



ACTS OF KINDNESS



David McCann, man
behind the scene

15

Photo courtesy Our City Tonight

David McCann, philanthropist and Lisa Martella of A Loving Spoonful provide thousands of meals for kids.

OUR CITY

Richmond

‘GOOD TO KNOW’

by Florence Gordon

Richmond seeks input on Steveston Streetscape Plan

Those spending any time in Steveston will be familiar with its picturesque and historic character. They will also know it is a popular destination for residents and visitors all year round. To support the public safety and enjoyment of Steveston, the city is seeking public and stakeholder feedback on Steveston’s streetscape design.

In this phase one, public input will provide guiding principles for future enhancements to elements that affect the character, design and people’s experience of streets and sidewalks in Steveston. Components for discussion include pedestrian space, parking, street furniture, cycling and other active transportation infrastructure.

Feedback from the public and stakeholders, along with other considerations, such as the Steveston Village Heritage Conservation Program, are vital in forming streetscape design concepts and priorities. The primary focus is on Chatham, Moncton, and Bayview Streets in Steveston Village. The work being conducted now builds on previous years’ community engagement and council direction.

There are several ways the public can participate.

- Visit [LetsTalkRichmond.ca](https://letsTalkRichmond.ca) to view related current and past information and complete the online survey.
- Visit City Hall (6911 No. 3 Rd.) or Steveston Community Centre (4111 Moncton St.) to pick up a printed survey. Return the completed survey to the front desk at City Hall or Steveston Community Centre.
- Attend one of the three pop-up engagement booths at the followings times and locations:



Photos courtesy City of Richmond

Wed, Jan. 17, 2024	4 p.m. to 8 p.m	Steveston Public Library (4111 Moncton St.)
Sat, Jan. 20, 2024	12 p.m. to 4 p.m	Tram Museum (4011 Moncton St.)
Thu, Jan. 25, 2024	12 p.m. to 4 p.m	City Centre Community Centre (5900 Minoru Blvd.)

This phase of engagement will conclude on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024. Engagement responses will be compiled for anonymity and presented to council for consideration. For more information, please visit [LetsTalkRichmond.ca](https://letsTalkRichmond.ca), email transportation@richmond.ca or call 604 276-4271.



Richmond’s Community Services Pop Ups continue in 2024

The City of Richmond and the Richmond Public Library will continue hosting the monthly Community Services Pop Ups throughout 2024. The first one of the year took place on Thursday, Jan. 11 at Brighthouse Library

(7700 Minoru Gate), future pop up sessions will continue every second Thursday of each month from 3 to 5 p.m. at the library. These free drop-in sessions bring together representatives from community based service providers in one central location to enable Richmond residents with lower incomes to ask questions and access information about the important resources and services in the community in a safe and welcoming space. Supports and services available include assistance with navigating health and benefit systems, information about how to access affordable housing and recreation, connections to newcomer services and more. To date, the pop ups have helped connect over 1,000 community members to a range of services offered by 35 community organizations since the program was first launched in December 2022. The pop ups support the city’s 2021–2031 Collaborative Action Plan to Reduce and Prevent Poverty in Richmond and the development of outreach programs for residents at risk of, or living in, poverty. For additional information on available resources to support people living on low income, including up-to-date information about the Community Services Pop Ups, visit richmond.ca/Roar Instagram

What to do in a vehicle accident?

By SAMUEL CHENG
Reporter

The winter season is upon us once again with a chance of snow and ice. It is important to drive safe and to operate your motor vehicle with extra caution under extreme weather conditions.

However, accidents can happen and it is important to know what to do if one were to be unfortunate enough to be caught up in one.

In case of an accident, here are a couple of things to keep in mind:

1. Do not panic. When accidents happen, most people will panic and go into shock. However, it is important to stay calm and hold your composure.

2. Check for injuries. Injuries and wounds, whether that's on you or your passengers, may be overlooked as our attention is diverted towards the accident itself. Contact the emergency services if any individual requires any immediate medical assistance.

3. Move your vehicle to a safe spot if possible. The side of the road or the sidewalk are a good example of this. Standing in the middle of the road with traffic passing by you is dangerous and not ideal.

• Call 911. Accidents, big or small, are still accidents. It is important to document the incident on file to avoid any finger pointing or blames when it comes to the determination of faults.

Upon waiting for medical staff and police's arrival, there are couple of things that you can do in the meantime.

1. Turn on your vehicle hazard lights and place cones, warning triangles or even flairs around the scene of the accident to warn and alert other drivers on the road.

2. Exchange the following information with the other parties involved in the accident:

- License plate number
- Driver license number
- Insurance information (Insurance company, policy number etc.)
- Contact information (Full name, address, phone number etc.)
- Vehicle information (Make, model, color, year etc.)
- Location of the accident

3. Take photos of the scene of the accident and the people that were involved.

4. Scout and look for potential witnesses and obtain their contact information.

5. Do not discuss who is at fault at the scene of accident. Let ICBC be the one to assess and determine the final verdict of the collision.



Photo courtesy Freepik

It is important to stay calm during an accident.

After the police have arrived and document all the necessary information, both parties would be free to go once approval of the police.

After an accident, here are a couple of things you can do:

1. Call and report the incident to your insurance company.

2. Report and submit your claim to ICBC.

• Online: [icbc.com/claims/report-view/Report-a-claim-online](https://www.icbc.com/claims/report-view/Report-a-claim-online)

• Phone:

604-520-8222 (Vancouver)

1-800-910-4222 (Toll-free)

3. If you're feeling unwell after the incident, contact your family doctor or visit a nearby clinic for a checkup.

4. Keep an eye out for phone calls or emails from ICBC and your insurance company. Be sure to follow-up and respond promptly.

Accidents can be troublesome and hectic to deal with. However, by staying calm and knowing what to do in this situation, the process of dealing with an accident can be simple and straight forward. As always, drive safely and responsibly whenever you're out on the road.

"The only safe amount of alcohol when you are mixing driving and drinking is zero—double zeros, no alcohol." – Tina Pasco, affiliate executive director of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

•taic@richmondsentinel.ca

In honour of our soldiers: Luis Pete Gamba

By SAMUEL CHENG
Reporter

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

May 14, 1920 in Comox, BC, a little boy by the name of Luis Pete Gamba was born.

Gamba moved to Richmond with his family and resided on what was then 585 No. 2 Road. He attended Richmond High School and worked as a laborer. He was a passionate believer of the Roman Catholic religion.

When Gamba turned 20, he opted into the Canadian military and was enlisted with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada. He was sent to be posted in Toronto before he was sent off to post overseas in



Screen grab from Google Maps
A poppy engraved road sign of Gamba Drive.

England in July of 1940.

Gamba remained in England and was sent to station at various bases including Aldershot. It was

during his time in England that he became a certified mechanic.

In June 1943, Gamba was assigned to a mission in Italy with the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, where he was awarded the Volunteer Medal. Unfortunately, Gamba was wounded on May 23, 1944 and was pronounced deceased later that day.

Two of Gamba's three siblings also served in military during the time. Gamba's brother Henry was with the Princess Louise motorcycle unit and his sister Mary served in the air force at Pat Bay. Gamba was unmarried and was survived by his mother.

In 1946, the City of Richmond decided to name a road in honour of Luis Pete Gamba. Today, Gamba Drive can be found to the north of Granville Avenue and to the east of No. 1 Road.

•taic@richmondsentinel.ca

People encouraged to prepare for winter weather

After a warm start to winter across much of the province, British Columbians are encouraged to prepare for colder weather and winter road conditions in the days and weeks ahead.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has forecast a return to seasonal, cooler temperatures and issued a series of snowfall and wind warnings for many regions of the province. People are encouraged to frequently check weather conditions and forecasts through ECCC for the latest updates.

Motorists throughout the province are urged to be prepared for changing road conditions and avoid unnecessary travel if conditions are bad.

People who use the backcountry for recreational activities are urged to be mindful of conditions and use extreme caution in mountainous terrain. Visit the Avalanche Canada website or mobile app to get the latest avalanche forecasts and learn more about staying safe from avalanches.

The province has created a new multi-language winter-weather and storm-preparedness guide to help people get ready for severe winter weather. The guide is available in Punjabi, simplified and traditional Chinese, French and English on the PreparedBC website. The PreparedBC website also has tips and resources on how to prepare for the forecasted weather, including:

- Wear winter gear: Always wear clothing appropriate for the weather. Dressing in layers with a wind- and water-resistant outer layer provides flexibility for changing conditions. To avoid frostbite, cover as much exposed skin as possible by wearing hats, scarves and gloves. Try to stay dry and change out of wet clothing as soon as possible.
 - Be prepared for power outages: Severe weather can cause power outages. Be prepared for up to one week by developing a household emergency plan and putting together an emergency kit. If you encounter a downed or damaged power line, assume it is live and a danger. Stay back at least 10 metres (the length of a bus) and call 911 immediately to report it.
 - Winterize your home: Now is a good time to winterize your home by insulating walls and attics, weather-stripping doors and windows, clearing rain gutters and removing tree branches that could fall during windstorms.
- For people who are driving helpful tips for travelling in wet and winter driving conditions include:
- Review the current road conditions before you leave – @DriveBC (twitter.com) on X (formerly Twitter) or drivebc.ca/
 - Nearly 900 highway webcam views are available at more than 450 locations throughout B.C.
 - Check the weather forecast and consider postponing travel. If travel is necessary, wait until conditions improve.
 - Wear comfortable clothing that does not restrict movement while driving. Bring warm clothing (e.g., winter boots, coat, gloves and hat) in case you need to get out of the vehicle.



Photo by Jaana Björk

British Columbians are urged to prepare for colder weather and winter road conditions in the upcoming month.

- Have a vehicle emergency kit. Ensure your vehicle is equipped with a full tank of fuel or electrical charge, a windshield scraper and snow brush, food and water, a first-aid kit and other emergency supplies.
- Do not panic if you get stuck or stranded. Stay with your vehicle for safety and warmth.
- If you have a cellphone, call for roadside assistance. For emergencies, call 911.

The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness works proactively with communities to ensure they have the supports and resources needed to protect people when extreme weather is forecast. The province provides reimbursements to First Nations and local authorities for opening emergency warming centres during extreme weather. Warming centres help people warm up during cold weather and provide information about how to safely stay warm.

During cold weather, emergency warming centres and general warming space locations may be listed on EmergencyMapBC.ca at the discretion of First Nations and local authorities. If warming centres are not listed on the map in your area, contact your Band office or local authority for more information.

Emergency shelter spaces are also available through BC Housing for people in need of a warm, safe place to stay. This winter, the Province is funding more than 5,500 shelter spaces in 55 communities throughout the province, including permanent, temporary and extreme-weather response (EWR) shelters. EWR spaces open overnight when a community issues an extreme weather alert, such as during cold temperatures, snow or heavy rain. More shelter spaces will open this winter season as communities identify additional sites.

RICHMOND SENTINEL
OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Published by
RICHMOND SENTINEL NEWS INC.
200-3071 No. 5 Road,
Richmond, B.C., V6X 2T4

Advertising & Sponsorship
marketing@richmondsentinel.ca
778-325-1297

Newsroom
newsroom@richmondsentinel.ca
778-297-5005



Download our app
from the
App Store or
Google Play Store.

Nominations open for B.C.'s top honours

Nominations are being accepted for the province's two highest honours: the Order of British Columbia and the Medal of Good Citizenship.

The Order of British Columbia, the province's top honour, celebrates outstanding achievement, excellence or distinction that has benefited the province or reached beyond its borders. Former or current residents of British Columbia who have made extraordinary contributions are eligible nominees.

The Medal of Good Citizenship recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to their local communities without seeking remuneration. This prestigious honour recognizes acts of selflessness, generosity and contributions to the betterment of someone's local community. Young people between 15 and 25, and posthumous nominations are welcome.

Nominations for both honours must reach the Honours and Awards Secretariat by Friday, April 5, to be considered this year. They may be submitted electronically on the honours webpage.

To submit a nomination for the Order of British Columbia, visit: gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/celebrating-british-columbia/honours-and-awards/order-of-bc/submitting-nomination

To submit a nomination for the Medal of Good Citizenship, visit: gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/celebrating-british-columbia/honours-and-awards/medal-good-citizenship/submitting-nomination



Photo via Flickr.ca

Nominations for province's two highest honours: the Order of British Columbia and the Medal of Good Citizenship are now being accepted.

**BLUNDELL
CENTRE**

WITH A VISIT TO BLUNDELL CENTRE!
42 stores to catch up on your New Years resolutions
Located at Blundell & No 2 Road

Coast Capital donates \$25K to Food Bank Society

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

At the end of the 2023 year, Coast Capital made a generous \$25,000 donation to the Richmond Food Bank Society. The financial co-operative, dedicated to making a meaningful difference in the lives of people in Canada, saw the rise in living costs, debt levels, inflation and the increase in food bank visits between 2022 and 2023, and felt such a donation had to be made. In addition to the monetary donation, "Coast Capital staff also donated their time with hundreds of volunteer hours to food banks across British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario, an official cheque for \$25,000 was presented by representatives from the Richmond region during a volunteer day on Oct. 27, 2023," said Tara Walter, manager, social purpose ecosystem, Coast Capital.

As a result of the growing affordability and an overwhelming demand for non-profit organizations and food banks, Coast Capital recognizes the significance and importance of these types of services have in our community. "Over the last few years, these donations mean even more as the demand on food bank services has grown with a growing affordability crisis. The monetary and in-person volunteer investments into food banks, is a heartfelt response to the overwhelming demand non-profit organizations and food banks in the communities we serve have seen. They are navigating record-high demands as a result of the current economic climate and need significant support to continue helping feed families across the communities in which they serve," said Walter.

Coast Capital Savings Federal Credit Union, more commonly known as Coast Capital, is a member-owned financial co-operative. It was formed in 1940 when making money was difficult, amongst a multitude of towns small groups of credit union pioneers formed to help their neighbours and those around them gather money so they could afford to live a better life. "Throughout our 80-year history, we have given back to food banks across the country through monetary donations and employee volunteer support," said Walter. From this Coast Capital was slowly created, on the very last day of 2000, Pacific Coast Savings Credit Union and Richmond Savings Credit Union engaged in a merger and became the second largest credit union in Canada at the time with an estimated value of \$3.2 billion. As the years went by the credit union continued to grow, by 2022 their assets blossomed from \$6.1 billion to over \$22 billion.

For over 80-years the organization has been helping people all around



Photo supplied

An official cheque for \$25,000 was presented to the Richmond Food Bank Society on Oct. 27, 2023.

Over the last few years, these donations mean even more as the demand on food bank services has grown with a growing affordability crisis.

— Tara Walter

Canada and continue to show no signs of stopping their commitment to helping people in Canada unlock the opportunity towards a better future. "One of the ways we bring this commitment to life is by reinvesting 10 per cent of our budgeted bottom line back into the communities we serve every year. Grounding this community-focused reinvestment strategy is our wider social purpose vision to build and champion more equitable access to education, employment and training, financial tools, education, and advice," said Walter.

In addition to monetary donations to food banks across British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario, the organization also collaborates with other organizations and societies to help further improve the lives of people in Canada.

"The Education Awards program has supported over 1000 students through an investment of nearly \$2.9 million to date. The Road to Red Seal program, in collaboration with the Construction Foundation of BC, a one-million-dollar investment was made to help support those striving to a Red Seal Endorsement. The Youth Futures Education Fund, has provided over 2,500 youth aging out of government care with financial support so that they can pursue post-secondary education. Finally, Coast Capital's support of the DIVERSEcity Foreign Credential Recognition for Women program helps newcomer women get their professional credentials evaluated and/or pay for training, relicensing, and more," said Walter.

•matthewc@richmondsentinel.ca

Shovel your sidewalks

It's the (by)law

Spread the word...

Richmond home owners and occupants **play a vital role** in keeping sidewalks safe for pedestrians during the winter.

Home owners and occupants are **responsible for clearing snow and ice from the front, and if on a corner lot, along the side(s) of their property by 10:00 a.m., 7 days a week.***

- ▶ Shovel snow onto your property, not onto the road and sidewalks.
- ▶ Clear storm drains of leaves and snow to prevent flooding.
- ▶ Ask someone to clear your sidewalk if you are away or need help.

*These requirements also apply to commercial and industrial property owners and occupants.

\$125 fine for not shoveling

Owners and occupants who fail to remove snow and ice are **subject to a \$125.00 fine.**

(Bylaw 5870, section 6.1.)

Learn more at richmond.ca/weather



#RichmondBC



Richmond prepares for the first winter storm

By FLORENCE GORDON
Contributing writer

As we watch other parts of Canada including British Columbia's interior and Vancouver Island already challenged by winter storms, winds and high seas, the *Richmond Sentinel* looked into what the City of Richmond are doing to prepare for the upcoming winter and their suggestions how businesses and residents can help. The following information can be viewed on their website richmond.ca

Get ready for winter—snow removal

The Roads and Construction Department of the Engineering and Public Works Division has the responsibility of maintaining the streets and roads of Richmond in all-weather situations. During the winter months, ice and snow removal requires additional maintenance. During these periods, the department ensures all major roads are cleared and sanded so that emergency vehicles (ambulance, fire trucks and police), public transit and private vehicles are able to travel. The aim is to accomplish this task most cost-effectively while still maintaining a high level of service to the public.

Everything you wanted to know about snow clearing in Richmond

How many trucks does the City of Richmond use?

The city can deploy up to 11 large trucks during a storm event, to clear 316 km of designated routes. During a storm, crews work around the clock, driving, planning and dispatching and maintaining equipment.

Why is salt used?

Salt is used as the principal de-icer because it is



City of Richmond equipment.

Photo via richmond.ca

the most readily available and most cost effective. The primary type used is rock salt mined from the earth. When salt is applied to ice and snow, it creates a brine solution that has a lower freezing temperature than the temperature of the surrounding ice. Salt alone becomes ineffective after -6°C and sand is added to the mix.

What are the sanding/salting/plowing priorities?

The city's primary responsibility is public safety with the first priority for plowing and sanding all major (or "arterials") section line roads and bus routes to facilitate the travel of emergency vehicles and public transportation. The second priority is industrial roadways during business days and main collector roads that run through major subdivisions. Third priority routes include designated collector roads and roads of local significance. As noted in the Snow Response Route Map, third priority routes are only done after first and second priority routes are cleared. Smaller roads in subdivisions are not part of the designated snow clearing routes.

What are the hours of work for the sanding/salt-

ing/plowing crews?

During a storm event, crews begin working around the clock in two shifts, sometimes up to 14 hours a day. When a snowfall with significant accumulation is forecast, crews head out early to salt the roads, which helps prevent ice from building up. At the end of a snow event, crews will resume their regular winter schedule:

Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: 604-270-8721

Personnel are on 24-hour standby, 7 days a week.

Get ready for winter—how to prepare your property

- Do you have a good snow shovel by your door? They sell out fast during snow days and Traffic Bylaw 5870 requires residential (single-family and multi-family) owners and occupants, as well as commercial and industrial properties, to remove snow and ice no later than 10:00am daily.

- Shovel snow onto your lawn or a designated parking stall, not the street. Shoveling snow onto the street is a hazard for vehicles and creates more work for snow plows, slowing down the clearing process—it also increases the chance that snow will be pushed back onto your driveway or sidewalk.

- Locate and clean catch basins or storm drains in the roadway in front of your home of debris such as fallen leaves, branches and snow for proper drainage. Take care not to bury these grates or gutters when shoveling snow.

- Clear leaves from your roof's eaves and ensure appropriate drainage near your house to prevent puddling.

- Secure everything that might be blown around or torn loose - flying objects such as garbage cans and lawn furniture can injure people and damage property.

- Trim dead branches and cut down dead trees to reduce the danger of these falling onto your house during a storm.

- Store a de-icer product and spread it on your walkways after ice forms to give traction; organic and ecologically safe de-icers won't corrode concrete and are safer for vegetation, pets and children.

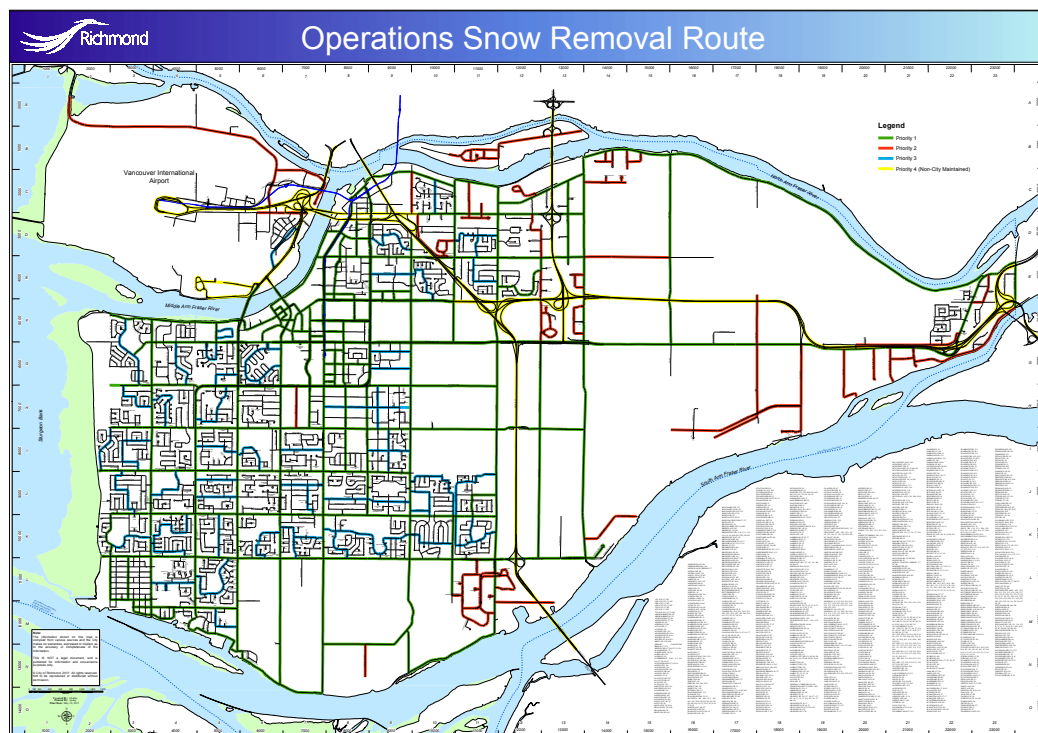


Photo via richmond.ca

See Page 9

SNOW

From Page 8

- Do not use salt or de-icers on new concrete. If salt or de-icers are left to sit on new concrete (poured within one year), they cause repetitive freeze-thaw cycles that lead to surface spalling (water crystallizing in pores). Follow manufacturer's instructions; which typically advise to use sand instead. Have a snow shovel on hand.

- If you have a fire-hydrant in front of your home, please clear the snow around it for easy emergency access.

- If possible, park your vehicle in your driveway and garage to free up street space for plows.

- Consider alternative safe heating sources in the event of a power outage or heating system failure. Make sure your home is properly insulated and ensure cold air is kept out.

- If you experience a power outage, check the BC Hydro outage map/list to see if they already know about it. If your outage isn't listed, call 1-800-BCHY-DRO (1-800-224-9276) to report the outage.

- Downed power lines should be considered energized and dangerous—please stay away (at least 10 metres) and call 911.

- If your home loses power, unplug sensitive electronic equipment to protect them from possible voltage surges/irregularities when power is restored. Do not use outdoor barbecues or heating devices indoors. If you have an emergency gasoline-powered generator, keep it far away from doors and windows to prevent carbon monoxide from entering your home.

- Know how to shut off water valves and be aware of pipes that may freeze.

- Talk to your neighbours about all parking on one side of the road. Keeping one side of the curb free allows for better snow plow access. It also helps avoid possible snow pile-up on your car from the snow plow.

- Keep heating appliance air intakes or exhaust

ports clear of snow and ice.

- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from any combustible materials, do not use with extension cords, and do not leave heaters or candles unattended or with unsupervised children or pets.

- Keep curbs free from debris and bins. Remove any decorations, garbage, recycling and organic bins off roadways where snow plowing may take place. Check the collection schedule for notices about delayed collection.

Get ready for winter—what about sidewalks?

The city clears the parking lots and walkways of all civic facilities, such as community centres. It is the responsibility of the owner or occupier of all residential (single and multi-family), industrial and commercial property to remove all snow and ice from the sidewalk, for a distance that coincides with the property line, by 10 a.m. every day (including Sunday) per city's Traffic Control and Regulation Bylaw 5870.

Shovel your sidewalks it's the by-law

Richmond home owners and occupants play a vital role in keeping sidewalks safe for pedestrians during the winter.

Home owners and occupants are responsible for clearing snow and ice from the front, and if on a corner lot, along the side(s) of their property by 10 a.m., 7 days a week.

\$125 fine for not shoveling

Owners and occupants who fail to remove snow and ice are subject to a \$125 fine. (Bylaw 5870, section 6.1.)

Tips for shovelling:

1. Shovel snow onto your property, not onto the road and sidewalks.



Pushing vehicle in the snow.

Photo via Freepik.com

2. Clear storm drains of leaves and snow to prevent localized flooding.

3. Ask someone to clear your sidewalk if you are away or need help.

*These requirements also apply to commercial and industrial property owners and occupants.

Get ready for winter—your vehicle

From ensuring your vehicle is equipped with snow tires to stocking eco de-icer to securing loose objects on your property, there are steps to make winter weather easier on you.

How to Prepare Your Vehicle

- Install good winter tires on your vehicle.
- Keep your gas tank full.
- Check that all lights and defrosters are in good working condition. If it's snowing, turn on your headlights and taillights.
- Replace windshield wipers with ones especially designed for icy weather.
- Top up your vehicle's reservoir with winter window wash fluid.
- Check your battery—a vehicle with a weak battery won't start in cold temperatures.
- Throw a windshield scraper and brush in your car, as well as a bag of sand, flares, emergency blanket and kit, warm clothes and waterproof boots. Small shovels are also handy. Wear bright or reflective clothing if you must exit your car.
- Reduce speed in snowy or slippery conditions. Leave extra distance between you and the car ahead of you.
- Leave 50 metres distance between your vehicle and any city snow clearing equipment such as plows or salt trucks. The operator's visibility can be limited.
- Leave earlier—adjust your schedule to allow more travel time, particularly during commutes. Check traffic and weather reports before heading out.
- Check your route and our Snow Removal Route Map to take advantage of the first priority snow clearing.



Shoveling sidewalk snow.

Photo via Freepik.com

•florencg@richmondsentinel.ca

Gateway Theatre presents *The Flame*

Gateway Theatre presents *The Flame: Lunar New Year Edition* on February 10. This one-night only performance of Vancouver's wildly popular, storytelling series makes its Richmond debut with an evening of "True Stories Told by People Who Lived Them". Celebrating the Lunar New Year with themes of family and new beginnings, this extraordinary night features a live musician, and storytelling in English, with occasional dialogue and songs in the storyteller's mother tongue.

"We are thrilled to bring *The Flame* to Richmond for the very first time. This event has become a cultural phenomenon, celebrating the richness of human experience through the art of storytelling," says Barbara Tomasic, Gateway Theatre executive artistic director. "Storytelling is a fundamental part of being human and allows us to gain a deeper connection to others and build understanding. With the diverse line-up of storytellers, audiences are in for a special evening immersed in moving, real-life stories and heartfelt moments."

This special performance features Deborah Williams, award-winning actor and one of the creators of *Mom's the Word*, along with local storytellers in a night of unique stories of love, loss, fear, and hope that connects us as humans. These performers bravely share a personal and true story, occasionally incorporating dialogue and songs in their mother tongue, adding an authentic and immersive layer to the performances. Audiences will hear from storytellers Beverley Elliott (Granny on *Once Upon a Time*, Sink or Swim, didn't see that coming), Wong



Photo via gatewaytheatre.com

***The Flame* storytelling event sparks its debut in Richmond.**

Wing-Siu, Chris Nowland, Samantha Sun, Sarvin Esmaeili, Renee Fajardo, Jaylon Han and Kendell Yan Maiden China with musician, *Darling Sparrows* in the intimate Studio B at Gateway Theatre.

Originating as a small gathering of storytellers and enthusiasts in Williams's living room in 2009, *The Flame* has evolved into a moving blend of live music and captivating narratives. This unique event, with its roots deeply embedded in the art of storytelling, will make its inaugural appearance in Richmond, promising a night of connection and an

experience audiences won't forget.

As artistic producer and co-creator of *The Flame*, Deborah Williams has seen the event evolve from an intimate monthly live storytelling event in Vancouver to an audience favourite in theatres across British Columbia, and from there into broadcast experiences. Gateway Theatre is thrilled to bring this live storytelling event to audiences in Richmond. Limited tickets are available.

For more information visit gatewaytheatre.com/events/the-flame-lunar-new-year-edition/

2024 Branscombe House Artist-in-Residence

Join the community in welcoming Peisen Ding, Richmond's eighth Branscombe House Artist-in-Residence at this year's program launch event on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.

At this free event in Council Chambers at Richmond City Hall (6911 No. 3 Road), Peisen Ding will describe their practice and plans for their upcoming residency, which includes collaboration with Richmond residents and visitors. The artist talk will be followed by a Question and Answer session and reception.

Peisen Ding is a visual artist and educator whose practice explores urban relationships—such as those between individuals and among built environments—through painting, photography, installations or whatever medium organically arises.

Peisen is launching their community-based art project called *(Be)coming Home*. Throughout 2024, they will invite local residents to participate as collaborators and, ultimately, present an interactive mixed-media installation at the end of the residency.



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Peisen Ding, the eighth annual Branscombe House Artist-in-Residence.

The project's title has a dual meaning:

- *Becoming Home* signifies the artist's personal journey of finding belonging as a queer immigrant from China, while
- *Coming Home* is intended as an invitation to engage with others at Branscombe House, finding a sense of home within.

The project will showcase various meanings of "home" through a variety of art-making processes and productions to nurture an inclusive and caring community.

The Branscombe House Artist Residency takes place in a restored 1908 Edwardian-style house in the residential area of Steveston. Since its inaugural residency in 2016, the program has hosted visiting professional artists for eleven-month community-engaged arts residencies. Branscombe House is located at 4900 Steveston Highway and is one of the earliest settler homes in the area.

For more information and to reserve seats at the Wednesday, Jan. 17 launch, visit richmond.ca/BranscombeResidency



Joe Biz — by Joe Leary

The Collector

Jamie Anstey is a collector, and while that; in and of itself is not necessarily the foundation for a compelling story, Jamie's primary passion is.

For a number of years, the Richmond resident has been acquiring a large—and I mean large—stockpile of original master audio tapes of scores of Canadian artists and their often, long-forgotten recordings.

Some of them are famous and many of them flew below radar. But to Jamie, they're all vital to the West Coast music scene and the artists deserve to have their recordings preserved and enshrined. And were it not for people like Jamie Anstey, dedicating their time to the laborious process of preserving these musical treasures, they would likely collect dust, or oxidize and simply not live to see the light of day, these many years after their recording dates. "I've always been a big fan of 60's Vancouver music and was honored to be involved in many re-releases of material on CD and LP," he says.

"Eventually; along with Larry Hennessey, I formed a record label called Regenerator Records, in order to reissue this stuff. Larry has played a huge part in all tape preservation". Regenerator's highlights include *Terry Jacks Greatest Hits Anthology*; and the first recordings of Chad Allan; the original lead singer and founder of the Guess Who. Allan passed away in November at the age of 80 "Larry really got me into the studio side of things and taught me a lot about tape machines and transfers. Eventually, I built my own studio, after acquiring about a dozen Studer machines from the CBC".

As for Anstey's penchant for acquiring and preserving master tapes, that came from his sheer respect for their historic value. "I realized how precious and rare they were, especially when you needed them to do a re-issue," he says, adding



Jamie Anstey with his collection.

Photo courtesy Scott Jensen

"and how great they sounded. I spread the word and people started bringing tapes to me to transfer; some in the business had large collections and other musicians had just a few of their basic ones.

My friend, the late Si Garber had worked at various studios over the years and had a warehouse full of tapes he had rescued. Those eventually came our way. The late Chad Allan—who was a dear friend for many years—had asked me to take a dozen boxes of his reels. It was there I discovered an early tape of the band's first performance. That became, *Early Roots*; a release on our Regenerator label".

Over the years, Anstey has enjoyed a lengthy relationship with Canadian recording artist Terry Jacks, most recently in a managerial capacity. During the pop star's chart dominance—since first appearing on the local music scene as a member of rock group, The Chessman—Jacks amassed quite the musical catalogue; both as a solo artist and as a member of the 'The Poppy Family'. "I've worked with Terry Jacks for the last twenty years and Larry and I ended up doing a double disc release of his 40-year anthology of hits," he says. "Terry had saved every master tape of himself and The Poppy Family and they ended up joining the collection."

Other treasures in Anstey's warehouse include numerous musical gems from long-forgotten, yet iconic Vancouver bands, The Painted Ship, Mother Tucker's Yellow Duck and Papa Bear's Medicine Show. While acquiring these classic recordings started purely as a labour of love, costs quickly

factored in. "There were some collections that required payment as well as travel expenses," he says.

"Ultimately it costs me personally to store them on a daily basis and sometimes it's difficult to pay the bills just to store this stuff". At last count, Jamie Anstey's collection of multi-track and master recordings sits somewhere around 20,000 individual reels. "I started cataloging them but as more were added it became more difficult to keep up. I'm way behind now but I'd like to get them all catalogued eventually and wherever possible, they will get released".

One never knows where the next treasure trove of early Vancouver recordings will appear or what will eventually become of them. "Last year a friend, Jason Flower, was planning a release by a Victoria-based psychedelic-rock band called As Sheriff and had happened upon a few of their random recordings. Jason was shocked when I turned up with a ton of unreleased tracks to add to his project; which were re-mastered by Larry".

It turns out they were recorded in Vancouver at R&D Studios; the same facility where local classics like the Poppy Family's, *Which Way You Going Billy* and *A Country Boy Named Willy* by Spring was also recorded. "The 'As Sheriff' album was released earlier this year and sounds incredible," adds Anstey. "I was happy to be able to add to that project and provide something musically that wasn't supposed to exist, some sixty years later.

That's what this is all about".

X- @reallyjoeleary • Instagram- @joeleary

Recognizing the Wall of Fame: 2019

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

The *Richmond Sentinel* looks back at the 2019 inductees of the Richmond Sports Wall of Fame.

Since the end of 2023, the *Richmond Sentinel* has highlighted past inductees and their journey into the Richmond Sports Wall of Fame. In this edition, we take a look at the sports contributions of the Richmond Sports Wall of Fame, Class of 2019.



Carl Savage – Track and Field

Originally from the United Kingdom (UK), Carl Savage moved to Richmond in 1967. For 33 years, Carl worked as a teacher, vice-principal, principal, and coached the Kajaks up until 2000. He organized the very first BC Elementary Track and Field Championships and took on multiple roles at Kajaks. Carl attended many international competitions as a member of the Canadian National Track and Field coaching staff, including the Pan Am, Commonwealth, and Olympic Games. Some of the athletes he coached have won gold at the Pan Pacific Games and National Championships, a few hold national records as well. In 1974 and 1987, Carl was awarded by the City of Richmond and School District for coaching excellence. He received the 3M Canadian Coaching Award in 1986 and inducted into the BC Athletics Hall of Fame in 2000.

Dolphin Classic – Basketball

The Dolphin Classic was just an idea that four graduates from Steveston High School had thought of, a basketball tournament at a local park for basketball players to faceoff outside of the school system. In 1986, the first ever Dolphin Classic was hosted at Dolphin Park. As tournament grew in popularity, so did the scale of the tournament. What was once held at Dolphin Park would be moved to Thompson Park in 2010, before being moved to South Arm Park in 2016 to accommodate the thousands that attended. The tournament has also included many different facets to the game including a tournament for women's, youth, as well as slam dunk and 3-point competitions. Such a tournament has attracted many spectators including British Columbia native, two-time National Basketball Association (NBA) Most Valuable Player (MVP) Steve Nash.

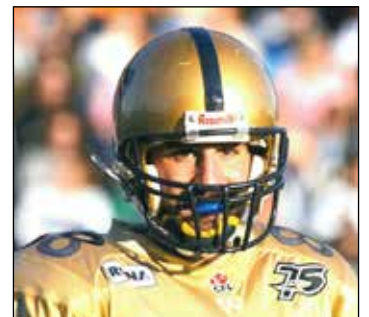


Fred Pawluk – Track and Field

Fred Pawluk began his running career in 2003 after having run road races and relays between 1986 to 1989. He had not run in a competitive race prior to that year except for during High School. He competed as a Masters athlete and worked hard under Kajaks' Coaches Jean-Jacques Schmidt and others to develop his strengths in running events. Two years later, he was named Kajaks Outstanding Male Master Athlete of the year. The Richmond Sports Council named him Masters Athlete of the Year in 2010 and awarded him the 2012 Builder of the Year award. Through countless injuries between 2003 to 2018, Fred won 55 first places, 32 second places, and 17 thirds in various events. He continues to make it his utmost importance to help athletes reach their full potential when supported by their coach and athletic community.

Jamie Stoddard – Football

Born in Richmond, Jamie Stoddard attended Steveston High School and graduated in 1995. He was awarded the Top Male Athlete Award in 1992, and season Most Valuable Player (MVP) in 1994. He attended the University of Alberta and received the 1999 Bill Woywitka Memorial award as MVP of the team. He joined the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in 2000, recording 151 games, 191 catches for 2808 yards, and 11 touchdowns over an 8-year career. His team were was the 2001 and 2007 Canadian Football League (CFL) Western Division Champions, and he would go onto start in both Gray Cup Championships. In 2008, Jamie would retire from the CFL and work as a teacher in the Richmond School District. He continues to give back to Richmond's future athletes, coaching various school athletics including football, basketball, and soccer.



Jean-Jacques (JJ) Schmidt – Track and Field

Jean-Jacques (JJ) arrived to Richmond in 1973, he attended his first Kajaks Track Meet in 1980, before joining Kajaks as an Assistant Junior Development Coach. JJ would coach for Kajaks until 2017, where he would coach athletes whose age ranged from 20 to 85. JJ's athletes have accomplished many feats and won countless medals at Provincial, National, and International levels. In 2007, Kajaks awarded JJ with the Volunteer of the Year, one year after the City of Richmond had named him Coach of the Year. He was named Master of the Year in 1987, 2002, and 2003, in the Kajaks Track and Field category and Kajaks Track and Field Coach of the Year in 2009. Amongst successful athletes that Schmidt has trained, a few of them include fellow Richmond Sports Wall of Fame inductees Gwen McFarlan and Avril Douglas who were inducted in 2016, and fellow 2019 inductee Fred Pawluk.

The *Richmond Sentinel* looks back at the 2019 inductees of the Richmond Sports Wall of Fame.



Jeff Lochbaum – Football

Born and raised in Richmond, Jeff Lochbaum attended Palmer Secondary school before transferring to Richmond High. He was very athletic growing up, playing a multitude of sports in the community and at school. At the young age of 16, Lochbaum began coaching and would go on to teach and coach in Richmond School district for the next 37 years. In 22 years, Lochbaum would go on to lead the Richmond Colts football teams to four provincial championships in 1976, 1996, 1997, 1998. As an assistant coach, his team won the 1976 Provincial/Western Canadian Championships, a 1976 AAA High School Varsity Championships. 20 years later, as a head his team would three-peat from 1996 to 1998, winning the AAA High School Varsity Championships three times. In the community, Lochbaum co-coached the Richmond Raiders football team to becoming 1986 BCJFL Provincial Champions.

Jim Mills – Football

Jim Mills was born in 1961, he grew up in Richmond and attended Palmer, Cambie, and Richmond High in 1979. He went on to play for the University of Hawaii on a football scholarship. He would make it into the National Football League (NFL) and play for the Baltimore Colts in 1983. In 1986 he would join the Canadian Football League (CFL) to play for his hometown team the BC Lions from 1986 to 1993. Mills would play in the 76th Grey Cup Championship against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers but his team would fall short by one point. After 1993, he would spend one year in the nation's capital playing for the Ottawa Rough Riders before returning home to play for the BC Lions for one more season to finish his career. Throughout his career, he was recognized as a three-time All Star, Most Outstanding Offensive Linemen, and the DeMarco-Beckett Memorial Trophy.



Kim Young – Track and Field

Kim Young had been an educator in the Richmond area for more than 20 years, he's been a teacher, Vice-Principal, Principal, and Director of Instruction. His coaching career started in the 1960s, when he joined Richmond Kajaks as a development coach, he would go on to hold many roles including President, meet director, running coach, and many more. In 1968 he co-founded the BC Elementary School Track and Field Championships, which was organized by fellow 2019 Wall of Fame Inductee Carl Savage. In the 1980s, as Head Coach of the Canadian National Team, he led one of the first teams to compete in East Germany at the Pan Pacific Games. From the 1980s till now, Kim currently serves as the Meet Director of the Harry Jerome Track Classic, he was inducted into the BC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008.

Marshall Shields – Fastball

Marshall Shields has been coaching boys softball for 20 years, coaching athletes of all ages and skill level he and the team's he has coached has experienced success at many levels. Between 2001 and 2006, he was named Coach of the Year in the Steveston Men's League, his 2012 senior team and 2013 youth team was recognized as provincial team of the year by Softball BC. Those two teams recorded gold medal finishes in their respective years. He currently serves as a coach in the Steveston's Mens Fastball league. He attributes his success to passion, persistence, and commitment. Dating back to 2000, he's accumulated 10 gold medals at the Provincial and Western Canadian level, the boys fastball team won five gold medals and accomplished a three-peat from 2011 to 2013. He continues to coach and is currently working towards his 11th medal.



Novell Thomas – Basketball

Novell Thomas grew up playing soccer, basketball, and football in Richmond. His friends had introduced him to the Dolphin Park Classic and that opened a door of opportunities that would lead to him having a full basketball career. He was named First Team All-Star in 1993 and Langara College – Versa Freshmen Student Athlete of the Year. In 1996 and 1997, he was selected as an All-Star to the Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference (PNWAC) and named Honourable Mention at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. To this day he still holds the Simon Fraser University All-Time Career Assist Leader, holds the record for all time assists in a single season, and recorded the first and only Triple Double. After his career, he coached basketball for five years and was a Board Member when Basketball BC had founded the Western Youth Basketball Association.

Richmond High Colts Football – Football

Coached by fellow Richmond Sports Wall of Fame Jeff Lockbaum, Richmond Colts won their first provincial championship in 1976, seven years after their inaugural season. The team would go on a 20 year provincial championship drought before capturing their second provincial championship in 1996 in an overtime game against Vancouver College. This team would carry on that momentum for the next two years, winning two more consecutive provincial championships. To this date, the school has four provincial championship trophies, all four coming during Lockbaum's tenure with the colts. Fighting budget cuts, the colts relied on the growing popularity of the team to achieve success. As mentioned before, they are the only team to ever record a three-peat in which they had won three consecutive AAA BC High School Championships in a row. A feat that even professional players find difficult to accomplish in their own respective sports.

Photos via rswof.ca



OUR CITY *tonight*

**SPOTLIGHT ON
THE EVENT.
HOME VIEWING**



Photo courtesy Laura Ballance Media Group

starts Jan. 31 and wraps up Feb. 4. You have two location options: BC Place or Granville Island—Floating Show. For pricing and more information go to VancouverBoatShow.ca

THE EVENT – *The Vancouver International Boat Show*

Though the summer season seems far away, the first big event of this new year is back to remind you summer is not as far away as you think. The Vancouver International Boat Show is back for the 61st edition and is always a highlight for nautical enthusiasts. Whether you're into motorboats, deck boats, catamarans, inflatables, fishing boats, or luxury yachts, the Vancouver International Boat Show is the ultimate destination. Attendees will discover an extensive array of boats, and also a diverse selection of accessories, services, paddleboards, jet skis, and the latest in technology and innovation. The show also offers educational seminars by industry experts, providing insights into the recreational boating lifestyle. Attendees will also enjoy exclusive savings and new product reveals. It all



Photo courtesy Netflix

THE VIEW – *Fool Me Once*

Out this month—and what some are calling the first must-see show of 2024 on Netflix—an 8-episode crime thriller called *Fool Me Once*. Taken from American crime fiction author Harlan Coben's 2016 best-selling novel (which for the TV series is now set in the U.K. instead of the U.S.), the story follows Maya, a widow grieving the death of her husband, only to have her world upended even more when she spots him on her home's secret nanny cam. Yikes! You always know what you are getting with a show/movie based on a Coben novel and *Fool me Once* is no exception. A stellar cast includes Michelle Keegan, Richard Armitage (one of our favourite actors) and the legendary Joanna Lumley. For more information go to netflix.com

THE CLASSIC – *The Omen*

There are classic film franchises from the horror genre that will never die (pardon the pun). Last fall, in this column, we did a spotlight on *The Exorcist: Believe*, the latest in that storied franchise, a film that came out fifty years after the brilliant original. Now, with *The First Omen*—a prequel to the original landmark 1976 film—set to arrive in theatres on April 5, we thought *The Omen* deserved a spotlight of its own. Three years of *The Exorcist* scared the you-know-what out of moviegoers, *The Omen* came along and reminded

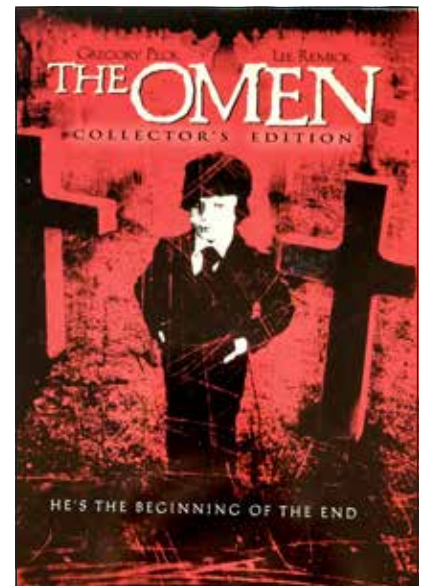


Photo courtesy 20th Century Fox

people it may not be safe to go back into a dark theatre. Like *The Exorcist*, *The Omen* benefited from a solid director, and a superb cast, led by Oscar-winner Gregory Peck and Oscar-nominated Lee Remick. As for the story, a couple's child is stillborn so the devastated husband (Peck) exchanges the dead child for one born at the same time. What could possibly go wrong? This film is a masterpiece in the horror genre and is worth a view....but maybe in the daytime.

David McCann living through random acts of kindness

By JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS
Contributors

As we enter a brand-New Year, it is refreshing to read more about the kindness that is happening in our world amidst the terrible strife. *Our City Tonight* TV sat down at Sandbar Seafood Restaurant with Creekhous Industries Ltd. general manager, David McCann, well-known philanthropist in our city. David has helped and spearheaded many community charities and is leaving a legacy of goodness. We wanted to find out a little bit more about this wonderful man and the many projects that he is involved with and specifically to find out more about his newest initiative that is called Granville Island Cares for Kids.

OCT: David, you have spent a lot of time working on projects that involve giving back. We have enjoyed showcasing your 'Random Acts of Kindness' series on our TV show over the three past years. Can you share a little bit about the newest and very important initiative that will have a huge impact on the children of British Columbia?

DM: Certainly. First though, I'm going to share a little bit of the history of Creekhous to give you an idea about the people behind my partnerships. Fifty years ago, Mitch Taylor, Garry Anderson, and a number of other folks came down to Granville Island's industrial wasteland and they bought out the lease for Monsanto Chemicals and General Paints. The building that Sandbar Seafood Restaurant is in, used to be the site for General Paints.

These gentlemen began the redevelopment of Granville Island and in 1973 the Creekhous development opened. We are celebrating the 50th anniversary of Creekhous this year and rather than have a party, they decided what they wanted to do was raise \$1 million dollars to feed hungry kids. This fundraiser began on Nov. 22, 2023, and to date have raised \$220,000.

We have the Vancouver School Board involved as well as, *The Vancouver Sun* on board with their Adopt a School program, and A Loving Spoonful is involved to provide thousands of frozen meals. We have raised enough money already to basically buy



David McCann.

Photo courtesy David McCann

over 20,000 frozen nutritious, well-balanced meals for kids.

I just can't believe how generous people are. We started this campaign with a dinner at the Teahouse in Stanley Park, and I have participated in five events with the Vancouver Men's Chorus. We have planned events at several schools around Vancouver, in Sechelt, Terrace, and Smithers...there is a pub on Davie Street, The Fountainhead, that has stated that we can use their space anytime. There has been so much generosity.

OCT: The reason for this initiative is the fact that so many children living here in British Columbia go to school hungry. Not only do these children struggle in poverty, but they do not receive enough food to properly learn in school. And many of them even if they are receiving a meal in school they go home at night and are not able to eat again until the next day at school. The reality is that they may also not be getting enough food over the weekend.

Your 'Granville Island Cares for Kids' initiative wants to be a solution for this growing problem. You seem to have a knack for raising money, and the word has spread that you, will definitely make donations count and the money raised will go to where it is needed the most and will do the most good. An excellent example of this is the high-quality art prints you received as donations. Can you explain this arrangement?

DM: Barry Mowatt, who used to own Buschlen Mowatt Gallery, called me up one day to say he had three huge filing cabinets full of beautiful stone lithographs, he also had 14,000 art books and thousands of other prints. He explained "I'm just getting ready to retire and I need to dispose of all of this and if you want it, it's free to you." All he asked is that I make a difference in the world with no other conditions. I have been able to partner with some pretty incredible people who have helped me essentially give this valuable art away and at the same time raise money for some incredible charitable causes.

OCT: We understand, people are offering you so much stuff which can be put to good use, which has extended across the country, including three museums in the Maritimes.

DM: A friend of a shareholder of Creekhous, who started the Maritime Market, had an amazing fly fishing model ship and model train collection and when he retired he packed it all up and moved it to his home on Vancouver Island and it sat there in a barn collecting dust. When the man—John Keith King—passed, his family asked me if I could dispose of the collection. I found two museums, the McAdam Railway Station and the Atlantic Salmon Museum, both in New Brunswick.

I was in Mexico and was looking for a location for the model ship collection, and there was guy sitting next to us from Newfoundland, and we got to talking about what I was doing with my philanthropic work in Vancouver. This guy just very casually said, "I'll take it!" He picked up the phone and called the premier of that province and asked him if there was a town that could put up a maritime museum. In less than five minutes he had an agreement with the premier. That became the Marystown Model Ship Gallery, which has created jobs, an educational program throughout the peninsula and it's become a great attraction for that community.

OCT: Let's finish up with information as to where people can donate and assist with your latest endeavour, Granville Island Cares for Kids.

DM: People can go to alovingspoonful.org/way-to-give/donate



RICHMOND SENTINEL SPONSORS

OUR CITY TONIGHT
JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS

airing on CHEK TV Sundays Novus Entertainment

at 10:30 DAILY



OUR CITY TONIGHT



RICHMOND'S NEWEST SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY



Independent Living, Assisted Living and
Full Care Suites available

MOVE IN TODAY!

Call our Sales & Leasing Team at
604.214.5700 or sales@hhsr.ca

Exceptional Senior Living

hhsr.ca
23100 Garripie Avenue, Richmond B.C. V6V 0B9