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OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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NOT-FOR-PROFIT

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The history of the Richmond fire department 1897–2026

Photo via facebook.com/ricmondfirerescue

# OUR CITY

## Richmond

### NEWS UPDATE

by Florence Gordon



## The History of Richmond's Fire Department

*They are a team of dedicated men and women who respond to multiple emergency and non-emergency calls every day, from fires to medical emergencies, motor vehicle incidents, and more. They are also community leaders and educators, offering a wide range of public education and prevention services to further their mission to protect and enhance the City's livability through service excellence.*

If you lived in Richmond two decades ago or more you're familiar with the transition this city has undergone. Just drive down No.3 Road from City Hall to Bridgeport and acknowledge the tremendous growth of high-rise residential buildings and what this means in population growth and the volume of vehicles on the road today and ask yourself what a massive impact this has had on the city's emergency services. What an undertaking to retrain and rebuild the emergency guardians on the front line to manage a different environment.

Initially known as Firemen, changed to Firefighters and now they are referred to as First Responders this new title is for a very good reason. We knew them to fight fires and as the city changed from 6 floor buildings to 30 floor towers how – how did they master this overnight change. Then out of no where we started noticing they were first to arrive at the scene of an accident or answering 911 distress calls. Although this may seem a bit of a stretch it was in 2012 when a TV series Chicago Fire aired, that the public realized how drastically the Firefighters' role had changed. So it was more appropriate to re-name them as First Responders.

Let's start at the beginning in **1897** when volunteers carried buckets of water working together to conquer the impossible to **1912** when Steveston Hall was created for the cannery and fishing port and follow the journey of the Richmond's Fire Department as recorded in the city's archives starting at **1922**.

**1922** The Brighthouse Volunteer Fire Department was created and received a \$100 grant from the Municipal Council.

**1924** The Brighthouse Volunteer Fire Department closed down due to the onset of World War II. Consequently, the fire department was transformed into the Air Raid Protection Unit (A.R.P.) to protect Canada's west coast if World War II were to happen.

**1939** World War II began. Air Raid Protection (A.R.P.) protected Richmond's Lulu Island.

**1942** A team of 15 volunteer firefighters purchased a car chassis and transformed it into the first mobile Air Raid Precaution Unit in Canada.

**1945** World War II ended. A.R.P. was disbanded and the Vancouver Fire Department was responsible for fire protection on the island.

**1947** The construction of Burkeville Fire Hall #4 in Richmond was completed and actively in service. Address: 780 Lancaster Crescent, Richmond, B.C.

**1947** The construction of Hamilton Fire Hall #5 in Richmond was completed and in service. Address: 23031 Westminster Highway, Richmond, B.C.

**1951** Firefighting and rescue services in the Richmond area were provided free of charge until 1951, when a paid staff member was hired to work out of the Brighthouse firehall. Unpaid men were represented by the

Volunteer Fire-Fighters Association and the Central Fire Committee.

**1951-1969** After the first paid firefighter was brought aboard, there was an increase in paid firemen, prompting the development of Local 1286 (The Fire-Fighters Union), which was organized within the International Association of Fire-Fighters. Volunteers continued to support the salaried firefighters until 1969, after which volunteer brigades were gradually phased out.

**1957** Richmond firefighters affiliated with the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) acquired their Local 1286 designation.

**1958** Bridgeport Fire Hall #3 was constructed and in service. Address: 9100 Bridgeport Road, Richmond, B.C.

**1962** Brighthouse Fire Hall #1 construction completed and in service. Address: 6960 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C.

**1967** 37 salaried firefighters were employed. Each hall, with the exception of East Richmond, had a firefighter on duty 24 hours a day.

**1969** Majority of the volunteer brigades had been phased out and 100 salaried firefighters were servicing the Richmond communities. The Sea Island Volunteer Fire Brigade closed, with Brighthouse and Bridgeport following soon after.

**1972** Steveston Fire Hall #2 construction completed and in service. Address: 11011 No. 2 Road, Richmond, B.C. Steveston Volunteer Fire Brigade closes.

**1973** The last volunteer fire brigade, East Richmond, closed down and all of Richmond's firefighters were now full-time paid positions.

**1976** Shellmont Fire Hall #6 construction completed and in service. Address: 9400 No. 4 Road, Richmond, B.C.

**1992** Crestwood Fire Hall #7 construction completed and in service. Address: 5731 No. 6 Road, Richmond, B.C.

**1995** Richmond Fire-Rescue amalgamated with the Vancouver International Airport Authority (YVR) firefighters to protect the Richmond community as one unit under new contract agreements.

**1997** Richmond Fire-Rescue's Local 1286 commemorates 100 years of service.

**2001** During the attacks at the U.S. World Trade Centres, Richmond firefighters were dispatched to the Vancouver International Airport Authority (YVR) to stand by for emergency response.

**2004** Vancouver International Airport Authority (YVR) altered its emergency response from municipal to federal, therefore separating its services from Richmond Fire Rescue. However, Richmond Fire Rescue continues to respond and provide support for emergencies at YVR.

**2007** Hamilton Fire Hall #5 construction completed and in service. The new fire hall moved to 22451 Westminster Highway, Richmond, B.C. Designed for post-disaster support, the facility achieved its sustainable "Green" initiative designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.

**2007** Burkeville Fire Hall #4 and Hamilton Fire Hall #5, both built in 1947, are demolished.

## The History of Richmond Fire Dept. cont'd

**2007** Sea Island Fire Hall #4 construction completed and in service, which replaced Burkeville Fire Hall #4. New address: 3911 Russ Baker Way, Richmond, B.C. This fire hall was also built for post-disaster support and features a sustainable "Green" initiative designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards.

**2008** Shellmont Fire Hall #6, built in 1976, underwent extensive renovations to bring it up to post-disaster response readiness.

**2009** Steveston Fire Hall #2, built in 1972, was demolished for new hall to be built on site.

**2009** Shellmont Fire Hall #6 renovations completed and in service. The building was seismically upgraded so that in the event of an earthquake, Richmond Fire Rescue is able to provide emergency services.

**2010** Richmond hosts the Olympic Games. Richmond Fire Rescue temporarily expanded service for fire and rescue during the games.

**2011** Steveston Fire Hall #2 construction completed and in service. This facility is designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.

**2015** Brighthouse Fire Hall #1, built in 1962, was demolished for a new hall to be built on site. It was temporarily moved to 6931 Granville Avenue, Richmond, B.C.

**2017** Bridgeport Fire Hall #3, built in 1958, was closed.

**2017** The construction of Cambie Fire Hall #3 was completed and in service, which replaced Bridgeport Fire Hall #3. New address: 9680 Cambie Road, Richmond, B.C. It is the first facility in a major B.C. city that has both Fire Rescue and Ambulance services in one building. The 26,000 square feet facility is sustainably designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.

**2018** Brighthouse Fire Hall #1 construction completed and in service. The design of the new fire hall meets strict operational requirements to fulfill the needs of our growing community. The 25,240 square foot facility is post-disaster rated to ensure it will remain operable should a major seismic event occur. It is also sustainably designed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.



2018



1939 ARP Protected





1947 Burkville Hall #6



1958 Bridgeport Hall #3



1972 Steveston Hall #2



1942

A team of 15 volunteer firefighters purchased a car chassis and transformed it into the first mo-bile Air Raid Precaution Unit in Canada.

*Photos firerescue.richmond.ca*

The Richmond Fire Department under the umbrella of the City of Richmond has:

- 7 Fire halls
- Fire trucks
- Emergency vehicles
- First responders & support staff

Stay tune for **Part 2 of the History of Richmond's Fire Department.**



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# Applications now open for the 5th annual Richmond RCMP Youth Academy 2026 / Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Richmond RCMP is inviting motivated Richmond students in Grades 10–12 to apply for the 2026 Youth Academy—a six-day immersive program designed for students interested in a career in law enforcement or a related field.

This six-day program will take place at a local secondary school in Richmond from August 10 to 15, 2026. Selected participants will engage in hands-on training that provides an understanding of what police officers deal with on a daily basis, including:

- Learning about police duties and criminal justice in Canada
- Participating in physical fitness drills, tactical training and scenario-based exercises
- Developing skills in teamwork, public speaking, and self discipline
- Being mentored by a police officer

The cost to attend is \$200, which covers meals, uniforms, and training materials. Financial assistance is available for students who demonstrate need.

## YEAR END SALE

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# Minimum wage increasing to \$18.25 in 2026 Province's lowest-paid workers will get raise to keep pace with inflation

B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will get a wage increase to \$18.25 per hour on June 1, 2026, in pace with inflation.

"Working people in our province are feeling the pressure of inflation," said Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Labour. "That's why we acted to bring in annual minimum-wage increases, which have helped paycheques keep up with increasing costs of essentials like food and transportation. This matters for everyone, and especially for minimum-wage workers, the people doing the jobs so many of us rely on every day."

## Types of wages affected by the 2026 increase

- The increase taking effect on June 1 applies to the general minimum wage.
- The same increase applies to specialized minimum wages, such as the rates for resident caretakers, live-in home-support workers, live-in camp leaders and piece-rate agricultural workers.
- The increase also applies to the special minimum wage for app-based ride-hailing and delivery-service workers, established in September 2024.
- Effective June 1, 2026, the minimum wage for app-based ride-hailing and delivery service workers is \$21.89 per hour of engaged time.
- Minimum piece rates for hand-harvested crops will increase by the same percentage on Dec. 31, 2026.

## Among Canada's highest minimum wages

Since 2017, B.C. has made regular, gradual increases to the minimum wage to give workers certainty and to give businesses predictability. In 2024, minimum-wage increases were protected in law, with the amount automatically tied to the previous year's inflation. Over time, these changes have moved B.C. from near the bottom to among the highest minimum wages in the country. B.C. has the highest minimum wage among all Canadian provinces.

## Why increases happen automatically each year

- There were no minimum-wage increases in B.C. for nine consecutive years between 2002 and 2010, or in 2013 or 2014.
- In 2011, B.C.'s minimum wage was the lowest in Canada, at just \$8 per hour.
- Increases during this period did not follow a predictable schedule.

The minimum wage has increased alongside broader wage growth in the province. Over the past five years, the average hourly wage in B.C. has grown by nearly 26%, increasing from just over \$30 an hour to nearly \$38. That's why government legislated predictable minimum-wage increases tied to inflation, replacing the past approach where workers sometimes went years without an increase.

# Royal Canadian Mounted Police Serving with excellence

## RCMP arrest 14 in early 2026 "Boost and Bust" retail theft operation

The Richmond RCMP arrested 14 individuals during a one-day retail theft enforcement operation on February 15 as part of the detachment's on-going "Boost and Bust" initiative targeting property crime in the Richmond downtown core.

## RCMP warns public of thefts targeting seniors

The Richmond RCMP is warning the public after a rise in distraction theft incidents reported between December, 2025 and February, 2026 with thirteen incidents occurring in Richmond and a clear increase in late January.

## Suspect arrested after police incident affecting Massey Tunnel Saturday morning

February 28, 2026 Saturday morning and into early Saturday afternoon, traffic was backed up inside and outside the Massey Tunnel and not from the usual volume of traffic.

Surrey Police Services responded to a complaint of shots fired at a business in the 13500 block of King George Blvd. in Surrey at about 10:20 a.m.

With the assistance of the RCMP helicopter, the vehicle was spotted heading into Richmond. With help of Richmond RCMP, the vehicle was stopped and the suspect was taken into custody at about 11:12 a.m.



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# RCMP

## Crime Map Feb. 06, 2026 – Mar. 06, 2026

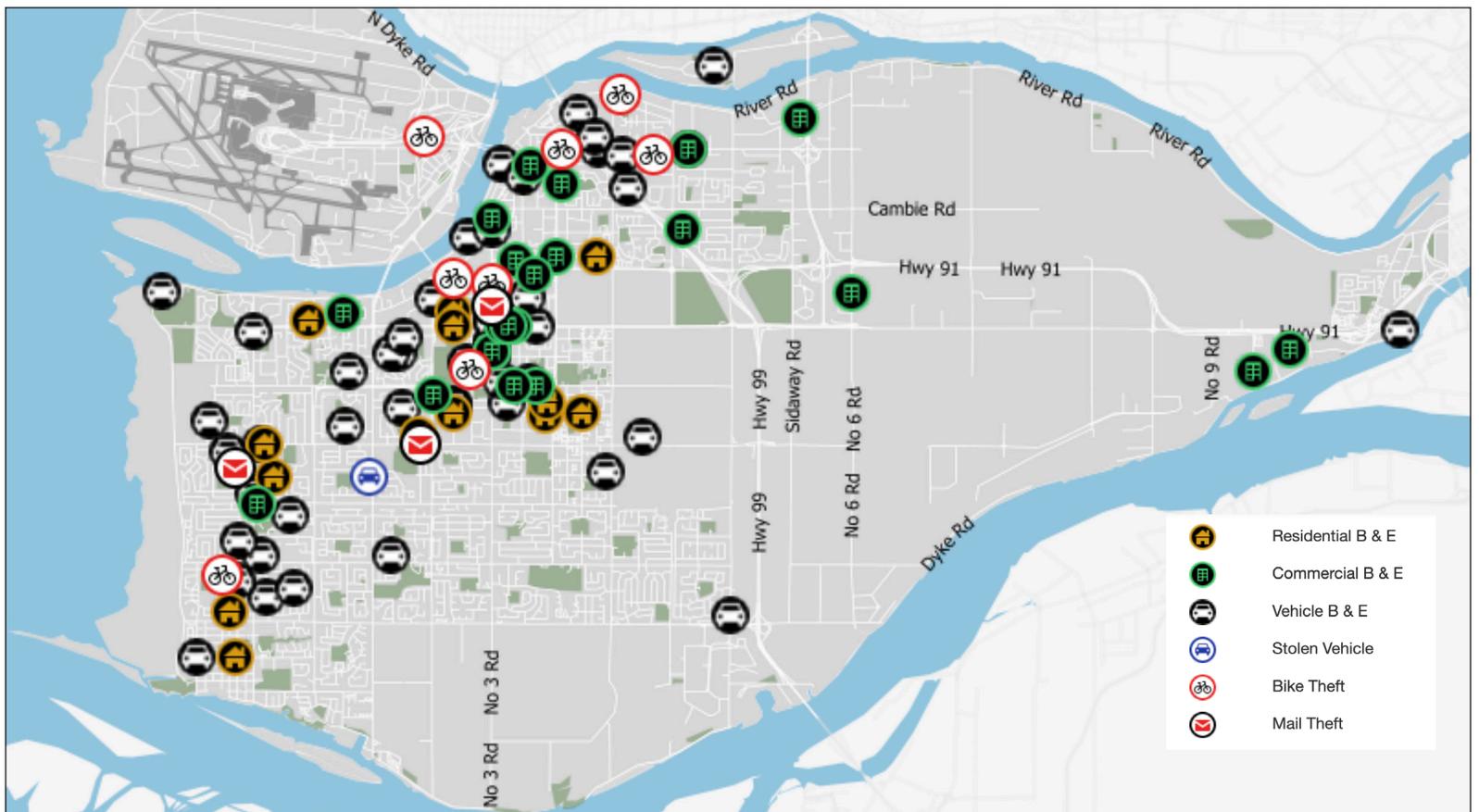


Photo courtesy csgeo.richmond.ca

# Providing at-home support for more B.C. seniors

## A Home-monitoring support program for seniors in B.C.



**Hon. Josie Osborne**  
Minister of Health



### Summary

- Long-term Care at Home program equips seniors' homes with technology for virtual care and monitoring supplemented with proactive care management and home-support services
- The program aims to improve health outcomes for clients, reduce caregiver burnout and help reduce long-term care wait lists by enabling seniors to receive the care they need in their own homes

More seniors in B.C. communities are benefiting from virtual supports, helping them stay independent and connected to their community longer. **"Meeting the needs of a growing and aging population means delivering care in smarter, more flexible ways, including right in seniors' homes,"** said Josie Osborne, Minister of Health. **"This innovative expansion will help more seniors remain safely at home, reducing pressure on hospitals while improving health and well-being for seniors and their families."**

### More seniors can stay at home longer

The program is expanding to support as many as 2,700 seniors in B.C. by 2028. Growth in Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health and Island Health is underway and discussions for expansion in Northern Health and Interior Health have begun. While the initial pilot was focused on seniors living near the participating long-term care communities, the next phase will be delivered through health authority teams, expanding access and improving co-ordination with existing home- and community-care supports.

**"Seniors prefer to live in their own home, receiving supports and assistance in a space that is familiar and comfortable,"** said Susie Chant, parliamentary secretary for seniors' services and long-term care. **"Knowing that loved ones are monitored and caretakers alerted in the event of an emergency gives families peace of mind and helps to alleviate caregiver burnout."**

Through use of technology, the program remotely monitors seniors in their homes to track falls, activity levels, medication adherence, indoor temperature and wandering. Devices include wearable pendants with two-way emergency-calling capability, wall-mounted devices and discreet sensors throughout the home. No cameras or microphones are used as technology is designed to respect clients' privacy. The program is funded through the Canada-British Columbia Aging with Dignity agreement, which provides as much as \$47 million through 2028. Funding flows to health partners to support implementation and operating costs, hiring program management and implementation staff, technology procurement and contracts for program evaluations.

# New legislation to renew, replace driver's licence online

## Changes will save B.C. drivers time, reduce lines

### Summary

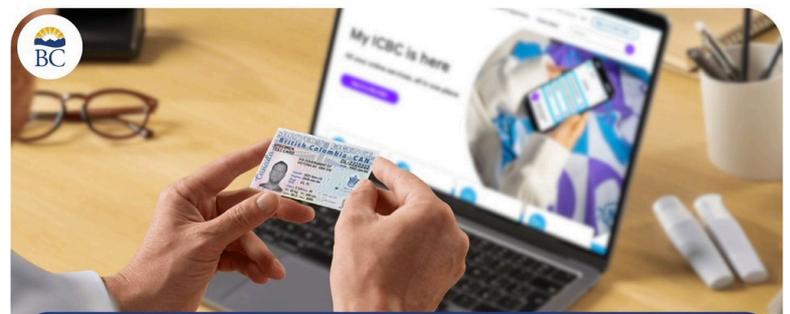
- New amendments will establish the groundwork for enabling online renewal or replacement of a B.C. driver's licence, BCID, and photo BC Service Cards through ICBC's website
- The new process will save people time and reduce trips to ICBC offices, freeing up space for in-person appointments
- Online services will particularly benefit people in rural and remote communities

Proposed amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act will enable ICBC to renew or replace driver's licences, BC Identification (BCID), and photo BC Service Cards online, saving people time. It will also help reduce waiting time for other in-person appointments. **"Too many people have to take time off work or travel long distances just to renew or replace their ID,"** said Niki Sharma, Attorney General. **"By allowing these straightforward transactions online, we're making life more convenient for people, especially those in rural and remote communities. This is part of our work to modernize government services so they're easier, faster and more accessible for everyone in British Columbia."**

### How it will work

If passed, the proposed amendments will allow eligible drivers to apply through ICBC's website and digital portal for select services, including:

- Applications to replace a valid driver's licence that has been lost, destroyed, or damaged
- Simple renewals for the majority of driver's licence classes, when no changes are required other than extending the expiry date



### Renewing your driver's licence and IDs online

Eligible drivers with full B.C. licences (classes 1 through 8) will be able to apply to renew or replace their existing licence. ICBC will also be able to offer renewal and replacement of the stand-alone BCID, stand-alone photo BC Service Card, and the combination Driver's Licence/BC Services Card.

Drivers with Class 7 learner's licences can replace a lost or damaged licence, but online renewals will not be available for learner class licences. People with learner's licences will still require an in-person appointment for retesting to renew their licence.

More details on the online renewal process and eligibility criteria will be outlined through regulation. If the amendments are passed and regulations are completed, the online service is expected to begin operating in 2027.

# Adopting permanent daylight saving time 'Spring forward' on March 8 will be the last time change, ending twice-yearly clock changes



Premier David Eby

gov.bc.ca

## Summary

- B.C. will adopt permanent, year-round daylight saving time after clocks shift forward an hour on Sunday, March 8, 2026
- People and businesses will have eight months to prepare for the elimination of the next time change, previously scheduled for Nov. 1, 2026
- Eliminating twice-yearly time changes reduces disruptions for families, simplifies scheduling and provides an extra hour of evening light during the winter months

The Province of British Columbia is adopting permanent year-round daylight saving time (DST) to improve people's overall health, reduce disruptions for families, simplify scheduling and provide an extra hour of evening light during the winter months. **"Every parent knows that changing clocks twice a year causes a significant amount of chaos on already busy lives. British Columbians have been clear that seasonal time changes do not work for them,"** said Premier David Eby. **"This decision isn't just about clocks. It's about making life easier for families, reducing disruptions for businesses and supporting a stable, thriving economy. I am hopeful that our American neighbours will soon join us in ending disruptive time changes."**

BC's transition to one year-round time zone will begin after the province "springs forward" on Sunday, March 8, 2026, when clocks move ahead by one hour. This will be the final time change in British Columbia. People and businesses will have eight months to prepare for Nov. 1, 2026, when clocks would usually be turned back, but now will remain the same. At that point, the transition to Pacific time, the name of B.C.'s new time zone, will be complete. Pacific time will be set seven hours behind co-ordinated universal time (UTC-7), matching the current offset used during daylight saving time.

**"We have heard the overwhelming majority of people in B.C. who want to end the back-and-forth of seasonal time changes,"** said Niki Sharma, Attorney General. **"This shift offers more stability, supports public well-being and reduces twice-yearly, unnecessary disruptions to the routines of parents, shift workers, small businesses, pet owners and so many more. I look forward to all of us enjoying an extra hour of sunlight after work and school for many winters to come."**

## Why permanent DST makes sense for B.C.

In summer 2019, the Province conducted a public engagement on time observance that saw participation from a record 223,000 people, with 93% supporting adopting year-round DST. Similarly, across all industry groups and nearly all occupational groups, support for year-round DST observance was higher than 90%. Evidence suggests there are many benefits to ending the seasonal time change, including:

- More consistency and fewer disruptions

to sleep patterns, school schedules, and daily routines

- More usable light in the evenings in winter, allowing more leisure time, participation in outdoor activities and consumer activity
- Reduced administrative burden for small businesses and service providers who may require less system reprogramming, schedule shifts and operational resets every spring and fall
- More consistency for planning across transportation and technology services

## How the change will be made

The Interpretation Amendment Act, which is the legal framework that enables the Province to adopt permanent DST, became law in 2019. At the time, government chose not to bring it into force in order to co-ordinate timing with neighbouring U.S. states in the same time zone. Recent actions from the U.S. have shifted how B.C. approaches decisions that merit alignment, including on time zones. Making this change now reflects the current preferences and needs of British Columbians, and helps ensure the province is well-positioned to thrive, even when circumstances across the border evolve.

Regulation will bring the amendments into

**B.C. officially ends time changes and adopts single time zone**



effect after Sunday, March 8, 2026. Government will work closely with organizations, small businesses, and public-sector partners between March and November 2026 to ensure a smooth, well-co-ordinated transition to permanent DST.

## Locations that observe mountain time

There are a small number of communities in eastern parts of British Columbia that observe some form of mountain time instead of Pacific time. Those regions will not be affected by these changes. However, as a result of Pacific time no longer changing twice a year, many of these communities will be brought into greater alignment with the rest of British Columbia. For example, Dawson Creek, which observes mountain standard time year-round, will be on the same time as most other places in British Columbia in the winter and summer months. Whereas places like Cranbrook that observe mountain time, but switch between standard and daylight times, will be aligned with the rest of the province during in the winter months, but will be one hour ahead in the summer.

# Richmond gets 225 new seats with an addition built for seismic resiliency and has modern, energy-efficient HVAC and lighting systems for year-round comfort



**Minister Kelly Greene** [gov.bc.ca](http://gov.bc.ca)

highest seismic standards," said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure. "It's a powerful example of how we're accelerating school construction to meet growth and give students the safe, inspiring classrooms they deserve."

## Features of the addition

The new addition includes:

- Nine new classrooms, providing students with safe, modern places to learn
- Individual HVAC systems in every classroom, designed to ensure year-round thermal comfort and healthy indoor air quality
- Energy-efficient lighting systems throughout the facility, which support long-term cost savings

Structural design features strengthen the building against earthquakes and enhance seismic safety. "Every family deserves confidence that their children can learn in a safe, modern classroom close to home", said Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care. "This addition at Tomsett Elementary will

## Summary

- A new addition at Tomsett Elementary in Richmond has opened
- The addition provides 225 new student seats
- The addition was built for seismic resiliency and has modern, energy-efficient HVAC and lighting systems for year-round comfort

Families in Richmond will benefit from 225 new student seats as a new addition at Tomsett Elementary opens to support the growing community. "As our Richmond neighbourhoods continue to grow, investments like the school addition at Tomsett Elementary ensure we are putting in place the building blocks for healthy communities," said Kelly Greene, MLA for Richmond-Steveston. "This project is an investment in our students', families' and community's future. It's important to support student success with a comfortable learning environment where students can thrive."

## Building quicker

Construction on the new addition at Tomsett Elementary was started in summer 2025 and completed in December 2025. With the permanent addition open, this project is one of many examples of how innovative solutions are helping to build schools more quickly, delivering the classrooms students deserve and supporting growing communities. "In just a few short months, we've delivered 225 new student spaces at Tomsett Elementary in a modern, energy-efficient addition built to the

provide students with the space and support they need to learn and succeed, and ensures families in Richmond can count on safe, welcoming schools in their community now and for generations to come."

## Supporting students in Richmond

The Province invested nearly \$13.5 million in the addition. Since 2017, the Province has committed nearly \$260 million to create almost 750 new seats and approximately 5,600 seismically safer seats for Richmond students. These include:

- A new addition opened at R.C. Talmey Elementary, with additional expansions open-

ing at Samuel Brighthouse Elementary and William Cook Elementary in Richmond to help meet enrolment growth and

- Seismic upgrades at:
  - James Whiteside Elementary and William Bridge Elementary (opened in 2023)
  - Alfred B. Dixon Elementary and Howard DeBeck Elementary (opening in 2026)
  - John G. Diefenbaker Elementary (opening in 2028)





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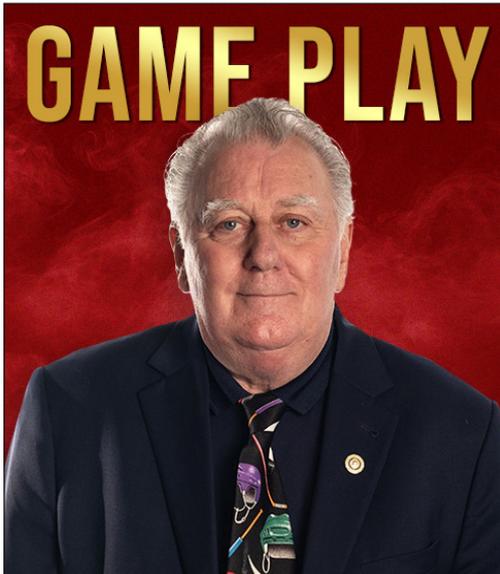
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**Steve Erickson**  
Media Relations Richmond Sockeyes

## Sockeyes Dominate 2025–2026 League Play

The Sockeyes wrapped up the regular season with a road trip to Sardis in a match-up that saw the Sockeyes coming away with a 5-2 win over the hometown Jets in a contest that had its share of penalties. This season saw the league increase the regular season games for each club up by one with each team playing 49 with each team playing each other seven times with the Sockeyes outscoring the Jets by a commanding 43-15. The Sockeyes continue to dominate the shots outshooting all other seven teams while hammering 267 shots versus the Jets who finished with 197 shots but, who also took 366 more penalty minutes than the Sockeyes.

Say what you will, this season belonged to the Sockeyes from the opening face-off to the final whistle in regular season league play and the Sockeyes continued a strong aggressive play through all games, home or away. Playing the final regular game of the season had some wondering, how the game would be played by both teams in part due to the aggressive style of play, considering the penalty minutes with the Jets?

The Sockeyes elected to play Haden Heide in net while the Jets went with Keiran Caugharn in a game that would feature their retiring 20 year-old players as did the Sockeyes in a previous game. Sockeyes Captain Teo Lin opened the scoring at 11:38 with his 21st goal of the season with helpers going to Bryce Strandt and Brody Lindal in a period that saw the Jets outshoot the visiting Sockeyes by a narrow 12-11 margin. Lin notched his second of the game at 6:53 with helpers to both Strandt and Lindal which was followed by the third of the season from Beauty Beaudin's



**"TEAM BONDING" Sockeyes attempt their skills at Curling Club** Photo richmondsockeyes.com

23rd after an impressive cross pass from Carter Voll and Lukas Hoff.

To no surprise the Jets responded with a pair with the first on the power play at 18:14 and their second at 19:19 with the visitors outshooting the Jets taking a 30-25 lead to the dressing room after forty minutes. The third wasn't as aggressive as some thought in a period that saw the visitors dominate play from the opening face-off with Brody Lindal (30) with Lucas Kalman and Nick Kovich grabbing his 18th assist. The Jets found themselves in penalty trouble allowing Richmond's Dylan Nazareth (43) to get the final goal of the game with an aggressive forecheck with Lin and Orr heading home with a 5-2 win.

To no surprise the three stars of the game were given to retiring players who are moving on to the next chapter of their career's and we wish them all the best.

With the regular season coming to a close the Sockeyes finished with an impressive record of 44 wins, 5 losses, 267 goals and only allowing 106 goals wrapping up with 88 points while outdoing last season's record.

As the coaching staff mentioned "It's onward and upward" for the third part of the season with the first being pre-season, regular season and no playoff season.

Playoff format in the Tom Shaw Conference has the first place Richmond Sockeyes playing host to the eighth place Burnaby Steelers who finished the season with 29 points through the 49 game schedule. Finishing first overall allows home ice advantage for the Sockeyes who dominated all areas of the ice utilizing the talent of Haden Heide in goal while the Steelers started their number one tender Remy Quintoro.

To no surprise it was Captain Teo Lin starting the scoring off at 4:57 with an unassisted goal followed by a PP goal with Beauty Beaudin set up from Nick Kovich and Dylan Nazareth taking a 2-0 lead after the first period. The second period saw the Steelers come up short allowing Sockeyes leading scorer David Yoon to put the home team up by a 3-0 lead with assists to Dylan Nazareth and Brody Lindal dominating the shots after two periods by 28-10. The third saw the Steelers play more aggressive considering they were unable to not just score but get more shots on goal as they set up a shutout win for Haden Heide

getting his first 3-0 shutout win. Teo Lin (1G/0A) was named the game's first star, Dylan Nazareth (0G/2A) named second star with Haden Heide named third star turning aside 17 shots he faced for the shutout giving the team a 1-0 series lead in the playoffs

Game two was two nights later that saw each team utilize the same pair of "tenders" with Sockeyes utilizing Haden Heide with the Steelers starting Remy Quintoro. Teo Lin opened the scoring with a pair of goals with the first at 11:23 followed by his second at 11:51 a short 28 seconds apart with both Brody Lindal and David Yoon getting assists on both for the early 2-0 lead. This game started with a controversial incident as the Sockeyes were assessed a minor penalty for starting the "Incorrect starting line-up" — someone failed to read the memo from the coaching staff. Even with the penalty, as if two assists wasn't enough David Yoon managed a power-play goal at 13:38 from two stretch passes set up from Dylan Nazareth and Michael McIntyre from the back-end for an early 3-0 lead after twenty minutes.

One area the Sockeyes dominated is hammering shots on goal which saw them wrap-up the first period outshooting the Steelers by a 22-15 heading into the second period controlling all areas of the ice. As aggressive as both teams played it was David Yoon who gave the home team a 4-0 lead at 13:44 with Teo Lin and Jonathan Zhang setting up what would be the game winning goal giving the Sockeyes a 2 to 0 game series lead.

Game three saw a change of venue playing at the smaller Burnaby Winter Club with all pressure on the Steelers who are looking at getting back in the series with the same starting "tenders" as with the first two. Richmond simply dominated the game from the opening face-off with five in the first which proved to be enough to take a 3 to 0 playoff series lead with scoring from five different players outshooting the Steelers by a 44-19 tally. The Sockeyes look to wrap-up the first round of the playoffs sweeping a playing series 4 to 0 advancing to face the winner of the Coastal Tsunami vs Delta Ice Hawks series with dates and times posted on the Richmond Sockeyes website - [richmondsockeyes.com](http://richmondsockeyes.com)

Come out Richmond and cheer on the Sockeyes in the playoffs!



## Joe Biz — by Joe Leary

### A new children's book Is truly a family affair

When pop music legend Micky Dolenz — the remaining voice of the iconic band *The Monkees*, announced he was releasing a new children's book, generations of fans were thrilled.

Making the project even more special was the fact he was teaming up with his daughter, Ami Dolenz. She would serve as a creative partner and illustrator to utilize her unique artistic vision. Their book, titled *Lalu Toot Toot*, weaves together imagination, history, music and warmth in a manner that feels both timeless and deeply personal.

This is Micky's second children's book and marks a milestone in his artistic journey into what he calls "anthro-mythology": fiction inspired by seminal moments in human history and creativity. "My dad had already written a children's book called *Gakky Two-Feet*, so storytelling for kids was something he'd already dipped his toe into," says Ami Dolenz, who now lives in Vancouver with her husband, actor and motivational speaker, Jerry Trimble.

"I enrolled at Emily Carr School and took a course focused on writing and illustrating children's picture books. He had another story idea called *Lalu Toot Toot*, and I thought, 'Why not turn this into my school project?' So I illustrated his story as part of my coursework, and it just organically grew from there."

"What started as a school assignment between a dad and his daughter eventually became a finished children's picture book, which feels really special".

At its heart, *Lalu Toot Toot* revolves around a young boy who spends his days enchanted by the sounds of nature with an almost otherworldly joy. One day, Lалу discovers an ancient-looking flute carved from bone, buried near his home.

What starts as playful experimentation quickly turns into the discovery of music itself. With

every breath and note he makes, Lалу draws the attention and affection of his village and eventually discovers that his music has the power to change people's hearts and even save the day. The story's premise draws inspiration from archaeological findings of some of the earliest known musical instruments — including flutes carved from animal bones, believed to be tens of thousands of years old.

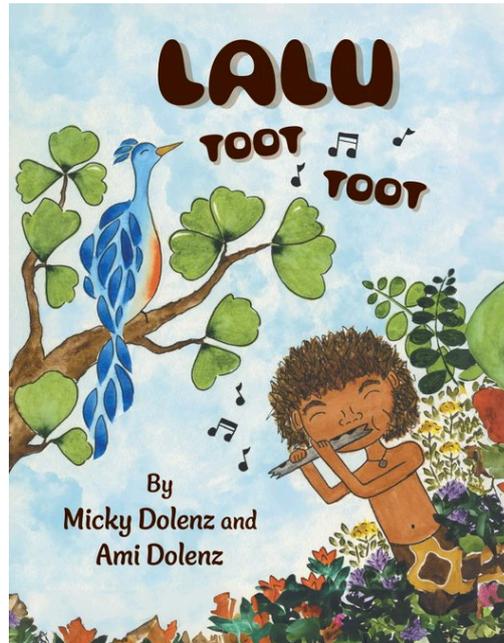


Photo Courtesy @MickeyDolenz #AmiDolenz

Micky Dolenz uses that kernel of real human history to build a lovingly imagined tale about curiosity, courage and the joy of creation.

But what truly sets this book apart — beyond the author's lyrical prose — are the vibrant illustrations by his daughter. Ami Dolenz first gained recognition as an actress in the 1980s and later honed her artistic talents into a career in visual arts. She chose watercolors and ink to bring Lалу's world to life. Her artistic style is loose and playful and perfectly complements the sense of wonder in her father's story.

The experience was pure joy. "It was really special," she adds. "I have always loved doing creative things with my dad, and this was no different. He is not only incredibly creative; he is also just a great dad and someone I genuinely enjoy being around."

"Bouncing ideas off each other and building this book together was such a joyful experience. It felt natural, collaborative, and full of heart".

Growing up around creativity and performance and acting in TV and film through the '80s and '90s, Ami Dolenz shifted her focus toward visual storytelling, earning a certificate in illustration from Vancouver's Emily Carr University of Art + Design.

For her, working with her father wasn't just another project — it was a chance to reconnect with the improvised stories he used to invent for her at bedtime and on long drives. "When I was a little girl, my dad moved to England when my

parents divorced. He would pick me up at the airport on visits and start a Harold and Agatha story, so through my whole trip there, he would do a little bit more of the story each day."

"And this was totally off the top of his head — he did not memorize anything and did not write anything down. By the end of this time with him, he would drive me back to the airport and finish the Harold and Agatha story." As she shared in interviews about the book's creation, she fell in love immediately with her father's concept of a boy embracing music and nature, and she poured her heart into crafting imagery that could capture both the humor and the profound wonder of that journey.

The father-daughter dynamic that underpins *Lalu Toot Toot* is evident on every page: in the gentle humor of Dolenz's writing, in the rhythm of his sentences, and in the expressive strokes of Ami's illustrations. It's a story that speaks to the joy of discovery, the courage to be different, and the unexpected ways that creative expression can connect us — themes that resonate with children and their families alike.

Parents and educators have praised *Lalu Toot Toot* for its imaginative storyline and its encouragement of curiosity in young minds. It's ideal for bedtime reading, classroom discussions about creativity and history, or simply as a joyful addition to a child's book collection. By blending myth and imagination with a subtle homage to the real origins of music, Micky and Ami Dolenz offer something that feels both educational and deeply heartening.



Mickey & daughter Ami

In a world saturated with formulaic children's books, *Lalu Toot Toot* stands out as a testament to the power of family collaboration and the enduring magic of storytelling and demonstrates how imagination and love can create something timeless. It's a legacy written by a father, painted by his daughter and cherished by readers both young and old.



Douglas James Scammell

## FASHION FOR MEN A Great Suit

When it comes to men's suit fashion there is a lot of things that make a great suit. The number 1 thing that I believe is the fit. The number 2 thing is the quality of the fabric. But the 3rd thing is very crucial and that's what this article is all about – some of the small custom details that go into the design that makes a suit so much better overall.

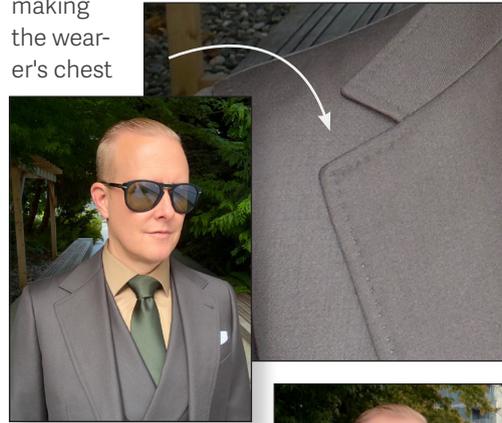
### #1. THE LAPELS

It is very important to get the lapels right on your suit and understanding the many details that go into getting the lapels just right. Here is a small breakdown of understanding why this detail is important.

**The width:** The width of your lapels are very important and in today's men's fashion should almost match the width of the size of your ties. I personally like a bit wider lapels than my ties around 3.5 inches or a bit wider (that's my own personal preference). If your style is a skinny tie accessory then I suggest to go with a smaller lapel but be warned that skinny lapels and ties are dated in today's fashion.

**Type Of Lapel:** When it comes to single breasted suits there are two different style lapels to choose from – the Notch lapel and the Peak lapel style. Both are a great look but both will make the overall look of your suit a lot different. For the everyday classic wear for work I suggest go with the most common a notched lapel. The top of a notch lapel features a downward-sloping angle (or V-cut) that creates a "step" where it meets the collar. The angle points downwards and outwards, away from the neck towards the chest. The second option Peak lapel is a style for more suitable for more formal occasions like weddings, and formal gatherings. A peak lapel features an upward-sloping, pointed edge where the collar

meets the lapel, with the lapel tips pointing up toward the shoulder. Unlike the downward, V-shaped notch of a traditional lapel, the peak lapel's edge angles sharply upward toward the shoulder, creating a "mountain peak" shape. The angle is designed to draw the eye upward, making the wearer's chest



appear broader and their stature

taller. While peak lapels are standard on double-breasted jackets, they are also used to add flair and formality to single-breasted suits.

### #2. EXTERIOR POCKETS

There are many different exterior pockets to choose from on the jacket. Here is a breakdown:

**Flap Pockets (Standard/Business):** The most common pocket, featuring a flap of fabric covering the opening. These are versatile and appropriate for business suits, but the flaps can be tucked in to create a more formal appearance.

**Jetted or Welt Pockets (Formal):** A slit-style pocket with no covering flap, creating a sleek, clean line. These are the most formal option, essential for tuxedos and commonly used on modern, minimalist suits.

**Patch Pockets (Casual):** Pockets made from a separate piece of fabric sewn directly onto the outside of the jacket. This is the most casual, sporty style, popular on blazers, linen suits, and unstructured jackets.

**Ticket Pocket (Detailed):** A small, additional pocket placed directly above the main right-hand hip pocket. Often seen on tailored British-style suits, it adds a touch of classic sophistication. This is one of my personal favorite touches.

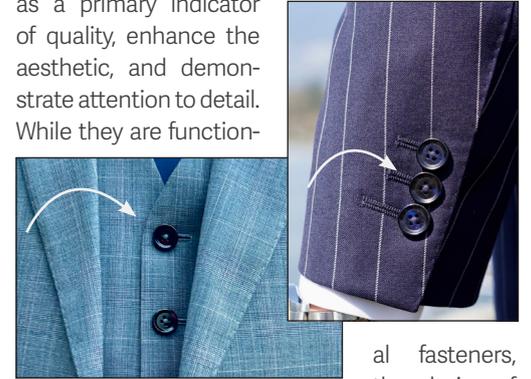
**Slanted or Hacking Pockets (Sporty/Style):** Pockets angled slightly upwards, originally designed for riding jackets. They are considered a stylish, flattering option on blazers and casual suits.

**Breast Pocket (Welt Pocket):** The small

pocket on the left chest, typically a welt (jetted) style designed for a pocket square.

**#3. PICK STITCHING:** is a specialized, visible running stitch applied along the edges of a suit jacket—typically on the lapels, pockets, and collar—that secures the fabric layers together while adding a refined, decorative, and artisan detail. Originally a sign of bespoke tailoring, it acts functionally to keep edges crisp but is often used in modern, machine-made suits as a stylistic, aesthetic touch.

**#4. SUIT BUTTONS:** is another crucial detail on a men's suit jackets because they serve as a primary indicator of quality, enhance the aesthetic, and demonstrate attention to detail. While they are function-



Pick Stitching &amp; Buttons

al fasteners, the choice of material, color, and finish can transform a suit from ordinary to extraordinary, signalling luxury and personal style.

al fasteners, the choice of material, color, and finish can transform a suit from ordinary to extraordinary, signalling luxury and personal style.

**#5. INNER LINING:** Is often overlooked detail on a men's suit jacket that directly impacts its comfort, durability, structure, and style. Rather than just being a hidden layer, it functions as a protective barrier and a structural component that determines how the jacket hangs, moves, and feels. Below is a better breakdown of the different types of Lining and their impact.

**Full Lining:** Provides maximum structure, durability, and a formal, polished look. Ideal for year-round and cold-weather suits.

**Half/Quarter Lining:** Offers a balance of structure and breathability, reducing weight for warmer climates or seasons.

**Unlined (Deconstructed):** Offers maximum breathability and a casual, lightweight feel, relying on expert construction for the interior seams.

Some key materials in inner lining are the following:

**Bemberg (Cupro):** Considered the gold standard; it is breathable, anti-static, and luxurious.

**Viscose (Rayon):** A durable and affordable breathable option.

**Silk:** Highly luxurious, but delicate and expensive.

There is of course many other details I could go over that will help elevate your suit fashion such as the cuff of your trousers, piping the stitching in the inner lining, and buttonhole on the left hand side lapel and the list goes on and on but we just do not have the space to write about that here. I am confident with a better understanding of these five details I have outlined above, you will be able to take your suit fashion to the next level while making a wise investment that will serve you well for years to come.

Photos courtesy DJ Scammell

# OUR CITY *Tonight*

**SPOTLIGHT ON  
TWO NEW FILMS  
AND A DELICIOUS COCKTAIL**



Photo courtesy Prime Video

at the Nook Coal Harbour location. For us, he offers a *Marlboro Man in Mexico*, an inviting cocktail that can be enjoyed anytime of the year. "It's a bit of a tongue twister," he tells us as we take our first sip, "but I think it's a super refreshing cocktail and easy to make at home." Like our last cocktail spotlight, this too has a little twist on the *Margarita*. "For the ingredients, we've got Mescal (or Mezcal), with a little bit of Cointreau liqueur, some lime juice,

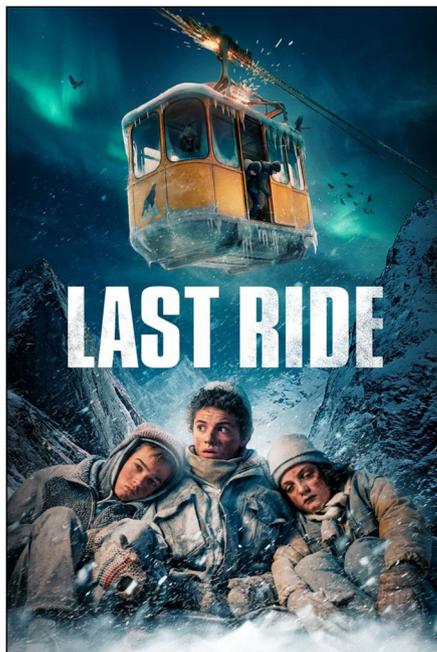


Photo courtesy Quiver Distribution

## THE VIEW #1 – MAN ON THE RUN

It's 1970, you're in your late 20's, and the band – the best that rock 'n roll fans have ever seen - which has been a major part of your life since you were a teenager is no more. What's next? Uncertainty, doubt and vulnerability for starters. Which leads us to *Man on the Run*, a wonderful new documentary that takes fans on an intimate journey behind the scenes as Paul McCartney and his then-new wife, Linda, try to start a new life after the break up of The Beatles. They retreated to an isolated house in the hills of Scotland to escape the music world in mourning over the breakup, and the fingers being pointed at McCartney for supposedly breaking the band up. But the retreat was also to give Paul time to figure out what to do with the rest of his life. After a slow start, he formed the new band Wings and by the end of the 1970's was leading, arguably, the biggest band on the planet! Through unprecedented access to previously unseen footage, rare archival materials, and deeply personal interviews, the viewer follows McCartney through a decade of highs (sold out shows, best-selling albums) and lows (an arrest in Japan and the loss of John Lennon in 1980). The film also gives Linda the credit that has been long overdue. There can be little doubt that she saved him after The Beatles break up. She also never left his side even though she endured horrible treatment from the press and fans for daring to be part of *Wings*. This is her story, their story, as well as his. Credit must be given to Director Morgan Neville, as well as Executive Producers Caitrin Rogers and Paul McCartney himself for pulling back the curtain on his extraordinary life. *Man on the Run* is available now on Prime Video [www.primevideo.com](http://www.primevideo.com)

## THE SIP – MARLBORO MAN IN MEXICO

For our next cocktail suggestion, we turn to bartender Ryder Clarke, one of our cocktail experts who keeps his clientele happy at the Nook Coal Harbour location. For us, he offers a *Marlboro Man in Mexico*, an inviting cocktail that can be enjoyed anytime of the year. "It's a bit of a tongue twister," he tells us as we take our first sip, "but I think it's a super refreshing cocktail and easy to make at home." Like our last cocktail spotlight, this too has a little twist on the *Margarita*. "For the ingredients, we've got Mescal (or Mezcal), with a little bit of Cointreau liqueur, some lime juice, muddled cucumbers and basil, with a little bit of soda water top it off with a Tajin rim" We find this cocktail delicious and ask for a second! "The smokiness combines very well with the cucumber and the basil," Ryder tell us, "so it's just a very well-balanced, nice acidity, super refreshing, and easy drinking cocktail." Though we all agree, the *Marlboro Man in Mexico* is a delicious winter cocktail, we can see this being added to our summer cocktail list as well. Ryder finds this cocktail really satisfies his customers who are looking for something more than just the basic *Margarita*. [www.nookrestaurants.com](http://www.nookrestaurants.com)



Photo courtesy Our City Tonight

## THE VIEW #2 – LAST RIDE

The film, *Last Ride*, has one of the most unique storylines in a film we've see in some time. It is winter in the year 1982, and three young boys are in a small Norwegian town (explanation as to why comes later in the film). Their goal is to take a cable car to the top of a mountain which over looks the small town. The day is wrapping up for the cable car company, but they convince a guide to take them up before the sun goes down. Halfway up and the power in the area goes out. The three boys and their guide are trapped with no help on the way. Things go from bad to worse when their guide dies right after the power outage. What follows, as the claustrophobic setting gets tighter, is growing fear, panic and blame about the idea of taking the cable car and the whole trip in general. Even though the three boys are too young for reflective "life assessment", something usually reserved for those who have lived many years more, in this situation it is as real and legitimate. *Last Ride* was written and directed by Cinique Lee and produced by his older brother, Spike Lee. This film is now available for home viewing. [www.quiverdistribution.com](http://www.quiverdistribution.com)

# From accounting to comedy, Ola Dada on the rise in Canada

Ola Dada is a rising star in the comedy scene here in Canada. He is originally from Nigeria and moved to Canada. His latest tour is called *Coming to America*.

**OCT:** *You were born and raised for the first few years of your life in Nigeria. And then you ended up moving with your family to Fort McMurray. Not only did you move to a colder place in Canada, but you moved in early November. Let's talk about your first thoughts on going from tropical Nigeria to this.*

OD: I finally understood the true definition of cold. There were a lot of new things I learned about snow. Did you know that snow can actually blind you? I bet you didn't know that.

**OCT:** *How long have you been in Vancouver?*

OD: I went to University of Calgary in 2013, then I left Calgary to come to Vancouver in 2015. I have been in Vancouver about 10 years now.

**OCT:** *We always like to ask people in your position like actors, musicians, comedians what it was that attracted them to their profession. Did you see somebody that made you think — I really want to do that?*

OD: It never was really part of the plan for me. I went to school for accounting and while I was in business school, I found myself doing comedy on the side. I was working at a bank and doing standup comedy was not in the vicinity of my plans at all. I just really enjoyed doing it at times.

**OCT:** *When we first met, you were already cracking us up. You obviously had a good talent early on for making people laugh, even though you were working at the bank.*

OD: I had a good relationship with a lot of people. I found I was good at connecting with people, but for the most part, I guess I never really considered a career in stand-up comedy. I was just very sociable so for a lot of events, people would ask me to host. I didn't think about asking for money.

**OCT:** *We always must ask this question, what was it like for your first time being on stage?*

OD: My first time doing stand-up was great, so I thought wow this is amazing. I thought I'm just going to come here and do this occasionally. However, the second time was a problem because the first time I went with all my friends.

It had been a spur of the moment situation, and I just made fun of my friends, so it turned out beautifully. It wasn't a big room either. There were only around 15 of us and it was set up for me to win. Unfortunately, for the second time, my friends were not going to be there with me, so I thought what am I supposed to do? I went onto the Internet and started googling how to be a comedian. To be honest, it was awful.

**OCT:** *But you still must have said to yourself, I must do this because you certainly have done well. Some of your credentials are:*

- You were a finalist in the 2019 Sirius XM Top Comic competition and
- You made it to the semi-finals in the 2022 Canada's Got Talent

**OCT:** *Something pretentious was said about comedy and the comment was that "comedy is tragedy plus time". Your comedy doesn't seem tragic. Your comedy is similar to other great comedians in that everything is drawn from things that have happened. Often this type of comedy is very self-deprecating. Is that how you see your comedy?*

OD: I don't really like the word self-deprecating, but a lot of comics do — do that. I like to laugh at my own shortcomings for the most part, but not make it become who I am. It's more like this is what I used to do, and this is who I am now. That's where I like to be when it comes to my stand-up comedy. There is an allure to draw from sadness and depression, when it comes to comics, I think that can be a very dangerous path to stay on. I try to show the audience "this is where I've been and this is where I'm trying to go".

**OCT:** *Do you feel like you have evolved as a performer? Do you feel your talent has become*

*better as you performed over time?*

OD: Yes, at least the topic of things and how I'm tackling certain issues now has evolved. I have more foresight and more depth with the issues. This happens with a little bit of research, and I actually do more research before I go on stage to talk about things that I do.

**OCT:** *You have been doing standup comedy for about a decade. Would you say the playing field has changed compared to what you could say 10 or 12 years ago that you don't want to touch on now?*

OD: Personally, I don't think there shouldn't be anything we can't laugh about. I believe laughter is a powerful tool for healing. I would ask myself do I have a right to speak about this? I do have to be more attentive to what angle I take and understand who could potentially be hurt.

**OCT:** *Congratulations Ola Dada. You have produced so much content in your performances, which is a real credit to you. Your first comedy special, Unlimited Data was a success, and you recently performed at Just for Laughs here in BC not to mention your current tour in Western Canada, Coming to America.*

For the full video interview go to [www.richmondsentinel.ca/videos](http://www.richmondsentinel.ca/videos) or [www.oladada.com](http://www.oladada.com)



Comedian Ola Dada on location

Photo courtesy oladada.com

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