



MINORU LAKES

A place to relax in
the heart of city centre

02

On June 9, the City of Richmond unveiled the reconstructed Minoru Lakes, sporting a brand new waterfall, picnic areas, boardwalk, and a bridge.

Photo courtesy City of Richmond

OUR CITY *Richmond*

SPOTLIGHT ON 'GOOD TO KNOW'

Ask our farm students why they grow these varieties for us!

CARROT OF THE DAY: "ADELAIDE"

Sample Product List

- Beets: Early Wonder Tall Top
- Kale: Winterbor
- Chard: Peppermint
- Arugula: Uber
- Spinach: Space
- Salad Mix: Salanova
- Salad Turnips
- Radishes
- Tah tsai
- Scallions: Parade

KWANTLEN FARMERS MARKET: TUESDAYS 12-4
MINORU PLAZA, 7700 MINORU BLVD., RICHMOND, BC.

Photo via Facebook.com/KwantlenStFarmersMarket

City E-Kick Scotter survey

The City of Richmond is seeking community feedback on electric kick scooters in general as well as its pilot program.

The goal is for the city to learn about the community's needs when it comes to movement around the city.

By completing a survey letstalkrichmond.ca by Sunday July 23 your input will contribute to the city's plans for future transportation initiatives.



Photo via LetsTalkRichmond.ca

Farmer's Market Nutrition Coupon Program

People throughout BC will have access to locally produced foods through BC's Coupon Program geared to help lower-income people and families including Seniors. In 2022, the program reached 4,091 Seniors and 10,152 households.

To access information for the Farmer's Market Nutrition Coupon Program go to: bcfarmersmarket.org/coupon-program/where-it-operates/

- Richmond Kwantlen Farmer's Market
- Support Kwantlen Polytechnic University's students to develop their agriculture business.



Photo via Richmond.ca

The reconstruction of Minoru Lakes

Have you visited the Minoru Lakes in Minoru Park centrally located in the city centre. It's consistent with the goals outlined in the Minoru Park Vision Plan that allows residents to connect with nature and seek respite from the very busy city centre.

The Minoru Lakes re-opened on June 7, 2023 following a major re-construction to hold a larger volume of water and features a new waterfall, picnic tables, benches, boardwalk and a bridge.

Richmond's property taxes due Tuesday, July 4

Richmond property owners are reminded that property taxes are due on Tuesday, July 4. Tax notices were mailed out at the end of May. If you have not received your statement, please call the city tax department immediately at 604-276-4145.

Payments can be made:

- online or in person through your financial institution
- online by credit card (service fees apply) through the city's website
- by mailing a cheque (do not send cash in the mail. Postmarks will not be accepted as the payment date.)

- by cheque in the city hall drop box (do not deposit cash)

Payments can also be made in person at city hall during business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m.). City hall will be closed on Monday, July 3 for Canada Day.

Cash is not accepted at city hall. Accepted payment methods are cheque, debit card, and credit card (service fees apply).



Photo by Jaana Björk

Richmond property taxes are due on Tuesday, July 4 and can be paid online or in person. Cash is not accepted at city hall.

regardless of whether or not a tax notice is received.

For more information, please visit richmond.ca/tax, email TaxDept@richmond.ca or call 604-276-4145.

The Government of B.C. is responsible for all home owner grants claimed in the province.

- if eligible, residential property owners must apply annually for their home owner grant online at gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant

- if unable to apply online or you missed claiming last years grant, visit gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant or call Home Owner Grant administration at 1-888-355-2700 for assistance.

If taxes are not paid and/or grants not claimed by July 4, a five per cent penalty will be charged on all current outstanding taxes. A further five per cent penalty will be charged on all outstanding tax amounts after Sept 5.

All property owners are responsible for property tax payments and applicable penalties,

McDonald Beach Park

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

McDonald beach park is located on the north side of Richmond along the Fraser River, looking at the south side of Vancouver. The 26.1-acre park is perfect for viewing working boats and log boom movement and is sometimes called the Pirate's Cove.

Open from sunrise to sunset, the park features a long stretch of beaches equipped with lights, picnic areas with tables perfect for airplane viewing. Visitors can also bring their dogs to the park as there is an off-leash area available.

Many additional amenities including a caretaker building, piers, a drinking fountain, a monument, on-site parking trails and two dedicated boat launch ramps that sit just north of the parking lot. In order to use the ramps, an annual permit of \$100 plus GST must be paid or visitors can pay to use the ramp through the onsite meter.

McDonald Road, the road that leads up to McDonald beach park, was named after Duncan McDonald. McDonald was born in Glengarry, Ontario on May 2, 1850. He would leave Ontario with his brother and travelled to Wisconsin. In



Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons

McDonald beach park is located on the north side of Richmond.

1875, the brothers purchased land on Sea Island, hand-logging to finance farm buildings and stock.

In 1886, Duncan would marry his wife Catherine McDowell on April 14, 1886, and then have six children. McDonald served on the Richmond city council in between 1883 to 1884 and 1893 to 1895.

He was also a fence viewer in the early years prior to joining the council. He also served as a school trustee in 1889 when the Sea Island School District had been formed.

McDonald passed away Nov. 1919 at the age of 69 due to an illness caused by injuries from a bull.

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Car-free ways to explore Richmond this summer

Exploring Richmond this summer is easier than ever thanks to the return of two car-free transportation options—the Richmond Discovery Shuttle and a Bike Valet in Steveston.

Building on last year's success, the City of Richmond and Tourism Richmond have once again partnered to offer these two environmentally-friendly transportation services. Both are free to use and this year the Discovery Shuttle offers an additional route with extra stops to provide even more options to enjoy what the city has to offer.

"Richmond is one of the region's most popular destinations for visitors," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "The Discovery Shuttle is a comfortable, low-carbon option for people to experience some of our favorite locations. The Bike Valet supports our commitment to active transportation and encourages people to enjoy the many attractions of Steveston knowing their bike, scooter or stroller is safe and secure."

"This summer, as we welcome people from near and far, we are pleased to offer these two options that make it easy for people to discover the many gems in our city," said Nancy Small, chief executive officer of Tourism Richmond. "With new stops, the Discovery Shuttle is a convenient way to visit attractions and check out different areas in the city, and the Bike Valet in Steveston gives cyclists peace of mind that their bike is safely parked while they visit the many Village amenities."

Richmond Discovery Shuttle

The Richmond Discovery Shuttle operates on weekends and statutory holidays until Sept. 4. The shuttle is a seasonal, free service which is a connection between hotels, attractions and Steveston Village. There are two Shuttle routes—the Blue Line and Yellow Line—and both have been designed for visitors to Richmond, who may not have a vehicle to explore the city. Residents are also welcome to use the shuttle, as an environmentally-friendly way to explore Richmond attractions.

The Blue Line has six stops starting at 9:30 a.m., with the last stop drop-off at 7:20 p.m.:

1. Radisson Hotel
2. Sandman Signature Hotel
3. Holiday Inn Express
4. River Rock Casino Resort



File photo courtesy Tourism Richmond

The Richmond Discovery Shuttle and Bike Valet in Steveston are back this summer.

5. Versante Hotel

6. McArthurGlen Designer Outlet

The Yellow Line has five stops starting at 10 a.m., with the last stop drop off at 7:50 p.m.:

1. Executive Hotel Vancouver Airport
2. Lansdowne Station
3. McArthurGlen Designer Outlet
4. Gulf of Georgia Cannery
5. Britannia Shipyards

The Discovery Shuttle is made possible by a partnership between Tourism Richmond, the City of Richmond, and the Richmond Hotel Association. It is operated by Universal Coach Lines, a Richmond-based company.

Bike Valet in Steveston

For those who want to explore Steveston with the fresh air in their face, the city and Tourism Richmond have made it easier than ever with the return of the free Bike Valet. Similar to a coat check, the Bike Valet service offers secure parking

for bicycles and other non-carbon vehicles such as strollers, skateboards and scooters. Knowing your bike is safely stored, you can discover Steveston's many eateries, visit the quaint shops, and check out the parks, pier, boardwalk and historic sites of the popular waterfront destination. The Bike Valet secure area is continuously monitored and is operated by Bicycle Valet, a professional bike valet service and social enterprise of Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST).

Located in the heart of Steveston Village at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery parking lot (4th Ave and Chatham St), the Bike Valet holds up to 75 bicycles and operates from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and statutory holidays until Sept. 4.

The Bike Valet is another partnership project between the City and Tourism Richmond and is sponsored by the Steveston Harbour Authority, which is providing the location for the Bike Valet.

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RCC Carol Young Scholarship recipient

On June 19, the Richmond Chamber of Commerce announced its 2023 Carol Young Scholarship recipient, Aidan Gibbons. The announcement was made at the Chamber's 40th Annual Golf Tournament, proceeds of which help to support the scholarship.

Gibbons is a graduating student from A.R. MacNeill Secondary School who was born with an eye condition called Aniridia, meaning he is legally blind in both eyes. Despite the adversity he faced living with a visual disability, he persisted. He created and led programs to help fellow visually impaired students, exemplifying leadership skills.

Shaena Furlong, president and chief executive officer of the chamber shared, "Aidan is a truly remarkable young man. His application clearly illustrated a remarkable drive to help others and make our world a more inclusive, accessible place. As he begins his studies in management at UBC Okanagan, I am sure his tenacity, thoughtfulness, and entrepreneurial spirit will serve him well. We hope that this \$2,500 scholarship helps contribute to his success. I would like to thank our members whose support is fundamental to this award."

This scholarship honours Carol Young who built her career at the chamber for 25 years



Photo courtesy Richmond Chamber of Commerce

Aidan Gibbons (left) with Shaena Furlong, president and chief executive officer of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce.

(1991-2016), and continues to lead in her community, bringing joy to her many friends and family in retirement. This award recognizes students who have overcome significant adversity in their

lives. Despite challenges they may have faced, they have demonstrated improvement through their work ethic and have inspired fellow students.

It's time for SUMMER SHOPPING

Get ready for hot deals!

42 stores with all the deals!
Located at Blundell & No 2 Road



**BLUNDELL
CENTRE**



The Asian Summer Market

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

The Asian Summer Market is returning for a second consecutive year. Presented by 3721 the Homework, the event will be taking place at the Radisson Hotel ballroom July 8 to 9. Originally started in May 2022, the festival is a continuation of the Asian Easter Market, that aims to promote multiculturalism and provide people of different nationalities an avenue to sell their goods, talents, or businesses.

"In the (last) few years, there have been many Hong Kong people who immigrated to Vancouver, besides daily work, some of them have their own talents, such as handcrafts, cooking services, and businesses. (I thought) why don't we bring them together to show our strength to the community, and so I had the Asian Market idea", said Chris Ho, organizer of the event.

Ho garnered show and event organizing experience back when he was living in Hong Kong, he was happy with the connections that he was able to make and gain the trust of local people. Vendors can participate in the Asian Summer Market by emailing the Chris at productions3721@gmail.com, and they will be sent an application form.

3721 the Homework has invited local crafters, artists, and small businesses that feature Asia's uniqueness and characteristics. In addition to market events, the organization also hosts music events. Their series, "Cantopop Only" promotes Cantonese pop music. They also have a movement called "Vantopop", where they produce their own Cantopop songs in Vancouver. 3721 the Homework, has also recently hosted a Cantopop Signing Contest



Photo courtesy 3721 the Homework

Lil Asian Designs is one of the small businesses in B.C. that participated in the Asian Easter Market.

last month, awarding the winner the opportunity to release a song on music platforms.

For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n893jba>

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Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives hosts 51st AGM



Photo courtesy Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives

On June 21, at its 51st Annual General Meeting, Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives elected its 2023-24 board of directors, comprising 12 volunteers led by chair Jat Puri, in the middle, who will govern the organization in the year ahead.

On June 21, local charity Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives (RCRG) held its 51st Annual General Meeting.

With nearly 100 members, partners, and volunteers in attendance, the organization highlighted its achievements over the past year, describing the impact of its Seniors Community Support Services, Child Care Resource & Referral Centre, the Richmond Christmas Fund, and other

programs.

"Our theme this year was Showing Up for Our Community," says Ed Gavsie, president and chief executive officer of RCRG. "We wanted to celebrate the steady, persistent work we do on a daily basis, and the difference it makes in the lives of Richmond residents."

During the event, RCRG elected its 2023-24 board of directors, which will be led by new

chair Jat Puri.

"Jat is an experienced, versatile community leader," says Gavsie. "He's strategically minded and forward-thinking, two qualities that will help him excel as chair."

Rick Duff, who previously held the role, will remain on the board as immediate past chair.

"Over the last two years, Rick has been an engaged and deeply committed leader," says Gavsie. "His contributions to our organization are too numerous to list, but we're grateful for every one of them."

This year's board also includes returning members Christine Campbell, Lawrie Portugal, Rebecca Swaim, Antony Wang, Ray Wang, Jonathan Wong, Lisa Wong, and Melissa Zhang. They'll be joined by Leon Chew and Traci Corr, who are both serving their first term.

"Electing a strong, capable board sets the tone for the year ahead," says Gavsie. "I'm confident that this group will govern with integrity, while offering innovative ideas that will help RCRG better serve the community."

Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives (RCRG) is a registered charity that serves as a hub for volunteering and giving. RCRG is also a direct service provider, operating a Child Care Resource and Referral Centre, the Richmond Christmas Fund, and a variety of Seniors Community Support Services. rcrg.org

New long-term care home coming to Richmond

More people in Richmond and the surrounding areas will have access to high-quality long-term care as Vancouver Coastal Health prepares to build a new care home with more than 150 beds.

"People in Richmond and across B.C. deserve good health care at every stage of life—and that's why improving high-quality long-term care is a top priority for our government," said Premier David Eby. "This new long-term care facility will be a vibrant new home for seniors in this fast-growing city, who will be able to age with dignity and receive the care they need in the community they know and love. This facility will also take pressure off our hospitals, freeing up beds for people recovering from illness or injury."

Richmond Lions Manor-Fentiman will be a new eight-storey campus of care and will offer a total of 144 long-term care beds and 14 hospice beds. The project will enter the procurement phase with construction expected to begin in 2025 and be complete in 2028.

"People want to know that as they age, they will have access to the right care services, including comfortable, home-like long-term care," said Minister of Health, Adrian Dix. "That's why investing in new homes such as Richmond Lions Manor-Fentiman is a top priority for our government. These homes will help meet the growing demand for long-term care and provide high-quality services and support to help residents stay healthy, active and safe in their community."

The new care home will be built on the original site of Richmond Lions Manor, which was built in 1970, at 11771 Fentiman Pl. The original home served the community for several decades and closed in 2014 to protect the safety of its residents.

"Vancouver Coastal Health is thrilled to develop a new health-care campus that will provide long-term care, hospice services and support caregivers and the broader health and wellness in the community of Richmond," said Jo-Ann Tait, vice-president, Richmond Community, Vancouver Coastal Health. "We look forward to welcoming residents to the new campus, which will be a vibrant place to live, visit and work for years to come."

The new care home will replace the 86 beds currently at Richmond Lions Manor-Bridgeport and add 58 new beds. The facility will be designed as "households" accommodating 12 residents in single-bed rooms with bathrooms and will include the social and recreational spaces found in a typical home, such as a living room, dining room, kitchen and activity space.

"Richmond is one of the fastest growing communities in B.C. and through investments like this, people who live here will have access to care they can count on, including long-term care in their own community," said Kelly Greene, MLA for Richmond-Steveston. "The new Richmond Lions Manor will offer a home-like environment and provide residents with the support they need to stay happy and healthy."

The home will also include an adult day program and overnight respite that will allow people to live independently in the community while receiving services to support their well-being and health, as well as a hospice unit and a 37-space child care facility.

The capital cost of the project is \$177.7 million and the campus of care will be built, owned and operated by Vancouver Coastal Health.

Long-term care homes provide care and supervision for people with complex care needs, who can no longer live safely and independently at home, through a range of services delivered by well-trained, compassionate and caring staff.

To meet growing demand over the past five years, government has invested approximately \$2 billion to expand and improve quality care for seniors in British Columbia, including investments in primary care, home health, long-term care and assisted living.

Asphalt Paving Advisory

April 15 to October 31, 2023

The City of Richmond has contracted BA Blacktop Ltd. to grind and pave the following locations in Richmond from April 15 to October 31, 2023.

PROPOSED 2023 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS
12000 Westminster Highway (No.5 Rd – MOTI) – including the No.5 Road Intersection
9000 Block Cambie Road (Garden City Road – No.4 Road) including both intersections
10000 Block No.6 Road (Steveston Hwy – Triangle Rd) including both Intersections
11000 Block Shell Road (Steveston Hwy to Hammersmith Gate)
Cambie Road (No.5 Road to Jacombs Road)
10000 Block Wilkinson Road (No.4 R – Swinton Crescent) – both intersections included
12000 Block Steveston Highway (No.5 Rd to MOTI) – No.5 Road Intersection included
4000 Block Francis Road (No.1 Rd to Lancelot Gate)
5000 Block Garden City Road (Westminster Highway to Lansdowne Road) – both Intersections included PLUS MUP mill and Pave
11000 Block Shell Road (Steveston Hwy to Hammersmith Gate)
11000 Block Hammersmith Gate (Shell Road – Hammersmith Way)
River Road (No. 3 Road – Charles Street)
22000 Block Westminster Hwy (MOTI – Mclean Avenue) including Mclean intersection
9000 Block No.5 Road (Seacliff Road to Kingsbridge Drive) – Williams Rd and Kingsbridge Drive intersections included
8000 Block No.3 Road (Francis Road – Blundell Road) – Both intersections included
2000 Block Viking Way (Bridgeport Rd – Vulcan Way) – includes Vulcan Way intersection
3000 Block Jacombs Road (Cambie Road to Bathgate Way) – Both intersections included
13000 Block Bathgate Way (Sweden Way – Jacombs Road) – both intersections included
4000 Block Boundary Road (Westminster Hwy to Thompson Gate including Thompson Gate intersection
No.6 Road (Cambie Road to Bridgeport Road)
18000 Block River Road (No.8 Road to Nelson Road)
Douglas Crescent + Wellington Crescent + Wellington Avenue + Handley Avenue + Catalina Crescent + Anson Avenue
11000 Block Steveston Highway (Shell Road to Coppersmith Place)
River Drive – West bound lane only (No.4 Road to Van Horne Way)
3451 Blundell Road – Vibration Complaint
4480 Williams Road – Vibration Complaint

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 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 web page at <https://www.richmond.ca/services/rdws/projects/construction.htm>.

Richmond Secondary School business initiative

By MINNIE LO
Student writer

Richmond Secondary School, located at 7171 Minoru Blvd, is a public high school with a rich history dating back to 1927. In 2014, the school embarked on an innovative venture of opening a school merchandise store called "Colt Zone 2.0." The name was inspired by the school's mascot and the idea of giving students a place to serve the student community.

Colt Zone 2.0 is a student-run store situated within the school premises. The store offers a variety of merchandise, including hoodies, sweatshirts, long sleeves, t-shirts, scarves, shorts, and more. What sets Colt Zone 2.0 apart is the fact that every aspect of the store is student-run, from its operations to the design of the merchandise.

This initiative provides an excellent opportunity for students to contribute to their community, earn volunteer hours, and acquire real-life business skills. Students involved in Colt Zone 2.0 gain valuable experience in customer service, marketing, time management, leadership, and teamwork. The store was established by busi-



Photo courtesy Richmond Secondary School
Colt Zone 2.0 offers hoodies, sweatshirts, long sleeves, t-shirts, and more.

ness teachers, Kuldeep Gill and Simon Szeto, who aimed to empower students by allowing them to take on leadership roles and make meaningful contributions to the school community.

On average, students accumulate approximately 20 to 100 volunteer hours per school year through their involvement with Colt Zone 2.0. This experience not only helps them become more integrated within the school community but also enhances their overall school life. In an interview, Gill and Szeto expressed that Colt Zone helps students build connections, serve the community, and develop essential business skills.

"Students are always looking for new designs and taking risks on creating merchandise that students want," says Gill.

The revenue generated by Colt Zone 2.0 is reinvested to fund its operations, new products, and donations. Colt Zone 2.0 has made donations to the annual Terry Fox Run, Colt Zone Scholarships, and other club donations within the school. For

more information about this school initiative or to browse and purchase merchandise from the store, visit their online website at rhscoltzone.com

In honour of our soldiers: Everett Ellwyn Cooper

By SAMUEL CHENG
Reporter

In a series of Richmond's 'poppy' street signs in memory of our fallen soldiers, we share the story of Cooper Road.

Sept. 27, 1924, the Cooper family celebrated the birth of their son, Everett Ellwyn Cooper.

He attended and graduated from Richmond High School prior to enlisting in the Royal Canadian Air Force. While he was with the Royal Canadian Air Force, Cooper was trained and qualified to become a Flying Officer Air Gunner with the #428 Ghost Squadron.

The primary duties of an air gunner are to operate the mid-upper and rear turret guns to shoot down enemy aircrafts. At the same time, the gunner is responsible to communicate with the pilot on the movements of the enemy aircrafts and take appropriate actions such as evasion, defending and more.

Cooper was then assigned to a station in England. On Dec. 5, 1944, during a mid-air collision accident between a #428 Squadron Lancaster bomber and #426 Squadron Halifax aircraft, Co-



A poppy engraved road sign of Cooper Road.

Screen grab from Google Maps

per, along with 13 other airmen were tragically killed.

Both planes crashed and exploded, taking away the lives of the pilots and crew members. Afterwards, Cooper's body was buried in the Brookwood Military Cemetery in Woking, United Kingdom.

On June 14, 1954, Richmond City Council advised

and adopted the road name to what is known Cooper Road today in honour of Everett Cooper. The poppy engraved road can be found along Francis Road, between St. Albans Road and Garden City Road.

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18,000 square feet and 700 metric tons of fun

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

6Pack Indoor Beach is a locally owned entertainment facility located under the Knight Street Bridge heading northbound. Measuring at 18,000 square feet, the facility is filled with 700 metric tons of sand perfect for beach volleyball, archery tag, children's birthday parties, post grad events, and much more. Originally started as a beach volleyball facility the business has continued to expand their services by introducing new innovative ideas as the years have gone by.

6Pack Indoor Beach was an idea that had developed over time. Owners Barry Law and Jeff Cheng saw a need for people to transition from a party-type atmosphere to a more health friendly environment, after years of developing a business plan, 6Pack Indoor Beach was born.

"My business partner and I grew up together since we were kids. Growing up we've always thought outside the box on what we would do with our lives. We used to go out a lot to see the world and socialize. As we grew older, we saw people needed a transition from a party-type atmosphere to a more health friendly environment. We sat and thought for years to come up with a business plan where we could create a business people couldn't copy. We wanted to create a place where people could still enjoy the fun outdoor style activities while staying out of the rain. Low and behold, we created a fun party-style atmosphere while keeping with the health-conscious side of things," said Law.

Being the only indoor beach volleyball facility in Vancouver, the business has gained a lot of popularity throughout the years due to the large population of volleyball fanatics present in the province. "Each year, thousands of people visit our facility as we offer different types of activities like volleyball leagues, birthday parties, archery tag, corporation events, etc.," said Rajni Raghuvasshi, front desk manager at 6Pack.

Having been operational for so long, 6Pack, like many businesses has run into times of trouble as well. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the business was essentially bankrupted. With the restrictions set by the province, 6Pack had no other choice but to temporarily close since it was not an essential business. The owners however refused to let their business close down and borrowed money in order to keep the business afloat. When 6Pack had finally been able to open, social distancing and

necessary measures were taken to ensure the safety of customers and staff.

"It almost bankrupted the business, but the owners were determined to keep the place alive, and crew employed. We are the only indoor beach in B.C., so they really didn't want to see the place go down. They borrowed from the Business Development Bank of Canada, Toronto Dominion Bank, and private lenders just to keep the business afloat. We are very far from recovery as overhead is extremely high for a place this size, but we are heading in the right direction and the 6Pack team is solid," said Raghuvasshi.

6Pack Indoor Beach continues to evolve their business, giving their visitors new activities to look forward to. They've introduced new corporate events, birthday parties for children, archery tag in-location and off-site at customer requested locations, and even tournaments and rec leagues throughout the week.

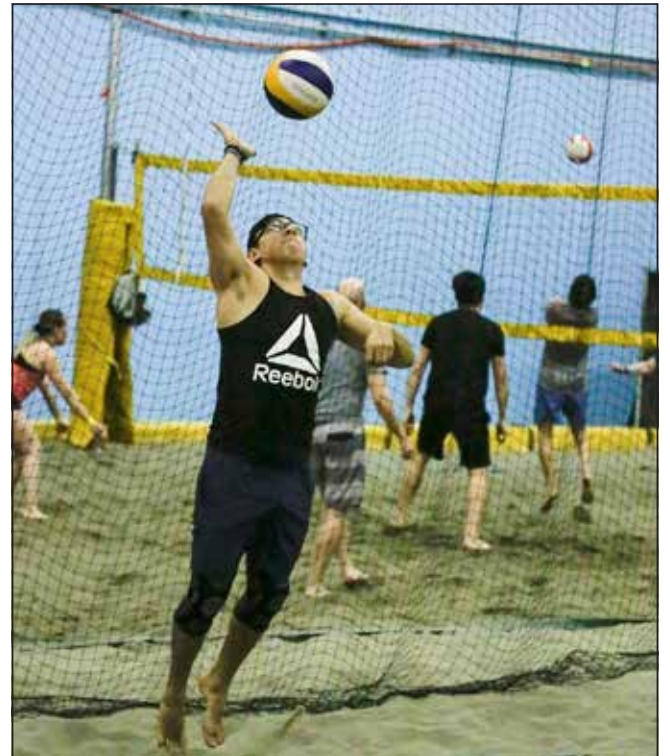
"We began with volleyball but have since expanded to host corporate events, birthday parties, and have begun to do a variety of outdoors events, such as equipment rentals, and outdoor archery tag. For the very first time we are running a summer (volleyball) league which is every Wednesday and Sunday. Kyle Pressacco, our general manager, has been a huge help over the years with his hard work and innovative ideas. He is an important part of the company's evolution," said Raghuvasshi.

Admission prices for events will vary depending on what is chosen. Training courts will cost \$25 per person for two hours, court rental \$120 for a group of 16 players, and archery tag for an hour and a half is about \$36 per person. Prices differ depending on time, event type, and hour availability.

6Pack Indoor Beach boasts a safe facility for individuals to play in the sand without having to deal with the downside of public sand. With everything located in one area, there is no need to be tired before you've started having fun. "There are no sharp sticks, shells, bottle caps, or cigarette butts to step on. You never have to worry about rain outs or sun burns. You don't have to circle for hours looking for parking or run long distances to the washroom or snack shop. You don't have to lug equipment to set up nets; everything you need is ready for you when you arrive at the facility," said Raghuvasshi.

The facility is open for appointment only, for more information or to book a reservation, visit 6packbeach.com

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Photos courtesy 6Pack Indoor Beach

The only indoor beach sport facility in Richmond is determined to bounce back from the pandemic.

Metro Vancouver Bubble Tea Passport launching Aug. 1

By MINNIE LO
Student writer

From Aug. 1 to 14, bubble tea fans around the community will be able to take part in the first ever Metro Vancouver Bubble Tea Passport event. This event is a self-guided tour that allows participants to explore a wide range of limited-edition drinks and treats from various participating vendors, like Memory Corner, Sweet Memory, Monga Fried Chicken, Truedan Richmond, and more.

The event offers a separate purchase of an optional passport to keep track of your tasting notes, and it offers exclusive benefits such as \$1 off on limited edition menu items and a buy one, get one free drink opportunity at select vendors. Plus, the passport offers a 2-month Supper Club membership that helps create new friendships by connecting a group of people to enjoy a meal or drink. To add to the fun, participants can share their bubble tea adventures on Instagram for a chance to win delicious prizes.

There will be an array of flavours, add-ons, and toppings that offer the flexibility of creating unique drink combinations while discovering new food and drinks. This event aims to support local businesses in Vancouver, Richmond, and Burnaby, making it a fantastic way to connect to the communities while discovering Metro Vancouver's vibrant food and bubble tea scene.

The mastermind behind this event is Laura Wong-Thompson, who organized last year's successful Vancouver Croissant Crawl. Inspired by her own jour-



Photo courtesy Laura Wong-Thompson

The Metro Vancouver Bubble Tea passport will be available for purchase in July.

ney to find the best local croissants, Wong-Thompson and her friends discovered the abundance of amazing bakeries in Vancouver. Determined to share her passion for exploring the city's culinary delights, she created the Vancouver Croissant Crawl event. Now, Wong-Thompson is thrilled to present the Metro Vancouver Bubble Tea Passport event, promising yet another unforgettable experience for food enthusiasts.

"Bubble tea is a fun treat that just makes everyone happy," says Wong-Thompson. "I hope the passport will give bubble tea lovers a new flavour to try and help bubble tea newbies pick where to start."

Don't miss out on this event and mark your calendar. Passports are available for purchase in July at bubblteapassport.com. Alternatively, you can purchase it in person at the Teaboco booth at the Bubble Tea Festival at Burnaby Swangard Stadium from July 7 to 9, and there will be passports for purchase at Monga Fried Chicken in Richmond.

To stay updated on the event, including vendor announcements and passport availability, sign up for updates on their website at thersvplist.com/pages/metro-vancouver-bubble-tea-passport

Alternatively, event information and updates can be found on Instagram or Facebook, at [@bubblteapassport](https://www.instagram.com/bubblteapassport)

To learn more about the Supper Club membership, visit thersvplist.com/collections/all



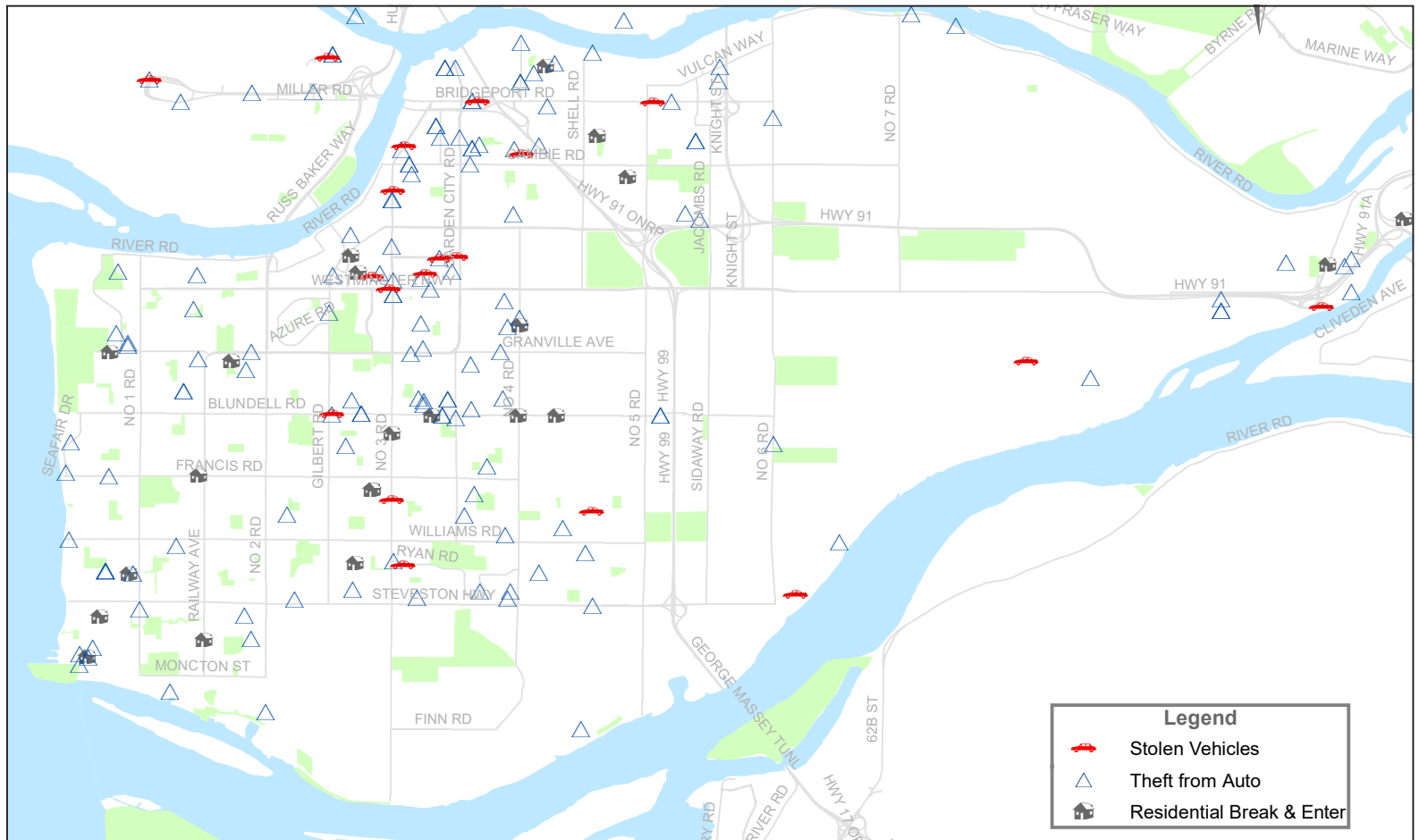
The Green Dragon and Black Dragon are popular drinks sold at Monga Fried Chicken.

Photos courtesy Monga Fried Chicken



RCMP

Crime Map May 1 - 31, 2023



Richmond student awarded BC Transplant scholarship

Cassandra Lau, Hugh Boyd Secondary School in Richmond was awarded a 2023 "Live Life. Pass It On." Scholarship for the work she did to address the myths about organ donation. BC Transplant (BCT) awarded four \$1,500 scholarships to students who have showcased incredible creativity and success in their unique projects. Their dedication and passion to raising awareness about organ donation and transplant in their schools and communities is inspiring. A big thank you to everyone who applied for this scholarship as there were many strong applications from all across B.C.

Cassandra has always been interested in the health sciences field so she is keenly aware of the importance of organ donation. This inspired her to do more research on organ donation and present it to the students and staff at her school.

Cassandra focused on addressing myths, while also bringing to light individual transplant recipient's experiences with organ donation. She acknowledged a gap and decided to address it.

"Some might think that organ donation is an 'adult topic', but many young people like me are not as exposed to it and are also looking for information. This gave me motivation to reach as many people in my community as possible," says Cassandra.

Cassandra's passion and efforts were evident in her essay, presentation and social media posts. She plans to continue raising awareness by presenting to classes, upon request, as well as sharing in the school community and on social media. After high school, Cassandra hopes to go to medical school and become a pediatrician.



Photo courtesy BC Transplant

Cassandra Lau, a student from Hugh Boyd Secondary School is one of our recipients of BC Transplant's "Live Life. Pass It On." Scholarship.

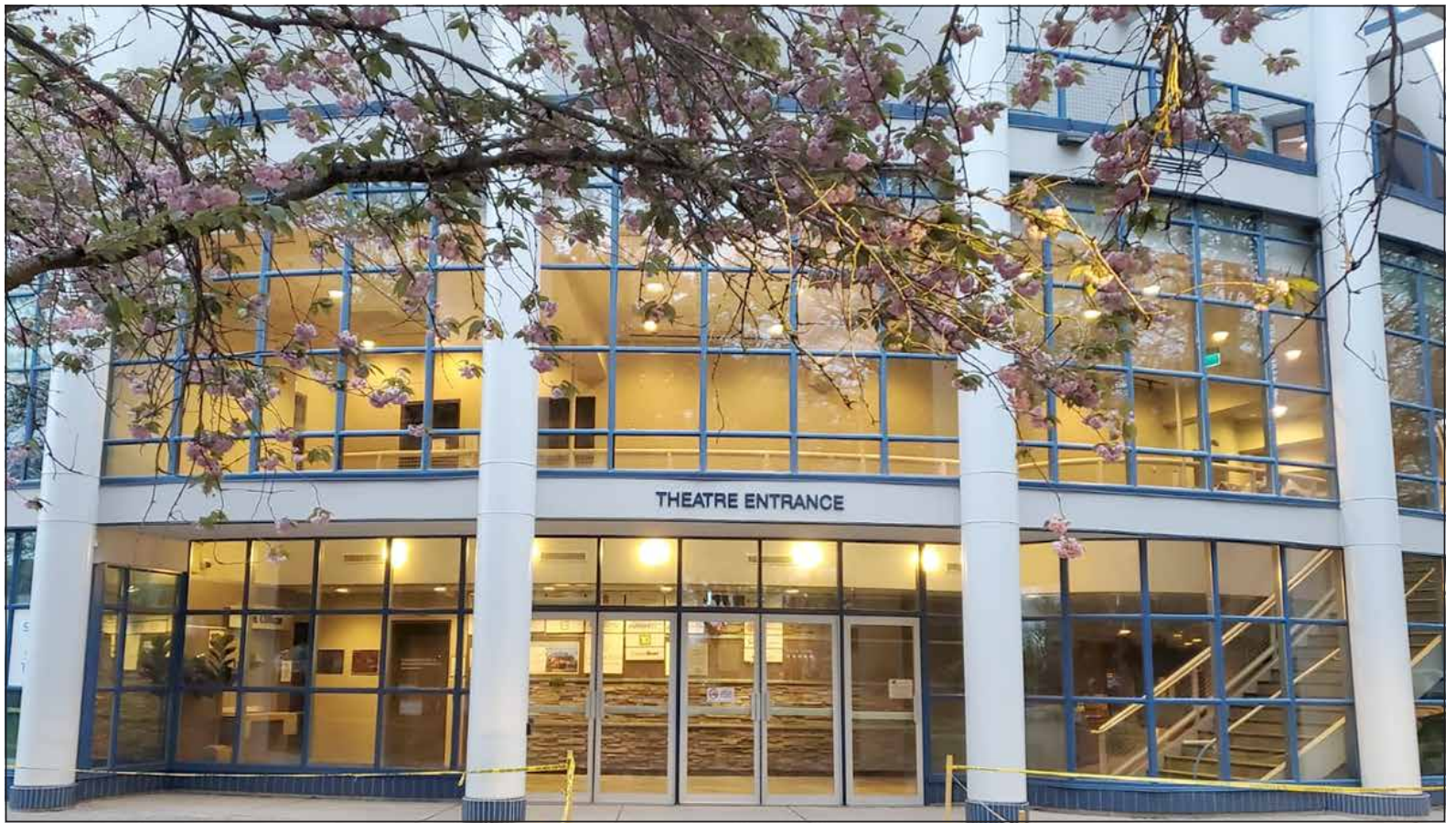


Photo by Jaana Björk

The 2023-2024 season at Gateway Theatre will be filled with musical theatre, madcap comedy, a world premiere, audio plays, and community based-celebrations.

Gateway Theatre announces its 2023/2024 season

Gateway Theatre is thrilled to announce its 2023-2024 season, an exciting lineup of musical theatre, madcap comedy, a multidisciplinary world premiere, audio plays, and community-based celebrations. With artistic offerings taking place from September 2023 to April 2024, Gateway welcomes multigenerational families, performing arts lovers, and particularly Richmond community members.

The season begins on Sept. 24 with the *Family Fun Mid-Autumn Festival* celebration and the live reading of the fourth episode of *A Year of Blessings* audio play series, followed by craft activities for families. Tickets are \$10 per person and free for ages 2-and-under. *A Year of Blessings* is a five-part audio series created by Five Blessings Collective, a talented team of Asian-Canadian artists that includes Nancy Tam, Derek Chan, Jasmine Chen, Howard Dai, and Amanda Sum. Co-produced with Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre, these free audio plays allow young audiences and their families to enjoy and explore the wonders and meanings behind traditional Chinese festivals in a fun and entertaining way.

The holiday season brings the timeless tale of Cinderella in a captivating musical adaptation that has charmed and inspired audiences all over the world since its original broadcast on CBS in

1957. With a bit of help from her fairy godmother, a magical pumpkin carriage transformation, and a dash of humour, Cinderella promises the entire family will have a ball. Directed by Johnna Wright (*Sylvia*, *Annie*, *Leading Ladies*), with choreography by Nicol Spinola (*Anne of Green Gables: The Musical*, *Joseph & The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*) and music direction by Sean Bayntun (*Anne of Green Gables: The Musical*) Rodgers + Hammerstein's *Cinderella* runs Gateway Theatre's MainStage from Dec. 14 to 31. Ticket prices from \$40.

Then in February, for one night only *The Flame: Lunar New Year Edition*, a special performance of Vancouver's wildly popular storytelling series is coming to Richmond for the first time. On Feb. 10, join Deborah Williams, the award-winning actor and one of the creators of *Mom's the Word*, and talented local storytellers for an evening full of "stories that are true". With themes of family, traditions, and new beginnings, this entertaining night features live musicians and storytelling in English with occasional dialogue and songs in the storyteller's mother tongue. Tickets: \$25.

From March 6 to 17, experience the world premier of *Jade Circle*, a beautiful multidisciplinary performance by Jasmine Chen. Through powerful music, captivating movement, and poignant

storytelling in Mandarin and English, *Jade Circle* follows Jasmine's journey to find her place within the legacy of her matriarchs. Whatever your language is, spoken or unspoken, it can bring you closer to who you are. *Jade Circle* is a part of Jasmine Chen's Mother Tongue Project, and is a rice and beans production in association with Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre. Tickets: \$30.

The final production of the 2023-2024 season is *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*, co-produced with Thousand Islands Playhouse and Western Canada Theatre. From the award-winning mastermind of mayhem Ken Ludwig (*Lend Me a Tenor*) comes a fast-paced, pulse-pounding comedy like no other. Equal parts adventure and comedy, *Baskerville* finds Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson attempting to crack their most notorious case. Who killed Sir Charles Baskerville? In this midcap retelling of the ultimate Victorian whodunit, a nimble cast of five takes on nearly forty characters, darting on and off stage almost as quickly as the twists and turns of this delightfully complex plot. Directed by Brett Christopher, *Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* runs from April 11 to 20. Ticket prices start at \$35. This production is presented in English with Traditional and Simplified Chinese subtitles.

OUR CITY *tonight*

SPOTLIGHT ON

AUTHOR, COCKTAIL, DINING

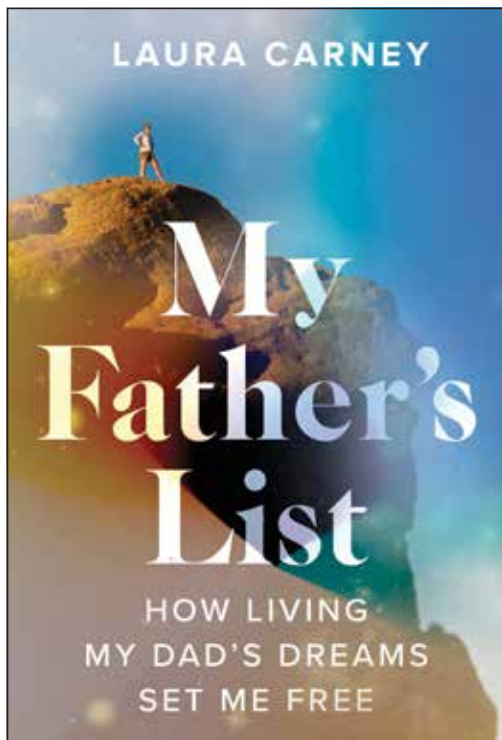


Photo courtesy Laura Carney

SUMMER READ: *My Father's List* by Laura Carney

Once in a while a book comes across your desk that catches you on page one and keeps you until the last page. That is the case with our choice for this great summer read from journalist, magazine copy editor and illustrator, Laura Carney. It's a story of a daughter who loses her father tragically in an accident. The grief she carries, turns to hope and a chance to recover when a list is discovered by her brother. This bucket list was written by Carney's father when he was in his late 20's. It contained all the things he wanted to do in his life including giving his children the most love, best education and best example he could give. For a grieving daughter, the idea of completing that list was a way to change the narrative from being unable to escape great feelings of loss and victimhood to creating a loving homage to her father while also healing herself. This "call to action" had Carney swimming a river, parachuting from an airplane,

recording herself singing, riding a fast horse, driving a corvette, sailing a boat solo, even shaking hands with a president. All the while feeling her father's presence, urging her on when she felt like she couldn't complete another item on the list. This touching, beautiful memoir will have you crying at times, smiling at other times, while all the while reminding you of the human spirit's strength and resiliency. As Carney points out, there is an emotion more expansive than grief: love. Post Hill Press, bylauracarney.com



Photo courtesy Angel's Envy

THE SUMMER COCKTAIL: The "10/10 Manhattan"

For our latest summer cocktail, we contacted "Whiskey Guardian" for Angel's Envy Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Adam Domet, who also earned a great reputation as a bartender and cocktail creator. The conversation turned to the "Manhattan", a cocktail which has been around since the 1880's. It has gone through high and low periods of popularity, but over the last few years has seen a resurgence, especially with Millennials. Domet offered a stylistic ode from Angel's Envy to the classic Manhattan, known as the "10/10 Manhattan", named after the original launch of Angel's Envy back in October 2010. Sipping the delicious cocktail, we can see why it has won over cocktail

lovers who may not have considered this modern take on a classic as a summer cocktail. angelsenvy.com

- "Manhattan 10/10"
- 60ml Angel's Envy Port Finished Bourbon
- 15ml Ruby Port
- 15ml Amaro Montenegro
- 2 dashes orange bitters

Stirred and served in stemmed cocktail glass and garnished with a brandy-soaked cherry and lemon twist.



Photo courtesy Free Bird Restaurant

THE SUMMER SPOT: Free Bird Table & Bar

They have become a Richmond favourite since opening a few years ago, offering options for breakfast, lunch and dinner. For us, the attraction has always been the delicious "comfort food" they serve up; Southern Classics such as Nashville fried chicken, (prepared with a crispy and flavorful coating and served with a range of delicious sides and the Free Bird signature Black Garlic Hot sauce), as well as West Coast favourites like freshly shucked oysters (Buck a Shuck is offered daily from 3 to 6 p.m.), and a variety of great drinks including craft cocktails, local beers, and fine wines. Whether you're craving fried chicken, oysters, or simply a place to relax and enjoy a drink, this neighborhood spot is sure to exceed your expectations. It also has gained a reputation for being one of Richmond's best destinations for "happy hour" located at the Executive Hotel. thefreebird.ca

Healing through human touch

By JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS
Contributors

She is a five-time YWCA woman of distinction nominee, she is a speaker, a writer, a dance instructor, radio host, yoga instructor, actor, and a medical Qigong therapist but Caroline MacGillivray is best known as the founder of Beauty Night Society. They are celebrating 22 years of helping women living in poverty. Their slogan is "Dignity is Beautiful".

Our City Tonight (OCT) sat down with Caroline MacGillivray (CM).

OCT: Let's talk about your cultural history. You are a very talented artist in so many different disciplines.

CM: I grew up singing, dancing, acting, as well as a lot of musical theater, and from there just out of curiosity, I explored so many other different avenues. I think I really should've been a cat because that curiosity helped me through life.

OCT: Beauty Night Society is probably one of the most fascinating organizations and it is celebrating 22 years of making a difference in our community. Please talk about the beginnings of helping women in need.

CM: I started volunteering because I was doing research for a short film project and I started volunteering in the downtown East side, which has been dubbed the poorest neighbourhood in all of North America per capita. One night a woman came in who had been dealing with a lot, which is probably the most polite way to put it. She didn't want to speak. She didn't want to eat, and I finally asked her what she would like? She said she would just like to feel clean.

We got her some toiletries, a towel, and fresh clothing so she could have a shower. Afterwards, she was trying to style her hair. There was a curling iron in there, but her arm was so battered that she couldn't raise her arm up. I honestly think I did what anybody would do, I did her hair. We laughed a lot because I was really bad at doing hair, and after that, she gave me a hug and thanked me for making her feel human.

So that's how it started. I left there that night, not really sure what to do with what I had just experienced, as it kind of blew me away. I felt very humbled.



Photo courtesy Caroline MacGillivray
Caroline MacGillivray, founder of Beauty Night Society sat down with *Our City Tonight* to discuss the last 22 years she has spent helping women living in poverty.

OCT: You started this society and there are so many articles on you celebrating the founding of this organization. One of the articles is titled "The Healing Power of a Makeover" yet it's not so much to do with make-up. It seems to be all about the healing touch. What do the women receive when they show up to a Beauty Night Society gathering?

CM: They of course, through the guise of a makeover, receive our healing touch. I think, especially since post pandemic, so many people have really needed a human touch especially in the last three years. There hasn't been a lot of contact and many of the women I worked with had dealt with extreme violence. I know during the pandemic there was also what we call, the "shadow pandemic" where domestic violence and the opioid crisis addiction, as well as violence, increased. I think there is even more need for connection, because so many people feel isolated and alone.

There's also that re-introduction of a healthy touch where it's not about control and it's not about violence. It's just about excepting somebody just as they are. A lot of the conversations happen when people feel safe enough to open up. We are then able to refer them to shelters, transition homes, group homes, sometimes for meals, and sometimes we end up working with other organizations to create exit strategies for those who are fleeing violence. And sometimes it's about helping them get on a wait list when a bed comes available for a treatment facility.

OCT: You've done such great work over these last 22 years with Beauty Night Society. I want to ask you about your family, because in fact you come from journalist royalty here in Vancouver.

CM: I was born and raised here in Vancouver and my parents were both as well. My dad was senior assistant managing editor at *The Vancouver Sun*. As a kid growing up, my dad's face was on billboards around town. A most memorable one in particular read "When Alex writes a column, readers eat it up," and it shows him smiling at the waiter who is pouring red wine.

He used to be the entertainment editor at *The Vancouver Sun* and that's where he met my mother. There used to be a nightclub here called Marco Polo, and the club used to bring in all sorts of acts. In fact, Vancouver was known as Las Vegas north, and a lot of the acts would perform a trial run here first. They had their in-house dancers and they called themselves the "China Dolls" and my mother was one of them. I know that's not politically correct now but that is what they were called.

My dad gave them a horrible review, and my mom went to his office to tell him off and somehow, she ended up going on a date with him. Then five years later I was born.

OCT: That is a lovely story, and I know you sadly lost your father a couple years ago. Those are some great memories to reflect on.

Beauty Night Society invites our readers to support them in their mission: to build self-esteem and change the lives of women and youth living in poverty through three streams of programming: wellness, life skills development and makeovers. Find out how you can make a difference at beautynight.org



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JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS

airing on CHEK TV Sundays | Novus Entertainment

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OUR CITY TONIGHT

BC takes steps for safer amateur sports

By FLORENCE GORDON
Contributing Writer

The Sport Branch is part of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport that develops policies, strategies, and opportunities for sport in British Columbia. The Sport Branch also works with other levels of government and ministries to ensure that B.C.'s sport interests and government resources are brought to sport viaSport, a non-profit organization, is a government lead delivery agency for sports programs. It distributes ministry funding to provincial and multi-sport organizations for programs and services for British Columbians involved in sport.

As of recently, news.gov.bc.ca announced that the province and viaSport are improving safety in sports by continuing to take steps toward an independent complaint process for BC's amateur sport sector.

"Everyone deserves to have a positive experience in sport so they can benefit from the incredible power of active living and improve physical and mental well-being" said Lana Popham, minister of tourism, arts, culture and sport. "Since 2019, we have been working with viaSport to advance the safe sport culture in BC. The sector has asked for more support, and we are now ready to take this important step to increase protection, accountability and awareness for all participants."

"viaSport British Columbia is committed to developing long-term solutions to address maltreatment in sport" said Charlene Krepiakovich, chief executive officer of viaSport.

The province is providing \$7.8 million in response to commitments made to federal and provincial partners to address safe-sport challenges. The intent is to provide an independent process that will help create an effective, fair and consistent mechanism to respond to complaints. The program will be imple-



Everyone deserves to be safe from abuse when playing sports.

File photo

mented by a third-party service provider that will provide an easier access for athletes to seek help when they need it.

"This investment enables us to build on the success of our PlaySafeBC program and to advance the prevention of maltreatment. It also enables us to continue to work with the amateur sport sector on the creation of an independent third-party mechanism to help everyone respond and report more easily, upholding safety in sport" said Krepiakovich.

"It's exciting to know this new reporting tool is being developed. This independent process will help keep everyone safer as it will provide a vital link for athletes to raise their voice when they experience or witness a safe-sport violation," said Evan Dunfee, a Richmond-based Olympian.

For more information:
playsafebc.ca
viasport.ca/standards-behaviour-bc-ucc
sirc.ca/canadian-sport-policies

•florencg@richmondsentinel.ca

STR8TS

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