



STEVESTON REMAINS LINKED TO ITS PAST

Neighbourhood
has never lost its
small-town charm

03

Photo by Don Fennell

In both prosperous and challenging times, Steveston residents never forget to pay homage to the community's deep fishing roots that continue to link the past with the present.

RAPS
ANIMAL 
HOSPITAL

Community-Owned, Not-For-Profit

**BOOK ONLINE
TODAY!**

rapsanimalhospital.com



**ALL REVENUES
REINVESTED TO HELP
ANIMALS & THEIR PEOPLE!**

604-242-1666

Now Leasing!

Billiards Therapy
SALON P o o l

Barber Shop 

Fitness Centre

  **Creative**
A r t s

Recreation Programs

Laundry Rooms **PIANO**
with a twist **B A R**



Swimming Pool

LIBRARY 

Movie Theatre **H o t**
T u b

My Time Dining

  **P E T**
FRIENDLY

Fire-Side Lounge



Hamilton

HIGH STREET RESIDENCE

Resort-Style Retirement Living
in the ♥ of the Lower Mainland!

Live the lifestyle you have dreamed of in a brand new building with hand-picked amenities and all the comforts of home. You can forget about pesky chores and let us take care of the cooking and housekeeping so you can live life on your own terms.

This is retirement living as it's meant to be.

CONTACT US TODAY!



info@ncl.ca



hamiltonhighstreet.ca



604-528-9981



23100 Westminster Hwy.
Richmond B.C.

An Atrium Living property, professionally managed by NCL New Coast Lifestyles



Steveston retains the charm of its early days

By DON FENNELL
@rmdsentinel

Once Upon a Time, Steveston provided the backdrop to the fictional town of Storybrooke, Maine in ABC's hit television show of the same name that ran from 2011 to 2017.

The show's popularity only served to heighten the image of the real-life historic fishing village. Steveston owes its start to salmon canning which began on the Fraser River in 1871. Established by Marshall English and Samuel Martin in 1882, the Phoenix was the area's first major cannery but by 1890 that number had swelled to 45—half of those in Steveston which soon earned the nickname Salmonopolis.

Named for Manoah Steves, who arrived with his family in the late 1980s from Moncton, New Brunswick, the village began to take shape in 1880 via a crown grant to Steves' son William. It was officially named Steveston in 1889.

This summer Steveston again found itself in the spotlight, defeating Vancouver's Mount Pleasant to win CBC's neighbourhood challenge. The proud residents aren't surprised because of the community's well-established reputation.

"Steveston has done a great job of retaining the fishing village character as it has gone through redevelopment, and has also really invested in its recreation areas," says Chris Kennedy, a 25-year resident. "With the boardwalk, Garry Point and the village shops, Steveston is built for walking which really helps to built the small-town community feel. It seems silly, but we love to see Steveston in TV shows and movies; it brings a real sense of pride that our neighbourhood is on display."

Steveston residents for 58 years, Glenn and Dawna Kishi briefly moved away when they first got married but it wasn't long before they returned home.

"Growing up here when we did, it was a smaller community where we all knew each other," says Glenn. "We all went to school together and there was always a great sense of community. We never locked doors, and went to play anywhere with no worries. We looked after each other."

Some of that has changed, of course, but there's still nowhere the couple would rather be.

"We like Steveston because of its proximity to the water. It always keeps it cooler in the summer, and going for walks along the dike is priceless."

Glenn believes Steveston has retained its small-town charm because it was able to keep Main Street much as it used to be. The small town shops also help to keep that vibe alive.

"And there are not many places where you can walk to town to get your fresh fish off the boat, get your other dinner items, walk through town and see many friends doing the same thing" he says. "We don't go for many walks without stopping and



Photo by Don Fennell

Steveston's association with the fishing industry dates back to its earliest days, when canning of Fraser River salmon began in 1871.

talking to many of those friends."

Although the fishing industry has changed through the years, Glenn credits the city for helping to preserve its importance. Maintaining historic sites and supporting many events that still celebrate fishing—which kept the community together when the industry was flourishing—has ensured all generations understand and appreciate its importance.

"You knew everyone who worked in the industry, and in times of need, and in other times too, we have always come together. When you mention the word community (Steveston) ticks all

the boxes."

Cody Kusch is also a proud Stevestonite. Residing in the community for the last 16 years, he says though the people may have changed over the years the culture has remained the same.

"It doesn't matter one's race, religious beliefs, income level or family status, all residents have accepted the diversity and respect for each other," he says.

Kusch says that sense of community that separates Steveston from the pack continues to grow. New visitors to the neighbourhood appreciate the organic integrity and respect for all. And many of the businesses today are still in the hands of the same families that started them decades ago.

Having resided in Steveston for 44 of his 68 years, Doug Paterson says Steveston stands out because of its character and the heritage it has retained.

"I think it's retained that kind of special small-town charm because of the right mix of venues, restaurants and shops," he offers. "And then there's being able to buy seafood from the boats."

Ultimately, where Steveston is concerned, everything goes back to the fishing industry and the important place it will always hold in the hearts of residents. In the famous words of Judy Garland in the classic 1930s film *The Wizard of Oz*, "There's no place like home."

Steveston has done a great job of retaining the fishing village character as it has gone through redevelopment, and has also really invested in its recreation areas.

— Chris Kennedy

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Maritime Festival goes online

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

For many Richmondites, it wouldn't be summer without a trip to the Richmond Maritime Festival.

The 17-year tradition will take place entirely online this year, for the first time, amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The festival started Aug. 28 and will run until Sept. 7.

"As with every year, we look forward to celebrating Richmond's strong maritime heritage," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "And though normally we would gather at Bri-

tannia Shipyards National Historic Site, we look forward to gathering in a different way and enjoying incredible performances and the spirit of the Richmond Maritime Festival from our own homes."

Performers include local artist Marina Szijarto, local singing quartet Serenata, and dynamic duo The Moccasin Dancers.

Tune in daily to the @FunRichmond Facebook page or visit RichmondMaritimeFestival.ca for a compilation of music, hands-on activities, story-telling and history from great artists and performers.

•hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

This year's Richmond Maritime Festival is taking place online until Sept. 7.



Photos by Chung Chow



RICHMOND
SENTINEL
OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Published by
RICHMOND SENTINEL NEWS INC.
200-3071 No. 5 Road,
Richmond, B.C., V6X 2T4

Advertising & Sponsorship
marketing@richmondsentinel.ca
778-325-1297

Newsroom
newsroom@richmondsentinel.ca
778-297-5005

Editor - Don Fennell
dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca



Download our app
from the
App Store or
Google Play Store.

Funded in part by the
Government of Canada

Canada



Photo by Don Fennell

A city fleet replacement plan helps to ensure that Richmond Fire-Rescue has the essential life-saving support it needs.

Being proactive helps to keep Richmond safe

By DON FENNELL
@rmdsentinel

When it comes to public safety, Richmond leaves nothing to chance. To ensure the all-important services provided by Richmond Fire-Rescue are kept up to date, city council has adopted a fleet replacement plan that is based on a presumed life cycle of 20 years for each emergency vehicle. Currently, Richmond Fire-Rescue has a response fleet of 17 emergency response vehicles, the majority in service for less than 12 years.

"The plan is carefully mapped out to ensure that important emergency response vehicles do not all age out at the same time, and can be replaced in a timely fashion of one or two per year," explains city communications manager Clay Adams.

All the vehicles are equipped with the most up-to-date equipment to ensure the city's "front-line personnel are able to provide essential life-saving support for the entire community."

Earlier this year, council approved purchasing two new engines. But in some years there are no vehicles that require replacing.

Adams says that Richmond has several high-density areas. But working closely with the city, Richmond Fire-Rescue is able to ensure all structures of seven storeys or higher are constructed in a way that allows fighting fires to be carried out effectively. Buildings under seven storeys can be accessed by crews via the department's 105-foot ladder truck that is housed at the Crestwood No. 7 hall located on No. 6 Road.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Richmond Fire-Rescue launches new website

The site offers accessible content for viewers of all ages. Year-to-date stats, awareness campaigns, fire prevention tips and career information are just a few things viewers will find at firerescue.richmond.ca.

Feedback on the website can be provided through the website's contact page or by emailing fire@richmond.ca.



City Appointments 2021

Richmond City Council wishes to fill vacancies on the following Advisory Committees/Boards/Commissions:

Persons interested in serving the community, in a volunteer capacity, on any of the below Advisory Bodies are invited to submit an application, along with a resume, to the attention of the City Clerk's Office, no later than **Monday, September 21, 2020.**

- Advisory Committee on the Environment
- Aquatic Services Board
- Board of Variance
- Child Care Development Advisory Committee
- Economic Advisory Committee
- Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Gateway Theatre Society
- Heritage Commission
- Intercultural Advisory Committee
- Minoru Centre for Active Living Program Committee
- Public Art Advisory Committee
- Public Library Board
- Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee
- Seniors Advisory Committee
- Sister City Advisory Committee
- YVR Aeronautical Noise Management Committee
- YVR Environmental Advisory Committee

Please refer to our website at www.richmond.ca/cityhall/council/boards/advisory to view the respective committees/boards/commissions:

1. Information on the purpose or mandate
2. Terms of Reference (if applicable)
3. Staff contact information
4. To download an Advisory Body Application form.

Application forms can be obtained on the City website at www.richmond.ca/cityhall/council/boards/advisory or by phone **604-276-4007**.



A guide to what's happening, and where to find resources

Kwantlen offers more international studies

Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) is expanding international study opportunities for students by joining the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific consortium.

The consortium builds connections between 600 universities and colleges from 36 countries and territories across Asia and the Pacific Rim to support student exchanges, online joint classrooms and faculty connections.

"This will enhance our learning communities' access to quality international experiences, while advancing KPU towards its mission of thinking and acting together to transform lives and empower positive change," said Carole St. Laurent, KPU's associate vice-president, international.

By joining the consortium, KPU has substantially expanded the number of exchange destinations in Asia and the Pacific Rim. This year, there will be opportunities for two KPU students to visit any connected institution and for KPU to receive two students from institutions in Asia and the Pacific Rim. These opportunities may expand in future years. The consortium also supports virtual exchanges, faculty research experiences, and scholarships in Japan and Taiwan for students.

KPU's membership was sponsored by the BC Council for International Education, a Crown corporation that supports international education strategy in the province in collaboration with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

Richmond details plan for return to classes

By HANNAH SCOTT
Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The Richmond School District released its detailed back-to-school plan last week. Staff will return to school on Sept. 8, followed by students on Sept. 10.

The district requested all parents fill in a mandatory online survey for their child(ren), indicating which learning option they will be participating in this September. The options include returning to school for in-person instruction (full-time for Kindergarten to Grade 9 students, half-time for Grade 10 to 12 students) and home schooling, which necessitates withdrawing from the Richmond School District.

Distributed learning is another option, but this is offered by the Richmond School District for secondary students only. Secondary students who choose this option can enrol in full-time studies with Richmond Virtual School, but must withdraw from their neighbourhood school. Space in virtual courses may be limited.

Elementary students will also have access to a temporary "transition learning" option. This is described as a short-term possibility for students whose families are not yet ready for them to return to in-person instruction, but who do not want to lose their child's space in their school or program of choice. At-home

learning will be supported by Richmond teachers, but will not necessarily align with classroom studies, specific schools or grade levels. The district will designate several points during the year for children who choose this option to return to in-class instruction.

Elementary students will be in learning groups of 60 people maximum, with two classes forming each group. People in a learning group do not need to physically distance from each other, but must limit physical contact. All recess and lunch breaks will be outdoors, with adult supervision and staggering of breaks to allow for distancing.

Secondary students will take classes in a quarter system, with Grade 8 and 9 students attending full-time and Grade 10 to 12 students attending for half days. In the quarter system, the year will be divided into four 10-week terms and students will take two courses every 10 weeks.

Students of all ages who are immunocompromised or have complex medical needs will have the option of full at-home support. Students with disabilities or who require additional support can receive full-time in-person instruction.

Staff and secondary students will be required to wear masks while in high-traffic areas, or when outside their learning group. Any student or staff member may choose to wear a mask at other times.

• hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca



The Maple Residences, an Independent Living Residence in Steveston has a beautiful 4th floor 2 bdrm, 1 bath + den suite. Available immediately.

974 s.f., North facing, 9' ceilings, large windows and your own walk out deck. Walk in shower, emergency call button in suite.

A robust recreation program. Included: enjoy a continental breakfast every morning, lunch and dinner served in our large dining room. Afternoon and evening tea daily. The Maple Residences is a secure Residence with 24 hour staff.

Call for more information **604-277-4519** — or email eileen@themapleresidences.com

4071 Chatham Street • themapleresidences.com • Non-Profit Society

Library rich in resources for learners of all ages

By DON FENNELL

[@rmdsentinel](https://twitter.com/rmdsentinel)

A treasure trove for learning, Richmond Public Library is an indispensable community asset. And with classes set to resume, library staff are eager to share its many resources.

"We want to encourage families to read and share stories together," says library spokesperson Stephanie Vokey. "Any time spent enjoying books, whether they be in traditional form or an ebook, is an opportunity to learn and develop love of reading."

Vokey says staff is focusing on slowly and safely restoring library services, and are looking forward to expanding our services further in September. But they will not be providing any in-house programming for the near future, including classroom visits or in-branch tours. Instead, virtual visits will be explored.

Meantime, staff is also in the process of setting our fall online programming schedule.

"There will be fun and engaging programs such as our Virtual Family Storytimes and Babytimes, as well as some exciting new programs aimed at encouraging literacy, sharing stories and laughing together," says Vokey. "In addition, the library's Children and Family Services staff will be connecting with teachers and local community organizations as part of their role to support Richmond children and family's

literacy needs."

The library also offers online study guide resources for school-aged children, with Solaro the primary resource. It offers tutorials, flash cards, sample tests for math, science and English and workbook exercises that are all accessible online. Parents can even receive progress reporting.

"Everything offered within Solaro is focused on the BC schools curriculum, and there are resources available for children in Grades 3 to 12," explains Vokey. "All you need to access this powerful resource is a Richmond Public Library card."

Access is also available to an extensive range of free digital collections, including ebooks, audiobooks, movies, magazines, and more. Collections which will support and promote good study habits include:

- RPL's online education powered by Lynda.com
- This resource offers thousands of video courses on a wide variety of topics, such as animation, 3D software, business and technology. This resource is only available to Richmond residents (due to licensing restrictions) with a Richmond Public Library card.
- RPL's online journal articles (EBSCO)
- With this resource, you can explore hundreds of academic and popular magazines as well as reference books, maps and photos. This resource is only available to Richmond residents (due to licensing

restrictions) with a Richmond Public Library card.

- RPL's online language learning (Pronunciator)
- Pronunciator will support you in learning a new language with self-directed lessons, movies and music! Over 80 languages are available with instruction available in over 50 different languages. This resource is available to everyone with a Richmond Public Library card.

All of these resources are accessible from RPL's Digital Collections web page. There are simple and quick online tutorials available for most of these resources. Apps are also available for Solaro and Pronunciator so that you can use these resources on your digital device, wherever you are.

For customers using drop-in service at the Brighthouse branch, staff will be putting a variety of workbooks in print format out for browsing in the coming days. Customers can also put these items on hold to pickup curbside at the branches. These resources can be found in the library's online catalogue:

- Math resources (<https://tinyurl.com/RmdLibraryMath>)
- English and language arts resources (<https://tinyurl.com/RmdLibraryEnglish>)

If you have questions about these digital resources, call the library at 778-837-6896. Staff are available to respond Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

• dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

STAPLES

Business Advantage™

We're Hiring Delivery Drivers

You must have a positive attitude and have a passion for delivering excellent customer service. You will be available **Monday to Friday** to work from our **Richmond and Port Coquitlam** locations. This is a **full time position** and you will be eligible for a **\$1000 Sign-on Bonus**.



REQUIREMENTS:

- Full class 5 driving license
- **Clean** driver abstract
- Able to lift up to **70lbs** on a daily basis
- Able to work **long hours** if needed.

WE OFFER:

- Medical and Dental Benefit Package
- Paid Vacation
- Generous RRSP match
- In-house Training & Development
- Online & Retail Employee Discounts
- And even more perks!

To join our team, apply on our website: careers.staples.com | Job number (Keyword): 1124725

Post-secondary institutions preparing for u

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Post-secondary students are also gearing up for their own back-to-school season, but the norm of waiting in line at the bookstore and sitting in large lecture halls will have to wait. While the majority of instruction will take place online, schools have also released individual guidelines for limited in-person classes that follow provincial health regulations.

University of Victoria

The University of Victoria hosts around 22,000 students annually and will offer courses predominantly online this fall. However, some "experiential learning programs" will be offered on-campus, as well as some graduate programs.

"This translates to an estimated 1,700 undergraduate and 1,800 graduate students taking courses in person and on campus this fall," says president Jamie Cassels.

Orientation programs for new students will be offered online as well, and on-campus research is slowly restarting—although those who can work from home are encouraged to continue to do so. For the spring semester, UVic says it is hoping more people can return to campus but has not yet made a decision.

In addition to general cleaning and disinfection, high-touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected at least twice a day. Residences will be open this fall, but likely with fewer first-years living in residence because most first- and second-year classes are running online. There is a priority lottery system available for first-year students, but international students who wish to live in housing must self-isolate for 14 days off-campus.



Photo courtesy University of Victoria

University of British Columbia

More than 60,000 students learn at UBC across two campuses. More than 3,000 courses will be offered online this fall, but some courses like labs will be held in-person with physical distancing and other health guidelines followed.

"We have a number of platforms that will allow students in larger classes to break out with teaching assistants and also break out with one another to get information from their peers and also have discussions about course material," says Matthew Ramsey, director of university affairs with UBC media relations.

Some online courses will be offered live and others will be pre-recorded to accommodate students in different time zones. Alternative forms of assessment like projects will be used to eliminate the need



for in-p
"Self-
who mi
sey of U

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

With five Lower Mainland campuses, including one in Richmond, Kwantlen Polytechnic University hosts 20,000 students each year. This year they anticipate around 95 per cent of their classes will happen online.

Online classes will range in delivery formats from fully live (synchronous) to fully pre-recorded (asynchronous) as well as some that will use a combination of both formats. Classes that require hands-on "experiential components" will take place in-person with physical distancing guidelines in place. These include trades, nursing, horticulture, design, and some science labs.

As part of the transition to online delivery, faculty have been introduced to different kinds of assessment rather than the traditional invigilated exam. Alternative assessment techniques that cover a



Photo

variety
In ac
eas an
also su
sure ad

Douglas College

Douglas College enrolls around 25,000 students per year across two campuses. While campuses are open, many courses will take place online or in a hybrid format.

Public touch points and facilities are cleaned several times each day in on-campus spaces. Physical barriers will be installed where physical distancing is not possible, and anyone on campus must self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms daily. Anyone entering campus buildings is recommended to wear a non-medical face covering.



Photo via Flickr.com

Simon Fraser University

Simon Fraser University has three campuses and hosts about 35,000 students. Most fall classes will be delivered remotely, but in-person activities will be allowed where necessary including lab-based courses, studio or theatre access, field trips and some graduate student classes.

Most online courses will not take place live in order to be inclusive of students in different time zones. People who must return to campus for learning will follow a safety plan specific to their area, which will include physical distancing, enhanced cleaning and other factors.

Residences will still be open, but with increased cleaning and other protocols. Self-isolation for students arriving from outside Canada



must t
positiv
self-iso

unusual fall semester with new guidelines



Photo by Hannah Scott

erson examinations.
isolation spots are available to students
ght be coming to live in the fall," says Ram-
BC's residence offerings.



courtesy Kwantlen Polytechnic University

of assessment types are being encouraged.
ddition to regular cleaning of high-touch ar-
d shared equipment, each department must
bmit a health plan so cleaning staff can en-
equate cleaning is taking place.



Photo courtesy Simon Fraser University

ake place off-campus. Residents who test
e for COVID-19 will be moved to a separate
olation area.

Langara College

Langara serves around 22,000 students at its Vancouver campus. Most courses will be delivered online, except for those that must be delivered in-person to meet learning outcomes. The spring semester, which begins in January, will continue in the same way as the fall semester.

Some online classes will have scheduled virtual meetings, and others will be structured so that coursework can be done at any time. Others will have a mixture of the two. On-campus courses will be delivered fully on-campus, hybrid with online learning, or fully offsite such as practicums or other work experience.

Increased cleaning will be implemented on cam-



Photo courtesy Langara College

pus for high-touch surfaces. No-touch handles and sneeze guards will be installed where necessary.

Trinity Western University

Trinity Western University has four campuses, including one in Richmond, and about 4,000 students. They are offering fall courses primarily online as well as a number of new virtual programs to bring students together.

First-year cohorts of 15 students will take their core courses together and receive mentoring and support from faculty and staff. "TWU Access Chapters" are communities of 10 to 25 students who share the same time zone, who can join together for support and connection.

Some "experiential" courses will be taught face-to-face if health and safety protocols allow. The university is also offering virtual chapel events three times a week, plus an ongoing podcast series.

Trinity Western's Langley campus has student residence that will be available via prioritized



Photo courtesy Trinity Western University

placement. International students arriving can do their mandatory 14-day quarantine on campus if necessary. Students who are unable to find on-campus housing can seek help from a centralized Facebook group that connects them with families or alumni with space in their homes, or through a homestay process.

British Columbia Institute of Technology

The British Columbia Institute of Technology has five campuses including one in Richmond, and enrolls nearly 50,000 students each year. Fall courses will be delivered either online or in a blended format, and on-campus learners must follow protocols.

BCIT has also introduced a mandatory 30-minute online course for students, and a separate course for faculty and staff. The courses provide information on how to protect your health and reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 while on campus.

As of late August, everyone visiting indoor common areas on-campus is strongly recommended to wear a non-medical mask. Students living in



Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons

housing must abide by new guidelines, and occupancy level has decreased to allow for physical distancing. Students arriving from outside Canada must self-isolate off-campus.

Richmond mom of student with autism faces back-to-school dilemma

By **DON FENNELL**
@rmdsentinel

A Richmond parent is agonizing over the Education Ministry's back to school plan.

Kaye Banez, whose son Lazarus is on the autism spectrum, says students with special needs are at risk if they are forced to return to classes. She is instead requesting they have access to remote learning through their current schools.

"In our case, in Lazarus' case, (going back to school) is not safe," she says.

In a letter written to Education Minister Rob Fleming on behalf of Autism BC, with whom she serves as vice-president on its board of directors, Banez explains that Lazarus needs "hands-on" support. Though gifted, notably in music, the Grade 3 student can get easily impulsive, distracted and dysregulated to the point where he will lay on the ground. In addition, he will touch dirty surfaces and then immediately put his hand into his mouth, as well as take random objects and chew on them as a form of soothing behaviour.

"Many kids on the spectrum are unable to adhere to the COVID safety protocols of the school," she writes in the letter. "The greatest risk always falls upon the most vulnerable. Our special needs children are the most vulnerable."

Banez writes that in March, after the pandemic was declared that effectively closed all schools, Lazarus and his sister Estella (who is neurotypical and entering Grade 1) began their remote learning journey through their school and were "thriving." She says the teachers and education assistants offered support via Zoom calls to help ensure



Photo submitted
Kaye Banez is mom to Lazarus (right) and Estella. Banez says it is not safe for students with special needs to return to the classroom, and is instead requesting they have access to remote learning through their current schools.

learning objectives were met. Speech therapy and behavioural therapy also moved online.

"(Lazarus) was safe, happy, included and well-connected to his peers and teachers," Banez says. "Everyone's safety is our No. 1 priority, especially in the case of our family, where there are immunocompromised members like grandparents and those who have pre-existing conditions," she says. "The only safe option for our family and other families who are in similar situations is for our children to continue to learn from home."

Banez stresses when she says learn from home, she doesn't mean withdrawing from the children's current school and applying to district learning schools that have no availability.

That leaves, she says, homeschooling as the only option—problematic for parents of children

with Autism spectrum disorder. Not only will their children lose their spots in school, with no guarantee they can return to their previous school community when the pandemic is over, but the children will be excluded from any school community, and children with autism over the age of six will lose a huge portion of the essential autism funding that the brick and mortar and district learning schools use to provide for the needs of these children, Banez says.

"The solution we would like to see is an education system that will provide a remote learning option at the brick and mortar schools, so that high-risk and vulnerable children can continue to learn safely and continue to belong in their school community," she says.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Board chair addresses return-to-school plans

Richmond School District board of education chair Ken Hamaguchi offers insights on the district's back-to-school plans amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

At this time of the year, board chairs routinely send out a message welcoming everyone back from summer vacation and asking drivers to be careful when driving near schools. What is not routine is asking everyone to come back to school in the midst of a COVID-19 pandemic.

As of Aug. 26, all districts in the province were required to submit their Return to School Plan to the Ministry of Education. In developing our plan, our administration team worked long hours talking with stakeholders, listening to staff, and reading emails from concerned parents. I should also note that our administration team too are parents, grandparents, family members to those who work in schools, and members of families who live in multi-generational homes. Trustees have received an array of comments from "I have no problem sending my kids back to school" to "my child will never return to school under the present conditions."

Given the range of feedback received and the concerns communicated, it is doubtful that we will come up with a plan that will completely satisfy everyone. It is likely that some will receive the plan positively, some will be

apprehensive, and some will find it unacceptable. Regardless, we are going to keep working on our plan until all the children who want to be in school are in school.

On behalf of my fellow trustees, I would like to thank everyone for their emails. We are trying to respond to as many of them as we can. As a result of your feedback, trustees recently sent a letter to the Education Minister requesting more flexibility in the start-up scheduling. We also requested that the ministry allow for the district to hold spots for our families who want to explore other educational options.

In closing, please keep the following in mind. Whatever plan we implement will be closely monitored and adjusted when it's appropriate to do so. It will not be a case of "let's try this for a year, and see what happens." The daily COVID-19 reports from Dr. Henry and her team continue to inform the planning and guidance we receive from the Ministry of Education, and the ongoing dialogue and collaboration with our stakeholder groups will let us know whether we need to modify our plan. The past six months have been unlike any that we have witnessed in the past—but we are going to get through it. And we are going to do it by working together and by making the best of a very difficult situation.

Richmond daycares supporting parents of young children

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Kids across Canada are preparing to return to school with a host of changes and new safety protocols. But preschool and daycare operators face different challenges, including younger children who require more physical care.

Enrolment has been one major difference between daycare and school-aged children. While school-aged children can only opt out of a return to school through distance learning, homeschooling or temporary transition learning, parents of younger children can choose to keep their children at home while still paying daycare fees.

That's been the case at Little Wings Daycare, located near Vancouver International Airport. After reopening in May, more children have returned each month according to director Lisa Dunkley. As of Sept. 1, all spaces are full—although some parents are hesitant to send their children right away.

"We expect this might change once parents see how it works with children returning to school classrooms," says Dunkley.

At Steveston's Sandcastle Park Children's Centre, which remained open during the pandemic, there are still some spaces left due to parents dropping out or changing from full-time to part-



Photos submitted

While the struggle of school-aged children has been well-documented during the pandemic, daycare providers have faced different challenges.

time care. Children of essential workers have been welcomed throughout the summer, although staff have only received one inquiry according to the school's Elaine Lam.

Physical distancing can be a challenging concept for younger children to grasp, but is being encouraged where possible. Other precautions include frequent hand washing and asking parents to monitor for symptoms. Adults must drop off and pick up children outside the classroom.

Both Little Wings and Sandcastle Park said if someone tested positive for COVID-19, they would report to health authorities and follow guidance which could include temporary closure, deep cleaning and testing of staff.

But some things have remained the same: there are waiting lists at childcare facilities due to a low capacity compared to the number of children in need.

•hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca

ALL YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL NEEDS



42 Stores for Everything

Everything you need in one location

Located at Blundell & No. 2 Road

RAPS COMMUNITY REPORT Caring for the animals who care for us

A new pet? What's next?

Adopting a companion animal is an exciting time in a family's life—but it is also a huge responsibility. It is important to realize the awesome obligation that accompanies being a responsible human to a pet. For the rest of this animal's life, not only are you responsible for its care, it even depends on you to determine when it is allowed to eat, permitted to exercise, able to do its bodily functions. When you think of it that way, you grasp the universality of how this animal relies on you.

Once you have had serious family discussions and collectively made the commitment and adopted a pet, what next? You might be surprised at the range of demands a new kitten, puppy, older animal, rabbit, bird or other pet requires.

First, make sure your home is safe to bring them in. Identify wires, hazardous plants or things that can be chewed on or cause a choking hazard. Depending on the pet, ensure proper fencing is in place or a "catio" (cat patio) is constructed if you intend to safely let your cat outdoors. Identify where in the house is your new pet's special place and where else they are permitted. Will they have free run of the house or do you want them out of the kitchen, say? Setting boundaries from the start is key to success.

Discuss individual responsibilities with each member of the household. Impart the literally life-and-death significance of keeping the pet safely under control if outside and free from hazards indoors. Introduce the new family member to everyone in the household individually to avoid overwhelming them. If there are other animals in the home, this requires very specific and careful introductions. For more information on this, discuss with shelter professionals.

Gather the necessary supplies for your pet. These may include food and water bowls, a bed and blankets, collar, leash and/or harness, pet gate(s), safe toys, treats, grooming supplies, crate (for dogs) and carrier (for cats and small animals), litter box (for cats), hidey places (for cats and small animals), and an enclosure.

If you adopt from RAPS, your new pet has un-



Photo courtesy Regional Animal Protection Society

Adopting a new pet can be exciting, but also requires some planning to ensure a smooth transition.

dergone a veterinary exam and any issues will have been addressed and discussed with you. Cats adopted from RAPS will have had a complete veterinary exam and been tested for feline leukemia and immunodeficiency virus. Not all shelters do this. We are one of the only shelters that delivers this level of pre-adoption examination and care to animals. We want people to understand what they are getting into—some people might be fine adopting a cat with leukemia or FIV or another health issue, but it should not be a surprise. Some shelters will accept the return of an adopted cat when it is discovered to have leukemia, but will then euthanize them. Depending on a cat's age, health and known medical history, we will also do bloodwork, X-rays and whatever is required to make the cat healthy before adoption. If you do not adopt from RAPS, make a veterinary appointment as soon as possible. Research and consider pet insurance. Even if it does not save you money in the long run, it is almost guaranteed to prevent those unexpected vet bills that shock your bank account. (RAPS Animal Hospital offers no-in-

terest wellness plans for the same reason.) Talk to the vet about the type and amount of food to feed your new family member. If you need to switch it, do so very gradually.

Spend time with your pet. The early days are an important bonding time. But also watch for cues that they need a bit of solitude.

Research local groomers that meet the needs of our particular pet. It is a very good idea to enroll in a training program—this is as much for you as for them because animals, especially (most) dogs, are pretty much hardwired to do what you want them to do. Mixed signals or wishy-washy guidance can be confusing and upsetting for them—and can lead to "bad dog" moments that have less to do with the dog's behaviour than yours!

Sharing your life with a pet is one of life's great joys. It is also a very significant responsibility. Be sure you are prepared and committed ... and it will be start of a beautiful friendship!

Shena Novotny is Manager of the RAPS City of Richmond Animal Shelter.

MY NAME IS BUDDY

Looking for a buddy? Meet beautiful blue-eyed Buddy. He came to us after spending most of his life with a senior owner as an only cat. He does well with gentle talking, slow movements, and will do best with a confident, cat savvy and patient person or family. Once he trusts you he really enjoys head scratches and we think over time would come out of his shell even more.

****Due to COVID-19, all meet and greets will be by appointment only. Please call us at 604-275-2036 to set up an appointment.****



ADOPT ME!

REGIONAL ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY (RAPS)

rapsbc.com | City Shelter: 604-275-2036

Head Office: 604-285-7724



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
/REGIONALANIMALPROTECTIONSOCIETY



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@RAPSSOCIETY

RAPS ANIMAL HOSPITAL

rapsanimalhospital.com

604-242-1666

The RAPS Animal Hospital and Animal Ambulance are supported by Applewood Nissan



Li carrying on Connaught tradition of excellence

By DON FENNELL

@rmdsentinel

David Li remembers landing his first waltz jump. It still stands out among favourite moments in a flourishing figure skating career.

"I was very happy. That gave me a lot of encouragement to keep on achieving more in the sport," says the talented 13-year-old Richmondite.

Li is a member of the legendary Connaught Skating Club, the province's oldest and second oldest in the country, founded in 1911 by Mrs. H.G. Ross under the patronage of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Connaught.

In the early days, members skated in the old Denman Arena which in those days was also home to Vancouver's first and only Stanley Cup champion Vancouver Millionaires. The maroon-clad Millionaires won the trophy in 1915 with Hockey Hall of Famer Fred (Cylone) Taylor its top player and Frank Patrick as coach and manager.

**His performance level
with the audience is
out of this world. His
ceiling is limitless.
He has all the
characteristics to
become a Canadian
champion one day.**

— Keegan Murphy

the 2019 Skate Canada Challenge. That qualified him for the Canadian Tire National Skating Championships this past January. He also won bronze at the Canada Winter Games.

Li demonstrated an immediate passion for skating: from the first time he stepped on the ice in the Can Skate program.

"He's very passionate about the sport, and really loves doing it," his dad says.

Li remains as dedicated to his craft, even if recently that's meant having to travel to Burnaby five days a week to practice with the Richmond rinks closed.

With an ultimate dream of representing Canada internationally, and competing at the Olympic Games, Li literally spends hours working on his jumps

and spins. As it happens, Li is a huge hockey fan. In fact, his dad notes that David wanted to play hockey before he found his niche in skating.

"I really like watching hockey with my friends, especially the Canucks. My favourite player on the team is (goaltender Jacob) Markstrom."

Since the Connaught Skating Club moved to the then-new Minoru Arena in 1965, it has continued a tradition of excellence with numerous members achieving great success provincially, nationally and internationally. Li is the latest to join that fraternity, having won silver in Pre-Novice Men's at

and spins. The positive vibes he gets from judges in competition makes all the work and repetition worth it.

"I think my greatest strengths are my spins, and performing" he says.

Coached by Keegan and Eileen Murphy, Li is grateful for their ongoing analysis and support.

"He's got incredibly fast rotation in the air," says Keegan.

"He is extremely technically skilled for his young age. He has improved most in his ability to blend artistry with triple jump athleticism. This is an incredible skill for someone so young and his performance level with the audience is out of this world. His ceiling is limitless. He has all the characteristics to become a Canadian champion one day."

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca



Photo by Danielle Earl/
Courtesy Connaught
Skating Club
David Li has emerged as
one of the next greats in
a long line of Connaught
skaters to shine.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

September 16, 2020

6pm via Zoom*

Please RSVP by Sept 9th

Email: info@richmondfamilyplace.ca

Phone: 604-278-4336

RICHMOND
family
PLACE



*Link will be provided via e-mail after we receive your RSVP

Even online, ROCA still sharing the magic of music

By DON FENNELL
@rmdsentinel

Graham Hope has spent the last eight years giving rise to the power of music. During that span, Hope has sat on the board of the Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association (ROCA) as a community representative. His role is to organize concerts in both public and private schools—with the hope of inspiring among the youth, an understanding and appreciation for classical music. That a student might take up playing an instrument, well, that would be a nice bonus.

During each ROCA concert, a young student of conductor James Malmberg performs a solo. This has been a highlight which has left audiences spellbound, says Hope.

"Until 2020, we visited six schools a year," he explains. "And once this pandemic is over, we will continue our mission until every school in Richmond has seen our orchestra live."

Even as the COVID-19 pandemic forced the orchestra and chorus to abruptly end its 2019-20 season in the spring, and organizers don't expect to be able to host any future concerts for the remainder of this year, they remain committed to sharing their love of music. Specifically, the love of the classics. And they are optimistic about the resumption of concerts in 2021.

ROCA's Wilson Ng and Brigid Coult stress that the safety and health of its members and patrons is of the highest importance "so we are engaging with



Photo courtesy ROCA

Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association (ROCA) is a non-profit organization of dedicated, proud and committed amateur musicians.

them to ensure that regulations are followed, and to explore what may be the best approach to hosting any events." They look forward to being able to share this wealth of repertoire again with Richmond audiences once the pandemic is under control.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

A noteworthy organization to support

Music is a powerful connection that unites everyone.

Due to COVID-19, ROCA's upcoming 2020-21 concert season remains in question. Yet it is committed as an organization to remaining active however it can, returning to the stage as soon as it is safe for performers and audience to do so.

While production costs are greatly reduced in these uncertain times, ROCA has ongoing overhead and professional contractual obligations that must be met.

ROCA hopes its sponsors will consider continuing to offer support as the organization strives to maintain its presence in the communi-

ty, albeit in an online format. And to its individual donors, it remains grateful to all who have provided support in the past. To those who have recently lent further support, ROCA extends a special vote of thanks.

To those who are able to do so, ROCA asks to please consider helping the noteworthy organization to continue to exist in these uncertain times.

Richmond Orchestra and Chorus is a rare example of a community group that can offer both a high level of choral and orchestral classics and a range of other music, to suit many tastes. Pop, gospel, music from stage and screen, and

cross-cultural offerings have always been a part of ROCA's repertoire. ROCA looks forward to being able to share this wealth of repertoire again with Richmond audiences once the pandemic is under control.

Tax-deductible donations can be made online at our website www.roca.ca. Look for the link to Canada Helps. Alternatively, a cheque can be mailed to the ROCA office:

Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association
130-10691 Shellbridge Way, Richmond BC,
V6X 2W8.

—Written by Susan Stolberg, Bernie Barrett
and Brigid Coult

RICHMOND
SENTINEL
OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

RICHMOND AT A GLANCE

Connecting you with our community.
Download our app and take us with you.



Download our app from the
App Store or Google Play Store.



Kigoos get funding

Richmond Kigoos Swim Club received a BC community gaming grant recently.

Richmond-Steveston MLA John Yap had the honour of presenting the longtime aquatics club with a cheque for \$13,700.

Paying homage to a First Nations word meaning "fish that swims fast," the Kigoos have been a perennial summer-swimming powerhouse since 1959. In that time they have consistently been among the top finishing clubs at regional and provincial championships.

In addition to its summer program, it has also historically offered a winter maintenance program and year-round masters swimming.



Photo submitted

Richmond-Steveston MLA John Yap presents a \$13,700 community gaming grant to the Richmond Kigoos Swim Club. Accepting were club president Richard Buckley and vice-president Lesley Rey. Looking on are board directors Kathy Dukes, Ruby Labao, head coach Emillia Obedkoff and coaches Sophia Newman, Michael Jakac-Sinclair and Nikol Rybolov.

Mylora golfers support hospital



Photo courtesy Mylora Golf Course

Mylora's Scott Wilson and Don Grant present a cheque to Theresa Blackwell of the Richmond Hospital Foundation.

Golfers at Mylora Executive Golf Course have stepped up for Richmond Hospital.

Through the generosity of customers and the golf course, \$2,500 was raised at an Aug. 3 fundraiser for the hospital's surgical restart campaign.

Centre for disability gets grant



Photo submitted

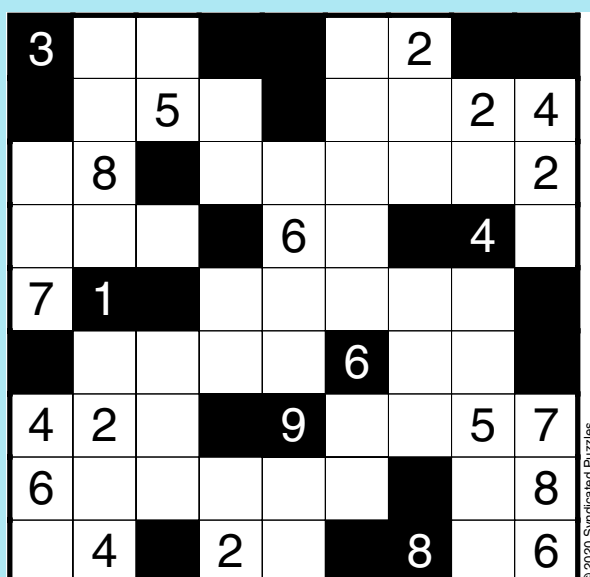
Richmond North Centre MLA Teresa Wat presented the Richmond Centre for Disability executive director Ella Huang with a \$100,000 community gaming grant.

The Richmond Centre for Disability has received a financial boost thanks to a \$100,000 community gaming grant.

The agency is committed to enabling all people with disabilities in making informed choices, creating opportunities, meeting their goals and reaching their full potential. It strives to provide quality services that lead to inclusion and also greater public awareness.

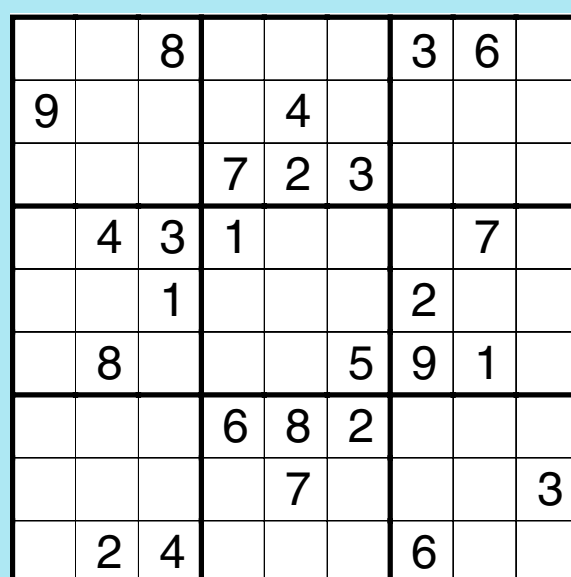
STR8TS

No number can be repeated in any row or column. Rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. Each compartment must contain a 'straight,' a set of numbers with no gaps in any order, eg. [4,2,3,5]. Numbers in black cells are not part of straights but also cannot be repeated in their row or column.



© 2020 Syndicated Puzzles

SUDOKU





John attended the Holocaust Remembrance Day at The Bayit in Richmond along with the other three Richmond MLAs Linda Reid, Teresa Wat and Jas Johal in January.



John presented a community gaming grant to the Institute of Applied Design & Technology Education Society at McMath Secondary School in February.



John attended the 47th Steveston International Karate Championships and presented the John Yap MLA Cup to a winning athlete in February.



John supported the COVID-19 relief fund organized by the Vancouver Diamond Lions Club at the Richmond Centre Mall in February.



John supported Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives fundraising campaign which featured their masks, available by donation.



John and his colleagues of the BC Liberal Caucus supported the anti-bullying Pink Shirt Day in front of the Legislature Building in February 2020.

Dear constituents:

The summer legislative session has now adjourned, concluding an unprecedented hybrid session where, for the first time in Canadian history, MLA's attended the Legislature both online and in-person. In spite of the unique situation, my caucus colleagues and I spared no time to help British Columbians in need and to hold the NDP accountable.

As opposition, we raised concerns about the lack of support for strata property owners facing skyrocketing insurance costs, the continually rising opioid drug crisis, an increasing homeless population and the government's failure to provide proper supports for supportive housing, which has been problematic for many communities. We also advocated for ICBC rebates given the Covid-19 related savings at the auto insurer.

The NDP has fallen short for British Columbians by not adequately responding to their economic needs. With a record \$12.5-billion-dollar deficit, B.C. needs a recovery plan. Helping the economy get back on track means supporting small businesses, especially our restaurant, hospitality and tourism sectors which have been hard hit by Covid-19; as the opposition critic for liquor, I advocated for more common sense changes to liquor laws and introduced a Private Member's Bill to support small business.

Furthermore, parents of K-12 students are feeling stressed as they look to the fall, and will now spend the next two weeks worrying about how they will find child care, what kind of after-school care they will need, or whether they may have to stay home with their children. The Education Ministry is expected to announce their plan just a week before classes are set to begin, despite having 5 months to develop a framework for a safe start to school.

I have heard from many parents who are concerned with the government's approach to reopening schools.

I encourage all constituents to stay safe, be conscious of others, and follow provincial health guidelines as we cope with the pandemic. It is my honour and privilege to serve as your MLA for Richmond Steveston. Have a safe, healthy and happy rest of summer!

Yours sincerely,

John Yap
MLA Richmond-Steveston
August 2020

John Yap | MLA

John Yap, MLA
(Richmond-Steveston)
115-4011 Bayview St.
Richmond, BC, V7E 0A4

(Ph) 604.241.8452
(F) 604.241.8493
john.yap.mla@leg.bc.ca
johnyapmla.bc.ca

@john_yap
 /JohnYapSteveston
 johnyap_steveston

