

Province wants to seize two homes belonging to alleged drug-smuggling gang boss Ravinder Singh Dhanda in White Rock and Surrey

RAVINDER Singh Dhanda, 57, of Vancouver along with Jaskarn Baghri, 50, of Surrey, Gurtej Singh Smagh, 43, of Creston, B.C., and eight other defendants were charged in an eight-count indictment returned June 23 alleging they transported, smuggled, and distributed hundreds of kilograms of cocaine and methamphetamine each week from the U.S. into Canada, as reported by The VOICE last week.

The indictment specifically alleges the shipment of 430.1 kilograms (948.2 pounds) of cocaine from July 2023 to November 2024.

“Defendant **DHANDA** would operate a cocaine and methamphetamine distribution network (the “Dhanda Drug Trafficking Organization” or “DHANDA DTO”) that provided international smuggling services for bulk quantities of cocaine and methamphetamine to drug trafficking organizations located in the United States, Mexico, and elsewhere,”



Ravinder Singh Dhanda
 Photo: U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of California

reads the indictment.

Now, the director of civil forfeiture has filed a statement of claim against Dhanda's homes in White Rock and Surrey, according to a notice of claim in B.C. Supreme Court.

The Province is going after Dhanda's home in White Rock and another in South Surrey that he also owns with his wife Manjit Kaur Dhanda, according to a notice of claim in B.C. Supreme Court.

The White Rock property is assessed at almost \$3.7 million and the Surrey property is assessed at nearly \$2.7 million.

“At all material times, the defendants did not have sufficient lawful employment, income, and/or legitimate business income to acquire, finance, improve, maintain, or preserve the properties,” according to the statement of claim.

The director alleged Dhanda and his associates “coordinated the storage, transport, smuggling and distribution of bulk quantities of methamphetamine, cocaine and other controlled substances over international borders, primarily between the United States and Canada, on a weekly basis.”

According to the claim, Dhanda also co-ordinated the smuggling of bulk quantities of controlled substances to various organized crime groups throughout Canada and directed and conspired with others within his drug trafficking organization to assist, the CBC reports.

“R. Dhanda directly or indirectly engaged in, facilitated, benefited from,

conspired in, or was associated with unlawful activity, including but not limited to trafficking of controlled substances,” said the claim.

It alleged that Ravinder Dhanda's spouse Manjit Dhanda “knew or ought to have known” how the properties were being used or “was willfully blind” to how they were used.

The claim said the properties are “proceeds and instruments of unlawful activity.”

The claim said the properties were used by the defendants “to engage in unlawful activities” that allegedly included laundering the proceeds of unlawful activity, providing or collecting property for terrorist activities and failing to declare taxable income, the CBC reports.

Dhanda and two other defendants who were arrested in B.C. remain in custody awaiting a bail hearing scheduled as part of extradition proceedings.

FBI's Operation Hard Ball: Garinder Singh Deo arrested in France

THE RCMP Federal Policing Pacific Region has announced that Garinder Singh Deo, 40, of West Vancouver was arrested and taken into custody in France where he is awaiting extradition to the United States on indictments related to the FBI's Operation Hard Ball.

He was taken into custody on July 7.

As reported last week by The

VOICE, according to a news release by the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Central District of California, Garinder Deo, 40, a.k.a. “Doctor,” “Rocket,” and “Ritz Carlton,” of Vancouver, Canada, though not charged as a member or associate of the criminal group Bhagwanpuria, allegedly helped enrich the group by purchasing bulk quantities of cocaine and heroin that were to be shipped from



Garinder Singh Deo
 Photo: U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of California

Southern California to the

eastern United States with the assistance of members and associates of the Bhagwanpuria enterprise. Jaggu Bhagwanpuria, 38, of Punjab, India, a gangster imprisoned in India, is an associate-turned-rival of Bishnoi, and founded his own criminal enterprise in India's Punjab state.

(This story was first reported on our website voiceonline.com on July 10)

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PUBLISHED BY
Indo-Canadian Voice
Communications Ltd.

Members of:
NATIONAL ETHNIC
PRESS AND MEDIA
COUNCIL OF CANADA

Publication Mail Agreement No. 40013658
Return undeliverable Canadian
addresses to Circulation Dept.
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Former Manitoba MP Inky Mark charged with firearm trafficking, other gun offences

Police seized 439 firearms, an antique cannon, ammunition and over \$300,000

ON July 7, RCMP executed two search warrants at a residence in Dauphin, Manitoba, as part of a months-long investigation into firearms trafficking.

The investigation's origins date back to late March, when RCMP were notified that firearms charges had been laid in the United States against a 73-year-old Dauphin-area male. This prompted an RCMP investigation that resulted in further charges being laid against that individual. While executing a search warrant in that case, RCMP found and seized firearms that were purchased by a second suspect and never lawfully transferred. After further investigation, two warrants to search the second suspect's home were obtained by the National Weapons Enforcement Support Team (NWEST). The warrants were executed last week



Photos: RCMP

by NWEST and the Manitoba West District General Investigation Section, with support from several RCMP units – including the Manitoba West District Crime Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST), Manitoba Provincial Serious and Organized Crime, the Emergency Response Team, Dauphin RCMP and Police Dog Services.

In total, 439 firearms were seized from



the property, as was an antique cannon, ammunition and more than \$300,000 in cash.

It is expected to take several more weeks for investigators to document the large collection of evidence gathered at the residence and determine how many of the firearms were illegally possessed. So far, at least three firearms are believed to have been illegally trafficked and one firearm had its serial number tampered with, RCMP said.

"The illegal trafficking of prohibited weapons is a serious offence that threatens public safety," said RCMP Assistant Commissioner and Manitoba Commanding Officer Scott McMurchy. "We thank the many RCMP officers who are working on this case for their tireless efforts in targeting individuals who are trafficking these dangerous and illegal weapons and bringing them to justice."

Inky Mark, 78, of Dauphin is charged with:

- * Firearm trafficking;
- * Possession of a firearm with a tampered serial number;
- * Possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000;
- * Careless use of a firearm (two counts);
- * Possession of a firearm when knowing possession is unauthorized;
- * Possession of a prohibited device when knowing possession is unauthorized (two counts);
- * Possession of a restricted / prohibited weapon with ammo without a licence; and
- * Unsafe storage of firearms (three counts).

Mark was remanded into custody. He was subsequently released on a release order.

Mark was elected as a Reform Party MP in Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette in 1997. He didn't seek re-election as a Conservative MP in 2010.

The investigation continues.

One dead, five injured in collision involving several vehicles in Delta

ON Wednesday, July 15, just after 3 p.m., Delta Police responded to a report of a multi-vehicle collision in the 9800-block of Ladner Trunk Road. Four vehicles were involved, with multiple occupants.

Five people were transported to hospital with injuries. Sadly, despite the lifesaving efforts of first responders, one adult male was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Investigators are working to determine the factors that contributed to the collision.

Ladner Trunk Road was closed between 96 Street and Highway 91 for several hours while the Collision Investigation Team conducted its investigation. Motorists were asked to avoid the area and use alternate routes.

Anyone who witnessed the collision, or who was travelling in the area around the time of the incident and may have dash camera footage, is asked to contact the Delta Police Department at 604-946-4411 and quote file #2026-13102.

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Canada pauses intake of new applications under Parents and Grandparents Program



**Immigration Minister
Lena Metlege Diab**
Official photo

THE federal government announced on Wednesday that it is taking steps to maintain a well-managed, sustainable immigration system that works for newcomers and Canadians alike. As part of these efforts, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is pausing the intake of new applications under the Parents and Grandparents Program (PGP Program). IRCC said that it will continue to process existing applications and plan to approve up to 15,000 people for permanent residence through the PGP Program in 2026, in line with the 2026–2028

Immigration Levels Plan. This approach will help reduce processing times and improve predictability for families. It said that family reunification remains an important pillar of Canada's immigration system. Parents and grandparents continue to be able to visit their children and grandchildren in Canada through the super visa, which allows them to visit their children or grandchildren for five years at a time and provides multiple entries to Canada for up to 10 years. IRCC recently made the super visa more accessible by implementing changes to the income and health insurance requirements. IRCC said that interest in the PGP Program continues to exceed the spaces available under the levels plan. To manage this pressure responsibly, IRCC will not receive new interest to sponsor forms or invite potential sponsors to apply until further notice.

Delta Police investigate reports of voyeurism; one person arrested

DELTA Police announced on Monday that they are investigating a report that a suspected recording device was being used in a staff washroom at a business in the Tilbury area of Delta. Investigators are working closely with the business to secure evidence, identify anyone who may have been affected, and ensure there is no ongoing risk. On Tuesday, July 7, an employee of the business was arrested and released on conditions pending further investigation. At this stage, investigators believe the incident was isolated to this

workplace, and there is no information to suggest a broader risk to the public. Police say these investigations are highly sensitive and involve significant privacy considerations. To protect the integrity of the investigation and the privacy of those potentially affected, no further details are being released at this time. As recording devices become increasingly small and accessible, Delta Police encourage people to remain alert in locations where privacy is expected. Any suspicious device or activity should be reported to police immediately.

Findlay hires far-right activist who promoted mass deportations of people based on ancestry: NDP

B.C. Conservative Leader Kerry-Lynne Findlay has hired former Juno News Editor Cosmin Dzsurdzsa as Director of Communications, despite the outlet's record of promoting racist voices that have targeted South Asian Canadians, the BC NDP said on Wednesday.

Dzsurdzsa has published and defended Daniel Tyrie, who has called for the mass deportation of between five and nine million people, including Canadian citizens and legal permanent residents. Tyrie has described "visible minorities" in Surrey as a "problem" and said Canada "has always been a White majority country and it should stay that way."

Former Alberta Conservative Premier Jason Kenney has said "Daniel Tyrie is a racist. Racism is immoral. It is poison. It is not 'vitality.' It is not conservative."

"Time and again, the B.C. Conservatives ask for the support of South Asian communities, but their actions tell a different story," said Rohini Arora, MLA for Burnaby East.



Kerry-Lynne Findlay Photo: X

"Kerry-Lynne Findlay is choosing senior advisors who think it's ok to target Canadian citizens because they're not white."

The hiring comes as Findlay has largely avoided questions from journalists since becoming leader, including questions about her staffing decisions and the direction of the B.C. Conservative Party.

"Kerry-Lynne Findlay's choices show she's more focused on importing Trump-style culture wars that divide people by ethnicity than on the real issues facing people in

our province," said Arora. "Blaming Brown and Black people does not put healthier food in the fridge, provide more education, childcare, healthcare, or help families with costs. Rather than bringing forward ideas that would tackle these issues, the B.C. Conservatives are pushing a far-right, extremist vision for the province."

While Findlay tries to divide people like U.S. President Donald Trump, Premier David Eby and the B.C. NDP are recruiting thousands of healthcare workers from the U.S., opening the new medical school at SFU Surrey, and steadily bringing down the cost of housing, the BC NDP said.

"People want leaders focused on priorities like the cost of living, strengthening healthcare, and creating jobs," said Arora. "David Eby's plan is making a difference by bringing down housing costs and hiring thousands more healthcare workers, and our B.C. NDP team will keep working every day to make progress for people."

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Surrey exceeds housing targets ahead of schedule, with over 13,800 units issued

THE City of Surrey announced on Wednesday that it has exceeded its housing targets, issuing 13,844 net new housing units over the past two and a half years and remaining on track to complete all initiatives outlined in its Housing Action Plan.

"I'm pleased at the incredible progress we've made and the meaningful steps we've taken to reduce red tape, modernize our processes and make it easier to build housing in Surrey," Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke said. "At a time when market conditions remain difficult, Surrey has continued to move forward, working with

the housing sector to provide more options for residents. I would like to thank the federal government and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation for their ongoing support." Surrey's Housing Action Plan set a target of 13,000 net new housing units over three years by the end of 2026, representing a 27.8 per cent increase in the City's housing supply. The City achieved this six months ahead of schedule. The plan is supported by \$100.7 million from the federal government's Housing Accelerator Fund. The City has completed six of the plan's nine initiatives, with

the remaining three on track for completion by the end of the year. These improvements have helped streamline the development process, including:

- * Modernization and harmonization of neighbourhood concepts plans with the new Official Community Plan to streamline the development process

- * New programs for Amenity Cost Charges and bonus density to create a more predictable framework for supporting community amenities

- * Moving all building permit applications to a fully digital review process

"Surrey is one of Canada's fastest-growing communities, and people

need more homes they can afford close to where they work, learn, and raise their families," said Randee Sarai, MP for Surrey Centre, on behalf of Gregor Robertson, federal Minister of Housing and Infrastructure and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development. "Through the Housing Accelerator Fund, our government is proud to support the City of Surrey as it surpasses its housing target ahead of schedule. These 13,800 new homes will strengthen the community and make a meaningful difference in the lives of residents for years to come."

The City also exceeded its provincial housing target, issuing final occupancy



Brenda Locke

for 5,307 net new housing units during the reporting period of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026 – 14.4 per cent above its target of 4,639 units.

You can stay up to date on development and permitting improvements at surrey.ca/development.

Pedestrian struck by TransLink bus in Surrey

ON Saturday, July 11 at approximately 9:41 p.m., Surrey Police Service frontline officers responded to a report from BCEHS of a seriously injured pedestrian lying on the roadway at the intersection of 128 Street and 96 Avenue.

Officers located the pedestrian who was receiving emergency

medical treatment from BCEHS paramedics. SPS officers also located a TransLink bus and driver at the scene. The pedestrian, an adult man, was transported to hospital for treatment of critical, potentially life-threatening injuries.

If you have any info, call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 26-72005 (SP).

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Residents rally to advocate for new pools in South Vancouver but Park Board rejects capital plan additions

RESIDENTS gathered to advocate for new public pools in Sunset and Marpole, urging the Vancouver Park Board to include the projects in the 2027-2030 Capital Plan. Supporters argued that South Vancouver has been left without adequate aquatic facilities following the closures of both Sunset Pool and the Langara YMCA pool. Many speakers emphasized that replacement pools are essential to ensure local residents have equitable access to recreation, swimming lessons, fitness programs, and community spaces.

Despite the strong public turnout and advocacy, a majority of Park Board Commissioners voted against adding the Sunset and Marpole pool projects to the Capital Plan. Commissioners from the Vancouver Liberals and Vancouver Greens argued that South Vancouver is not underserved and has already received sufficient investment.

Commissioner Jas Virdi, who



Commissioner Jas Virdi.

Photos by SUKHWANT SINGH DHILLON

supported both projects, expressed disappointment with the outcome. "Those of us who live in South Vancouver know that's not the reality," Virdi said. "After losing both the Sunset Pool and the Langara YMCA pool, our community deserves replacement pools and the same access to quality recreation as the rest of the city."

While the motion was unsuccessful, advocates say the campaign is far



Supporters of new public pools in Sunset and Marpole

from over. Community members pledged to continue pushing for investment in South Vancouver and to ensure replacement aquatic facilities remain a priority in future planning.

"The fight isn't over," Virdi said. "I'll continue advocating until South Vancouver gets the pools and investment our community deserves."

Organizers also thanked the



residents who attended and spoke in support of the projects, calling the turnout a powerful demonstration of the community's commitment to improving recreational infrastructure in South Vancouver.

Winner Pulvinder S. to complete home renovations and travel



PULVINDER S. couldn't believe his eyes after learning that he won a \$500,000 Extra prize from the June 30, 2026 Lotto Max draw.

"I was at home," recalled Pulvinder. "After scanning the [BCLC Lotto!] app, I thought, 'Am I reading this ticket right?'"

The Richmond resident first shared the news with his wife and daughter. "We were counting the decimal places!"

While he has no specific plans to celebrate, Pulvinder plans to use some of his winnings on home renovations and travel.

On how it feels to win?

"This whole thing is crazy!"

The winning ticket was purchased at Shoppers Drug Mart at Williams and No. 3 Road in Richmond.

Always secure your residence when you go out, say Burnaby RCMP

BURNABY RCMP are advising the public to ensure their residence is secure before going out after recently receiving two reports of residential break-and-enters on the same day where an unlocked

patio door was the point of entry.

Both residences were in the Forest Grove area of North Burnaby. Several rooms were rummaged through and personal items including jewelry

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MLAs Jessie Sunner and Jagrup Brar celebrate at annual West Coast Kings Canada Cup



MLAs Jessie Sunner and Jagrup Brar with the organizers. Photos: BC NDP

ON July 10, MLAs Jessie Sunner (Surrey-Newton) and Jagrup Brar (Surrey-Fleetwood) attended the annual West Coast Kings Canada Cup at the Tamanawis Turf Fields in Surrey. Hosted by Surrey's own West Coast Kings Field Hockey Society, the tournament is one of North America's premier field hockey competitions. Bringing together more than 45 teams from across Canada and the United States, the tournament transformed Surrey into a hub for high-level competition while welcoming families, volunteers, and spectators to enjoy a free community event celebrating one of the world's most popular sports. Beyond the action on the field, attendees enjoyed cultural performances and langar provided by Gurdwara Sahib Dasmesh Darbar.

Founded by a dedicated board with decades of experience in the sport, the West Coast Kings Field Hockey Society has become a driving force behind the growth of field hockey in the Lower Mainland.

The organization's commitment extends far beyond hosting the Canada Cup. Through youth leagues, player development programs beginning at the secondary school level, mentorship opportunities, and scholarship initiatives, the society continues to inspire the next generation of athletes.

Their work focuses on building more than athletic ability. By promoting wellness, teamwork, leadership, fair play, and citizenship, the West Coast Kings provide young people between the ages of eight and 18 with opportunities to develop confidence, lifelong friendships, and valuable life skills.

Sunner and Brar met with organizers, volunteers, athletes, and families throughout the day, recognizing the countless hours of dedication that make an event of this scale possible. They applauded the West Coast Kings Field Hockey Society for creating opportunities that strengthen community connections while encouraging healthy, active lifestyles for young people.

"The West Coast Kings have built something truly special for Surrey and the entire field hockey community," said Sunner. "As a former field hockey player who practiced on these very fields years ago, seeing the Canada Cup hosted here in the riding I now serve as MLA is incredibly meaningful. I want to thank the organizers, community volunteers, families, and sports enthusiasts who came out today to support these incredible athletes."

Brar added, "Events like the Canada Cup demonstrate the power of community sport to bring people together. The West Coast Kings have created a welcoming

environment where athletes can compete at a high level while inspiring young people to see what is possible through dedication and hard work. Congratulations to everyone who helped make this tournament such a tremendous success."

As one of North America's leading field hockey clubs, the West Coast Kings have earned a reputation for excellence through their success in tournaments across the continent. Their continued investment in youth development and community engagement ensures that Surrey remains an important centre for field hockey while fostering a culture of inclusion, sportsmanship, and opportunity.

The Canada Cup once again demonstrated how community-led organizations can create a lasting impact by bringing together athletes, families, and volunteers to celebrate sport, inspire young people, and strengthen the bonds that make Surrey such a vibrant and welcoming community.

(Submitted)



Sunner and Brar with Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke at the ribbon-cutting

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CONTINUED FROM 6

were stolen in both cases. "With the warmer weather now upon us, we're reminding everyone to secure their doors and windows when they go out," said Cpl. Chad Premack, Burnaby RCMP's Property Crime NCO. "Often a simple locked door or window is all it takes to avoid being a victim of property crime." In previous years we have seen people working in their back yard become

victims simply because they did not lock their front door or window, he noted.

Before leaving your home, police suggest you do the following:

* Close and lock all windows every time you go out.

* If you have an alarm, ensure you set it before you leave.

* Keep your doors locked even if you are just in the back yard.

Hundreds of enthusiastic supporters attend Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke's fundraising dinner



Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke



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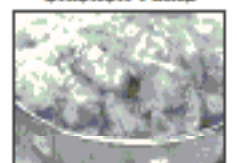
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Surjit Bhandal



MORE than 800 supporters gathered at South 99 Winery in Surrey last weekend for a fundraising dinner in support of Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke, demonstrating strong community engagement ahead of the upcoming municipal election.

Among the guests in attendance were MP Sukh Dhaliwal and MLAs Harman Bhangu, Bryan Tepper and Linda Hepner, along with numerous community leaders, business representatives and other supporters from across Surrey.

Addressing the gathering, Locke outlined her vision for the future of the City of Surrey. She highlighted her administration's commitment to fiscal responsibility, transparent governance, and continued investment in critical infrastructure to meet the needs of Surrey's rapidly growing population. Locke emphasized that prudent financial management and responsible long-term

planning remain central to her leadership. Members of Surrey City Council, including Harry Bains, Rob Stutt, Pardeep Kooner and Gord Hepner, as well as Council candidates Rona Tepper and Noemi Victorino also addressed the audience. They spoke about the accomplishments of the current council and reaffirmed their commitment to building a safer, stronger, and more prosperous Surrey.

The evening concluded with enthusiastic support from attendees, reflecting strong community interest in Mayor Locke's vision for Surrey's future and the priorities of her administration. The event was attended by South Asian community leaders Maninder Gill, Kulwant Dhesi, Parmjit Khosla, Boota Singh Dhillon, Balbir Padda, Manjit Singh Baughan, Baldev Bham and many more.

(Report and photos submitted)



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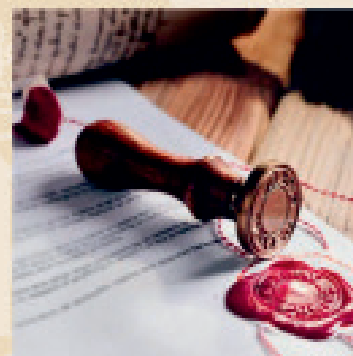
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Learner gets motorcycle impounded for traveling at 177 km/h in an 80 zone on Highway 99

EXACTLY seven days after a motorcycle crash cost a driver her life and caused massive delays on the Sea to Sky highway, another motorcycle has been impounded for doing a shocking speed on Highway 99, says BC Highway Patrol.

On Saturday, July 11 at 7:43 a.m., near Furry Creek, a BC Highway Patrol officer got a speed reading of 177 km/h in an 80 zone on a red motorcycle.

The rider was a 22-year-old Vancouver woman who only had a Class 7 (passenger vehicle learner) and Class 8 (motorcycle learner) licence.

"Sometimes we feel like a broken record when we say that speed kills people," says Cpl. Michael McLaughlin with BC Highway Patrol. "But clearly some people aren't getting the message. Being 97 km/h over the limit could easily have repeated a tragedy from only one



A red sport motorcycle is loaded onto a tow truck on Highway 99 as a BC Highway Patrol motorcycle is parked in the foreground. Photo: BCHP

week ago on the same highway."

The motorcyclist received:

- * A seven-day impound for excessive speeding (with the tow and impound at the owner's expense),
- * A ticket for excessive speed (over

60 km/h) with a fine of \$483,

- * At least three years of high-risk driver premiums and escalating insurance that will bring the total costs to just under \$2,500.

Considering the shocking speed and

the lack of experience of the rider, BC Highway Patrol is also recommending that the BC Superintendent of Motor Vehicles conduct a high-risk driving review for the driver. High-risk driving reviews can lead to additional sanctions such as a prohibition from driving.

Burnaby RCMP seek witnesses to stranger assault from late last week

BURNABY RCMP are investigating a sexual assault that occurred near Royal Oak Avenue and Beresford Street last week.

On Thursday, July 9 at approximately 11:30 p.m., Burnaby RCMP frontline officers responded to a report of an assault that had just occurred near Royal Oak Avenue and Beresford Street. The victim advised that she was walking alone when an unknown man came from behind and grabbed her buttocks. An altercation ensued. The victim resisted and screamed which caused the suspect to stop. As the victim called 911, the suspect fled the scene. Extensive patrols for the suspect drew a blank. The victim did not sustain any physical injuries from the assault. Investigators continue to follow up on leads generated from information shared by the victim.

"We'd like to commend the victim for her courage and for calling

police immediately," said Cpl. Mike Kalanj with Burnaby RCMP.

A half hour later, just before midnight, Burnaby RCMP received a report of a suspicious man who had approached the sliding glass door of a ground floor apartment in the 7300-block of MacPherson Avenue, near Beresford Street.

This suspect fled when the resident banged on the window. The suspect was also seen in the same yard at approximately 11 p.m. earlier that night. The complainant did not initially report the first sighting.

"We cannot currently say for certain if the two incidents are related, however, we are asking anyone who saw the suspicious man in the second incident or witnessed the first incident to please come forward and speak to our investigators," Kalanj added.

"Our officers continue to canvas the area for video, so if you have captured an image or video from your doorbell camera or dashcam video, we would like to hear from you.

Police are asking anyone that can assist in identifying the suspect in either of these incidents or anyone with dashcam video in the area between 10:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, and 1 a.m. on Friday, July 10, to contact Burnaby RCMP at 604-646-9999 and quote file number 2026-23973.

Train collides with crashed car in Deroche

LOUGHEED Highway in Deroche was closed for an extended period on Sunday evening, after a train struck a car that had crashed on the tracks. Around 4 p.m. on July 12, a witness called 911 to report that a car had crashed on the train tracks at the crossing at Lougheed Highway and North Deroche Road in Deroche, east of Mission. The car reportedly took the corner too fast, and collided with a train signal pole. The 18-year-old female driver from Coquitlam, and her 18-year-old passenger, had no injuries and were able to get out of the vehicle. Little more than a

minute into the 911 call, a freight train then came through the crossing and struck the crashed car. Fortunately, no injuries resulted from that collision either. The train stopped after the collision, fully blocking the crossing, and remained there until the wreckage of the car was removed and it was confirmed that the train was safe to continue operating. Mission RCMP say that they highlight this incident as a reminder of the risks around train tracks, and to remind the public to immediately exit and move away from any vehicle that becomes stuck at a rail crossing.

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This Beautiful House sits over a large 50' x 120' lot in prime neighbourhood of East Newton & features with three bedrooms & two master bedrooms including extra large master bedroom with ensuite and a balcony. Huge Living Room, Dining Room & a separate Family Room UPSTAIRS. Downstairs comes with two mortgage helpers (2+1). Fully Renovated with lot of updates like both new Kitchens, Bathrooms, Flooring, Lighting, Hot Water tank & Furnace. Enjoy the tranquility & quietness of Caldecott with your morningrise sitting on the front Porch. Close to all Amenities.

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5758 131 A STREET SURREY

11 BED - 11 BATHS - 20,255 SF LOT

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN PRIME NEIGHBOURHOOD OF PANORAMA

ASKING 4,000,000

9997 BROADWAY STREET

5 BED - 1 BATH - 10,014 SF LOT

Builder's Alert! The Property is sub-divisible and has been rezoned R-C, PLS. Application has been submitted to City & is in process. Location: Heritage style home with three bedrooms and one bathroom. Large Private backyard.

ASKING 924,000

11956 98 AVENUE, SURREY

7 BED - 5 BATHS - 6,600 SF

Delicious in Two Rows Home! This beautiful detached house is located in a prime location of 11956 98 Avenue with 7 Bedrooms & 5 Bathrooms, very spacious open concept kitchen with granite countertops & stainless steel appliances, huge fireplace & living room, with a lot of natural light from front, side & back windows. Call today to see this home. 11956 98 Avenue. 7 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 6,600 SF. Call today to see this home. 11956 98 Avenue. 7 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 6,600 SF.

ASKING 1,699,000

7038 142 STREET, SURREY

5 BED - 5 BATHS - 7,187 SF

Stunning 5 Bedroom, 5 Bathroom, 7,187 SF detached house in a prime location of 7038 142 Street. This home features a large open concept kitchen with granite countertops & stainless steel appliances, huge fireplace & living room, with a lot of natural light from front, side & back windows. Call today to see this home. 7038 142 Street. 5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 7,187 SF. Call today to see this home. 7038 142 Street. 5 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms, 7,187 SF.

ASKING 1,499,000

10045 INVERVIEW DRIVE, CHILLIWACK

4 BED - 3 BATHS - 4,710 SF LOT

Stunning 4 Bedroom, 3 Bathroom, 4,710 SF detached house in a prime location of 10045 Inverview Drive. This home features a large open concept kitchen with granite countertops & stainless steel appliances, huge fireplace & living room, with a lot of natural light from front, side & back windows. Call today to see this home. 10045 Inverview Drive. 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 4,710 SF. Call today to see this home. 10045 Inverview Drive. 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 4,710 SF.

ASKING 929,000

1000 14881 103A AVENUE

3 BED - 2 BATHS

Best Opportunity to live in the best location in the area. This property is sub-divisible and has been rezoned R-C, PLS. Application has been submitted to City & is in process. Location: Heritage style home with three bedrooms and one bathroom. Large Private backyard.

ASKING 589,000

5748 123 Street Surrey

7 BED - 8 BATHS - 20,311 SF

Delicious in Two Rows Home! This beautiful detached house is located in a prime location of 5748 123 Street with 7 Bedrooms & 8 Bathrooms, very spacious open concept kitchen with granite countertops & stainless steel appliances, huge fireplace & living room, with a lot of natural light from front, side & back windows. Call today to see this home. 5748 123 Street. 7 Bedrooms, 8 Bathrooms, 20,311 SF. Call today to see this home. 5748 123 Street. 7 Bedrooms, 8 Bathrooms, 20,311 SF.

ASKING 2,999,000

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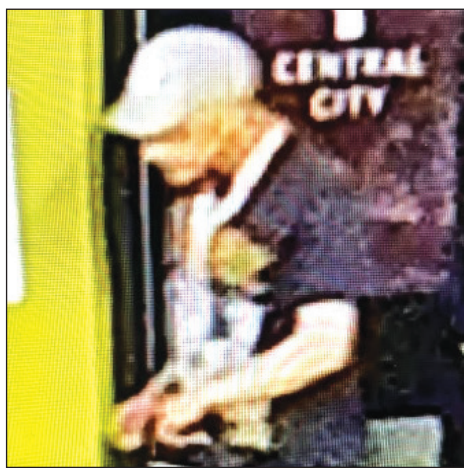
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SPS investigates suspicious fire at Surrey City Hall

SURREY Police Service (SPS) is investigating a suspicious fire at Surrey City Hall that happened in the early morning hours of Monday, July 13 that resulted in significant property damage.

On July 13 at approximately 3:30 a.m., SPS frontline officers responded to a call from Surrey Fire Services (SFS) that they were on scene for a fire at Surrey City Hall, located at 13450 104 Avenue. SPS frontline members found the southwest side of the building engulfed in smoke.

Surrey Fire Services advised SPS officers that the fire had likely started outside City Hall in a portable toilet, located against the building, which then caused the building's exterior glass to break due to the heat. Smoke then entered City



Photos: SPS



system. There were no reported injuries. The fire is believed to be human caused

and the initial investigation has resulted in footage of a possible suspect being seen on cameras in the area before the fire started. The suspect is described as a White male between the ages of 45 and 65, short hair, and with a slim build. He was wearing a light-coloured ballcap, a dark-coloured shirt with a graphic on the front, dark-coloured shorts, and slides with light-coloured socks. He had a red and white lanyard around his neck and a dark-coloured fanny pack around his waist. There is no danger to the public because of the damage caused by the fire. SPS is requesting anyone who recognizes the suspect or who has information about the fire to call SPS' non-emergency line at 604-599-0502 and quote file 26-72511 (SP).

Charge approved against Dylan Gaita in yet another stranger assault case

A charge has been approved in a stranger assault investigation after the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) released video of an assault involving the same suspect last month.

Dylan Gaita, 29, has been charged with assault in connection with an incident on June 28 that was reported to police after the VPD issued an appeal to the public.

In the June 28 incident, a pedestrian was walking on Commercial Drive at Charles Street when Gaita allegedly shoulder-checked him, causing the pedestrian to lose his balance. The pedestrian reported the incident on July 4 after seeing the VPD news release issued on June 30. Gaita remains in custody.

Earlier, an assault charge was approved against Gaita man following an alleged unprovoked attack on a woman on



Dylan Gaita Photo: VPD

Commercial Drive on June 29. The woman was walking near East 1st Avenue and Commercial Drive when the suspect, who was walking in the opposite direction, allegedly elbowed her in the face.

Vancouver Police previously issued a release in March 2026,

after the same suspect was charged in connection with four alleged stranger assaults against women in the downtown core.

VPD asked any member of the public who may have witnessed the June 29 incident, or a similar incident in the past, to contact police. It said investigators believe there may be additional victims who have yet to come forward.

VPD warns about dangers of riding scooters without a helmet

THE Vancouver Police Department is reminding the public that helmets are required by law when riding an e-bike or an electric kick scooter.

The warning comes after the death of a woman and a separate incident that resulted in a serious injury over the weekend.

A 30-year-old woman died following a collision involving a scooter on July 3. The incident occurred in the area of Venables Street and Commercial Drive at approximately 10 a.m.

The scooter operator was travelling westbound on Venables Street when she collided with the side of a vehicle. The woman struck her head on the ground, and the driver of the vehicle stopped immediately. The woman was conscious when she was transported to hospital but unfortunately, she died from her injuries on July 11.

On Sunday, at approximately 2 p.m., a woman riding an electric kick scooter was struck from

behind by a man riding another electric kick scooter in Coal Harbour. The incident occurred near Coal Harbour Quay and Nicola Street. The 54-year-old woman was taken to hospital with a head injury and broken collarbone but is expected to recover.

"Neither victim was wearing a helmet while riding," said Vancouver Police Sgt. Adam Donaldson. "In both incidents, a helmet may not have prevented the collisions, but it could have significantly reduced the severity of the injuries. Please make sure to wear a properly fitted helmet and ensure it is secured appropriately."

Under Section 19 of the Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project Regulation of the BC Motor Vehicle Act, operators must wear a bicycle safety helmet that meets the requirements set out in Section 184(1) of the Motor Vehicle Act.

Suspect arrested in alleged Marpole assault

A suspect was arrested on Wednesday following an alleged assault at a bus stop in the Marpole neighbourhood on July 7.

Vancouver Police located and arrested the 37-year-old man without incident after receiving tips from Crime Stoppers. The suspect has since been released from custody with specific conditions and is scheduled to appear in court at a later date.

At approximately 9:25 a.m. on July 7, a man was



The suspect Photo: VPD

waiting for a bus near Southwest Marine Drive and Ash Street, when a male suspect approached from behind, pushed the victim, and ripped headphones that he was wearing off his head.

The suspect then allegedly struck the victim multiple times with a longboard-style skateboard. The victim managed to flee the scene while calling 911. He sustained minor injuries to his forearm.

Investigators released a cellphone photo of the suspect on July 13.

Nanda Jewellers Inc., Located at #6696 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C.V5X 3H2 is looking to fill in the position of Store Manager.

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Location of work: Location of work is only at our only location in the address above.

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- Develop and implement sales strategies, including both online and in-store marketing initiatives;
- Establish and achieve monthly and quarterly sales targets;
- Lead, coach and train sales staff to improve product knowledge and selling skills;
- Prepare and coordinate staff schedules;
- Recruit, hire and oversee training of new employees;
- Resolve customer complaints and ensure high standards of customer service;
- Monitor inventory levels, order merchandise and manage stock control;
- Ensure compliance with company policies, procedures and operational standards

Job Requirements:

- 1 years or more of previous sales experience in the Jewellery industry is required;
- Candidate must be willing to work independently and manage a team with high level of accuracy;
- Strong leadership and communication skills, positive attitude to work and people management skills;
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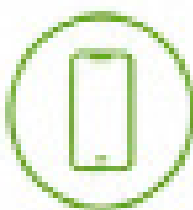
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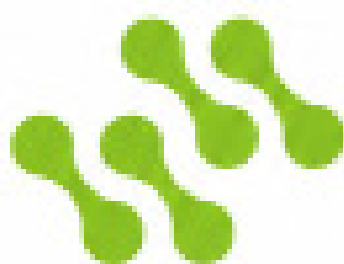
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From Sports Stadiums to Family Reunions: The Travel Essential You Might Be Missing — Foreign Cash



With soccer matches in full swing and more international cricket tournaments on the horizon, sports enthusiasm is sweeping across the world. Whether you're watching the massive sports games live in stadiums or planning for an overseas vacation with loved ones, here's one travel essential you might be missing: **foreign cash**.

Planning a trip with a South Asian family is beautifully complex. We spend hours coordinating during family dinners and across group chats, tracking flight deals, and organizing local itineraries. In fact, according to Expedia, travelers now spend more than five hours engaging with travel content in the 45 days before booking.

Yet despite all that preparation, foreign cash is still frequently overlooked. Many travelers wait until the last minute to exchange money or assume they'll figure it out once they arrive. In reality, especially when traveling with a large multi-generational family, this reactive approach can introduce unnecessary friction, including limited airport options, higher fees, and stressful delays the moment you arrive at your destination.

With travel plans reaching a fever pitch, understanding when and how to exchange currency can make the difference between a smooth arrival and a stressful start.

Navigating the Inter-Generational Payment Habits

Payment habits have evolved significantly in recent years. While digital

payments have become more common than ever, traveling with a large family introduces distinct financial dynamics.

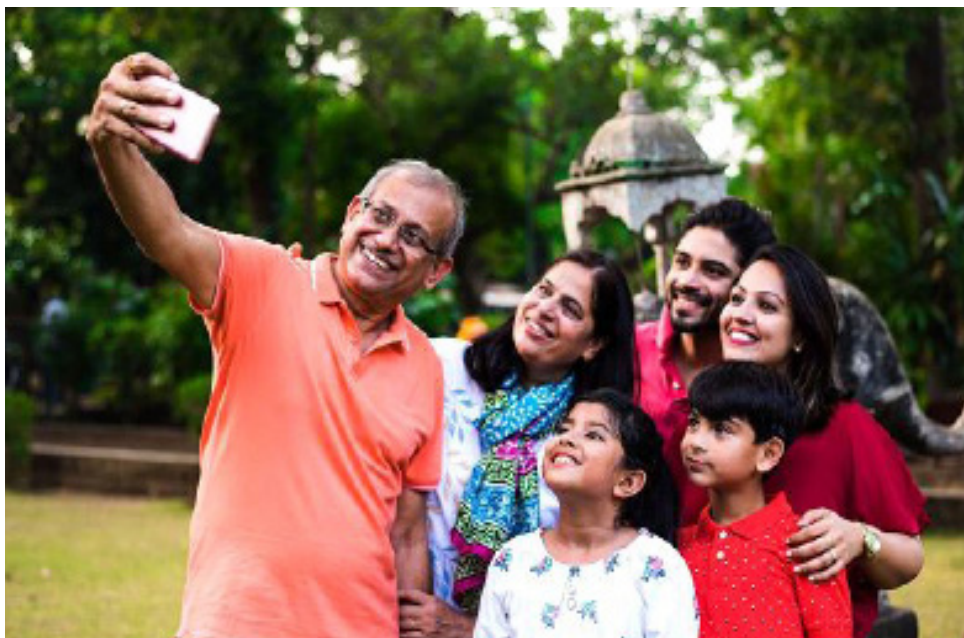
Across generations, many continue to keep local cash on hand to stay prepared for everyday purchases and unexpected expenses while abroad. To manage inter-generational payment habits and local, boots-on-the-ground realities, physical local cash is a must for three key reasons:

- **Comfort of the Elders:** Grandparents and older family members often feel more comfortable carrying and paying with physical cash. Relying solely on a Canadian credit card may limit their independence when they want to buy a souvenir, treat the grandchildren, or make small purchases on their own.

- **Smart Budgeting for Kids:** Children and young teens love the excitement of choosing their own snacks and trinkets. Instead of handing them an international payment card, giving them a set amount of local cash encourages independence while making it easier to keep vacation spending on budget.

- **A Smoother Arrival:** Picture landing after a long-haul flight with senior parents, young kids, and several pieces of luggage. Having local cash in your pocket can eliminate the stress of searching for a way to pay for immediate needs, allowing your family to effortlessly transition into vacation mode.

Being prepared with a variety of payment options, from cash to card to digital payment methods, can help ensure a frictionless experience for you and your loved ones.



Smooth Handling of Shared Group Expenses

Traveling as a large group means managing collective expenses on a much larger scale. To keep things seamless and stress-free, smart group travel requires proactive cash planning:

- **Collective "Cash Pool":** From splitting massive group dinners to pooling funds for day-trip van rentals, a shared physical cash pool makes tracking collective finances seamless. It eliminates the constant (and sometimes awkward) math of calculating who owes what after every activity.

- **Overseas ATM Pitfall:** Relying on foreign ATMs to fund your group pool can incur double transaction fees and unpredictable conversion rates. Also, for senior family members, it's about the principle of ensuring the best value for the family out of the hard-earned money.

- **Mix of Diverse Banknotes:** Always ensure your cash pool contains a mix of both large and small bills. This saves you from needing local vendors to scramble

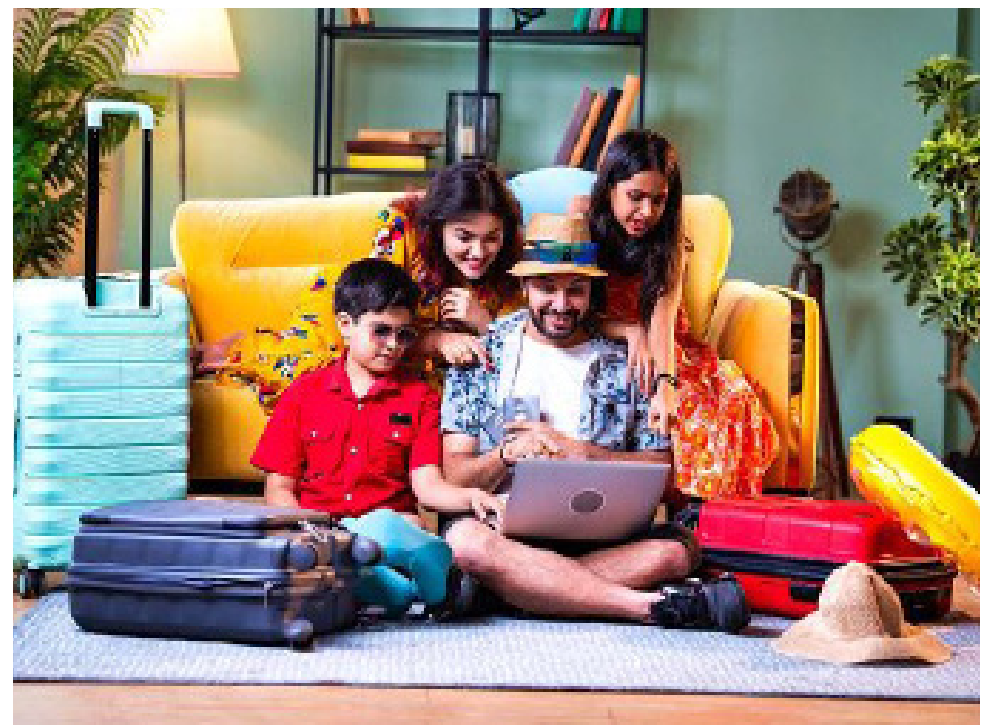
day expenses without interruption.

Getting it Right for Your Family Before Takeoff

Another important consideration is how much cash to bring.

A helpful way to think about it is to focus on immediate, day-to-day expenses. Transportation, meals, tips, and small purchases are often the first situations where cash comes into play. While the exact amount will vary based on the trip, having the equivalent of **\$70 to \$150 CAD per person, per day**, can provide a useful starting point.

Where travelers exchange currency can also shape the experience. Standard bank branches typically carry only the most commonly requested currencies, while dedicated foreign exchange centers often provide access to a wider range, particularly for travelers heading to less common destinations or exchanging larger amounts.



for change and provides a convenient "bank" where family members can easily swap notes for their individual wallets.

Taking care of these small financial details ahead of time ensures a harmonious trip for everyone. The next important step would be knowing exactly how and where to secure your family's currency before you head to the gate.

Planning Ahead Makes a Big Difference

According to Nadia Williams, Director, Canadian Retail FX & Precious Metals Products at TD, travelers should ideally **plan at least a week in advance** when exchanging currency. Planning ahead can make it easier to access foreign currencies that may not always be readily available at most branch locations.

For travelers preparing for international trips, Williams' philosophy is simple: **buy before you fly**.

For those bouncing around between cities—or even countries—over the course of a single trip, having local currency on hand from the start can make it easier to navigate transportation, settle into accommodations, and manage day-to-

For a truly seamless start to your summer journey, travelers looking to exchange currency before departure can explore **TD Foreign Exchange Centres**. With up to 50 foreign currencies available on-hand for immediate purchase at competitive rates for TD clients, you can spend less time worrying about where to find local currency—and more time enjoying the trip itself.

Family vacations are built on shared moments—cheering in the cricket stands, enjoying a delicious family feast, and creating memories across generations. Save yourself the hassle of payment logistics and prepare properly with **TD Foreign Exchange Services** before you head on your next international adventure.

Legal disclaimer:

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Delta celebrates 2026 Community Banner Contest winners

DELTA Council honoured the winners of the 2026 Community Banner Contest at its regular meeting on July 13.

This annual contest gives artists from across Delta an opportunity to submit their representation of Delta's heritage and beauty in a variety of different mediums. The winning designs will be seen beautifying City streets from the end of July 2026 through October 2026.

"Congratulations to all the winners of this year's Community Banner Program," said Mayor George V. Harvie. "Time and again, Delta has demonstrated that it is home to an incredible wealth of artistic talent. The creativity, vision, and skill of our residents continue to inspire and enrich our community."

From each of the five categories, a winning entry was selected by a panel of judges with representation by the Boundary Bay Quilters Guild and the Arts Council of Delta. The winners received



(L-R) Avery Benson, Randi Cunningham, Michelle Jordan, Claire Chang and Josie Chambers. Photo: City of Delta

two banners of their designs, a certificate acknowledging their accomplishments,

and an honorarium.

The winning designs from each category were (Title / Artist / Category):

* The Burns House – Reimagined / Avery Benson / Delta Culture and Heritage

* Delta from Farm to Ferry / Randi Cunningham / Discover Delta

* Duck and Heron Reflection / Michelle Jordan / Diversity in Delta

* The Essence of Delta / Claire Chang / Emerging Artist

* Owl in the Bog / Josie Chambers / Budding Artist

Since 2014, the City of Delta has run the Community Banner Design Program to promote the community's beauty, diversity, and culture, and to highlight the work of local artists. This year, the contest saw 63 submissions between February and May 2026.

You can learn about the contest details, rules and regulations, and previous winners at letstalk.delta.ca/bannercontest.

Surrey First Education team ready to seek re-election

SURREY First Education announced on Tuesday that all current members of its trustee team will be seeking re-election to the Surrey Board of Education in the upcoming civic election on October 17.

The Surrey First Education team includes Terry Allen, Bob Holmes, Laurie Larsen, Garry Thind, Gary Tymoschuk, and Shawn Wilson.

"Over the past four years, our team has worked collaboratively with a clear focus on students, staff, and families," said Tymoschuk, President of the Surrey First Education Society. "We are proud of what we have accomplished together

and remain committed to ensuring every student has access to a high-quality public education in safe, inclusive, and welcoming schools. As Surrey continues to grow rapidly, there is important work ahead to secure the schools, resources, and opportunities our students deserve." Surrey First Education says that throughout the current term, the Surrey Board of Education has focused on responsible stewardship of public resources while advocating for the facilities, programs, and supports needed to serve one of Canada's fastest-growing school districts.

The Board has delivered one of the most



(L-R) Garry Thind, Shawn Wilson, Gary Tymoschuk, Laurie Larsen, Terry Allen and Bob Holmes. Photo submitted

ambitious capital programs in district history. Since 2022, Surrey has opened two new schools, completed 10 school additions, and added more than 4,000 new student spaces to help address ongoing enrolment growth. Looking ahead, more than 5,000 additional student spaces are planned through major expansion projects across the district.

Surrey students continue to achieve strong outcomes. Eighty-seven percent of students graduate with a Dogwood Diploma, consistently exceeding the provincial average. Graduation rates for English Language Learners have surpassed provincial results every year since 2019/20. Indigenous student completion rates continue to improve, reflecting the Board's commitment to

ensuring success for all learners.

"Our trustees have demonstrated a collaborative, respectful, and student-centred approach to governance," Tymoschuk added. "By listening to our community, working together, and keeping students at the heart of every decision, we have helped strengthen public education in Surrey. We are excited about the opportunity to continue building on that progress."

Surrey First Education says it is a community-based team of trustees dedicated to student achievement, strong governance, and advocacy for public education. The team is committed to ensuring Surrey students have the opportunities, supports, and learning environments they need to succeed.

VPD Deputy Chief will never ask for your banking info

THE Vancouver Police Department is warning the public about a sophisticated fraud scheme in which scammers are impersonating both financial institution investigators and senior police officers to convince victims to transfer large sums of money.

In a recent incident, a victim was contacted by a fraudster posing as an investigator from one of the major banks. The call appeared legitimate because it originated from a "spoofed" phone number displaying that bank's contact information.

The fraudster informed the victim that their bank accounts had been

compromised and instructed them to sign in to their online banking account. At the same time, a second fraudster posing as Vancouver Police Deputy Chief Constable Alison Laurin contacted the victim from a spoofed Vancouver Police non-emergency phone number.

The fake Laurin managed to convince the victim to hand over access to their bank account where the fraudsters transferred \$10,000 from a line of credit to a chequing account. The victim was then instructed to withdraw the money and deposit into a Bitcoin ATM. It was only after the deposit happened that the victim realized it was all a scam.

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FIFA World Cup: More than one million people used transit each week

METRO Vancouver turned to transit during the FIFA World Cup, with preliminary numbers showing ridership increased by an average of 87,000 additional boardings on each of Vancouver's seven match days. Together, those match days generated an increase of more than 600,000 transit boardings across the region.

Around BC Place, the increase in ridership was even more significant on match days, with nearby SkyTrain stations seeing ridership rise by an average of 54 per cent, the highest ridership seen in the area since the 2010 Olympics.

The biggest day came on June 24, when Team Canada faced Switzerland at BC Place. That day saw nearly 1.4 million boardings across the system, making it TransLink's highest ridership day in more than six years.

During the first four weeks of FIFA World Cup activity, more than one million people used transit each week, including more than 100,000 additional people per week compared to normal levels. This shows the ridership increase was not only driven by locals who typically take transit, but also by those who don't usually use the system, and visitors to Metro Vancouver.

Ridership was also elevated on non-match days, with approximately 44,000 additional boardings per day — demonstrating the tournament's economic impact beyond matches and into the broader visitor experience.

"Transit was the backbone of Metro Vancouver's World Cup experience, and each day there were thousands of employees working around the clock to move extraordinary crowds while keeping the region running," says TransLink CEO Kevin Quinn. "They planned for nearly two years, adapted in real time, and delivered one of the strongest transit operations in our history. Their work connected people to matches, celebrations, restaurants, hotels, and destinations across the region, fueling the economy beyond the tournament."

Despite the significant increase in customers, calls to TransLink's Customer Information team were at their lowest level for the month of June since 2022 — and down 7.6 per cent compared with June



2025. The combination of higher ridership and fewer requests for assistance suggests customers were able to understand the travel changes, plan their trips, and navigate the system successfully during one of the largest events in the region's history.

FIFA World Cup by the numbers:

- * 600,000+ additional transit boardings during Vancouver's seven match days.

- * 87,000 more boardings on an average match day — an increase of 8.1% compared to typical days.

- * More than one million people used transit each week during the first four weeks of FIFA World Cup activity.

- * 100,000+ additional people used transit each week compared to what is typical.

- * Nearly 1.4 million boardings on June 24, TransLink's highest ridership day in more than six years.

- * 54% increase in ridership at SkyTrain stations around BC Place on match days.

- * 18% increase in SkyTrain ridership systemwide on match days.

- * 13% ridership increase on match days with good weather.

- * 4.2% increase in ridership on non-match days.

- * 7.6% decrease in Customer Information call volumes compared to last year.

- * 3,800+ items were turned into the Lost Property office in June, an increase of more than 500 compared to the same month last year.

SkyTrain data also shows customers travelled to BC Place from across the region in the four hours before each match. Excluding downtown, Vancouver and UBC accounted for 24 per cent of trips to the stadium district, followed by Burnaby at 18 per cent, Surrey and Richmond at 13 per cent each, the Tri-

Cities at six per cent, and the North Shore and New Westminster at five per cent each.

TransLink increased service across the network throughout the tournament to support match crowds and regular customers. This included 600 additional daily bus trips, two new bus routes, maximized SkyTrain service on match days, extra SeaBus sailings, special weekend West Coast Express trips, and frontline staff deployed throughout the system to



Switzerland fans fill the street before the Switzerland-Algeria match.

Photos: TransLink

support customers.

One lasting benefit from the tournament is TransLink's partnership with Transit app. Free premium access to Transit Royale will remain available for Metro Vancouver riders after the tournament, giving customers continued access to enhanced real-time information, trip planning, and unlimited departure schedules.

TransLink says these results show why transit investment matters, especially during major events. Extra service, planning, staffing, and customer information helped Metro Vancouver manage one of the largest travel demands in its history, while reducing pressure on roads, supporting local businesses, and helping residents and visitors take part in events across the region.



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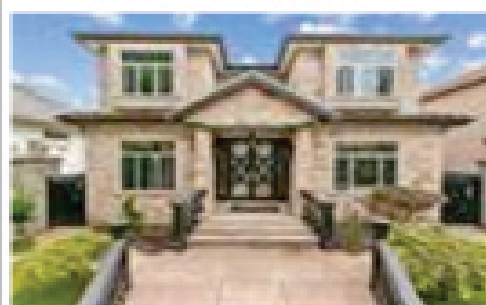
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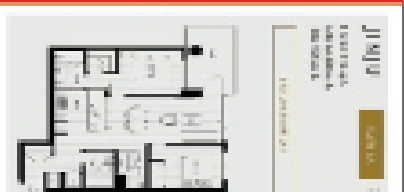
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Surrey businesses get over \$8M from federal government to boost productivity, reach new markets

RANDEEP Sarai, Secretary of State (International Development) and MP for Surrey Centre, on behalf of Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development Canada (PacifiCan) on Monday announced over \$8 million in Regional Tariff Response Initiative (RTRI) funding for four Surrey businesses to help them diversify exports, grow locally, and compete globally.

These investments support the Government of Canada's measures to strengthen domestic food production and help businesses in sectors affected by global trade disruptions – such as forestry, manufacturing, and steel and aluminum – boost productivity, reduce costs, build more resilient supply chains, and reach new markets.

The announcement was made at AI Industries, a company that produces steel components for construction projects across North America, including Surrey Civic Centre. PacifiCan's investment will help AI Industries increase production capacity and efficiency by installing advanced automated fabrication and



Gregor Robertson
Photo: X

welding equipment, enabling the company to expand into new markets, strengthen supply chains, and create good jobs.

Three additional businesses are also receiving funding, including Nanak Foods, a company that specializes in the manufacturing of paneer cheese, ghee (clarified butter), yogurt and various dairy-based appetizers and desserts.

PacifiCan's investment will help automate its production and warehouse operations to increase capacity, strengthen domestic food manufacturing, and expand into new international markets.

"The Government of Canada is committed to ensuring businesses in Surrey and across Canada have the support they need to thrive. The investments announced today will help businesses in key sectors strengthen their supply chains, adopt new technologies, and unlock new markets. By ensuring businesses have the tools they need to pivot and succeed, we are creating sustainable economic growth and building Canada strong for all," said Robertson.

"British Columbia has the talent, innovation, and entrepreneurial spirit to lead in an evolving global economy, and local businesses are ready to seize new opportunities. Today's investments will help ambitious businesses across Surrey grow and expand their markets, both here in Canada and internationally, while navigating trade challenges so they can compete and succeed. By investing in our local communities, we protect

jobs, drive economic growth, and help build a stronger Surrey and a stronger Canada," said Sarai.

"The RTRI funding will help AI Industries strengthen domestic manufacturing capacity at a time of growing trade uncertainty and tariff pressures. Through the deployment of advanced automation technology, we will enhance productivity, improve our global competitiveness, and generate economic benefits that extend throughout our network of Canadian suppliers, subcontractors, and construction partners," said Karim Walji, Co-Owner and General Manager, AI Industries.

"The RTRI funding is a significant investment in the future of Canadian food manufacturing. By supporting advanced automation and productivity improvements at Nanak Foods, this project will enhance our global competitiveness, create sustainable jobs, strengthen domestic dairy processing capacity, and help us grow exports while building a more resilient Canadian supply chain," said Gurpreet Arneja, President, Nanak Foods, Inc.

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CRIME STOPPERS "MUGSHOTS" HAVE YOU SEEN THESE PEOPLE?

Greater Vancouver CrimeStoppers would like your help in locating these persons with outstanding warrants. If you know the whereabouts or any information regarding any of the following persons, contact CrimeStoppers at 669-TIPS (669-8477)



Name: FALK, Quinn Alexander
Age: 58, Height: 5'10"
Weight: 200lbs
Hair: Grey, Eyes: Brown
Wanted: Unlawfully at Large
Warrant in effect: July 3, 2026
Parole Jurisdiction: Vancouver, BC with Canada Wide Warrant



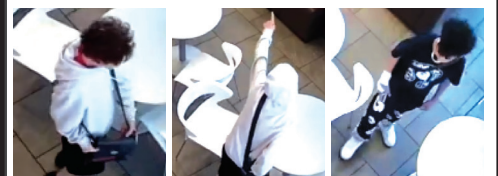
Name: WILSON, Kane
Age: 50, Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue
Wanted: Unlawfully at Large
Warrant in effect: July 8, 2026
Parole Jurisdiction: New Westminster, BC with Canada Wide Warrant



Name: QYEWEEZANCE, Adrienna Denise
Age: 28, Height: 5'1"
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Wanted: Unlawfully at Large
Warrant in effect: July 14, 2026
Parole Jurisdiction: Vancouver, BC with Canada Wide Warrant

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Appeal to Help ID Assault Suspects
Location: Surrey, BC



SURREY Police Service (SPS) is appealing to the public for assistance to help identify two suspects in an assault that occurred outside a South Surrey business on May 31, 2026. At approximately 4:00 pm on May 31, 2026, outside the Menchie's Frozen Yogurt store located at 15775 Croydon Dr, Surrey, a male youth was sitting on a bench when he was approached by an unknown male youth who sprayed him with bear spray while another male youth recorded the incident on a cell phone. The male youth suspect that deployed the bear mace is described as a White male in his teens, with shaggy brown hair, approximately 5'4" tall, and wearing a light hoodie, red shirt, black shorts, black shoes, and a cross-body bag, and may have been pushed around in a blue shopping cart (see photos 1 and 2). The male youth suspect that filmed the incident is described as a Middle Eastern male in his teens, with short black curly hair, approximately 5'6" tall, with his right hand wrapped in medical tape, and wearing a black t-shirt with white designs, black pants with large white designs, white shoes, and a cross-body bag (see photo 3).

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COMMON SENSE HEALTH – DIANA GIFFORD-JONES

There's Good Reason for an Afternoon Snooze



Diana MacKay is Special Advisor with The Aga Khan University. She worked for ten years in the Human Development sectors at the World Bank, including health policy and economics, nutrition, and population health.

Unimportant information is discarded. New learning is filed where it can be found later. Meanwhile, stress hormones decline, and the nervous system shifts into a more restorative gear. That's one reason people often wake feeling clearer, calmer, and more creative.

The sweet spot appears to be about 20 to 30 minutes in the early afternoon. That's long enough to recharge without descending into deep sleep, where waking can leave you feeling as though you've been hit by a truck instead of refreshed.

Of course, there is an important caveat. If you're routinely sleeping for hours every afternoon because you're exhausted, that's another matter. Long or frequent naps can sometimes signal poor nighttime sleep, sleep apnea, medication effects,



or underlying illness rather than helpful restoration. In health and sickness, context always matters.

I'll admit, a nap still feels like an indulgence. It even feels wrong to relax when many people around the world are lurching from one crisis to the next. It's hard to settle in for forty winks knowing so many people

are worrying about war, paying the rent, or simply getting through another day. I'd enjoy a midday snooze more if I knew everyone had the same carefree opportunity.

But guilt has never been a substitute for sleep. And the evidence is clear: a short afternoon nap is one of the healthiest habits many people forego. We all should do it more.

So if anyone accuses you of laziness, simply tell them you're following the latest international research. Then nod off in the recliner.

This column offers health and wellness, not medical advice. Visit www.docgiff.com to learn more. For comments, diana@docgiff.com. Follow on Instagram @diana_gifford_jones.

WINSTON Churchill once said, "Nature has not intended mankind to work from eight in the morning until midnight without that refreshment of blessed oblivion." He was justifying his habit of an afternoon nap, a practice he said that gave him "two days in one."

Many hot climates around the world have embedded some form of shuteye during the midday heat. Spain and Mexico's siesta. Italy's riposo. Greece has quiet hours. In China, the midday sleep is widely accepted. And the Japanese have the practice of inemuri, literally "being present while sleeping." Dozing off is seen as evidence of hard work, not laziness.

But in North America, napping has an image problem. The adulation we have for snoozing babies and toddlers turns to scorn when teenagers put their feet up. Office workers risk being fired if they put their heads down. Good luck finding a spot in school and college settings where students can have a safe snooze. There's a widespread conviction that we need to power through the day, and that doing so is the definition of industrious.

Churchill thought differently, and he wasn't alone. Leonardo da Vinci slept in short bursts throughout the day. John F. Kennedy was known to retreat for a brief afternoon sleep. Albert Einstein reportedly slept about ten hours at night and still enjoyed daytime naps. They were hardly lazy men.

Researchers in Japan showed that even a short daytime nap measurably improves alertness, mental performance, and fatigue. Waking at just the right point in the nap reduced the grogginess many people complain about after sleeping too long.

European researchers studying older adults in both China and Europe found napping wasn't good or bad. Like Goldilocks, it seemed to be "just right" when it was neither too short nor too long. Moderate naps were associated with better cognitive performance, while marathon afternoon snoozes offered no reward.

Neuroscience can explain it. The brain is like a busy office. All morning, papers pile up, phones ring, and sticky notes cover every surface. A short nap is the cleaning crew. Memories are sorted.

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Mayor slams Province for not providing new involuntary care beds for Vancouver

VANCOUVER Mayor Ken Sim on Monday, in response to Premier David Eby's announcement of new involuntary care beds across British Columbia, none of which are located in Vancouver, said in a statement: "Once again, the Province has chosen to ignore the city carrying the greatest burden of British Columbia's addiction, mental health, and public safety crises."

"For years, Vancouver has shouldered a disproportionate share of the province's most complex social challenges. Yet with the Province announcing new involuntary care capacity, Vancouver is again left with nothing, not a single new bed."

"Nearly two years have passed since Premier Eby first committed to expanding involuntary care following sustained calls from Vancouver and other mayors across British Columbia. Despite repeated commitments and countless announcements, Vancouver has not received a single new involuntary care bed to date."

"Not one."

"That is unacceptable."

"The Province cannot continue to



Ken Sim

Photo: abcvancouver.ca

acknowledge the need for involuntary care while refusing to build the very infrastructure required in the community where the need is greatest.

"What makes this even more frustrating is that Vancouver has repeatedly demonstrated that we can deliver results despite the Province failing to do its part."

"Vancouver hosting seven games of the FIFA World Cup 2026 was a tremendous success. Our city welcomed hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world and showcased Vancouver at its very best. City staff, Vancouver Police and Fire and Rescue Service, local businesses, volunteers, and countless community partners worked tirelessly to make that happen."

"But they did so despite significant provincial failures."

"The Province failed to relocate the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) population along the Granville Entertainment District that they had committed to in the lead-up to the games and as many residents and businesses had hoped."

"Instead of investing in treatment capacity, the Province tried to move forward without any community engagement on a drug consumption site at 900 Helmcken Street, less than 500 feet from the Granville Pedestrian Zone."

"The message could not be more clear."

"When it comes to locating drug

consumption services, Premier Eby and the Province push to place them in Vancouver."

"When it comes to providing treatment, recovery, and involuntary care for those suffering from the most severe mental illness and addiction in Vancouver, Premier Eby and the Province do nothing."

"That is the wrong priority."

"Vancouver residents deserve the same level of commitment to treatment that the Province has shown toward harm reduction. Families who are watching loved ones suffer deserve real options. Frontline workers deserve resources that match the scale of the crisis. And our city deserves a provincial government that recognizes where

the need is greatest."

"If the Province continues to exclude Vancouver from involuntary care, the City of Vancouver will be forced to act in unprecedented ways."

"If the Province continues to exclude Vancouver from involuntary care, the City will have to consider every available option to ensure the health and safety of all Vancouverites."

Sim added that he was calling on Eby to immediately commit to establishing involuntary care beds in Vancouver and to work with the City to ensure those suffering from severe mental illness and addiction have access to treatment where it is needed most. He said: "The status quo is failing vulnerable people, failing neighbourhoods, and failing Vancouver. Enough is enough."

Stage 2 water restrictions in effect from July 16

THE First Narrows Crossing, a critical piece of infrastructure that takes drinking water from the North Shore to Vancouver, is back in service and Metro Vancouver reverted to Stage 2 water restrictions on July 16.

"We sincerely thank the residents and businesses who reduced their water use while we completed work to upgrade our water supply system," said Mike Hurley, Chair of Metro Vancouver's Boards. "We are pleased to have this piece of work done on the Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel Project. However, with hot and dry weather in the forecast and no snowpack to help refill the reservoirs, conservation will still be key to helping the water supply last until the fall."

In Stage 2, lawn watering is still prohibited but sprinklers and soaker hoses are permitted for watering landscaping and trees. Pressure washing by a commercial company is allowed for aesthetic purposes, residents can top up pools and hot tubs, and washing vehicles and boats are allowed at home.

To support the project and maintain system pressure while construction

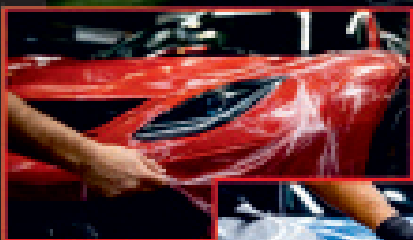
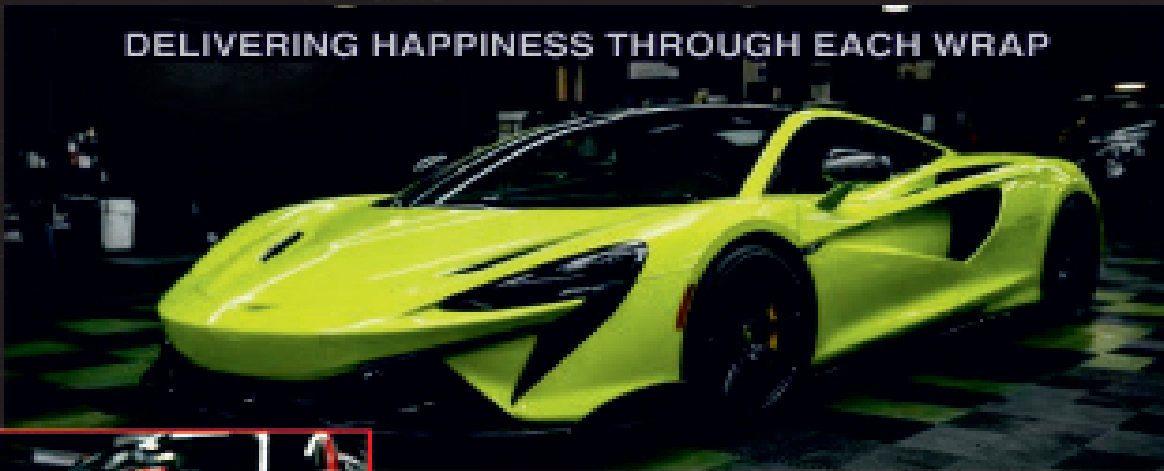
was underway for the Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel, Metro Vancouver implemented Stage 3 water restrictions and set a regional water use target of less than 1.4 billion litres per day. Although usage came close on hot days, spiking at 1.37 billion litres, the 1.4-billion-litre limit was not exceeded. Construction involved temporarily taking the First Narrows Crossing out of service last October to build a bypass. The First Narrows Crossing is one of the system's key supply pipes from the Capilano and Seymour reservoirs. Now that the bypass is complete, the crossing is back online and the Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel construction can continue for the next several years.

The Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel Project will replace an existing water main that was built in the 1930s and is at the end of its service life. Once complete, the new tunnel and water main will meet current seismic standards, strengthen the resilience of the regional water system, and add capacity to help meet future water demand as the region grows.

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Province, City of Delta announce dedicated ash-scattering site along Fraser River



Niki Sharma and others at the ash-scattering site Photo: BC Government

A first-of-its-kind ash-scattering site is coming to Delta, giving families and community members a dedicated place to honour their loved ones in accordance with their cultural, spiritual and funeral traditions. "For years, people south of

the Fraser, including many members of the South Asian community, have had to travel abroad or transport a loved one's ashes overseas

to carry out important funeral rites," said Niki Sharma, Attorney General, on Thursday. "This much-needed culturally respectful space will provide families with a meaningful place close to home where they can

gather, reflect and honour their loved ones according to their traditions."

The City of Delta is upgrading parts of the Fraser Viewpoint, located on Tilbury Island, enhancing a public park that will include gathering space for the respectful dispersal of cremated remains in the Fraser River.

The project responds to a longstanding community need for a dedicated location where families can carry out cultural and faith-based funeral practices in a respectful, accessible and publicly supported setting.

"This initiative responds to the needs of our community through the formal designation of a space for gathering and reflection along our waterfront, honouring the diverse cultural and faith traditions of our residents," said Delta Mayor George Harvie. "The city is proud to invest in enhancements and improved accessibility for this site, ensuring it becomes a welcoming and dignified place for families and community members for generations to come."

The City of Delta is contributing as much as \$225,000 for improvements to facilitate safe access to the foreshore at the park, which currently features a reflective garden and seating area. The Province worked with the city to identify Fraser Viewpoint as a suitable location and issued the tenure required for the creation of a park to Delta.

"This project is of major significance for all British Columbians, and especially the broader South Asian community," said Ranjit Hayer, President, Khalsa Diwan Society Vancouver. "People from all faiths will now have a dedicated gathering space to respectfully perform final rites for their loved one. I would like to thank Mayor Harvie and Attorney General Sharma on their commitment in bringing this project to life."

The Province has published guidelines for municipalities that wish to establish ash-dispersal sites on Crown land in their communities. The guidelines outline the key considerations and steps needed to create these sites in a respectful and sustainable manner.

"For years, families in our community have had to fly their loved ones' ashes overseas just to carry out proper last rites," said Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North. "The new dedicated ash-dispersal site in Delta means they can honour their traditions here, at home, without hiding it or working around the rules. This is an important example of how communities can create inclusive public spaces that respect cultural and faith traditions."

The Province is ready to work with interested municipalities to help facilitate permitting approvals and support the development of dedicated ash-dispersal sites in communities throughout B.C.



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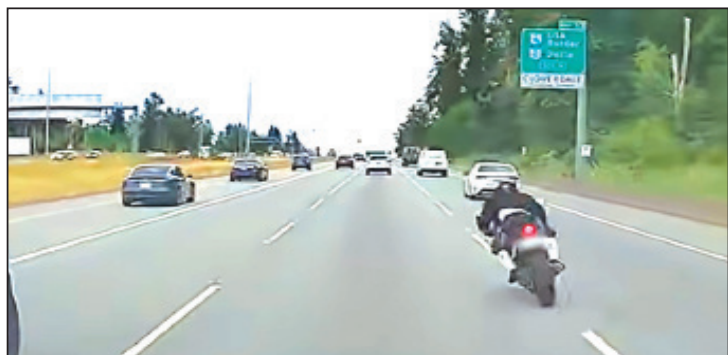
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Surrey motorcyclist caught on video on Highway 1 gets over \$1,700 in tickets



screenshot / BHP video

HIGH-DEFINITION video is everywhere, and BC Highway Patrol warns it is following up with enforcement against dangerous drivers.

A Surrey man has learned an expensive lesson after a motorcycle was captured on video by a witness driving on Highway 1 near 176 Street in Surrey on July 3. The witness was passed by a motorcycle that was weaving in traffic and travelling at excessive speed. The motorcycle, the motorcycle rider, and the licence plate were clearly visible on the witnesses' high-definition dash camera. Four days after the incident, BC Highway Patrol tracked down the motorcycle's owner.

"When the video quality is high-quality, and we have a witness ready to testify in court, we can and do follow up with over-the-top driving violations," says Cpl. Michael McLaughlin with BC Highway Patrol. "It's not hard to imagine how the speed and unsafe driving behaviour

in this video could have easily led to the motorcyclist's death."

The 23-year-old Surrey man who was the owner of the motorcycle was issued \$1,769 in tickets:

- * Drive without consideration, for a fine of \$196

- * Excessive speed (more than 60 km/h over the limit), (\$483)

- * Unsafe lane change, (\$109 x 5)

- * Lane change without signal, (\$109 x 4)

- * Fail in duty to supply information, (\$109)

"We understand how much bad driving not only makes our highways unacceptably unsafe, it also annoys safe drivers," says McLaughlin. "We're enforcing these laws to improve people's behaviour by delivering real consequences."

Distraction theft of 88-year-old East Vancouver senior

VANCOUVER Police on Thursday released video footage of a distraction theft that left an 88-year-old woman without two valuable family heirlooms in East Vancouver on Tuesday afternoon.

The incident occurred near Kaslo Avenue and East Hastings Street shortly after noon.

The senior was outside her residence selling PNE parking on her private property when a vehicle pulled up beside her. A woman in the back seat of the vehicle appeared to be seeking assistance. After the senior approached the vehicle, the suspect grabbed her wrist from inside the vehicle, and distracted her by talking before swapping the victim's two gold necklaces (one with

jade) with fake jewelry. The vehicle then fled the area.

Of note, the female suspect wearing a white t-shirt was seated in the back seat with two children. The driver was a man.

The suspect vehicle is described as a dark-coloured, four-door Kia Soul.

"Police believe this incident is related to another distraction theft reported in Vancouver on Tuesday, as the suspect and vehicle descriptions are similar," said Constable Megan Lui. "We believe there were witnesses in the area who may have seen the theft or the suspects before or after it occurred, and we are asking them to come forward."

Surrey Police investigate damage to nine vehicles in Newton

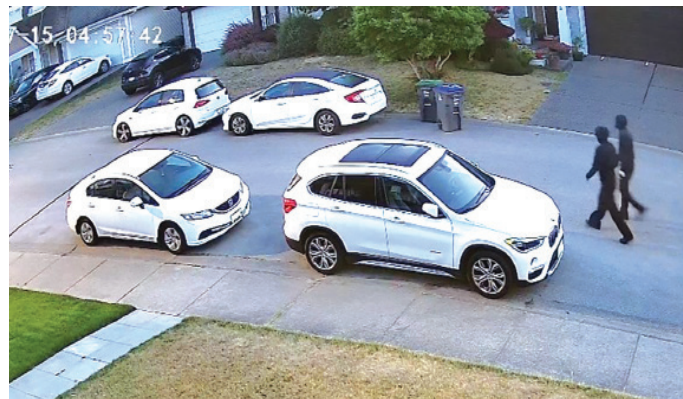
SURREY Police Service (SPS) is investigating an early morning incident on Wednesday that resulted in damage to nine vehicles in a Newton neighbourhood. On July 15 at approximately 5 a.m., police were called to the area of 75 Avenue and 147A Street regarding an in-progress mischief, where two suspects were observed breaking windows of vehicles that were parked near the roadway.

Several SPS units responded to the area, but the suspects fled prior to police arrival. In total, nine vehicles sustained glass damage to front, rear and side windows.

SPS investigators have obtained CCTV footage and are hoping that the release of still images will assist in the identification of the suspects.

The suspects appear to be males with slim builds, wearing dark clothing, and using clubs or bats to damage the vehicles.

Anyone who recognizes these suspects or has information concerning this incident, including dashcam footage, is requested to call Surrey Police Service at 604-599-0502 and quote file 26-73430 (SP).



The suspects. Photos: SPS

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MLA Amna Shah takes action to tackle unfair grocery pricing

MLA Amna Shah is seeking input from British Columbians and stakeholders on her legislative motion that aims to tackle prices found online and in grocery stores that are potentially unfair.

"Whether it's reports of online companies using personal data to increase prices for an individual, or large grocery stores with a local monopoly hiking up costs, people are feeling pinched unfairly," said Shah. "My motion aims to tackle this issue and protect British Columbians from unfair practices that drive costs up for British Columbians."

Following the tabling of her motion in May, Shah met



Amna Shah

with Attorney General Niki Sharma who was supportive of the action the motion aims to take in protecting British Columbians.

Shah has also begun reaching out to stakeholders, experts, and community members to ensure British Columbians'

concerns are front and centre as work continues with government on this issue.

"I want to hear from people who can show they have been a victim of surveillance pricing, or from advocate organizations who are also working to stop the practice," said Shah. "I also want to hear from neighbourhoods where one large grocery store has a land agreement in place that restricts any other grocery store from being nearby, eliminating any competition."

"This allows a large store to set higher prices, knowing they have captive customers with no alternative."

The consumer protection

motion will be debated in the upcoming fall session and reads:

"Be it resolved that this House urge the BC Government to protect British Columbians from higher prices by strengthening consumer protection measures against algorithmic personalized pricing on online and retail goods, enhancing price transparency requirements, and reviewing restrictive grocery store property covenants that may limit competition."

Shah encourages anyone with experiences, concerns, or ideas related to grocery pricing to reach out to her at amna.shah.mla@leg.bc.ca.

BCREA: Market activity shows encouraging signs of improvement

THE British Columbia Real Estate Association (BCREA) reports that 7,225 residential unit sales were recorded in Multiple Listing Service (MLS) Systems in June 2026, up 0.9 per cent from June 2025. The average MLS residential price in BC in June 2026 was down 0.8 per cent at \$946,878 compared to \$954,712 in June 2025.

Total MLS residential sales dollar volume was \$6.84 billion, up 0.1 per cent from the same time the previous year. BC MLS unit sales were 18.4 per cent lower than the 10-year average for the month of June.

"Sales rose year-over-year in June for the first time since September 2025, driven by stronger activity in the Greater Vancouver area," said BCREA Chief Economist Brendon Ogmundson on Monday. "We hope this marks the beginning of a stronger second half of the year across BC housing markets as sales converge to more normal levels following several years of unexpected global shocks."

Year-to-date, BC residential sales dollar volume is down 6.4 per cent to \$31.96 billion, compared with the same period in 2025. Residential unit sales are down 5.4 per cent year-over-year at 33,886 units, while the average MLS residential price is also down 1.1 per cent to \$943,249.

CSU conducts enforcement action at warehouses in Richmond, Vancouver, Vernon

THE Province's Community Safety Unit (CSU) conducted enforcement action at four warehouses throughout B.C., estimated to be worth nearly \$8 million.

The CSU investigators carry out compliance and enforcement activities against unlicensed cannabis retailers and producers in the province, under the authority of the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act (CCLA).

At the four warehouses in Richmond, Vancouver and Vernon, the CSU investigators seized a significant amount of cannabis, including cannabis plants, dried cannabis and cannabis edibles. The initial estimate of the seized cannabis is nearly \$8 million. That amount could change after further processing of the items seized.

The CSU was supported in the enforcement actions since May 2026 by the Richmond and Vernon RCMP detachments and the Vancouver Police Department.

Operators who are found to be selling or producing unregulated cannabis may be subject to administrative monetary penalties. If an administrative monetary penalty is imposed, details of the decision will be posted on the CSU website.

As these matters are subject to further investigation, no more information can be provided at this time, the government said.



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