



## RICHMOND SOCKEYES



New season starts

12



# City celebrates Youth Art Contests winners

The City of Richmond is excited to announce the winners of the Youth Art Contest, which was part of the Official Community Plan (OCP) update. Open to local youth, the contest invited creative submissions of artwork representing Richmond's future. Twenty youth of diverse ages submitted artwork in various mediums including watercolour, mixed-media and digital art.

"Congratulations to all the participants and winners of the Youth Art Contest," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "Your inspiring creativity reflects the spirit of Richmond and shows a deep understanding of our city's future. Each piece beautifully captures the themes of the Official Community Plan update and highlights the unique vision our youth bring to shaping Richmond. Thank you for sharing your talent."

Over 400 community members voted for their top three favourite submissions online and at in-person OCP open house engagement sessions. The winning pieces, created by youth who reside in Richmond, were selected for their creativity, relevance to the OCP update, and vision of Richmond's future.

## First Place – Maggie Pi

Maggie Pi's artwork offers a glimpse of Richmond's inclusive future, with diverse residents, eco-friendly transit, and children engaged in shared activities, reflecting values from the OCP.

## Second Place – Emily Du

Emily Du envisions Richmond in 2050 through a young person's eyes, featuring community spirit, vibrant landmarks, nature, and flying cars to express innovation and sustainability.



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

From left to right: Elina Khong, Carys Braverman, Emily Du, Leif Ferguson, Maggie Pi, with their winning submissions, Aug. 27, 2025.

## Runner-Up – Carys Braverman

Carys Braverman's mixed-media piece shows scenes across Richmond, from City Hall to local wildlife, highlighting OCP themes of equity, environmental protection and community.

## Runner-Up – Elina Khong

Elina Khong's artwork features children of diverse backgrounds interacting with Richmond's transit, nature, and public spaces, with symbols of reconciliation and inclusivity.

## Honourable Mention – Leif Ferguson

Leif Ferguson's artwork captures one of his favourite views from the Dinsmore Bridge, featuring a sunset, a rainbow, and the river, a place where anyone can walk and enjoy the scenery.

All winning, runner-up and honourable mention artworks will be featured in the Official Community Plan to be released later this year.

Visit [LetsTalkRichmond.ca/OCPYouthArtContest](https://LetsTalkRichmond.ca/OCPYouthArtContest) for more information.

# Richmond's draft Arts Strategy seeks public input

The City of Richmond recognizes the arts are essential to building vibrant communities. Home to a rich cultural mosaic, Richmond is shaped by growth, changing demographics and a diverse arts landscape. The *ArtWorks: Richmond Arts Strategy* has been updated for 2025–2030, with the draft endorsed by city council on July 28. Richmond residents are now invited to review the document online and share their feedback by Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025.

There are several ways to participate:

- visit sounding boards during the Culture Days kick-off weekend Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20 and 21, 2025 at the Richmond Cultural Centre (7700 Minoru Gate)

- complete an online questionnaire at [LetsTalkRichmond.ca](https://LetsTalkRichmond.ca)



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Artwork by Alisa Weng, Art Club at Richmond Public Library.

- complete and submit a hard copy questionnaire, available at the Richmond Cultural Centre

- email feedback to [culture@richmond.ca](mailto:culture@richmond.ca)

As an update to the 2019–2024 Strategy—which was shaped through extensive community input and guided by a 25-member Task Group—the draft *ArtWorks: Richmond Arts Strategy 2025–2030* continues to be driven by a unifying vision: "Richmond's thriving arts scene animates our city every day; offers rich arts education and experiences, festivals and events; fosters social connections and wellness; builds arts and culture leadership; and provides creative spaces."

For more information about the Richmond Arts Strategy and the arts in Richmond, follow @HowArtWorks on Instagram or [HowArtWorks.ca](https://HowArtWorks.ca)



# RCMP warns public about job posters written in Simplified Chinese

Richmond RCMP is warning the public about job advertisement posters targeted to the Chinese community. The posters are written in Simplified Chinese, and posted on various light posts throughout the city.

The job posters advertise various types of employment such as vacation home house-sitter, care giver for the elderly, and tea leaves packager. The posters provide a brief description of the job, and a contact phone number. Investigators have reason to believe that these posters may be used to solicit personal information which may be used to identify potential scam targets.

In one case, a victim who responded to a job poster reported being convinced to make an investment which later turned out to be fraudulent.

"We want to remind everyone to exercise caution when responding to anonymous or unverified job postings," says Corporal Melissa Lui, Richmond RCMP Media Relations Officer. "In addition, people need to be aware of the tactics that scammers use to get personal information with the intent to defraud them. In general, you should not share personal information with any unverified source."

How to protect yourself:

- Do not share personal information without taking steps to verify the legitimacy of a job advertisement or employer
- Exercise diligence when applying for employment
- Beware of upfront fees or counterfeit cheques. Legitimate employers will not request money from you upfront or ask you to deposit cheques into your personal account and pay them back on a later date.

If you suspect you are a victim of fraud, report it immediately to your local police or to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at [antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca](http://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca)



Photo courtesy Richmond RCMP

Job advertisement looking for a care giver for the elderly.



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Submit your designs to the Richmond Street Banner Contest until Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025.

## Submit your design for the 33rd annual Street Banner Contest

Artists, designers and creatives of all ages and abilities are invited to make a submission to the 33rd annual Street Banner Contest, a longstanding community initiative that celebrates Richmond's creativity and vibrant public spaces. Individuals are encouraged to submit original artwork by Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025 that captures the people, places, experiences and activities that make Richmond unique and picturesque.

Submissions can encompass a range of artistic mediums including photography, graphic design, watercolour, oil painting and collage, and must reflect Richmond in one of the following themes: Active Living; Community; Culture and Heritage; Disc over; Diversity; Island City; Nature; Play; Sustainability; and the Arts.

A judging panel consisting of five local artists and staff will shortlist 20 submissions from all entries for online community voting. The public will then select 10 winning designs to be showcased on 1,000 street banners throughout Richmond.

Submissions that fit the banner contest criteria will be accepted now until 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21. Contest winners will be announced at a City Council meeting in spring 2026 and awarded a \$300 honorarium along with a full-sized banner featuring their winning design.

For complete contest rules and guidelines, and to submit entries, visit [richmond.ca/banners](http://richmond.ca/banners)

Richmond's Street Banner Contest is part of the broader Partners for Beautification program, which invites community members to become actively involved in initiatives for Richmond parks spaces. For more information on Partners for Beautification, visit [richmond.ca/beautification](http://richmond.ca/beautification)

# Richmond emergency numbers



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

## Who to Call in an Emergency—Dial 9-1-1

Dial 9-1-1 in an emergency situation when you require the immediate assistance of the **police, the fire department or an ambulance**. For more information on calling 911, visit: **the Richmond Fire-Rescue website** at [firerescue.richmond.ca/](http://firerescue.richmond.ca/) or **When to call police** [infocentre.richmond.ca/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/105](http://infocentre.richmond.ca/app/answers/detail/a_id/105)

For other urgent matters such as serious water and sewer problems, road obstructions, traffic signal malfunctions, downed trees, icy roads or other problems of this nature, please call the **24 hour City Emergency Line at 604-270-8721**.

## Richmond RCMP—604-278-1212

For All NON-Emergency Incidents  
Main RCMP Detachment, 11411 No. 5 Road

## Richmond Fire-Rescue—604-278-5131

NON-Emergency Inquiries

## Reporting child abuse—1-800-663-9122

After hours call 604-660-4927

Anyone who has reason to believe that a child has been or is suspected to have been abused or neglected, or is in need of protection has a legal duty to report it to the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

## Discarded needles—604-270-8721

If a needle is found in a public space, please call the city's Public Works Department with as much information as possible as to where the needles are and where city staff should look. This is a 24-hour service and staff treat discarded needles in public spaces as a priority.

REMINDER: do not touch or pick up discarded needles.

## City of Richmond—604-276-4000

Public Works 24 Hour Call Centre at 604-270-8721 to report:

- Potholes, cracks, and other problems with street surfaces, sidewalks, and curbs
- Missing or damaged signs on city property
- Missing damaged or blocked traffic signs
- Watermain leaks or water quality (dirty water)
- Burned out street lights or damaged light poles

## Transportation

Call 604-247-4616 for traffic signal problems.

Call 604-204-8707 to report traffic safety and parking-related matters

## Animal protection services

BC SPCA

Phone: 604-709-4668

## Community Bylaws—604-276-4345

- Property use violations
- Boulevard maintenance issues
- Signs placed on city property

## Parking—604-276-4345

To report parking violations or to inquire about parking tickets.

## Emergency programs—604-233-3333

Staff work with the community to increase Richmond's level of preparedness in the event of a major emergency.

For more information at [richmond.ca](http://richmond.ca)

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# In honour of our soldiers: Hikotaro Koyanagi

By **MATTHEW CHEUNG**  
Contributing writer

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

Hikotaro Koyanagi was born on March 26, 1885 in Fukuoka, Japan, and worked as a fisherman. He would immigrate to Canada and continue his profession while living in Eburne, Richmond. On May 10, 1913, Hikotaro Koyanagi would marry Toshi Koyanagi. However, tragedy struck his household on Feb. 20, 1914 when Hikotaro and Toshi's son would pass away during childbirth. Toshi would pass away just two weeks after due to complications from a postpartum infection, the mother and son would be buried together at the Mountain View Cemetery in Vancouver.

Distressed and grieving the loss of his wife and son, Hikotaro disappeared for six months before

reuniting with his cousin Kazuo Harada in 1916. The two lived together for a few months at 240 Alexander Street, Vancouver, British Columbia.

On Sept. 1, 1916, he and his cousin travelled to Calgary, Alberta to enlist into the 175th Overseas Battalion of the Canadian Expedition. Aboard the S.S. Saxonia, the 175th Battalion embarked for England, Hikotaro would be transferred multiple times upon his arrival to Liverpool. Initially he would join the 21st Reserve Battalion, before joining the 50th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. Until May 1917, Hikotaro would also be a frequent the hospital, due to conjunctivitis and trachoma.

On Oct. 26, 1917, Hikotaro Koyanagi was tragically killed in action at the age of 32, during the Battle of Passchaendale, Belgium. The Canadian government sent over a memorial cross, plaque and scroll to his mother, Haya Koyonagi, in Japan. He was also remember with his name written in the First World War Book of Remembrance on Page 270, which is displayed inside the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

The Japanese Canadian Association in Vancouver, also had Hikotaro's name inscribed on the Japanese War Memorial in 1920. The City of Richmond honoured Hikotaro by adding him to the Richmond Cenotaph on May 31, 2024.



*Photo courtesy Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre 1992.23.1.2.55*

**Private Hikotaro Koyanagi was one of 23 young men from Richmond who lost their lives in either World War I, World War II, or in the Korean War whose names were inscribed on the Richmond Cenotaph.**



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# City of Richmond appeals Cowichan ruling

The City of Richmond has filed a Notice of Appeal from the recent BC Supreme Court decision that declared the Cowichan Tribes have aboriginal title to approximately 732 acres of land in south east Richmond, and that aboriginal title takes precedence over fee simple ownership.

"The Court's decision to undermine established fee simple ownership of the properties under the BC Land Title Act within the identified area is unprecedented and compromises the entire land title system in British Columbia," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "Property owners in Richmond and throughout the province can no longer rely on their title confirming a fee simple interest as conclusive evidence of absolute ownership of their land. The Court's untenable decision cannot remain unchallenged."

The Provincial Government has already confirmed it will appeal the landmark ruling. The Federal Government, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Musqueam Indian Band and Tsawwassen First Nation were also defendants in the court case.



Photo by Jaana Björk

The City of Richmond has filed a Notice of Appeal from the recent BC Supreme Court decision that declared the Cowichan Tribes have aboriginal title to approximately 732 acres of land in southeast Richmond.

## NDP MLA Greene says grants for arts and culture

New Democrat MLA Kelly Greene says people in Richmond will benefit as local organizations receive grants to support music, theatre, and arts programs.

"Art isn't just something we view, it's something we can participate in," says Kelly Greene, MLA for Richmond-Steveston. "These grants help make it possible for people from all walks of life to get

involved and be creative. In a diverse community like Richmond, it helps us build connection and appreciation for each other."

In Richmond, 16 organizations are receiving Community Gaming Grants, including:

- Richmond Gateway Theatre Society, \$87,000
- Uzume Taiko Drum Group Society, \$14,000
- The Richmond Art Gallery Association, \$50,000

Across B.C., 771 not-for-profit organizations received more than \$16.6 million to support programs, services and activities related to music, theatre and dance, as well as literary and visual arts. Program funds are provided from general revenues via provincial commercial gambling revenue in partnership with the B.C. Lottery Corporation.

## B.C. helps producers reach new markets

Food and beverage producers and processors in British Columbia are getting help to increase sales and build export markets so the province has a more resilient and diverse economy in the future.

"Our producers and processors work hard to produce high-quality products for Canadians and the world to enjoy," said Heath MacDonald, federal minister of agriculture and agri-food. "We're working hard to diversify our trade, and through the B.C. Agriculture and Food Export Program, we will provide food and beverage processors across the province with more opportunities to grow and expand their business into new markets."

The B.C. Agriculture and Food Export Program supports eligible B.C. food and beverage businesses and associations and increases international opportunities for B.C.'s agriculture and food industry, with funding through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP).

"When visiting Japan, Korea and Malaysia on the trade mission with the premier, I heard how respected and trusted B.C. is as a source for high-quality food, and that we're helping local food companies reach new markets," said Lana Popham, B.C. minister of agriculture and food. "By helping B.C. companies grow relationships in

international markets, we're opening the door to new, long-term export opportunities to help B.C. food and beverage businesses succeed globally."

This intake of the program builds on the B.C. trade mission Premier David Eby led in June 2025, promoting B.C.'s strengths in key sectors such as agricultural products.

B.C. agriculture, food and beverage exporters that completed projects in the first three intakes have reported success signing new retail partnerships and increasing sales in global markets.

Pacific Rim (PACRIM) Distributors in Vancouver received almost \$23,000 to expand Canadian craft beer and spirit sales in new markets. The distribution company partnered with Costco Japan to provide samples of B.C. craft beer in 19 Costco locations in Japan and attend the Canadian Costco Fair in Japan. PACRIM also used the funding to run online ads for a line of B.C.-crafted cocktails in Costa Rica. These activities are raising awareness of Canadian craft beverages and increasing sales.

"The funding has been a catalyst for PACRIM Distributors' expansion into key international markets that enabled us to execute strategic sampling initiatives in Japan and targeted online advertising in Costa Rica, both of which have delivered measurable increases in sales and market

presence abroad," said Garrett Senez, vice-president marketing, PACRIM Distributors. "This partnership is integral not only to our company's growth, but also to advancing the global profile and competitiveness of B.C.'s craft beer industry."

Vancouver-based Padmashri Naturals Inc. received more than \$26,000 to target new markets in Singapore and Thailand. The company participated in trade shows in both countries and developed digital campaigns and promotional materials to help increase brand awareness and educate customers about their B.C.-made Ayurvedic wellness supplements. These activities helped build meaningful distributor connections and establish early brand awareness in Southeast Asia.

"We're grateful for the support from the program, which gave us the opportunity to showcase our Ayurvedic wellness supplements in Singapore and Thailand," said Neelam Toprani, president and chief executive officer, Padmashri Naturals. "The funding, along with guidance from trade commissioners, helped us connect with retailers and distributors and start building our presence in Southeast Asia. This early momentum is key to growing our brand internationally while proudly representing B.C.-made products abroad."





Photo by Jaana Björk

The province has tied the annual allowable rent increase to inflation at 2.3 per cent in 2026, down from 3 per cent in 2025.

# Annual rent increase falls for second straight year capped at inflation

More people will be able to stay in an affordable home near their jobs, schools and loved ones as the province ties the annual allowable rent increase to inflation at 2.3 per cent in 2026, down from 3 per cent in 2025.

“B.C. is an extraordinary place, but with economic uncertainty and rising costs, people are struggling to find a place to live that fits in their budget,” said Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. “We’re continuing to cap rent increases, linking them to inflation, to reduce housing costs for seniors, families and individuals, protecting them from unfair hikes. At the same time, this rent increase allows landlords to invest in their properties to keep rental homes on the market.”

This is the second year in a row that the maximum allowable increase is tied to the Consumer Price Index. In 2024, the province capped rent increases at 3.5 per cent, well below the increase to inflation of 5.6 per cent. Prior to 2018, renters could face an additional 2 per cent rent increase on top of inflation, costing the average B.C. family hundreds of dollars in additional rent.

The maximum annual allowable rent increase for 2026 cannot take effect prior to Jan. 1, 2026. By announcing the increase now, landlords have the time they need to give the required minimum of three months’ notice of the change for renters to plan ahead.

Since 2017, the province has been strengthening supports for renters, while ensuring landlords can take action on problematic tenancies. Changes have helped prevent illegal renovations and the annual renter’s tax credit provides \$400 a year to renters with low and moderate incomes.

As well, B.C. was the first province or territory in Canada to provide provincewide rent bank services with interest-free loans for tenants facing urgent financial hardships. The Rental Protection Fund helps preserve existing affordable rental housing in communities throughout the province. More families and seniors with low incomes are supported by this year’s enhancements to the Rental Assistance Program and Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters program.

Renters and landlords are both benefiting from new changes at the Residential Tenancy Branch, which have reduced wait times to resolve disputes for unpaid rent and utilities from three months to one.

Changing landlords’ requirements for holding onto tenants’ abandoned property and providing landlords and renters with more guidance to help them navigate hearings are reducing risk for both renters and landlords and helping to speed up resolutions when someone breaks the rules.

## Asphalt Paving Advisory 2025

### April 20 to November 30, 2025

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

PROPOSED 2025 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS
No. 2 Road (Steveston Highway to Williams Road)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Alderbridge Way to Cambie Road)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Cambie Road to Capstan Way)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Capstan Way to Sea Island Way)—Intersections included
Bridgeport Road (No. 5 Road to Sweden Way)—Intersections included
Cambie Road (Shell Road to No. 5 Road)—Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Seacliff Road to Kingsbridge Drive)—Intersections included
No. 6 Road (Bridgeport Road to River Road)—Intersections included
Moncton Street (Railway Avenue to No. 2 Road)—Intersections included
Francis Road (Gilbert Road to No. 3 Road)—Intersections included
Francis Road (Railway Avenue to No. 2 Road)—Intersections included
River Road (Cambie Road to Capstan Way)—Intersections included
Westminster Highway (No. 7 Road to No. 8 Road)—Intersections included
Vulcan Way (No. 5 Road to No. 6 Road)—Intersections included
Boeing Avenue (Catalina Crescent to Wellington Crescent)—Intersections included
Catalina Crescent (Handley Avenue to Airport Road)—Intersections Included
Douglas Crescent (Wellington Crescent to North end of road)—Intersections Included
Hudson Avenue (Wellington Crescent to Airport Road)—Intersections Included
Bridgeport Road (St. Edwards Drive to Shell Road)—Intersections Included
Cambie Road (No. 4 Road to Shell Road)—Intersections Included
No. 4 Road (Granville Avenue to Westminster Highway)—Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Bridgeport Road to Vulcan Way)—Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Greenland Drive to Bridgeport Road)—Intersections included
Shell Road (River Drive to River Road)—Intersections included
Wallace Road (Kozier Gate to No. 2 Road)—Intersections included
Williams Road (Parsons Road to Gilbert Road)—Intersections included
Machrina Way (Horseshoe Way to No. 5 Road)—Intersections included
Trumond Avenue (Wellmond Road to Gormond Road)—Intersections included
Garden City Road (Cambie Road to Bridgeport Road)—Intersections included
Boundary Road (Thompson Gate to Westminster Highway)—Intersections included
Kwantlen Street (Alderbridge Way to Alexandra Road)—Intersections included

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

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

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

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

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

# Inside Richmond's Choy Lee Fut Kung Fu Club

By YOLANDA WEI

Contributing student writer

## Introduction

"I first met Yolanda at a very young age as a student of the CLF Club here in Richmond. When Yolanda came to the Richmond Sentinel this summer as a student writer, I asked her to write about the things she was passionate about that would also be of interest to our readers. When the subject of martial arts (Kung Fu) came up I suggested because of the very long history behind this "art" there is a story to be told about the founder, Chan Heung and his journey to achieve the art of "Choy Lee Fut" as taught today around the world. Through my travels to China, visiting the Shaolin Temple and witnessing the Kung Fu student performances was an amazing experience, that instilled a desire to learn about it's history. Yolanda shares it's history and interviews with student colleagues here in her two-part article". – Florence Gordon.

## History

While the terms "martial arts" and "kung fu" are used nearly interchangeably in this article, note that they are different in the way "skill" and "tao" are, respectively.

To understand Choy Lee Fut is to understand a way of life. Choy Lee Fut, whose name honours the founder's three teachers, is a martial arts system derived from the Shaolin martial arts but is also a meditation and training of the mind and heart.

The nearly two-century-old form has stood the test of time. The story of the founder and his art is a testament to the courage, passion, and dedication it inspires in the world even today.

Those who train in Choy Lee Fut sharpen their mind and focus to a point, while perseverance and dedication become familiar accompaniment to their step. Together, in a strong and steady community, students of kung fu breathe in unison and listen to a message captured in the movements. Silently and subtly, form, detail, and tradition join, creating something bigger than the parts when put together.

## The story of Chan Heung and Choy Lee Fut



Photo via Wikimedia Commons

Chan Heung, Founder of the Choy Lee Fut martial art.

Choy Lee Fut is a bold and powerful style of martial arts built on the hundreds of years of Northern and Southern Chinese kung fu techniques that came before.

In 1806, during the Qing dynasty, Chan Heung future founder of Choy Lee Fut and exceptional martial artist, was born in Jingmei village, in the Xinhui district of Guangdong province, China. From the young age of seven, he was taught martial arts by his Shaolin-trained uncle Chan Yuen-Wu and demonstrated an immense passion and intelligence for the training. By 15, Chan Heung had made remarkable progress and began teaching in local villages, growing his reputation.

In 1823, at the age of seventeen, Chan Heung was recommended by his uncle to train under Li Yau-San from Guangdong province, who specialized in staff and leg techniques. Looking to further advance his skills, Chan Heung agreed and for the next four years perfected his kung fu under the careful watch of Li Yau San.

Soon, Chan Heung heard about a reclusive Shaolin monk named Choy Fook living in a temple on Lau Fu mountain, known for his Shaolin practices, Zen philosophy, and internal medical knowledge. (Shaolin Temple, based in Henan province, is the birthplace of Zen Buddhism and Shaolin kung fu. During the early Qing dynasty, the emperor ordered the burning of the temple due to growing anti-Qing sentiments amongst the monks, but the art never went extinct.) Chan Heung, understanding that reaching his highest potential meant finding the monk and becoming his disciple, asked for Li Yau-San's permission and went to search for the monk.

When Chan Heung finally found Choy Fook and asked to become his disciple, Choy Fook recognized the young man's character, intelligence, and dedication, and agreed. For nearly a decade, Choy Fook taught Chan Heung powerful Buddhist meditation and profound internal Shaolin skills.

At 29, Chan Heung left the monk and returned to his hometown of Xin Hui. He spent the next two years refining everything he learned and developed a new system of martial arts that combined Northern and Southern techniques. In 1836, he formally established the Choy Lee Fut system, naming it for his teachers: "Choy" for Choy Fook, "Li" for Li Yau-San, and "Fut," meaning "Buddha," to honour his uncle Chan Yuen-Wu and the Shaolin roots of the system. Chan Heung then accepted an invitation from local elders to open the Hung Sing Martial School in Jingmei village. Many people from nearby villages came to study under him, marking the birth of Choy Lee Fut.

In 1839, as a result of China's attempts to suppress the opium trade from primarily British foreign traders, the first Opium War broke out in China. Chan Heung stood up to defend his country, actively supporting Lin Zexu's army by leading his disciples to fight against the British invaders at the battle of Tiger Gate in Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong province. However, following China's defeat in 1842, he returned home to his family.

Chan Heung, left disillusioned by the political corruption that contributed to defeat, embraced the idea of strengthening the nation through martial arts instead. By 1845, Chan Heung formally developed his Hung Sing Martial School into the Hung Sing Main School and built the Ancestral Hall in Jingmei. Chan Heung also appointed top disciples to establish branch schools across Guangdong and Guangxi provinces. The Hung Sing Choy Lee Fut schools, excellently organized, spread rapidly and flourished.

In 1850, the Taiping Rebellion led by Hong Xiuquan was gaining momentum, and many Choy Lee Fut disciples aided in the uprising to defeat the Qing government troops, some becoming leaders in the revolutionary efforts too. Chan Heung supported the uprisings in secret as well.

When the Qing official Zeng Guofan began recruiting men to fight against the rebel Taiping forces, Chan Heung, fearing forced conscription, fled his home with his wife and two young sons, travelling across Nanhai, Shunde, Zhongshan, and Dongguan—different cities in Guangdong—and used the opportunity to further promote Choy Lee Fut.

In 1856, Chan Heung travelled to join Taiping leader Shi Dakai in training rebel soldiers. When the Taiping Rebellion succumbed in 1864, Qing authorities began



hunting down remnants. Chan Heung escaped China altogether to Hong Kong and Southeast Asia while continuing to teach Choy Lee Fut and medicine. His highly refined martial arts earned him remarkable acclaim.

In 1868, when political tension eased, Chan Heung finally returned home and resettled in his native village, where he continued assigning senior disciples to lead branch schools. Choy Lee Fut flourished in Southern China. Soon, Chan Heung retired from active teaching and spent his final years quietly at the family estate, where he tirelessly organized and documented martial theories into books, systemizing Shaolin internal and external training, medicine healing, Buddhist principles, Western boxing methods, and more into a teaching manual titled "Choy Lee Fut Martial Studies."

The legendary martial artist passed away in Jingmei Village at the age of 70 on August 20th, 1875. His sons and disciples continued his legacy, establishing more schools to continue spreading Chan Heung's Choy Lee Fut across China, the six continents, and 35 countries, including Canada.

Chan Heung, resilient and courageous, was a patriotic hero. While his nation was in crisis, he stood up without hesitation. Despite the circumstances of history, he never abandoned his mission of spreading and promoting Choy Lee Fut to the world.



Photos courtesy CLF Kung Fu Club

#### Students train in Choy Lee Fut at the CLF Kung Fu Club.

##### Training today

At a Kung Fu club located in Richmond, the art of Choy Lee Fut lives on in the hearts and minds of the next generation. Walking into the CLF Kung Fu Club, one is greeted by students of all ages and skill levels training together and learning the values of resilience, humility, and dedication that have defined Chan Heung's Choy Lee Fut since its inception.

The CLF Kung Fu club is led by Sifu Paul Tam (Sifu meaning teacher-father), who has been training for over thirty years. He introduces the training of Choy Lee Fut as an all-round system: "Kung fu training is not only for function but also for the mind. It serves as a training for mental and physical discipline."

A wonderful way to begin understanding the invaluable training is to speak with those who show up to class day after day, year after year. The *Richmond Sentinel* sat down with three students to discuss their experience, which turns out to be rooted deeply in community.

The students came to the club with their own motivations. Five-year-old Jacky wanted to learn how to defend himself, while Jerome, also five, saw posts on his mom's Facebook, and six-year-old Marcus was inspired after watching his uncle train. Now, seven years later at the ages of 12 and 13, they stay because of the people they have met.

"Over time, I've grown fond of the place. That's my main reason for staying," says Jacky. Marcus adds, "I've grown a strong connection with everyone here. It would feel weird to suddenly leave. I'm used to having them in my life." Jerome looks to his friends and says, "They're like my brothers."

The strong community sets the foundation for meaningful classes where students of all ages and skill levels train together. As Sifu Paul Tam puts it, "Training

together, people learn more easily and have more experience to share. They learn from each other's mistakes, build relationships, and improve teamwork. Humanity, our civilization, is a community. That's how we survive."

As a result of their experience, Jacky, Jerome, and Marcus are leaders the younger students look up to. They help teach new techniques and lead class, all of which helps them understand many lessons beyond kung fu. They discover their strengths and weaknesses as individuals and leaders and understand the importance of respecting everyone and demonstrating humility.

For every student at the club, training is about bringing a high level of focus and giving everything to each moment. "It's not just about keeping up; it's about meeting expectations," Jerome reflects. "And it's really hard to meet expectations." Yet the difficult expectations push the students to become better and make practicing Choy Lee Fut fulfilling. Jerome adds, "When you learn new skills, you feel like you've improved, and you should be proud."

The *Richmond Sentinel* took the opportunity to speak with Jacky Sihing (Sihing meaning teacher-brother), who has been training for twenty years, to understand how Choy Lee Fut impacts one's life in the bigger picture. "It's all about self-discipline. In class, we are taught how to learn, how to focus, and how to find our own mistakes. From there, we build a habit, and one day at a time, we just try to do a little bit better. All this translates into real life and work because we always want to build good habits and improve as a person.

"For me, every day I try to think about the day that passed.

For example, after each class, I think about what I did and then always ask the people that are more experienced about how to improve. The same applies to work. You pay attention to what you do, and if you don't know something you ask someone who knows a little bit more."

Jacky Sihing speaks about helping train the next generation too. "We want to instill a sense of focus and fulfillment from accomplishing something. Sometimes, accomplishing something takes time—students need to just wait even though they work hard. They need patience and focus."

Sifu Paul Tam shares a similar message when asked about his intention behind training younger people: "My goal is to train them to know how to train, how to learn, and how to be mature, respectful, and practical. I would like my students to know time is limited and that their current values are not forever. Values and principles will change as one grows older; there's no absolute right or wrong; it depends on how one wants to dictate their life and what kind of person they want to be.

"I would like them to learn all this from Kung Fu. Kung Fu is a tool that can be used by those of any age, any condition, and any background, in any circumstance."

This powerful training is passed on at the club. From students training hand forms and weapons to practicing lion dance and traditions, the art of Choy Lee Fut, first introduced to the world nearly 200 years ago, continues to guide and bring people together to discover something ancient yet timely.

Visit [clfcanda.com](http://clfcanda.com) for more information, or drop by the CLF Kung Fu Club located at #213, 4451 No 3 Rd, Richmond, during class time Tues/Thurs 5:30 - 7 p.m. or Saturday 4 - 5:30 p.m., 7 - 8:30 p.m. Tai Chi classes are also offered.



Students and family enjoy fun time together.

# New partnership expands housing for KPU students

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) students will have access to more housing options through a new partnership with GEC Living.

GEC Living is Metro Vancouver's largest off-campus accommodation provider, offering fully furnished suites, all-inclusive amenities and flexible leasing for both domestic and international students.

The new partnership provides students with housing that is conveniently accessible to KPU Richmond, with additional housing planned near both KPU Surrey and Richmond campuses.

"Finding safe and reliable housing can be challenging for students, especially if they're new to the area," says Zena Mitchell, Vice President, Students at KPU. "Through our partnership with GEC Living, we're hoping to help ease that challenge by expanding the options available to our students."

Through this new partnership, KPU students will benefit from a month of free rent when signing a 12-month lease, access to prioritized room availability and prioritized additional beds if demand increases.

All GEC properties are fully furnished and include weekly housekeeping, on-site caretakers, utilities, high-speed internet and more.

"We're excited to partner with KPU to make student housing more accessible and stress-free," says Brendan Lee, Vice President of GEC Living. "Our residences offer a safe, fully supported environment where students can build friendships and feel part of a vibrant off-campus community. We're committed to continually creating a living experience that enhances their lives in Vancouver."



Photo courtesy Kwantlen Polytechnic University

**New housing options are available for students near the KPU Richmond Campus.**

With developments underway in Surrey Central and Richmond, GEC Living is currently operating in six locations across Vancouver and Burnaby. Located 100 meters from KPU Civic, the GEC Education Mega Centre in Surrey Central is projected to accommodate 1,100 students.

For more information, visit KPU's Housing Resources page or the GEC Living website.

## Make 9-1-1 education part of back-to-school routine

As families prepare for the back-to-school season, E-Comm is encouraging parents and caregivers to add one more important item to their checklist: teaching children how and when to call 9-1-1.

For many kids, a new school year can mean new routines—such as walking to and from school on their own for the first time, taking public transit, carpooling to games or practices, or using a mobile device or smart watch to stay connected. That's why it's essential for children to not only know how to dial 9-1-1, but also to understand that in any emergency, help is just a call away.

"It's important for children to know that they are never alone. No matter what the emergency is, when you call 9-1-1, there will always be someone on the line who is ready to listen," says Police Call Taker Laura Fiddler. "The moment you call, a calm and caring voice will answer, ready to get you the help that you need as quickly as possible."

E-Comm's Tips for Teaching Kids About 9-1-1

1. Explain when to call 9-1-1

Use simple language to describe emergencies:

- If someone is badly hurt or very sick
- If there is smoke or fire

- If they feel unsafe or see a crime happening (like someone stealing or hurting someone)

2. Teach them how to call

- Show them how to unlock the phone and dial 9-1-1

- Let them know they can call from a cellphone, even if there's no service or SIM card

- If you have access to a landline in your home, teach them the difference between how to dial from a landline vs. a cell phone

3. Help them know what to say

- When you first dial 9-1-1, an operator will say "do you need police, fire or ambulance" and "for what location"

- Stay calm and speak clearly

- Say what is happening where they are, and who needs help

- Follow instructions from the call taker and stay on the line until they say it's okay to hang up

4. Make sure they know their location

- Practice saying their city and home address, including apartment number and building entry code

- Teach them how to look for landmarks or street signs if they're away from home from school

5. Practice through role-playing

- Go through different emergency scenarios without using a real phone

- Help them understand what kinds of questions a 9-1-1 operator might ask

6. Explain the importance of using 9-1-1 responsibly

- Let them know that 9-1-1 is only for real emergencies

- Remember to lock and store their devices carefully. If they do call by mistake, encourage them to stay on the line and let the operator know that they are safe.

- Making prank calls can stop someone else from getting the help they need

E-Comm also reminds parents that language should never be a barrier. Our call takers can access interpretation services in over 200 languages. Children should be reassured that if they need help, someone will be there to listen.

Emergencies can happen anytime, even when adults aren't around. That's why it's so important to make sure your children know how to call 9-1-1 before they head back to school in September. Knowing how to call gives kids confidence, helps them act quickly when seconds matter, and reassures them that a calm, trained professional will always be there to send help.



# RCMP reminds public to record serial numbers to aid in theft recovery

Richmond RCMP is reminding the public to record serial numbers of tools and high value items to aid in identification and recovery of stolen goods.

Richmond RCMP officers warn that power tools are commonly targeted by thieves, and owners not having the serial numbers of these items can make it difficult to identify stolen goods and aid in their return if recovered. These items are typically stolen from open garages and construction sites.

Officers also note that popular electric vehicle chargers have been targeted for theft, typically from open car ports or driveways where the EV chargers are openly visible.

"Having serial numbers or adding unique identifiers to items allows police to return stolen items to rightful owners," says Corporal Ryan Lee, Richmond RCMP Property Crime Unit. "Keeping an up-to-date ledger of the contents of your garage and home is a simple step that can significantly increase the odds of stolen items being identified, and thieves successfully brought to justice."

In addition, owners are advised to take steps to secure electric vehicle charging equipment so that it is not easily accessible by thieves, and to keep areas around their home and garage well lit and secured.

Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious behaviour to their police of jurisdiction.

Richmond RCMP recommends becoming involved in your neighbourhood by getting to know your neighbours and by participating in a Block Watch group. To learn more about Block Watch in Richmond, you can call 604-207-4829 or email [blockwatch@richmond.ca](mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca)

For additional home security and safety tips visit the BC RCMP website.



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1 Source: [review.nps.today/r/HearingLife-Canada](https://review.nps.today/r/HearingLife-Canada).

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# Sockeyes kick start new season

By STEVE ERICKSON AND STEVE DANIEL  
Contributing writers

Last season saw the Sockeyes regular season finish with 32 wins, 11 losses, three overtime losses along with two shootout losses finishing second in the Tom Shaw Conference, with 69 points, three points behind the Delta Ice Hawks.

Given the success of the Sockeyes organization and winning tradition, congratulations go out to the 1986-87 Richmond Sockeyes who achieved remarkable success by clinching multiple titles, including the prestigious Centennial Cup.

The team won the Mowat Cup as BC Junior A champions, the Doyle Cup playing Alberta's champions, the Abbott Cup over Saskatchewan's top team giving them the Centennial Cup championship in Humboldt.

Canucks broadcaster Dave Tomlinson led the team in scoring in 51 regular season games with 43 goals and 65 assists for 108 points while Jason Phillips was top scorer and Centennial Cup MVP.

Changes in the off-season saw the hiring of a new coach Scott Hewson who played three seasons (1995-96 to 1997-98) in the BCJHL with the Pent- icton Panthers. He elevated his career to play with Bowling Green University for four seasons then taking his skills to play in the East Coast Hockey League from the 2003 - 2004 seasons.

For the players they realize that while you can be a star player on one team playing multiple shifts per game doesn't mean that will continue at the next level of the game, which Scott knows first-hand.

He returned to North Vancouver where he coached in the CSHL for three seasons knowing that the first item on his agenda is to gain the trust of the players to play for the crest on the front of the sweater rather than the name on the back of the sweater.

Gaining the trust of the players is one of the most important qualities for any new coach to achieve when taking over a new role with an existing team. It's also important for players to learn at each level of the sport that they can advance through hard work and team spirit given the available opportunities.

Teams make management changes when needed and the Richmond Sockeyes are no different. Starting the 2025-2026 season you will see a new coach behind the bench and joining Scott on the bench are Matthew Stewart (player development/assistant GM) and assistant coaches Bob Delorme and Andrew Wolf who bring a wealth of hockey knowledge to the Richmond Sockeyes.

The off-season saw changes within the hockey league itself with a two-division league with the Sockeyes playing in the Tom Shaw division who was the league president as well as a Richmond resident in the 1980s.

The league continues to take major steps forward allowing the PJHL to play for Hockey Canada's

Centennial Cup emblematic of Junior A hockey supremacy in Canada.

Given pre-season play the coaching staff are still evaluating players at camp who are looking to "crack" the line-up to fill vacant positions, knowing that some of last year's players are at other camps wanting to elevate their game. Knowing this, management wish them all the best.

On a positive note returning this year is Sockeyes Captain Teo Lin who finished last season with 32 goals, 36 assists, seven power play goals and four short-handed goals in regular season play. In playoff action he collected six goals, one assist and one power play goal in 11 games. Teo will no doubt once again be the team leader offering mentorship to the new players on the Sockeyes' roster.

Currently the Sockeyes are still playing pre-season exhibition games as the coaching staff have goaltending positions to fill with both Max Fowle and Mathias Hasselmann signing with other clubs in the off-season.

On a positive note, the Sockeyes have acquired David Yoon from the North Vancouver Wolf Pack in exchange for future considerations as well as Keelan Wyke who played last season with the Border Bruins in the KIJHL.

In addition the Sockeyes have acquired Brydy Lindal who played last season in the VIJHL as well as Dylan Nazzarth who played in Saskatchewan for LaRonge Ice Wolves finishing the season with 16 points in 43 games.

Adding to the broadcast team this year is Steve Daniel who is the official statistician for the CFL and is the only pro sports analyst/statistician inducted into any Hall of Fame, NHL, CFL, Major League Baseball and NFL. For Steve Daniel, from a colour broadcaster and team stats analyst point of view "as we head into the 2025/26 season there is of course much to think about."

Every club goes through change in the off-season and this year is certainly no exception. With new coaches and an even more upgraded roster, this year has plenty of promise already.

Though the club's final roster is not quite set, you can expect some turnover to be sure. If the Sockeyes can hold onto their high producers from last season with a mix of some young '09' talent it promises to be another solid 2025-26 season for the Sockeyes. And that makes it fun for the commentary side on our broadcasts and in our reports for the *Richmond Sentinel*.

With Junior One Tier One hockey now a reality, access to the highest level of Junior talent increases and that shows up on the ice in an even greater performance level.

In the many analytical areas that we track such as goal differential, shot attempts, net front shots on goal, fewer defensive zone turnovers and the like, we will likely see even better results than in 24/25.

Early indications from pre-season games have shown our coaches to be open to stats-based ideas and 'tracking the data' to demonstrate areas where we are strong and some things that need improvement. That is the true purpose for analytics in hockey which we will keep you up to date in future articles from the stat's department.



Photo courtesy Richmond Sockeyes  
Sockeyes have their season opener on September 11 at 7p.m.





**Douglas James Scammell**

## FASHION FOR MEN

# The Waistcoat



*When it comes to men's suit fashion most men purchase a two piece suit, the jacket and the matching pants only. They make the big mistake of bypassing the third piece and that is the matching waistcoat. I used to make that mistake myself, but I'm now a three piece suit guy and the reason is you have so many more different options with your suits. I think the*

*waistcoat really brings the entire suit together giving it a more complete look. Adding a waistcoat (a three piece suit) leaves a memorable first impression whether it's an important meeting or formal affair. If you want to look your best in any situation you will honestly feel very confident, and comfortable wearing your three piece suit.*

Here is just a few examples of some different ways you can wear your three piece suits and waistcoats by mixing a navy suit and a beige suit. For example:

1. Wear it as matching three piece suit.
2. Wear the matching jacket and pants and offset the look with wearing the waistcoat from the other suit.
3. In warm summer months wear just the waistcoat and matching pants.
4. Wear the matching pant and waistcoat with the jacket from the other suit.
5. Wear the jacket with the matching waistcoat

with the pants from the other suit.

The more three piece suits you have the more options you will have of creating different looks offering much more value and versatility.

There are many different styles of waistcoats available. In the pictures I have two different styles the navy waistcoat is single breasted, and the tan waistcoat is a double breasted waistcoat with a shawl lapel. For some of my favorite suits I have both the single and the double breasted matching waistcoats in the same color and fabric to give one suit two different looks.

Here is a more detailed breakdown of just some of the many different style waistcoats list below:

**Single-Breasted Waistcoat:** This is the most common style, featuring a single row of buttons and a pointed bottom.

**Double-Breasted Waistcoat:** This style has two rows of buttons and a straight bottom, often seen in more formal settings.

**Horseshoe Waistcoat:** Characterized by a low-cut neckline, traditionally worn with dinner suits to showcase the shirt's bib.

**Waistcoat with Lapel:** A less common style with lapels, similar to a jacket, adding a touch of sophistication.

## HISTORY

The term waistcoat is used to describe this upper body sleeveless garment that is cut off at waist level of the body in the United Kingdom and many Commonwealth countries. The waistcoat is also known more in north America Canada and the United States as a vest. The waistcoat has been around for centuries and has evolved with many different types of designs.

King Charles II of England in the year of 1666 launched a new fashion in men's wear for the English. The item was a long piece donned beneath the coat that was meant to be seen. By the 18th century the waistcoat became a symbol of status and refinement among aristocrats and gentleman. For the upper class, waistcoats weren't just functional but a statement of power and prestige.



In the early 19th century the waistcoat for men was more like a synced corset that was almost skin tight and pulled together with laces in the back. It was around 1850 the style changed from that of a corseted look to a straighter line with less restriction at the waist, so that the waistcoat followed a straighter line up the torso.

By the early to mid-20th century the waistcoat and its significance as status symbol began to wane. It became more functional item to us as a place to store a snazzy pocket watch. Then when the wristwatch came into its own that's when the waistcoat really began to die off toward the last half of the 20 century.

The three piece suit has been very popular in movies and TV shows throughout many decades from the 1920's to the present but most notably in the James Bond Series where it made its debut in the classic James Bond movie *Goldfinger* (1964) where to this day Sean Connery's grey three piece suit remains one of the most iconic movie suits of all time, and more recently *Crazy Stupid Love* (2011) starring Ryan Gosling and of course the TV series *Suits* (2011-2019) starring Gabriel Swann Macht who always wore a three piece suit.



## RESURGENCE

The waistcoat and three piece suit fashion has made a very big comeback into second decade of the 21st century.

Three-piece suits are popular today because they offer a timeless elegance and versatility. The addition of the waistcoat (or vest) elevates the formality and style of the suit, allowing for both sophisticated and more casual looks. This adaptability makes them suitable for various occasions, from formal events like weddings to business meetings.

*Photos courtesy DJ Scammell*



# OUR CITY *tonight*

SPOTLIGHT ON

HOME VIEW

AUTUMN COCKTAIL

CINEMATIC FAREWELL



Photo courtesy Acorn TV

## THE VIEW #1 – THE CROW GIRL

Another gripping psychological crime thriller comes to us from England, this one is called *The Crow Girl*. It is based on the Scandinavian bestseller of the same name by Erik Axl Sund. This 6-episode series—set in the English town of Bristol—centres around first-rate Detective Chief Inspector, Jeanette Kilburn (played by the always superb Eve Myles), as she hunts for the killer of unidentified young men. The investigation leads her to seek advice from well-known, yet mysterious, psychotherapist, Dr. Sophia Craven (Katherine Kelly). Craven is drawn in by the details of the case (which may be connected to a case of hers). Along the way, DCI Kilburn deals with a troubled domestic life, a long-time friend and colleague who plays by his own rules as a cop (Dougray Scott, who's been great in so many things over the years), and an investigation that may involve past unsolved cases. *The Crow Girl* is dramatically solid with thrilling twists and turns you

won't see coming. Additional good news is that a Season 2 is apparently on its way. You can view this series at [acorn.tv](http://acorn.tv)

## THE SIP – BOTANIST MARINE MARTINI

For an Autumn cocktail suggestion, we turn to a man who has created cocktails all over the world, and has achieved accolades like "World-Class Canadian Bartender". Grant Sceney is the creative beverage director at Botanist Restaurant, located in the Fairmont Pacific Rim. We knew we were in good hands as Botanist has gained plenty of attention since it opened, including being ranked #24 in Worlds Best Bars North America and #2 in Canada by Canada's Best Bars. Sceney offers a *Botanist Marine Martini*, which, we discover, can be made in a way that's also perfect for serving a group of friends at home. "This martini is made with a dry gin blend, house vermouth, kombu (seaweed), chive oil and sea asparagus," Sceney tells us, "but what you can do is add distilled water to dilute it, then put into the freezer, add the right ratio, so it doesn't freeze. It's not frozen, it's perfectly chilled, perfectly diluted, so when your guests come over, you can put out four frozen martini glasses and pour it straight into the glass, quickly dilute it perfectly chilled by exactly how you like it". He stresses, the key when making this martini at home for guests is to make sure the ratio is right. "If there's too much water, it will freeze, it's the alcohol that stops it from freezing, Sceney says, "so as long as you have the right ratio it will come up perfectly." As we sample this superb cocktail and enjoy the ambience of this wonderful spot, we both comment that the idea of "pre-making" a batch of martinis and putting them in the freezer for guests just never occurred to us. The things you learn when you're around cocktail experts like Grant Sceney. Enjoy this cocktail and many others at Botanist Restaurant or at home. [botanistrestaurant.com](http://botanistrestaurant.com)



Photo courtesy  
Botanist Restaurant

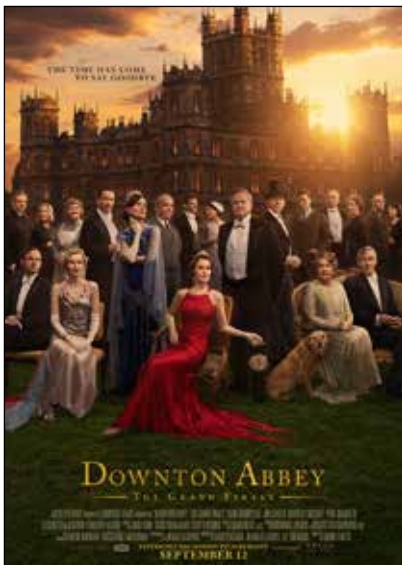


Photo courtesy  
Universal Pictures Canada

## THE VIEW #2 – DOWNTON ABBEY: THE GRAND FINALE

The Crawley family were first introduced to Canadian TV viewers early 2011. *Downton Abbey*, the TV series, begins a century earlier, in 1912, the day the Titanic went down. For the Crawley family, based in the ancestral Yorkshire County estate known as Downton Abbey, it was the start of a love affair between them and we the viewers. A successful run of six years on television and 2 movies, leads us to *Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale*. It is the final part of this global phenomenon, which was created and written by Academy Award winner Julian Fellowes. This time the setting is 1930, and the Crawley family face a new series of challenges with the changing times, including oldest daughter, Mary's divorce and public scandal. There is more financial troubles, an issue that has grown in the story lines over the years. The core cast, which has remained much the same over the last decade (not an easy task in modern TV) includes Hugh Bonneville, Michelle Dockery, Jim Carter, Joanne Froggatt and Elizabeth McGovern. It is always bittersweet when a TV and/or film franchise says goodbye, and this one is no different. It was never expected to resonate with viewers outside the UK, but *Downton Abbey* did that and more. *Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale* is in theatres September 10. [universalpictures.ca](http://universalpictures.ca)



# Electric expert shares optimistic view of the future

Jack Scarlett is a writer, comedian, motoring journalist and one of the hosts of the Everything Electric Show, the world's #1 EV and green energy media YouTube channel. Jack Scarlett joined *Our City Tonight* for an interview from North London.

**OCT:** *One of the first things we really liked about your reviews of various vehicles is that you really do plain speak for those of us that are not car enthusiasts so that not only the expert obviously understands but so can the non-expert. I noticed that the word fun comes up a lot with you because the car you're talking about has to have, in each instance, a component that is fun.*

**JS:** I speak plainly because I'm a plain guy. If I have any talent at all, it is that I am a translator for very clever people to help them communicate to regular people about electric vehicles and everything that comes with them. For example, with electric vehicles things like kilowatt hours and charging speeds can be a bit daunting to people that aren't in the know, so I think it's very important that we just keep it simple as it's not as complicated as it initially sounds.

**OCT:** *One other thing that you do that I love, is that you're also old school. I consider myself some-one from the old school.*

*Some of the car reviews I have seen show that you actually like buttons and you're also not all about having just screens in these new vehicles. I never thought that was a great feature for driving, but I have seen one of the recent reviews that you did where the return of buttons was a big thing for you.*

**JS:** There is a button renaissance coming and I'm telling you it's happening. I don't know who got it into their head that vanishing all functionality into a large iPhone mounted on the dash was a safe version of what we had before. This infuriates me and I'm very glad to see a lot of manufacturers are now back peddling regarding that detail, and they are realizing that buttons are going to be the next big thing. We've come full circle, and I'm glad that



Photo courtesy Everything Electric Vancouver  
Jack Scarlett, host of Everything Electric Show.

we got there eventually.

**OCT:** *I know the first segment of yours that I saw, which I have to tell you I was blown away by, was a review of the minivan from China. Of course, we're not here to talk about politics or trade but this is a vehicle that we most likely will never see in this country because of our agreement with the Americans. They have to approve anything car-wise coming in from China. But I still must tell you I was blown away by this electric vehicle, a minivan from China.*

**JS:** It was like staring directly into the future. It is a simple fact that when it comes to battery technology and software, the products coming out of China are a full generation ahead of what anyone else is doing and that minivan is called the Li Mega. This vehicle is essentially a flightless private jet. It was just absolutely staggering and that technology trickles down. It won't be long before we see the Korean brands doing it and then before you know it, the Americans and the North American and Eu-

ropean brands will have access to the same technology. But yes, there's no doubt who is producing batteries and software the best at the moment.

**OCT:** *One of the things you mentioned, and I hear people say this all the time, is a term called "range anxiety," that always causes hesitation for people wanting to maybe dip their toe into the electric vehicle world. They remain worried about the battery life and charging. It is so interesting that people will think that we may not have enough electricity, but yet we're building data centres with bitcoin mining centers. What do you say to people that you talk to and if you could share your opinion with people out there across Canada that maybe be experiencing this fear.*

**JS:** I think it's a thing that happens when you drive EV's the first few times but then it just dissipates because you learn what your car is actually capable of doing. You become aware that each percent in real life is many miles and maybe in winter a couple less miles. You learn about the car before long but

you also turn into a sort of range masochist. I occasionally enjoy getting my car really close to zero per cent but I know I'm going to make it home although I may have to turn off my heated seats for the last few miles just to be safe.

The good news is electric car batteries are getting bigger and they're getting more energy dense. Gone are the days when you have to spend a huge amount of money for a vehicle that could barely muster 100 miles in the real world. We have cars now that can do 300, 350, and up to 400 miles of range. That's not super helpful to us in the UK because we don't have to drive that far. I know that in the North American market having that ability to drive long distances and back without stopping is absolutely key. And the good news is we have more and more vehicles that can really do that.

Jack Scarlett and the team were at the Everything Electric Show here in Vancouver Sept. 5 -7. [ca.everythingelectric.show](http://ca.everythingelectric.show)



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