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Passing of Surrey's Beloved Artist Jarnail Singh Leaves a Void in the Community

By Surbhi Gogia

One of Surrey's most revered and beloved artists, Jarnail Singh, passed away on Monday, February 10th, in Chandigarh. He was on a family visit to India when he fell ill and was undergoing treatment at a Chandigarh hospital, his family reported. His passing has sent shockwaves not only through the local community in Surrey but also across Canada, the United States, and India. Gurdip Singh Bhullar, a family friend and colleague who runs Bhangra classes at the same arts centre where Jarnail Singh operated his gallery, expressed his grief, saying, "The only words that can describe this loss are – a part of my soul and the soul of the community is gone with him."



Jarnail Singh's art was part of Punjabis across the globe, from India to Australia, the UK, the US, and Canada. He was widely known for reviving Punjab's rustic culture through his paintings, which beautifully captured the rich traditions and

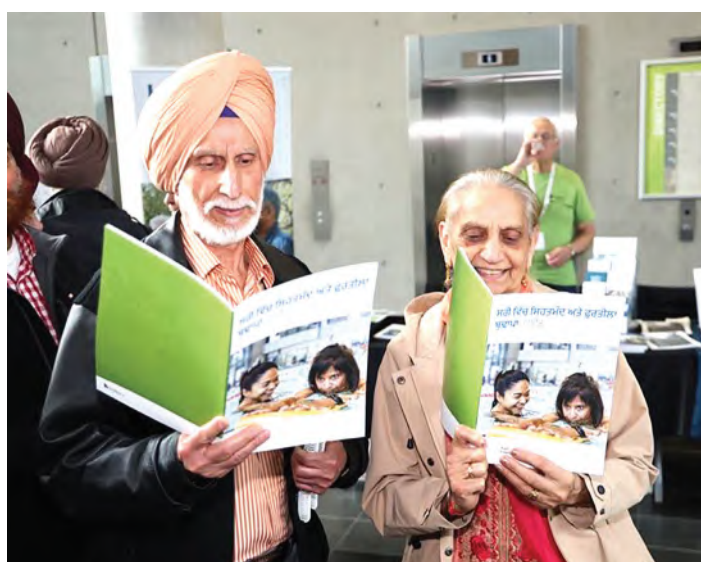
landscapes of his homeland. Born in 1956 in Zira, a small town in Punjab, India, Jarnail Singh was the son of renowned Sikh history painter Sardar Kirpal Singh. Art was an intrinsic part of his upbringing, and his talent flourished under

his father's guidance. Kirpal Singh was known as the founding artist of the Central Sikh Museum at the Golden Temple in Amritsar. Assisting his father, Jarnail Singh developed his own artistic style, depicting the fast-disappearing rural lifestyle, traditions, and customs of Punjabi life. His paintings captured scenes of Punjabi women engaged in daily chores—spinning cotton, grinding corn, embroidering, carrying water in earthen and copper pots, and harvesting cotton. Beyond rural life, Jarnail Singh also depicted the struggles and sacrifices of the Sikh people. He immigrated to Canada in the early 2000s with his family and quickly established a special place in the hearts of the Canadian Punjabi diaspora.

Continued on page 09

City Of Surrey Launches Punjabi Healthy Aging Guide

The City of Surrey, in partnership with the Alzheimer Society of B.C., hosted the South Asian Forum: Brain Health on Feb. 8, 2025. The forum, held at City Hall Centre Stage, provided essential education, resources, and support to families affected by dementia in the South Asian community. A highlight of this year's event was the launch of the Punjabi version of the Healthy Active Aging Guide. "As Surrey's population ages, events like the South Asian Forum: Brain Health plays an integral role in the well-being of our senior citizens and their loved ones," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "In order to reach as wide of an



audience as possible, the City's Healthy Active Aging Guide was launched in Punjabi for

this year's event. Providing resources in multiple languages is part of the Multilingual

Communications Policy that Council approved in 2024 and is a critical step in ensuring that all members of our community have access to the information they need to maintain their health as they age."

The Healthy Active Aging guide offers important contact numbers, maps, and information on safety, security, technology, transportation, home care programs, caregiving, and recreation opportunities in Surrey.

"In partnership with City of Surrey and presenting sponsor Gowling WLG the forum was a great success, with strong engagement from the South Asian community.

Continued on page 09

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Sexual Predator Jatinder Singh Arrested And Released Again

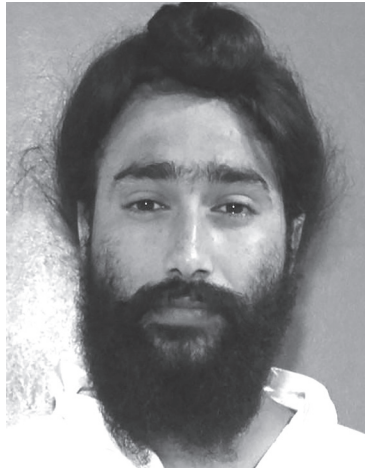
In a classic catch-and-release case, Jatinder Singh, a 24-year-old man has been released second time after being rearrested and facing additional sexual assault charges.

Singh, a Surrey man, was arrested and charged with the sexual assault of a woman in her house while she was sleeping in 2024. But Singh was released from custody after being charged.

Surrey Police Service and the Special Victims Unit of the RCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit (SPOSU) informed the public this week that Singh has been charged with additional offences.

"This has been an active and ongoing investigation led by the Special Victims Unit (SVU) of the SPOSU since July 2024 and investigators have gathered further evidence which has led to additional charges. On January 22, 2025, Jatinder Singh was arrested and charged with four additional offences: two counts of trespass at night near dwelling house and two counts of secretly observing/recording nudity in a private place.

On February 7, 2025, Jatinder Singh was released by courts with multiple conditions which included electronic monitoring until the end of May 2025. He



is to be under a curfew after this time period and monitored by a bail supervisor.

Previously 24-year-old Singh of Surrey was arrested on August 16, 2024 after reports of an alleged stranger sexual assault in the 14100-block of 91 Avenue. The victim reported that she was woken up by a man groping her in her residence. The victim screamed for help and the suspect fled.

To advance the investigation, Surrey RCMP released a video of the suspect. "The person of interest is described as a South Asian man in his early 20s, 5'7 to 5'10 tall, average build, with a dark mustache and medium-length beard, wearing an orange turban, long dark-coloured shorts

with a white stripe down the side, a dark blue t-shirt and flip flops. This individual may go by the name Akash," the police said. Singh was arrested on August 16, 2024 and was charged with the Break and Enter and Sexual assault. "We are releasing a photo of Jatinder Singh as investigators believe there may be more people in our community who have additional information that could assist with advancing the investigation," Surrey RCMP Media Relations Officer had said at that time. "We encourage anyone with information to contact Surrey RCMP Special Victim's Unit at 604-599-0502."

Assault With Knife In Broad Daylight At 64 And Scott Road: Surrey Police Looking For South Asian Suspect

Surrey Police Service (SPS) officers are appealing for the public's assistance with identifying and locating a South Asian man involved in a February 9, 2025 unprovoked stranger assault in Surrey that sent one person to hospital with injuries.

Shortly before 11:30 am on February 9, 2025, Surrey Police Service Frontline officers were called to a report of an assault in progress at a business in the 6400 block 120 Street. SPS officers arrived and found two men had been assaulted, one physically and the other with a weapon, and the suspect had left the scene.

Both victims were at the business when the suspect began to physically assault one of them, a staff member at the business. When the other victim, a Good Samaritan bystander who intervened, was assaulted with a weapon, believed to be knife.

The victim who was physically assaulted was treated on scene by BCEHS and the other victim was taken to hospital for



treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. That victim has undergone surgery and is recovering in hospital.

The suspect was last seen leaving the scene eastbound on 64 Avenue towards 121 Street. The suspect was described as a South Asian man with a heavy build,



approximately 30 years old and 6'1" tall, with black hair, and wearing a light-coloured, possibly light purple, hoodie, beige pants, and white shoes. He may be in possession of a knife. Officers searched the area for the suspect, who was not known to the victims, but were unable to locate him.

Surrey Police Service detectives from SPS's Serious Crime Team have taken over to lead the investigation.

This was an unprovoked incident of random violence, and we are concerned that the suspect may assault someone else," says Staff Sergeant Lindsey Houghton, Surrey Police Service Media Relations Officer. "Someone in the community knows who the suspect in this stranger attack is and we are urging them to come forward and contact police as soon as possible."

SPS is asking anyone with information on the suspect, or anyone who was in the area at the time of the assaults and who may have photo, video, or dash cam footage of the assaults or suspect, to please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-11329 (SP), or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or www.solvecrime.ca if you wish to remain anonymous. If you see the suspect, do not approach him, and call 9-1-1.

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Punjabi Language Education Association To Celebrate International Mother Language Day On February 23



By Balwant Sanghera

International Mother Language Day is celebrated around the globe in February. It was designated as such by UNESCO about 25 years ago. Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA) has been celebrating this special occasion for 19 years. This is the 20th year of PLEA's celebration of this day. PLEA's Board

of directors has been working hard in making this day a memorable one for the well wishers of Punjabi language. With support from Deepak Binning Foundation and Taj Park Convention Centre, international mother language day will be celebrated from 1PM to 3 PM on Sunday, February 23 at Taj Park Convention Centre, 8580 -132 Street in Surrey. PLEA has put together an impressive agenda to celebrate this occasion. Jessie Sunner, Surrey -Newton M.L.A. and Parliamentary Secretary to Attorney General and Deputy Premier Niki Sharma, will be the keynote speaker. Representatives of three school districts- Surrey, Delta and Abbotsford- will each give an update about the Punjabi classes in their respective districts. We are pleased to have long time trustee and community activist Garry Thind represent Surrey, Nimmi Daula represent Delta and Abbotsford School District Vice Chair Preet Rai give an



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PUNJABI LANGUAGE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION'S (PLEA)
20th Annual
International Mother Language Day
Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025
Time: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
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- Keynote Speaker: **Jessie Sunner, MLA Surrey-Newton, Parliamentary Secretary to Attorney General and Deputy Premier Niki Sharma**
- Garry Thind (Surrey), Nimmi Daula (Delta), and Preet Rai (Abbotsford)** school district representatives.
- Punjabi learners from local schools present **Poetry, Songs and Stories**
- Inspiring video to learn Punjabi: presented by **Jaiden Gill and Rohan Gill**
- Canadian-born Punjabi authors **Parabjot Kaur and Harman Pandher**
- Local Punjabi singers - **Sukhi Lalli and Binder Rode**
- PLEA cordially invites everyone to come and be part of the annual celebration of the Punjabi language.
- Free Event. Refreshments.**

You are invited by active PLEA members and local educators: **Balwant Sanghera, Paul Binning, Gurpreet Bains, Rajinder Pandher, Ranbir Johal, Gurinder Mann, Harmohanjit Pandher, Kamaljit Kambo, Parabjot Kaur, Amandeep Chhina, Reetinder Kaur, Daya Johal and Sadhu Binning.**

For more information Please contact:

Balwant Sanghera - 604-836-8976
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update about Abbotsford School District. Several students of Punjabi classes from various schools, colleges and universities will present poetry, songs and stories. Jaiden Gill and Rohan Gill will present a short inspiring video to learn Punjabi. PLEA is pleased to recognize two of its Board members, authors and Surrey teachers Parabjot Kaur and Harman Pandher. They will introduce their latest books and inspire our youth. After that, two of our community's prominent singers-Sukhi Lali and Binder Rode- will entertain the audience with their popular songs. PLEA cordially invites everyone to come and be a part of the annual celebration of our mother tongue Punjabi. There is no admission fee. Taj Park Convention Centre has a lot of free parking. Refreshments will be available. For more information please feel free to contact me (Balwant Sanghera) at 604-836-8976 or Sadhu Binning at 778-773-1886. (Balwant Sanghera is President, Punjabi Language Education Association (PLEA)

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Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers' six "least-wanted valentines" that's who, including one with a \$50,000 reward offered for his recapture

All six of BC's "most wanted" criminals and suspects, who remain on the lam as Valentine's Day approaches, are supposed to be behind bars. And not even an invitation for a special candlelight dinner in the lockup is likely to bring them out of hiding.

"To the police, they're BC's most wanted, but to us they're all on Crime Stoppers' annual list of "least-wanted" valentines," said Linda Annis, Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers at a special "valentine's dinner setting for six" in a real jail cell at the Port Moody Police Station.

"Not surprisingly, not one of our least-wanted valentines is expected to take us up on our offer to surrender to police in time for a jail cell Valentine's Day dinner, so we thought we'd show them what they're missing," Annis said.

Fugitive Rabih Alkhalil in particular is a "repeat valentine" from last year's list. For him, Crime Stoppers has partnered



with the national BOLO (Be On the Look Out) Program to provide a special reward of up to \$50,000. He is wanted for

murder, conspiracy to commit murder, and being unlawfully at large after escaping from the North Fraser Pretrial Centre in Port Coquitlam in July 2022.

Raj Mehmi 60 years old, is wanted on a Canada wide warrant since 2023. Mehmi was sentenced to 15 years in prison for importing and possessing cocaine, with the purpose of trafficking, after crossing into B.C. at the Pacific Highway port of entry. Mehmi was found guilty in September 2022

"Someone, somewhere knows where these people are and we're urging them to do the right thing and call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS. Your anonymity is guaranteed



by the Supreme Court of Canada and you'll never be questioned by police or called to testify in court."

In 2024, Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers received more than 4,500 anonymous tips, a year over year increase of 10 per cent leading to 16 arrests, including seven arrests for gang-related offences. Tips to Crime Stoppers that lead to the arrest and charge of any wanted criminal can lead to a reward of up to \$5,000.

Driver dies in Surrey after hitting power poll

Surrey Police Service, the SRCMP Surrey Police Operations Support Unit's Criminal Collision Investigation Team (SPOSU CCIT), and Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service (ICARS) are investigating an overnight single vehicle collision that has resulted in one fatality.

At approximately 10:50 pm on February 10, 2025, Surrey Police Service received reports of a single vehicle that was travelling westbound in the 12300 block 104 Avenue, Surrey and hitting a power pole. SPS Frontline officers attended and despite life-saving medical intervention by Surrey Fire Service and BCEHS, the driver, who was the lone occupant of the vehicle, died on scene.

SPOSU CCIT and ICARS were called in to assist and the cause of the collision remains under investigation, but at this early stage the speed of the vehicle is thought to be the primary contributing factor.

104 Avenue was closed overnight due to the collision and BC Hydro fixing the power pole and associated wires. 104 Avenue has been reopened for traffic.

If you witnessed the collision or have any information, including dashcam footage, please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-11754 (SP).

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Gaganpreet Singh and Jagdeep Singh plea Guilty in fatal 2024 motor vehicle collision

Two men have pleaded guilty to several offences following a fatal motor vehicle collision in January 2024 and subsequent investigation by the RCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit Criminal Collision Investigation Team.

On January 27, 2024, at approximately 1:43 a.m., Surrey RCMP responded to a report of a pedestrian hit and run on University Drive near 104 Avenue. The preliminary investigation indicates the pedestrian was struck in the roadway north on University Drive and 104 Avenue. Witnesses described seeing a red Ford Mustang strike the pedestrian and leave the scene without stopping to render assistance.

After a thorough investigation led by the RCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit's Criminal Collision Investigation Team (CCIT), two of the men who were arrested on January 27, 2024, have now pleaded guilty.

On January 6, 2025, Gaganpreet Singh pleaded guilty to Dangerous operation of a conveyance; fail to stop after accident with a person; and interference with a dead body. On February 7, 2025, Jagdeep Singh pleaded guilty to dangerous operation of a conveyance; fail to stop after accident with person; and interference with a dead body. Both accused are out of custody and are awaiting their sentencing hearing scheduled for May 2025.

Overnight collision in Surrey sends pedestrian to hospital with critical injuries

Surrey Police Service was investigating a serious overnight collision between a vehicle and a pedestrian that sent the pedestrian to hospital with life-threatening injuries.

On February 9, 2025, shortly before 9:20 pm Surrey Police Service Frontline officers responded to a report of a pedestrian who had been struck by a vehicle near the intersection

of King George Boulevard and 100 Avenue. The driver remained at the scene of the collision. The pedestrian, an adult man, was transported to hospital for treatment of critical, potentially life-threatening, injuries.

SPS is leading the investigation and has contacted the Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service (ICARS) to assist. The investigation

is in its early stages, and it is unknown what caused the collision between the vehicle and pedestrian.

Surrey Police Service is appealing for any witnesses to the collision or anyone who may have any information, including dashcam footage, please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-11452 (SP).

Surrey High school student dead in police-involved shooting

A teenager from a Surrey high School has died after being involved in what police call an "extensive interaction" with police. The shooting shocked the community because as per media reports the teenager Chase De Balinhard was neurodivergent.

The BC RCMP has notified the Independent Investigations Office of British Columbia (IIO BC) of an incident in Surrey where one individual has died. On February 9, 2025, at approximately 2:39pm, police received a call that an individual was in distress and reportedly armed with a firearm in a school yard, in the area of 7000 block of 188th street.

Police officers from the RCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit (SPOSU) attended and located the individual.

After an extensive interaction, shots were fired in the area of 185th Street and 70th Avenue in Surrey, B.C. BC Emergency Health Services (EHS) was staged nearby and were immediately called in to attend and provide medical care, however the individual has died. No one else was injured during this interaction.

The IIO BC was notified and attended the scene to investigate police actions in this incident. The area has been cordoned off in order to support the investigation.

AutismBC extended deepest sympathies to the family of 15-year-old Chase, who lost his life in the tragic incident.

In a statement, the organization said, "We strongly advocate for trauma-informed care to support our community, and this profound loss has amplified the urgency for action among our partner groups. It is crucial to emphasize understanding of disabilities affected by delayed executive functioning and auditory processing and to enhance our protection of the non-speaking community members who can be particularly at risk. To this end, we advocate for comprehensive education and training for all emergency medical services across sectors. Additionally, we continue to advocate for a neuroaffirmative and voluntary identification system to support autistic and non-speaking individuals."

A GofundMe page is set up to pay for his funeral expenses. "Chase was a son, a grandson, a nephew, a cousin and a loyal friend. He is missed by so many. This travesty has shook our family to the core, any help would be appreciated," mentions the page.



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Man, Who Hit Punjabi Woman Gurpreet Sangha At Squamish Bus Stop, Pleads Guilty

Gurpreet Sangha, a 44-year-old, Punjabi woman died in 2022 when a rolled-over pick up truck hit her and another woman at a bus stop in Squamish. John Cernos has now pleaded guilty in this tragic incident. Cernos plead guilty to impaired driving causing bodily harm, impaired driving causing death and fail to remain at scene of collision. Sentencing will take place at a later date.

On September 2 at about 11:35 p.m., a man driving a truck near Pemberton and Cleveland Avenues, flipped over a sidewalk, through a chain link fence, and hit two women at a bus stop who sustained serious injuries. The man ran away from the scene and remained outstanding. Squamish RCMP called on the public to identify the driver in a hit and run incident. The two women required hospitalization. Sangha, 44 years old, died in hospital on September 16, 2022, from injuries sustained in the incident.



"This tragic incident had a significant impact on family, friends and the community as a whole," said Staff Sergeant Gareth Bradley, the Operations Commander of the Squamish RCMP. This outcome reflects the commitment of our investigators in seeking justice, and we hope that it provides a sense of closure and accountability to those affected.

Based on the complexity of this investigation RCMP investigators sought assistance from the Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service, the Integrated Forensic Identification Section, the RCMP Digital Forensic Services and the 'E' Division Interview Team.

The Squamish RCMP's General Investigation Section continued the investigation which led to several charges being laid against Squamish resident, John Cernos, in November 2023.

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White House Official Says He ‘Never Agreed’ Canada Won’t Be 51st State

All 13 of Canada’s Premiers travelled to Washington, D.C. this week as part of a joint mission to strengthen Canada-U.S. relations. Doug Ford, Chair of the Council of the Federation, led the group of Premiers, who are united in their view that tariffs on Canadian goods, if implemented, would hurt workers and businesses on both sides of the border.

When asked, B.C. Premier David Eby told reporters outside the White House that the premiers had raised concerns about U.S. President Donald Trump’s claims that Canada should join the U.S.

“We had frank conversations about the 51st state comment where we underlined that was a non-starter,” he said.

But it received swift pushback from one of the U.S. officials on the other side of the table, Trump’s deputy chief of staff James Blair. He wrote on his platform X, “Pleasant meeting with the Premiers. To be clear, we never agreed that Canada would not be the 51st state. We only agreed to share Premier Eby’s comments. Further, we said the best way to understand President Trump’s position is to take what he says at face value.”

Eby had alluded to “some very frank moments across the table” at the hastily arranged meeting for the premiers who are in Washington, D.C., to make the case against Trump’s threatened tariffs on

Canadian exports.

Canada’s Premiers met with bipartisan members of Congress, and American and Canadian business leaders. Canada’s Premiers were also invited to the White House to meet with senior advisers to President Trump.

During this discussion, Canada’s Premiers stressed the need to work together to avoid tariffs which would hurt workers on both sides of the border. They also listened and learned about opportunities to work with the Trump administration to align on and achieve shared priorities, including creating jobs, growing economies and



protecting communities from the impact of fentanyl and other illegal drugs.

The Council of the Federation comprises all 13 provincial and territorial Premiers. It enables Premiers to work collaboratively, form closer ties, foster constructive relationships among governments, and show leadership on important issues that matter to Canadians.

Harsimran Dhaliwal sentenced in US for illegally purchasing handguns to smuggle into Canada

A Canadian man linked to a firearm found during a 2022 Edmonton search warrant has been sentenced in the US.

On January 16, 2025, Canadian man **Harsimran Dhaliwal, 31**, was sentenced in the US to 82 months in prison and given a \$30,000 fine for illegally purchasing handguns to smuggle into Canada.

Dhaliwal was identified as a result of a Nov. 2, 2022 Edmonton Police search warrant in two Edmonton residences, where police located eight handguns and more than \$930,000 in drugs and cash. In that investigation, **Adam Salah Johma**, then 53, and another 34-year-old man were charged with 102 offences. The 34-year-old man could not be named to protect

the identity of a child who was found living in a residence where drug trafficking was taking place.

The EPS Firearms Examination Unit was able to restore the serial number from one of the firearms seized from the search warrant. RCMP Canadian National Firearms Tracing Centre then traced the firearm to a buyer in Texas. Agents with the American ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives) developed a suspect in Edmonton, and together with members of EPS FIU, identified the suspect as Sherwood Park man **Harsimran Dhaliwal**.

An ATF investigation revealed that Dhaliwal was traveling back and forth from Edmonton to Texas to purchase and

organize shipments of handguns into Canada, working with several other straw buyers to obtain the guns. US authorities arrested Dhaliwal in Texas on Sep. 22, 2023.

“This arrest and ultimate sentencing of a prolific straw buyer is an outstanding example of the complexity and teamwork that goes into these investigations,” says S/ Sgt Eric Stewart, with the EPS Firearms Investigation Section. “Our firearms teams have established the resources and the partnerships to work across international borders, so we are able to identify and hold accountable those who are bringing illegal weapons from the US into Canada.”

Public Warning As New Gold Fraud Emerges In Richmond

Richmond RCMP Economic Crime Unit is warning the public about a new fraud in Richmond.

On January 14, 2025 Richmond RCMP received a report of a scam where the victim was allegedly instructed by the fraudster to purchase gold. According to the victim she received a warning on her computer requesting she call a 1-888 phone number. When she called it, she was advised there was pornography on her device and her accounts had been compromised. The victim later received a callback instructing her to purchase gold from a business in Richmond. Fortunately, before providing the gold as payment, she spoke with staff at her local bank who assisted her in realizing it was a scam. The victim reported this incident to

police as she feared the fraudsters have access to her personal information.

This is the first reported incident of this type of fraud we’ve received in Richmond, however, we are aware of an investigation on Vancouver Island involving this modus operandi which is why we are issuing this public warning, says Corporal Michael Ber, Richmond RCMP Economic Crime Unit. We are working tirelessly to try and educate the public on fraud trends to help stem the tide of victimization.

In 2024 in Richmond alone over \$ 38 million was reported lost by victims to fraud. Richmond RCMP recommends regularly checking the Canada Anti-Fraud Centre website to stay up-to-date with the latest frauds and scams in Canada.

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Continued from Page 01

Passing of Surrey's Beloved Artist Jarnail Singh Leaves a Void in the Community



His painting of the Komagata Maru at the PICS building stands as a testament to his dedication to history and justice. Among his significant contributions is the mural project at Gurdwara Singh Sabha in Surrey. The two-part mural, illustrating the history of the Sikh faith during the time



A remembrance event was held at his gallery, where community members described him as a simple man, deeply dedicated to his work and values



Jarnail Singh with Gurdip Singh Bhullar, co-founders of the Arts Centre. The Centre housed Jarnail Singh's painting classes, his art gallery, and Bhullar's Bhangra dance school.

Continued from Page 01

City Of Surrey Launches...

It's incredible to see members in the community come together so we can continue the important conversations, breakdown the stigma, and show families they are not alone on the dementia journey," said Joti Sandhu, Support and Education Coordinator, Alzheimer Society of B.C.

In addition to the presentations, attendees had the chance to connect with local organizations offering dementia support, further fostering a sense of community among those affected by the disease.

"The City of Surrey is dedicated to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for older adults. This guide and forum support the framework outlined in the Age Friendly Action Plan guided by principles of inclusion, community engagement, and respect," Mayor said.

Learn more at surrey.ca/seniors.

of the Ten Gurus, was a groundbreaking project—the first of its kind in Sikh history. It was created in the grand tradition of biblical murals, such as those painted by Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel. This mural, inaugurated on Baisakhi in 2003, narrates Sikh history from Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, to Guru Gobind Singh, with landmark events depicted in exquisite detail. Additionally, he painted sketches of the Gadri Babas in Gurdwara langar halls, paying tribute to their sacrifices. Jarnail Singh's artistic achievements were widely recognized. In 2004, he held a solo exhibition titled Jarnail Singh – Discovering the Soul of Punjab at the Surrey Art Gallery. He was a featured artist at the 2005 Harrison Arts Festival and contributed to exhibitions such as From Across the Oceans at Langley Museum, Punjabi Visions at Reach Gallery and Museum in Abbotsford, and From the Land of Five Rivers at Surrey Art Gallery. His Komagata Maru Stories were exhibited in Surrey, Abbotsford, and Delta. One of his most celebrated works, a portrait titled The Patriarch, won the Daniel P. Izzard Medal in a competition organized by the Canadian Institute of Portrait Artists. In



2008, the City of Surrey honored him with a lifetime achievement award, recognizing him as a Surrey Civic Treasure.

Although best known as a painter, Jarnail Singh's contributions extended beyond the canvas. An artist, illustrator, designer, photographer, and art journalist, he worked tirelessly to promote Punjabi culture and art in the community. His art gallery was not merely a place for painting lessons but a cultural hub. "We ran Vancouver Vichaar Manchshila, a platform that invited speakers and community activists from India and Canada to discuss their work and raise awareness about social issues," said Gurdip Singh Bhullar, who co-founded the arts centre with Jarnail Singh. The centre

housed Jarnail Singh's painting classes, his art gallery, and Bhullar's Bhangra dance school.

Tributes and events are being organized across the Lower Mainland to honor his legacy. A remembrance event was held at his gallery, where community members described him as a simple man, deeply dedicated to his work and values. A Shardhanjali Samagam (memorial gathering) was also held at Punjab Bhawan in his memory.

In Jarnail Singh's own words: "I strive to create images of everlasting beauty. It is a humble effort to capture on canvas the beauty and grandeur of everyday life and bountiful nature, so that it gives joy and inner peace to viewers and instills in them a sense of gratitude for the gift of life and for Nature's never-ending generosity. I could paint forever the beauty of nature and the simplicity and innocence of native and indigenous cultures, which will ultimately be consumed by soulless consumerist culture in this fast-changing world."

Jarnail Singh is survived by his wife, daughter, and son, who reside in Surrey. His legacy will live on through his art, which continues to inspire and connect generations across the world.

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Mayor Ken Sim and VPD launch long-term initiative to dismantle organized crime in Vancouver

Mayor Ken Sim and the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) announced Task Force Barrage, a major, long-term operation to dismantle organized crime networks and target predatory criminals in the Downtown Eastside and beyond, ensuring a safer and more livable city for all Vancouver residents. Building on ongoing police efforts, Task Force Barrage will expand investigations to target organized crime, put more officers on the street, and enhance community partnerships to improve public safety.



This long-term, sustained effort aims to disrupt criminal networks, hold offenders accountable, and make Vancouver's streets safer. "The status quo in the Downtown Eastside isn't working," said Mayor Sim. "Organized crime, drug trafficking, and repeat offenders are preying on the most vulnerable, while everyday Vancouverites continue to see the impacts of crime. We were elected to do things differently, and that's exactly what we're doing."

Continued on page 11

Former Police Officer Baltej Singh Dhillon Appointed As One Of 3 Senators By PM Trudeau

Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced appointment of three individuals as independent senators to fill vacancies in the Senate. Baltej Dhillon is appointed as Senator for British Columbia, Martine Hébert, for Quebec and Todd Lewis, for Saskatchewan. Under the Canadian Constitution, the Governor General appoints individuals to the Senate. By convention, senators are appointed on the advice of the Prime Minister. Once appointed by the Governor General, new senators join their peers to examine and revise legislation, investigate national issues, and represent regional, provincial and territorial, and minority interests – important functions in a modern democracy. Baltej Dhillon is a retired career police officer, a community leader, and a lifelong advocate for diversity and inclusion. Emigrating from Malaysia in 1983, Dhillon made history in 1991 as the first Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) officer



to wear a turban, advocating for the right to practise his faith while serving Canada. Dhillon went on to have a successful 30 year career with the RCMP as an accomplished major crime investigator, police interrogator, polygraph examiner, intelligence officer, and emergency planner. He played a key role in several high-profile investigations, including the Air India Flight 182 tragedy and the Robert Pickton case. Mr. Dhillon also held various leadership roles, including overseeing the British Columbia RCMP Divisional Emergency Operations Centre and the federal Serious and Organized Crime's Intelligence section, also in British Columbia, as well as establishing and managing intelligence operations at the Provincial Intelligence Centre of British Columbia (now the Real-Time Operations Centre of British Columbia), the first of its kind in Canada. In 2013, he led the Sikh Leadership and Police Committee on Gang Violence to support youth prevention strategies within the Sikh Community. Since retiring from the RCMP in 2019, he has worked as Program Manager for the Crime Guns Intelligence and Investigations Group with the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of British Columbia, the province's anti-gang agency. Dhillon is also deeply involved in community service. He serves on various committees and has led youth camps. He has received numerous distinctions and awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from The Times of Canada, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal, and the RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award. In addition to his extensive police education and training, Mr. Dhillon is the recipient of honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from McMaster University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Martine Hébert is a renowned economist, former Quebec diplomat, and public figure with over 25 years of experience in economic relations, governance, and public affairs. Todd Lewis is a fourth-generation farmer and a dedicated champion for Saskatchewan's agricultural community. He is the former President of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan and currently serves as the first Vice-President of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

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Surrey Mayor Cancels Proposed Contract Of Towable Bleachers From US Company

Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke has announced the withdrawal of a Corporate Report set to be considered during Surrey City Council during Regular Council Meeting. The report included a proposed \$740,000 contract for the manufacturing and delivery of eight mobile towable bleachers primarily sourced from a U.S. company. The decision comes amid growing concerns over potential U.S. tariffs that threaten the Canadian economy.

Bleachers are tiered rows of benches or seats, typically made of metal or wood, found in sports stadiums, school gyms, and outdoor event venues. They provide seating for spectators and are designed to accommodate large crowds in a compact space. "In light of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding U.S. tariffs, it is imperative that we act decisively to protect Canada's interests," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "Given the potentially devastating

effects of these looming tariffs, I have decided to reevaluate our sourcing options for critical infrastructure improvements. This challenging situation underscores the need to prioritize Canadian jobs, bolster local businesses, and ensure the economic stability of our communities."

"Currently, over 99 percent of the City of Surrey's procurement has been with Canadian suppliers since 2020, while only 0.58 percent has been with

U.S. companies. However, we recognize that we can and must do more. Surrey is committed to championing Canadian interests and standing firm in support of our nation," Locke added.

Solicitation for this particular contract was posted on Dec. 6, 2024.

The City of Surrey is committed to transparency and fair competition, however the evolving trade environment necessitates a reevaluation of our sourcing



Mayor Brenda Locke

strategies to safeguard local jobs and support Canadian businesses. Staff are currently reviewing procurement practices and will consider all available options given the current threat of U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods.

Council Appoints Surrey Resident Archie Johnston To Surrey Police Board

Surrey City Council has appointed South Surrey resident Archie Johnston as a community member of the Surrey Police Board. Johnston's extensive expertise in financial reporting, risk assessment, and strategic planning will be invaluable to the Surrey Police Board as it navigates the complexities of community policing and works to effectively address local needs. This decision underscores Council's commitment to enhancing local representation on the Board and ensuring effective financial oversight of policing in Surrey.

"Mr. Johnston's extensive financial background will be an invaluable asset

to the Surrey Police Board, with cost containment being a priority during the transition," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "His leadership in financial governance coupled with his dedication to serving our community will help ensure the Surrey Police Board reflects and responds to the unique needs of our residents. It was crucial for our Council to have more Surrey residents on the Board, and Mr. Johnston exemplifies the commitment we seek in community representation."

Johnston brings with him a wealth of experience in financial governance and oversight, honed during his career as a Senior Audit Partner with KPMG LLP. In addition to his professional accolades,

Johnston has actively contributed to community development through his role on the Surrey School Board's audit committee, where he has leveraged his financial acumen to support educational governance. His significant involvement with various boards, including Surrey City Development Corporation's Finance and Audit Committee and Development Committee and the Surrey Housing and Homelessness Society's Finance Committee, further showcase

his dedication to public service. Additionally, he has served as a member of the Surrey Board of Trade's Council of Governors since 2006.

Johnston's appointment is effective immediately, and Surrey City Council looks forward to the positive impacts his involvement will bring to the Surrey Police Board.

Earlier this month, Mayor and Council unanimously appointed Councillor Rob Stutt to the Surrey Police Board.

Continued from Page 10

Mayor Ken Sim and VPD launch long-term...

Task Force Barrage expands tactics like the Integrated Response Teams (IRT), which bring together VPD, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS), bylaw officers, sanitation crews, and engineering teams to ensure clear sidewalks and community safety for residents, workers, and visitors. It will also include the continuation of Project Brighthaven, which provided additional police officers in Gastown to support revitalization efforts in the area.

"We are committed to working collaboratively throughout the entire community to foster positive relationships and address deeply rooted issues that make living in the Downtown Eastside often feel unsafe," said VPD Chief Adam Palmer. "We will always have empathy and compassion for people whose life circumstances have brought them here. By and large, I know we have people's support to make this a safer place. Our priority is, and will always

be, to focus on violent criminals and drug traffickers who commit crime and victimize others in the community."

Since taking office, Mayor Sim and City Council have fully funded the VPD and VFRS, hired 200 new police officers and 35 mental health workers, introduced the province's first Indigenous Crisis Response Team and secured millions in funding for youth violence prevention. These investments have contributed to a citywide decline in both violent and property crime. But Mayor Sim emphasized that more action is needed.

"Policing alone isn't the answer, but it is part of the solution. A safer Vancouver requires strong partnerships—between the community, law enforcement, mental health workers, and all levels of government," Mayor Sim added. "The City of Vancouver is stepping up, and we encourage senior levels of government to do the same."

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The 2025 Invictus Games



The 2025 Invictus Games, founded by Prince Harry for wounded, injured or sick service personnel and veterans, are underway in Vancouver and Whistler until Feb. 16. The games kicked off on February 8 with an opening ceremony held at BC Place. The Games began in spectacular fashion with a sold-out crowd at BC Place welcoming more than 500 competitors from 23 nations. The evening featured powerful performances from world-class artists, including Chris Martin, Katy Perry, Noah Kahan, Nelly Furtado, and Roxane Bruneau. Prince Harry, Founder of the Invictus Games Foundation delivered an inspiring speech that underscored the strength of the Invictus spirit, celebrating the resilience and unity of the competitors. Following the ceremony, the competition kicked off with Wheelchair Basketball at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

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Dr. K. R. Punia – The Legend Who Impacted Lives Across the Globe



Dr. K. R. Punia and his granddaughter, Mohini Punia



Dr. K. R. Punia's son, Aditya Punia, and daughter-in-law, Neena Punia at the Memorial Service

(Report by Jai Birdi, Executive Director, Chetna Association of Canada)

At a time when many people describe politics and politicians as opportunists, it is encouraging and reassuring when someone who served in politics is described as a genuine and honest statesman, someone who stood by his principles, and entered politics to make a difference. One such person who passed away recently is Dr. Kirpa Ram Punia. Punia, born in Punjab (now Haryana after separation) on January 1, 1936, was well-educated and a learned man who was filled with passion and compassion. The family lost the legend on January 19, 2025, at the age of 89 in Panchkula, Haryana.

Mohini Punia, Dr. Punia's granddaughter and a committed team member of Chetna Association of Canada, felt the loss of her grandfather very deeply and overwhelmingly. Yet she is inspired by the impact Dr. Punia had on her life and the lives of many others.

"Dr. K. R. Punia was an eminent Dalit leader who devoted his life to selfless service and social welfare. He was also a visionary whose civil and public service helped shape the landscape of Haryana during its formative years. Agriculturally, infrastructurally, and industrially," writes Mohini. Mohini was influenced and touched by her grandfather's commitment to creating a better world. She started the ELEN Foundation a few years ago, with a goal of taking forward the torch of transformation lit by her grandfather. ELEN Foundation is a research and advocacy organization dedicated to social prescribing, fostering the arts, and social justice. Mohini is committed to keeping her grandfather's legacy alive.

"After becoming an IPS officer, and upon his father's suggestion, he challenged the civil services examination again and became the first IAS officer in Haryana since its separation from Punjab. Becoming a symbol of inspiration for the countless youth pursuing civil services in Haryana, even today. He went on to earn an undergraduate degree in Political Science, a Masters in Psychology, a PhD in Administrative Reforms, Diplomas in Land Management and Russian Language. And in his later years, an LLB that made him a Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court of India. All while being an avid reader. But Dadaji's pursuit of knowledge wasn't about accolades nor was it only for himself. Aligning with Ambedkarite values, he

believed in taking the caravan forward," Mohini continued in her tribute.

"From being a symbol of inspiration for youth to being known as the 'Father of the Co-operatives' and founding a whole town called Devigarh Punia for displaced Dalit families. His impact is immense," says Mohini.

Mohini has undertaken the monumental task of documenting and preserving her grandfather's legacy, which rightfully deserves its place in history.

"Dadaji was a simple man, he didn't care to



Dr. K. R. Punia's brother, P. L. Punia (Spokesperson for Indian National Congress, Former Member of Parliament - Rajya Sabha)

hire a PR and marketing team to document and showcase his accomplishments and his impact. He simply did the work he did out of the goodness of his heart and kept following his inner compass, he didn't need recognition or prestige for it. Most of his stories are shared by word of mouth. And so many stories you wouldn't even know of if you didn't personally visit the villages and listen to the elders fondly recollect them. But I believe that his

stories, accomplishments, and impact not only deserve to be documented but also revered," says Mohini.

"I knew of the incredible soul Dadaji was. I also knew of his towering and disciplined personality, though we would only get to see his soft and affectionate side. I knew of many of his contributions, but to say I knew the extent of his impact would be a lie.

Continued on page 25

CEDAR DENTAL CENTRE

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

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

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

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

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

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Lack Of Social Connections In Canada: A Public Health Emergency

SFU leads creation of national guidelines for social connection

A network of Canadian experts, led by a professor at Simon Fraser University, have developed the first national guidelines for social connection to tackle a public health challenge that does more harm than obesity, sedentary living and even smoking. With social disconnection increasing the odds of premature death among people by 30 per cent (the equivalent of smoking 15 cigarettes a day) and 69 per cent of Canadians saying they know someone who is chronically lonely, SFU health sciences assistant professor Kiffer Card says there's an urgent need to address the often-ignored crisis. New recommended public health guidelines for social connection provide the tools to foster healthy social lives at the individual and community levels. "Loneliness is not merely a feeling of sadness; it is a serious public health issue that demands our immediate attention," says Card, who led the development of the guidelines through GenWell and the



Canadian Alliance for Social Connection and Health. "Our research demonstrates that social isolation is harmful regardless of whether individuals feel lonely, highlighting the universal need for meaningful social connections." The group created two sets of guidelines, one for individuals and the other for communities (such as policy makers at national, provincial and local levels). The guidelines for individuals encourage people to make social connection a

priority through their lives, cultivate social confidence and build strong social networks with a variety of relationships. The community guidelines focus on building environments that invest in social events, activities and programs for people, enshrine social connection in policies and practices and improve accessibility and inclusion in neighbourhoods. Card initiated a comprehensive project to create national public health guidelines for social connection three years ago. The initiative involved convening approximately 100 of the world's leading experts on social connection and loneliness, reviewing over 4,500 academic research papers, and producing 50 evidence briefs to inform the guidelines. Card emphasizes the guidelines are a crucial advancement in public health, aiming to address a fundamental but often overlooked determinant of well-being. "Implementing these guidelines may

present challenges, but the potential benefits for individual and societal health are immense," he says. "By prioritizing social connection, we can combat the rising mental health crises, reduce healthcare costs, and build a more resilient and cohesive society." With the guidelines now published, Card hopes to engage with governments, public health officials and communities across Canada to see them adopted across the country. "GenWell is thrilled to see the Canadian social connection guidelines brought to life through the tireless work of Dr. Card and the 100 researchers who contributed to their development," says Pete Bombaci, CEO and founder of GenWell. "These guidelines support the work and mission that GenWell has been leading since 2016 – to build a more connected Canada where everyone thrives." The group has also been in talks with the World Health Organization to expand their reach beyond Canada.

2025 Minimum Wage Increases Confirmed

B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will see a 2.6% wage increase on June 1, 2025, keeping pace with inflation. The general minimum wage increases from \$17.40 to \$17.85 per hour. This follows the changes made in spring 2024 to the Employment Standards Act, which mandated annual wage increases. "Minimum wage earners are vulnerable to jumps in the price of groceries, rent and gas," said Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Labour. "That's why we took action last year to ensure the minimum wage keeps up with the cost of living so workers don't fall further behind." Minimum wage rates for residential caretakers, live-in home-support workers, camp leaders and app-based ride-hailing and delivery services workers will receive the same 2.6% increase on June 1. On Dec. 31, 2025, the minimum piece rates for 15 hand-harvested crops will also increase by the same percentage. "Making minimum wage, I know how important this increase is for workers," said Olivia Brand, who works at the Burquitlam Liquor Store in Coquitlam. "It's vital for government to continue to raise the minimum wage in line with inflation because it helps workers like me cover everyday expenses more easily and it shows us our hard work is valued." The minimum wage rates increase on June 1 of each year, except for the minimum agricultural piece rates that increase on Dec. 31 of each year to ensure crop producers will not have to adjust wages in the middle of the harvesting season.



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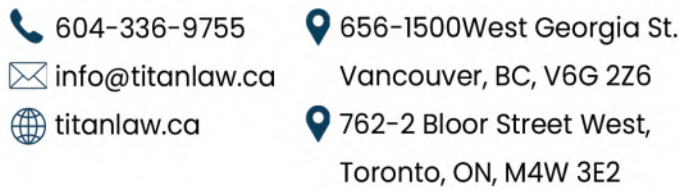
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\$8,990,000

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FOR SALE OR LEASE

103 8363 128 STREET



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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.

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Warehouse

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FOR SALE

\$1,688,800



11933 96 AVENUE

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

FOR SALE

\$619,999



118 225 FRANCIS WAY

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

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FOR LEASE

124st and 84

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Warehouse for Lease

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

BC forms new council to solve long-standing lumber dispute with US

The Province has formed a new council to advance British Columbia's interests in the long-standing softwood lumber dispute with the United States.

Ravi Parmar, Minister of Forests, will chair the council with a focus on diplomatic and trade strategy and measures to fight for B.C.'s interests in the softwood lumber dispute with the U.S. Council. The council brings together 9 members including leaders from the forestry sector and labour, alongside experts on U.S. relations and officials from the B.C. government.

"The U.S. has imposed unjustified softwood lumber duties on Canada for years, and we anticipate that they will likely double before the end of this year," said Parmar. "Bringing this team together, I am ready to throw the full weight of B.C. in the ring to fight these duties. We are going to defend the hard-working forestry workers of B.C. from these unfair duties."

The B.C. Softwood Lumber Advisory Council advises the Minister of Forests on the dispute, including the sixth administrative review, providing recommendations on steps B.C. can take to eliminate the 14.4% softwood lumber duties. The council will also help the Province advocate to the federal government as these duties continue to take their toll on B.C.'s forestry sector.

"The U.S. forest industry alleges that Canadian softwood lumber is subsidized and companies sell in the U.S. at below-



Ravi Parmar,
Minister of Forests

market prices," Parmar said. "This is wrong; these allegations couldn't be farther from the truth. We've been very clear that we're happy to come to the table, but that can't happen if the U.S. industry isn't willing to negotiate." Although this dispute with the U.S. goes back decades, this most recent iteration of the dispute follows the expiry of the Softwood Lumber Agreement in 2015. At the request of the U.S. lumber industry, the U.S. imposed duties on Canadian softwood lumber, starting in 2017. The B.C. government has worked with the Government of Canada to pursue claims through all available avenues, including under the North American Free Trade Agreement, the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement, the World Trade Organization and the U.S. Court of International Trade. Past dispute settlement panels have consistently ruled in Canada's favour in the ongoing softwood lumber dispute, determining that B.C.'s forest policies are compliant with international agreements. B.C. softwood lumber accounts for nearly 10% of lumber used to build American homes. Canada is the U.S.'s largest source of forest product imports, making up 44% in 2023. In 2023, B.C. exported more than \$3.3 billion worth of softwood lumber to the U.S. U.S. consumers will pay for these tariffs and duties, leading to higher prices for the goods and materials people need to build homes, or repair and remodel them.

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2880 169 ST., SURREY

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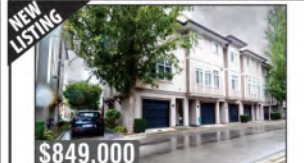
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Hot location in New Westminster! Just minutes from Walmart shopping outlet and restaurants, 10 min to Richmond, 10 min to Metrotown. Walking distance to Queen Elizabeth School. Corner unit townhouse w/spacious layout. Spacious 3 bedroom and 2.5 bathroom. 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.

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19917 72 AVE LANGLEY



\$1,599,998
House with basement suite
All rent approx \$5000 per month
Open house Sunday 1-4

11516 PARKWOOD PLACE DELTA



\$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. Downstairs features a large size family room with a fireplace and a full bath. It comes with a full kitchen and 1 bath along with its own laundry. Lots of parking and very close to all amenities, walking distance to Joyce Collingwood sky train and Gaston Park.

#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 in heart of Surrey. Main level features a large dining area, Gourmet Kitchen with granite, and a DEN/OFFICE. Master Bed walk in closet. 4th bed and comes with a full bath. Huge Backyard approx 360 SQ FT. Double side by side car garage, additional 1 car parking. New Paint. Professionally Cleaned Carpet. Close to all amenities: superstore, restaurants and very easy access to the highway as well. This is a must see.

9750 128 ST., SURREY



\$999,900
Solid 6 bed and 2 bath home in the heart of Surrey. A perfect home for time home buyers. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, kitchen with granite, and a laundry room. Downstairs comes with 3 bed, 1 den, 1 bath and kitchen. Lots of parking at the front and back. Detached garage. Some recent renos include roof, windows, paint.

#51-7090 180 ST., SURREY



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14379 66A AVENUE

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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

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2025 Honda Civic Sport Touring Review: All you Need!

Auto Review by Veeno Dewan

The Honda Civic has been the best-selling car in Canada for almost a quarter century. And now the 2025 Civic returns as a five-passenger, five-door 10th generation model in either sedan or hatchback form and wide range of model trims. The Civic has a more mature understated design that will not polarize buyers with its neat inoffensive shape. The lines are clean with a larger greenhouse for a more spacious interior feeling.. All Civics for 2025, have sharper front fascias and grille designs and new darker taillights with machined wheels for the Touring Hybrid version.

Carry over and new changes include more technology such as a 9-inch infotainment system with built-in Google services, Google Maps, Play Store and hands – free Google Assistant. There is also wireless Android Auto and Apple CarPlay and has several



ports for charging and connectivity. In additions, the ere is a high tech- customizable gauge cluster.

For 2025, the biggest news for Civic Nation is the first-time availability of a twin -motor hybrid-electric powertrain.. A new 2.0L four-cylinder engine is mated to electric dual motors that operate as a series or parallel hybrid, - one motor either powering the front wheels; or

with both operating. The engine has 200 horsepower and 232 lb-ft of torque and is paired with a CVT (continuously variable transmission.) However, the transmission has reprogrammed shift points to make it feel like a conventional automatic tranny. The 2025 Honda Civic Hybrid is available in two trim lines: Sport Hybrid (\$37,205) and Touring Hybrid (\$40,705). The top -line Sport Touring Hybrid version adds a 9-inch touchscreen, a wireless smartphone charger and a 12-speaker Bose premium audio system.

The cabin design for the Civic is wonderful, ergonomically perfect with comfortable supportive seats and plenty of occupant room both front and rear. There is an easy-to-use infotainment system, bright clear digital displays, and instrument cluster unit. Ergonomics are great, with switchgear, dials, and control knobs are all impeccably designed for form and function. A standout feature is the exquisite metal honeycomb vent covers that stretch across the dashboard,

and the elegant controls that operate them. All the materials and design would make a German premium auto maker proud! Moving to the rear, you gain roomy comfortable seats and there is adequate legroom for at least three passengers at a push. The rear door (On the hatchback) is now also lower and wider for easier access and maximum cargo volume is rated at 693 litres.

Standard Honda Sensing features include Forward Collision Warning, Lane Departure Warning, Collision Mitigation Braking System, Road Departure Mitigation System, Lane

Keeping Assist System, Adaptive Cruise Control with Low-Speed Follow, Traffic Sign Recognition System, and Traffic Jam Assist. The Sport Touring hybrid gains extra the Blind Spot information and Rear Cross Traffic Monitor, and exclusively equipped with front and rear parking sensors along with low-speed braking control.

On the road, the hybrid performs well in the engine department. The powerplant is creamy smooth and delivers power in a linear curve- and is ideally suited to the twin motor set up. The engine is so good it actually won a recent a “Wards 10 Best Engines & Propulsion Systems” award.

Continued on page 30

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Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Donald Trump

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi became the fourth world leader to visit Donald Trump in the White House since the start of his second term as United States president. Modi and Trump spoke about easing tariffs, resolving trade issues and shoring up defense ties in a meeting at the White House. Even though Trump threatened to impose tariffs, the two leaders said they'd talk about trade, signaling that New Delhi and Washington could offer each other concessions. Trump called Modi a "much better negotiator than me," while Modi played on Trump's "MAGA," or "Make America Great Again," catchphrase, saying he was determined to "Make India Great Again." Trade and tariffs issues figured extensively in the meeting. Trump said New Delhi will not be spared and said the import levies imposed by India are "very unfair and strong."



But he and Modi agreed to work on a deal to resolve trade concerns, which Modi said he expects to be completed later this year. Trump also said that his administration wants to bring down the trade deficit with India — which stands at \$50 billion — by increasing U.S. energy exports to the country. The U.S. and India have a trade deficit of \$50 billion in India's favor. The Indo-U.S. goods and services trade totaled around \$190.1 billion in 2023. According to



India's External Affairs Ministry, the U.S. exports to India were worth nearly \$70 billion and imports \$120 billion. Modi offered to double bilateral trade with Washington to \$500 billion by 2030. "The fact is that Trump is trying to change the global trading order. India recognizes this and now is looking for a pragmatic way to resolve the differences," said Raja Mohan, an analyst at the Institute of South Asian Studies in Singapore. Trump said the U.S. will increase its

military sales to India and eventually provide F-35 stealth fighter jets. He did not provide a timeline, but Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri told reporters that the process is "at the stage of a proposal." Prior to meeting with Trump, Modi sat down with national security adviser Mike Waltz. He also met with billionaire SpaceX founder and top Trump administration official Elon Musk. Trump was asked if Musk spoke with Modi as a government worker or a tech magnate, amid concerns the meeting was related to the billionaire's business dealings. "India is a very hard place to do business because of the tariffs. They have the highest tariffs, just about in the world, and it's a hard place to do business," Trump said. "No, I would imagine he met possibly because, you know, he's running a company."

BJP Sweeps Out Aam Admi Party, Wins Big In Delhi Election

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's BJP party will form the government in Indian capital Delhi for the first time in 27 years as it scripted an impressive election victory. BJP won 47 seats in the 70-member assembly that includes India's capital of 20 million people, ousting the Aam Aadmi Party, or AAP, that ruled New Delhi since 2015. The AAP won 22 seats. "Development wins, good governance triumphs," Modi wrote on X, adding his party would leave "no stone unturned" in developing Delhi.

Main opposition Congress party lost on all seats for the third consecutive term. In a major upset, the AAP founder and leader Arvind Kejriwal and his deputy, Manish Sisodia, lost their seats despite their party having built widespread support with its welfare policies and anti-corruption movement. In a video message on X, the AAP's former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said he and his party "humbly accepted" the verdict of the people and congratulated the BJP on its win. "I hope they live up to the expectations of the people who



voted for them," he said. The election was a battle of prestige for both the BJP and AAP, given Delhi's symbolic importance as the country's capital.

During the electioneering, both Modi and Kejriwal offered to revamp government schools and provide free health services and electricity, along with a monthly stipend of over 2,000 rupees

(\$25) to poor women. Kejriwal formed the AAP in 2012 after tapping into public anger over corruption scandals. His pro-poor policies have focused on fixing state-run schools and providing cheap electricity, free health care and bus transport for women. In 2020, the AAP won 62 out of 70 seats in a landslide victory in the last state legislature election, leaving the BJP with eight and the Congress party with none. The BJP was voted out of power in Delhi in 1998 by the Congress party, which ran the government for 15 years.

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Surrey Activist Featured In London School Of Economics Article

Sher Vancouver Founder, Alex Sangha, has been featured in a comprehensive multi-media profile by the London School of Economics (LSE) to coincide with LGBTQ+ History Month in the UK. Celebrated every February, LGBTQ+ History Month in the UK recognizes the achievements and contributions of LGBTQ+ individuals worldwide. The feature provides an intimate look into Alex's lived experiences, including the founding of Sher Vancouver, a registered charity for LGBTQ+ South Asians and friends, which has become a beacon of hope and support for marginalized communities. An alumnus of the LSE, Alex graduated in 2002 with a Master of Science in Public Administration and Public Policy from the Department of Government, supported by a partial entrance scholarship. The LSE profile celebrates Alex's remarkable journey as a gay, South Asian male of Punjabi Sikh origin who has devoted his life to social justice and human rights advocacy. It offers links to Sher Vancouver and Sundar Prize Film Festival websites, showcasing the organization's impactful



initiatives. The features also talks about the full documentary of the award-winning short film My Name Was January, a tribute to

transgender rights and the life of January Marie Lapuz and the official trailer for the feature documentary Emergence: Out of the Shadows, which explores the struggles and triumphs of LGBTQ+ South Asians. Emergence was an official selection at over 50 established film festivals including Academy Award, BAFTA, and five Canadian Screen Award qualifying festivals. Commenting on this recognition, Alex Sangha said: "It is a tremendous honor to be featured by my alma mater, the London School of Economics, during such a significant time

as LGBTQ+ History Month in the UK. This profile is a testament to the resilience of marginalized communities and the power of storytelling to inspire change. I hope it gives hope and encouragement for anyone facing challenges of identity, mental health, or societal acceptance." Sher Vancouver invites everyone to explore the LSE profile and learn more about Alex's inspiring journey and the incredible work of Sher Vancouver. <https://lse.shorthandstories.com/the-stories-that-go-unheard/index.html>

Protect your wallet and your heart from romance scams this Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is around the corner! The realities of the online dating scene means being aware of the growing amounts of romance scams and not letting your quest for love lead to heartbreaks or financial losses. A viral story from early 2025 detailed a woman who lost over \$1M (CAD) to a scammer who used AI generated photos of celebrity Brad Pitt to fake a romantic relationship. Another report shared to the BBB Scam Tracker in November 2024 detailed how a scammer impersonated Elon Musk to steal \$700 in gift cards from a person in Vancouver who believed they had romantically matched online with Musk. The BBB reminds Valentine's Day romantics to be smart when sharing personal information online. "Romance scams often begin with fake profiles on dating sites, using stolen or doctored photos that seem too good to be true. Scammers frequently claim to be working

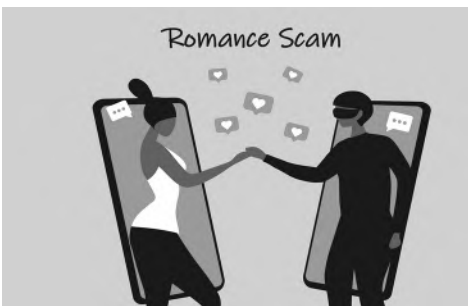
overseas to justify their absence while building trust. As the relationship deepens, they fabricate emergencies that prevent in-person meetings—always leading to the same outcome: a request for money. Once the money is sent, they disappear," shared Neesha Hothi, Director of Marketing, Better Business Bureau serving Mainland BC. **Read up on the red flags of romance scams:**

- **Too good to be true? Probably is.** Scammers offer up good-looking photos or tales of financial success. If they seem "too perfect," your alarm bells should ring. Be aware of AI generated photos and cryptocurrency and investment opportunities, if they say they can get you rich quick, it's likely they are setting you up for a scam.
- **In a hurry to get off the site.** Catfishers will try very quickly to get you to move to communicate through email, messenger, or phone.

- **Moving fast.** A catfisher will begin speaking of a future together and tell you they love you quickly. They often say they've never felt this way before.
- **Talk about trust.** Scammers will start manipulating you with talk about trust and its importance. This will often be the first step to asking you for money.
- **Hard luck stories and tall tales.** Before moving on to asking you for money, the scammer may hint at financial troubles, a stolen car, a sick relative, or a death in their family. They say all they need is some financial help first, then they can come meet you.

BBB tips to protect yourself from romance scams:

- **Never send money or personal information.** Sensitive info can be used for identity theft. Never give someone your credit card information to book a ticket to visit you.



Cut off contact if someone starts asking you for information like credit card, bank, or government ID numbers.

- **Ask specific questions about details given in a profile.** A scammer may stumble over remembering details or making a story fit.
- **Do your research.** Many scammers steal photos from the web to use in their profiles. You can do a reverse image lookup using a website like tineye.com or Google to see if the photos on a profile are stolen from somewhere else.



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SBOT Calls for Lifting Uranium and Thorium Moratorium to Align with BC's Clean Energy Expansion

The Surrey Board of Trade (SBOT) is calling on the Provincial Government to lift its moratorium on uranium and thorium exploration, aligning with BC's latest push to expand renewable energy infrastructure. "The BC Government's commitment to accelerating renewable energy projects is a step in the right direction," said Jasroop Gosal, Interim Spokesperson and Policy &

Research Manager at SBOT. "However, uranium and thorium exploration must also be considered to ensure a diversified and stable clean energy future for BC." The government recently announced new legislation that streamlines the permitting process for wind, solar, and other renewable energy projects by placing them under the BC Energy Regulator (BCER). This move aims to

expand BC's electricity grid and support growing energy demands from industries such as critical mineral mining and port electrification. While renewables are essential, uranium and thorium offer another crucial low-carbon energy solution. Canada is already the world's second-largest producer of uranium, with provinces like Ontario and Quebec benefiting from its economic potential. With

nuclear energy playing a key role in global carbon reduction strategies, BC should position itself as a leader in supplying the necessary resources. "BC has an opportunity to strengthen its clean energy leadership by removing outdated barriers to uranium and thorium exploration," added Gosal. "This would drive economic growth and contribute to a resilient, low-carbon energy mix."



Continued from Page 13

Dr. K. R. Punia – The Legend Who Impacted Lives...

The stories that have been shared since his passing have taken me by surprise. There was so much he never spoke about but did in silence," says Mohini. The sheer amount of people who attended the memorial and paid tributes is a testament to the countless lives he touched. Roop Lal Gaddu, another member of Chetna and the founding president of Chetna said he was shocked by the loss of the eminent personality, Dr. Punia. "I had a chance to meet and discuss our concerns with Dr. Punia when he was the Minister of Industries for the Government of Haryana. We found Dr. Punia worked painstakingly hard and found the resolution," said Gaddu. Since Gaddu was visiting India at the time of Dr. Punia's death and the memorial service, he visited the family, paid his respects, and conveyed condolences.

United Steelworkers union condemns Trump's reckless tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum

The United Steelworkers union (USW) strongly condemns the U.S. President Donald Trump plan to impose 25% tariffs on all steel and aluminum imports. These unjustified measures threaten thousands of Canadian jobs, disrupt supply chains and undermine decades of economic co-operation. "Trump's tariffs are a direct attack on workers and communities," said Marty Warren, USW National Director for Canada. "We've been through this before and we know these kinds of reckless trade measures don't work, and hurt workers, destabilize industries and create uncertainty across the economy on both sides of the border." The Canada-U.S. economy is deeply integrated, with \$20 billion worth of steel traded



between the two countries every year. Canada imports 39% of its steel from the U.S., while exporting 94% of its production there, and American manufacturers rely heavily on Canadian steel to run their operations. In 2024, Canada exported \$15.9 billion worth of aluminum to the U.S., making it by far the largest supplier to U.S. industries, and imported \$4.1 billion, supporting thousands of jobs

across the border. With no sign of an exemption for Canada, despite the reprieve secured a week ago, Warren is calling on the federal government to act quickly and forcefully with immediate counter-tariffs, enhanced worker and industry support and a firm commitment to use Canadian steel and aluminum in public infrastructure projects. Warren also warns that without safeguard measures, Canada could see an influx of cheap steel and aluminum from countries shut out of the U.S. market, further harming domestic industries and Canadian jobs. "If these tariffs move forward, the government must be ready to hit back just as hard and be ready to face the consequences of this new chapter in the crisis on jobs," Warren said. "For years, we've pushed for

domestic procurement policies to ensure taxpayer dollars support Canadian jobs and industries. It's a shame that this still hasn't happened, but the government can't afford to ignore it any longer." Dave McCall, USW International President, also denounced Trump's decision, pointing to a very similar situation in 2018. "Canada is not the problem, and these tariffs will only hurt workers on both sides of the border," he said. "Instead of reckless trade wars, we need policies that strengthen manufacturing and protect good jobs in both countries." The USW will continue to push all level of government to take decisive action, defend Canadian workers and ensure that these tariffs do not undermine the future of our steel and aluminum industries.

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

DATING

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

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

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

LOOKING FOR GROOM

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

Jatt Sikh Canada Born Young Man, Looking For A Bride. She can be Canada Born or on Work Permit, Student or P.R. Serious Inquiries Only Please. (604) 900-2999 starts Dec 07, 24

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

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East Indian Male 52 years old, Divorce, Canadian Born is looking ro a woman for Relationship, Age 40+Over, Divorce or Widow is Welcome. I'm a hard working person & straight forward kind. Call Peter at: 604-657-6013 Email: pjttey@hotmail.com

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

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Start Date: As soon as possible

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

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

Salary: \$36/hour.

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

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- Preparing and coordinating schedules for staff;

- Ensure team is knowledgeable of company policies and are proficient in solving customer service issues efficiently;

- Achieving monthly and quarterly sales targets by demonstrating strong personal selling skills and training team by transferring skills to sales teams;

- Assisting management in the hire and training or new employees;

- Developing sales strategies with online and offline marketing to boost store sales;

- Monitor stock levels and place orders as needed;

Job requirements

- Completed secondary school is required, In addition please highlight if you have a college diploma or university degree in business management and administration;

- Minimum of one year or more previous sales experience preferably in the jewelry industry;

- Strong leadership and management skills;

- Candidate must be willing to work independently and manage team with a high level of accuracy, have excellent interpersonal skills and display a high level of professionalism;

- Applicant must provide management with a recent Criminal Record check before joining

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

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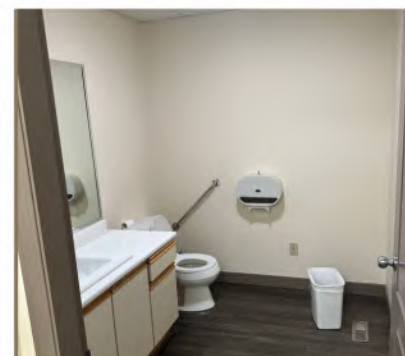
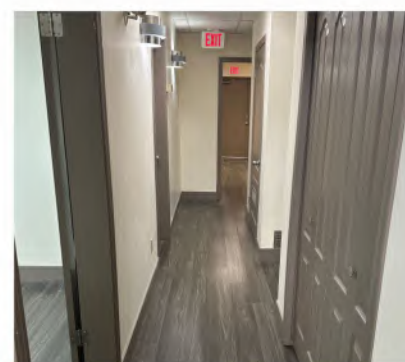
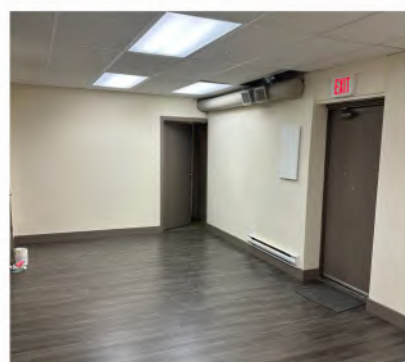
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Upcoming Program

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

- 12th February, Wednesday at 5:30 pm, Gurmit Smagam regarding sangrand of Phagan month.
After that langer seva by the sangat.
- 14th February, Friday at 10.00 am, Aarambh Sri Akath Path Sahib by Grewal & Bhandal Family.
- Langer will be served by Grewal & Bhandal Family for all three days.**
- 16th February, Sunday at 10.00 am, Weekly Kirtan Diwan, Katha Vichar Smagam & Sri Akath Path Sahib Bhog by Grewal & Bhandal Family.
After that Langer seva by both families.

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

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

Rohit Shetty Announces “The Biggest Love Story of 2025” With Ranveer Singh And Sara Ali Khan

New Delhi: Rohit Shetty has shared a new teaser on Instagram, which looks like a new rom-com brewing, featuring Sara Ali Khan and Ranveer Singh in the lead. The teaser begins with Ranveer Singh carrying a well-grown beard and long hair look. Cut to Sara Ali Khan’s smashing entry. The two are seen grooving to peppy beats. The caption read, “Kya hoga pyaar? Ya hogi Takraar? The biggest love story of 2025 is coming soon.” Sharing the video on Instagram, Rohit Shetty said, “Drama, action, romance – sab milega ek hi kahani mein! 2025 ka biggest blockbuster coming soon.”

Replying to the post, Jacqueliene Fernandez dropped red heart eye emojis in the comments section. The film marks Rohit Shetty’s reunion with Ranveer Singh and Sara Ali Khan. The trio previously worked in Simmba (2018). The film is a part of Rohit Shetty’s cop universe. Earlier, on The Kapil Sharma Show, Rohit Shetty had shared his experience of working with Sara Ali Khan. The director, who is known for making action films, said that seeing Amrita Singh and Saif Ali Khan’s daughter asking for work made him emotional. He said, “Now that she’s become a star, I can say this. ‘Sir please give me work’, she literally did that (showing folded hands)...

she is Saif Ali Khan’s daughter. Amrita Singh and Saif Ali Khan’s daughter walking into my office all by herself and asking a director for work...I felt like crying.” Sara Ali Khan was last seen in Sky Force alongside Akshay Kumar and Veer Pahariya. The film was released on January 24, 2025. Up next, she will be seen opposite Aditya Roy Kapur in Metro...In Dino.



Boney Kapoor Reacts To Ranveer Allahbadia Row: “I Don’t Endorse It At All”



New Delhi: After Imtiaz Ali, Manoj Bajpayee, AR Rahman, Boney Kapoor joined the bandwagon and reacted to the Ranveer Allahbadia row. Speaking to ANI, Boney Kapoor said, “What he did is something which I don’t endorse at all. There have got to be limitations. There has got to be self-censorship also.” Boney Kapoor also emphasized the importance of responsible speech on public platforms. “Within your home, you talk whatever you want to talk, but on social platforms, you need to be careful and you need to be disciplined,” he added. Ranveer Allahbadia was caught in the eye of the storm when he made a remark about parents and sex on comedian Samay Raina’s show India’s Got Latent. He had asked a contestant, “Would you rather watch your parents have sex every day for the rest of your life or join in once and stop it forever.” The comment sparked a huge backlash over social media and initiated conversation about the idea of obscenity in comedy. Politicians across party lines had also jumped into the controversy demanding action against the star podcaster.

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New Delhi: Sooraj Barjatya and his penchant for heartfelt family dramas were all the rage back in the '90s, and his secret ingredient still works wonders today. The ace director also recently made his OTT debut with the show Bada Naam Karenge, as a showrunner. One who has followed his trajectory of films can instantly feel the warmth of the show. Not just viewers, but the ace director says that Amitabh Bachchan, too, had once appreciated his signature style of storytelling. In an exclusive interview with NDTV, Sooraj Barjatya recalls a moment while shooting for Uunchai (2022) with Amitabh Bachchan, and the compliment he received. Barjatya says, "I remember Mr. Bachchan once told me, 'Sooraj, in your films, one suddenly realizes that life can be simple. Life can be simple and there's joy in those simple things, this was when we were shooting for Uunchai.'" Every filmmaker comes with a unique style of bringing a story to life, on the big screen. Sooraj Barjatya ruled the '90s and early '20s with commercial blockbusters such as Hum Saath-Saath Hai (1999), Maine Pyar Kiya (1989), Hum Aapke Hai Koun..! (1994), and Vivah (2006), to name a few. Upon asking him the kind of films he grew up watching, and how that impacted his outlook towards making films, he rewinds back to his favourites. Sooraj Barjatya says, "We have grown up watching movies by legends like Bimal Roy and Raj Kapoor. But the films that made the biggest impact on me were our own Rajshri films which we grew up on, and LV Prasad movies. They influenced my understanding of cinema, and finding my voice, greatly." The ace filmmaker is not on social media. Like every individual who has seen the world of cinema before this phenomenon, Barjatya fondly recalls the craze back when films used to be released. He says, "Those were very different times.

I remember there were times when we would go and buy costumes for the actor, or sometimes the actor came and we just picked up subsidies. It was never about to create an impact. But today you have WhatsApp messages to check everything. The technical bit is okay, but life was simpler at that time. The entire marketing used to be just for trailers and posters, and then we used to do a lot of songs and radio plays. But there was magic at that time, things were hidden." He adds, "I clearly remember, Om Shanti Om was such a rage when it was released. I was a youngster and I just wanted to see how Rishi Kapoor ji would dance and what he would wear. But now songs are released 15 days prior, so I know exactly what I'm going to see. So there are lessons, but the magic of cinema will always remain." One of the other trademark styles of a Sooraj Barjatya film is

Sooraj Barjatya To NDTV About His First Meeting With Salman Khan: "When I Saw Him, I Thought..."

the ensemble cast he would bring together. Massive sets, and a starry cast that got the excitement soaring all the more. Hum Saath-Saath Hai was a musical blockbuster with the lead cast featuring Salman Khan, Sonali Bendre, Saif Ali Khan, Karisma Kapoor, Tabu, and Mohnish Behl. As was the stellar lineup in Hum Aapke Hai Koun..! with the lead cast featuring Salman Khan, Madhuri Dixit, Renuka Shahane, Mohnish Behl, and Anupam Kher.

Deepika Padukone Recalls Having Suicidal Thoughts: "I Was Struggling..."



New Delhi: Deepika Padukone recently appeared on the latest episode of Pariksha Pe Charcha, an initiative launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to raise awareness about mental health. During the episode, the actress opened up about her personal battle with depression and shared how she overcame it. She revealed that for a long time, she silently struggled while living in Mumbai, and it was her mother who first noticed that something was wrong. Deepika recalled having suicidal thoughts and even contemplating ending her life. She explained, "I transitioned from school to sports, then modeling, and eventually acting. I kept pushing myself until, in 2014, I suddenly fainted. It was only later that I realised I was struggling with depression. The thing about depression is that it's invisible - you can't always see it. There might be people around us battling anxiety or depression, yet we may never know because, on the outside, they seem happy and normal." Reflecting on her difficult journey, Deepika shared that her mother was the first person to recognise the signs of depression and advised her to see a psychologist. "When my mother came to see me in

Mumbai, on the day she was leaving for Bangalore, I suddenly broke down. My family asked me all sorts of questions about my work, but all I could say was, 'I don't know. I just feel helpless and hopeless. Mujhe jeena hi nahi hai (I don't want to live).'

Thankfully, my mother recognised the signs and suggested I see a psychologist. In our country, mental health carries a stigma, making it difficult to talk about. But as soon as I started speaking about it, I felt lighter. Anxiety, stress, and depression can affect anyone, and talking about it truly eases the burden," she added.

Deepika Padukone and her husband Ranveer Singh welcomed their first child, a daughter, in September last year. They have named her Dua.

On the work front, Deepika has had a busy few years, with films like Pathaan, Jawan, Fighter, Kalki 2898 AD and Singham Again. The actress is currently on a maternity break. After which, she is expected to start filming for Kalki 2 alongside Prabhas and Amitabh Bachchan.

Continued from Page 21 2025 Honda Civic Sport Touring...

The new Civic Hatchback is stiffer than before with a lower centre of gravity and a wider track for more stable on-road composure. The suspension irons out rough surfaces, while handling is nicely balanced. The 2025 Civic Hybrid offers four levels of regenerative braking, controllable via steering-wheel-mounted paddles. Handling, cornering, and agility are impressive. The Civic is wholesome fun to drive. Acceleration is good for everyday driving with delivered reassuring reflexes and solid stopping power on all road conditions. The new engineering upgrades also make for a responsive and agile car with good steering feedback. Fuel efficiency is very impressive with the hybrid offering 4.8 L/100 km in the city, 5.4 L/100 km on the highway, and

5.0L/100 km combined. Overall, the 2025 Civic hybrid impresses. The core values of this perennial Canadian best-seller remain intact: value, versatility, comfort, a classy interior, and solid build quality. Highly recommended as top in its sector. The 2025 Honda Civic Hybrid offers plenty of power, impressive fuel efficiency and is fun to drive. Whatever model you choose, you know you are getting the best compact car money can buy. 2025 Honda Civic Hybrid: Priced from (\$37,205)- \$40,705 plus taxes and delivery. Website: www.honda.ca



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