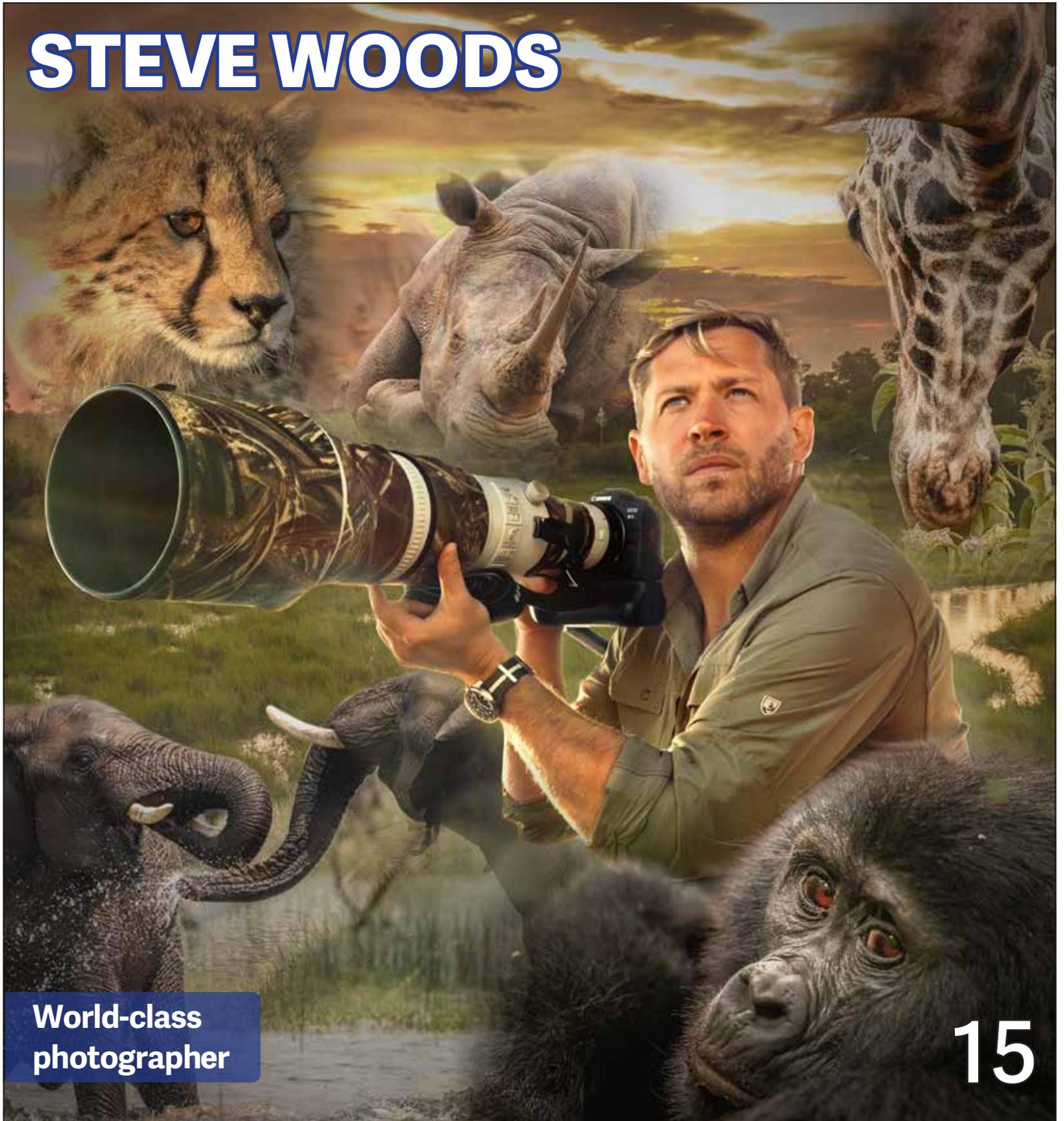




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OUR CITY

Richmond

'GOOD TO KNOW'

by Florence Gordon

Richmond residents are reminded to keep cool and stay safe during heat wave. Sunshine gives us so many good-feel moments, but when the heat from the sun becomes extreme we all have to use precaution, particularly seniors. Simple things like wearing sunglasses, a hat, apply sun screen and carry a bottle of water when you go outdoors.

We encourage residents to remain heat aware and offer a number of options for people to stay cool, stay informed about heat-related health risks and look out for each other during this current spell of extreme weather. For more information you can go to richmond.ca/heat

Suggested options

The city has several options in place for people seeking relief from the heat:

- Stay cool by visiting one of Richmond's three spray parks.
- Stroll through the air conditioned shopping centres.
- Community Centres and even the movie theatres.
- Take in a book or two in the air conditioned comfort of one of the city's four libraries.
- Keeping hydrated is essential, so the city has several water fountains installed across Richmond to provide clean drinking water.
- A map of these and other options is available at: richmond.ca/heat
- Drink plenty of fluids (stay hydrated), even if you don't feel thirsty.
- Keep cool by seeking out places that have air conditioning or shade, use a fan, take cool showers/bath.
- Closing your window coverings during the day will help to reduce inside heat.
- Stay out of hot cars. Never leave a child or a pet in a parked car, even for just a moment. If you see an animal in distress in a hot car contact 911 or the BC SPCA helpline at 1-855-622-7722.
- Check in on your loved ones – older family, friends, and neighbours who may be at risk of heat related illnesses.



Recreation facilities in Richmond

- Cambie Community Centre
- City Centre Community Centre
- Hamilton Community Centre
- Minoru Arena
- Minoru Centre for Active Living - Aquatic
- Minoru Centre for Active Living - Seniors
- Richmond Ice Centre
- Sea Island Community Centre
- South Arm Community Centre
- Steveston Community Centre
- Thompson Community Centre
- Watermania
- West Richmond Community Centre



Photos via Freepik.com

Update on Richmond Community Wellness Strategy – June, 2024

Increased activity, healthier eating habits and a desire for even more opportunities for social connections are just some of the highlights of the Richmond Community Wellness Strategy – Progress Update 2022-2023.

The progress update offers examples of accomplishments and success stories that illustrate the Community Wellness Strategy's impact over the past two years. Launched in 2018, the strategy outlines a collaborative action plan developed in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Richmond School District No. 38 to improve wellness and strive towards the vision for an active, caring, connected, healthy and thriving Richmond.

One example of changes in activity and the impact are: there were almost 1.8 million drop-in visits to City and Association recreation facilities in 2023, a jump of 27.6 per cent. More than 56,500 individuals made use of those same facilities, an increase of almost nine per cent from the previous year.

For more information go to richmond.ca

New Child Care Strategy: Richmond asks for input

By **MICHAEL COOPER**
Student writer

The City of Richmond is developing a new 10-year Child Care Strategy and is inviting feedback until Sunday, Aug. 4. The goal of the new strategy is to lay out the city's childcare vision and inform future policy development, resources, and initiatives pertaining to childcare in Richmond.

The Draft Child Care Strategy 2024-2034 identifies current and future needs and priorities for the Richmond community and provides strategic directions and recommended actions to address these over the next 10 years.

The city is inviting residents, parents, guardians, caregivers, and childcare providers to provide feedback on the draft strategy before the final strategy is presented to the Council for consideration.

Here are the ways to participate:

In-person Focus Group for parents, guardians, caregivers: July 16 from 6 to 7 p.m.

In-person Focus Group for child care providers: July 17 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Online: visit LetsTalkRichmond.ca/ChildCare2024

The focus groups require pre-registration by emailing ChildCare@richmond.ca, and locations will be provided at that time. The deadline for completing the survey online is Sunday, Aug. 4.

This new Child Care Strategy will:

Be the fifth Child Care Strategy undertaken by the city since 1995

Replace the 2017-2022 Child Care Needs Assessment and Strategy

Provide recommendations and actions for addressing child care needs in Richmond over the next 10 years

Complement the existing 2021-2031 Richmond Child Care Action Plan, which was adopted to guide the city's work in supporting the creation of child care spaces in Richmond over the next 10 years

For more information on how you can contribute to this important engagement opportunity visit LetsTalkRichmond.ca/ChildCare2024 or email ChildCare@richmond.ca

Should you require help completing the survey, or require a printed version,



Photo via Flickr.ca

New Child Care Strategy: Richmond asks for input

please email ChildCare@richmond.ca

For the online survey, here's how you can participate:

- Open to everyone
- Deadline for completing the survey is Sunday, Aug. 4, 2024.

Before you begin, please visit the "Important Documents" section of this page and review the:

- Draft Richmond Child Care Strategy 2024-2034 (full document), and/or
- Draft Strategic Directions and Recommended Actions.

Survey: letstalkrichmond.ca/childcare2024/surveys/draft-child-care-strategy-survey If you need assistance completing this survey, or if you have any questions about the survey, please email childcare@richmond.ca

Build and play at Richmond's new temporary park

Kids of all ages are invited to build, stack and connect in the City of Richmond's new Big Blue Box temporary park now through the end of summer. Located on the lawn west of the Richmond Cultural Centre Annex (7660 Minoru Gate), this exciting interactive and free play experience invites adventurers to unleash their creativity using large, interconnecting pieces of

foam blocks to create structures. From towering castles to imaginative forts—the possibilities are endless.

The product's light weight, size and ease-of-use provide a safe opportunity for all ages and abilities to access this innovative play experience. The temporary enclosure offers a safe and engaging environment with woodchip play-

ground safety surfacing a picnic table and seating for parents.

The blocks are available to use within the red fenced area from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends.

For more information on the Big Blue Blocks, email Parks Programs at ParksPrograms@richmond.ca, or call 604-247-4453.

RICHMOND
SENTINEL
OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Richmond long-term care home reaches milestone

People in Richmond are one step closer to accessing new long-term care (LTC) beds and community support services with the posting of a request for proposals (RFP) for a construction manager for the new Richmond Lions Manor-Fentiman campus of care.

"Seniors and families living in the Lower Mainland will benefit from the high-quality long-term care and community support services this new campus will provide," said Adrian Dix, minister of health. "Once the construction manager is hired for the Lions Manor-Fentiman LTC project, the design and construction planning will begin, and the people of Richmond and surrounding areas will be closer to having more beds and support services they deserve within their community."

It is expected the construction manager will be chosen by fall 2024 and construction is anticipated to begin in 2026.

"Seniors are an integral part of our community and this project will help ensure seniors in Richmond have access to a continuum of services, including a place to age with dignity and comfort," said Harwinder Sandhu, parliamentary secretary for seniors' services and long-term care. "It will create a safe and welcoming place where seniors can feel respected and well-cared for, close to their loved ones and community."

The Richmond Lions Manor-Fentiman campus of care will provide 144 long-term care beds and 14 hospice beds. The new care home will replace the



Screen grab from Google Maps

Richmond Lions Manor-Fentiman campus of care will soon be one step closer to accessing new long-term care beds and community support services.

98 beds at Richmond Lions Manor-Bridgeport and add 60 new beds.

"Moving to RFP for a construction manager marks an important milestone for this project and reflects our ongoing commitment to provide excellent care," said Jo-Ann Tait, vice-president of Richmond community at Vancouver Coastal Health. "We look forward to working with the successful proponent, Indigenous partners and the local community to deliver these important health-care services."

The campus of care will be designed as households accommodating 12 residents in single-bed rooms

with bathrooms. It will include the social and recreational spaces found in a typical home, such as a living room, dining room, kitchen and outdoor space. The environment will include supports for those with dementia, where friends and family feel welcome. As a campus of care, the facility will also include an adult day program, overnight respite, hospice unit and 37-space child care facility.

The capital cost of the project is estimated to be \$177.7 million and will be fully funded by the province. The new facility will be built, owned and operated by Vancouver Coastal Health.

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



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Richmond RCMP's Project 529 combats bike theft

Richmond RCMP is continuing efforts to combat bike theft with a range of initiatives, including Project 529 bike registration events and public education campaigns. As bike theft continues to be a concern for residents, these efforts are aimed at raising awareness and providing residents with effective tools to protect their bicycles.

Project 529 is a no-cost service that helps to deter bike theft and recover stolen bikes. The free registration process is simple and can be completed through a smartphone app. By registering your bike, you are making it easier for police to identify and return lost or stolen bikes to their rightful owners.

How to participate:

- In-person registration: Attend one of our upcoming registration events at the Minoru Center for Active Living.

- Online registration: Download the Project 529 app from the App Store or Google Play, and follow the instructions to register your bike.

- Community policing offices: Registration assistance is currently available at the City Centre Community Policing Office (CPO3) located at 6931 Granville Avenue. Residents can also pick up a decal at our main detachment at 11411 No. 5 Road and self-register. For contact numbers and hours of operation please visit our website.

Upcoming Project 529 registration events

Richmond RCMP will be hosting two Project 529 bike registration events at the Minoru Center for Active Living. These events coincide with their Concert in the Plaza series, making it convenient for local residents to participate. Residents are also able to register e-bikes and e-scooters in the program.

Event details:

- Dates: July 17 and Aug. 14
- Time: 7 to 8 p.m.
- Location: Minoru Center for Active Living, 7191 Granville Ave, Richmond



Photo courtesy Richmond RCMP

As part of continued efforts to combat bike theft, Richmond RCMP is introducing Project 529; a no-cost service that deter bike theft through a simple registration process.

Richmond's commitment to bike theft prevention

Richmond RCMP has implemented several measures to prevent bike theft and educate the community:

1. Public education campaigns: We regularly share tips and strategies to help residents secure their bicycles.

2. Increased patrols: Enhanced patrols in areas with high incidences of bike theft.

3. Community engagement: Active involvement at community events to raise awareness about bike security and crime prevention.

Here are some general tips to help protect your bicycle from theft:

1. Use a high-quality lock: Invest in a sturdy U-lock or chain lock and ensure you secure both the frame and wheels to a fixed object.

2. Park in well-lit areas: Always

choose well-lit and busy areas to park your bike.

3. Remove accessories: Take with you any easily removable parts or accessories, such as lights or bike bags.

4. Register your bike: Participate in the Project 529 registration to help police return your bike if it is lost or stolen.

Richmond's bike theft statistics

Richmond has seen varying trends in bike thefts over recent years. In 2021, there were 244 reported incidents, which increased to 283 in 2022. However, 2023 saw a slight decline with 253 incidents reported. As of May 25, 2024, there have been 66 reported bike thefts. Notably, 99 per cent of these reports involve bikes valued under \$5,000.

Join us in making Richmond safer

We encourage all bike owners to take advantage of this free program. By registering your bike, you are helping to protect your property and contribute to making Richmond a safer community. No appointment is necessary to attend the events or our Community Policing Office, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Residents urged to properly dispose of cigarette butts

On July 7, a Richmond RCMP officer conducting proactive patrols encountered a brush fire near the parking lot of a local shopping centre at 6500 block of No. 3 Road. The fire, which is believed to have been caused by a discarded cigarette butt, was quickly extinguished by the officer.

Inspector Mike Roberts, Operations Officer, Richmond RCMP, stated, "This incident highlights the importance of properly handling ignited articles such as cigarette butts. With the current dry weather, even a small spark can lead to a potentially dangerous situation. We urge all residents to be extra cautious and responsible."

In light of the dry weather conditions, Richmond RCMP urges residents to be vigilant and take extra precautions to prevent fires. Residents are reminded to properly extinguish cigarette butts and dispose of them safely.

Richmond RCMP encourages everyone to be aware of the increased fire risk during this period.

In honour of our soldiers: Ross George McKessock

By **MICHAEL COOPER**
Student writer

Born on Aug. 11, 1920 in Winnipeg, Manitoba Ross George McKessock was a RCAF pilot. He moved to Richmond, prior to 1925, with his parents, and attended Bridgeport Public School from 1925 to 1933 and then attended Richmond High School from 1933 to 1937, graduating with his Junior Matriculation.

During his school life he was a proficient football player, earning his nickname "Fooz". Ross had previously applied to the Royal Canadian Air Force for a commission, in 1939, but was ineligible due to insufficient education.

He worked for Boeing aircraft of Canada from November 1940 to February 1941 as an assembly fitter. Ross enlisted in the RCAF on Feb. 10, 1941 in Vancouver and was immediately posted to Brandon, Manitoba. After enlistment he got married to Jean Grahm then in Toronto, on December 24 and embarked on his last mission for England, 1942.

On June 30, 1943, Flying Officer McKessock was piloting Mustang aircraft #AM 196, an American long range fighter bomber plane at a low altitude over the English Channel close to Le Havre, when his plane went down. He was initially listed as missing then later was presumed killed.



Screen grab from [googlemaps.com](https://www.google.com/maps)

A poppy engraved road sign of McKessock Avenue and McKessock Place

His body was washed ashore at Le Havre on July 16, 1943. And was later buried at the Ste. Marie Cemetery, France, leaving behind his wife and in-

fant child. His legacy continues to be honored in McKessock Avenue between Bridgeport Trail and Shell Road.



It's friends we meet along the way that help us appreciate the journey.



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Nature's essence donates \$34K to Richmond Hospital

For Richmond-based Nature's Essence Health Products Incorporation, health is at the essence of both its business and its philanthropy. In alignment with this core value, the company has donated \$34,000 to fund a new ultrasound system for Richmond Hospital.

"Giving back to the community is what we should do," shares Raymond Lin, owner and general manager of Nature's Essence Health Products Inc. "Our Richmond community has helped us grow over the years, and we are pleased to be there for them and their growing families. Meanwhile, Richmond as a community is also expanding, so we want to give back, support local health care services, and help build a healthier future."

Nature's Essence is a family-owned business that was established in Richmond in 1997 and is one of Canada's top retailers of natural health products. A loyal supporter of Richmond Hospital Foundation since 2017, the family company completed a \$100,000 donation for Richmond Hospital's future acute care tower, the Yurkovich Family Pavilion in 2021.

"We are very fortunate to have Nature's Essence's generous support," says Spencer Gall, campaign director of Richmond Hospital Foundation. "Nature's Essence is a community enterprise that understands the importance of health and enhancing patient care to build a healthier community. Their donation will help strengthen the Richmond health care team's ability to provide excellent care for our growing community."

The new ultrasound system will improve the patient experience for those requiring intravenous (IV) procedures through advanced visualization, enhanced precision, and increased patient comfort. In particular, the new system will greatly assist medical staff with long-term IV access for cancer treatment, in-



Photo courtesy Richmond Hospital Foundation

Raymond Lin, owner / general manager, Nature's Essence Health Products Inc. (left) and Spencer Gall, campaign director, Richmond Hospital Foundation (right).

fections, and nutrition.

To learn about how you can support Richmond Hospital Foundation, visit richmondhospitalfoundation.com/ways-to-give/all-the-ways-to-give/

Pacific Chinese Cultural Society raises \$30K



Photo courtesy Richmond Hospital Foundation

From left to right: Wesley Liang, President, Pacific Chinese Cultural Society (2nd from the left); Natalie Meixner, President and CEO, Richmond Hospital Foundation (4th to the left); Spencer Gall, Chief Philanthropy Officer, Richmond Hospital Foundation (1st on the right); and members of the Pacific Chinese Cultural Society.

Yearlong fundraising efforts by members of the Pacific Chinese Cultural Society have enabled a \$30,000 donation towards Richmond Hospital Foundation's Medical Imaging Centre Campaign. These funds will help bring in new and much-needed imaging technologies to the new

Milan and Maureen Ilich Medical Imaging Centre and future Emergency Department in the Yurkovich Family Pavilion.

"Many of our members wish to support Richmond health care because they are Richmond residents, they have friends and family here, or

they visit the city often," shares Wesley Liang, president of the Pacific Chinese Cultural Society. "In particular, we want to direct our support towards the Medical Imaging Centre Campaign, because we know it will benefit the people in the community for a long time into the future."

Pacific Chinese Cultural Society members raised funds in the past year through dinners, charity sales, and inspiring others within their networks.

"I'd like to extend my gratitude to the Pacific Chinese Cultural Society for their generosity and for inspiring joyful giving" says Natalie Meixner, president and chief executive officer of Richmond Hospital Foundation. "Through rallying others in their network, they have helped raise funds and ignite a spirit of philanthropy in our community. Thank you for helping ensure Richmond patients have access to the best care possible."

Richmond Hospital Foundation will help fund the acquisition of new imaging technologies for diagnosing, tracking and monitoring medical conditions. These technologies encompass CT scanners, MRI machines, mammography machines, SPECT machines, X-Ray machines, and interventional radiology machines, in addition to a satellite medical imaging centre in the future Emergency Department.

To learn more about Richmond Hospital Foundation, please visit richmondhospitalfoundation.com/

Campfire ban takes effect throughout B.C.

Following a stretch of high temperatures and several heat warnings throughout the province, and with potentially challenging wildfire weather forecast, the BC Wildfire Service implemented a campfire ban in all parts of B.C., except Haida Gwaii.

The ban took effect at noon (Pacific time) on Friday, July 12, 2024, and will remain until further notice.

The ban is being implemented to help prevent human-caused wildfires and help protect public safety. The category 1 (campfires) ban is in addition to current provincewide bans for category 2 and 3 fires. This means open fires of any size, except those licensed for prescribed burns, will be prohibited everywhere in B.C., outside of Haida Gwaii.

Much of B.C. has seen very hot, and sometimes record-breaking, temperatures over the past week, prompting Environment Canada to issue heat warnings for many regions. While heat warnings have been lifted in some areas, the hot weather is predicted to continue for parts of the province, combined with the risk of high winds and lightning.

To report a wildfire, unattended campfire, or open burning violation, use the BC Wildfire Service mobile app or call 1-800-663-5555 toll-free (*5555 on a cellphone).

Anyone found in contravention of an open-burning prohibition may be issued a violation ticket for \$1,150, may be required to pay an administrative penalty of up to \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, may be fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

Currently, approximately 140 wildfires are burning in B.C. Given the weather forecast, the BC Wildfire Service is anticipating further wildfire starts, particularly in northern regions and parts of the Cariboo. Although southern portions of the province will be less adversely affected by this weather, the southern and central Interior may experience increased winds and isolated dry lightning.

Wildfire personnel are constantly monitoring and assessing conditions. Resources are stationed and deployed in alignment with heightened risk.

With a potential increase in wildfires comes an increased chance of evacuation alerts and evacuation orders, particularly in northeastern B.C. As of 7 a.m. on Thursday, July 11, there were two evacuation orders and three evacuation alerts in B.C. For the latest information about evacuation orders and alerts, visit: emergencyinfo.bc.ca/

Residents and travellers should use caution and take steps to reduce the risk of wildfire by staying up to date on current conditions, follow fire bans and restrictions, and have an emergency plan.

The province, including the BC Wildfire Service, has taken action to prepare for this wildfire season. Guided in part by recommendations from the premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies, the province has enhanced support for people who are evacuated and wildfire preparedness in B.C.

This work includes:

- strengthening the BC Wildfire Service and enhancing wildland-fire-fighter recruitment and training;
- securing more equipment, airplanes and helicopters;
- deploying new technologies and innovation;
- increasing prevention work;
- funding for communities to better support people evacuated from their homes;
- readying more volunteers to support people who are evacuated;
- improving financial assistance to people who have been evacuated from their homes; and
- creating new ways for people to register online for evacuation support.

Asphalt Paving Advisory

April 20 to November 30, 2024

The City of Richmond has contracted Save On Black Top Ltd. to grind and pave the following locations in Richmond **from April 20 to November 30, 2024.**

PROPOSED 2024 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS

| |
|--|
| No. 6 Road (Bridgeport Road to Cambie Road)—Bridgeport Road intersection not included. Cambie Road Intersection included |
| Cambie Road (Shell Road to No. 5 Road)—Intersections included |
| Bridgeport Road (Viking Way to Sweden Way)—Intersections included |
| No.4 Road and Alderbridge Way Intersection |
| Westminster Highway (Gilbert Road to No. 3 Road)—Intersections included |
| Beckwith Road (Sexsmith Road to Smith Street)—Intersections included |
| Blundell Road—(No. 4 Road to No.5 Road)—No. 4 Road Intersection included |
| No. 1 Road (Francis Road to Blundell Road)—Intersections included |
| No. 1 Road (Westminster Highway to Granville Avenue)—Intersections included |
| No. 6 Road (Bridgeport Road to Vulcan Way)—Intersections included |
| Shell Road (Steveston Highway to Williams Road)—Intersections included |
| Vulcan Way (No. 5 Road to No. 6 Road)—Intersections included |
| Garden City Road (Cambie Road to Bridgeport Road) —Intersections included |
| No. 5 Road (Seacliff Road to Kingsbridge Drive)—Intersections included |
| No. 3 Road (Alderbridge Way to Capstan Way)—Intersections included |
| Burkeville Subdivision includes Catalina Crescent, Douglas Crescent, Hudson Avenue, Boeing Avenue |
| Kwantlen Street (Alderbridge Way to Alexandra Road)—Alexandra Road Intersection included |
| Machrina Way (Horseshoe Way to No. 5 Road) |
| 22000 Block Westminster Highway (MOTI—McLean Avenue) including McLean Avenue Intersection |
| Knight Street (Southbound Lanes from Bridge Deck to 50m South) |
| Knight Street South Bound On and Off Ramps at Bridgeport Road |
| Steveston Highway (Westbound Lanes from Shell Road to No.5 Road)—Intersections included |
| Shell Road (Bridgeport Road to River Drive)—Intersections included |
| Shell Road (Hammersmith Gate to Steveston Highway) |
| Jacobs Rd (Cambie Road—Bathgate Way)—Intersections included |
| Bathgate Way (Sweden Way—Jacobs Road) Intersections included |
| Hammersmith Gate (Shell Road to Hammersmith Way) Intersections included |
| Leonard Road (Ryan Road to Williams Road)—Intersections included |
| Maddocks Road (Aintree Crescent to Shell Road)—Intersections included |
| Boundary Road (Thompson Gate to Westminster Highway) including Thompson Gate intersection |
| Blundell Road (Sidaway Road to No. 6 Road)—Intersections included |

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

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

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

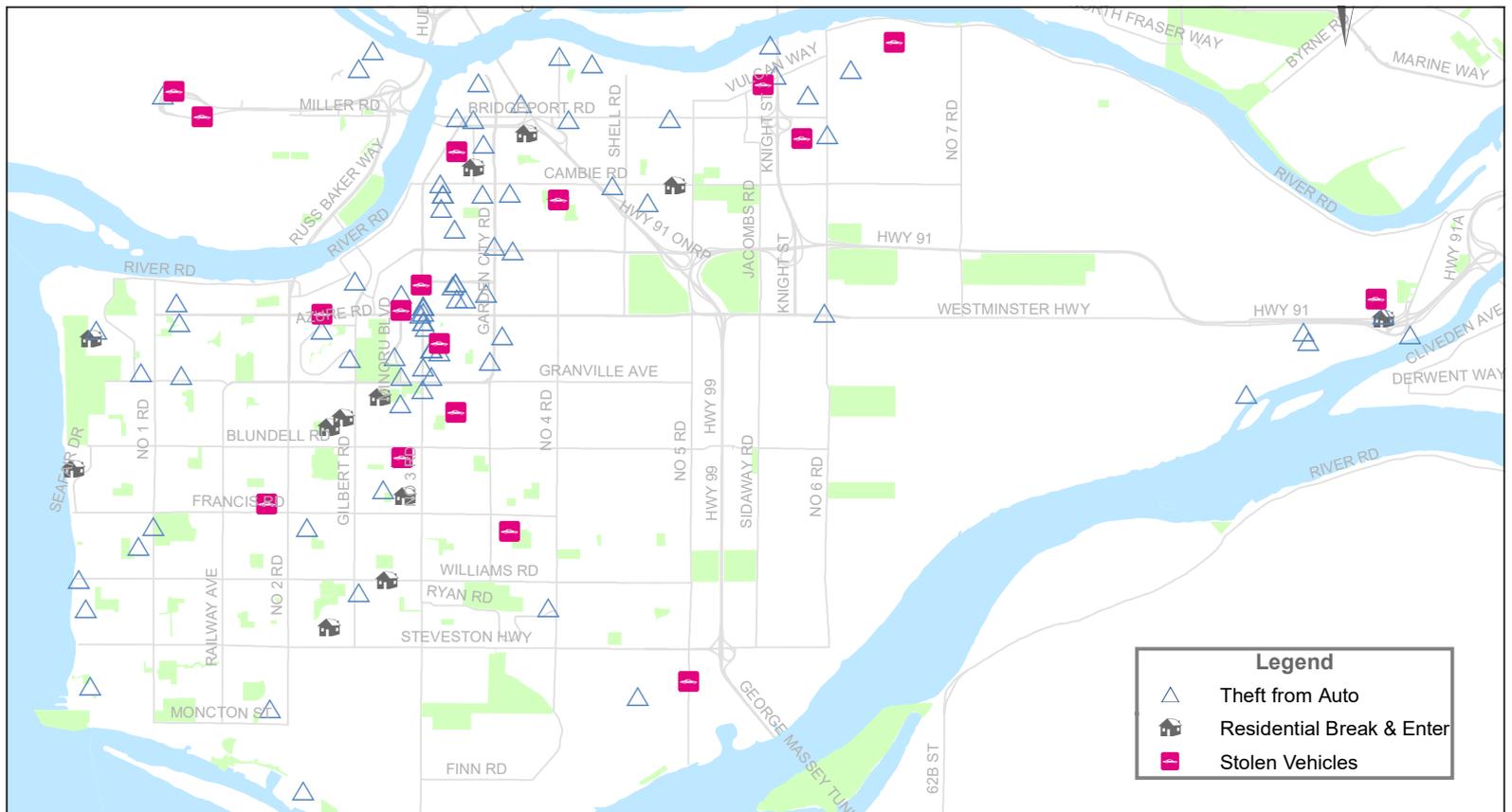
The scope of the advertised work may be adjusted or cancelled in line with available funding.

Questions may be directed to Wasim Memon, Supervisor, Engineering Inspections, at **604-276-4189**, or visit the City's paving program web page at richmond.ca/paving.



RCMP

Crime Map June 1 - 30, 2024



More sheriffs will help keep court users safe

Fifty-one new B.C. sheriffs will soon begin their careers keeping people safe at courthouses throughout the province.

The spring class of graduates from the Justice Institute of British Columbia is the largest class in recent memory, having completed an intensive academic, physical and practical training program.

Sheriffs ensure the safety and security at the 90 court locations throughout B.C. for the public, court staff, the judiciary, the legal profession and other justice-related agencies. Sheriffs also transport accused and convicted people to and from correctional institutions, carry out court orders, administer juries and plan for high-security trials. The BC Sheriff Service is recognized as an international leader in providing protective and enforcement services for the justice system.

The province has been working closely with the BC Sheriff Service to strengthen efforts in recruitment, retention and training. The BC Sheriff Service is actively working on several initiatives, including promoting lateral transfers, deployment and growth opportunities. New positions are being created to build capacity and a more competitive pay-and-benefits framework is being put in place for sheriffs. There has been some early progress.

The next class of sheriffs begins training July 29, 2024, and is expected to graduate Oct. 22, 2024.

More help coming for people resolving family matters

More people throughout the province will have access to a service that helps resolve family law matters earlier.

Building on existing family justice services, the early resolution process aims to build knowledge, support problem solving and help families prepare for the next steps in their family law matters. The process, which is currently available in Victoria and Surrey, is being widely expanded. The expansion will begin with the Port Coquitlam Provincial Court family registry in November 2024. Between April and November 2025, the service will expand to Provincial Court family registries in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, New Westminster, North Vancouver, Pemberton, Richmond, Sechelt and Vancouver (Robson Square).

The process is designed to reduce conflict and build skills to prevent

future conflict through earlier resolutions that are customized to a family's needs and, ultimately, help families to resolve their family law matters. It provides early preparation for families, many of whom are without legal representation, through screening for family violence, identification of legal and non-legal needs, referrals to community organizations, assistance resolving disputes out-of-court and support preparing for the appropriate next steps. Families also receive information about the court process and other options, such as consensual dispute resolution.

The expansion of the process prioritizes resources for families that require formal judgment on a disputed matter and increases the court's capacity to deal with other matters and ensures timely access to justice for more people in the province.



Joe Biz — by Joe Leary

Richmond's unique culinary experience

Richmond has long been acknowledged as a culinary hot spot, not just locally but well beyond. Many consider it the gastronomical capital of Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest.

One thing is certain: when it comes to dining Richmond has well surpassed the old adage of something for everyone. In fact, the Richmond food scene is that of legend, not only around the Lower Mainland but the word is out south of the border as well.

It's been suggested that you could eat at a different spot in Richmond every day for months without visiting the same place twice.

In fact, at last count, Richmond boasted over 800 restaurants and with roughly 70 percent of the population being of Asian descent, there is simply no better market for Asian cuisine to be found anywhere in North America.

As a restaurant judge with *Vancouver Magazine* for over 20 years, Lee Man serves as the ultimate expert on the Richmond dining scene, having grown up on the local cuisine.

Man is also the Founding Judge of the Chinese Restaurant Awards created in 2009. It has since gone on to become the world's longest-running Chinese culinary awards event and recognized as the foremost authority on Chinese and Taiwanese dining.

"The food scene in Richmond is astounding and in particular the Chinese food is amazing," says Man.

"With the local farmland and access to fresh live fish and seafood, Richmond restaurants very much keep with the Chinese cooking ideals of eating fresh and local—and avoiding frozen foods as much as possible."

The area is replete with an expansive variety of cuisine and food-related experiences. There's



Photo courtesy Lee Man

Lee Man, founding judge, Chinese Restaurant Awards.

everything from the hustle and bustle of the Richmond Night Market—which attracts over a million visitors per year and runs from April to October with over 600 international food options and more than 110 retail booths—to the highly-acclaimed Dumpling Trail; which includes 16 locations.

The Dumpling Trail guides diners to 13 eateries that steam, fry and boil up delectable dumplings and were recently showcased on *CNN Travel's* 12 of the world's most enticing food and drink trails.

The city was also recently hailed by a *Seattle* publication for being home to the best Dim Sum on the continent.

"Richmond is widely-acknowledged across North America as having the best Chinese food outside of Greater China," he says.

"In addition to the recent publication in the *Seattle Times*, Richmond has been written up in the *New York Times* and *eater.com*

Richmond is so rich with Asian culinary choice that there's a specific area known as the Golden Village or more locally, 'Eat Street'.

That, at least, is how locals refer to the stretch along Alexandra Road that is chock full of authentic Asian fare. "Alexandra Road is famous for both locals and visitors who flock there for the huge selection of restaurants.

Diners and restaurateurs alike love the liveliness and community that has been created on 'Eat Street'.

"You can have a Dim Sum breakfast, noodles for lunch and spicy lamb skewers for dinners all within blocks of each other—it's fantastic."

The Golden Village area is a game-changer as the variety of food options in the area is unrivalled and



Photos via richmondnightmarket.com

offers without question, the most authentic gastronomical experience found anywhere in North America.

It's even been suggested that for truly Authentic Asian food, Vancouver's historic Chinatown isn't even comparable.

"Whenever people visit Richmond, they want to eat out and have Chinese and Asian food," says Man.

"Even visitors from China want the local version in Richmond because of the freshness of local ingredients. When I ask my 'Foodie' friends in Seattle where they go for the best Dim Sum, they say Richmond, BC and the Richmond Night Market in particular is a huge event for young people who love to eat."

And given Lee Man's accreditation as "the source" for Richmond area cuisine, we'd be remiss if we didn't get a couple of recommendations of 'must try', go-to hot spots in Western Canada's highly-decorated 'Food-topia'.

"Right now, I love 'The Fish Man' on Alexandra Road for the beautiful, local and sustainable seafood cooked with lively and spicy Chinese ingredients," he says of his personal favourites.

'Kirin Seafood Restaurant' is the absolute standard bearer for Dim Sum. Everything is made fresh, by hand, every single day. But with such a well-deserved reputation for being a prime destination for epicurean delights with a heavy focus on Asian food, you may need to plan your visit in advance as the area teams with traditional regular customers along with curious newcomers. "Reservations are a must at both." chineserestaurantawards.com

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IKEA Richmond partners with Mamas for Mamas

IKEA Richmond is excited to partner with Mamas for Mamas' Vancouver branch to help create a better everyday life for 1000+ children and youth in our community who begin each year without proper back to school essentials.

IKEA Richmond will be collecting IKEA and non-IKEA back to school essentials for Mamas for Mamas Backpack program until Wednesday, July 31, 2024. To encourage the community to work together, IKEA Richmond will match the retail value of IKEA "Back to School" essentials donated during the campaign period up to a maximum of \$5,000 retail value.

We know from the IKEA Life at Home report that many in our community are faced with rising living costs and struggling with fundamental costs such as housing, health and food. We recognize that this also includes back to school essentials needed at school and in the home to help children and youth thrive emotionally and academically.

"We are aiming to make a significant impact on the lives of children and youth in our community as they return to school in September," says Maria Valley, IKEA Richmond Communications Responsible. "As part of our commitment to contribute to fairer and more inclusive neighborhoods, we are proud to be co-creating an IKEA Neighborhoods initiative with Mamas for Mamas and our community."

Currently there are 250 families registered to receive support through Mamas for Mamas Backpack Program. "We are seeing an increase in mothers and caregivers in crisis. As we are expecting over 500 families to be reaching out to Mamas for Mamas for our backpack program, we are thrilled to be partnering with IKEA Richmond and the community to bring back to school essentials to those most in need," says Celena Arthur, director of National Partnerships.

Two ways the community can make a difference.

- Matching donations. For every IKEA "Back to

School" item donated at IKEA Richmond during the campaign period, IKEA Richmond will match with similar products up to a maximum of \$5000 retail value. This means each contribution will go even further in supporting local families. A list of suggested products including backpacks, lunch bags, food containers, chargers, desks and more can be found at [IKEA.ca/mamasformamas](https://ikea.ca/mamasformamas)

- Non-IKEA essentials. IKEA Richmond will support as a drop-off location for non-IKEA back to school essentials. This includes rulers, erasers, geometry sets, memory USB sticks, and calculators.

Every donation, no matter how small, can make a big difference for a family in the community.

Donations of IKEA and non-IKEA back to school essentials for Mamas for Mamas Backpack program are accepted at IKEA Richmond, 3320 Jacombs Road, Richmond, during store opening hour until July 31, 2024. More details available at [IKEA.ca/mamasformamas](https://ikea.ca/mamasformamas)

Website launched to protect renters

A new website launching on July 18, 2024, will better protect renters from being evicted in bad faith and bring improvements to the process for landlords.

"With this new tool, we're taking action to better protect tenants from being evicted under false pretences and ensure that landlords who need to legitimately reclaim their units have a straightforward pathway to do so," said Ravi Kahlon, minister of housing. "The portal will also provide government with a window to better understand when and how often these evictions occur so that we can continue to build on our work to improve services for renters and landlords."

While some landlords do need to reclaim their units (for example, a first-time homebuyer who wants to live in their new home), evictions initiated under false pretences continue to happen, either deliberately or unknowingly. Some landlords evict tenants under the guise of landlord use, only to rent out the unit again at a significantly higher rent.

Starting July 18, 2024, landlords will be required to use the Landlord Use Web Portal to generate Notices to End Tenancy for personal occupancy or caretaker use. Landlords generating notices to end tenancy will be required to include information about the persons moving into the home. Through this process, landlords are informed of the significant penalties they could face if they are found to be evicting a tenant in bad faith. By requiring landlords to include the information of who will be occupying the home on the notice, tenants can have a better sense of the landlords' intentions and may provide this information at the dispute hearing if they believe the landlord is acting in bad faith.

"We've worked tirelessly through our BC Eviction project and systems change work to affect this type of change," said Amanda Burrows, executive director, First United, a community provider for Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. "Today, we see that advocacy works and this new web portal to help prevent bad-faith evictions is a positive first step toward housing security for over one million B.C. renters. There is still work to do and we will continue to advocate for changes to prevent homelessness and displacement because housing is a human right."

Under the Residential Tenancy Act, a landlord can evict a tenant if the following people will be moving in:

- they or a close family member (parent, spouse or child);
- a purchaser of the property or a close family member of the purchaser; or

- a superintendent for the building.

Effective July 18, 2024, the province will increase the amount of notice a tenant must receive and the amount of time they have to dispute an eviction. Landlords will also be required to give tenants four months' notice instead of two months when evicting for personal or caretaker use, giving displaced tenants more time to find a new home. Tenants will have 30 days to dispute Notices to End Tenancy instead of the current 15 days. The person moving into the home must occupy it for a minimum of 12 months and landlords who evict in bad faith could be ordered to pay the displaced tenant 12 months' rent.

"Protecting a landlord's right to reclaim a rental unit for personal use is critical to maintaining a balanced rental housing market," said David Hutniak, chief executive officer, LandlordBC. "It is also important that landlords know their responsibilities when exercising this right and that they understand the risks of bad-faith evictions. The Landlord Use Web Portal will not only educate landlords about the process, but it will also standardize the process for improved efficiency while increasing transparency."

The Landlord Use Web Portal will also allow the Residential Tenancy Branch (RTB) to conduct post-eviction compliance audits and provide information to the RTB about the frequency of these types of evictions. Changes to the process for evicting tenants for personal and caretaker use aim to support the rights and interests of both landlords and tenants, while creating a standardized process for ending tenancies for personal and caretaker use.

"No one should lose their homes because of bad-faith evictions," said Spencer Chandra Herbert, premier's liaison for renters and MLA for Vancouver West End. "Taking this step is a proactive way to help stop bad-faith evictions and keep people in their homes. The introduction of the Landlord Use Web Portal aligns with recommendations made by the Rental Task Force to make the Residential Tenancy Branch more responsive, accessible and proactive with more opportunities to learn from and educate landlords and renters on their rights and responsibilities."

The province continues to take action to better protect renters, including recent changes to ban illegal "renovictions," strengthen the financial penalties for landlords who evict tenants in bad faith, eliminate rent increases when a child is added to a household and improve wait times at the RTB. The Landlord Use Web Portal supports the Homes for People Action Plan, further strengthening tenancies in B.C.

Richmond 's Nayis Majumder, Loran Award finalist

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Contributing writer

In this edition of Richmond Stories, Richmond Sentinel host Jim Gordon (JG) sat down with H.J. Cambie High School student Nayis Majumder (NM), a Loran Award finalist from the Class of 2024 to discuss the steps he took to apply for the award.

(JG): Out of a pool of more than 5,200 applicants, the 90 graduating high school and CEGEP selected as the Loran Award finalists from the Class of 2024, these students have demonstrated their drive to step up in the face of challenges and have a positive impact on their communities across this country.

The Loran Award is a four-year leadership enrichment program, offering a tuition waiver at one of the 25 university partners. The 90 students travelled to Toronto between Feb. 23 to 25 for the Loran National Selection Interviews, where 36 Loran Awards, valued at over \$100,000 each, will be granted. If not selected as a Loran scholar, students will be eligible to receive a \$6,000 Loran Finalist Award. Today's guest is Nayis Majumder, I mentioned at the beginning about the Loran Awards, could you please tell our viewers exactly what that is?

NM: The Loran Awards is a leadership and integrity award given out by a collection of universities across Canada from schools like the University of British Columbia (UBC), Simon Fraser University (SFU), and even schools in the east such as Dalhousie University. It's a foundation that was funded to promote leadership rather than solely academic success.

JG: Looking at your credentials, you've worked at the SD38, which I should say is Richmond School District 38, serving on the Ministry of Education's anti-racism working group, and created and facilitated in Allyship Workshops for the City of Richmond's Pride Week celebrations. Have you always had this interest in wanting to give back to the community?

NM: From a very young age I've had a passion for social justice, it may be in part due to my cultural upbringing. My parents are Bangladeshi, and I'm Bangladeshi as well, during that time there was a war in which they had to fight for their sense of identity and belonging. I believe those values were instilled in me, and I want to stand up for everyone to be able to freely express themselves and their identities.

JG: You served as student council president and served on the student council for four years. How are you able to balance school and all the other activities that you take part in?

NM: It doesn't feel that busy because I love doing those activities. Sometimes I look forward to them because that's what recharges me and keeps motivating me to be at school and be happy.

JG: When did you begin the application process to be a Loran Scholar?

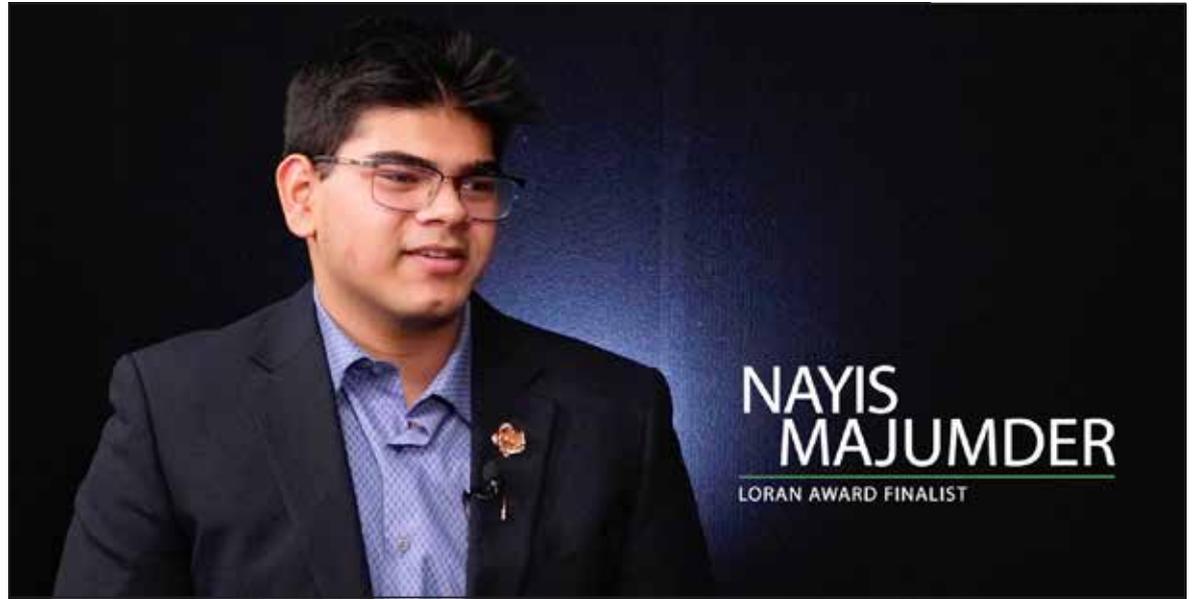
NM: I began the process around late October or early November 2023, as the application is annually due around mid-November.

JG: What prompted you to apply for this award?

NM: My teachers, as well as some of my friends, believed that I would be a great fit for the award and after looking into it, I thought I'd give it a shot because my mindset was "if I don't give it a shot, what are the chances I don't get it?" zero (so I applied).

JG: Can you tell our viewers about what is involved in the application process?

NM: The application includes a personal profile similar to the UBC per-



Cambie High School graduate, Nayis Majumder, Loran Award finalist.

Photo courtesy Richmond Sentinel

sonal profile; there are five essays and multiple activity logs included in the process. If you are interested in finding out more, it's all written out on the Loran Awards webpage. Once you have completed the application, there is a supplementary video where you have to complete a recording of yourself answering a couple of different questions. After all applicant's videos are reviewed, 250 semi-finalists are selected and split into groups of 10-15 people for the semi-finalist interview. That was a fun process because I was able to meet many great leaders across Canada. After the semi-finalist interview, is the finalist interview.

JG: When did you find out you were a finalist for the award?

NM: I had found out that I was a finalist for the award, one week after completing the semi-finalist interview, as I was in one of the last groups. I had heard that some individuals in the earlier interviews had to wait almost six weeks to find out if they were selected as a finalist.

JG: What advice would you give to parents out there with children your age who want to apply?

NM: I would tell them that there is no right path to apply. The Loran Foundation values people's passions more so than a correct way to go about things. If you are passionate about sports, I believe you should put time and effort into developing those skills. If you're passionate about social justice like I am, it's essential that you pursue those passions.

JG: You graduated this summer, what are your future plans? What do you want to do?

NM: I want to study social justice at UBC because I want to become a human rights lawyer or a DEI consultant. My experience working at the Ministry of Education's Anti-Racism Working Group has taught me about careers in social justice. I've always been passionate about social justice, especially after the Black Lives Matter movement, and since then I've always wanted to be able to utilize my voice to create change in our society.

JG: Recently I was at the dinner with colleagues talking about how teachers can make a big difference and I remembered one or two of my teachers who encouraged me to follow my passion and guided me in taking the right path. Do you have that experience in your high school career?

NM: For me, I work at the community centre and there is a saying that goes "every child needs one person that believes in them 100 per cent, so that they can develop into the best of their potential". For me, that person was my French teacher, Mugi Masaki, who is also the sponsor of my social justice club at school.

For the full video interview, visit richmondsentinel.ca/videos.

OUR CITY *Tonight*

**SPOTLIGHT ON
GREAT VIEWING &
A PERFECT SUMMER WINE**



Photo courtesy Prodigy PR

THE SUMMER FLICK – *The Girl in the Pool*

It has been some time since Freddie Prinze Jr. found his way into our film reviews. He was everywhere in the late '90s and early 2000s, in movies like *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and its sequel, *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer*, as well as *She's All That*, *Summer Catch*, *Scooby-Doo*, and 2001's *Head Over Heels* with another actor from the era, Monica Potter. So, it was a pleasant surprise when we sat down to view the new film *The Girl in the Pool*, which reunites Prinze and Monica Potter (he also reunited with character actor, Kevin Pollack, who played his girlfriend's kooky dad in 1998's *She's All That*).

In this new thriller, Prinze is Tom, a successful, married man who, on his birthday, has his mistress die in the family pool. What does he do next? Beyond terrified that his perfect life and family will come crumbling down, he conceals what has happened – in the middle of his surprise birthday party – leading to a night of chaos and stress levels that are off the charts. *The Girl in the Pool* is in theaters and available for home viewing on July 26. quiverdistribution.com & prodigypublicrelations.com

THE SUMMER FLICK – *Waiting for Dali*

A crowd-pleasing Spanish film comes to us for home viewing called *Waiting for Dali*. It's the story of two brothers, Fernando, a talented chef, and Alberto, an activist, who find refuge in the seaside town of Cadaques in 1975, after fleeing the political turmoil in Barcelona during the waning days of the Franco regime. They land jobs at a local restaurant called El Surreal, run by a man named Jules (played brilliantly by Jose Garcia), who dreams of hosting the most famous town resident: artist, Salvador Dali. When Fernando's culinary flair enhances the restaurant's allure with tourists, locals and the press, will Dali finally show up? And what of the local police, who still enforce Franco's archaic laws? This romantic comedy, sun-drenched in its setting – benefits from a great cast and story which is inspired by the true story of El Bulli in Roses, Spain, considered the best restaurant of all time. *Waiting for Dali* is now available for home viewing, but one tip, don't watch this film on an empty stomach. brightirisfilm.com

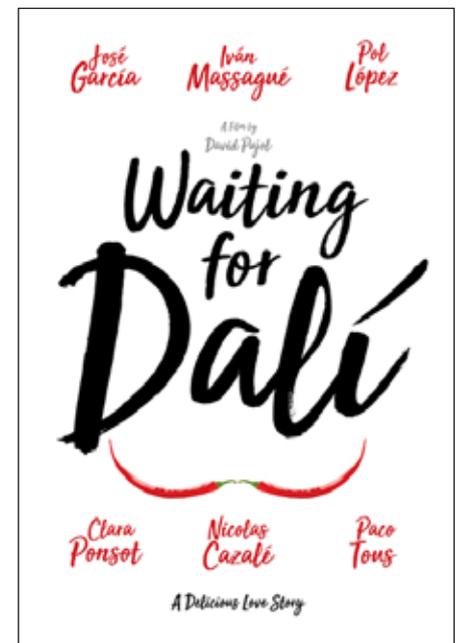


Photo courtesy Music Box Films



Photo courtesy Ethica Wines

THE SUMMER SIP – *Anselmi San Vincenzo*

On a recent appearance on *Our City Tonight*, one of our wine experts, Andrea Vescovi from Ethica Wines, introduced us to a delicious Sauvignon blend called San Vincenzo, from Anselmi Wines, located in the Soave Classico region near Verona, Italy.

"The grapes from this Sauvignon blend are grown high atop a hill in one of Soave region's top growing areas," Vescovi tells us. We chat about the winery founder, Roberto Anselmi, a maverick and a rebel who started bottling his wine in 1976, and in doing so, blazed his own trail that continues today. What about food pairings? "This wine is great during the warm weather and goes well with oysters, mussels, and chilled seafood," Vescovi says. After sampling this fresh and aromatic wine, we agree with Vescovi: this wine proves the pioneering approach of winemaker Roberto Anselmi was right. ethicawines.com

Acclaimed photographer is now a gallery co-owner

Our City Tonight (OCT) had a chance to visit Wild Space Gallery on Granville Island in the Creekhouse Shops area. We talked to the very talented co-owner/co-founder, Steve Woods (SW), who is a world-renowned adventure and wildlife photographer, and has travelled the globe capturing the beauty of the natural environment and underwater world.

We wanted to share this story because of the contribution to the economy and the environment by a local company, Wild Space Gallery. Through their photography and creative recycling to give new life to salvaged natural textiles, they have brought an awareness through their art.

Steve Woods began his career in the UK as a press and sports photographer. He paired this experience with a master's degree in photography from De Montfort University in Leicester, England. Steve photographs beneath the waves as well as on land, with endangered species and indigenous communities, photographing them and contributing to conservation and research efforts globally.

He has created foundations for the preservation of many animals as well as sharing his experiences through teaching extensive photography workshops and he's led expeditions in numerous continents above and underwater, from the Equator to the Arctic.

OCT: Steve tell us a little bit more about yourself and then we can talk about this new gallery that we're standing in today and your partnership with the other businesses involved.

SW: I am a wildlife and conservation photographer and originally from the UK but now based in Vancouver. My whole premise is to photograph and show the beauty of the natural world in order to raise awareness and raise funds so that we can better learn and protect the natural environment.

We have opened the Wild Space Gallery and it's a new venture for us, for me and two other friends. The gallery here is in partnership with another photographer, so there's two photographers and then a clothing company as well. We are all intrinsically linked by sustainability and protecting the natural world.

OCT: Your gallery is already very popular. There's been a lot of traffic coming through during our interview with you. Let's talk about your photography and please feel free to talk about your successes. Didn't you just provide the photograph for a very famous book cover?

SW: Yes, I did. I have been very lucky to do some wonderful things. I just shot the front cover for Sir David Attenborough's book called *Trials of Life* which, the photograph was a pair of humpback whales, a mother and a calf. It was just a lovely and tender moment together. I have been very lucky to work with some other wonderful names like Jane Goodall and Paul Nicklen as well as Cristina Mittermeier.

We have just finished a fundraiser called 100 for the Ocean with Paul Nicklen,



Photo via stevewoodsphotography.com
Steve Woods has photographed the world.

Cristina Mittermeier, and Chase Teron, as well. This fundraiser involved 100 photographers in fact, hundreds of the best-known photographers and artists from around the world. They all came together to donate their work to raise money for marine conservation. This was really amazing.

OCT: Although that particular fundraiser is now over, how can somebody still participate?

SW: Ocean conservation is always ongoing and the threat to the ocean and everything the wild world faces through loss of habitat and also through climate change. These concerns never ever end, and you can do so many different things.

One of the smallest things you can do which is incredibly impactful is to follow these photographers and different people on their social media. Be sure to like and share their work because it brings that work to a wider audience through your participation.

One of our biggest goals is to actually just raise awareness. It can be as simple as just coming into stores like our gallery and buying postcards or buying greeting cards as well as the larger prints. Or you can even share with family and friends and it's so important to get kids involved. I believe that is really the biggest thing—is increasing our children's awareness.

OCT: Can we talk a little bit about your circular fashion that you have on display here in the gallery?

SW: It was one of the most interesting things as part of this whole process for me actually. My work is very animal based, so I am photographing the animals. I'm spending so much time out in the wild and that's my style.

My other friend and photographer, Jeremy Kreski, was brought in as part of the gallery as well. His work is different from mine as he is photographing the landscapes and all of the Pacific Northwest environments. Our work kind of overlaps because the animals that I'm photographing are on and in the land where he works. There's a great synergy there.

Then we brought in another friend Paul from Anian who is responsible for the wonderful clothing that we have in the gallery, not only does it look great, which is lucky because I get to wear it all the time now, but it's circular fashion. All of its salvaged. It's either recycled or made from recycled materials and discarded stuff.

For instance, the buttons are made out of oyster catching boxes or fishing gear things like that. And the clothing is actually made and designed in East Vancouver. You can't get much more local than that. Everything you see here in the gallery is local and it's designed local and it's made local. All of my work is printed locally right here in East Vancouver.

OCT: It's great to know that your Wild Space Gallery is taking care to be sustainable here in B.C. as well as for Canada and globally. Congratulations on all of your success.

To watch the video interview in full go to richmondsentinel.ca/video



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