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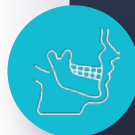
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# Richmond named Canada's Most Active Community

It's official – Richmond is Canada's Most Active Community.

The City of Richmond has been named Canada's Most Active Community in the national 2025 ParticipACTION Community Challenge, topping the list of hundreds of other communities across the country.

"This is a tremendous honour that recognizes Richmond's commitment to being a vibrant, active community," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "The city is proud to support physical activity and well-being and provide a variety of safe, fun and inclusive opportunities for all ages to keep people connected and promote healthy lifestyles. On behalf of the many organizations and individuals that support physical activity and well-being in Richmond, we are honoured to be named Canada's Most Active Community."

This is the first time Richmond has earned the title of Canada's Most Active Community. It was previously named BC's Most Active Community in 2022 and 2024 by ParticipACTION, the national organization promoting healthy living and physical fitness.

The ParticipACTION Community Challenge is a nationwide physical activity initiative encouraging Canadians to get active, and is held every June. The award recognizes Richmond's activity levels and the creative ways the city and community partners motivate residents of all ages to get physically active.

Throughout this past June, almost 425,050 participants were registered in more than 1,010 activities ranging from individual sessions to team sports. Almost 60 Richmond organizations registered for the Community Challenge, a 75 per cent increase from last year.

The city's partner Community Associations and Societies joined the Challenge along with a variety of local non-profit organizations and grassroots groups, to provide accessible, equitable opportunities for physical activity and sport.

Among those participating with the city in the 2025 ParticipACTION Community Challenge were Richmond School District No. 38, Vancouver Coastal Health, Richmond Olympic Oval, Terra Nova Nature School, Richmond Women's Resource Centre Association, Richmond Chamber of Commerce, Pacific Wave Artistic Swim Club, and the Forever Young Club.

Numerous free and low-cost events, programs and activities encouraged participation, with local partners using neighbourhood-based outreach to invite residents to take part in Challenge events fostering neighbourhood connections.

Along with a citywide Kick-off celebration on National Health and Fitness



*Photo courtesy City of Richmond*

**Richmond has been named Canada's Most Active Community and awarded a grand prize of \$100,000 to support local physical activity and sport initiatives.**

Day, other Community Challenge events included Swim to Survive for newcomers, a Get Active BINGO Challenge, Walk Richmond guided walks, Go by Bike Week celebration stations, and "try-it" fitness sessions. Weekly martial arts classes in Cantonese and Mandarin, and pickleball programs supported newcomers, settlers, and others to foster connections, wellness and belonging.

As a certified Global Active City under the international Active Well-being Initiative, Richmond has been a committed participant in the annual ParticipACTION Community Challenge since the award's inception in 2019.

Along with the prestigious title, the city also receives \$100,000 to support physical activity and sport initiatives for Richmond residents. The city recognizes that health and fitness is important, as being active is not only an excellent way to achieve individual physical and mental wellbeing but it also builds stronger, healthier and more vibrant communities.

The ParticipACTION Community Challenge is presented by Novo Nordisk with funding by the Government of Canada and Novo Nordisk.

To learn more about Richmond's involvement in the challenge, visit [richmond.ca/participaction](http://richmond.ca/participaction) or the Community Challenge website at [participaction.com](http://participaction.com)

## Steveston Vintage Fair returns

By MICHAEL COOPER

Contributing student writer

Nestled in the heart of historic Steveston Village, the Steveston Vintage Fair offers a delightful journey into the past. This charming outdoor market, presented by the Steveston Historical Society, transforms Town Square Park into a treasure trove of vintage delights on Sundays throughout the summer. For collectors, creatives, and families alike, it's an incredible opportunity to explore a curated collection of unique finds and experience the vibrant community spirit.

The fair is a celebration of all things nostalgic, with vendors showcasing a wide array of vintage treasures and trinkets. From delicate china and antique toys to stylish accessories, intricate linens, and rare collectibles, there's something to capture the eye of every visitor. Each stall tells a story, inviting patrons to imagine the lives and times these objects once



*Photo courtesy Steveston Historical Society*  
**Steveston Vintage Fair.**

inhabited. It's more than just shopping; it's an experience of discovery, a chance to purchase a piece of history that captivates you.

Beyond the myriad of goods, the Steveston Vintage Fair creates a lively and engaging atmosphere. The backdrop of the quaint Steveston Museum and Post Office adds to the historical ambiance, creating a truly authentic experience. It's a place where

you can spend a leisurely Sunday, strolling through the stalls, chatting with passionate vendors, and perhaps finding that perfect, one-of-a-kind item you didn't even know you were looking for.

The fair's commitment to community and local charm is evident in every detail. It's a gathering place for locals and tourists alike, fostering a sense of connection and shared appreciation for history and unique craftsmanship. Admission is free, making it an accessible and enjoyable outing for everyone.

The 2025 Steveston Vintage Fair is available on Sundays, Aug. 10 and 17. The market operates from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., providing ample time to explore all it has to offer. Whether you're a seasoned vintage enthusiast or simply curious about the allure of bygone eras, the Steveston Vintage Fair promises an unforgettable and enchanting experience in one of British Columbia's most picturesque historical villages.

# London Family Farm Day returns to Steveston



London Farm on Dyke Road in Steveston.

Photo courtesy City of Richmond

By **MICHAEL COOPER**  
Contributing student writer

Along the picturesque Dyke Road in Steveston, London Farm offers a charming glimpse into Richmond's agricultural past. But on August 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., this serene heritage site bursts into life with the highly anticipated Family Farm Day, a celebration that consistently draws families from across the Lower Mainland for a day of fun, learning and unforgettable memories.

Family Farm Day transforms the four-acre heritage park into a hub of activity, where the echoes of the past meet the laughter of the present. Visitors step back in time to experience a taste of rural life

from the 1890s to the 1920s, exploring the beautifully preserved Edwardian farmhouse and its surrounding heritage gardens.

The event's charm lies in its diverse offerings, ensuring there's something to captivate every member of the family. Animal encounters are always a highlight, with favorites like pony rides led by the Brendview Equestrian Center and the incredibly popular Rabbits Meet n' Treat hosted by the Rabbitats, allowing children to interact gently with furry friends. For a more dramatic display of the animal kingdom, OWL (Orphaned Wildlife) typically presents a fascinating raptor display, showcasing majestic birds of prey.

Beyond the animal attractions, creativity and hands on fun abound. Kids can unleash their inner

builders with LEGO building sessions by the Vancouver LEGO Club, or get practical with woodshop building projects sponsored by The Home Depot. The atmosphere is enriched by live music, featuring local talents like Murphy and the Cats with their early 1900s jazz tunes, and captivating kids' entertainment by performers such as Stories on Wheels. Balloon twisting and face painting stations add splashes of colour and whimsy, while various games keep the energy high.

Food options are available from local food trucks and concession stands, ensuring visitors can refuel throughout their day of adventure. Past events have seen popular choices like Ponchos Tacos and The Praguery, offering tasty treats for all palates.

London Farm is a testament to Richmond's rich farming heritage, with outdoor exhibits showcasing vintage farm machinery, a working chicken coop, and even an apiary. Family Farm Day is more than just an event; it's an opportunity to connect with this history in a lively and engaging way.

With its blend of educational exhibits, interactive activities, live entertainment, and delicious food, London Farm's Family Farm Day is a quintessential summer experience in Steveston, offering a delightful escape to the joys of farm life for families seeking discovery, laughter, and adventure.

## Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes return

By **MICHAEL COOPER**  
Contributing student writer

Imagine stepping onto the historic streets of Steveston Village and finding yourself transported back in time, with characters from the past walking and talking right beside you. This is the magic of Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes, an innovative and immersive experience that blends theater with history, presented by the Steveston Historical Society. These unique tours offer a captivating glimpse into Steveston's rich past, bringing local heritage stories to life through costumed interpreters and student actors.

The Steveston Alive walking tours are far from a typical historical lecture. Guided by a knowledgeable costumed tour guide, participants embark on a journey through the village, learning fascinating stories about the area's unique history. The real highlight, however, comes as the tour progresses. At various heritage points of interest, the group encounters student actors portraying historical figures from Steveston's early 1900s, who perform short, engaging theatrical snippets. These vignettes offer a vivid and personal insight into the lives

and challenges of the people who shaped Steveston, making history tangible and relatable.

Whether it's a cannery worker sharing tales of the bustling fishing industry, a shopkeeper recounting the daily routines of village life, or a resident describing the social fabric of the time, each vignette is carefully trained to educate and entertain. The performances are designed to immerse you in the culture and history of this charming village, allowing you to "walk the boardwalks, meet characters from the early 1900s, and see history come alive before your eyes."

The tours depart from the Steveston Museum and Post Office, beginning the authentic historical experience. It's a great activity for families, history buffs, and anyone looking for a unique and memorable way to explore Steveston. The blend of walking, storytelling, and live performance offers an engaging educational experience that appeals to all ages.

For the summer of 2025, Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes are scheduled for Aug. 9 and 16. Tours are offered at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., with tickets available for \$7 per person through Eventbrite or in person at the Steveston Museum. Children under 10 are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult.

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# In honour of our soldiers: Robert Lewis Francis

By MATTHEW CHEUNG  
Contributing writer

In our previous series, we learned about the 56 men who gave their lives during World War I and World War II, whose names had been inscribed on the Richmond Cenotaph and were given a poppy street sign. Following our poppy street sign series, we moved onto the young soldiers whose names were inscribed on the Richmond Cenotaph, but did not have a road named after them. Those names were compiled of the 23 young men who lost their lives in World War I, World War II, or in the Korean War.

Robert Lewis Francis was born on January 19, 1920 in Vancouver, British Columbia, and lived with his parents James and Ann Francis at 960 No. 1 Road. He attended Richmond High School and graduated in 1939, he would go onto attend Sprott-Shaw where he took a commercial course before working as a storekeeper for Nelson Bros Fisheries and BC Packers as a pilchard tallyman. He also worked on his parents' farm as a truck driver.

In his personal time, Robert played lacrosse for the Steveston Tyees, and was given the nickname Horse, he also enjoyed hunting shooting and rugby.

Robert enlisted into the Royal Canadian Air Force and began his service in Edmonton, before being transferred to bases in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In

1943, he became an Air Bomber and was posted overseas, after a year of service he would be promoted to Warrant Officer.

While stationed overseas, in a letter to his parents, Robert detailed the experience of his bombing rides over Berlin, as anti-aircraft guns lit up the sky and his aircraft dropped a 8000 lb block buster bomb. He also mentioned in the letter, the stress and experience when three German aircraft pursued Roberts' aircraft as they were heading back to England.

On April 23, 1944, the Lancaster Aircraft #ND753 was shot down during a night operation in Dusseldorf, Germany. Seven men aboard were killed, Robert Francis was buried in the Military Cemetery in Dusseldorf, before being reburied in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery in Kleve, Germany.

Francis Road had already been in existence since 1902 as there was a station for the city's train. Eventually the road would be named after James Henry Francis' family, who lived and farmed in the area. Although Francis Road was not directly named after Robert Lewis Francis for his contributions during war, it was still indirectly named after him and his family.

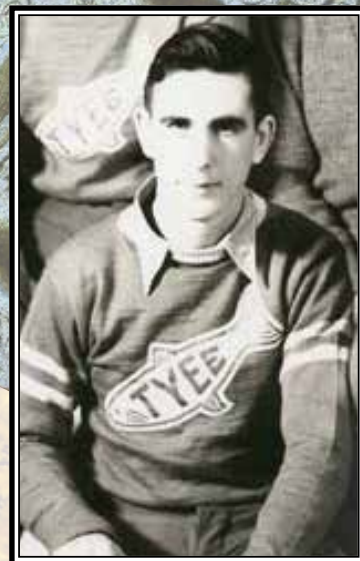


Photo courtesy City of Richmond Archives, photograph #1987 104 52. Steveston Tyees, 1937, Robert Francis.



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# Visit the Kwantlen Farmers' Market this summer

By YOLANDA WEI

Contributing student writer

You may have seen the welcoming tents and smiling vendors set up in front of the Richmond Brighthouse library every Tuesday afternoon. At their tables, they sell a wide array of farm-fresh produce, handmade crafts, delicious baked goods, and more. You may have paused to take a look yourself. You may have wondered how this market came to be.

Well, this market is the Kwantlen Farmers' Market (KFM), and they are incredibly excited to share their story with you.

The KFM first started as a way for students in KPU's Sustainable Agriculture program to support food security by selling KPU Farm's fresh, local, organic produce. (The KPU farm is located just east of KPU's Richmond campus on the Garden City lands.) The market, like the program, is dedicated to promoting the building of a sustainable economy and society.

Today, ten years later, the vision remains unchanged, but the outreach has grown. The KFM now not only welcomes unique vendors across the lower mainland to set up stalls but has also evolved into a place for the general community to gather weekly. The recently developed the Live Music Project allows musicians—especially developing songwriters—the opportunity to share their musical talents while contributing to the market atmosphere. (Performer applications can be found in their Insta-



Photos courtesy Naomi Mallare

**The Kwantlen Farmers' Market is dedicated to helping build a sustainable economy and society.**

gram bio or at [tinyurl.com/2whjnbwv](https://tinyurl.com/2whjnbwv)

Additionally, the market is a member of the BC Association of Farmers' Markets (BCAFM) and a part of the Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program, which supports community food security by providing market coupons to low-income families, pregnant women, and seniors.

The KFM is truly a collaboration between the different pockets of community—residents can access what they need, vendors can continue their passionate work, and musicians can showcase their talents.

Now is the perfect time to pay the Kwantlen Farmers' Market a visit. In the heat of the sun, stop by the shade of the tents to hear the stories of the vendors

and the music of the performers, and treat yourself to a generous box of fresh berries, pastries, or something more.

"Visiting a farmers' market may be one of the best things you can do for yourself and your community. Not only does it help our local economy, but it also lets you reconnect with the makers of the products or services you're purchasing. The mainstream ways of shopping—like at malls or online—don't give you that pleasure of building community anymore. Plus, you can trust that your produce, baked goods, or chicken skewers weren't just another few products in a system of mass production; they are made with hard work and care," said Naomi Mallare, market organizer.

The Kwantlen Farmers' Market runs this summer until Oct. 28, every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in front of the Richmond Brighthouse Library, 7700 Minoru Gate.

Follow the KFM on Instagram @kwantlenmkt, on Facebook: "Kwantlen Farmers' Market - Richmond", or visit [kwantlenfarmersmktwixsite.com/kwantlen-farmers-mkt](https://kwantlenfarmersmktwixsite.com/kwantlen-farmers-mkt) for more information.

*Special thanks to Naomi Mallare (Kwantlen Farmers' Market) for her help in making this article possible.*



**Discover a variety of fresh produce, baked goods, homemade crafts, and more.**


## Richmond Multicultural Community Services holds second Bazaar

By MICHAEL COOPER

Contributing student writer


Following part one of the multicultural bazaar held on July 19, the second day of the free Multicultural Bazaar will be held

on August 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The vibrant community annual family event will once again take place at 7000 Minoru Blvd. The event will bring together a rich tapestry of cultures through a unique marketplace, featuring local artisans selling handcrafted goods.



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Asphalt Paving Advisory 2025

April 20 to November 30, 2025

The City of Richmond has contracted Save On Black Top Ltd. to grind and pave the following locations in Richmond **from April 20 to November 30, 2025.**

PROPOSED 2025 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS

No. 2 Road (Steveston Highway to Williams Road)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Alderbridge Way to Cambie Road)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Cambie Road to Capstan Way)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Capstan Way to Sea Island Way)—Intersections included
Bridgeport Road (No. 5 Road to Sweden Way)—Intersections included
Cambie Road (Shell Road to No.5 Road)—Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Seacliff Road to Kingsbridge Drive)—Intersections included
No. 6 Road (Bridgeport Road to River Road)—Intersections included
Moncton Street (Railway Avenue to No. 2 Road)—Intersections included
Francis Road (Gilbert Road to No. 3 Road)—Intersections included
Francis Road (Railway Avenue to No. 2 Road)—Intersections included
River Road (Cambie Road to Capstan Way)—Intersections included
Westminster Highway (No. 7 Road to No. 8 Road)—Intersections included
Vulcan Way (No. 5 Road to No. 6 Road)—Intersections included
Boeing Avenue (Catalina Crescent to Wellington Crescent)—Intersections included
Catalina Crescent (Handley Avenue to Airport Road)—Intersections Included
Douglas Crescent (Wellington Crescent to North end of road)—Intersections Included
Hudson Avenue (Wellington Crescent to Airport Road)—Intersections Included
Bridgeport Road (St. Edwards Drive to Shell Road)—Intersections Included
Cambie Road (No. 4 Road to Shell Road)—Intersections Included
No. 4 Road (Granville Avenue to Westminster Highway)—Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Bridgeport Road to Vulcan Way)—Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Greenland Drive to Bridgeport Road)—Intersections included
Shell Road (River Drive to River Road)—Intersections included
Wallace Road (Kozier Gate to No. 2 Road)—Intersections included
Williams Road (Parsons Road to Gilbert Road)—Intersections included
Machrina Way (Horseshoe Way to No. 5 Road)—Intersections included
Trumond Avenue (Wellmond Road to Gormond Road)—Intersections included
Garden City Road (Cambie Road to Bridgeport Road)—Intersections included
Boundary Road (Thompson Gate to Westminster Highway)—Intersections included
Kwantlen Street (Alderbridge Way to Alexandra Road)—Intersections included

Work hours will be 7:00am to 10:00pm on weekdays, and 7:00am to 8:00pm on weekends. Night time work hours will be from 7:00pm to 5:00am. (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 **richmond.ca/paving**.

richmond.ca





# A 13-year-long journey with Richmond Ravens hockey

By YOLANDA WEI

Contributing student writer

From music classes to sports practice, from art classes to theatre, we often have the opportunity to try many activities in our youth. But few of us are able to stick to one the entirety of our childhood. We grow out of interests, preferring to move on, yet what happens when we allow ourselves to grow with our passions and keep making room for them in our lives?

Meet Tifa Lau, a hockey player who recently wrapped up her thirteenth season with the Richmond Ravens, completing her third year in the U18 league and fourth year on the rep team. (The rep team plays in a high-level, competitive hockey league.)

Tifa began skating at age four and has laced up her hockey skates for many more practices and games since then. Her story is one of extraordinary dedication and passion for a sport and a way of life.

I sat down with Tifa Lau to discuss what her time spent on the ice means to her. "I feel like I'm part of a community," she begins. "I'm on a team, and we're all really close."

Her connection with hockey began years ago when her parents first signed her up for skating lessons at age four. "My dad said that I used to watch hockey on TV and always said I wanted to play."

"But the skating lessons did not do much for me, so they just threw me into a hockey league, and then I never stopped."

Had she had any idea then of how long she would continue?

"I don't know," she admits. "I don't think at any point of my hockey career I really could imagine my life without hockey. It's always just been a part of my life, so I haven't really thought about stopping."

"I feel like having something in your life to be committed to outside of school pushes me to keep working on myself and connect with my community," she continues. "And during a game, there's so much excitement. You can't imagine doing anything else at that point, at that moment."

The hockey season typically starts in September and ends in March. The schedule and commitment throughout the year

depend on the team and level.

"When you're younger, it doesn't matter as much," Tifa explains. "Everybody's just trying to have fun. But then as you get older, it's more about winning. You want to win and improve, so you have to put in more hours. Coaches push for as much ice time as possible, which means 6 a.m. practices if you have to."

"I used to have 6 a.m. practices. Those were not fun, but if Coach asks us to do that, then we don't really have a choice. Those were not enjoyable, but you show up anyway."

For the rep teams, all this commitment leads up to a chance to qualify and play at Provincials at the end of the season, a high-level tournament with the best teams in the province. The goal for Tifa's

U18 team was always to go to provincials. "Our first year we didn't, but the last two years, we have."

It is often also the highlight of the season. When asked about her most memorable experiences, Tifa answers without hesitation: "Provincials. I remember my second year was a really fun run. We came third, which is not what we were aiming for, but after we got over that semi's loss, it was actually a really fun game because it was the third years' last game. And we're just trying to

get everybody—all the third years—a goal so they can leave with a memory. And then I remember after a lot of people were crying because it was their last game. That was really sweet."

The little moments on the ice stay with her too, and they build up her story piece by piece. "I don't remember what level it was, but I had a tournament in Cowichan Valley. It wasn't particularly important, but that was the first time I ever won gold for anything. I did end up crying on the ice. It feels really good when your commitment pays off."

And it is this incredible commitment that has shaped her life. The time commitment



Photos courtesy Tifa Lau

Tifa Lau wraps up her thirteenth season with the Richmond Ravens.

to frequent practices, games, and out-of-province tournaments is one thing but there is something more. A personal commitment "It's more about what you can do for the team and how you can improve yourself," Tifa reflects.

Her personal awareness of herself and others does not end there. Tifa has learned other lessons from hockey that she brings into her life. "It's a lot about community. You should focus on the people around you as much as yourself. The better everyone is, if we all improve together, we become more efficient, and the team will be better, which is something that can translate into other things, like your class. If everybody's learning and growing together, obviously you'll have a stronger class than if one person excels."

Tifa graduates from JN Burnett Secondary this year and heads to Capilano University for film in September. Her love for hockey is not forgotten. "There is a U21 level—I'll try to make it work. If not, I might join just a local team. I don't really want to quit."

As our interview comes to an end, Tifa has a powerful message for the youth of Richmond: "Even if it's not hockey, just keep exploring your passions and interests. It's really important to follow something that you love. It'll keep you growing."

A wonderful sentiment that we can all bring into our lives. When we dedicate ourselves to something like hockey, we learn the skills that come with the sport, like skating and stick handling, but it's the dedication to the sport that teaches us skills that are important in life, like resilience, teamwork, and responsibility.

Learn more about Richmond Ravens Hockey at [richmondravenshockey.ca](http://richmondravenshockey.ca)



"It's more about what you can do for the team and how you can improve yourself."

# 51st celebration of BC Day

By MICHAEL COOPER  
Contributing student writer

As the first Monday of August rolls around, British Columbians across the province prepare to celebrate BC Day Aug. 4, 2025, a statutory holiday dedicated to honouring the rich history, diverse culture, and pioneering spirit that defines our stunning western province. More than just a long weekend, BC Day offers a chance to reflect on the remarkable journey that has shaped British Columbia into the vibrant place it is today.

The origins of BC Day trace back to 1974 when Surrey MLA Ernie Hall proposed a provincial holiday to recognize the contributions of those who built British Columbia. The idea was warmly received, and the British Columbia Day Act was passed, officially establishing the holiday. This timing also aligns with the historic declaration of the Crown Colony of British Columbia by the Westminster Parliament on Aug. 2, 1858.

Before the arrival of European explorers, the lands now known as British Columbia were home to a multitude of Indigenous peoples, whose presence dates back tens of thousands of years. The First Nations, with their rich and varied cultures, languages, and traditions, thrived on the abundant natural resources of the region. Their deep connection to the land and sophisticated societal structures laid the foundation for the province's earliest communities. Many Indigenous names for towns, cities, rivers, and mountains endure to this day, serving as a constant reminder of BC's heritage.

European contact began in the mid-18th century, with Spanish explorers like Juan Pérez and Bodega y Quadra making documented voyages along the coast. In 1778, Captain James Cook arrived at Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island, initiating trade relations with the Nuu-chah-nulth tribe and paving the way for British claims in the region. The Hudson's Bay Company further solidified British presence in the 19th century by establishing fur trading posts.

However, it was the allure of gold that truly transformed British Columbia. The Fraser Canyon Gold Rush in 1858 and the subsequent Cariboo Gold Rush in 1862 brought tens of thousands of prospectors and settlers, leading to a dramatic population boom and the formal establishment of the Colony of British Columbia. This period was marked by rapid development, challenging journeys, and the forging of new communities.

In 1871, British Columbia joined the Canadian Confederation, a crucial step that led to the promise of a transcontinental railway. The completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885, a monumental feat of engineering often carried out by Chinese and Japanese labourers in treacherous terrain, finally connected British Columbia to Eastern Canada, facilitating trade, settlement, and further growth.

Today, British Columbia stands as a testament to this diverse and dynamic history. It boasts an unparalleled natural landscape, from the rugged Pacific coastline with its thousands of islands to the majestic peaks of the Rocky Mountains, lush temperate rainforests like the Great Bear, and even some interior plateaus. This geographical diversity is matched by its cultural mosaic, Indigenous influences, British colonial past, and new waves of immigration from around the world.

## Fun facts about British Columbia:

Vancouver Island is the largest island on the west coast of North America, almost half the size of Ireland.

The Great Bear Rainforest is the largest coastal temperate rainforest in the world and the only place on the planet where you can find the Kermode (Spirit) bear, a subspecies of black bear with white fur.

Victoria holds the title of "Cycling Capital of Canada," with more cyclists per capita than any other city in the country.

In 1947, a group of 200 kids in British Columbia famously marched and protested on the capital building after the price of a chocolate bar in-

creased from 5 cents to 8 cents, reportedly shutting down the government for a day.

British Columbia is home to the world's largest hockey stick (Duncan), the world's largest fly-fishing rod (Houston), and the world's largest tin soldier (New Westminster).

BC has 40 thousand islands.

BC has the largest proportions of Asians per capita of any North American province/state.

## Facts about Richmond, British Columbia:

Boasts a rich history deeply intertwined with its geography as a collection of islands in the Fraser River delta. For millennia, the area was home to the Coast Salish people, who utilized its abundant resources for fishing and natural resources. European settlement began in the mid-19th century, with the first farms established in the 1860s. The fertile delta lands were ideal for agriculture, particularly cranberries and dairy, attracting a diverse population of settlers. The fishing industry also boomed with canneries dotting the waterfront, processing the salmon from the Fraser.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw the development of vital infrastructure, including dykes to protect against flooding and a railway system connecting Richmond to Vancouver. Steveston, originally a cannery town, emerged as a bustling port and remains a vibrant historic village today. Post-World War II, Richmond experienced significant growth, transforming from a predominantly rural community into a thriving suburban city, fueled by immigration and its strategic location near YVR. This expansion has led to a dynamic multicultural city that still honors its agricultural and fishing roots while embracing modern development.

As residents gather for community festivals, outdoor adventures, or quiet reflection with family and friends, BC Day serves as a powerful reminder of the province's incredible journey. It's a day to appreciate the pioneering spirit that built this land, the diverse cultures that enrich it, and the breathtaking natural beauty that continues to inspire. Happy BC Day!

# BC signs trade agreement with ON, MB, and YT

BC Premier David Eby signed separate agreements with Ontario, Manitoba, and Yukon. All have agreed to continue working to remove trade barriers between provinces and territories.

"At a time when we're facing an unprecedented attack on our economy, it's more important than ever that we work together to remove trade barriers between provinces," Eby said. "With these trade agreements, we're making it easier to buy and sell Canadian products to our fellow Canadian neighbours. This is another important step towards building a stronger economy at home — one that's less

reliant on the U.S."

The agreement with Ontario makes it easier for people in regulated trades and professions to work in either province and a agreed upon framework for a direct-to-consumer system for alcoholic beverages, so producers will have easier access to markets, while consumers will get more choice.

The Manitoba agreement includes measures to increase the mobility of regulated workers and professionals. B.C. will also endeavour to allow alcoholic beverages from Manitoba to be sold directly to B.C. consumers.

B.C. and Yukon agreed to collaborate on removing barriers to trade. Both will also align standards for regulated occupations and registration processes.

The agreements were signed during a gathering of all 13 provincial and territorial premiers at the Council of the Federation meeting in Huntsville, Ont.

Topics discussed at the council's summer meeting included health, public safety, energy security, labour mobility, immigration, Canada-U.S. relations, sovereignty and national security, emergency management, and energy security, as well as international and internal trade.

# I can't believe that's a law: Nunavut edition

By MATTHEW CHEUNG  
Contributing writer

**DISCLAIMER:** The following article is for informational and entertainment purposes only, and does not reflect the opinions or views of the *Richmond Sentinel*. Last edition, we look at the quirky laws and bylaws in the largest territory in New Brunswick, as part of our 13-part series. In this edition, we look at the quirky laws and bylaws in the Nunavut Territory.

1. With the climate drastically changing as years have gone by, so has the ability of the permafrost that Nunavut sits upon to stay established. In 2015, Nunavut enacted the National Building Code. One of the requirements for all buildings was that they must be built on stilts that sit 1 metre above the ground. The reason behind this is, Nunavut sits atop the permafrost, if the buildings were too close to the permafrost, it may eventually sink low enough thaw out the permafrost which could destabilize foundations and collapse buildings. By maintaining the 1 metre height, cold air can circulate below, preserving the integrity of the permafrost.

2. In British Columbia, the cost for a BC Parks license plate is approximately \$50 on the initial cost, followed by \$40 per renewal. In Nunavut however, they took their license plates to the next level, having created Polar bear shaped license plates. However, the polar bear license plates do not require the same fees. Originally introduced in the 1970s in the Northwest Territories, the polar bear license plate design would become adopted by Nunavut in 1999 when they finally became their own territory. In 2012, a more traditional license plate would be adopted by the government before the original design was adopted again in 2024.



Image generated by AI

In a series inspired by a colleague, the *Richmond Sentinel* presents some interesting laws that simply don't sound real in the Nunavut Territory.

If you think we missed any quirky laws in the province, feel free to email us at [newsroom@richmondsentinel.ca](mailto:newsroom@richmondsentinel.ca) or comment under the post on one of our social media accounts. In the next edition we look at what we think are the most interesting or quirky laws and bylaws across the country.

3. In the last edition, we learned that New Brunswick had two official languages, English and French, making it the only province to have more than one official language. However, amongst the territories, the Northwest Territories have eleven official languages, while, Nunavut has four official languages, English, French, Inuktitut, and Inuinnaqtun. In 1984, when Nunavut was still part of the Northwest Territories, the official languages act recognized Indigenous languages alongside English and French as the official languages of the territory. 15 years later, when Nunavut would establish themselves as their own territory, they would continue to follow the language rights of the Northwest Territories. In 2008, they enacted the Nunavut Official Languages Act and the Inuit Language Protection Act, which gave equal status to English, French, and Inuktitut, and incorporated the Inuit language into everyday public life, requiring the language to be present in services, education, and work.

4. In the City of Iqaluit, according to the 2022 Domestic Animal Control Bylaw No. 924; it is mandatory to spay or neuter pets.

Mandatory Spay / Neuter in Iqaluit (Animal Bylaw). The reason behind this bylaw is due to the lack of vets across Nunavut, because of this many pets go around unaltered increasing the population of stray and free-roaming animals. Violators of this bylaw are subject to a \$250 fine, if a pet is found without a license or not spayed / neutered, they may be impounded and the owners may be charged for impound fees.

## Canada's largest EV charging project

Richmond Centre announced the launch of Canada's largest multi-residential electric vehicle (EV) charging project. Featuring 1,212 state-of-the-art Elocity smart chargers installed within a parkade spanning an area equivalent to six football fields, this landmark initiative was delivered by Enlightened Building Technologies using Canadian-made smart EV charging technology from Elocity.

The project positions Richmond Centre as the site of one of the most extensive single-location multi-residential EV charging infrastructure deployments in North America. This milestone exemplifies leadership in sustainability, clean energy, and next-generation mobility solutions. It represents a bold step forward for tenant convenience and sustainable urban living.

The smart chargers and management system are developed and delivered by Elocity, a Canadian smart EV charging technology company, and feature several industry-leading innovations, including:

- Cutting edge technology with convenience to ensure accessibility.
- Optimized Power Sharing: Advanced electrical power-sharing technology enables efficient utilization, reducing capital and operational costs while maintaining reliability.
- Intelligent Energy Management: Elocity's intelligent energy management platform optimizes the overall energy usage of all vehicles charging and balances the electrical demands of the building. Elocity's AI-based software also optimizes charging to reduce costs by utilizing periods of lower power

pricing and minimize overall demands on the electric grid

• Paving the Way for Large-Scale EV Adoption: The project at Richmond Centre showcases future-ready infrastructure with state-of-the-art technology.

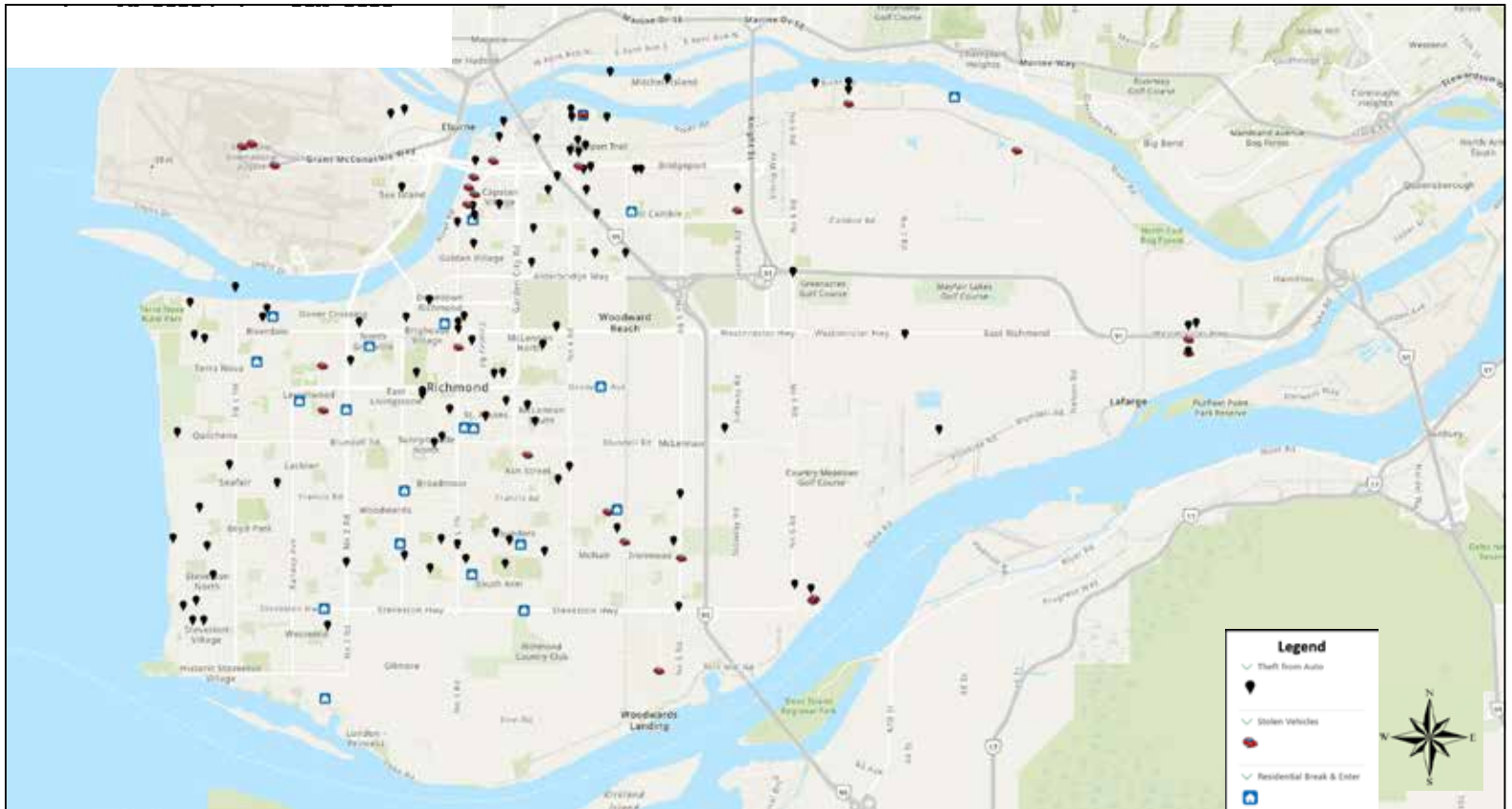
The project's environmental and climate benefits are significant: There is the potential to replace over 13 million miles of gasoline vehicle travel with 584,677 gallons of fuel saved. The GHG reductions approximate avoiding the methane associated with half a million trash bags in landfill and millions of pounds of coal being burned.

Executed in record time, this milestone project was made possible through collaborative efforts between industry leaders, government partners, and technology innovators.



# RCMP

## Crime Map June 1 - 30, 2025



## People in B.C. urged to practise water safety

In recognition of National Drowning Prevention Week, the BC Coroners Service, together with the Lifesaving Society and B.C. Emergency Health Services (BCEHS), is sharing helpful reminders and promoting water safety awareness.

In 2024, there were 98 accidental drowning deaths in British Columbia, with 52 of these deaths recorded from June to September, according to a new report from the BC Coroners Service. That's an 18 per cent decrease from the 119 deaths reported in 2023.

"This report, which covers a 10-year period, highlights that accidental drowning deaths continue to see an unfortunate upward trend during our warm summer months," said Dr. Jatinder Baidwan, chief coroner, BC Coroners Service. "It is our hope that by providing regular information and details about how these deaths occur, we can help British Columbians make safer choices while enjoying water-related activities."

The data collected found most deaths occurred in rivers and creeks (33 per cent) and lakes and ponds (24 per cent), with the most common circumstances involving an unintentional fall into water (22 per cent), swimming (18 per cent) and bathing (14 per cent). As in previous years, the data collected for 2024 shows the majority of accidental drowning deaths were residents of B.C. (95 of 98).



Photo by Jaana Björk

**In light of National Drowning Prevention week, the province is sharing helpful reminders and promoting water safety awareness.**

"It is crucial that parents and caregivers properly supervise children at the lake, beach, pool or in the

bathtub at home, keep young children within arm's reach, wear a lifejacket or PFD while boating no matter your age or ability, and stay sober on the water," said Lenea Grace, executive director, Lifesaving Society – B.C. & Yukon Branch. "Many drowning victims never intend to go into the water at all. For this reason, we urge the public to be WaterSmart this summer and to take swim lessons and lifesaving training to help prevent future tragedies."

From 2014-23, alcohol and/or drugs were determined to be a contributing factor in 40 per cent of accidental drowning deaths.

"Anyone can drown, even people who know how to swim. Remember, alcohol and other recreational substances don't mix with any water activities and intoxication puts you at a significant risk of drowning," said Brian Twaites, paramedic public information officer, BCEHS. "When on or in the water, stay sober and stay safe."

While the data in the report is considered preliminary and subject to change, additional notable findings from the report include:

- 77 per cent of the 2024 deaths were male;
- 20 per cent of those who died were 50-59, followed by those age 60-69 (15 per cent) and 70+ (15 per cent); and
- 34 per cent of all accidental drowning deaths occurred in the Interior Health region.



**Douglas James Scammell**

## FASHION FOR MEN

# A Panama Hat

During the hot summer days one way to keep cool and still look stylish is to find the right hat that would compliment your wardrobe. Linen fabric flat caps are perfect, but there's another hat that is beyond iconic and that is the Ecuadorian hat, or Toquilla or Jipijapa straw hat better known today as the Panama Hat.

The traditional Panama hat is often light colored, light weight, breathable, and often worn as an accessory to your summer suit, but it can also be worn as a more casual look, with a nice linen shirt and shorts.

The Panama hat has a bit wider brim than a fedora hat which makes it more appealing if you prefer better coverage from the sun for your head and neck.



### HISTORY

The Panama hat origin began in Ecuador as far back as the year 1526. As the Spanish conquistadors arrived in Ecuador where the inhabitants Inca people and the native people of the coastal areas were wearing a brimless hat resembling a toque, which was woven from the fibres from a palm tree that the Spaniards came to call toquilla straw. Moving into the centuries that followed, hat weaving evolved throughout Ecuador and by the 19th century these unique hats became in high demand worldwide. With most South American goods in the 19th and into the 20th centuries they would be shipped to Panama. From there they could be shipped to the destinations of Asia, Europe, and the rest of the Americas, subsequently acquiring a name that reflected their point of international sale "Panama Hats" rather than their place of domestic origin.

There are publications as far back to the year 1828 using the name Panama hat to describe the hat.



Many traveler's in the 19th century would tell people they admired their hat and the most popular response was, they bought it in Panama. The Panama hat was featured at the 1855 world's fair and that for the first time made the hat popular on a global scale.

In 1906 U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt visited the construction site of the Panama Canal and was photographed wearing a Panama hat and that picture was posted in the New York Times newspaper which helped increase the hat's popularity. By the 1920's and 1930's the Panama hat became the summer hat of choice for many in the western world.

**Construction:** The two main processes in the creation of a Panama hat are weaving and blocking. The two most common types of weaves are called the cuenca and the brisa. The cuenca weave has the appearance of a herringbone pattern and uses slightly more straw than the brisa weave. The brisa weave has the appearance of small diamond-like squares. This type of weave is less intri-

cate but perceived as finer than the cuenca weave by some, as it is lighter. Other types of weaves include the crochet, the fancy, and the torcido.

The quality of a panama hat is defined by the tightness of the weave. The price of these hats to this day is measured on the time the weaver has put into making these hats.

A master weaver could take as long as eight months to weave a single hat. Sadly the best hats can sell for up to fifty times more than what one weaver is paid for about eight months of work.

According to popular lore, a premium Panama hat can hold water, and when rolled up can pass through a wedding ring.

To this day the genuine Panama hats are still made in Ecuador where the toquilla palm is cultivated and are a big part of the culture there.

**Resurgence:** Today the Panama hat is experiencing a revival in many different forms as it is popular with both men and women.

The hat is extremely versatile no matter what your style is or the outfit you choose to wear and can be seen worn by people on the street, outdoor patio cafes or even the beach during the summer months.

The Panama hat is a very elegant classy looking hat that in my opinion stands out amongst the rest.

Thanks to many celebrities like the great late Sean Connery, and to living legends like Anthony Hopkins, Tom Cruise, and actresses as well like Cameron Diaz and Emma Watson have been spotted wearing Panama hats.

When I purchased my first Panama hat that was one the first pieces that led me down the path of wanting to learn more about fashion as well as its history. I felt very sophisticated wearing it and I am sure others will feel the same.



Sadly there are many fake paper made panama hats on today's market, thankfully many people acknowledge and appreciate the quality and beauty of the one and only original Panama hat from Ecuador.

*Photos courtesy DJ Scammell*



## Joe Biz — by Joe Leary

# Valdy is a Canadian musical treasure



Valdy—Canada's endearing and enduring troubadour.

Photo via valdy.com

Born Paul Valdermar Horsdal, the two-time Juno Award-winning folksinger was born in Ottawa and started playing guitar and piano at an early age and Henry Mancini was a major influence. "He was a band leader, composer and film-score champion," says Valdy.

"The thickness of his tonal combinations; his grooves and his sense of melody kicked me off as a youngster and few have risen to that height of creativity in my opinion.

"Joni Mitchell is a contender, as is Mark Knopfler, Sting and a few others—those who inspire others without teaching or preaching; just by being remarkable".

In the sixties Valdy toured with bands; the London Towne Criers and The Prodigal Sons and was the bassist for country singer, Blake Emmons, before heading west in 1966.

"I was a decent guitarist by that time, age 20.

"When I drove with a pal to Victoria, my first regular gig was playing a Hagstrom Electric Bass with soul-singer Darren St. Claire.

"Victoria was coming of age in those years and there were many music bars, so that's what I did until 1970, with successive stints in house bands".

He soon discovered that his soul lived in Folk Music.

"Every song's a folk song 'cause I never heard a horse sing" is a quote by folksinger 'Big' Bill Broonzy and I concur," adds Valdy.

"Thus, I can play anything and still be a folksinger.

"Were I to specialize in any given style, obviously

I would be defined by that genre—but folk music is the broad foundation of music for the folk, by the folk: thus, folksinger".

Embarking on a solo career in the seventies, Valdy's journey to the radio airwaves and subsequent appearances on the music charts took a circuitous route. He landed on the Canadian music scene in 1972, when *Rock and Roll Song* charted nationally. Its success is rather ironic as the singer scored a major hit record by recounting a tale of audience rejection.

In 1969, he was invited to play at the Aldergrove Rock Festival. It seems the assembled masses didn't approve of his folk repertoire and voiced their disapproval.

For Valdy, it became perfect material for his debut single. "When one is rejected by five thousand people one can respond in basically two manners: quit doing what caused the grief or get better at it," he says.

"I chose the latter".

*Rock and Roll Song* was just the beginning of a string of radio hits that included, *Yes I Can*, *Simple Life*, and *Peter and Lou*—all gems in their own right.

Throughout the 1970s and '80s, Valdy released numerous albums, earning his two Juno Awards and multiple nominations and became a fixture on CBC and in folk festivals across the country.

Audiences connect with his homespun material and banter as they feel like conversations of everyday life.

Whether singing about love, loss, or causes and issues he believes in, Valdy always brings a sense

of place to his work; deeply-rooted within the Canadian landscape. These days, it remains a simple life for the vaunted folk performer.

"My wife Kathleen and I live on Salt Spring Island, off the SE corner of Vancouver Island," he says.

"When home, I am involved in all the usual home activities as well as trying to be a housekeeper, as Kathleen is working every week.

"Several locals and I have a jam night each week, which allows the chops to stay fairly fresh: music as therapy".

Appointed a member of the esteemed Order of Canada in 2011, Valdy is still active and entertaining at the seasoned age of 79.

"Touring is a balancing act, keeping vocal prowess and instrumental chops on as high a plain as possible, without losing the grittiness of experimentation and discovery," he says, of life on the road in 2025.

*Be Good Now* basically sums up touring and the lifestyle must support being ready to give ones best at the downbeat". It's that axiom that keeps bringing in the crowds.

"Valdy has performed at Blue Frog Studios more than a dozen times over the past 14 years, with every show selling out quickly," says Kelly Breaks, co-owner of the popular White Rock venue.

"It's proof that his storytelling and musicianship continue to captivate audiences and stands as one of Canada's great national storytellers; weaving songs about small-town life, everyday people and the traditions that define this country."

valdy.com

# OUR CITY *tonight*

**SPOTLIGHT ON  
MORE GREAT SUMMER VIEWS**



Photo courtesy Paramount + Canada

## THE VIEW #1 – MOBLAND

From Britain comes this powerful, hard-hitting, and at times, tough to watch, crime drama called *MobLand*. It centres around the Harrigans, an Irish crime family based in London who are in the middle of an escalating battle with another crime family called the Stevensons. In the middle of this violent mess is Harry Da Souza (Tom Hardy), a street-smart, “fixer” who works for the Harrigan family, led by Pierce Brosnan and Helen Mirren. It’s Harry’s job to try and calm the growing war and, at times, intimidate and threaten those working against the family. But this is not easy, as he spends most of his waking hours driving all over London (and to the Harrigan country estate), meeting with his own group, many of the opposing members of the Stevensons, and any other “hangers-on” caught in the middle. Harry conducts a different kind of diplomacy. Guy Ritchie, who’s made excellent films in this genre, is one of the directors involved in this ten-episode series, which has been so popular that a season two has already been confirmed. Look for a solid supporting cast including Paddy Considine and Joanne Froggatt, who won a *Golden Globe Award* a few years ago for her work as Anna, the strong, supportive servant on *Downton Abby*. *MobLand* is available for home viewing at Paramount + Canada. [paramountplus.com](http://paramountplus.com)

## THE VIEW #2 – LONG BRIGHT RIVER

We were late in getting to this series, which debuted this past winter in Canada. But better late than never as *Long Bright River* is a crime drama worth your viewing time. Based on the #1 *New York Times* bestseller, this suspense thriller centres around a police officer named Mickey Fitzpatrick (*Academy Award* nominee and *Emmy* award winner Amanda Seyfried, who also acts as executive producer), who patrols the Philadelphia neighbour she grew up in, a neighbourhood hard-hit by the opioid crisis. While dealing with the daily grind and stress of her job, Mickey is raising a young son and looking for her younger sister who has been living on those same Philly streets but has now gone missing. That stress increases even more when a series of murders take place in the neighborhood, all involving women of the streets. Going beyond her official duties and investigating on her own and later with her ex-partner, Mickey starts to wonder who she can trust, and whether her own department really cares to find out who’s murdering these young women. This limited series is told through

six one-hour episodes, and superbly blends the investigative story (including some great unexpected twists) with the Mickey Fitzpatrick’s past. Is it all connected? *Long Bright River* also stars Nicholas Pinnock, Ashleigh Cummings, Callum Vinson, and John Doman. Look for this series for home viewing on Crave TV. [crave.ca](http://crave.ca)

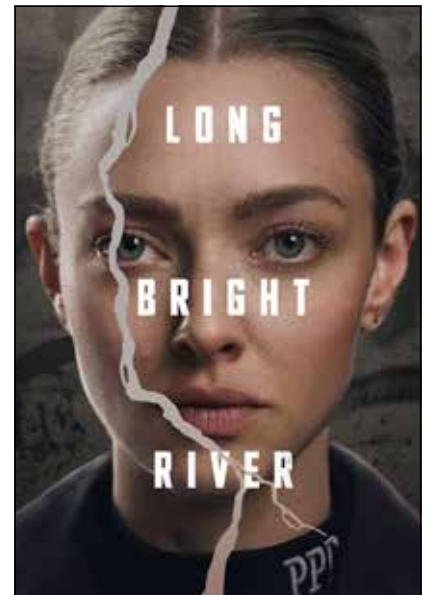


Photo courtesy Bell Media/Crave



Photo courtesy  
Warner Bros/HBO Films

## THE CLASSIC – CITIZEN KANE

It is, simply put, the best movie ever made in America. That movie is *Citizen Kane*, and its backstory is almost as famous as its influence on modern cinema, both here and wherever films were and are made. The backstory begins with a brilliant 23-year-old, writer/producer/director who rockets to fame when his Mercury Theatre troupe performs a radio adaptation of H.G. Wells’s *War of the Worlds* in 1938 and scares half the radio listeners in America who thought Martians were actually invading. From there, it was off to Hollywood where he would co-write, produce, direct and star in *Citizen Kane*, the story of the rise and fall of a character named Charles Foster Kane. It’s not an exaggeration to state that cinema can be measured by “pre-Kane” and “post-Kane”. Welles (with the help of many talented artists it needs to be said), created a distinctive style not seen before—deep focus shots, low angle shots, nonlinear narratives, connective sound editing, long takes, as well as lighting for dramatic purposes. No American film has had more influence than this film, and that influence would include many of the great French New Wave directors, who would follow two decades later. *Citizen Kane*, to this day, is still a marvel to watch, and remains one of the few films to seriously examine power. And for Orson Welles, he would spend the rest of his life trying to equal the heights he climbed at such a young age. This film is available for home viewing on most of the streaming services.

# Discovering Italian wines in our city

It's summertime and what better way to acknowledge this wonderful season than to learn more about great Italian wine for all occasions. *Our City Tonight* met with one of our favourite wine representatives at an iconic wine store in the heart of the city. Marquis Wine Cellars on Davie Street has been providing customers with a huge selection of great wine for almost four decades. We were joined by Andrea Vescovi, regional sales manager Western Canada for Ethica Wines.

**OCT:** *The last time that we sat down and talked about wine with you was during the holiday season. We talked about the best Christmas and New Year's Eve wine choices and now we get to chat about summer wine. These are wines that are great to have in the summer and also all year round as well. Let's talk about the wines that you chose to share with us available at Marquis Wine Cellars.*

AV: Yes, it has been sometime since we last got together and chatted about wine. It's summertime; we certainly want to highlight some of the better Italian white varietals. You will notice we won't be talking about Pinot Grigio today. In the last five years we've seen a lot more interest in different Italian white wines.

**OCT:** *We have previously tried one of the wines that you have brought today. There is a lot of Prosecco available, but this one really stands out.*

AV: This one does stand out for sure and Prosecco is the number one sparkling wine in the world and for a good reason. The name of the wine is La Gioiosa which means "joyous". So anytime you're in a festive mood, there's nothing quite like a bottle of Prosecco. This particular one is a drier style. There are a lot of Prosecco in the marketplace, and we think ours is a little different than those available. The drier style really tends to appeal to consumer palates these days for sure.

**OCT:** *This winery prides themselves on being very sustainable.*

AV: Sustainability is always in the forefront with La Gioiosa located in the Veneto region in Treviso.

**OCT:** *Okay, what is the next Italian wine that is perfect to enjoy this summer?*

AV: La Cala is from Sella & Mosca in Sardinia. This was one of the very first wineries in Sardinia, found-



Photo courtesy Andrea Vescovi  
Andrea Vescovi, regional sales manager western Canada, Ethica Wines.

ed in 1899 by Vittorio Sella and his brother-in-law Edgardo Mosca. They originally went to Sardinia to open up a nursery and funny enough, they actually had a lot of cuttings that went into Bordeaux because they planted a lot of Cabernet and then this morphed into the winery with many more varietals. This included Vermentino being one of them. Now 75 per cent of all Vermentino that comes out of Italy comes from Sardinia. Many people do not know this fact. And it is of particular note that this vineyard is very close to the sea. You can taste a lot of salinity in the wine.

**OCT:** *And of course, this wine would be very good with seafood.*

AV: Yes, it is excellent paired with seafood and it is just a great Vermentino and offers incredible value.

**OCT:** *There are a lot of interesting facts to read up on regarding this winery.*

AV: Yes, very historical and it's one of the largest contiguous vineyards in all of Europe with 650 hect-

ares (542 under vine). If you are ever in Sardinia, it is well worth the visit.

**OCT:** *Can we talk about the Gavi wine, also known as Cortese di Gavi.*

AV: Gavi, like Pinot Grigio, was popular years ago and at one point in the 1980s Gavi was truly the jewel of Italian white wines. I remember when I was a young server in the hospitality industry, people would simply say, I'll have a glass of Gavi. And it was on every wine list in Vancouver. We're starting to see that kind of Renaissance again. The varietal is Cortesi grape, and this is in the province of Piedmont which is in a township of Gavi. This wine offers incredible value, and the notes on this would be very strong marzipan. When we taste this blind, it's something I always look forward to in a Gavi. I pretty much nail it every time and it is a very interesting tasting note.

The winery is Villa Sparina, and the property is 70 hectares with a world class hotel, and a world class restaurant. It is such a beautiful place. Gavi in my opinion is definitely on the upswing in popularity.

**OCT:** *It is a very versatile wine, and people will rediscover that for sure. Our last wine to discover here today is the Monks wine.*

AV: Ca' dei Frati is a well-known name in Italian wine, and they are famous for white wines that age "like legends". The name means "house of friars" as a nod to the Carmelite monks who once tended vines on this land. The wine is made in the province right next to Piedmonte which is Lombardy in Northern Italy. The winery is located at the mouth of Lake Garda, and this is called the Lugana area. When people order this wine, they simply ask for a glass of Lugana white especially in Europe. The varietal is called Turbiana. It is not a name that rolls off your tongue, but it is a grape that is well respected, and we are starting to see more Lugana on wine lists around the world. It is a wine that must be tasted if you have not yet tried as it will surely become a for many wine lovers.

**OCT:** *On that final note, thank you Andrea for introducing us to these excellent wines and are all available at Marquis Wine Cellars in downtown Vancouver.*

• ethicawines.com • marquis-wines.com



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