



RICHMOND REFLECTIONS

**Mayor reviews
2022-2023**

08-09



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Richmond awarded KPU Community Impact Award

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) is recognizing the City of Richmond Parks Department for its support of the university's agriculture and food systems programs.

Recipient of KPU's 2023 Community Impact Award, Richmond's Parks Department has partnered with the university to drive forward programs for students and the community at the KPU Farm on the Garden City Lands and at the KPU Richmond Farm School in South Richmond.

"Our relationship with the City of Richmond Parks Department exemplifies KPU's polytechnic approach to higher education, and allows us to combine hands-on learning with holistic food system awareness," says Diane Purvey, provost and vice-president academic at KPU.

Presented annually, the Community Impact Award recognizes individuals and organizations who are strong partners of KPU and make a difference in regional communities of relevance to the university.

"Agriculture is an important part of Richmond's history and economy," says Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "Our partnership with KPU goes a long way to promoting urban agriculture, advancing food security, and creating new opportunities for innovation. More importantly, this collaboration allows our residents to see agriculture in action, while learning about farming and food systems."

The KPU Farm is operated by KPU's department of sustainable agriculture, which offers students a bachelor's degree in applied science in sustainable agriculture.

Located on the City of Richmond's Garden City



Photo courtesy Kwantlen Polytechnic University

From left: KPU vice-president of external affairs, Randall Heidt, Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie, KPU instructor Larissa Petrillo, City of Richmond director of Parks Services Todd Gross, and City of Richmond Parks programs manager Alex Kurnicki.

Lands, the KPU Farm grows crops on 33 hectares (eight acres) of organic farmland, with features that include a solar-heated dome greenhouse, three moveable high tunnels, beetle banks for beneficial insect habitat, and an innovative approach to carbon-negative farming at the edge of a former peat bog.

Organic produce from KPU Farm is sold at the Kwantlen Street Farmers Market and to wholesalers such as Discovery Organics. Food is also donated to the Richmond Food Bank, and is made available to KPU Richmond students in need.

The KPU Richmond Farm School, operated by KPU's Institute for Sustainable Food Systems and

located on Gilbert Road in Richmond, offers students an eight-month farmer training program and opportunity to access incubator plots to manage their own small farm with support and mentorship from the university.

Both KPU Farm and the KPU Richmond Farm School also provide space for student research projects that include studies on sustainable cropping systems and bog restoration.

KPU presented the 2023 Community Impact Award at KPU Community Day on May 27 at the university's Richmond campus. Included in the presentation to the City of Richmond was a painting created by KPU alumnus Alison Curtis.

Hummingbird Child Care Centre opens

The doors officially opened to the Hummingbird Child Care Centre last night, the City of Richmond's newest child care facility located in the Oval Village.

The centre, which provides 37 spaces of licensed child care for infants, toddlers and children up to six years old, was opened by Mayor Malcolm Brodie along with local MLAs, members of City Council and guests.

"The City of Richmond recognizes the importance of access to affordable, quality child care for residents," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "The addition of Hummingbird Child Care Centre demonstrates the city's strong commitment to that need. The City of Richmond remains dedicated to supporting the creation of child care spaces as we work in partnership with developers, not-for-profit agencies and senior levels of government to achieve these priorities."

The Hummingbird Child Care Facility is the 13th city-owned, purpose-built child care facility in Richmond. Located at 6899 Pearson Way, the centre comprises approximately 619 square metres (6,662 square feet) of indoor space and 4096 square metres (4,408.8 square feet) of outdoor playground space. The facility will provide Group Care for children under 36 months (12 spaces) and ages 30 months to six years (25 spaces).

Hummingbird is leased to and operated by YMCA BC, which also operates two other city-owned facilities in Richmond – Seasong Child Care Centre on No. 2 Road, and Sprouts Early Childhood Development Hub in the Capstan area – as well as six school-age child care programs in the community.

"The YMCA is proud to once again partner with the City of Richmond to bring another child care facility to this wonderful community, and we applaud the city

for all it does to ensure families have access to this critical service," said Cathy Poole, vice president of Children and Youth Services, YMCA BC. "In addition to a strong partner, we know it also takes a dedicated team of educators to provide children and families with the quality care they deserve. Our staff teams are at the heart of our child care centres and the group of amazing educators we have at Hummingbird Child Care will be no exception."

The facility was built by Aspac Developments as a community amenity contribution for the mixed-use development in the Oval Village neighbourhood. Aspac and YMCA BC also received a \$250,000 grant from the Provincial Child-Care-BC New Spaces Fund to support age-targeted furnishings and playground equipment for the centre.

"Creating child care spaces where people live and where they are most needed is life changing for families and good for communities and the economy," said Minister of State for Child Care, Grace Lore. "This new child care centre is at the heart of a growing community and will support local families for years to come."

The city now provides approximately 620 licensed child care spaces in Richmond. This newest facility is part of Council's continued efforts to expand the supply of child care spaces for residents in Richmond as outlined in the city's 2017-2022 Child Care Needs Assessment and Strategy. Working together with senior levels of government is part of the city's vision to continue to develop a comprehensive child care system.

For more information on child care in Richmond, visit richmond.ca/culture/communitysocialdev/child-care.htm

Youth represent Richmond at BC Heritage Fair

The Richmond Museum is proud to announce that three students who presented at the Richmond Regional Heritage Fair will represent their region at the 2023 B.C. Provincial Heritage Fair in Prince George from July 2 to July 5. The selected projects cover Britannia Shipyards, the colonization of Canada and Air Canada.

As part of the nation-wide Heritage Fairs program, over 300 students in Richmond created project displays on a wide range of topics drawn from Canada's unique and diverse history and heritage. On May 12, 106 students from seven Richmond schools presented 70 projects for showcase at the Richmond Regional Heritage Fair, presented by the Richmond Museum.

The projects were selected for their excellence, thoughtful consideration of historical significance, extensive research and creative project display. The three students embody the qualities of a historian and are keen to share their knowledge with fellow Canadians.

The projects and students proudly representing Richmond are:

- *Britannia Shipyards* by Oliver Lewis, Grade 4, Tomekichi Homma Elementary School
 - *La Colonisation du Canada (1600-1700)* by Leo Jouvin, Grade 5, École des Navigateurs
 - *Air Canada: Flying the Flag* by Sebastian Ho, Grade 7, Cornerstone Christian Academy
- At the Provincial Heritage Fair, delegates will be



Photos courtesy City of Richmond

Leo Jouvin is one of three students to represent Richmond at the B.C. Provincial Heritage Fair in Prince George July 2 to 5.

immersed in activities, programming and visits to local Prince George historical sites and landmarks. This will be the first in-person fair since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and represents an important provincial-level celebration of the efforts of these young historians, leaders and researchers.

For more information on the Richmond Regional Heritage Fair, visit richmondmuseum.ca/heritage-fair

About the Richmond Museum

The Richmond Museum Society supports the Richmond Museum, a community museum that collects, documents, researches, preserves, exhibits and interprets objects of historical and cultural significance to the development and history of Richmond. The museum makes the history of Richmond relevant, engaging and accessible.



Oliver Lewis on left and Sebastian Ho on right, are two of three students to represent Richmond at the B.C. Provincial Heritage Fair in Prince George July 2 to 5.

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OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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In honour of our soldiers: Ralph Carter

By **SAMUEL CHENG**
Reporter

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

Lieutenant Ralph Barr Carter was merely 22 years old when he was first enlisted into the 11th Battalion of the Canadian Mounted Rifles as a private. Carter was born on January 6, 1893 in Vancouver.

There were little to no records about Carter's life before his enlistment other than the fact that he was single at the time of his death and that his mother, Emily Waddell, resided in Steveston.

Upon enlisting in the 11th Battalion of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, Carter was quickly promoted to corporal during his training in Canada. After travelling to Liverpool, England on July 25, 1916 on a steam ocean liner, SS Lapland, he was promoted again to acting sergeant.

Carter's journey of promotion does not end there. Within a month, Carter was made the temporary lieutenant of the battalion. After an extended absence due to bronchitis and personal reasons, he was transferred to the 31st Battalion stationed in France in the April of 1917.

While Carter was with the 31st Battalion, he was attached to the Royal Flying Corps before becoming a flying officer two months later. On August 19, 1917, General Headquarters (GHQ) reported Carter's status to be missing. GHQ was the organization that commanded all of the British and Indian troop forces during World War I.

Four months later, Carter was officially denounced as deceased by the German sources. Carter was memorialized in Arras Flying Services Memorial located in Arras, France.

Carter's mother, Emily Lavinia (née Barr), received a plaque, a scroll, and a cross of sacrifice in 1921 from the Canadian government as a way to com-



Screen grab from Google Maps

A poppy engraved road sign of Carter Court.

memorate the valiant sacrifices made by Lieutenant Ralph Carter.

Today, Carter Court and Carter Drive run between No. 4 Road and Shell Road, to the north of Alderbridge Way.

•taic@richmondsentinel.ca

HAPPY Father's Day

BLUNDELL CENTRE

CELEBRATE WITH YOUR LOVED ONES
42 stores for all your shopping needs
Located at Blundell & No 2 Road



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Left to right: Mayor Malcolm Brodie, councillor Andy Hobbs, Dr. Jim Tanaka, Nikhat Izhar Qureshi, Jaime Gusto representing Steveston Harbour Authority, Gabby Cometa, Botao Chen, Donna J. Wilson, MLA Henry Yao, Mike Booton, and councillor Carol Day.

Richmond Arts Awards recipients celebrated

The City of Richmond and the Richmond Arts Coalition have announced the recipients of the 15th annual Richmond Arts Awards, which recognize Richmond residents, artists, business leaders, educators and change-makers for their achievements and contributions to the local arts community.

This year's recipients reflect the vibrancy of Richmond's arts scene, as well as the city's next generation of creative talent. A selection committee comprised of community members, artists and previous honourees reviewed 57 applications to determine the recipients in each of the six categories. The 2023 Richmond Arts Awards recipients are:

Artistic Innovation and Excellence

Nikhat Izhar Qureshi

A self-taught visual artist and calligrapher, Nikhat Izhar Qureshi has a passion for Islamic art. She founded the Islamic Art of British Columbia and BC Muslim Art House in 2018 to promote Islamic art within the Muslim community and beyond. Her efforts include organizing workshops, exhibitions and community events for individuals of all ages. The artist's commitment to building cultural connections and fostering collaborations culminated in the Islamic Art Experience 2022, the first event of its kind in Richmond.

Arts Education

Mike Booton and Donna J. Wilson

Artist collaborators Mike and Donna have been at the heart of community-based music-making in Richmond for the last decade. They started weekly Ukulele Circles in 2014 at Steveston Community Centre and West Richmond Community Centre, providing opportunities to experience the joy of making music with others. In addition to the circles, Mike and Donna offer community events, sessions for newcomers and outreach to seniors including

an innovative wellness program for isolated and vulnerable seniors. In 2021, they established the Linda Perron Ukulele Lending Library in partnership with the Richmond Public Library.

Business and the Arts

Steveston Harbour Authority

Steveston Harbour Authority is Canada's largest small craft harbour and the hub of British Columbia's fishing industry. One of the Harbour Authority's missions is to enhance public awareness and appreciation of Richmond's thriving fishing community. In 2014, the Board of Directors made the decision to increase the organization's visibility and engage with the public in creative ways. Since that time, the Harbour Authority has developed exciting initiatives to educate and connect with the community, including partnering with local artists and organizations to create stunning works of art that celebrate our shared maritime heritage.

Cultural Leadership

Dr. Jim Tanaka

Dr. Jim Tanaka has been engaged in Richmond's arts and cultural community since 1981, alongside his wife, Irene, and following his parents' influential community service and contributions in Steveston. Jim has focussed on commemorating and honoring the contributions of pioneering Japanese immigrants as well as the preservation of buildings and historical sites. He is the co-founder of the Richmond Cherry Blossom Festival, and has spearheaded or helped organize a number of projects, including planting 255 Akebono cherry trees at Garry Point Park, the Nikkei Fishermen's Reunion Project, Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre and Japanese Fishermen's Hospital Complex. He is a co-author and editor of *Changing Tides: Vanishing voices of Nikkei Fishermen and Their Families*, among many other accomplishments.

Volunteerism

Gabby Cometa

Gabby Cometa is an alumni of the Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP), and has put in countless hours improving her media arts skills, learning new ones and applying those skills to various projects and volunteer opportunities. Through the RYMP, Gabby has participated in many projects and volunteer opportunities such as designing posters, editing videos, doing live camerawork, photographing for events, DJing and more.

Youth Arts

Botao Chen

Botao Chen is a young creative with a passion for arts and giving back to his community. An active member of the Richmond Youth Media Program (RYMP) since 2018, he supports the City's Youth Services, notably as a camera operator for the annual Richmond Remembers simulcast. He is also a DJ, photographer and videographer, and has worked with agencies such as Foundry Richmond and Richmond Addictions Services Society (RASS). Botao is a U-ROC Award recipient, and received awards for the 2021 WorkSafe BC Student Safety Video Contest, Richmond's inaugural Music Video Contest and the Pink Shirt Day Design Contest. The Richmond Arts Coalition awards a \$300 cash prize to the winner of the Youth Arts category.

Held at the Gateway Theatre on May 17 and hosted by Mayor Malcolm Brodie, the awards ceremony featured a keynote speech by CBC's Margaret Gallagher, as well as performances by Canada Y.C. Music Academy, Edward Sembatya and the Richmond Singers.

The Richmond Arts Awards are presented in partnership with the Richmond Arts Coalition with promotional support from the Richmond News. For more information, visit richmond.ca/artsawards

Let's go back to recycling school!

G is for Glass

Glass Bottles/Jars Go in the Glass Recycling Bin.

Recycle Glass Correctly:

- Separate glass bottles/jars from other recycling.
- Rinse and remove lids.
- Recycle in Glass Recycling Bin/Cart.



Let's aim for an "A" grade because when we fail to recycle correctly:

- The City of Richmond can be fined, which results in costs being passed on to residents.
- Recycling may not be accepted by processors, which results in unnecessary waste going to landfills.

Annual interview with Mayor Malcolm Brodie

By FLORENCE GORDON
Editor

Richmond Sentinel host, Jim Gordon (JG) sat down with Mayor Malcolm Brodie (MB), City of Richmond to talk about the past year and plans for the new year.

JG: Mr. Mayor, when the *Richmond Sentinel* started filming the 'Richmond Stories' you were there with me from the beginning when the city was in a pandemic lock down, since then, it's become a yearly get together.

MB: Lots has happened since our meeting in 2022 and it's a good time to look back.

JG: Let's start with something that you and I have discussed before, a concern that is discussed at home or out in public places, with friends and family and that is, community safety. It's a growing concern and tends to lead most media stories. What are your thoughts because from what I see on the news Richmond is safer than some other communities in the lower mainland.

MB: We think that Richmond is a pretty safe community but, the challenge is always the same. If you are a resident of Richmond and something happens to you, you don't want to hear statistics that you are about 99 per cent safe. You don't feel safe so it's a matter of working together with every resident, every service provider 365 days a year to make sure everyone feels as safe as possible.

JG: Every time I've talked to you, you've brought up things that address reinforcing the safety element within the city. I want to talk about the publicly open 10,000 square foot community centre.

MB: It actually was finished during Covid time, but only opened in the last year. It is the City Centre Community Police office. We originally had the RCMP office in the building next to city hall. After the Olympics we got a new facility on No. 5 Road south of Steveston Hwy. and we moved the RCMP there. That worked out very well, but one of the weaknesses of that approach is that when people wanted to go to the police station for routine matters and in terms of response time by the RCMP it's that much farther out of the way. Organization and co-ordination with the airport aspect of the detachment is that much more difficult, so what we did with a building which was originally a courthouse on the corner of Granville and Gilbert was, we redeveloped it into a community police office and in the last year we were finally able to reopen it.

JG: Mr. Mayor, can you break down this good news for our readers, you've welcomed 16 additional police officers and 27 new firefighters tell our readers how important this is and how does that affect the city.

MB: We committed, a number of years ago that within the next number of years we would increase a compliment of RCMP officers by 91 officers and we would increase a compliment of firefighters by 36 to keep up their response capability. Last year was the last part of that commitment, it completed our increase in person power, so now we can go into the future.

It doesn't mean we won't have to add another body, I think for the RCMP our police to resident ratio was pretty low and we're basically the lowest in the region so that brought that right up. In terms of the firefighters, we hadn't added anybody to the compliment for probably 20 years. So again as you say, it's a matter of making people feel safe in their own community. Unfortunately it costs money, I think the people support it.

JG: Let's talk about the Fox 80 Mental Health Car program.

MB: We know that within the last 20 years people without homes has increased dramatically, street incidents have increased and traditionally that was considered a police incident. Yes it is a police incident but, in the last number of years everyone realized, there's a component involving mental health or substance abuse. Following a number of other cities, we now have a program called Fox 80 which is, a specially trained RCMP officer will work with a social worker when there seems to be a component involving mental health then that car with two people will respond. That has been very positive.

JG: You've been mayor since 2001, you've seen this city grow. Every time we talked, planning and development infrastructure comes up. Can we talk about plans for 2023 and into 2024.



Jim Gordon interviews Mayor Malcolm Brodie.

MB: One of the big projects is the Steveston community centre, we are committed to rebuilding the centre, the shovels are now in the ground. That's a \$95 million project, one that is overdue and will meet the approval of the people in Richmond.

In north Richmond, where a lot of re-development is taking place in the Capstan Way area there is a new community centre and we're hoping it will be completed this year. Also in the same area, we have a Capstan Canada Line station under construction. That's important because when we started to develop north Richmond there were thousands of units being developed in that one area. A levy was placed on every unit that was sold in that particular area and when we had \$29 million it was given to Translink for construction to begin. By the end of the year or early 2024 we expect the Capstan Canada Line station will be finished.

JG: In the past, we've talked about improvement and level of options for rental properties, is that something you are still focused on.

MB: Last year there were a number of large projects totaling 2,500 living units that we approved and about 40 per cent of those living units are for rentals whether at market rates or it could be something below market, there are a number of categories. People are talking about how much they need rental units, so we've focused on that and going into the future, it will continue.

So if you want to redevelop property in the city centre, 60 units or more, the developer has to contribute at least 15 per cent for below market rentals and another 15 per cent for market rentals so hopefully that will bolster the stock of rental properties that are available. In return for developing those rental units, the applicant is able to get a density bonus.

JG: Do you find people in their 20's and 30's are getting to a better place with better options in terms of renting. Buying is tough so they need rental options.

MB: When we get those rental units there will be a mix of studio, one, two and three bedrooms, so it will cater to all demographics, and we do believe the people coming into their careers do need those rental options so to have the stock



Photo courtesy Richmond Sentinel

MB: In terms of communicating with people you want to use every tool that you have in your arsenal. Social Media is accepted by so many people in our community so it's an opportunity for us to communicate what's going on. In a most positive sense, it enables the city to reach out and get a message across.

JG: There's another subject that we have talked about in the past when I sit down with you, and that's climate change. How do you and council and your team look at what's been going on the last 2 years.

MB: Foremost on our list for analysis and impact is the environment. We have an overall goal under the environmental plan that by 2030 we are going to reduce greenhouse gases by 50 per cent compared to 2007 and by 2050 it will be a neutral situation. There's lots of things that go into that, the biggest being district energy. So instead of using fossil fuel resources we are using natural resources and they are sustainable and renewable.

Right now, we've got about 5 million square feet that's on the district energy grid by 2040, 2050 that will go up tenfold. One of the major things that we did this past year because we worked with a private company on the district energy, we got a commitment from Canada Infrastructure Bank for funds, at a very favourable rate so the ability to grow into the future, in this area is assured. Another area we are concentrating on is the city's fleet. Last year, half the vehicles we purchased were either full electric or hybrid electric. We've won awards for that and again we see that as a way of the future to get away from greenhouse gas emissions and to become more sustainable.

JG: Another issue for the citizens is childcare. Can you share any updates in that area.

MB: If you want the young families to live in your community they have to have access to child care. As new buildings are developed, and the city gets amenity space, very often it is used for child care. We added two child care centres this last year and we are about to open another one. We have in the neighbourhood of 600 childcare spaces that are in city owned facilities, private operators but city space. We believe it is helping to provide for the young families. You've got one or both parents working and they need that child care. And, working with other levels of government regarding the \$10 a day program, what a difference that makes to the working family.

JG: I'd like to put my notes aside and talk about you, for our viewers what do you like to do in your spare time. I don't sense you have a lot of spare time because I see you at a lot of events which, I know that you have to do in your position.

MB: Well, a lot of my spare time is private family time and like so many people during the downtime caused by the pandemic it enabled me to return to playing tennis and, I have added a dog to the family. It's only because of COVID and the shutdown that enabled me to have time to think about either one of them.

JG: When the city re-opened were you out talking to businesses encouraging them, that we will get through this.

MB: That message was done in a lot of different ways. When everything was shutdown, we did a number of videos talking about what was happening, what our plan was, and how we were going to get through this.

Attending Richmond Chamber of Commerce and other business and interest group events via Zoom we were able to reassure everyone "we will get through this, and we will get to the time when this will be a thing of the past."

JG: You are that rare thing sir, and I put this in perspective you were elected into office a month after 911. If you could go back in time, what is one thing you would tell yourself as a new mayor in 2001?

MB: When you are a new mayor, the learning curve is very significant. I was a councillor for 5 years prior and when I was elected into this position I found that it was very daunting indeed. One's ability to work with the city comes from the contacts with the city, the residents, the businesses, and the various groups. To go to the events to be part of what's going on in your community is really the essence of what you're doing. You have to get out there and work with the entire community and you're building a rapport. I think any new mayor would understand that.

For video interview go to richmondsentinel.ca/videos

available for them is a big bonus.

JG: One of the things I love about this city are the events, arts and culture and festivals, these were not present when we first sat down three years ago and now that the city is opening up is that something that you and the council are working to improve upon.

MB: Every year we look at how we can gain the interest of the residents of our city and around the region. The most obvious events are the big ones: Canada Day, the Salmon Festival, Maritime Festival, Doors Open, Culture Days, there's a whole range of opportunities where people can enjoy Richmond and all it has to offer. All of it is important to us.

JG: How important is it to compete and you obviously do it well, to get big events like the CARHA Hockey, how important is that to the city.

MB: It's important for a number of reasons. There's an economic benefit to the city to attract people and events. They rent hotels, eat in restaurants, patronize shops and shopping malls so financially it's important. Equally important is for people to learn about our city. There's a lot of excitement that's created.

JG: Let's talk about city's resilient economic strategy and post-pandemic growth. I understand that new business licenses rose 20 per cent in 2022, that's a good sign.

MB: That is a good sign that things are coming back. We are always searching for new ways to connect with businesses and the people. For instance, we have a new APP that allows people to go in and renew a business license called 'My Business'. Those are the things that are prevalent in our planning process we're trying to develop better online and virtual ways to continue with the planning process. It's that much more efficient. Yes, coming out of the pandemic it's been a matter of growth and re-energizing our business and our personal base.

JG: You have been the mayor for over 20 years as mentioned earlier, so you've seen ways to change communication. You are very pro-active when it comes to social media, how important has that been?

Asphalt Paving Advisory

April 15 to October 31, 2023

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

PROPOSED 2023 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS

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

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

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

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

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

Questions may be directed to Wasim Memon, Supervisor, Engineering Inspections, at **604-276-4189**, or visit the City's paving program web page at <https://www.richmond.ca/services/rdws/projects/construction.htm>.



Photo courtesy
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
**John Belisle, a design instructor from
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
(KPU), has designed the 2023 Canada
Post Community Foundation stamp.**



KPU design instructor wins stamp of approval

A Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) design instructor is putting his stamp on one of the latest adhesive squares issued by Canada Post.

John Belisle has designed the 2023 Canada Post Community Foundation stamp, featuring an owl, a fox, and a bear reading together in the moonlight.

"The theme of this stamp issue is the way in which stories and storytelling enhance the lives of children and youth," says Belisle. "The illustration depicts a diverse group of animals gathering around a fire in the forest to read a story together. It reminds us of the joy that stories and storytelling bring, as well as the creativity and curiosity they inspire."

The stamp issue is part of the foundation's annual campaign to raise money for grants to support Canadian charities, schools and organizations that benefit children and youth.

"The illustration is rooted in the idea that the community stamp gives back to kids in communities that are in need, including mental health and education," says Belisle.

Canada Post retail employees selected the design from Belisle, who is no stranger to the art of creating postage stamps.

A graphic design for marketing instructor at KPU's Wilson School of Design (WSD), Belisle has been designing stamps for 15 years, including 25 stamps for Canada Post. His postage designs include themes of the 2010 Winter Games and Star Trek, to Canadians in Hollywood and mental health awareness.

A huge challenge of designing the small squares is considering what the selection committee will respond to.

"Some of my best ideas have not been chosen. Stamps are small, so your ideas and artwork have to be imaginative but also quick reads visually, and to work that small you need small little fingers to create the artwork, which is why no one over six feet tall has ever designed a stamp, true story," says Belisle, who stands five foot eight.

Belisle's previous design work also includes the bid books for the 2010 Winter Olympics, and brand identities and campaigns for over 50 organizations in Canada and around the world, as well as several children's and coffee table books.

The Canada Post Community Foundation supports a variety of initiatives, including literacy and language programs, youth outreach services, projects supporting Indigenous youth, gender and sexual diversity programs, arts and recreation projects, special education programs, and childhood health programs.

A taste of Vietnamese culture

By **SAMUEL CHENG**
Reporter

According to a 2021 census conducted by Statistics Canada, there are over 3,300 people who have identified themselves as Southeast Asians in Richmond. Of all the visible minority groups in Richmond, Southeast Asians are ranked fifth in population, after Chinese, South Asians, Filipino, and Japanese.

Southeast Asians include Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and more. The Vietnamese culture in particular, are seeing an up rise in popularity, especially in the food and beverage industry.

In March of 2019, a brand-new Vietnamese-themed restaurant, Obanhmi, opened its doors to the public. The name of the business is a transliteration of “bánh mì”, which means bread in Vietnamese. The idea of opening a Vietnamese shop was created when the owners were enjoying a barbecue meal.

“Naming a business after the product can be a simple and effective way to create brand recognition and communicate the core offering of the business,” says Eric Duong, one of the owners of Obanhmi.

Obanhmi features banh mi, rolls and teas. A banh mi, or bánh mì, is a short French baguette that is cut lengthwise and is filled with savory ingredients. Fillings such as chicken, beef, or shredded pork are often paired up with pickled carrots, radish, steamed pork roll, cilantro, chili, cucumber and more.

“Our chef comes up with seasonal items such as soups and new drinks to add variety to the menu, which can keep customers interested,” says Duong.

When it comes to the heart and soul of a banh mi, the winner has to go to the “paté”. Paté is a creamy and savoury mixture spread on the buns of a banh mi, often made with a mixture of pig liver, meat, vegetables and an assortment of spices. Different restaurants and shops will create their own special flavoring of paté and that is what makes each one of them unique.

Overall, a banh mi can be similar to a subway sandwich as it is comparable by visual representation. Banh mi can be served both hot or cold, which makes it a great choice for lunch at the office, an outdoor picnic, or at a casual gathering.

One thing that separates Obanhmi from its competitors is the wide array of flavors and options. Unlike other Vietnamese catering venues, Obanhmi menu includes vegetarian, vegan, and even halal options for its customers.



Obanhmi owners from left to right, Eric Duong, Annie Trinh, Juween Nguyen, Randy Huynh.

Photo courtesy Eric Duong

“We tell every customer ‘there’s at least one 5-star option on the menu for anyone’” says Duong.

With the goal of becoming a household name within the community and in British Columbia, Duong shares the secret to the business’s success.

“There’s no doubt you cannot substitute all the things they teach in business school,” says Duong. “We do think all of those things boil down to treating customers and team members well. Customers can feel it when our team is happy, and customers can taste the difference when the staff puts heart and care in prepping.”

Nonetheless, there are bound to be challenges and obstacles along the way to the road of success. Upkeeping the highest of quality, whether that would be food or customer service can be a tough ball to juggle. However, the staff and management team at Obanhmi are quick to respond to customer’s requests while improving every step of the way.

“Mistakes do happen, and sometimes the quality is off, so we actively make sure operation is good and customers get a consistent and high-quality dining experience,” says Duong.

Even though banh mi was designed for a quick bite and takeout, the business still took a hit during the interruption of the pandemic. COVID-19 shifted the way people visits the restaurants. There has been a change from dining out to taking out the food from the restaurants.

“It changed the way we think about organizing the space—we still offer some seating but we learned to optimize more of the space for more efficient operation, which means quicker service for customers,” says Duong.

Staying green and environmental sustainability has been a hot topic in the recent years. Obanhmi is an avid supporter of reducing plastic wastes,

starting from changing the materials of their containers and utensils.

“We changed the lids (of the Vietnamese coffee) to a film seal which reduces plastic,” says Duong. “We are always researching eco-friendly packaging and at the same time balance it with the cost of running a business - it has to make sense for a ‘no-frill’ sandwich shop.”

Hearing the customers say “I love Obanhmi” is perhaps the biggest encouragement that anyone can give to its staff and management team. The business connects with its community through providing job opportunities and is open to any partnership to local events and causes.

Happy employees and over the roof customer satisfaction are what keeps Obanhmi running and in business. Without it, Obanhmi would not have achieved the height of its success that it is currently enjoying.

“Sounds cliché but it’s simple: treat them well. It’s principle no. 1 in our operation handbook,” says Duong.

To future entrepreneurs who are deciding to go down the path of opening their own restaurants or food venues, Duong has shared three critical tips.

The first tip is to make sure that the goal and the ideologies of the owners are on the same page.

“Find one good partner, who shares the same vision and philosophy of doing business, and they must be good at things that you are not good at,” says Duong.

The second tip is to spend the money wisely.

“Don’t spend money and time on a logo and website first - that is not what makes the business successful,” says Duong.

The last tip is to never stop learning.

“Learn the industry, spend time learning beyond all the obvious things,” says Duong.

Today, there are eight stores across the cities of Richmond, Vancouver, Burnaby, Surrey, and Langley. The customers can expect to find freshly made banh mis, rolls, and iced coffees made with love at any location. Whether you’re a meat lover, vegetarian, or even halal, you would surely find your own definition of happiness when visiting any of the Obanhmi locations.

The Richmond branch can be found on unit 140, 6211 Buswell Street, Richmond. It is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. from Monday to Saturday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays.

For the complete menu selections, please visit obanhmishop.com/menu

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Ducks Unlimited Canada

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

Ducks Unlimited Canada is made up of a group of people who are passionate about the wetlands and associated habitats. The organization was established in Manitoba in 1938 studying the importance of wetlands for waterfowl.

"Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) was founded in 1938 by waterfowl hunters who, during the drought of the Great Depression, witnessed wetlands drying up and waterfowl populations struggling. They recognized that conserving wetlands helps ensure the future of waterfowl populations. So, they banded together to stop the destruction of Canada's wetlands by initiating habitat conservation projects and raising funds to support these efforts. Today, Ducks Unlimited Canada is supported by a wide variety of people who care about conservation, wildlife, and the environment," said Sarah Nathan, manager of provincial operations for Ducks Unlimited Canada in B.C.

Focused on conserving areas of critical wetland habitats across the country, the organization continues to develop and organize on-the-ground habitat projects in order to mitigate the effects of floods and droughts. An example of this is in 2019, the organization partnered with the City of Richmond to restore the foreshore in order to reduce the rising tides from sea-levels. Because of the help from the city, and donations from the community, the organization was able to preserve 127 acres of tidal wetlands.

Since inception, the organization has grown tremendously. Through the studies conducted, they have learned about the importance of wetlands and some of the key roles that they play in the ecosystem.

"In addition to providing vital habitat for wildlife, wetlands mitigate the effects of floods and droughts, naturally filter pollutants from water, and act as powerful carbon stores. Simply put, they are some of the most valuable ecosystems on earth," said Nathan.

The organization has accomplished a lot around the country in spite of the climate change, resulting in biodiversity loss.

"To date, we've conserved more than 6.2 million acres of critical wetland



Photos courtesy Ducks Unlimited Canada

Ducks Unlimited Canada is currently studying beavers and how they can help conserve wetlands through creating dams.

habitat across the country, which includes more than 450,000 acres in British Columbia," said Nathan.

The organization has slowly developed an interest in Beavers and the work that they do, specifically the process of building dams. "Beavers build dams as part of their lifecycle – they do this to influence pond depth and riparian vegetation so that they can have deep water, escape cover, and deciduous shrubs to eat, in the process, wetlands are created. We're excited to learn how to work with beavers in a way that doesn't create human-wildlife conflicts for this reason," said Nathan.

Despite being in operation for just under a century, the organization still encounters challenges. Some challenges regarding the process of studying beavers and learning about how they can help create wetlands can include: collaborations with provincial government staff to insure beaver dam sites can be reinstated and communicating with Indigenous Communities to ensure restoration projects share the same values. Additionally, as with any type of charitable organization, more work needs funding so that the project can continue without problem.

The organization encourages the community to help in whatever way they can, some examples of how the public can assist in the conservation of wetlands is listed as follows. "You can make a donation. You can volunteer your time and talent on a local Ducks Unlimited Canada committee that raises funds and awareness for wetland conservation. You can also lend your voice, advocating for effective legislation that supports wetland conservation. But perhaps the easiest way to help is to simply get outside and enjoy exploring nature," said Nathan.

For more information about Ducks Unlimited Canada, visit ducks.ca



The Sturgeon Banks in Richmond.

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OUR CITY *tonight*

SPOTLIGHT ON SUMMER COCKTAILS



Pico Punch photo courtesy Jim Gordon

Cocktail Pico Punch

Andrew MacDonald, Bar Manager of Homer Street Café & Bar, showcased seasonal cocktails with us. His cocktail choice for this column is the 'Pico Punch'.

Inspired by the tart limes only found in Peru, MacDonald has created a cocktail that combines the tart flavours of yuzu liqueur, pineapple and lime to make a bright pisco cocktail.

"It's a great choice to satisfy your cocktail desires this summer."

MacDonald shares his recipe:

- 1.5 oz Barsol pisco Quebranta,
- 0.5 oz Choya yuzu,
- 1 oz pineapple,
- 0.5 oz lime,
- 0.3 oz orgeat,
- garnish with 6 dashes ango bitters and decorated with a lime wheel.

Combine all ingredients in a cocktail shaker, shake hard, strain into Collins glass, then top with ice and apply angostura bitters liberally. homerstreetcafebar.com

Glowbal Dalgona Coffee

Martin Kovalcik, Beverage Director for Glowbal Restaurant Group, was excited to tell us about the recent Summer Spritzers. One of the eight of these cocktails on the summer menu is the 'Dalgona Coffee', offering something that is refreshing, light and delicious.

The Dalgona is a combination of: whipped coffee, Licor 43, Nocino Vancouver Island greenwalnut liqueur, hazelnut liqueur and light almond milk.

glowbalgroup.com



Coffee cocktail photo via globalgroup.com



The Rose Wine photo via timewines.ca

Chronos Rose 2022

For a taste of summer wine, we asked our friend Christa-Lee McWatters, General Manager of TIME Family of Wines a BC ,company offering three award winning brands. The most recent brand, launched last year is Chronos.

The Chronos Rose 2022 is 100 per cent Syrah said McWatters and a little different from many other rose products offered in the Okanagan region. It's the strawberry, watermelon, rhubarb flavour to the nose & palate that recently won a Gold Medal at the Cascadia International Wine competition. timewines.ca

Richmond Stories: Ronnie Paterson

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

In another Richmond Story series, the *Richmond Sentinel*, Jim Gordon (JG) sat down with a local businessman and former Olympian hockey player. One of the things the *Richmond Sentinel* wanted to do with our Richmond stories series is to showcase local citizens along with their backstories and history. Today, we're at a very popular and longstanding pub called Pioneer's Pub. Joining me is the owner, Ronnie Paterson (RP).

JG: *You have a great story. I did not know that you were a goaltender that came up through the system. Let's start with the goaltending experience in 1980, Lake Placid, to me that whole series was about a bunch of kids from the States beating the Russians. You were on Team Canada and went toe-to-toe with the Americans throughout the previous year leading up to the Olympics. Tell us about your career, in the early days.*

(RP): Anytime one gets a chance to represent their country it's always very special. In fact, my esteemed career started just down the road at the Richmond Arena. Actually, it was even before that. The Richmond Arena was not built until the early 60's, so my brother and I actually started playing hockey in Ladner in a little hangar.

It goes back that far and then to fast forward to when I played junior hockey here and at the University of British Columbia (UBC), and then joined the Olympic team for a couple of years, championed by Father David Bauer was a tremendous honour and a great life experience. We did an awful lot of travelling globally for a couple of years, and to get to the Olympics and witness the U.S. team do something no one has ever done, was an absolute remarkable life experience.

JG: *I think for people, youngsters watching, I try to equate it to the Vancouver Giants beating the Boston Bruins. It was just that monumental of a shift, back when it was really us against them.*

RP: It was very much a David and Goliath situation. Nobody anticipated that, and as you know everything had to be aligned for the U.S. team to achieve that ultimate goal. I remember Ken Morrow was a defenceman and he scored late in the game, like seconds remaining against the Swedes to tie it 2-2, that point got them into the medal round. They were so close to being eliminated, and ended up winning a gold medal which is a pretty remarkable experience.

JG: *Another thing we should point out is that this was when it was young amateurs playing for Team Canada, it's not the NHL's best. You were a young amateur in college at UBC.*

RP: Yeah, and subsequently that gave me the window of opportunity to play for the leopard program, pros were not allowed to participate. The focus was, to target college athletes as well as junior players across the country. We came together,



Screen grab from *Richmond Sentinel Videos* Ronnie Paterson, recent BC Hockey Hall of Fame inductee, spoke with the *Richmond Sentinel* to discuss his hockey journey.

practiced, and were housed in Calgary for about a year and a half prior to the Olympics. It was a great life experience, the memories we cultivated were pretty incredible, and we reflect on those, we have reunions, and we have lots of fond memories that were cherished.

JG: *I think most people have this in their lives, for you it's very black and white and definitive, but you came to a fork in the road where it was 'do I continue my impressive career overseas in Europe or do I go back to UBC.' You chose the latter and it leads to a position with Molson Breweries where you were employed for 25 years.*

RP: It was a difficult decision, I did have a small opportunity to go to Finland, but I also started my education and wanted to complete it. All in all, I wanted to finish my degree, I wanted to continue to experience the work environment with Molson, so I chose to first, finish my education and graduated with a degree in education. Then opportunity to continue a position with Molson Breweries presented itself and for 25 years it was a wonderful career.

JG: *You also said that if you could sum up everything you did over the course of the last 30 to 40 years, it would be hospitality and hockey. We're here in one of your locations, you also own the Landing Pub and Grill in Ladner, some liquor stores, but you also kept your hand in the local hockey scene.*

RP: Hockey has always been a big part of our life, our family life, and I continue to tell our kids that we wouldn't enjoy what we enjoy today without the game of hockey. Hospitality has always been very special, we continue to embrace both elements, hockey and hospitality with our children. They're very actively involved in the family business, as is my wife. It's a really rich experience for all of us as

we embark on growing the business that has been great to us.

JG: *One point I found very touching was your tribute to your mom. Talk about the experience growing up, your father passed away when you were young, but your mom was there.*

RP: My mother had three young children, I was the youngest of three, and my father did pass away when I was at a very young age. There was no such thing as GoFundMe activity, so my mother sacrificed a lot, that allowed us to grow and learn and develop those life core values. She taught us the meaning of hard work and what it took to support her children. She provided the amenities in life that other kids enjoyed with having both parents. I look back and I'm very grateful, not only for my mother's sacrifices that she made for us but, also for her mother (my grandmother) who also was an integral part of our upbringing.

JG: *You get one game to show youngsters, under the age of 16, is there one game in the last 40 years that you would want them to see?*

RP: I do remember, and ironically it would be against the U.S. team and the game was in Calgary. It was before the Saddledome, and the arena was jam-packed. We won 3-2. It was just one of those magical moments where it was a great experience, a victory, and all part of the development. When I look back, if there was one game that remains very special, it's probably that one.

JG: *That was the time leading up to the 1980 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid. As a goaltender, I'm curious to get your thoughts on today's goaltending. When I look back at your era, my era, the goaltenders looked like young kids because the equipment was not what is worn today. You alluded to the physicality and constant round the clock working out and staying in top shape. What do you think about the goaltenders today in comparison to when you played hockey.*

RP: It's really advanced, there's a lot more science involved, it's so sophisticated and the position has changed so much. Many years ago, when I played you could be 5'6 now you arguably have to be 6'5. They're square to the puck, they go down, they do things that are totally different in style and in approach to the position. I don't think away from the rink it's changed; I think it's still very emotionally challenging. I love watching hockey and I continue to enjoy watching and cheering them on.

JG: *It has been a great pleasure to sit and listen to your story here on location at your Pioneer Pub. What a great story. These are the kind of Richmond stories the Richmond Sentinel likes to cover.*

RP: The community in Richmond has been awesome and to think that my family and I continue to get to service the community that I grew up in is a real special time for our family.

For the full video interview visit richmond-sentinel.ca/videos

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Best-selling author writes another great thriller

By JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS
Contributors

T.J. Newman first came to our attention two summers ago with her debut novel, *Falling*, which became a best-seller. But it was her story of perseverance and not giving up on her dreams that also made big news. *Our City Tonight* (OCT) recently sat down again with TJ Newman (TJN) to talk about the success of her latest novel, *Drowning*, and that forty-second time being the charm.

OCT: Congratulations on your new book – which is fantastic. Your first book, *Falling* was more about terrorists, hostage taking, a plane possibly crashing, whereas your new book, *Drowning*, is about a plane malfunctioning, and what people will do. It's a real page-turner.

TJN: Thank you, that makes me so happy to hear that. This novel is intense, it's about the rescue of a flight that crashes into the ocean six minutes after take-off. Some passengers evacuate until an explosion forces them to close the doors. But it's too late and the plane floods and starts to sink with twelve people trapped inside including a father and his eleven-year-old daughter.

Their only chance for survival relies on an elite rescue team on the surface, led by the daughter's mother and her father's soon-to-be ex-wife. The story is intense. It's scary, it's going to keep you up at night, but that's just the set-up. The true heart of the story is that it's a rescue story, it's a survival story, it's a story of a fractured family coming back together. It's about hope and love and resilience. That is what this story is really about.

OCT: You recently penned an "open letter" to readers of *deadline.com* which we found wonderful to read and for you to do. It was all about not giving up, and if we could quote you from that letter you say, "I didn't come this far just to go this far". Let's talk about your thinking and the motiva-



Author TJ Newman.

Photo via tjnewmanauthor.com

tion behind that wonderfully written letter.

TJN: Thank you so much for saying that. The response since that came out has been overwhelming, so many people have reached out to say, this is them. They too have faced or are facing non-stop rejection, and they are trying to keep themselves going and this letter really helped.

My story is, that I tried to be a Broadway actress and I failed at that, and then I did those, whole mid-twenties thing moving back home with my parents, living in my childhood bedroom, and wondering what I'm going to do with my life. When I got a job in a bookstore, that's when I started dreaming again and started to write.

When I became a flight attendant, that's where I came up with the idea for my first book, *Falling*. I wrote it in the galley at night while the passengers slept on the "red eye" flights. When the book was ready to be sent out to agents, I was rejected forty-one times. No one wanted the book, no one

wanted me. My forty-second submission was my only "yes". That failure, that struggle, for so many years was so hard. Those rejections really hurt, but I did it.... I could easily not be sitting here with you today, talking about this, had I given up.

But I kept going and now I have two books, I have two film deals, I'm living my dream come true. I didn't know anybody, I didn't have an 'in', all these things they say you have to have in order to make it, I didn't have.

So, I wrote this "open letter" to dreamers to let them know not to believe that. Don't let that be the only voice you listen to because I'm living proof that your dreams can come true. It's hard, the odds are tough but why not you? I think that message has really resonated with people, and I am so grateful for everything that has come from writing that letter.

OCT: Speaking of dreams coming true, you have that great observation about your life and success

over the last two years, where you say, "there's something insane about the fact that I fell hopelessly short of my Broadway ambitions, and yet I just hired and approved five-time Tony Award nominee Laura Benanti to narrate my second book. Or that as a flight attendant, I had a Zoom meeting with a producer that I remember serving a first-class chicken entrée to."

TJN: Just hearing you recap my journey, it's just insane and I'm still trying to process this whole thing it truly is a dream true. Warner Brothers is going to produce a movie from *Drowning* and I was on Zoom calls with Nicole Kidman, it's mind boggling. The response from Canadian readers has been incredible, and hopefully one day we can do the interview in person.

Both novels, *Falling* and *Drowning* are in process to be made into feature films.

For the video interview in full go to richmondsentinel.ca/video



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