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What To Do If A Loved One Goes Missing At Surrey Vaisakhi Parade

Safety Tips for Surrey Khalsa Day Vaisakhi Parade 2025 from Surrey Police Service

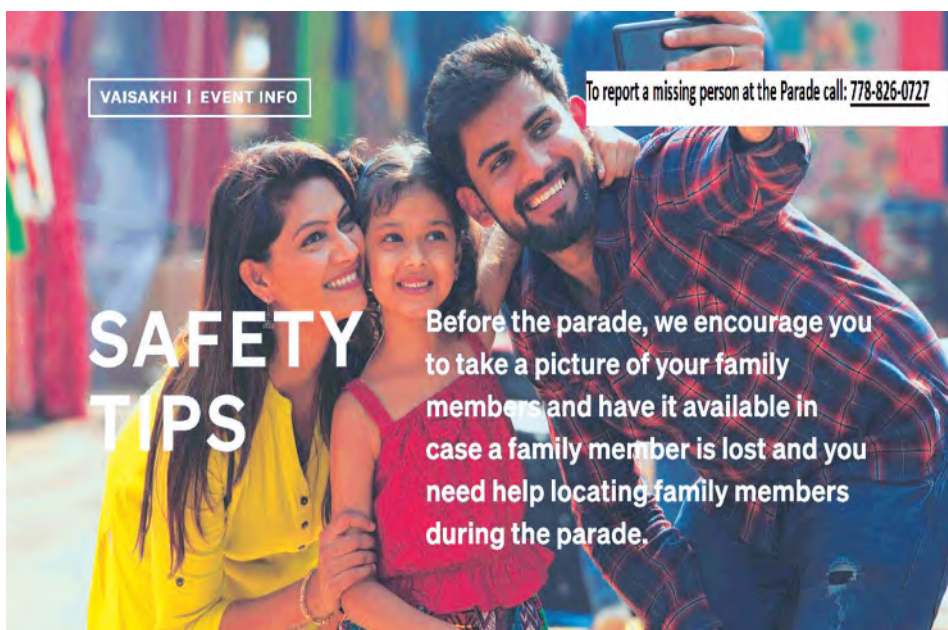
The Surrey Police Service is reminding everyone of some helpful safety tips that can make the Surrey Vaisakhi Parade event safe and happy for everyone.

It can be very easy for people to become separated from their group or loved ones in the large crowds in and around the Parade. During previous Vaisakhi celebrations, the police and emergency services partners have responded to dozens of incidents of missing children or elderly persons.

This year, to help reunite lost loved ones with family members, SPS and partners will be working with South Fraser Search & Rescue Society who will have a Command Post located on the northeast corner of 124 Street and 80 Avenue and they will have volunteers to handle all missing person's reports. The phone number that the public can call to report a missing person at the Parade is 778-826-0727.

A safety plan for the celebrations may include these simple tips:

- Save the day-of-the-event Missing Person Report Line Phone number (778-826-0727) in your phone.



- Take a family photo before you leave the house on the morning of the Parade, this will help in locating them if needed.
- Familiarize your family members with their surroundings and have a pre-planned meeting place for the end of the event or in case you get separated.
- Make sure your family members have

- some form of identification and your contact information.
- Keep your children within eyesight at all times.
- If a family member goes missing, notify the nearest police officer or Search and Rescue volunteer.

Continued on page 08

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Leaders Celebrate Sikh Community Contributions On Vaisakhi, Praise Spirit Of Service

Canadian PM Mark Carney joined the Sikh community in Ottawa to perform seva at the Ottawa Sikh Society Gurdwara on the occasion of Vaisakhi, one of the most significant festivals in the Sikh faith.

Carney, accompanied by his wife Diana, took part in community service activities and shared heartfelt greetings with



the congregation. "It was an honor to do seva at the Ottawa Sikh Society this morning. Community and service are at the heart of today's celebration," Carney said. "Diana and I wish a very Happy Vaisakhi to all Sikh Canadians celebrating across the country." (Full story on Page 11)

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Meet Your Surrey Newton Candidates



Sukh Dhaliwal



Harjit Singh GILL



Raj Singh Toor



Salman ZAFAR

As the Federal Election 2025 approach, apart from electing a Prime Minister who can lead the country, the election at a micro level also plays an important role. Electing a candidate who will represent your riding at Parliament is also important. Surrey is the fastest-growing city representing a vast majority of immigrant and South Asian population. Along with immigration, housing, crime reduction, job creation, and inflation are important issues that everyone should think about before voting. It is a big city which is divided into 3 electoral ridings: Surrey Newton, South Surrey—White Rock, and Surrey Centre. Here is a list of candidates and their brief profiles on who will be representing Surrey Newton and from which party. Spread with in area of 29 km, with a population of 119,560, according to Election Canada, the number of electors on list are 63,350.

Sukh DHALI WAL: Liberal Party of Canada

Sukh Dhaliwal is the Member of Parliament for Surrey-Newton since 2015. He previously served as the Member of Parliament for Newton-North Delta from 2006-2011. As a professional engineer, Fellow of Engineers Canada, land surveyor and small business owner,

Sukh has functioned in many community capacities in Surrey before entering public office. He currently serves as Chair of the Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration. He has also served on other parliamentary committees including International Trade; Transportation; Infrastructure and Communities; and Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics.

Harjit Singh GILL: Conservative Party of Canada

Gill grew up in a rural family in Punjab India and trained as a Civil Engineer. With work experience in India and then with an international engineering company in Oman, he immigrated to Canada in 1997. Since then he has been living in Surrey. He says, “Throughout my life including in my current role as a radio show host since 2009, I have been passionately engaged in community service and community affairs. Over the years, I have always highlighted and advocated for matters of concern to people of Surrey-Newton and beyond. These include those of people employed in transportation industry, agricultural workers, international students, housing crisis, and credential recognition of immigrants with professional training. It is time for change for Surrey-Newton and Canada! I am with Pierre Poilievre’s

team because I believe our beloved country, Canada, is not on the right track and Common Sense Conservatives led by Pierre have the vision to ensure a prosperous future for our children and a respectable place globally for our country.”

Raj Singh Toor: NDP

Raj Singh Toor is an advocate with a proven track record of successfully driving initiatives that honour historical legacies and promote social justice. He was born in Punjab India and came to Canada in 1983. His grandfather was a passenger on the Komagata Maru, the ship forced back to India by the racist policies of the Canadian Government in 1914. Raj decided to build something positive out of one of Canada’s darkest moments, and so he became a founder of the non-profit Descendants of the Komagata Maru Society. From his vision of a fairer and more just Canada, he has tirelessly lobbied governments for apologies, public memorials, and infrastructure renaming to commemorate the Komagata Maru incident. Raj raised his children in the Surrey Newton area, and was responsible for the renaming of 75A Avenue in Surrey Newton to Komagata Maru Way. He also brought about the Komagata Maru storyboard

that is installed nearby at R. A. Nicholson park. While he has accomplished a great deal in helping to build memorials all across Metro Vancouver and the rest of Canada, his Surrey Newton connections will always be a big part of who he is. He wants to bring the same energy that he channeled to educate Canadians about the Komagata Maru incident to help the people of Surrey Newton become a healthy and thriving community whose voice is heard by the government.

Salman ZAFAR: Communist Party of Canada

As a first time candidate, Salman is a proud union member and has called Surrey home for over a decade. He has been politically active in progressive movements since 2013 and has witnessed how establishment parties across the board have continuously ignored the needs of working-class people in Surrey-Newton.

Salman is a staunch advocate for Palestinian liberation, affordable housing and fighting income inequality, issues which the profit industrial complex is incapable of addressing. “Remodelling capitalism is not the solution” says Salman “the solution is an overthrow of this system altogether, towards socialism.”

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Vancouver's 2025 Vaisakhi Parade



Thousands attended the annual Vancouver Vaisakhi parade on April 12. The festivities began around 9 a.m. at the Khalsa Diwan Society Gurdwara on Ross Street. The parade kicked off on Marine Drive at the Ross Street gurdwara, weaving its way through the heart of the Punjabi Market district at the intersection of Main Street and 49th Avenue, down Fraser Street and back to the temple. Along the route, crowds

were met with colourful floats playing hymns, energetic dancers, and free meals from dozens of volunteer-run food stalls — a tradition rooted in the Sikh practice of langar, or communal kitchen. In Vancouver, the event is organized by the Khalsa Diwan Society and is one of the largest of its kind outside India. B.C. Premier David Eby joined the celebrations and praised the community's spirit of inclusion and resilience.



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Two Polls Show Conservative Support Growing As Campaign Moves Into Critical Week

TRACKING TO APRIL 6, 2025

 <div><div>36%</div><div>+4▲</div></div> <div>Pierre Poilievre</div>	 <div><div>41%</div><div>-4▼</div></div> <div>Mark Carney</div>	 <div><div>12%</div><div>(-)</div></div> <div>Jagmeet Singh</div>	 <div><div>2%</div><div>-1▼</div></div> <div>Jonathan Pedneault</div>	 <div><div>5%</div><div>(-)</div></div> <div>Yves-François Blanchet</div>	 <div><div>4%</div><div>+1▲</div></div> <div>Maxime Bernier</div>
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to be bearing fruit – to communicate directly to and woo back male voters. The CPC have regained the lead over the Liberals among men older than 54 (+7), while still leading among men aged 35 to 54 (+9).

As the runway shortens for all parties to make gains and lock in votes in this federal election campaign, new data from Ipsos and Angus Reid Institute show the race is tightening between the incumbent Liberals and the challenger Conservatives. According to Angus Reid for the CPC, these data represent the first glimmer of hope in several weeks, as their support ticks up ever so slightly, while Liberal support remains statistically unchanged, though down a point to 45 per cent. On the other hand Ipsos Polls show the Liberal party (42%, -4 pts vs. last week) has lost a bit of ground for the first time since the campaign began, and the Conservative party (36%, +2 pts) has narrowed the gap behind the Liberals. Around one in ten Canadians (11%, +1 pt) say that they

would vote for the NDP if an election were held today, while 6% would vote for the Bloc Québécois, 2% (-1 pt) would vote for the Green Party, and 1% would vote for the People's Party or another party, respectively. Eleven percent are undecided (+4 pts vs. last week). The Angus Reid polls says shift may be attributed to three key things. First, the issues: concern over cost of living and inflation has been climbing since the start of the campaign, up to 56 per cent now, while worries about tariff threats and managing the Trump-Canada relationship has declined, off 12 points in the last month. This latter issue especially has represented a stronghold of Liberal support in recent



weeks. Its diminishment in the minds of Canadians opens space for voters to change their minds. Secondly, the personal momentum of Prime Minister and Liberal leader Mark Carney – the difference between improving and worsening opinions among Canadians – has slowed to a neutral pace. Canadians are as likely to say their opinion of him has improved (33%) as worsened (31%) over the past week. In recent weeks, Carney had been generating more positive impressions. However, he still holds an advantage over CPC leader Pierre Poilievre and NDP leader Jagmeet Singh on this metric, both of whom have negative momentum (-20, -27 respectively). And third, a noticeable shift among some men back to the CPC. If the first weeks of the campaign were notable for the number of men willing to give the Liberals another look post-Trudeau departure, the second half may well be defined by the Conservatives' attempts – which appear

The Ipsos poll points out that declining from last week, four in ten Canadians (41%, -4 pts), feel Mark Carney would make the best Prime Minister of Canada, while Pierre Poilievre has picked up the loss as 36% would select him for the job (+4 pts). Just over one in ten (12%) continue to select Jagmeet Singh, stable from last week. Consistent with the declines in Carney's momentum elsewhere, 44% say the Carney Liberal government has done a good job and deserves re-election on April 28th (-3 pts) while over half (56%, +3 pts) say it's time for another federal party to take over in Ottawa. Just over half (52%, +4 pts vs. March 30th) say they approve of the Liberal government under Mark Carney. Around four in ten (43%) Canadians expect to be tuning into the Federal Leaders debates held on April 16th and 17th, while 21% say they will not watch, and over one-third (36%) are not sure. When it comes to who Canadians think will win each of the debates, Carney is the clear favourite for the English debate (41%) compared to 29% for Poilievre, and single-digits for the other party leaders. On the other hand, Poilievre (34%) leads Carney (16%) on projected winner of the French debate, with 20% feeling Bloc Québécois leader Yves-François Blanchet will win the French debate. Around one-quarter in each feel that none of the party leaders will win either the English or French debates.

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Impaired Abbotsford Driver Taken Off Highway 1, Wife Drives Him Home

A dump truck driver is facing a 90-day driving suspension, and his fully-loaded dump truck is sitting in an impound lot for 30 days, after BC Highway Patrol officers intercepted the vehicle in Chilliwack.

The police informed that the Abbotsford company that owns the truck will be responsible for the towing and impound costs. The driver, a 64-year-old Abbotsford man, has been served a 90-day driving prohibition and had to be driven home by his wife.

On April 9, 2025, just before 9:30 a.m., a passerby called police about a dump truck driving dangerously on Highway #1 eastbound near Vedder Road. "The caller who alerted police did a great job describing the driving behaviour and location of the



truck," said Corporal Michael McLaughlin with BC Highway Patrol. Two BC Highway Patrol vehicles intercepted the truck near Popkum Road. We are obviously very concerned whenever a professional dump truck driver makes the decision to drive while impaired.

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Crash in Surrey kills 6-year-old girl, injures two other children

A late afternoon hit-and-run collision on April 13 resulted in one child being killed and two other children being injured in Surrey's Fraser Heights neighbourhood. The RCMP Surrey Police Operations Support Unit's Criminal Collision Investigation Team (SPOSU CCIT), said, "At approximately 4:11 pm police received reports of three children pedestrians being struck by a vehicle in the intersection of 164 Street and 108 Avenue, Surrey. The driver that struck the children did not remain at the scene. Surrey Fire Service firefighters and BCEHS paramedics attended the scene and despite life-saving medical interventions, a six-year-old girl died."

A seven-year-old girl sustained upper body injuries, and a 16-year-old boy sustained injuries to his leg and torso. Both were transported to hospital for further evaluation and treatment and neither child's injuries are thought to be life-threatening at this time. The suspect vehicle, a grey pickup truck,



Street after it had reportedly hit at least one parked vehicle. The driver of the suspect vehicle was located, arrested, and remains in custody as the investigation continues. SPOSU CCIT has been called in to lead the investigation and ICARS has been called in to support the investigation. At this early stage, the cause of the collision remains unknown, but it is believed alcohol may be a contributing factor. The intersection of 164 Street and 108 Avenue is likely to be closed well into the night as investigators examine the scene and collect evidence. Motorists and pedestrians are asked to find alternate routes and avoid the area. If you witnessed the collision or have any information, including CCTV or dashcam footage, please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-19965 (SU).

Robbery at Large Retail Store in Surrey

Surrey Police Service (SPS) and SRCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit (SPOSU) are advising the public about a robbery that occurred in the 2500 block of 160th Street in South Surrey on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at approximately 12:45 pm. At this location, a male and female exited the store with a shopping cart full of tools that had not been paid for. When confronted by a staff member, the male suspect produced a handgun, and the pair fled in a blue Toyota Matrix. The investigation into the incident continued the morning of April 10 when the suspect vehicle was observed the next day in Langley. Various resources were mobilized including RCMP SPOSU Strike Force Target Team (SFTT), RCMP SPOSU Auto Crime Target Team (ACTT), CFSEU Uniform Gang Enforcement Team (UGET),

Integrated Police Dog Services (IPDS), Langley RCMP and a police helicopter. Attempts were made by police to stop the suspect vehicle. Unfortunately, these attempts were unsuccessful, and the suspect vehicle was ultimately involved in a collision at 200th Street and 36th Avenue. The collision involved the suspect vehicle and police vehicles. A secondary collision occurred at the scene between an unrelated civilian vehicle and a police vehicle. The driver of the civilian vehicle suffered minor injuries and is under investigation for impaired driving. Two police officers were taken to hospital as a result of the collision and a suspect received treatment for injuries unrelated to the crash. Four individuals were arrested at scene. The investigation into the robbery and the subsequent incidents is on-going.

Police investigating Crescent Beach hit-and-run

A hit-and-run collision in Surrey's Crescent Beach neighborhood left two pedestrians with minor injuries. At approximately 8:15 pm on April 13, 2025, police received reports of several pedestrians being struck by a vehicle in the 2800 block of McKenzie Avenue. The driver that struck the pedestrians did not remain at the scene. The vehicle was last seen leaving westbound on McKenzie Avenue.

RCMP SPOSU officers attended the scene and found that two people, a teenaged boy and an adult man, had sustained non-life-threatening injuries. Both were transported to hospital for evaluation and treatment. If you witnessed the collision or have any information, including CCTV or dashcam footage, please call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 2025-20007 (SU).

Continued from Page 01

What to Do If A Loved One Goes...

•We encourage people to leave their pets at home, as they may become easily startled and scared with all the people and loud noises. On the day of the Parade, road closures will be in place from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm. Delays should be expected for travel between 72 Avenue to 88 Avenue, and Scott Road to King George Boulevard. For a full list of

road closures and route details please visit the City of Surrey's website. Police ask that members of the public make arrangements ahead of time to use alternate routes. More Information on the event can also be found at <https://www.surreypolice.ca/news-events/events/surrey-khalsa-day-vaisakhi-parade> and <https://www.surreyvaisakhiparade.com/>.

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Burnaby RCMP Seizes Kilos Of Suspected Fentanyl, Cocaine From Man And Woman Living With Two Children

Burnaby RCMP's Drugs and Organized Crime Section (DOCS) have seized kilograms of suspected fentanyl and cocaine, as well as hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of vehicles and cash. On March 22, 2025, Burnaby RCMP's Drugs and Organized Crime Section (DOCS) executed a search warrant on a waterfront residence in West Vancouver after a 4-month long investigation into a dial a dope drug trafficking organization. A man and a woman were arrested at the



residence. Of particular concern for police was the presence of two children who were also living at the residence.

Having children living in a residence with these types and amounts of drugs inevitably puts them in danger from

these drugs as well as other elements that come from being in a criminal lifestyle, said Sgt. Randy Mortensen with Burnaby RCMP's DOCS. Along with the suspected fentanyl and cocaine, Burnaby RCMP's DOCS also seized over \$40,000 in cash, two high-end vehicles, two Ducati motorcycles and two Sea-Doos. "People involved in the distribution of these drugs are contributing to the staggering number of deaths over the past decade in this province," Sgt. Mortensen added. The investigation is ongoing.

Suspect, Previously Wanted For 10 Offenses, Sets VPD Officers On Fire

Two Vancouver Police officers are recovering after they were set on fire by a man on the Downtown Eastside. The officers were doing foot patrols near East Hastings and Carrall streets last Thursday night, when they attempted to detain a man for jay-walking. The suspect, who was wanted BC-wide for 10 different offences, tried to run away, but the officers pursued him. As they were taking the suspect into custody, it's believed the man used a flammable substance to set the officers' uniforms on fire, then continued to flee. The officers, who were deployed as part of VPD's Task Force Barrage, radioed for assistance and were able to put out the fires themselves. Additional VPD officers responded and the suspect was taken into custody a short distance away. One officer was treated by paramedics and is currently recovering at home. The second officer did not sustain physical injuries. The suspect, a 40-year-old Vancouver man, received treatment at hospital for

burns. The BC Prosecution Service approved charges against Jordan Mutual for one count of assaulting a police officer and one count of obstructing a police officer. VPD is recommending multiple new charges, including assaulting a police officer with a weapon, obstructing a police officer, and breaching a release order. More than 35 VPD officers have been assaulted on duty since the beginning of 2025 — a 25 per cent increase over the same period last year. Marie Rogers, Conservative Party Candidate for Vancouver-Granville, said, "The attack on frontline Vancouver Police officers was horrific. I am glad that the two officers involved were not seriously hurt. "The criminal who attacked these officers was out on bail and had 10 outstanding charges against him. "Mark Carney and his failed Liberal hug-a-thug team are not going to stop the crime after the lost Liberal decade

of unleashing a wave of crime and chaos with their soft-on-crime, catch and release policies. "Only a new Conservative Government will stop the crime. We will pass a three strikes and you're out law to keep repeat and violent criminals behind bars. We will put the worst of the worst—drug, human and gun traffickers—behind bars for life. And we will always support our front-line police officers and give them the tools to do their job and stay safe." Conservative MLA and Public Safety Critic Elenore Sturko placed the blame on Premier David Eby and the NDP government's dangerous, anti-police agenda. "The suspect involved was reportedly wanted province-wide for 10 separate offences," she said. "This isn't a one-off situation. This is the predictable outcome of a provincial government that enables crime, defunds accountability, and sides with radical anti-police and pro-drug groups instead of the people risking their lives to serve and protect us," stated MLA Sturko.

Security guard loses fingertip in assault in Vancouver

A suspect has been charged with aggravated assault and remanded into custody after a 62-year-old security guard allegedly had his fingertip bitten off during a violent confrontation with a stranger last week.

Vancouver Police initiated an investigation on April 10 after being called to an in-progress assault outside Granville Square, near Granville and West Cordova Street. Police believe the victim was working as a security guard when he encountered the suspect in a plaza outside the building around 10:30 a.m. Following a brief interaction, the victim was allegedly assaulted and sustained a severed fingertip. He was taken to hospital by ambulance. VPD officers located and arrested the suspect nearby. Derek Driscoll, 32, has been charged with one count of aggravated assault and has been detained by the court. His next court appearance is April 16.

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BC Marks Solemn 9Th Anniversary Of Toxic Drug Crisis That Killed Thousands

It has been nine years since B.C. issued a public health emergency in response to the toxic drug crisis. Marches were held across the province on Monday to remember those who have died and to honour those whose fight continues. More than 16,000 lives have been lost due to unregulated toxic drugs since the emergency was declared in 2016. B.C. Health Minister Josie Osborne and provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry issued a joint statement marking the sombre anniversary. Henry said this sombre anniversary reminds us of the ongoing tragic impact of the toxic-drug crisis that is being felt by families and communities across B.C. “While we have seen some glimmers of hope in



Dr. Bonnie Henry

this past year with a decline in deaths, there remains much to do to ensure there are supports when needed at every point in a person’s journey.” “Whether it is being able to have a conversation with a trusted loved one, peer or medical worker, access to life-saving

naloxone, or a safe place to have drugs tested, we have seen how these harm-reduction measures make a difference and save lives. Osborne added, “Today marks nine years since B.C. declared the toxic-drug crisis a public health emergency. Since that time, we have lost thousands of people to poisoned drugs, each one a valued member of their community. Each and every loss leaves lasting grief for the people who knew and loved them. This crisis continues to have a devastating impact throughout our province, from families and communities to the front-line workers who provide care, support and compassion in the face of unimaginable loss. Substance use is shaped by many complex factors, including trauma, mental- and physical-

health challenges, poverty, stigma and barriers to stable housing and support. Ending this crisis requires an equally complex and compassionate response, one that prioritizes care over judgment.” Interim BC Greens leader, Jeremy Valeriote, MLA for West Vancouver-Sea to Sky said that since 2016, more than 16,000 British Columbians have died from toxic drug poisonings. “This is not normal and it is unacceptable. Drug toxicity is now the leading cause of death for British Columbians aged 10 to 59.” “If we do not confront this public health emergency with the serious and necessary response it demands, we will continue to lose parents, children, elders, friends, neighbours, and siblings. While the BC



Health Minister Josie Osborne

Greens recognize the efforts made by the current government, the measures taken so far have not been enough. Instead of seeing real and substantive improvements, the crisis has only deepened, becoming more deadly, more dangerous, and more unpredictable,” he added.

Surrey Council Approves Rental Homes To Be Built On City Owned Land



Mayor Brenda Locke

The Surrey City Council has approved the use of City owned land for a purpose-built rental housing development that will add an estimated 350 new rental homes in Surrey. A minimum of 20% of the new units will be rented at below market rates. Located at 10975 126A Street, the 2.9-acre site is in the South Westminster Neighbourhood and near the Scott Road SkyTrain Station. “Council is taking action on the shortage of affordable housing by approving the use of City owned land to help facilitate the creation of more rental homes in Surrey,” said Mayor Brenda Locke. “A key factor in choosing this site is its proximity to rapid transit and the North Surrey Sport & Ice Complex. When completed, these new units planned for this development will significantly change the landscape of housing options in Surrey.” It is envisioned the development would consist of six-story wood structures, similar to other housing in the area. The project is part of the Surrey Affordable Rental Housing Strategy that aims to preserve and expand rentals and increase affordable housing for low to moderate income renters. “This is a strategic opportunity for the City to address our pressing housing needs through a well-planned rental development on City land,” said Rob Costanzo, City Manager.

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It is unbelievable that Pt. Vijay shastri appeared like an angle of god and helped gurcharan Singh living in the USA.

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Leaders Celebrate Sikh Community Contributions On Vaisakhi, Praise Spirit Of Service



Leaders From The Provincial And Federal Governments Are Celebrating The Contributions Of The Sikh Community In Canada.

Premier David Eby has issued the following statement celebrating Vaisakhi:

"One of the holiest days of the Sikh calendar, Vaisakhi commemorates the creation of the Khalsa and celebrates the spring harvest. People mark the occasion by gathering at gurdwaras, reading from the sacred scripture and enjoying community fairs and parades. B.C. is home to one of the largest Sikh communities and some of the largest Vaisakhi events outside of India, such as this past weekend's parade in Vancouver and the upcoming parade in Surrey this coming Saturday. These rich cultural celebrations are open to people of all faiths and backgrounds, and are known for their welcoming atmosphere and delicious food. The mission of the Khalsa is to work toward degh tegh fatch - or food, freedom and victory - for everyone, regardless of faith or background. B.C.'s Sikh community exemplifies this spirit of service during Vaisakhi and every day through acts of seva, or selfless service to



others. April is also Sikh Heritage Month, making this the perfect opportunity to learn more about the Sikh faith and reflect on the many contributions the Sikh community makes to our province.

"I wish a happy Vaisakhi to all who are celebrating. 'Vaisakhi Diyan Lakh Lakh Vadhaiyan!'"

NDP leader Jagmeet Singh said, "This Vaisakhi, I honour the Khalsa's spirit and pursuit of truth and justice. The Khalsa embodies the Sikh values of universal love and the pursuit of equity for all. Today that commitment remains in Chardi Kala! Happy Khalsa Sajna Divas and Vaisakhi to all!"

Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, said, "Three centuries ago, Guru Gobind Singh Ji first established the Khalsa with Sikhs continuing to preserve their legacy and emulate their devotion, guided by God's instruction for generations. As the seasons turn to spring and the sun once again shines upon us, Vaisakhi provides hope during times when we feel hopeless. Because the message of the Khalsa, to be pure, honest, liberated and free, lived throughout Guru Gobind Singh's life.



Through these principles, every person is made equal, as his followers continue to drink from the same bowl. They take on the name Singh, meaning lion, because each of us is a lion. It reminds us of the so-called 'ordinary people.' The waitress who serves customers on her feet by day and helps her child with math by night is not ordinary. She is extraordinary. The farmer who brings food from the field to our fork during the spring harvest is not ordinary. He is extraordinary. These extraordinary people, the lions among

us, do not need one caste or group to rule over them. Instead, it is every single one of us who must have the freedom to celebrate with our communities, including those harvesting the rewards for seeds planted months earlier. As Nagar Keertans celebrate in streets from Surrey to Brampton, this message of unity, which has been passed down since 1699, continues to live on and inspire us. I want to wish all those celebrating today a Happy Vaisakhi.

"Vaisakhi diyan lakh lakh vadhaiyan!"

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South Asian women shine at 2025 Surrey Women in Business Awards

On Friday, April 11, the Surrey Board of Trade and the South Surrey & White Rock Chamber of Commerce hosted the **16th Annual Surrey Women in Business Awards luncheon**. This event recognizes the hard work of Surrey and White Rock’s businesswomen and their contributions to the community.

Master of Ceremonies Michelle Eliot of CBC Vancouver led the afternoon’s program. Over 450 guests enjoyed keynote speaker Arlene Dickinson, sponsored by DP World Canada. She captivated the crowd as she shared the story of her journey as a female entrepreneur and expressed her deep Canadian pride in how the country is rallying together to defend our economy.

“We are honoured to celebrate the remarkable achievements of women and those who identify as women in shaping the economic and social fabric of Surrey and White Rock,” said Joslyn Young, CEO of the Surrey Board of Trade and Acting Executive Director of the South Surrey & White Rock Chamber of Commerce.

“Women are powerful drivers of business



success, innovation, and community strength. We contribute to these outcomes by actively providing meaningful support to women entrepreneurs and business leaders, ensuring they have the resources and opportunities to thrive. Programs like the Surrey Women in Business Awards

recognize the resilience, leadership, and influence of women in our region—contributions that deserve to be seen, heard, and celebrated.”

The following winners were announced in seven categories:

Entrepreneur – Small Business Category: Supneet Kaur Chawla, ACE Community College

Supneet Chawla, Founder and CEO of ACE Community College and Ace Trades and Technical Institute, has built two leading institutions focused on skilled trades training. A Professional Engineer with expertise in electrical systems, she also holds a Project Management Professional certification and is a PV Associate certified by NABCEP. As certified instructor with Technical Safety BC, she delivers Red Seal Electrical Refresher Courses and Canadian Electrical Code training. Under her leadership, Ace Trades and Technical Institute has achieved an 80% Red Seal certification success rate, while ACE Community College boasts a 95% graduate employment rate. Committed to

education and workforce development, Supneet continues to empower aspiring tradespeople and inspire women in a traditionally male-dominated industry.

Entrepreneur – Large Business Category: Farah Rattansi, My Empower Therapy

Farah Rattansi is the Founder of My Empower Therapy, a multi-disciplinary clinic providing comprehensive and effective treatments, including Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA), for children on the autism spectrum. With 17 years of experience, she has expanded her business to three locations, supporting hundreds of families across the Lower Mainland. She also established the Neuro Brain Treatment Center in Vancouver, specializing in Magnetic e-Resonance Therapy (MeRT)—a highly personalized approach to treating mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, and sleep disorders. In recognition of her contributions to the field, Farah was honoured with the IStar Talent Under 30 Award.

Professional Category: Jasmin Dhanda, ProSport Health Centre Ltd.

Jasmin Dhanda is an entrepreneur, Kinesiologist, and former professional soccer player who represented Canada in the FIFA U17 Women’s World Cup. After overcoming sports injuries, she was inspired to pursue a career in health and wellness, founding ProSport Health Centre to help individuals regain physical and mental strength through expert rehabilitation and care. Her multidisciplinary clinic provides physiotherapy, chiropractic care, massage therapy, acupuncture, kinesiology, concussion therapy, and medical aesthetics. With two locations in Surrey, she has helped over 80,000 patients recover from injuries. Dedicated to giving back, she partners with Surrey Eagles Hockey, KidsPlay, and local soccer clubs, offering free injury assessments and wellness programs to support her community.

Not-for-Profit Leader Category: Rhea Hubbard, Alex House

Rhea Hubbard is the Director of Strategy and Implementation at Alex House, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating a vibrant, inclusive community. With 36 years as an Early Years Educator and 15 years in leadership roles, she oversees over 60 Early Childhood Education professionals, students, volunteers, and contractors. She has been instrumental in developing community-led childcare models, collaborating with the City of Surrey to establish multiple childcare sites. She introduced innovative tools like Storypark, a digital platform that strengthens family engagement by providing real-time updates on children’s learning experiences. A dedicated community leader, she co-chairs the Surrey Task Force and continues to drive impactful initiatives that support children and families.

Continued on page 30



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Changes to the Employment Standards Act will leave health-care providers with more time to spend with patients by eliminating the need for workers to get sick notes for short-term absences from work.

Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Labour, has introduced Bill 11, amending the Employment Standards Act to help ease the administrative burden on B.C.'s health-care practitioners by clarifying when it is appropriate for employers to request a sick note from workers.

"When you're sick, the last thing you should have to do is go to your doctor or a medical clinic in order to get a piece of paper saying you're sick," Whiteside said. "Not only is that difficult for a sick person to do, but it doesn't help you get better any faster or prevent the spread of illness."

The Canadian Medical Association estimates in 2024, B.C. doctors wrote approximately 1.6 million sick notes. Last year, the Canadian Medical Association and Doctors of BC called for the elimination of sick note requirements for employees taking a short-term absence from work due to illness or injury.

Currently, the act allows employers to request "reasonably sufficient proof" that an employee is sick. The changes to the act will clarify employers can't request, and employees are not required to provide, a sick note written by a physician, nurse practitioner or registered nurse as evidence that the employee's short-term absence from work was related to illness or injury.

"We've heard clearly from doctors around the province that unnecessary paperwork robs them of valuable time to see their patients," said Josie Osborne, Minister of

New Bill Aims To End Sick Note Requirement For Workers And Ease Paperwork For Doctors

Health. "Eliminating sick notes for short-term absences is just one of the actions we are taking to cut administrative burden, make our system more efficient, and free up health professionals to focus on what they do best - providing care to British Columbians."

Regulations will be established following engagement with stakeholders. Regulations will set out how many days is considered a short-term absence, and how often an employee may be absent before their employer can request a formal sick note. While the initial thrust of the regulations will deal with notes from doctors and nurse practitioners, the regulations may also consider notes from other health professionals.

The regulation will be implemented prior to respiratory illness season in fall 2025.

In addition to addressing unnecessary sick notes, the regulation update includes replacing fax and paper-based processes with digital systems, streamlining referral processes, consolidating and standardizing forms, and improving information-sharing between providers. As a result of a partnership effort with Doctors of BC and Health Quality BC, changes are being implemented related to the scheduling of medical imaging appointments, which are anticipated to save more than 180,000 physician hours per year.

Jane Narayan, family nurse practitioner, Axis Primary Care Clinic, says, "I strongly support the decision to remove the requirement for employer-mandated sick notes for short-term and episodic illnesses. Too often, clinical appointments are booked solely for the purpose of obtaining a sick note. Removing this requirement will reduce unnecessary strain on our health-care system and allow clinicians to focus on delivering timely, meaningful care that genuinely supports our patient's health and well-being."



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Increases Coming To Accident Benefit Health-Care Services Rates

People in British Columbia recovering from vehicle accidents will see increased coverage amounts for many health-care practitioners as the Province makes improvements to Enhanced Accident Benefits paid by Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC). Effective May 1, 2025, changes to regulations under the Insurance (Vehicle) Act will increase the amounts that ICBC pays for many health-care services. These increases are based on a review of accident benefit amounts for accidents that occurred before May 1, 2021. Reviews occur every five years, as required under the act. The Province will undertake a comprehensive and independent review of enhanced care in 2026 to ensure people are receiving the high-quality health care and supports they need when recovering from a vehicle crash. This increase is an interim measure to help address increased costs of health services. Rates are being adjusted for the following health-care services: acupuncture, chiropractic, counselling, massage therapy, occupational therapy, physicians



and psychology. For consistency, the updated rates also apply to health-care services for accidents that happened before and after May 1, 2021. Changes were informed by consultations with health-care associations. For people injured on or after May 1, 2021, additional improvements are being made to Enhanced Accident Benefits: * Family members may be eligible for as much as \$4,440 in one-on-one counselling support when a loved one's injuries are severe or significantly affect them, building on the group counselling that is currently covered. * ICBC will become the first payer for expenses related to covered prostheses and

orthoses and medical equipment, making the claims process faster and simpler. * The reimbursement rate for reasonable and necessary travel to receive covered services or rehabilitation will increase to 66 cents/kilometre, which is the same rate ICBC pays health-care providers who travel to injured patients. There will be no increases to basic insurance rates as a result of these changes. Housekeeping updates to regulations also remove outdated rules and make minor technical changes. Updated Enhanced Accident Benefit rates effective May 1, 2025
Acupuncture Assessment Visit: Current rate: \$126; new rate \$132
Acupuncture Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$107; new rate \$113
Chiropractic Assessment Visit: Current rate: \$115; new rate: \$121
Chiropractic Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$63; new rate: \$75
Counselling Assessment Visit and Report: Current rate: \$251; new rate: \$262
Counselling Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$144; new rate: \$157

Kinesiology Assessment Visit: Current rate: \$117; new rate: no change.
Kinesiology Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$94; new rate: no change
Massage Therapy Assessment Visit: Current rate: \$128; new rate: no change
Massage Therapy Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$96; new rate: \$105
Physiotherapy Assessment Visit: Current rate: \$151; new rate: no change
Physiotherapy Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$95; new rate: no change
Psychology Assessment Visit and Report: Current rate: \$408; new rate: \$723
Psychology Standard Treatment: Current rate: \$234; new rate: \$241
Physician's Standard Assessment and Report: Current rate: \$144; new rate: \$194
Physician's Extended Assessment and Report: Current rate: \$390; new rate: no change
Occupational Therapy Reassessment and Report: Current rate: \$251; new rate: no change
Occupational Therapy Hourly Rate: Current rate: \$134; new rate: \$145

Surrey Council Votes On \$8.3M In Contracts To Improve Three Outdoor Sport Facilities

During Regular Council Meeting, Surrey City Council announced to vote on awarding \$8.3 million in contracts to enhance outdoor sport facilities at three premier sites for local athletes. "Whether it's a pickup game or a league match, Surrey's exceptional sport facilities are in constant use," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "This investment of \$8.3 million in our public sport facilities will help solidify

Surrey's reputation as a premier sporting destination, ensuring that we remain a hub for everything from local tournaments to international championships. Creating vibrant, inclusive spaces that unite our community through sport is a top priority for our Council, as we work to make Surrey one of the most active and livable cities in Canada." This includes awarding:

1. A \$4.17 million contract to Liberty Contract Management Inc. for the design and construction of a covered sports court at South Surrey Athletic Park, which will provide an all-season outdoor amenity for multiple sports, such as lacrosse, ball hockey and pickleball.
2. A \$2.4 million contract to Wilco Civil Inc. for the replacement of the existing rubberized track and



associated track and field facilities beside North Surrey Community Park used for sanctioned competitive track and field events and for general public exercise.


Continued on page 25

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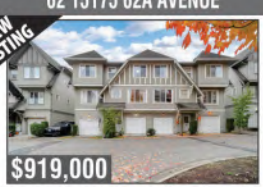


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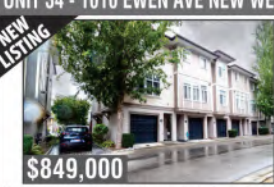
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Check out this well maintained, beautifully updated basement entry home in the heart of North Delta. Main floor boasts 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, spacious living room/dining room, beautiful kitchen, sundeck. Downstairs features 2 bedroom legal suite with 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.


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Beautiful Corner House in the most desired area of Collingwood. Upstairs features three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Downstairs has a good size family room with fireplace, kitchen with separate entry and a full bathroom. It comes with a full laundry room and is very close to all amenities, walking distance to Joyce Collingwood sky train and Gaston Park.

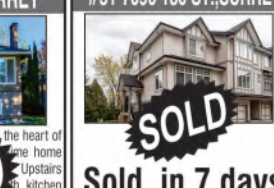
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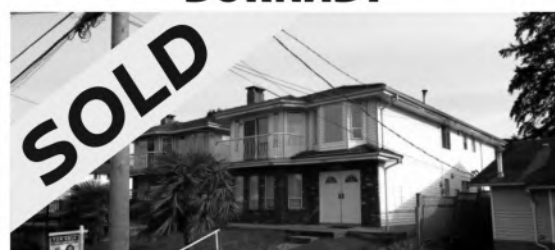




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Ghazal Manch Surrey Gathered At The Strawberry Hill Library To Honor The Memory Of Krishan Bhanot

Report by Sukhjit Hundal

A deep, reverent silence filled the air as the Ghazal Manch Surrey gathered at the Strawberry Hill Library to honor the memory of Krishan Bhanot, a name forever etched in the hearts of those who cherish Punjabi ghazals. This gathering was a tribute not just to a poet, but to a soul that touched countless lives with grace and wisdom. While the event was dedicated to Krishan Bhanot, a one-minute silence was also held to honor other literary figures who had recently passed, including Harjeet Daudhria, Prem Prakash, Jarnail Singh Artist, Harjinder Singh Atwal, Amrit Maan, Manzoor Ejaz, and Kesar Singh Neer. Each had made a profound impact on Punjabi literature, leaving an irreplaceable void. The silence was filled with both sorrow and



gratitude, as their words continue to resonate. Rajwant Raj, one of his closest friends and the chief spokesperson of Ghazal Manch, spoke eloquently about Krishan Bhanot’s contributions. ““He was more than just a poet; he was a humble sage,” Raj said, reflecting on how Bhanot always saw himself as a “laborer of ghazals,” devoted to nurturing the next generation of talent with unwavering dedication. “His legacy is not just in his poetry, but in the many poets he mentored, the

lives he touched with his guidance, wisdom, and unwavering support. Dr. Randeep Malhotra’s soulful rendition of one of Bhanot’s ghazals enveloped the room, as if the very spirit of the poet had returned, lingering in every note. Literary and Community figures spoke of Bhanot’s kindness, patience, and love for humanity. Dr. Sadhu Singh, Dr. Prithipal Singh Sohi, Mohan Gill, Amarik Palahi, Angrez Singh Brar, Surjit Kalsi, Meenu Bawa, Preet Manpreet, Bindu Matharu, Balvir Dhillon,

Amarjit Kaur Shant, Parminder Swaich, Sukhjit Kaur, Navjot Dhillon, Satish Gulati, Balvir Singh Sangha, Dr. Gurminder Sidhu, Mahinder Pal Singh Pal, Harkirat Kaur Chahal, Davinder Kaur Johal, Sukhnab Sajan, Sukhi Dhillon, Davinder Gautam, and Hardam Mann. “He never let anger touch his heart,” Dr. Sadhu Singh shared. “Like a saint, he lived with dignity and humility. His presence was a blessing, and his absence is a deep sorrow.”

Preet Manpreet spoke with profound emotion, his voice breaking as he shared deeply personal experiences. Similarly, Sukhjit, her voice trembling, struggled to express the immense admiration she felt for her revered mentor. Though Krishan Bhanot is no longer with us, his poetry, spirit, and teachings will remain forever. His ghazals will continue to bloom in Punjabi literature, their fragrance filling the air for generations. Bhanot also held a special place in the heart of Davinder, the General Secretary of Ghazal Manch, whose unwavering support for the family will never be forgotten. In that room, on that day, Krishan Bhanot was not gone, he was alive in every verse, every tribute, and every heart that cherished him. His spirit will live on in the poetry of every student he mentored, woven into the very fabric of Punjabi ghazals for all time.

V4U’s Vaisakhi Gala 2025 Promises a Night of Culture, Colour, and Celebration

The countdown has begun for V4U Entertainment’s Vaisakhi Gala 2025. Held under the theme “Connecting to Roots,” this year’s gala promises to be an incredible showcase of Punjabi culture, tradition, and unity. V4U Entertainment, a non-profit organization, was founded five years ago by the husband-wife duo, Vikas and Sheetal Gautam, is dedicated to promoting vibrant entertainment and heartfelt community connection.



This year’s gala will be a feast for the senses, featuring breathtaking performances, live



Punjabi music, traditional cuisine, and a powerful celebration of Punjabi heritage.

The event serves as more than just entertainment—it is a platform to bring generations together, honour cultural roots, and strengthen community bonds. V4U Entertainment’s unwavering commitment to celebrating diversity while fostering unity has made the Vaisakhi Gala a cherished annual tradition. As families and friends prepare to gather in festive spirit, excitement is soaring for what promises to be an unforgettable night.

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FORECLOSURE Delta; 55 years old, 8869 SQ.ft lot, 3300 SQ.ft home, 9 beds, 4 bath. Asking-\$1,390,000	FORECLOSURE Langley; Look at this beauty only 7 years old, 3 story 5100 SQ.ft home, 12,500 SQ.ft lot, 6 bed, 6 bath, 2 suite, double garage. Asking-\$2,150,000	
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FORECLOSURE Surrey; 23 years old, 9747 SQ.ft lot 3914 SQ.ft home, 7 beds, 5 bath, 2 suites. Asking-\$1,900,000	FORECLOSURE Langley; 40 Acres blurberry farm with two homes, 3 car garage, main home is 4100 Sq.ft 5 beds, 5 bath. Asking-\$4,000,000	FORECLOSURE Abbotsford; 5 Acres with older home, 5 beds, 3 baths, great. Asking \$1,399,000

Men Too Face Violence In Relations, But Not Much Support Available To Them, SFU Study Finds

Men experiencing intimate partner violence turn to harmful coping strategies due to limited services and persistent social stigma, according to a new Simon Fraser University study. Using survey data from the Statistics Canada General Social Survey on victimization as well as interviews with 16 male survivors, the study found men were significantly less likely to seek outside help compared to women. “When intimate partner violence happens to men, it often feels like they’re left to cope alone,” says Alexandra Lysova, SFU criminology professor and co-author of a new study published in the Journal of Family Violence. “Many deny the abuse, withdraw from social activities and relationships and throw themselves into work to avoid what’s happening at home.”

These avoidant strategies can prevent men from seeking support such as therapy or separation, she says. As a result, male survivors may experience worsening depression, substance misuse, and emotional distress, which can escalate the risks in the relationship. This is especially concerning, says Lysova, because while violence is mainly bi-directional, women tend to experience the most severe consequences — 79 per cent of intimate partner homicide victims are women, for example. This research highlights a critical gap in support services and the importance of addressing intimate partner violence as a human issue — not just a gendered one, Lysova argues. “There is a lack of gender-inclusive public awareness campaigns, training and

protocols for front-line professionals — such as police, social workers and doctors — who are often the first point of contact for someone seeking help,” she explains. “Even when governments issue reports or expand services, they typically highlight female victims, leaving male survivors invisible.” Helping male survivors will help society more broadly, in part by reducing risk factors for future violence perpetrated by those who witnessed intimate partner abuse as children, Lysova adds. “When we help men, we also help women and children, and ultimately, society,” Lysova explains. “Abuse is abuse. We need to stop treating violence against women and violence against men as separate issues. Addressing violence in all its forms — regardless of the victim’s gender — helps



create safer communities for everyone.” Where to go for help The government of Canada offers a list of national and provincial resources for men: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/stop-family-violence/intimate-partner-violence-against-men-boys-information-resources.html> Help is also available at: Canadian Centre for Men and Families Canadian Suicide Prevention Service 1.833.456.4566



A new UBC study finds that persistently isolated older Canadian women are more likely to fall short of recommended fruit and vegetable intake, leading to poorer overall diet quality. Researchers used data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA), which tracked 30,097 adults over six years, to examine how long-term social patterns impacted eating habits. “We know social isolation reduces life expectancy, but most studies capture it at a single point,” said Dr. Annalijn Conklin,

Social Isolation Linked To Poor Diet In Older Women

senior author and associate professor at UBC’s faculty of pharmaceutical sciences. “We wanted to understand the effects of persistent or changing isolation over time.” Published in Nutrients, the study also looked at the range of social activities participants engaged in, such as visiting friends, volunteering, attending club meetings or educational events or playing sports. Women who enjoyed a variety of these activities were more likely to maintain a healthier diet, while those who engaged in fewer, or stopped altogether, showed declines. “Different activities provide unique social, cognitive or physical stimulation that can support better eating habits,” said Dr. Conklin. “It’s not just staying busy; it’s

staying meaningfully connected across a variety of settings.” Not all social activity is equal Interestingly, women who became socially active after a period of isolation still experienced a decline in diet quality by the six-year mark. “The type of activity probably matters,” said Dr. Conklin. “Some settings—like poker or bridge—may increase snacking or alcohol consumption, and so transitioning to social activity may actually end up posing dietary risks.” Why it matters This research adds to a growing body of work from the Conklin Lab, including recent studies on social isolation and diversity in older Canadians and the lack of high-quality research on gender and changes in social ties as

determinants of hypertension. “Our study is one of the first to look at how social variety plays a role in long-term well-being,” said Dr. Conklin. “Results highlight the broader social determinants of women’s health. Older women, who often play multiple roles—as a partner, a mother, a community organiser—are particularly vulnerable when those connections fade.” As Canada’s population ages, Dr. Conklin believes these insights can help shape more effective public health initiatives. “I hope this work informs social prescribing and care models for older adults. It’s not enough to tell people to ‘get out more.’ We need to understand which activities actually support healthy habits and tailor advice for women and men accordingly,” said Dr. Conklin.



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2025 Nissan Frontier Pro-4X : All Work, All Play, All The Time!

The Nissan Frontier pickup has been a solid performer for Nissan, and this rugged dependable work and play truck continues to deliver. When it comes to the styling of the 2025 Nissan Frontier, there is now a more edgy squared-off defined look. Meanwhile front and rear LED exterior lighting is standard. A choice of body configurations is available, with either a King Cab or Crew Cab, five-foot or six-foot bed. The King Cab (extended cabin) can be had with the long bed; and the crew cab is available with either bed depending on the trim. Added to the bed on all trims is a smoother operating damped tailgate and the bed height has been increased by 2.6 cm. New for 2025 is the adaption of a tilt/telescoping steering column, a revised grill and bumper, 12.3-inch infotainment and more standard driver assist technology.

In terms of powertrains, the Nissan Frontier has a gasoline 3.8-liter V-6 engine with 310 horsepower and 281 pound-feet of

torque paired with a 9-speed automatic transmission. There is part-time AWD. and Hill descent control is standard. Load and towing ability is good, the Frontier can tow up to 6,490 lbs when properly equipped, and a trailer-sway control system is standard, which automatically activates the brakes if the trailer begins to waggle. Cargo capacity is up to 1,430 lbs. The Frontier model range starts out in 7 trim levels ranging from \$47,998 to \$57,098. The entry-level, SV Crew Cab model starts at \$47,998 The price for the mid-range PRO-4X Crew Cab trim is \$53,498 MSRP. The most expensive in the lineup, PRO-4X Luxury Crew Cab LWB is priced at \$57,098 Freight and PDI is \$2,030. All trims include standard adaptive cruise control, blind-spot monitoring, lane departure warning, and emergency front and rear braking.

The interior is a significant improvement over the last generation with better driver ergonomics, design, and comfort. Nissan's Zero Gravity brand front seats are comfortable and supportive on long drives., Standard is a 7-inch analogue/digital gauge cluster, a new-for-2025 12.3-inch

infotainment display, heated front seats and steering wheel, plus wireless Android Auto, and wireless Apple CarPlay. Buyers also gain Type A and Type C ports, and two 12-volt outlets and a 360-degree birds-eye camera view, which has an off-road mode while moving up to 10 km/h is also available. Wireless phone charging, a Wi-Fi hotspot, and NissanConnect, also arrive on some models. The rear legroom and shoulder room in the four door Crew Cab is adequate while the King Cab models have smallish folding rear jump seats that are more cramped. The Pro 4X version we tested added a substantial number of extra features in the optional \$3,000 Luxury package as fitted which included: a premium Fender audio system with 10 speakers, including dual subwoofers, leather front and rear seats. Nissan Homelink UGDO system. Nissan door to door navigation. Auto dimming mirror, traffic sign recognition, and auto tilt and slide sunroof. Floor mats, splash guards, and Pearl blue paint (\$300) In terms of safety, Nissan's Safety Shield 360 suite of driver aids is standard across all trims, and includes: forward collision warning, intelligent cruise control, lane-departure warning, rear cross traffic alert, and rear auto braking. On the road, the Frontier offers decent enough handling with its rack and pinion steering and some off-road ability with its 2 Wheel and 4-wheel drive modes. The engine has strong low- to midrange



power and is smooth in operation. The transmission shifts almost seamlessly, though it has a slight delay on passing. But nothing of great concern. A four-wheel limited-slip system transfers power to the wheels that need it when traction is compromised. Hill-start and hill descent assists are standard. Even over potholes, and rougher than normal roads, the Frontier remains largely composed. Natural Resources Canada rates the 2025 all-wheel drive Frontier at 13.3 L/100 km city, 10.9 highway and 12.3 combined. To sum up, the new improvements were long overdue and add a whole lot more to this tough, versatile truck. Also, note that you can spec this truck with a slew of option that make it even more luxurious. Highlights are the strong V6 engine. Negatives are few – no smaller four-cylinder engine and no hybrid either. Overall, the Crew Cab is the one to get of you need to seat five, but if you need to occasionally seat four, the King cab is fine. Highly recommended as an excellent truck for work or play. 2025 Nissan Frontier priced as tested - \$59,428 including options, freight and PDE. More info at www.nissan.ca



Continued from Page 19

Surrey Council Votes On \$8.3M In Contracts To Improve Three Outdoor...

3. A \$1.72 million contract to XL Turf Ltd. for the replacement of the synthetic turf on fields #2 and #6 at Newton Athletic Park, which is one of Surrey's premier parks for soccer tournaments. "Investing in our outdoor sport facilities is about more than just infrastructure; it's about nurturing the spirit of sport in

Surrey," said Councillor Gordon Hepner, Chair of the Parks, Recreation & Sport Tourism Committee. "These upgrades will not only cater to the diverse needs of our community's athletes but will also reinforce Surrey's standing as a premier sporting hub. This commitment reflects our belief that accessible and vibrant public spaces

are essential for a healthy and engaged community." Design for the covered sports court at South Surrey Athletic Park is set to begin in May with construction expected to be completed by July 2026. Replacement of the synthetic turf fields at Newton Athletic Park is expected to start and be completed

this summer, while the replacement of the track at North Surrey Community Park is expected to be completed by September. Funding for this project will be available from the proposed 2025 capital projects budget. For more information about other projects being planned or under construction, visit surrey.ca/capitalprojects.

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LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Jat Sikh parents are looking for a girl for their handsome, clean shaven, 28 year old, 5' 8", engineer son. Girl should be educated and family oriented, religion/ caste no bar. Boy and parents are settled in Chilliwack, BC. Interested parties can contact the parents at 604-368-6151.

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

604.818.5780

LOOKING FOR GROOM

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

+91 98728 30435 (whatsapp)

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

DATING

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

exp.27/04/24

DATING

South Asian 54 yrs Old Man looking for a female for 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

DATING

49 year old Canadian born Sikh male looking for a female for dating and friends. I am into working out gym and music. Speak English, Punjabi. Discretion assured and respected. Call 604-206-6324

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

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

For more information Please Contact 604-729 8123.

LOOKING FOR BRIDE

Jatt Sikh family Moundhi Age 34/ height 6ft canadian born lives in South surrey Canada ,completed health care diploma currently drives truck for local unionized company Contact: 778-384-8371

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Nanda Jewellers Inc.,

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Hours of work: 11 AM-7PM, 5 days of the week depending on weekly schedule. 40 hours work week
Benefits- Benefits include extended health and dental benefits and minimum provincial benefits

Job duties:

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

Job requirements

- Completed secondary school is required, In addition please highlight if you have a college diploma or university degree in business management and administration;
- Minimum of one year or more previous sales experience preferably in the jewelry industry;
- 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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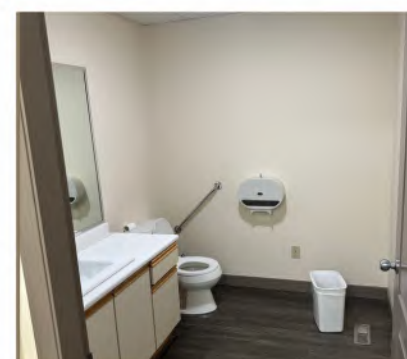
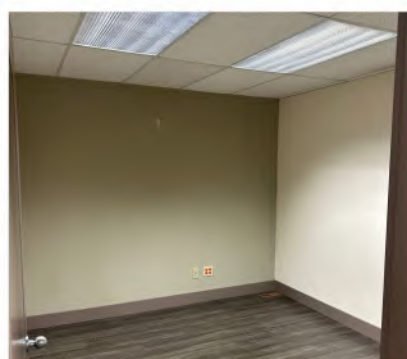
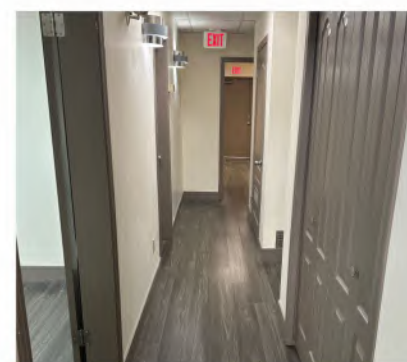
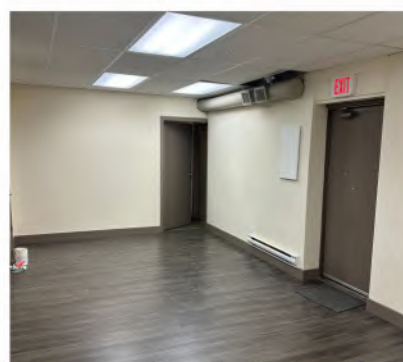
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Upcoming Program

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

17th April, Thursday	at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by the Harpreet Kaur family.
17th April, Thursday	at 4:00 pm, Sri Sehaj Path bhog and antim ardas for late Hardev Singh Teja by the Teja family.
18th April, Friday	at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by the Gurdeep Singh Sidhu family.
19th April, Saturday	at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by the Anand Singh Maan family.
19th April, Saturday	at 2:00 pm, Sri Sehaj Path bhog and antim ardas for late Joginder Singh Gill by the Gill family.
20th April, Sunday	at 10:30 am, Weekly Kirtan Diwan, Katha Vichar smagam and langar seva by the sangat.
20th April, Sunday	at 3:30 pm, Sri Sehaj Path bhog and antim ardas for late Kehar Singh Dayal by the Dayal family.
25th April, Friday	at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by the Avtar Singh Hundal family.
26th April, Saturday	at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by the Kuldeep Singh Mundi family.
26th April, Saturday	at 5:00 pm, Path Sri Sukhmani Sahib, Kirtan, Katha and Langer seva by Kulwant Singh Riar family.
27th April, Sunday	at 10:30 am, Weekly Kirtan Diwan, Katha Vichar smagam and langar seva by the sangat.
27th April, Sunday	at 5:00 pm, Path Sri Sukhmani Sahib, Gurbani Kirtan and Langer seva by Sunny Mehal family.
28th April, Monday	at 10:00 am, Anand Karj ceremony will be performed by the Anita Bhullar family.

**19 July (Saturday) and 11 September (Thursday) are available for Anand Karj.
Please contact Kanwaljit Singh (Assistant Secretary) to book Anand Karj.**

**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 seva by the group of Sukhmani Sahib Walian Bibian**

***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 6.00 pm to 6.20 pm, Kirtan 6.30 pm to 7.15 pm,
Ardas/Hukamnama 6.20 pm to 6.45 pm, Sukh Aasan 8.00 pm**

For more information, log in to the Gurdwara Sahib website! www.nanakniwas.ca

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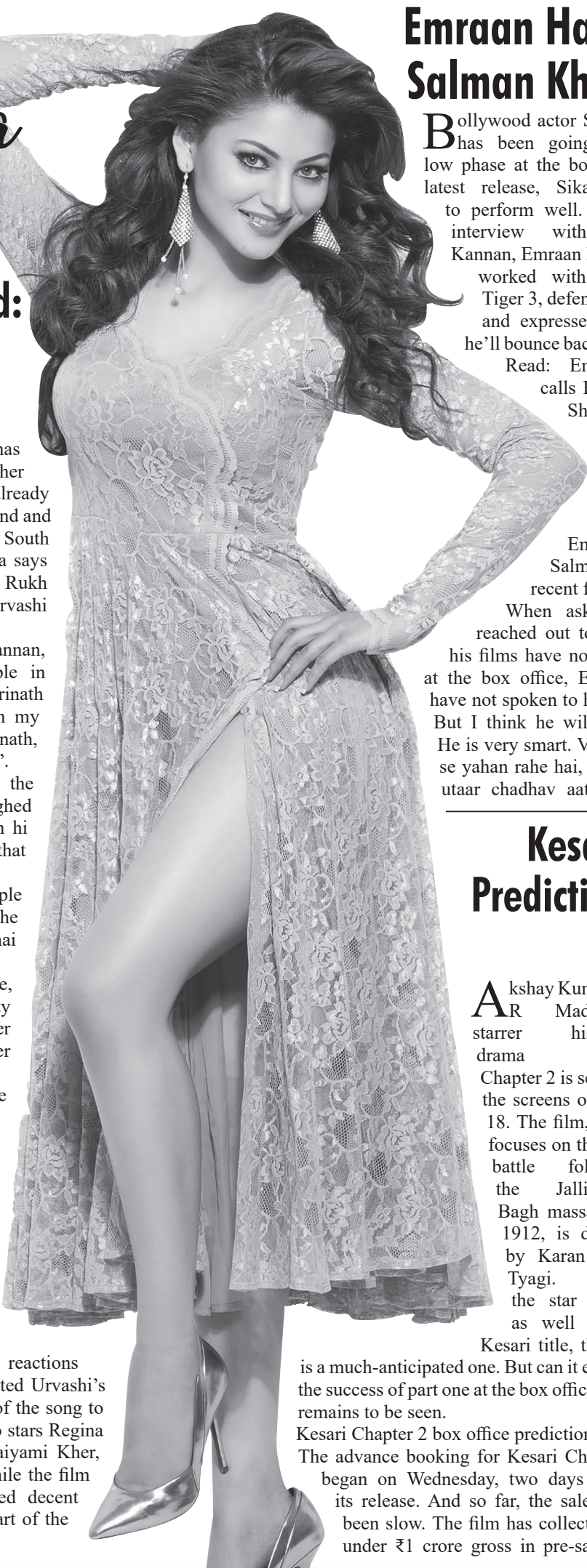
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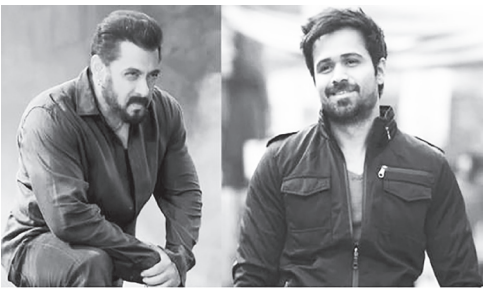
Claims She Has A Temple In Her Name In Uttarakhand: 'I Am Being Serious About It'

Bollywood actor Urvashi Rautela has once again sparked buzz online with her latest claim. According to Urvashi, she already has a temple dedicated to her in Uttarakhand and now has expressed a desire to have one in South India as well. Also read: Urvashi Rautela says she is called 'best promoter' after Shah Rukh Khan; Reddit jokes 'delulu ho toh aisa' Urvashi Rautela talks about temple on her name During a conversation with Siddharth Kannan, Urvashi claimed that she has a temple in Uttarakhand, which is next to the Badrinath temple. She said, "There is a temple in my name in Uttarakhand. If one visits Badrinath, there is a 'Urvashi temple' right next to it". When the host asked if people go to the temple to take blessings, Urvashi laughed and responded, "Ab mandir hai toh woh hi toh karenge (It's a temple, they will do that only)". Siddharth asked her if she has seen people asking for her blessings, to which she shared, "Aise chilla chilla ke kaun bolta hai (Who shouts and takes blessings)". She added that people pray at the temple, claiming that students in Delhi University also pray to her and offer garlands to her photos. Urvashi shared that they refer to her as 'DamdamaMai'. I am being serious about it. It is true. There are news articles about the same too. You can read them," Urvashi shares. During the conversation, Urvashi, who is actively working in different regional industries, expressed her desire to have a temple in her honour in South India as well Urvashi Rautela's upcoming project Meanwhile, Urvashi was most recently seen in a dance number in Sunny Deol and Randeep Hooda's Jaat. The song, titled Sorry Bol, has garnered mixed reactions from the audience. While some appreciated Urvashi's dance moves, others compared the tune of the song to Tip Tip Barsa Paani. The film, which also stars Regina Cassandra, Vineet Kumar Singh, and Saiyami Kher, was released in theatres on April 10. While the film received a mixed response, it registered decent business at the box office. The second part of the film has been announced.



Emraan Hashmi Defends 'Great Actor' Salman Khan Amid Sikandar's Failure

Bollywood actor Salman Khan has been going through a low phase at the box office. His latest release, Sikandar, failed to perform well. Now, in an interview with Siddharth Kannan, Emraan Hashmi, who worked with Salman in Tiger 3, defended the actor and expressed belief that he'll bounce back soon. (Also Read: Emraan Hashmi calls Pak actor Javed Sheikh's claim that he was rude to him bizarre: 'We were never friends') Emraan on Salman Khan's recent failures When asked if he has reached out to Salman since his films have not been working at the box office, Emraan said, "I have not spoken to him for a while. But I think he will bounce back. He is very smart. Voh itne decades se yahan rahe hai, har cheez mein utaar chadhav aata hai. 10 saal



pehle log same cheez keh rahe the Shah Rukh Khan ke liye (He has been around for so many decades — there are ups and downs in everything. Ten years ago, people were saying the same thing about Shah Rukh Khan) — he bounced back. So they know too much, they've seen so much in the industry. This is sometimes not in your hands." **Salman Khan and Emraan Hashmi's Tiger 3** Emraan played the role of the antagonist in Salman's film Tiger 3. The film, which also featured Katrina Kaif, emerged as a success at the box office. Directed by Maneesh Sharma and produced by Aditya Chopra under the banner of Yash Raj Films, the film earned praise for its action sequences but was also criticised for its plot and pace.

Kesari Chapter 2 Box Office Day 1 Prediction: Akshay Kumar, Madhavan Film May Open At Rs 8 Crore

Akshay Kumar and Madhavan-starrer historical drama Kesari Chapter 2 is set to hit the screens on April 18. The film, which focuses on the legal battle following the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1912, is directed by Karan Singh Tyagi. Given the star power, as well as the Kesari title, the film



is a much-anticipated one. But can it emulate the success of part one at the box office? That remains to be seen. **Kesari Chapter 2 box office prediction** The advance booking for Kesari Chapter 2 began on Wednesday, two days before its release. And so far, the sales have been slow. The film has collected just under ₹1 crore gross in pre-sales for

day 1. The figure rises to ₹1.88 crore after adding blocked seats for spot booking. With under 12 hours still to go for advance bookings, the number should go higher, but it does not seem to be too promising for the Akshay and Madhavan-starrer. Trade insiders predict that Kesari Chapter 2 could open at around ₹5-8 crore at the box office on day 1. The most optimistic estimate puts the film's day 1 domestic net haul at around ₹8.50-9 crore, while some conservative estimates say it could be just over half that. **How Kesari 2 fares against recent releases** If Kesari 2 does open at single-digit collections this Friday, it will be lower than Akshay's previous release, Sky Force.

Continued from Page 14

South Asian women shine at 2025 Surrey Women in Business Awards

Corporate Leader Category: Andrea Roberts, RascalHR Systems Inc. Andrea Roberts is the CEO of RascalHR Systems, Inc., a company revolutionizing HR for small to medium-sized businesses across Canada. With over 25 years of expertise in employment law and HR processes, Andrea is a recognized leader in TopGrading, a rigorous hiring method focused on selecting and retaining high-performing employees. She designed RascalHR as the first platform to simplify the legal and regulatory aspects of HR without the high costs. It is the only company in Canada offering best-practice job descriptions, diverse employment agreements, and a complete employee

policy manual. Under her leadership, RascalHR was selected for the 2025 Web Summit Alpha program, one of the world's largest tech conferences. Andrea's commitment to innovation empowers businesses with efficient, affordable HR solutions, reshaping the industry. **Emerging Leader Category: Arshita Saini, GluteNull** Arshita Saini is the CEO of GluteNull, a health-focused manufacturing company specializing in gluten-free and vegan products. Under her leadership, GluteNull expanded into major markets, securing partnerships with Sobeys, Safeway, and Real Canadian Superstore and entering competitive markets in California and

New York. In 2024, GluteNull earned BC's Top 10 Products of the Year Award, and this year, Arshita will present at North America's largest trade show, the Natural Foods Expo in California. A 2024 Surrey Board of Trade 25 Under 25 Award recipient, she launched Answer 42, a vegan pickup café in Port Coquitlam. Passionate about chronic illness prevention, she plans to establish a Diabetes Education Non-Profit in Surrey, furthering her commitment to public health and advocacy. **Social Trailblazer Category: Susan Bains, Equal Access Collective** Susan Bains is a leader in accessibility and inclusion for Equal Access Collective, a group of individuals

advocating for public spaces to be accessible for all. She played a key role in the installation of an accessibility mat at the White Rock Pier, improving mobility access and showcasing her ability to drive impactful change. With over 15 years in Human Resources and adult education, Susan leverages legislation, relationship-building, and strategic communication expertise to advance inclusion initiatives. Susan serves on the Spinal Cord Injury BC board and the Surrey Accessibility Leadership Team (SALT). A visionary advocate, she sparks conversations on equity, inspiring individuals and organizations to prioritize accessibility and foster long-term social change.

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