pierre Jolys, MB; Kelowna, BC.

“Rural and Francophone communities are vital to Canada’s growth and cultural diversity, and we value the unique contributions that newcomers make in these places. By welcoming skilled immigrants to these areas, we are addressing labour shortages and economic needs while promoting the benefits of living in a smaller town or city. Our commitment to supporting these regions reflects our belief that each one matters. That is why we will make the RNIP a permanent program, and why we are introducing these two new pilots. We’ll continue to work closely with these communities as we work to connect businesses with the skilled workers they need to thrive,” said Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship.

For more information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/rural-franco-pilots.html>



# Hospital Union Urges Ottawa Not To Change PNP For Healthcare Workers

Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health on track to lose over 500 health care workers in 2025. With ongoing health care staffing shortages across British Columbia, the Hospital Employees’ Union (HEU) is urging the federal government to revise its Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) to prevent the loss of critical support service workers in B.C. hospitals.

“Changes in 2024 to the provincial nominee program by Ottawa are effectively abandoning thousands of health care workers when we need them the most,” said Lynn Bueckert, HEU secretary-business manager. “We are calling on the federal government to take immediate steps to keep these much-needed health care workers in B.C. before any more workers are deported.”

The provincial nominee program was designed to attract immigrant workers who want to become permanent residents of Canada and have the skills, education and work experience to contribute to the economy of a specific province or territory.

Since 2022, large numbers of B.C. health care workers here on visas were accepted into the program. However, changes last year to the PNP’s selection criteria along with federal cuts to immigration targets have reduced the number of program spaces in British Columbia from 8,000 to 4,000 in 2025.

“With fewer spaces available, hundreds of experienced health care workers – including care aides, housekeepers, dietary aides, and clerical staff – are now at risk of deportation annually for the next several years,” says Bueckert. “These workers provide and support direct care for patients, or clean and serve food in our hospitals but currently are on visas and need this program to stay working in Canada.”

“In Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal, over 500 HEU members in health care support services face deportation this year, if they can’t access spaces in the provincial nominee program,” says Bueckert. “We must retain experienced workers who have shown their commitment to our health care system, as B.C. hospitals can’t deliver services without enough staff.”



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By Harinder Mahil

It has become clear that we in Canada can never count on the US to be our friend and ally. It seems obvious that the US announced 25% tariffs on Canadian exports so that the

commander in chief would look tough. Punishing 25% levies on imports from America's neighbours were due to come into force at 12:01 a.m. ET Tuesday, February 4, but Trump put his trade war on hold, claiming he has scored two big wins and major concessions from Canada and Mexico.

Trump wrote on Truth Social: "As President, it is my responsibility to ensure the safety of ALL Americans, and I am doing just that." Fox News declared: "Mexico and Canada buckle." Why were the tariffs on Canadian goods announced by Trump? He has made many complaints about Canada to justify the 25% tariffs

on imports from Canada (with 10% tariffs on energy imports). He has cited the US trade deficit with Canada, the trafficking of fentanyl from Canada to the US, and illegal migration over the Canada-US border. What are the facts? The statistics show that US authorities seized 21,889 pounds of fentanyl in the

2024 fiscal year. Of that amount, 43 pounds were seized at the Canadian border — about 0.2% — compared with 21,148 pounds at the Mexican border, about 96.6%. The bipartisan congressional Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking in a 2022 report stated,

*Continued on page 30*

*Continued from Page 01*

## Cities Of Surrey And Delta Call On Province To Review Local...

"As the only city in Western Canada with two land-border crossings with the United States, Surrey faces significant risk," added Mayor Locke. "Over 20% of Surrey businesses have direct trade ties with the United States, representing roughly \$2.8 billion in cross-border commerce each year. If these tariffs go into effect, we could see hundreds of local jobs at risk, significantly impacting Surrey's economy. While the Mayors Border Alliance is made up mainly of border cities, the ripple effects of these tariffs will resonate far beyond Surrey, threatening the affordability of essential goods and services for all Canadian cities, a burden that our citizens simply cannot bear."

She also said, "British Columbia is home to some of the highest taxes in Canada, which places a significant burden on our residents. That is why I have written Mr. Eby, urging him to implement tax cuts and a comprehensive relief package, similar to that introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, to support businesses and families affected by the tariffs for the citizens of Surrey and all British Columbians."

Surrey First Councillor Linda Annis says along with province, municipalities too need to have a relook at their tax systems. She said the ongoing threat of U.S. tariffs should be a "wake-up call" for Surrey and

its approach to being a city that is open for business. "The 30-day reprieve on tariffs is a red flag reminder that Canada, B.C., and Surrey need to make significant changes that do more to attract business investment and new export customers," noted Annis. "Living in fear of Donald Trump's every whim and unpredictable approach to being our neighbour and ally is no way to build a strong business future for our country, province and city."

Annis said just as Canada and British Columbia need to make major changes to attracting and keeping businesses and finding new export customers, Surrey needs to do the same.

"Saying we're 'open for business' might be a nice slogan, but the whole tariff issue is proof that we have to rethink how our city touches Surrey businesses," added Annis. "We need to rethink regulations, taxes, and the time it takes to get things done in our city. We need to encourage entrepreneurs and enterprise. Saying you're open for business, but putting up more and more regulations, increasing taxes, and taking too long to get projects approved speaks volumes to businesses looking to invest in our city."

Annis said provinces and the federal government also need to get rid of domestic tariffs that limit trade between different parts of the country.

"We're complaining about U.S. tariffs, but our provinces have domestic trade restrictions that limit opportunities for Canadian businesses right here at home," noted Annis. "At the same time, municipal regulations, fees, and taxes are a growing burden for businesses, and it all adds up to limiting investment in new opportunities and jobs."

Annis wants city hall to take a deep dive on how it impacts business and determine what we can do to strengthen our business sector and make it more successful, including growing export opportunities beyond the United States.

Jasroop Gosal, Interim Spokesperson of the Surrey Board of Trade, said, "The Surrey Board of Trade is cautiously optimistic that US President Trump has decided to pause the implementation of 25% tariffs across the board and 10% tariffs on energy. While this does provide some reprieve, we still need to stand ready if and when tariffs are implemented."

The Surrey Board of Trade is calling on the federal and provincial governments to protect businesses by halting all taxation changes that would deter business growth; immediately freeze all regulatory changes on industry that would add cost and red tape; and, implement a strategic plan to ensure that businesses in the South Fraser Economic Region, which are particularly

vulnerable to these tariffs as a result of the industries and proximity to the border, are provided with greater international trade support through the Surrey Board of Trade's International Trade Centre.

Delta Councillor Dylan Kruger brought forward a motion calling on the province to take three critical actions to strengthen the Canadian economy, strengthen our energy independence, and support local businesses. "Trump's tariffs undermine the competitiveness of Canadian industries and threaten the livelihoods of all Canadians," said Kruger. "We need all levels of government to come together as Team Canada to come out of this stronger."

Kruger is calling on the province to amend all applicable legislation to allow cities to prioritize Canadian businesses in procurement bids. This change will reinforce our commitment to supporting local and Canadian companies.

He says province should expedite the approval of Fortis BC's Tilbury Phase 2 LNG expansion project in Delta. This project is expected to generate \$1.7 billion in GDP growth and create hundreds of long-term local jobs, providing significant benefits to our community.

He also says province to immediately begin construction on the \$4.1 billion Massey Tunnel replacement project. This vital infrastructure will help facilitate the faster movement of goods to Deltaport, strengthen the transportation gateway between Canada and the Asia-Pacific region, and aid in diversifying Canada's export market.

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# There is no place for Islamophobia in British Columbia: Eby on National Day of Remembrance of Quebec City Mosque Attack

Premier David Eby has issued the following statement marking the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia: “On Jan. 29, 2017, in a terrible act of anti-Muslim hatred, the lives of six men were taken at the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec City. “We remember them: Ibrahima Barry, Mamadou Tanou Barry, Khaled Belkacemi, Abdelkrim Hassane, Azzedine Soufiane and Aboubaker Thabti. We mourn with the families and friends who were left behind, and we stand with those who were injured in this heinous attack. “This hateful act of terrorism remains as shocking today as it was that evening eight years ago. “Our government stands against hate



Premier David Eby

in all its forms. There is no place for Islamophobia in British Columbia. “Building a more welcoming, inclusive province is a priority for our government. We created the Anti-

Hate Community Support Fund to help protect community organizations and places of worship from hate-motivated crimes, and passed the Anti-Racism Act to address racism within government programs and services. We also launched a racist incident helpline to support people who have experienced or witnessed an act of hate. “Our diversity is our strength in British Columbia. Today and every day, we stand with the Muslim community.” It has been eight years since the devastating attack at the Centre culturel islamique de Québec (CCIQ), a hateful act of Islamophobia that took six lives and profoundly impacted 19 others who were injured, leaving a lasting scar on our community, Quebec, and Canada.

# More Than 2000 People Died In BC In 2024 Due To Toxic Drugs

Reporting from the BC Coroners Service shows the continued impact of unregulated drug toxicity in communities throughout the province in 2024, with 2,253 lives lost last year. The cumulative number of unregulated drug deaths represents a 13% decrease from the number of deaths in 2023 and is less than the annual figure from any of the previous three years. The rate of death in 2024 was 40 per 100,000 people, compared with 47 per 100,000 in 2023, 45 per 100,000 in 2022 and 44 per 100,000 in 2021. “The information collected by our coroners during their investigations into unregulated drug toxicity deaths, indicates a decline in fatalities over the last several months of 2024. This is consistent with reporting from other jurisdictions in Canada and internationally,” said Dr. Jatinder Baidwan, chief coroner. “This doesn’t mitigate the fact that 2,253 members of our communities died in 2024,

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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



Dr. Jatinder Baidwan, chief coroner

leaving behind grieving loved ones, friends, colleagues and teammates. Our thoughts are with all of those many, many people who have been touched by this crisis.” In 2024, about seven in every 10 decedents were between the ages of 30 and 59, and nearly three-quarters were male. The rate of death among females in 2024 is 20 per 100,000. This is an increase of 65% from 2020 (13 per 100,000) and a slight reduction from 2023 (21 per 100,000). As in years prior, the drug-toxicity crisis affected cities of all sizes in 2024. By Local Health Area, the highest rates of death per 100,000 were in Vancouver-Centre North (422), Lillooet (116), Greater Campbell River (109), Terrace (109) and Prince George (103). Fentanyl and its analogues continue to be the primary driver of unregulated drug toxicity deaths in B.C., detected in 78% of expedited toxicological testing in 2024. Cocaine (52%), fluorofentanyl (46%), methamphetamine (43%) and bromazolam (41%) were the other most common substances detected in expected toxicology. It’s important to note that the data from the report is preliminary and subject to change as additional toxicology results are received and investigations are concluded. Since the public health emergency was first declared in April 2016, the lives of at least 16,047 people in B.C. have been lost to unregulated drug toxicity.





The results from a recent survey of BC's specialist physicians about the length and size of their waitlists exposes a growing crisis that is negatively impacting the health of British Columbians and causing moral distress and frustration for specialist physicians.

Initiated by Consultant Specialists of BC and Doctors of BC, nearly 1,000 specialist physicians shared feedback in late 2024 on the impact waitlists are having on them and their patients. The results show that, right now, approximately 1.2 million patients are waiting for consultation appointments with a specialist, which will be further

## 1.2 Million Patients Are Waiting For Consultation Appointments With A Specialist In BC

compounded by additional wait times for subsequent diagnostic procedures, treatments, and surgeries.

This is untenable and unsustainable. For at least two years, Doctors of BC and Consultant Specialists of BC had been in active discussion with the provincial government, advocating for tangible change – however progress has now stalled, while the urgency of the crisis continues to grow. The survey shows that specialist waitlists are chronically overloaded, averaging 282 patients, while the wait times themselves cause considerable anxiety to patients and doctors alike: four weeks for urgent cases, 10 weeks for semi-urgent cases, and up to 10 months for non-urgent cases.

Specialists are also in danger of burnout, with 70% of those surveyed reporting

increased workloads due to their expanding

waitlists – and just 11% of specialists confident that patients in BC currently have adequate access to care.

The survey results paint a concerning picture of specialist care in the province, and Doctors of BC and Consultant Specialists of BC are calling on the provincial government to commit to funding the Specialist Waitlist Initiative and implementing solutions including: Modernizing waitlist management systems, expanding team-based specialist care, introducing flexible payment models to support patient care, investing in specialist training and recruitment, enhancing rural outreach and providing resources for overburdened clinics.

"We need the government to provide a reliable and transparent living data-set on the waitlists and wait times to access specialist care," said Dr. Anna Kindy, Conservative MLA for North Island and official opposition health critic. "Without this data, health care access and physician recruitment planning will fail into perpetuity."

"Consider this: there is only one gastroenterologist serving the Region of Nanaimo, population 170,000. An individual with Crohn's Disease may have to wait four to six months to see the GI doc. In that time, they can go from a non-urgent to an urgent case, as they can become severely malnourished, or they can develop fistulas and require surgery," said Kindy.

## New elementary school open for Surrey students

The new Ta'talu Elementary has created more than 500 student seats in Surrey. "Ta'talu Elementary is part of our government's commitment to meeting the needs of growing communities like Surrey," said Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care. "Providing hundreds of new seats, Ta'talu Elementary ensures more students and families in Surrey have modern spaces to learn, grow and play."

Ta'talu Elementary is the seventh new school to open in Surrey since 2017. The three-storey school has space for 655 students, in addition to child care space. Building the new Ta'talu Elementary school was funded with more than \$39 million provided by the Province and \$5 million from the Surrey School District.

"More families are settling down in Surrey and we need to make sure there are safe and comfortable schools to support their kids as they grow and learn," said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure. "That's why we're making record investments in schools, housing and health-care facilities so that families can get the services they need in their communities."

This school is part of the government's ongoing work over the past seven years to deliver new and expanded schools in Surrey. In the past few months, an 800-seat addition was announced for Fleetwood

Park Secondary, as well as prefabricated additions for Old Yale Road Elementary, Latimer Road Elementary, William Watson Elementary and Martha Currie Elementary. Construction is also underway for the new Snokomish Elementary, and additions at Semiahmoo Trail Elementary and South Meridian Elementary. These projects will create 3,500 new student seats in Surrey.

"Ta'talu is the perfect example of the kind of learning environment every single Surrey student deserves - a beautiful building with a gym, library, music room and dedicated space for students with diverse learning needs," said Gary Tymoschuk, chair of the Surrey Board of Education. "This is exactly the type of investment our growing communities need so that students in Surrey can thrive and succeed."

The school's name was gifted to Surrey school district by Chief Harley Chappell of the Semiahmoo First Nation. Derived from the SENĆOŦEN language, it translates to "little arms." It pays homage to the school's location near Campbell River and its tributaries, often referred to as the little arms of the river.

Ta'talu Elementary is part of an investment of nearly \$1 billion in schools in the area. To further support the growing population in Surrey, the Province is also building a new hospital and cancer centre, and

expanding Surrey Memorial Hospital to include a new renal hemodialysis facility and new interventional cardiology and radiology suites. In addition, the Simon Fraser University Surrey campus is set to open Western Canada's first medical school in 55 years in 2026.



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# Trailblazing Punjabi-Canadian And Former Alberta NDP Leader Raj Pannu Dies At 91



Raj Pannu, a renowned Punjabi-Canadian educator, politician, and community leader, passed away on January 30, in Edmonton, Alberta, at the age of 91. Known for memorable ‘Raj against Machine’ campaign, Pannu was first elected as an MLA for Edmonton-Strathcona in 1997 and held the seat until he retired in 2008. He served as party leader from 2000 to 2004. As one of the first Canadians of South Asian descent to lead a major political party, Pannu paved the way for a diverse new generation of politicians. Born in Punjab, India, in 1934, Pannu immigrated to Canada in 1962 and settled in Whitecourt, Alberta, where he taught high school until 1964.

In a news release from the Alberta NDP on Thursday, leader Naheed Nenshi called Pannu compassionate, honest, and someone who was committed to building up the party as well as a respected political figure in Alberta. “The Alberta NDP is deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Raj Pannu,” Nenshi said. “Raj was a compassionate, honest, and deeply committed builder of our party and a respected politician in our province.” He was first elected in 1997 from Edmonton-Strathcona a seat he held until 2008. Nenshi said, “He stepped up to lead

our party in 2000 and, with his distinctive ‘Raj against the Machine’ campaign T-Shirt, he captured our hearts and propelled our movement forward. Today the riding of Edmonton-Strathcona is the beating heart of Alberta’s NDP and Raj’s legacy will forever be valued there and throughout our party.” Former Alberta NDP leader Rachel Notley dedicated a post on X — formerly known as Twitter — to Pannu. She said he never wavered in his commitment to the Alberta NDP. “Raj Pannu was an elegant intelligent and kind person who exemplified a rarely seen political grace. He never wavered in his commitment to the Alberta NDP and the principles of social democracy,” Notley said. “While ensuring concrete wins for vulnerable Albertans and building solidarity with working people he retained an authentic humility loved by so many. You can rest in peace Raj, knowing that you’ve left thousands in your wake who will do our part to Raj against the machine.” Amarjit Sohi, Mayor of Edmonton said, “I am saddened by the passing of Dr. Raj Pannu. I got to know Raj when I volunteered on his campaign when he first ran for the Alberta NDP, and he was a great inspiration to me. Raj constantly demonstrated his commitment to his community and his progressive vision for Alberta.” Pannu’s academic career spanned over three decades, during which he earned a PhD in Sociology from the University of Alberta in 1973. He taught at York University for a year before returning to the University of Alberta, where he became a full-time faculty member in 1969. Pannu retired from academia in 1996, after 27 years of service.

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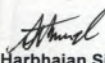
Notice is hereby given to members of Khalsa Diwan Society – New Westminster (the “Society”) of a Special General Meeting of members to be held as follows:

**Date:** February 23, 2025  
**Time:** 11:00am  
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3. The Society hereby grants to the Directors of the Society for a period of one year from the date of these Special Resolutions the authority to grant to the Lender such security for loans made by or to be made by the Lender to the Society as may be required from time to time by the Lender and as agreed to by the Directors.

  
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## 76th Republic Day celebration at UBC hosted by Consulate General of India



The Consul General of India hosted the 76th Republic Day Reception at UBC, welcoming Parliamentary Secretary responsible for BC Consular Corps Susie Chant and Paul Choi BC Principal Secretary for Indo-Pacific Trade. The reception was attended by about 270 people including dignitaries from the provincial government, MLAs, City Councillors, senior officials, BC consular corps, industry leaders, members of the ethnic media, academicians, Indian diaspora, and friends of India. In his remarks, Consul General Masakui Rungsum highlighted India's dynamic democracy and longstanding diplomatic, cultural, economic and people-to-people relations with Canada while Minister Chant praised BC's deep-rooted historical ties with India & the role of vibrant Indo-Canadian community.

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# New Funding Available To Tree-Fruit Growers To Prepare Orchards For Extreme Weather

New funding is available to help tree-fruit growers prepare their orchards for extreme weather so people can continue to enjoy the B.C. peaches, cherries and apples that so many farming families and communities depend on.

“Last summer, British Columbians saw almost no local cherries available and missed out on having delicious Okanagan peaches to enjoy,” said Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture and Food. “We know these climate impacts will continue, which is why we’re helping growers with a new program so their crops and businesses become more resilient in the face of increasingly challenging growing conditions.”

The new \$5-million Tree Fruit Climate

Resiliency program will help fund things such as protective covers, energy-efficient heaters and wind machines to help during periods of extreme cold, as well as canopy sprinklers and shade protection to help ward off the effects of extreme heat. The program also is open to applications for innovative projects to support industry resiliency.

“The Okanagan is home to B.C.’s iconic tree-fruit sector and through my conversations with growers, I know how hard it has been for them to deal with the effects of extreme heat and extreme cold,” said Harwinder Sandhu, parliamentary secretary for agriculture and MLA for Vernon-Lumby. “Climate change is a real challenge for our farming communities and this new program will help growers with projects and equipment that support their farms’ profitability, resiliency and sustainable food production for the years ahead.”

Multiple growers may also jointly apply

for a project that benefits more than one producer, such as a wind machine that could be used on multiple properties.

“We greatly appreciate the B.C. government’s commitment to supporting tree-fruit growers with the new \$5-million Tree Fruit Climate Resiliency program. This funding is a significant step toward helping us prepare our orchards for the challenges posed by extreme weather, ensuring that families and communities can continue to enjoy our locally grown peaches, cherries, and apples,” said Deep Brar, vice-president, B.C. Fruit Growers’ Association, and a tree-fruit grower. “The climate has been exceptionally tough on our growers for the past few years, with devastating impacts from heat domes and cold snaps. We look forward to working closely with the government and other stakeholders to ensure the tree fruit industry in British Columbia remains strong and sustainable for generations to come.”

The \$5-million program will provide 80% cost-share funding for eligible projects up to a maximum of \$100,000 per farm business. Applications are being accepted and will continue until funds are fully committed.

Program and application information are available here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/programs/tree-fruit-climate-resiliency-program>

## Surrey Police Service officers responded to over 18,000 calls after taking over from RCMP



Surrey Police Service (SPS) became the police of jurisdiction in Surrey on November 29, 2024. Last week SPS completed 60 days of command responsibilities for policing and public safety.

Over the past 60 days, SPS frontline officers have responded to over 18,000 calls for service in the Whalley/City Centre and Newton policing districts, which represents 60% of the total calls for service in the City of Surrey. As the policing transition advances, SPS continues to work collaboratively with the RCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit (SPOSU) which is temporarily managing policing operations in Guildford, Cloverdale, and South Surrey. SPS has also assumed city-wide responsibility for 9-1-1 and non-emergency call response and dispatch, police information checks, and other public front counter services.

SPS has also grown its team significantly over the past two months, with the addition of 39 sworn police officers and 391 civilian employees, most of whom transferred to SPS from the City of Surrey as part of the policing transition. SPS now has almost 950 staff, with plans to hire over 100 more sworn and civilian staff this year as we continue to ramp up to full strength over the next 2-3 years.

One of the first operational changes SPS made, was to initiate a Community Safety Operations Centre (CSOC) which provides live time, 24/7 supervision and monitoring of all incidents taking place in the city. The CSOC allows public safety information to be immediately shared with policing personnel as well as with the public with SPS’s 24/7 on-call model for media relations.

Continued on page 30



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## About us

Titan Law is a leading law firm located in the heart of downtown Vancouver and Toronto. Our team is a diverse group of professionals, offering legal services across multiple areas of law. We are a results-driven team, always focused on delivering the highest quality of service.

## Our Services



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- Family Sponsorships
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- Protected Person Application



### BUSINESS IMMIGRATION

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- Self Employed Programs
- Global Talent Stream
- Start-up visa
- Intra-company transferees
- LMIA exempt work permits



### REFUGEE LAW

- Refugee Protection Division
- Refugee Appeal Division



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- H&C
- Deportation / Removal Order
- Inadmissibility
- International adoptions
- Criminal Rehabilitation
- Authorization to Return (ARC)
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- Protected Person Inadmissible
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- Shareholder agreements



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FOR SALE

4000 sq. Ft. Exclusive listing CD Zoning, Perfect retail/wholesale business. Centrally located, heart of Newton. Must see. Price is \$4,499,000.

FOR SALE

12335 83A AVENUE

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.

\$649,900

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.

SURREY TRUCK  
BODY SHOP

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

Call for details

WAREHOUSE  
FOR LEASE

124st and 84

Total 12,000 sq ft, on 2 levels.

Call for details

FOR LEASE

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

WAREHOUSE

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

\$2,049,000

Call for details

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.



## BC Tigers Club members visit Gurdwara Nanak Niwas

BC Tigers Club, Surrey has been providing recreational and elite soccer training among boys, girls as well as adults in the Metro Vancouver area in particular and BC in general. The club's website states: "The BC Tigers Club prides itself as more than a soccer club by being a community leader, providing a safe, inclusive, and encouraging environment for all members to achieve their full potential." India Cultural Centre of Canada Gurdwara Nanak Niwas, # 5 Road, Richmond, is



pleased to support this worthwhile cause. On Sunday, January 26, 2025, some of the BC Tigers Club's organizers visited Gurdwara Nanak Niwas and presented a

number of the club's impressive jackets to some members of the Gurdwara management. India Cultural Centre of Canada Gurdwara Nanak Niwas is thankful to them for this kind gesture and wishes BC Tigers Club every success. In picture are some members of the BC Tigers Club and Gurdwara Nanak Niwas. Photo submitted by Balwant Sanghera, Secretary, India Cultural Centre of Canada Gurdwara Nanak Niwas, 8600 #5 Road, Richmond, BC, Canada.

## Sixteen Fraud Charges Approved Against 26-Year-Old Man After Bank Card Fraud Series Investigation

Sixteen fraud related charges have been approved against a 26-year-old man after a bank card fraud series investigation led by Burnaby RCMP's Prolific Offender Suppression Team (POST). On February 29, 2024, Burnaby RCMP warned the public of a bank card scam which had recently victimized two seniors in Burnaby. In each instance, the victim received a call from someone advising they were from a bank and stating that the victim's bank cards were compromised. The suspect then stated they would be sending bank staff to their residence to pick the cards up and investigate. Almost immediately, a suspect attended each residence in-person. Linking this scam to several other reports, Burnaby RCMP's POST assumed conduct of the investigation. As a result of this investigation, on January 2, 2025, the BC Prosecution Service approved sixteen fraud related charges against 26-year-old Yeral Jauvin Varona. Jauvin Varona has strict court-imposed

conditions. "While we've moved this investigation to the court system, it is important to note that this type of scam is still occurring in the Lower Mainland," said Cpl Mike Kalanj with the Burnaby RCMP. "We are asking the public to share this information in an effort to reduce the likelihood of more people becoming victims of fraud." Richmond and Langley RCMP have also issued a public alert, as this same scam is occurring in their jurisdiction. In late January, the Langley RCMP received numerous reports of an orchestrated scam that has already affected multiple jurisdictions in the Lower Mainland. In this scam, the victim receives a phone call from someone claiming to be an investigator from the fraud department of a financial institution. The alleged fraudster advises the victim that their banking cards have been compromised and the physical banking cards are required to complete their investigation. Once the victim provides their residential address, the

alleged fraudster arrives in person, collects the banking cards and acquires the personal identification number (PIN). The alleged fraudster then attends a financial institution and uses an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) to withdraw funds from the bank account which results in financial loss for the victim. In all the incidents in Langley, the victims have been seniors. Scammers often prey on seniors, exploiting their trust and vulnerability, knowing that they may not recognize the warning signs of fraud until it's too late, says Sgt. Zynal Sharoom of the Langley RCMP. Sgt. Sharoom adds that, Similar scams have been detected in other jurisdictions and officers are working with respective policing partners to determine if any of these incidents are linked to each other. Tips to protect yourself Be wary of unsolicited calls, especially those requesting personal or financial information. If you receive a call claiming to be from



your bank, ask for their internal reference or file number and call back using the number on your financial documents or their official website. Remove personal information from public platforms, such as social media and phone directories, that criminals may exploit. Never share your bank or credit card PIN with anyone. If you suspect your card has been compromised, contact your bank directly using the phone number listed on your card. Do not hand over your bank cards to anyone. Safely dispose of expired or compromised cards yourself. Replacement cards are never hand-delivered to your home. They are either mailed to you or sent to a local branch for pickup.

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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, open concept living and dining area, Gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Master Bedroom with walk in closet. Below is very large recreation 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.

#37-8358 121A ST., SURREY

\$699,000

Welcome to Kennedy Trails. This house checks all the boxes. Cost effective & environmentally friendly. GEOTHERMAL Heating & Cooling. E-star windows. Three level home. Heart of Surrey. Main level open concept living and dining area, Gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Master Bedroom with walk in closet. Below is very large recreation 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 first time home buyers. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen with granite counter tops, separate laundry. Massive living room with fireplace. 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

SOLD

Sold in 7 days  
\$185,000 over asking





14379 66A AVENUE

OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4 PM



6 BED - 4 BATHS - 10,318 SF

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

ASKING 1,599,000

5758 131 A STREET SURREY



11BED - 11 BATHS - 20,255 SF LOT

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE  
UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PRIME  
NEIGHBOURHOOD OF PANORAMA

ASKING 4,000,000

9097 BROADWAY STREET



3 BED - 1 BATH - 10,019 SF LOT

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

ASKING 924,000

11956 98 AVENUE, SURREY



7 BED - 5 BATHS - 6,600 SF

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

ASKING 1,699,000

7028 142 STREET, SURREY



5 BED - 5 BATHS - 7,107 SF

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

ASKING 1,699,000

10095 FAIRVIEW DRIVE, CHILLIWACK



4 BED - 2 BATHS - 9,750 SF LOT

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

ASKING 929,000

1001 14881 103A AVENUE



2 BED - 2 BATHS

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

ASKING 589,000

5748 123 Street Surrey



7 BED - 8 BATHS - 20,211 SF

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

ASKING 2,999,000

MASSAGE PARLOUR  
FOR SALE IN SURREY



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

ASKING 249,999

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MASSAGE  
PARLOUR  
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# Nissan celebrates its 60th anniversary in Canada – New concepts and vehicles

Nissan celebrates its 60th anniversary in Canada by bringing action to the 2025 Canadian International Auto Show (CIAS) with two project builds that showcase how Nissan vehicles can be a canvas for four-wheeled excitement. Nissan also brings three all-new 2025 vehicles, namely the Nissan Kicks, Murano and Armada at CIAS, February 14-23, 2025. The all-electric Nissan ARIYA will also be available at the show's indoor EV Test Track for visitors to test drive.

“We are thrilled to be part of the 2025 Canadian International Auto Show, especially as we celebrate Nissan’s 60th anniversary in Canada. This milestone is a testament to our long-standing commitment to innovation and customer satisfaction. At this year’s show, we are excited to showcase two project vehicles derived from the Nissan Frontier and which showcase just how versatile our offerings are. We are also displaying three all-new models, the Nissan Kicks, Murano, and Armada. These vehicles, along with our full lineup, reflect our dedication to offering a diverse range of features and options tailored to the Canadian market. We look forward to engaging with families and enthusiasts, and sharing our vision,” said Brent Smith, director of marketing at Nissan Canada Inc.

Project Trailgater1 - Designed to responsibly bring the fun of tailgating into the great outdoors, Project Trailgater is built in partnership with PowerNation TV’s “Music City Trucks.” It is based on a 2025 Nissan Frontier PRO-4X. Look out for the three-part series of how the truck was built on the PowerNation

channel. The build begins with NISMO Off Road accessories, including a lift kit and high-performance suspension, bed rack, cargo cases, off-road lighting, and 17-inch beadlock capable wheels. In addition, Project Trailgater adds almost everything you might need for camping and tailgating outdoors, including two 43-inch weatherproof TVs, powered coolers, grille and even the proverbial kitchen sink.

Frontier TARMAC Concept2 - Embodying the spirit of sport and muscle trucks of the past, the TARMAC concept lives on in this one-off street truck, a



collaboration between Nissan Motorsports, Nissan Design America and Forsberg Racing. The TARMAC concept immediately turns heads with its new-for-2025 Afterburn Orange paint, complemented by an indulgence of carbon fiber accents throughout from the aggressive widebody kit, vented hood, roof cap, spoiler, wheels, aero and more. The TARMAC concept receives a healthy injection of performance thanks to the addition of a Roots-style supercharger, prototype NISMO cold air intake and custom NISMO exhaust system to Frontier’s standard 3.8-liter V6 engine. The result: over 400 horsepower to the wheels.

The All-New 2025 Nissan Kicks - The all-new 2025 Nissan Kicks redefines the compact crossover segment with advanced technology, versatile design, and the confidence of Kicks-first Intelligent All-Wheel Drive3. The all-new 2025 Nissan Kicks is currently on sale at dealerships nationwide.

The All-New 2025 Nissan Murano - The

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Continued on page 30

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# Indian-American Musician And Entrepreneur Chandrika Tandon Wins Grammy

Indian-American vocalist and Entrepreneur Chandrika Tandon has won the Grammy award for the album ‘Triveni’ in the ‘Best New Age, Ambient or Chant Album’ category. The 67th edition of the biggest musical awards night, organised by the Recording Academy, was held on Sunday at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles. Tandon, also a global business leader and the older sister of former CEO of PepsiCo Indra Nooyi, won the award along with her collaborators South African flautist Wouter Kellerman and Japanese cellist Eru Matsumoto.

“Music is love, music is light and music is laughter and let’s all be surrounded by love, light and laughter. Thank you for the music, and thank you to everyone who makes music,” she said in the award

acceptance speech. This was Tandon’s second Grammy nomination after 2009’s “Soul Call” and first win.

“It feels amazing,” said the musician, who grew up in Chennai, in a backstage interview with the Recording Academy after winning the Grammy.

Other nominees in the Best New Age, Ambient or Chant Album category were: ‘Break of Dawn’ — Ricky Kej, ‘Opus’ — Ryuichi Sakamoto, ‘Chapter II: How Dark It Is Before Dawn’ — Anoushka Shankar, and ‘Warriors Of Light’ — Radhika Vekaria.

“We had such wonderful nominees in the category. The fact that we won this is really an extra special moment for us. There were fabulous musicians who were nominated with us,” she added.



Just like its name, which means the confluence of three holy Indian rivers Ganga, Yamuna and Saraswati, ‘Triveni’ is a collaboration of three artistes Tandon, Kellerman and Matsumoto — who represent diverse cultures.

Released on August 30, 2024, each of the seven tracks on ‘Triveni’ tells its own story while contributing to its overarching theme of healing resonance. The songs are: “Pathway to Light”, “Chant in A”, “Journey Within”, “Aether’s Serenade”, “Ancient Moon”, “Open Sky” and “Seeking Shakti”.

According to Tandon’s official website, the album weaves ancient Vedic chants with melodic flute and resonant cello, creating a reflective soundscape that fosters mindfulness, self-discovery and connection.

Continued from Page 01

## US Military Plane Flies More Than 100 Illegal Immigrants Back To India

“Deportees were from across the country. (Deportees) from other states were more than those from Punjab, (but) it (plane) landed in Amritsar. I am not objecting to them coming here but by leaving the national capital and landing it (plane) in Amritsar, there is substance in what you are saying,” he said when asked if there was a conspiracy to defame Punjab by landing the plane in Amritsar, PTI reported.

Pargat Singh, MLA from Jalandhar Cantt, said, “To protect the fake Gujarat Model and defame Punjab, the U.S. deportation flight was deliberately landed in Amritsar, Punjab—even though most deportees were from Gujarat and Haryana.”

The Indians who returned home had illegally entered the United States over the years and came from various Indian

states.

The move came ahead of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Washington, which is expected next week. U.S. President Donald Trump and Modi discussed immigration in a phone call last week and Trump stressed the importance of India buying more American-made security equipment and fair bilateral trade. India has cooperated with the U.S. and said it is ready to accept the deported Indians after verification.

New Delhi says it is against illegal immigration, mainly because it is linked to several forms of organized crime, and it has not objected to the U.S. deporting its citizens.

“For Indians, not just in the United States but anywhere in the world, if they are Indian nationals, and they are overstaying

or they are in a particular country without proper documentation, we will take them back, provided documents are shared with us so that we can verify their nationality that they are indeed Indians,” India’s External Affairs Ministry spokesman Randhir Jaiswal said.

Proceedings in India’s parliament were disrupted as opposition lawmakers protested against the Trump administration’s alleged mistreatment of the Indian migrants who were deported on a U.S. military plane back to the country — apparently in handcuffs and ankle chain.

“We are protesting precisely this issue — that the manner in which the U.S. did what they did was really unacceptable,” Shashi Tharoor, a member of parliament with the Indian National Congress, told

reporters. “We believe they have a legal right to deport people who are illegally in their country. And if they are proven to be Indian nationals, we have a legal obligation to admit them, to accept them in our country. But the manner in which it was done, in handcuffs, squeezed into a military aircraft, in such an abrupt manner, is not acceptable.”

CBS news shared a video of Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol Micheal W Banks shared a video on social media showing many walking with chains tied. “USBP and partners successfully returned illegal aliens to India, marking the farthest deportation flight yet using military transport. This mission underscores our commitment to enforcing immigration laws and ensuring swift removals. If you cross illegally, you will be removed.”

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<b>FORECLOSURE</b> Surrey; 23 years old, 9747 SQ.ft lot 3914 SQ.ft home, 7 beds, 5 bath, 2 suites. <b>Asking-\$1,900,000</b>	<b>FORECLOSURE</b> Langley; 40 Acres blurberry farm with two homes, 3 car garage, main home is 4100 Sq.ft 5 beds, 5 bath. <b>Asking-\$4,000,000</b>	<b>FORECLOSURE</b> Abbotsford; 5 Acres with older home, 5 beds, 3 baths, great. <b>Asking \$1,399,000</b>



# Surrey To Host New Free One-Day Music Festival Showcasing Some Of Canada's And City's Top Musicians

Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party on Mar. 15

The City of Surrey will produce and host the Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party at Surrey Civic Plaza from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 15. As one of six cities on the Let's Hear it BC JUNO Tour ahead of the JUNO Awards in Vancouver on Sunday, Mar. 30, the Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party will bring the spirit of the JUNOS to the heart of Surrey. This free music festival invites residents to experience over 30 artists across six stages. Attendees can also enjoy family programming, local music organizations, exhibitors,

and food trucks. "I am thrilled to announce the Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party, a vibrant celebration of music and culture right here in Surrey," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "Surrey is rapidly establishing itself as Canada's music city, and the city is committed to nurturing a dynamic environment for artistic expression. We are proud that Surrey's young, thriving and diverse community is driving the growth of its vibrant arts, culture and music scene. I'm happy to see Punjabi music and culture highlighted as part of this year's event, showcasing the

rich cultural diversity that Surrey embodies. The JUNOS Plaza Party reflects our community's growing reputation as a premier destination for world-class music events, and we invite everyone to join us in experiencing the incredible spirit of Canadian music." The Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party will bring the JUNOS experience to Surrey with an all-day celebration of music, food and culture. Attendees can look forward to free live music from local and regional talent across six stages: the Main Stage on the Plaza; 5X Art Party with South



Mayor Brenda Locke and the 2025 Vancouver JUNO Host Committee announcing Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party at Surrey City Hall on Jan. 30, 2025.

Asian DJs; family programming on the Community Stage; and local musicians performing throughout the Plaza, City Centre Library, and Dominion restaurant in the Civic Hotel. Headliners will be announced later in February.

"The Let's Hear It BC JUNO Tour is all about bringing the spirit of the JUNOS to your hometown and showcasing the incredible talent that thrives in all corners of our province.

Continued on page 30

## Surrey Exceeding Provincially Mandated Housing Targets

City has advanced more than 10,000 units in the first six months of the order

The City of Surrey announced that it is exceeding housing targets mandated by the Minister of Housing. In the first six months of the provincial Order, Surrey has successfully delivered 2,567 net new housing units and advanced 10,096 units, primarily from rezoning conditional approvals, but also from issued building permits and houseplex development permits in the approval process. This progress positions the city well on its way to fulfill its five-year goal of 27,256 new units by June 2029.

"Surrey is proud to be exceeding our provincially mandated housing targets," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "As we continue to make strides towards increasing our affordable and accessible housing, it's vital that the province invests in the necessary infrastructure to support our growing community. It is crucial that there are

enough schools, transit and healthcare facilities to support these new homes and residents in order to foster a vibrant and well-supported community."

Surrey has a substantial number of housing units in various stages of the development approval and construction process. Currently, there are over 44,300 units with rezoning conditional approval awaiting construction and over 13,700 units with issued building permits that are at various stages of construction.

"Surrey is making significant strides in meeting the housing demands of our growing community," said Councillor Pardeep Kooner, who chairs the Development Approval Process Improvement Task Force. "Our efforts within the Development Approval Process Improvement Task Force are centered on exploring and implementing innovative strategies to further

streamline our development processes and enhance efficiencies. By working closely with stakeholders, we can ensure that our housing initiatives not only meet targets but also create vibrant, livable spaces for all residents. We look forward to bringing these strategies forward in the coming months." In the past year, Surrey has implemented more than 25 major process improvements aimed at accelerating the approval and development of housing projects. These improvements focus on reducing timelines, increasing efficiency, and supporting the development community in delivering housing more quickly. Some of the key improvements include:

Early Excavation for Multi-Family Housing: Introduced a pilot program to allow for excavation building permits to be issued ahead of final adoption of rezoning and development permit issuance which

will help facilitate construction of new housing.

Simplified Houseplex Development Permit: Introduced a simplified development permit process with reduced fees and faster approvals.

Development and Permit Approval Timelines: Introduced Development and Permit Approvals Targets, aiming for a minimum reduction of 30% of permit timelines for all major development types.

Incentive Programs: Introduced the Rapid Transit and Non-Market Rental Housing Incentive Programs to accelerate development.

Development Task Force: Council approved the establishment of a new task force to examine the City's development and permit processes and provide advice to Council on suggested process improvements and enhancements.



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# Bollywood with SHIAMAK Vancouver, February 27

The Dance Centre presents the Discover Dance! Series SHIAMAK Vancouver on Thursday February 27, 2025 at 12 noon, at Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver. Tickets \$16 regular/\$14 students, seniors, children + \$1 facility fee at thedancecentre.ca

The February edition of The Dance Centre's popular and long-running

Discover Dance! noon series celebrates the exuberance, comedy, drama, and fun of Bollywood, with a performance by SHIAMAK Vancouver. Blending Bollywood with jazz, funk, folk and modern influences, the company is known for delivering wildly entertaining performances that are guaranteed to get audiences on their feet.

SHIAMAK Vancouver is part of the

world's biggest Bollywood dance academy, founded by Shiamak Davar. Discover Dance! series 2024-2025

Oct 31, 12 noon Corporeal Imago

Nov 28, 12 noon Arts Umbrella Dance Company

Feb 27, 12 noon SHIAMAK Vancouver

Mar 27, 12 noon Lorita Leung Dance Company

Apr 24, 12 noon Danny Nielsen



# Celebrating International Women's Day with Mayor Brenda Locke!



On March 7, 2025, SurreyCares is hosting Mayor Brenda Locke for a special High Tea event at the Civic Hotel in celebration of International Women's Day! This elegant event will feature live entertainment, delicious high tea delicacies, inspirational speakers and a silent auction. Mark your calendar, tickets go on sale February 10, 2025.

Sponsorship opportunities are available, for more information please contact: [lisa@surreycares.org](mailto:lisa@surreycares.org)

Proceeds will support SurreyCares "Smart & Caring Community Grants" program, providing funding across broad range of local charitable organizations that support areas of greatest need in our community.

# Annual Road Survey Signals Urgency for Comprehensive, Sustainable Transit and Transportation Investments in Surrey

The Surrey Board of Trade released the results of its annual Surrey Roads Survey last week. According to the Survey the planning of all major infrastructure projects must anticipate needs and result in infrastructure construction well in advance of increased demand, not long after the capacity is exceeded.

The Survey also concludes that all levels of government must work together to develop an inter-regional transit/transportation plan for the South Fraser Economic Region; one that would not be subject to political interference but based on best transportation practice. "We need planning and action that anticipates needs and that results in infrastructure construction well in advance of increased demand, not long after the capacity is exceeded," said Jasroop Gosal, Interim Spokesperson and Policy &



Jasroop Gosal, SBOT

Research Manager of the Surrey Board of Trade. Data was collected from October to December 2024. Patterns are emerging with nine years of comparable data. Surrey's network of over 4,500 lane kilometres of road is seeing an increasing number of commuter

and commercial users. The top 3 choices for corridors to be improved are:

- 152 Street Overpass of Highway 99: Widen to 4 lanes with transit, walking and cycling facilities
- 88 Avenue: Widen to 4 lanes with walking and cycling facilities from 156 Street to 176 Street
- 16 Avenue: Widen to 4 lanes with walking and cycling facilities from Highway 99 to 176 Street

Surrey is spread out geographically, and the ability for commuters to use bicycling as a transportation option is not efficient to get to and from work. More respondents were willing to bicycle to work if given safe infrastructure. Support for the new Pattullo Bridge with an expanded 6 lanes is strongly supported, while 56.7% of respondents indicated support for the Massey Tunnel replacement project.

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LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

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Jatt Sikh Dhaliwal Educated, handsome boy, 25/5'11", Canadian Born, Lives in Surrey(BC) Canada, He has completed his Bachelor in Health science and Currently doing Medical Laboratory science. He has been working at Govt. Hospital from three years. Family would prefer Canadian born, sikh girl. contact: parmdhaliwal65@gmail.com Ph: 604.825.5194

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Family of Canadian born girl, age 34, height 5'10", doing good government job, looking for a respectable Canadian born boy. No caste restrictions. Contact: 604-841-8854 ends Feb 22, 25

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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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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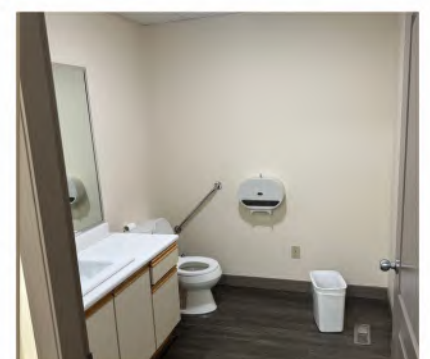
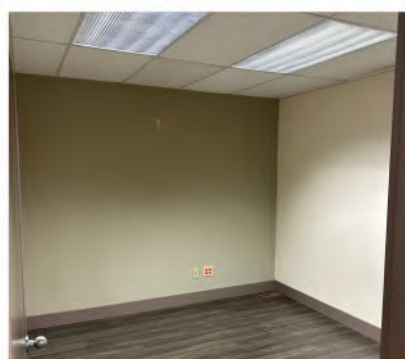
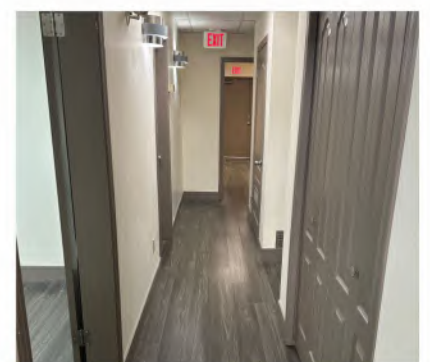
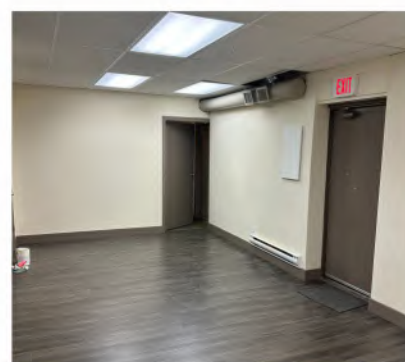
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## Upcoming Program

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS

- 7th February, Friday at 4:30 pm, Sri Sukhmani Sahib Path, Kirtan, Katha and Langer seva by the Surjit Kang family.
- 9th February, Sunday at 10:30 am, Weekly Kirtan diwan and Katha vichar smagam. After that langer seva by the sangat.
- 9th February, Sunday at 3:30 pm, Sehaj path Bhog and antim ardas for Harvinder Kaur Lilly Gandhu by the Gandhu family.
- 12th February, Wednesday at 5:30 pm, Gurmit Smagam regarding sangrand of Phagan month. After that langer seva by the sangat.

**All the Sangat are requested to come to the weekly Kirtan Diwan and Katha Vichar Smagam every Sunday morning from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm.**

**The Sangat is invited to come to the weekly Smagam and make your life successful.**

**If any family wishes to do seva of Gurbani Kirtan and Langar in the weekly Diwan, they should contact the Management Committee.**

\*Every Tuesday at 10:00 AM, Path Sri Sukhmani Sahib Ji by the Bibian and the Langer service will be provided by the group of Sukhmani Sahib Walian Bibian.

\*2nd May 2025 (Friday) and 26th July 2025 (Saturday) spaces are available for Anand Karj. Please contact us to book Anand Karj

### \*Important Information:

Punjabi classes have started in Punjabi schools from Sunday, January 5th. Please enroll your children in the school so that they can speak, read and write Punjabi. For more information, contact Secretary S. Balwant Singh Sanghera 604-836-8976

**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](http://www.nanakniwas.ca)**

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



# Kangana Invites Deepika

## To Be Her First Customer At New Himachal Cafe

Kangana Ranaut is adding another feather to her cap. In the past one year, she has become a Member of Parliament on a Bhartiya Janata Party ticket in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, made her solo directorial debut with the political thriller Emergency. She will soon open her first cafe – The Mountain Story in her home state. Kangana invites Deepika Padukone to her cafe. On Wednesday, Kangana took to her Instagram Stories to share a clip from an old video posted by a fan page. The clip is from the News18 Actresses Roundtable in 2013, in which Kangana is heard answering moderator Rajeev Masand’s question, “10 years from now, what would you like to be doing?” While Deepika Padukone claimed, “Still doing the same thing, ya?,” Kangana volunteered

to answer the question differently. “I’d like to open a restaurant where I’d like to have the world menu. I’ve eaten all over the world, and I’m carrying amazing recipes. I’d like to have a very very beautiful, little cafeteria somewhere. I’m very good with food,” Kangana said, to which Deepika responded, “I’ll be your first client” before the two laughed it off. Kangana, while reposting the clip on Wednesday, wrote, “If walking the talk had a face ha ha it would be me... also @deepikapadukone you should be my first client.” Kangana vs Deepika Kangana and Deepika haven’t been the best of buddies since. When the Rajput Karni Sena threatened to chop off Deepika’s nose for her portrayal of Rani Padmini in Sanjay Leela Bhansali’s 2018 blockbuster period epic Padmaavat, Kangana refused

to sign a petition by several ace actors in protest of the threat. More recently, Kangana confessed that she turned down Deepika’s part in Padmaavat because she felt the role was “irrelevant.” Kangana will next star in a film opposite her Tanu Weds Manu co-star R Madhavan. She began shooting for it post the release of her latest film, Emergency, earlier this year. Meanwhile, Deepika was last seen in Rohit Shetty’s cop drama Singham Again in 2024.



# Amitabh, Rekha, Jaya

## Bachchan’s Silsila, Sridevi’s Chandni To Re-Release In Cinemas During Valentine Week



This Valentine’s week, retro cinema lovers are in for a treat as Bollywood cult-classics Silsila, Awara, Aradhana, and Chandni are set for re-release in theatres with better picture quality. The yesteryear cult classics of Bollywood are set to re-release on the big screens with its restored 4K version by the National Film Archive of India under the National Film Heritage Mission. Amitabh Bachchan’s Silsila will be released on the first day of Valentine’s Week, which is February 7. It was directed by Yash Chopra and starred Jaya Bachchan, Rekha and Shashi Kapoor in the lead roles. The film is renowned for its ever-green songs, including Dekha Ek Khwab, Yeh Kahan Aa Gaye Hum and others. It was released in 1981. The music was composed by Shiv-Hari. Following its re-release, late actor Sridevi’s blockbuster film Chandni will hit the theatres on Valentine’s Day.

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# Deva Box Office Collection Day 5: Shahid Kapoor, Pooja Hegde Film Inches Towards Rs.25 Crore

Deva box office collection day 5: Shahid Kapoor's Deva released in theatres last week after a delay. The film opened to mixed reviews from critics although Shahid's performance as a cop earned praise. The film has been steady at the box office in its first week so far. As per the latest box office report on Sacnilk.com, the film has now crossed ₹ 24 crore. Deva is directed by Rosshan Andrews.

**Deva box office update**

The report states that Deva has minted ₹ 24.25 crore nett in five days of release. The film saw a dip on Tuesday and collected ₹ 2.35 crore, as per early estimates, which is its lowest single day collection so far. Deva opened at a decent ₹ 5.5 crore, and went on to collect ₹ 6.4 crore and ₹ 7.25 crore on its second and third day respectively.

As per the report, Deva saw a 6.93 percent Hindi Occupancy on Tuesday.

**More details**

Deva is a remake of Rosshan's 2013 Malayalam film Mumbai Police, which had Prithviraj Sukumaran in the lead role. Shahid plays ACP Dev Ambre, a man who loses his memory while trying to solve his best friend's



murder. Pooja plays his lover, a reporter called Diya Sathaye. Pavail Gulati and Kubbra Sait also play key roles in it.



# Priyanka Chopra Says She Was 'Hurt' By Dishonesty In Some Of Her Previous Relationships

Priyanka Chopra opened up about the time she had begun to think about the fact about dating singer Nick Jonas a few years ago. The actor opened up in a new interview with Harper's Bazaar where she said that she wished to be with someone who wanted a family. She also had her own list of non-negotiables for the man she wanted to be with.

**What Priyanka said**

"The first was honesty, because there were times in some of my previous relationships when I'd been hurt by dishonesty. The second was that he had to appreciate the value of family. Third: he had to take his profession very seriously, because I take mine very seriously. Fourth: I wanted someone who was creative and had the imagination to dream big with me. And fifth: I wanted someone who had drive and ambition, like I did," she was quoted in the interview.

The actor then went on to add, "I wouldn't have married him if he didn't. You have to look for someone who respects you. Respect is different from love and affection... You've got to kiss a lot of frogs until you find your prince."

**More details**

Priyanka married Nick got married in a Christian and Hindu ceremony at Jodhpur's Umaid Bhawan Palace on December 1 and 2, 2018. In January 2022, the two announced that they welcomed daughter Malti Marie via surrogacy.

The actor is currently in India to attend her brother Siddharth Chopra's wedding celebrations. Last month, she took to Instagram and shared a series of pictures and videos from her visit to Chilkur Balaji Temple in Telangana. Although there has been no official announcement yet, the actor is touted to star in SS Rajamouli's next film alongside Mahesh Babu.

## Continued from Page 07

# Surrey Police Board Re-Established...

It is crucial to have policing experience on the Board to ensure that decisions are well-informed and effectively address the needs of our community. I am confident that his insights and leadership will help guide the Board in its work to keep Surrey safe and thriving."

Councillor Stutt brings over 40 years of experience in policing and the insurance industry, including service with the RCMP in Surrey. As a dedicated member of the local community for more than three decades, he has served on the executive of the Sullivan Community Association and volunteered at various levels of minor hockey. Councillor Stutt currently chairs the Surrey Public Safety Committee and the Surrey Heritage Advisory Commission, and sits on a number

of other committees, including the Audit Committee, Finance Committee, and Metro Vancouver's Regional Parks Committee.

"I am honoured to be appointed to the Surrey Police Board and to continue serving our community in this capacity," said Councillor Stutt. "My background in policing and my years of public service have given me a deep understanding of Surrey's diverse needs. I look forward to working collaboratively with my fellow Board members to make sure public safety remains a top priority for our city. I am committed to ensuring that residents and visitors to Surrey are afforded the best service possible."

The first Surrey Police Board meeting will be held on February 12, 2025.

## Continued from Page 24

# Surrey To Host New...

From emerging artists to seasoned performers, we're bringing their stories and sounds to the stage for everyone to enjoy," shared Nate Sabine, co-chair of the Vancouver JUNO Host Committee. "Surrey has long been a vibrant epicenter for music, particularly South Asian music, nurturing incredible talent and shaping the sound of an entire generation. This makes it a natural stop for the tour, especially in the year the JUNOS introduced the South Asian Music Recording of the Year category. This event is more than just a celebration of music—it's a celebration of community, culture, and the creative spirit that makes our province so special. Join us as we shine a spotlight on the voices that deserve to be heard!"

The Let's Hear it BC JUNOS Plaza Party offers a unique opportunity for residents to experience the spirit of the JUNOS for free. For more information, visit [surrey.ca/junosplazaparty](http://surrey.ca/junosplazaparty).

## Continued from Page 21

# Nissan...

The all-new 2025 Nissan Murano is available at dealerships now.

The All-New 2025 Nissan Armada - The 2025 Nissan Armada adds unprecedented off-road capability with its first PRO-4X grade, offering drivers greater confidence for outdoor excursions. The all-new Armada brings impressive towing capacity of up to 8,500 pounds<sup>4</sup> and available ProPILOT Assist 2.15 for hands-off driving assistance. The all-new 2025 Nissan Armada is now on sale at dealerships nationwide.

## Continued from Page 14

# Surrey Police Service...

Resources and incident responses are also coordinated through the CSOC for SPS and our policing partners.

SPS has also launched new District Inspector positions, as part of our community-focused policing model. District Inspectors work out of a Community Police Office and are responsible for facilitating neighbourhood contact, and working with local residents, businesses, and organizations to prevent and address crime and nuisance behaviour in their policing district. Insp. Ben Rodrigue is the District Inspector for Whalley/City Centre and Insp. Sukh Sidhu has taken on this role for Newton. Additional District Inspectors will be assigned to the other districts as SPS takes on operations in those areas.

SPS's Road Safety Section is launching an Impaired Driving Unit comprised of officers who are trained Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) and Breath Test Analysis (BTA) operators. This dedicated unit will focus on removing drivers impaired by drugs or alcohol – some of the most dangerous driving offences – from our roads.

## Continued from Page 09

# Trump Tariffs: Can We...

"Canada is not known to be a major source of fentanyl, other synthetic opioids or precursor chemicals to the United States."

Here are the facts concerning illegal aliens crossing into the US: In fiscal year 2024, of the approximately 1.6 million US Border Patrol encounters with migrants at places other than legal ports of entry, just 23,721, or about 1.5%, were at the Canadian border.

In response to Trump's concerns, the Canadian government had already announced a number of measures to try to combat drug trafficking into the US.

Although I am happy to see that 25% tariffs have been paused for 30 days, I have difficulty understanding the need to do this. Why would our closest ally start an unprovoked economic attack on us? Trump has often expressed his

unhappiness about trade deficits between Canada and the US. If he is not happy about the trade deficit, then no amount of new border security will make him abandon his tariff threats.

Trump has publicly announced that he would use "economic force" to absorb Canada into the United States. It doesn't appear his advisors have advised him about the principles of liberty, democracy, sovereignty, territorial integrity and global co-operation that US leaders often talk about.

Canada is a test case for how the present administration treats its friends and allies.

I wrote a column on Trump's threats which appeared in The Link last month. In that column I argued that Canada should expand trade with Europe. Asia and others.

It has become clear that over reliance on the US exposes the Canadian economy

to risks such as economic downturns and protectionist policies. Diversifying trade with Europe and Asia provides Canada an opportunity to build economic resilience and capitalize on growing markets.

Through the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), Canada has preferential access to over five hundred million consumers in the European Union. This allows Canadian producers to tap into one of the world's largest economic blocs.

Diversification mitigates the risks associated with U.S. centric trade policies, such as tariff and trade disputes. Expanding trade with Europe, Asia and others enhances economic stability by spreading risk across multiple regions.

Our governments should immediately pay attention to this and diversify our trade.

*Harinder Mahil is a human rights activist and is secretary of Dr. Hari Sharma Foundation.*





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