

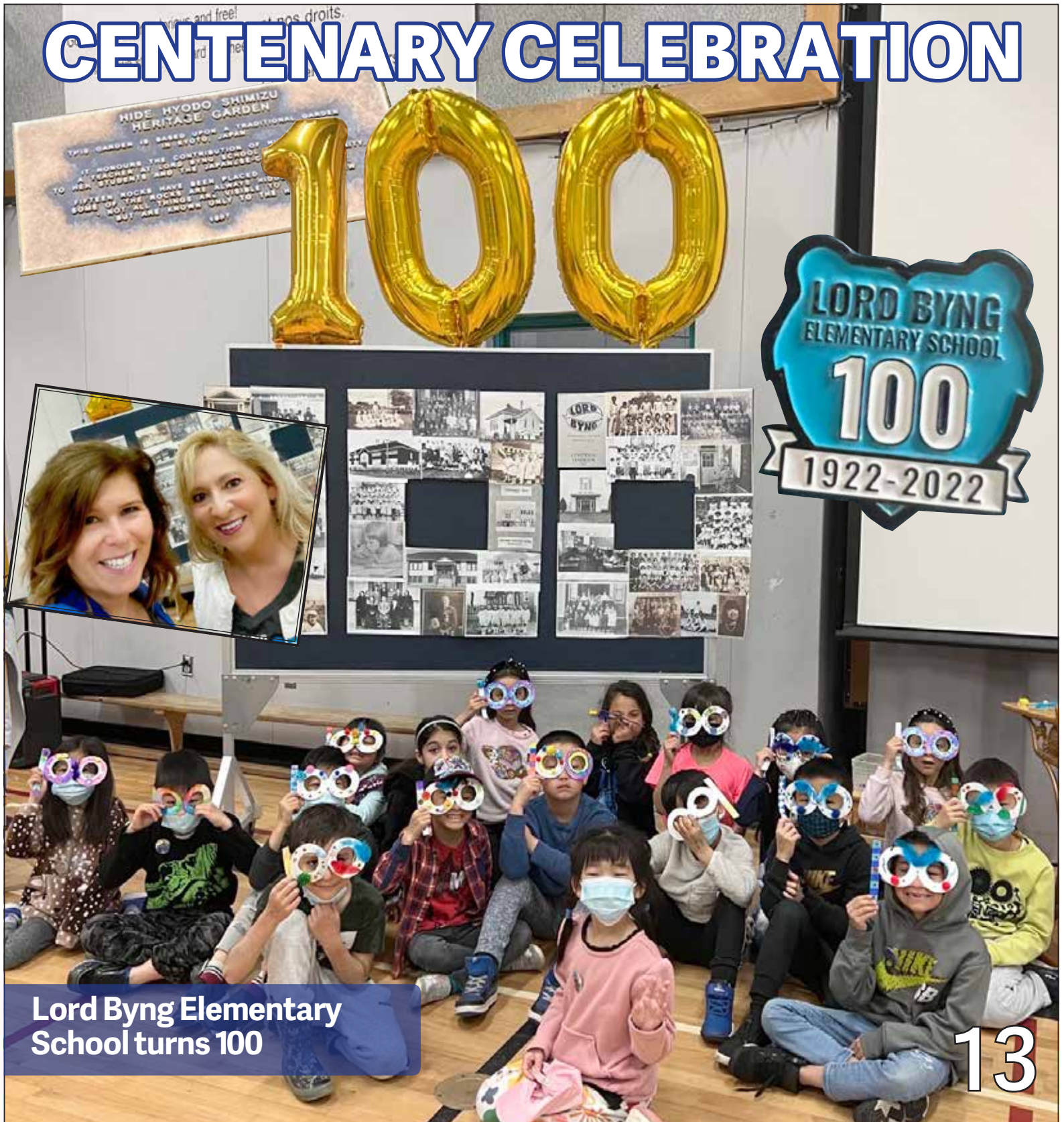


VOL. 6 ISSUE 10

NOT-FOR-PROFIT

JUNE 7 - 20, 2022

## CENTENARY CELEBRATION



Lord Byng Elementary  
School turns 100

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Photos submitted

Students at Lord Byng Elementary School celebrated its 100th birthday last week with activities including an assembly and sports day.





Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Seniors aged 55-plus and their families are invited to choose from over 20 in-person and online activities that are part of this year's Seniors Week June 6 to 12.

## Celebrate Seniors Week in Richmond this June

The City of Richmond and community partners are celebrating Seniors Week from June 6 to 12 with over 20 fun, free, low cost, and creative activities, events, and informative opportunities.

Online and in-person activities for those aged 55-plus include dance and art classes, a library tour, and a Pickleball tournament.

"The past two years have been challenging for many seniors in the community", says Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "Events such as Seniors Week provide important opportunities for seniors to reconnect with fellow community members, to meet new people, and to participate in a variety of activities that support healthy and active aging."

Most activities require registration and participants are encouraged to register early to ensure a spot. The full list of Seniors Week activities and the ways to register can be found at [richmond.ca/seniorsweek](http://richmond.ca/seniorsweek). Paper copies of the flyer can be picked up from any Richmond Community Services facility.

Highlights for the week include:

- June 7, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.: Art Therapy for Mindfulness (virtual)

Connect, slow down, and explore while creating an art piece guided by a trained art therapist. Presented by City Centre Community Centre.

- June 8, 10 to 11 a.m.: Gardening Workshop (in-person)

Learn how to pot and take care of plants (indoor and outdoor) with volunteers from the Richmond Garden Club. Presented by the Richmond Garden

Club and the Hamilton Community Centre.

- June 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: 55+ BC Games Event (in-person)

Learn the history of the 55+ BC Games and then try floor curling, table tennis, and billiards. This program is led by volunteers of the 55+ BC Games Society. Enter the draw to win a free one-month fitness pass after participating in three sports. Presented by South Arm Community Centre.

- June 10, 1 to 2 p.m.: Bollywood Dancing (in-person)

Perform high energy and fun dance moves to upbeat Bollywood music in this session that covers fundamental choreography and techniques. Presented by Cambie Community Centre.

- June 11, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Welcome Back Tea (in-person)

Celebrate Seniors Week at the Minoru Seniors Society's afternoon tea, including entertainment and light refreshments. Presented by the Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living.

- June 12, 2:15 to 3:45 p.m.: Wild Words (in-person)

Create unique, personal, and nature-themed prose in this interactive session guided and supported by a professional poet. Dress for the weather as this program will be held outdoors. Presented by the Richmond Nature Park.

Celebrated across Canada, Seniors Week is held each year during the first week of June to commend and recognize the contributions seniors make to their community.

## Richmond designated a Canadian Bee City

The City of Richmond is proud to announce that it has been designated a Canadian Bee City by Pollinator Partnership Canada, in recognition of its ongoing efforts to support and protect local pollinators through habitat enhancement, environmental stewardship, and public education.

"Scientists tell us that pollinators are responsible for one out of every three bites of food we eat," says Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "Pollinators and their habitat are crucial aspects of our local ecosystem, and support a thriving local agricultural sector; enhancement of their habitat helps to keep biodiversity resilient in the face of climate change."

In addition to the designation, the city is encouraging residents and businesses to participate in the Richmond Nectar Trail program, a community-based mapping effort of pollinator friendly plantings throughout the city. Pollinators need to touch down at least every ten metres, so the trail will enable them to easily travel throughout Richmond, including the city's rich farming areas. Building trails of pollen-rich plants will help these pollinators thrive in Richmond's Ecological Network.

To participate in Richmond's Nectar Trail, visit [letstalkrichmond.ca/nectartrail](http://letstalkrichmond.ca/nectartrail) to mark your garden's location and post photos, register a garden through [richmond.ca/nectartrail](http://richmond.ca/nectartrail), or email your name and postal code to [nectartrail@richmond.ca](mailto:nectartrail@richmond.ca). Then maintain the garden of pollinating plants and post photos of the garden on social media with the hashtag #RmdNectarTrail until Sept. 30.

Watch for updates on the city's social media channels throughout the summer to see the Richmond Nectar Trail map grow.

Pollinator Partnership Canada is a registered charity, dedicated to the protection and promotion of pollinators and their ecosystems through conservation, education, and research. Bee City Canada is a voluntary membership program that is delivered by Pollinator Partnership Canada. The Bee City Program seeks membership, through certification, for organizations that are committed to promoting pollinator conservation.

# Richmond wins national award for pollinator program

Richmond's City-wide Pollinator Program has received national recognition from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA).

The city was presented with the 2022 CAMA Environmental Leadership and Sustainability Award, in the over 100,000 population category, during a recent virtual ceremony.

"Enhancing the city's natural environment not only enriches the health and livability of our communities, it provides access to nature within Richmond's urban neighbourhoods and supports our vibrant agricultural sector," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "The response to council's commitment to the pollinator program has been overwhelmingly positive, and we will continue to find new and innovative ways to protect and foster pollinator conservation throughout the city."

Pollinators are paramount for a stable and thriving natural environment, which is known to improve the physical and mental health of residents. However, there is growing evidence that pollinator species, such as bees and butterflies, are in decline globally due to the pressures of urban development.

As a result, Richmond has taken a proactive approach to natural area management, conservation, and protection. Initiatives throughout the city have found creative ways to engage residents and businesses into the action of protecting pollinators and their habitat.

Since 2015, Richmond has designed and implemented over 10 pollinator-specific programs; has engaged over 1,800 residents through free, interactive community workshops and planting initiatives; and has dedicated approximately 22,700 square metres of land to enhance pollinator habitat and increase community awareness.

"CAMA is pleased to recognize Richmond for the municipal excellence demonstrated by their City-wide Pollinator Program," said Jack Benzaquen, CAMA president, CAMA representative for Quebec and city manager for the City of Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC. "Their efforts to conserve pollinators and develop and protect their habitat set an example of how a land manager can be a leader through conscientious community programming and



*Photo courtesy City of Richmond*  
**Richmond has been recognized with a national award for its pollinator program.**

to engage the community and collect data.

Pollinator enhancement has been integrated into the city's public works delivery, with many projects utilizing pollinator friendly plantings along roadways and dikes, in parks, and at city facility horticulture installations.

There were 35 submissions from across the country for this year's awards. To find out more about Richmond's award, as well as details on the other 2022 winners, visit [camacam.ca/awards](http://camacam.ca/awards) and look for the award recipients link.

## About CAMA'S Environmental Leadership and Sustainability Award:

The Environmental Leadership and Sustainability Award recognizes the dedication to environmental and sustainability excellence in projects that meet the needs of the present without compromising the future. This may include stand-out projects or initiatives or apply to the improvement of corporate processes that demonstrate real benefits to the environment. Sustainability may refer to both environmental considerations and wider sustainability impacts on people, resources, and communities.

## About CAMA:

The Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators is a national non-profit association open to all chief administrative officers, city managers, and any person employed in a senior management position that reports directly to the chief administrative officer. CAMA has a membership of approximately 650 city managers, chief administrative officers, and senior appointed officials from all parts of Canada.

# New chief administrative officer announced

The City of Richmond has appointed Serena Lusk to the position of chief administrative officer, effective July 1.

Lusk's appointment follows the announcement that George Duncan is stepping down on June 30 after more than three decades of service.

"After an extensive search across Canada, we are pleased to confirm that the best candidate for this important role is within our existing senior management team," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "Not only does this demonstrate the strength of leadership within the city but shows the importance of succession planning and council's commitment to recognizing and supporting the expertise and experience among city employees."

Mayor Brodie said Lusk's exemplary leadership skills, vision, and experience set her apart from other candidates.

"We are delighted that she will be leading the organiza-

tion to address important council priorities and continue our commitment to make Richmond a strong, safe, and resilient community," he added.

Lusk joined the City of Richmond in 2005 and progressed through the organization, embracing management roles and growing responsibilities within the community services division. She joined the city's senior management team as general manager of community services in 2017 and took on further responsibilities as the city's deputy chief administrative officer in 2020.

"I am proud to live in Richmond and, together with my husband Barry, raise our children here and be able to experience, first-hand, the engaged and diverse community," said Lusk. "I look forward to serving the city and its residents in my new role as chief administrative officer and am committed to ensuring the advancement of council and community priorities for years to come."



*Photo courtesy City of Richmond*  
**Effective July 1, Serena Lusk will be the city's new chief administrative officer.**



# Early Childhood Development Hub opens

Child care spaces and supports for families in the Capstan area are increasing with the opening of Sprouts Early Childhood Development (ECD) Hub.

This innovative, purpose-built facility provides 92 spaces of licensed child care for infants, toddlers, and children up to 12 years old, and has space for community-based family strengthening and support programs. While operations began in January, Sprouts ECD Hub had its official opening ceremony on May 30.

"The creation of the city's first Early Childhood Development Hub is a significant achievement and shows the city's long-term commitment to building a system of accessible, affordable, and quality child care and supports for families in Richmond," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "The city continues to be a leading municipality in creating child care spaces for children up to 12 years of age, and is committed to being an active partner with senior levels of government, parents, the private sector, and not-for-profit agencies to develop and maintain a comprehensive child care system in Richmond."

Sprouts ECD Hub, located at 3368 Carscallen Road, is the 11th city-owned facility providing licensed child care and the first Early Childhood Development Hub of its kind in Richmond. It offers approximately 2,285 square metres (24,597 square feet) of indoor and outdoor space, which includes space for community-based child development and family strengthening services, a toy and resource library, a commercial kitchen, and an outdoor amenity space.

Pinnacle Living (Capstan Village) Lands Inc. provided the ECD Hub as a community amenity contribution to the city as part of the Torino - Pinnacle Living at Capstan Village development. The City of Richmond took ownership of the facility in August 2021.

Sprouts ECD Hub is operated by the YMCA of Greater Vancouver. "The YMCA is thrilled to continue its partnership with the City of Richmond and Province of BC to help bring more valuable child care services to the families in this community," said Cathy Poole, vice-president of children and youth services at the YMCA of Greater Vancouver. "As the proud operator of the child care centre at Sprouts Early Childhood Development Hub, our professional and passionate child care educators are excited to support more families, and provide their children with a safe, engaging environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive."

Child care applications are currently being accepted and enrollment continues for infants and toddlers, three- to five-year-olds, and school-aged children attending Talmey Elementary School. The YMCA of Greater Vancouver also received \$98,000 to purchase furniture and equipment for the child care programs through the province's New Spaces Fund.

"This is terrific news for Richmond families who will benefit from this new



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Left to right: Taesun Kim (False Creek Design), Kevin Ching (Child Care Development Advisory Committee), Pascal Yammine (Pinnacle International), Grace Kwok (Anson Realty), Jim Toy (False Creek Design), Chantelle Pereira (Child Care Development Advisory Committee), Coun. Andy Hobbs, Coun. Alexa Loo, Amanda Coates (YMCA of Greater Vancouver), Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Coun. Bill McNulty.

centrally located, innovative Sprouts Early Childhood Development Hub that includes 92 licensed child care spaces," said Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care. "This partnership demonstrates how we are achieving our Child-CareBC plan together to make child care a core service available to any family that wants it, when they need it, at a price they can afford. Since 2018, we've funded 1,408 new licensed childcare spaces at 32 child care centres in Richmond."

In Richmond, 10 city-owned child care facilities and two ECD Hubs are currently in operation and were secured through rezoning, providing a total of 583 licensed child care spaces. An additional city-owned child care facility is under construction and will be complete later this year.

The 2017-2022 Richmond Child Care Needs Assessment and Strategy recognizes the importance of creating child care spaces for young children that support their early development and growth. Working together with other levels of government, it is part of the city's vision to continue to develop a comprehensive child care system, providing high-quality licensed care in Richmond's neighbourhoods and supporting the needs of Richmond families.

For more information on child care in Richmond, visit: [richmond.ca/services/communitysocialdev/childcare/overview](https://richmond.ca/services/communitysocialdev/childcare/overview)

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# Legion seeking more support

By ANGEL ST. GEORGE  
Reporter

Local support of Richmond's Royal Canadian Legion branch is declining, says its service officer and membership chairman Bill Costain.

"We can't get people to join," says Costain. "The younger generation in Richmond doesn't like to drink beer. They come in to play darts and drink tap water."

The Royal Canadian Legion, founded in 1926, is a non-profit Canadian organization for veterans. Richmond Legion #291 has devoted itself to supporting numerous local organizations and charities for nearly 100 years. Some of the oldest members joined before their service in the Second World War.

Historically, a legion hall was the social centre of many Canadian towns. This was especially the case in provinces with severe restrictions on the sale of alcohol, a rule from which legions were generally exempt.

The Richmond branch decided to remove its bar because the lack of drink sales has led to losses of nearly \$72,000 a year. The branch is currently in negotiations to sell its property and use the funds from the sale to open a veteran services club.

The majority of the legion's operational costs and charitable activities used to be funded by patrons



Photo submitted

**Bill Costain is the service officer and membership chairman of the Royal Canadian Legion's Richmond branch.**

buying drinks at the bar, with the exception of the poppy campaign that runs annually in the lead-up to Remembrance Day.

Funds from the poppy campaign are held in a strict trust and can only be spent on certain things. The funds are intended to provide one-time grants to veterans for food, shelter, and medical needs like hearing aids.

For general aid, the federal government provides veterans with support to honour them for their service.

Community fundraising efforts by the Ladies' Auxiliary and the wives of legion members used to

contribute significantly to funding the branch.

"The Ladies' Auxiliary was the backbone of the legion," says Costain. "They had bake sales, lunches, and organized walks for fundraising. Most of those ladies are now in their 80s and 90s. Many of them joined with their husbands at the beginning of (the Second World War) in 1939."

Legion #291 is still actively participating in charitable efforts in Richmond. This month, the branch is making two donations of \$15,000 each to the Richmond Hospital and the Salvation Army Rotary Hospice.

It also makes regular donations to Richmond cadets, last month giving \$2,000 each to Richmond Air Cadets, Army Cadets, and Navy Cadets.

"Cadet programs are very important because the training they get is second to none," says Costain. "Families report that the training is beneficial to kids as they enter their teenage years because they are well disciplined and can offer support to their family members."

The Royal Canadian Legion continues to fundraise on memorial holidays like Remembrance Day and Robbie Burns Day to contribute towards veteran services.

"The army and navy veterans have a saying: 'if you like your freedom, thank a veteran'," says Costain.

•angels@richmondsentinel.ca

## Celebrate Father's Day

at Blundell Centre!

We have everything you need for  
your loved ones.



**43 STORES FOR EVERYTHING**  
*Everything you need, and so much more!*  
Located at Blundell & No. 2 Road

# BC Liberal MLA Teresa Wat shares experiences

By **SAMUEL CHENG**  
Reporter

In the October 2020 provincial election, BC Liberal MLA Teresa Wat was the lone incumbent to hold her seat, winning in the Richmond North Centre riding.

Wat has been an MLA since 2013. Host Jim Gordon spoke with her recently about her decade-long political journey and what she has learned.

**Can you tell our viewers why you wanted to be an MLA?**

It is a mission and an honour to serve the people of Richmond. I don't see this as a career, but instead as a way of giving back to the community after I came to this wonderful province more than 30 years ago. I feel that our whole family has gotten so much out of this country (and) my husband always reminded me that whenever I can, I should give something in return to this community.

When I was approached by former Premier Christy Clark to run under the banner of BC Liberal for Richmond Centre, I gave it a week of thought before saying yes. I never felt so much drive, so much purpose, and so much sense of accomplishment in my life.

**Talk about your riding and what is (of) the most concern to the citizens.**

I've been in politics for almost a decade and I've seen so many changes, particularly because of the pandemic. Housing affordability is an issue, not just to my riding, but for all of British Columbia.



Photo submitted

**BC Liberal MLA Teresa Wat has served in Richmond since 2013.**

Richmond has always been seen as a city that is affordable, where people moved from Vancouver for a more affordable living standard. But now, Richmond is becoming more and more unaffordable, which is causing people to relocate to other areas such as the Fraser Valley, Mission, or Langley.

The current government (has) blamed the previous BC Liberal government for attracting too many investors from Asia, especially China. But now, even if we aren't getting any more Chinese

immigrants, the price of housing (has) remained unstable for the last five years. With all the speculations and initiatives, it hasn't dampened the housing market.

This is why I have to continue my role as (an) MLA to hold the government accountable, because they have been campaigning for providing affordability for British Columbia. Not only housing is unaffordable—the price of gas, the price of groceries, and other things around us (are) becoming more and more unaffordable.

**How can the constituents in your riding get in touch with you?**

I have had constituents from outside of my riding calling my office because they could not connect with the MLA from their riding. We try to help them by calling the numbers of my colleagues and (passing) on their messages and concerns. We try our best to help whenever we can because this is something that I am proud of.

I have a group of constituent assistants who are very passionate. They can practically tackle any kind of issue that the constituents come to us with. I think it's really important for an MLA to really serve their constituents. I really miss the person-to-person interaction with my constituents and (am) looking forward to more of that in the future. Constituents give very good input and that's why I treasure them and their opinions.

To watch the full video interview, visit [richmondsentinel.ca/videos](https://richmondsentinel.ca/videos)

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## Touchstone receiving provincial grant

Touchstone Family Association's StreetSmarts Mentorship Project is among 121 initiatives in B.C. receiving funding through the province's Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The StreetSmarts Mentorship Project targets at risk youth who may be vulnerable to re-offending after participating in a restorative justice process.

"We are building safer communities by redirecting the profits of crime into projects that prevent gender-based and domestic violence, and connect victims with the services they need," said Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. "The organizations receiving Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grants are essential partners in our government's work to combat crime. I thank them for helping to create a stronger, more resilient province."

The grants have been awarded among six streams:

- Gender-based violence
- Domestic violence prevention and intervention programming
- Indigenous healing
- Human trafficking, sexual exploitation, sex worker safety
- Restorative justice
- Child and youth advocacy centres

Touchstone's \$40,000 grant falls into the restorative justice stream. In all, the province is committing \$43 million to this grant program.

In addition, the grants will fund police training and equipment, as well

as a BC Lions Football Club mentorship program that discourages gang involvement and promotes mental health.

This year, 54 projects tackling gender-based violence and preventing domestic violence are receiving approximately \$1.8 million. The grants fund initiatives that include expanding outreach to Indigenous victims, support for healing circles, training to provide culturally competent and trauma-informed services, and counselling for men to avoid abusive behaviour.

Additional projects focused on crime prevention will also be provided funding in the coming months.

The Civil Forfeiture Office continues to undermine the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime, and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention.

This year's grants align with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity's development of an action plan to end gender-based violence. This includes Budget 2022's \$22 million in stable funding for sexual assault centres. As well, the province has invested \$5.34 million in the Path Forward Community Fund to expand safety planning capacity and protect Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQ+ people.

Since 2017-18, the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant program has provided more than \$43 million to help organizations throughout B.C.



# Japanese Canadian legacies honoured

New community programs focused on seniors' health, culture, and education are part of a new initiative announced by Premier John Horgan to provide lasting recognition of historical wrongs committed by the Province of B.C. against Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.

Premier Horgan made the announcement at the Steveston Martial Arts Centre, the oldest Japanese-style dojo in North America, alongside Rachna Singh, Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives, Kelly Greene, MLA for Richmond-Steveston, former MLA Naomi Yamamoto, and members of the Japanese Canadian community.

This year marks 80 years since the internment of Japanese Canadians across B.C., and May 21—the day the announcement was made—is a significant day that recognizes the first arrivals of Japanese Canadians to the Greenwood, Kaslo, New Denver, Slocan City, and Sandon Internment Camps in 1942.

The \$100-million initiative is the result of engagement with the community, through the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC), and will include funding for: enhanced health and wellness programs for internment-era survivors; creating and restoring heritage sites for all British Columbians to explore and learn, including a monument to honour survivors of the internment era; and updating B.C.'s curriculum to teach future generations about this dark chapter in B.C.'s history.

It builds on a 2012 apology by the B.C. Legislature and responds to a redress proposal advanced in 2021 by the NAJC. The province will continue to work closely with the NAJC to support these important initiatives during the coming months and years.

"Eighty years have passed since the internment of thousands of Japanese Canadians. Families were uprooted and incarcerated, forced to leave behind the lives they had worked so hard to build. It was a cruel, racist act, and the injustice still resonates today," said Premier Horgan. "We are committing this new funding to honour the legacies of Japanese Canadians, to continue the healing of intergenerational trauma, and to serve as an



Photo by Hannah Scott

**The provincial government is committing \$100 million to new community programs as part of its recognition of historical wrongs committed by the Province of B.C. against Japanese Canadians during the Second World War.**

important reminder of this dark chapter in B.C.'s history."

Beginning in early 1942, more than 90 per cent of Japanese Canadians living in British Columbia were detained under the War Measures Act and were stripped of their homes, possessions, and businesses. After the war ended, Japanese Canadians were given the choice to move east of the Rockies or go to Japan, a country many had never known. In 1949, four years after the end of the Second World War, Japanese Canadians were allowed to return to the West Coast. They were still subjected to racist policies and treatment for years, and many communities never recovered.

"At age eight, together with my parents and siblings, we were uprooted from our home and life in Vancouver by the Government of Canada. The war with Japan was used as an excuse to remove from the West Coast all persons of Japanese ancestry, even as my parents were registered as 'naturalized Canadians,' with born-in-Canada children," said Grace Eiko Thomson, an internment-era sur-

vivor. "Having watched how my parents' lives were destroyed, I, now age 88, do my best to speak out whenever issues of human rights arise, particularly as related to racism."

Of almost 22,000 Japanese Canadians who were interned, approximately 6,000 remain alive today. This funding package aims to provide some peace of mind to the survivors that their experiences will be honoured in a lasting and meaningful way that benefits British Columbians for generations.

"We acknowledge that the due process denied our community in 1942 has been granted by this government," said Susanne Tabata, BC Redress project director, NAJC. "All of this work is about honouring our elders, past and present, and we have been thorough with community consultations between 2019 and 2021. By honouring their legacies, we built these initiatives to provide the community with specific, material improvements that redress the enduring harms of the internment era."

## Chamber golf tournament teeing off June 20

The Richmond Chamber of Commerce is gearing up to host its 39th annual golf tournament later this month.

The event offers an opportunity to play 18 holes of golf as well as network with other professionals. This year's tournament is a full shotgun-style "Texas Scramble" event including favourites like the lavish banquet dinner, silent auction, and lunch.

The event will take place on June 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mayfair Lakes Golf and Country Club (5460 No. 7 Rd.).

Ticket prices are \$260 for a single golfer, \$490 for a pair, or \$930 for four people, plus tax. The price for dinner only is \$70 plus tax.

For more information, visit: [richmondchamber.ca/event/39th-annual-golf-tournament/](http://richmondchamber.ca/event/39th-annual-golf-tournament/)

# 2022 Community



**Richmond  
Hospital  
Foundation**  
列治文醫院基金會

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All PhD of Inspiration Award recipients; Doctor of Philanthropy Award recipients; Community Cares Award recipient; Vivian Eliopoulos, CEO, Vancouver Coastal Health; Gail Malenstyn, Vice President, Richmond Acute; Chad Pederson, Board Chair, Richmond Hospital Foundation; and Natalie Meixner, President & CEO, Richmond Hospital Foundation

**An inspiring and joyful event reconnecting with donors in person to celebrate their philanthropic leadership and contributions for Richmond health. The Richmond Hospital Foundation's donor celebration was held on May 11.**

<https://www.richmondhospitalfoundation.ca>



# Cares Celebration

## SHOWING TREMENDOUS COMMITMENT TOWARDS IMPACT ON HEALTHCARE IN RICHMOND

### Community Cares Award Presented to Johnny K.H. Fong

This award is about bringing people together and celebrates an individual, company, family, or organization for their outstanding community leadership in spreading the joy of giving with Richmond Hospital Foundation.



From left to right: Chad Pederson, Board Chair, Richmond Hospital Foundation; Vivian Eliopoulos, President & CEO, Vancouver Coastal Health; Johnny K.H. Fong, 2022 Community Cares Award Recipient; Natalie Meixner, President & CEO, Richmond Hospital Foundation

This year's recipient, Johnny K.H. Fong, is a well-known philanthropic leader in Richmond. Most recently, he made significant donations towards Richmond Hospital Foundation's Surgical Restart campaign and the new Yurkovich Family Pavilion. Johnny hopes his philanthropic giving creates a ripple effect that inspires other community leaders, family, and friends to help support Richmond's healthcare, now and well into the future.

Celebrate  
Healthcare,  
25th.

# Strange Advance releases new album

By JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS  
Contributors

Iconic Canadian band Strange Advance was formed in Vancouver in 1982.

The following year, the band was nominated for a Juno Award as Most Promising Group of the Year. It received another nomination in 1985 for Group of the Year. *Worlds Away* (1982) and *2WO* (1985) were Canadian gold selling records.

The *Our City Tonight* team recently spoke to original member and songwriter Drew Arnott and keyboardist Rob Bailey.

**Congratulations on the release of a new single and a new album and (being) on the road touring again. Your sound is as good as it was 40 years ago.**

Arnott: We have a new single called "Perfect Day" which was inspired by a scene from a 1970s movie taking place in 2022, a dystopian futuristic film, *Soylent Green*. It was an important movie for me, and it inspired the song.

**You have quite the talented crew assembled for the Radical Orbits tour over this next year with many sold out shows already. Tell us who is playing with the band now.**

Bailey: We are very fortunate to have this interconnected collection of old friends. Ian, our guitar player, played with Drew in the original band when they toured back in the 80s. Our drummer Ross and I played in a band that was the first electronic music trio in the local club scene here in the 80s. I had also played in another band with Ian and did some session work with Alex, our bass player who was originally with the Payolas. It has been a real joy to just get together and play with friends.

**The band's sound was so distinctive when you came out. What bands influenced you?**

Arnott: Kraftwerk for sure, as (it was) one of the first electronic groups that made fantastic music even without the technology that we enjoy now. (Original member) Darryl (Kromm) and I were totally into the (United Kingdom) scene, and we had already played in bands in the 70s. So we had a giant love for David Bowie, Genesis, T. Rex, Mott the Hoople, all those bands, and that's where our musical background took us. The 80s exploded (for bands) and instrumentation determined a lot. I fell in love with an instrument called the Mellotron which featured heavily in "We Run" and "Worlds Away," plus we were one of the first groups to get into synthesizers. That opened up new vistas for us.



Photo courtesy Eric Alper PR

Vancouver band Strange Advance is in the midst of its Radical Orbits tour.

**Is there anything the fans can look forward to that's a little different in the shows?**

Arnott: Yes—when we toured originally it was an expensive proposition to tour that was totally dependent on the record company. This time we're doing it on our own, but remarkably we've got way more production now with a visual artist who's coming up with great content, and we've got lasers.

**When you look out into the audience during these tours, is it a real mix of age groups and generations?**

Arnott: I get stories all the time about people who have turned their kids and grandkids onto our music. And of course, 80s music is so much more popular now than it has been for a long time. It's really surprising to see 25-year-old fans show up on Facebook.

Strange Advance's new album, 4, is available now. For more information, visit [strangeadvance.com](http://strangeadvance.com)

For the full video interview, visit [richmondsentinel.ca/videos](http://richmondsentinel.ca/videos)

Jim Gordon and Leeta Liepins are contributing writers to the Richmond Sentinel.

## Royal Canadian Circus visits Richmond

By ANGEL ST. GEORGE  
Reporter

The Royal Canadian Circus will display a mesmerizing spectacle in Richmond from June 30 to July 3.

"It's an incredible showcase of elite circus artists from all around the world that has been designed for multi-generational families," says ringmaster Joseph Bauer, who is a ninth-generation daredevil performer.

According to the circus website, this year's show is about giving the audience a glimpse into a traditional world where 10th-generation circus families are showcasing their talents.

This year's line-up does not include exotic animals or endangered species. The circus transitioned away from including them five years ago and has since conducted a survey that indicated 94 per cent of customers would continue to support the circus, even if there are no exotic animals.

The show will include high-flying acrobats, precar-

ious aerials, death-defying stunts, and clowning.

One of the acts travelling with the Royal Canadian Circus this year is The Dominguez Brothers, an eighth-generation high wire troupe. They have won international circus awards and have been featured numerous times on national television.

In the 20th century the Wallendas, a family of high wire artists originally from Germany who debuted with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey show in 1928, helped set the standard for acts of skill.

The Wallenda family was renowned for balancing three-high on bicycles on the high wire and, later, for their seven-person pyramid.

Other famous high wire acts include French tight-rope walker Blondin, pseudonym of Jean-Francois Gravelet, who owed his celebrity to his feat of crossing the gorge below Niagara Falls on a tightrope 335 metres (1,100 feet) long and 49 metres (160 feet) above the water.

He crossed the gorge below Niagara Falls a number of times, first in 1859. He often employed theat-

rical variations, including walking while blindfolded, in a sack, trundling a wheelbarrow, on stilts, and carrying a man on his back, as well as sitting down mid-way to cook an omelette.

The Royal Canadian Circus show runs about two and a half hours, with an intermission. There will be a variety of circus snacks including cotton candy, candy apples, and snow cones.

Children under age three are welcome to attend for free, as long as they don't occupy a seat.

General admission tickets offer access to seating on a first come, first served basis. VIP and ringside seats guarantee a seat in those sections and people can also enjoy the convenience of a priority line-up.

There is wheelchair accessible seating available for those arriving 45 minutes early. Report to the front of the tent entrance for assistance.

The show takes place in the Lansdowne Centre parking lot (5300 No. 3 Rd.). To purchase tickets, visit [royalcanadiancircus.ca](http://royalcanadiancircus.ca)

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# Richmond hosts wheelchair rugby tournament

By MATTHEW CHEUNG  
Reporter

The 2022 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament took place last week at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

Two years after placing fifth at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, the Canadian men's wheelchair rugby team competed in its first competition from June 2 to 5. This was the first Canada Cup since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Canada competed against six other teams: the United States, Great Britain, Denmark, Australia, Japan, and France, all teams that Canada faced in Tokyo in 2020.

Teams participated in a round robin that lasted until June 4, before heading into the fourth day of the tournament where the top four teams played for three medals.

The Canada Cup aims to provide an opportunity for the top teams in the sport to play in a competition ahead of the World Championships and Paralympics.

"It's exciting to be bringing high-level wheelchair rugby back to Richmond,

hosting seven teams in the world rankings," said communications and marketing lead Nathan Bragg before this year's event took place.

He added that Team Canada's fans were in for a fun tournament, "considering the team won second in the Americas Championship, and fifth at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics, where the only teams they lost to were the top two teams who reached the finals."

Bragg said he hoped to fans would also come out to show their support, given the excitement of an international sports event.

"It's great to have fans at the venue as they add to the atmosphere—athletes benefit from it, coaches enjoy it, so we're definitely hoping for a good turnout," he said.

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Photos courtesy Kevin Bogetti-Smith/BC Wheelchair Sports  
The Canadian wheelchair rugby team took on six other countries last week at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

## Asphalt Paving Advisory

February 1st to November 30th, 2022

The City of Richmond has contracted Lafarge Canada Inc. to grind and pave the following locations in Richmond from February 1st to November 30th, 2022:

### PROPOSED 2021 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS

Bridgeport Road to Knight Street	East north loop
Bridgeport Road to Knight Street	East south loop
Knight Street East South	50 m north of bridge deck
Knight Street to Bridgeport Road	Northeast off ramp
12000 - 13000 block Steveston Highway	Hwy 99 off Ramp – Palmberg Road
11000 block Bridgeport Road	Shell Road – No. 5 Road
No. 6 Road	Hwy 91 underpass – Maycrest Way
9000 block Cambie Road	Garden City Road – No. 4 Road
Great Canadian Way	Sea Island Way – Bridgeport Road
4151 Williams Road	100 m section
9000 block Francis Road	Garden City Road – No. 4 Road
Fraserwood Place	Westminster Hwy – Gordon Way
Vickers Way	Bridgeport Road – Sweden Way
Westminster Hwy	No. 8 Road – Nelson Road
Ferguson Road	Shannon Road – McDonald Road
Kwantlen Street	Alderbridge Way – Alexandra Road
Finlayson Drive	Gagnon Place – McLennan Avenue
5000 - 6000 block Granville Avenue	Railway Avenue – Gilbert Road emergency repairs
Burkeville subdivision	Roads impacted by Capital Projects only
No. 5 Road / North of Cambie Road	Mitchel Elementary School frontage
7411 No. 1 Road	South bound lanes only
Garden City Road – Cook Road	Intersection
No. 3 Road	Bridgeport Road – River Road
6000 block No. 1 Road	Westminster Hwy – Granville Avenue
3000 block Blundell Road	No. 1 Road – Seafair Drive

Work hours will be 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on weekends. Night time work hours will be from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. (typically).

Traffic will be reduced to a single lane and there may be temporary lane closures. Delays may occur. The use of an alternate route is strongly encouraged.

This work is weather dependent and dates are subject to change without notice.

The scope of the advertised work may be adjusted or cancelled in line with available funding.

Questions may be directed to Wasim Memon, Supervisor, Engineering Inspections, at 604-276-4189, or visit the City's paving program webpage at [www.richmond.ca](http://www.richmond.ca) (City Services > Roads, Dykes, Water & Sewers > Construction Projects > 2021 Paving Program).

[www.richmond.ca](http://www.richmond.ca)



# Richmond Tennis Open returns

By MATTHEW CHEUNG  
Reporter

Having been cancelled for two years in a row due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Richmond Tennis Open recently returned for its 58th annual event.

Open to the public, the event took place from May 20 to 29 at the Richmond Tennis Club. In all, 381 players competed in 26 events.

"Entries have exceeded expectations as players have been on the tournament sidelines and are anxious to get back into competition," said the tennis club's manager Desmond Chan before the event took place.

Competitors from the Lower Mainland and the United States showcased their skills against formidable opponents. The tournament was comprised of singles, doubles, and mixed doubles matches.

"It's very exciting, not only for the club and all the volunteers, but to hear and see the entrants' excitement at being able to compete again," said Chan. "It's a lift to everyone's spirits."

The tournament featured players of different skill levels, ranging from amateurs to some who



*Photo courtesy Karl Maier*

**The recent Richmond Tennis Open included singles, doubles, and mixed doubles matches.**

are ranked globally.

"It's an early in the season tournament, and performance (affects) the players' rankings," said Chan.

Organizers are already planning and anticipat-

ing next year's event.

"The enthusiasm for tennis has grown over the past two years. We (want to) try (to) get more people involved in the game for next year," said Chan.

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## Rogers sets another record

Hammer throw title holder Camryn Rogers has another record to add to her ever-growing list of accolades.

At the recent NCAA Division I West Preliminary Round in Arkansas, she posted an astounding 76.46 metre throw, beating her own collegiate record and setting a new Canadian record.

Rogers now holds the five best performances in collegiate history: 76.46 metres, 75.73 metres, 75.52 metres, 74.97 metres, and 74.80 metres.

Rogers, a student at the University of California-Berkeley, is an alumna of Richmond's Kajaks Track and Field Club.

Last summer she finished fifth at the Olympic Summer Games in Tokyo, competing among the world's best.



*Photo submitted*

Back row, from left: Assistant coach Braedon Doneza, Edward-Augustine Dy, Nathaniel Hui, Ethan Lau, Caleb Jang, head coach Noel Van Den Hemel. Front row, from left: Jacob Lopez, Evan Doneza, Aidan Chan. Missing: assistant coach Willy Billedo.

## Underdog volleyball team wins silver

The 15U Air Attack Gold team wasn't expecting to get much out of the 2022 Volleyball Canada Youth National Competition.

They entered the tournament, which took place in Edmonton May 18 to 21, with just seven players on their roster—one of whom was just returning from an ankle fracture.

On the first day, they lost every game. It would have been easy to give up. But the next day, after re-

grouping and trying out a new system of play along with new positions, they did an about-face and won all their games.

Despite beating the odds and making it to the Division 1, Tier 2 gold medal game against 204 Manitoba, the boys ran out of gas. Their hard work earned them well-deserved silver medals.

The team also rose 18 spots in the national rankings, finishing among the top 10 teams in Canada.



# One hundred years of school history for Byng

By HANNAH SCOTT  
Reporter

Byng elementary is celebrating a big birthday this year—the school is turning 100.

In fact, the property's use as a school dates back to 1897 when the first one-room school—named Steveston School—was built near the corner of No. 1 Road and Georgia Street, explains Byng teacher Helen Sipsas, who has taught at the school since 1990.

It was renamed Lord Byng Elementary School in 1922, after former Governor General Julian Byng. The following year, the school began allowing Japanese, Chinese, and First Nations students to attend.

"We are the first school that I know of in Richmond, maybe in the Lower Mainland, that accepted students of a variety of different cultures," says Sipsas.

The school site has gone through numerous changes and additions, including a new building constructed in 1930 with financial support from the local Japanese community and other community members. In the 1940s, children attended school in shifts after a fire damaged the building. The current school was built in 1995.

"The most popular building was called the 'little building' says Sipsas. "I was one of the last teachers to teach in that building in 1993."

Despite a battle to save the "little building" it was eventually demolished. But there are still trees that have grown on the site since the school's inception 100 years ago.

"For me it's really important to look at history—learning about the school's history gives us a connection to place," says Sipsas. "We reflect on history, create memories, connect with culture, and establish identity."

Given its long history, some families have three generations that attended Byng. And while Sipsas says the current building is still in good shape, she's not sure it will keep the same name given the province-wide discussion.

"This year, tying into the 100 year (celebration), we wanted to focus on women who were prominent figures in our school's history," says Sipsas.

One of those women is former school principal June Chiba, who died suddenly in 1991. Each year, one Byng student is given a humanitarian award in her name.

"She was quite a unique educator—she really put the child first, and I was lucky to have met her," says Sipsas.

Sipsas is also teaching her grade 1 and 2 students about former teacher Hide Hyodo Shimizu, whose namesake rock garden opened on the school grounds in 1996. Shimizu was one of the first Japanese teachers, hired at age 18.

Talking to youngsters about 100 years of history is challenging, but Sipsas tries to relate things back



Lord Byng elementary is turning 100 this year.

Photo by Hannah Scott

*For me it's really  
important to look at  
history—learning about  
the school's history gives  
us a connection to place.*

— Helen Sipsas

to situations that today's students can imagine. When they discussed the internment of Japanese Canadians, her students were able to understand the sadness of arriving at school one day to find half their class was gone.

"We wonder what games they played 50 years ago at recess instead of games we play now," she says. "How did friends communicate 75 years ago, how do you communicate with friends today, what hasn't changed and is the same?"

A display case by the school's library showcases its progression from the 1920s to today, demonstrating all the changes over the years. A week-long celebration kicked off last Monday (May 30) with an assembly and the unveiling of a new school banner, and culminated with Byng's first sports day in two years.

Canadian Tire, which is also celebrating its 100th



Photo courtesy Helen Sipsas  
Helen Sipsas has taught at Byng since 1990.

birthday this year, donated celebratory balloons for the assembly thanks to its No. 3 Road store.

And after several years of pandemic-related changes in schools, including the lack of assemblies and group lunches, Sipsas says it's been a good opportunity to connect and celebrate the centenary.

"We need some good stuff after COVID, we need something to celebrate and something that brings us together," she adds.

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# Mom-and-pop store offers fresh fish, seafood

In the seventh part of a series on Richmond's business roots, we share the story of South Harbour Fish & Gift Shop.

By **SAMUEL CHENG**  
Reporter

Steveston's South Harbour Fish & Gift Shop opened in 1997 as a mom-and-pop shop.

Wayne and Deborah Chiu, a couple from Hong Kong, immigrated to Canada in 1987. Upon arrival, Wayne continued to work in the field of I.T. (information technology) while Deborah worked in retail before the couple opened their store.

The name "South Harbour" was inspired by the community of Steveston, where the couple bought the house they still live in today.

"There's a strong sense of belonging and my parents wanted to become a part of the community," says their son Wilson Chiu, the shop's current owner.

South Harbour Fish & Gift Shop offers a huge variety of fresh seafood including salmon, cod, halibut, oysters, mussels, clams, and scallops.

"Our frozen variety consists of black cod from Alaska, ahi tuna and mahi-mahi from Hawaii, lobster tails from Nova Scotia, and sea bass from Chile," says Wilson.

To show their support for other local businesses, the store also carries locally-packaged smoked salmon gift boxes.

Having being in business for more than 25 years, consistency has been an integral part of the business's success. This is reflected not only in the quality of its products, but also in customer service and overall store cleanliness.

***There's a strong sense of belonging and my parents wanted to become a part of the community.***

—Wilson Chiu



Photo courtesy Wilson Chiu

**South Harbour Fish & Gift Shop owner Wilson Chiu (left) with his cousin and store manager Jonathan Lee.**

"Two decades of consistency have resulted in establishing ourselves as the go-to seafood shop in Steveston," says Wilson.

As an owner or manager, Wilson says one needs to understand every aspect of the business, from being knowledgeable about products to tackling finances and accounting. But, he adds, nothing is more important than being a good leader who sets an example for employees.

Since the pandemic began, South Harbour's sales number has not plummeted, but instead has steadily grown. Wilson attributes this to more people choosing to cook at home.

However, the instability of suppliers and the supply chain forced the store to stock up more inventory due to the uncertainty of future shipments.

Wilson says the philosophy of providing customers with the best possible service is a practice he firmly stands behind.

"We will always adapt to new ideas but I'm also confident we have always been on the right path," says Wilson.

Having spent a tremendous amount of time in and out of the store, Wilson has many memorable moments to share.

"I was an immature teenager, got into an argument at the store with my mom, and slammed

the door while customers were inside," says Wilson. "That must have embarrassed her a lot, and I regret that (to this day)."

As for his proudest moments, Wilson recently purchased the store from Deborah on Mother's Day, so she can retire knowing that the store is in capable hands. Wilson's cousin Jonathan Lee is the store's current manager and the person responsible for its day-to-day operations.

South Harbour Fish & Gift Shop did not become the established business that it is today without keeping its employees and customers satisfied.

"Treat employees and customers with respect and share knowledge with them," says Wilson. "The more you share with them and the more you're open with them, the more they will reciprocate."

Making things right when mistakes happen is Wilson's way of retaining returning customers.

"(More) often than not, it's not what happened that matters, it's how people feel," he says.

For future entrepreneurs looking to own their own businesses, Wilson emphasizes the importance of helping people and building a strong foundation.

"When starting out, money will be scarce. But the more you focus on it, the less you'll earn," he says.

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# Two Richmond businesses get federal funding

Two Richmond businesses are receiving \$7 million in federal funding.

Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada (PacifiCan), announced the funding last week at FPS Food Process Solutions (FPS), a Richmond business that provides customized freezing and cooling equipment for the food processing industry.

"The innovation from British Columbian businesses benefits not only our country, but the world," said Sajjan. "With this funding, we are helping these groundbreaking companies to further develop their products, while at the same time supporting economic growth and good jobs for Canadians."

FPS will receive \$2 million in Business Scale-up and Productivity funding, which will allow it to commercialize its Spiral Immersion System technology. This technology allows for faster freezing and reduced energy consumption. It is anticipated that this investment will result in increased sales and revenue, and the creation of 40 new jobs.

"We are emboldened by this recognition to not only continue in manufacturing excellence in the food industry in British Columbia, but to ensure this technological advancement places FPS on the map as a local innovator with global reach," said FPS president Jeffrey Chang.

In addition, \$5 million in Business Scale-up and Productivity funding will go to RecycleSmart, a company that develops and deploys advanced cloud-based waste and recycling container sensor systems to improve the process flow and efficiency of the waste industry. With the funding RecycleSmart will commercialize and scale-up



Photo by Florence Gordon

From left: FPS Food Process Solutions (FPS) vice-president Justin Lai, MP Parm Bains, Minister Harjit S. Sajjan, FPS president Jeffrey Chang, MP Wilson Miao.

production of its Pello waste-management system that uses wireless sensors and cloud computing to track waste bin data. The company anticipates the creation of 50 new jobs as a result of this project.

"With the support of PacifiCan we will expand the RecycleSmart engineering and manufacturing teams to bring our made in Canada, smart waste platform to the North American market," said RecycleSmart chief innovation officer Colin Bell.

PacifiCan is the regional development agency dedicated to British Columbia. It promotes growth and diversification in British Columbia's economy by enhancing innovation, improving business competitiveness, and promoting inclusive growth. The Business Scale-up and Productivity program makes strategic investments in key economic sectors, helping innovative companies accelerate their growth and compete globally.

## STR8TS

No number can be repeated in any row or column. Rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. Each compartment must contain a 'straight,' a set of numbers with no gaps in any order, eg. [4,2,3,5]. Numbers in black cells are not part of straights but also cannot be repeated in their row or column.

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# Join the Community Better Challenge **June 1–30**

This is your opportunity to get moving and make Richmond Canada's most active community.

Download the ParticipACTION app and start tracking your activity today. Watch for free activities and prizes throughout June. Everything gets better when you get active.

## Find out more

[www.participation.com/challenge](http://www.participation.com/challenge)  
[www.richmond.ca/participation](http://www.richmond.ca/participation)

