



BOUTIQUE SHOWROOM



Luxury cars
in Richmond

13

OUR CITY *Richmond*

'GOOD TO KNOW'

by Florence Gordon

Your city at work—Richmond's dike and flood protection

The City of Richmond recognizes that even with global climate change mitigation efforts, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, there are predictions of environmental changes that will occur even if global emissions are dramatically reduced. This includes 1 metre of sea level rise and increased rainfall for all coastal communities. A key action identified in the city's **Flood Protection Management Strategy** involves continuing to upgrade the city's perimeter dike in anticipation of climate change induced sea level rise. To ensure Richmond remains safe, the city is continuously upgrading flood protection measures. For more information letstalkrichmond.ca



Dikes: 49 kilometres of dikes that hold back the waters of the sea and river.



Culverts: 61 kilometres of culverts and tunnels that carry streams and act as rainwater storage.



Pumps: 39 drainage pump stations that pump rain and ground-water into the Fraser River.



Drainage pipes: 585 kilometres of drainage pipes that transport water out of the city.



Channelized watercourses: 165 kilometres of man-made channels that move water through and out of the city.



Sensors: numerous flood protection sensors spread throughout the city that provide real-time data on river levels, rainfall and storm water drainage.



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Your city at work—Minoru Arena

Project June 2022—Sept. 2023

The Minoru Arena was originally opened with a single ice surface in 1965 under the name of Richmond Arena. In 1984, a second ice sheet and office space was added to the facility. Renewal of ageing mechanical systems are required to maintain the safe operations of the Minoru Arenas. Included within this project are lobby entrance upgrades, replacements of the heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system components, ammonia detection system and alarm system. For information letstalkrichmond.ca

Steveston's new community centre

Construction has begun with an expected completion date of early 2026. The \$95 million approved project will provide a three-storey, 60,350 sq. ft. facility, that will include a community centre, a double gymnasium, library, fitness centres, multipurpose rooms, meeting spaces, study area and education program rooms. For more information richmond.ca



Architectural rendering via richmond.ca

Stage 2 watering restrictions now in place

By FLORENCE GORDON
Contributing Writer

Chair of Metro Vancouver's Water Committee, Mayor Malcolm Brodie said in an interview with Metro Vancouver Media "consistent above-average temperatures combined with high-water demand have put extra pressure on the water supply. Water conservation is imperative and everyone must do their part. The number one thing residents can do, is reduce their outdoor water use. Lawn watering is the biggest source of water usage that's discretionary outside the home. We've got to save the water for cooking, cleaning and drinking which are fundamental to our quality of life."

Metro Vancouver delivers drinking water services to 2.8 million residents, and as part of this jurisdiction, Richmond residents are reminded that on Aug. 4, water restrictions are moving into 'stage 2' for the first time since 2015. Under these restrictions here are the guidelines:

- All lawn watering is prohibited
- Trees, shrubs, and flowers can be watered by hand or using a soaker hose or drip irrigation at any time or by using a sprinkler between 5 and 9 a.m. any day
- No new water restriction exemption permits will be issued or renewed for watering new lawns or lawns being treated for European Chafer Beetle
- Vegetable gardens can be watered at any time



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Metro Vancouver has announced that the region has moved into Stage 2 watering restrictions for the first time since 2015.

- Aesthetic water features, such as fountains, cannot be filled or topped up
- Washing impermeable surfaces like driveways and sidewalks is prohibited except in limited circumstances

Metro Vancouver delivers one billion litres of treated drinking water a day, but that can increase by more than 50 percent during the summer, due to lawn watering and other outdoor use. Since May, water consumption across the region has been about 20 percent higher than last year with

residents using more water compared to 2022.

Metro Vancouver member jurisdictions enforce the lawn watering regulations with fines ranging up to \$500 per violation while in Stage 2.

Stage 2 restrictions are supported and enforced by the City of Richmond's Water Use Restriction Bylaw No.7784 and will continue until further notice from Metro Vancouver.

For information about watering lawn tips and everyday water conservation tips visit welovewater.ca or email the city at savewater@richmond.ca

Art Columns celebrate Richmond's agriculture

Travelling along No. 3 Road, residents and visitors can now enjoy a new art exhibition near the Aberdeen and Lansdowne Canada Line stations. The work of artists Cherry Archer, Sam McWilliams and Sol Ross has been installed in the large, backlit display cases at the base of three concrete support columns from now until Jan. 31, 2024. This exhibition is the second of a two-part, year-long showcase by artists who have created work celebrating Richmond's local culture, history and natural heritage.

Cherry Archer's photographs at Lansdowne Station are from the artist's *Botanical Ice Tile* series and highlights plants commonly found in Richmond. With each image, the artist invites the viewer to examine their relationship with the natural world and embrace emotions and sensations they may evoke.

Sam McWilliams' botanical drawings, also at Lansdowne Station, are inspired by Richmond's agricultural heritage and aims to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining a resilient and local food system.



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Lichen by Sol Ross, Aberdeen Canada Line Station, 2023.

Sol Ross' series of digital illustrations explores the complexity of repetitive patterns found within fungi specimens and their role in keeping our ecosystems working. Richmond contains an abundance of beauty in its wildlife and greenery. This work celebrates that beauty and aims to inspire the protection and care of our natural world.

The next exhibition (Feb. 1 to July 31, 2024) will feature works by three artists participating in ArtRich 2023, the fifth annual juried exhibition organized by the Richmond Arts Coalition, happening at the Richmond Art Gallery Nov. 24 to Dec. 31, 2023.

The No. 3 Road Art Columns Program was launched in 2010 as part of the City's commitment to enhance

the No. 3 Road streetscape, in partnership with the Appia Group of Companies and InTransit BC. Since then, the program has featured the work of dozens of local artists with rotating exhibitions that change twice a year.

For more information about this program, visit richmond.ca/culture/publicart/whatsnew/no3rdartcolumns

City wants people to remember loved ones



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

The City's Tree, Bench, and Picnic Table Dedication Program provides a way to recognize friends and family members, loved ones, or important events.

If you once dedicated a park bench to a loved one or lost friend and haven't updated your contact information, the City of Richmond wants to hear from you.

Introduced in 1991, the city's Tree, Bench and Picnic Table Dedication Pro-

gram provides a way to recognize friends and family members, loved ones, or important events through plaques on park benches, picnic tables or the planting of trees in select parks or along trails.

While the program was immediately popular, the memories associated with some of those plaques has faded over time so the city needs to update contact information.

There are currently 114 registrants whose contact information is no longer current, so the city is hoping they will come forward within the next 12 months to acknowledge interest in maintaining the dedication plaque. If not, opportunities will be presented to new dedicators wanting to enter the program. There are currently over 100 individuals on the waitlist.

Staff will soon begin to replace the 114 bronze plaques lacking updated information with temporary plaques requesting residents to contact the city. If an update is received within 12 months and they wish to retain the plaque, it will be returned to its original location. If not, the location will be offered to someone on the waitlist. The city will archive all original bronze dedication plaques for six years in the event someone comes forward to claim it.

To update contact information for the Park Dedication Program, call 604-247-4453 or email to parksprograms@richmond.ca. Information about the program is available at richmond.ca/parks-recreation/parks/programs/dedicate.htm

Richmond student awarded international scholarship

Export Development Canada (EDC) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2023 Youth Education Program scholarships. A total of \$135,000 was awarded to 27 post-secondary students demonstrating a high level of academic achievement and a commitment to community service - both in Canada and abroad.

Twenty students received the International Business Scholarship, and for the first time, seven new Community Leadership Scholarships were awarded to students from equity-seeking communities. In addition to strong academic standing these recipients are dedicated to advancing and supporting their communities through extra-curricular and volunteer initiatives. This year, representatives from six of EDC's Employee Resource Groups (ERG) were part of the scholarship nomination and selection committee. In addition, a seventh scholarship was created in support of Ukrainian academic achievement.

Since 2000, over \$2 million and more than 600 international business scholarships have been awarded through the Youth Education Program.



Photo courtesy Export Development Canada
Dixon Huang, is one of 20 students to receive an International Business Scholarship.

All recipients are eligible for recruitment into EDC's work term and co-op placements. Mentorship and additional learning opportunities are also available

through the various ERGs.

"I am extremely grateful for the generous contribution made by EDC towards my education. As the first generation of my family to pursue higher education, the journey has been filled with financial and navigational challenges. However, the EDC international business scholarship has not only relieved my financial burdens but also provided me with opportunities to connect with a diverse group of individuals" said Dixon Huang Richmond native.

Export Development Canada (EDC) is a financial Crown corporation dedicated to helping Canadian businesses make an impact at home and abroad. EDC has the financial products and knowledge Canadian companies need to confidently enter new markets, reduce financial risk and grow their business as they go from local to global. Together, EDC and Canadian companies are building a more prosperous, stronger and sustainable economy for all Canadians.

For more information and to learn how we can help your company, call us at 1-800-229-0575 or visit edc.ca

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London Farm—a rural experience

Want to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life without the stress of traffic congestion and long line-ups? The City of Richmond has just the spot.

Richmond's historic London Farm has undergone a major facelift thanks to a \$687,000 grant from the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada. Those enhancements have resulted in an even more welcoming, relaxing and educational experience for visitors to the three-acre heritage park along the picturesque Dyke Road.

Take a trip back in time to see how our early pioneers lived and worked in an age when travel was horse and cart on makeshift roads, and "using the net" meant you were going fishing. Recent improvements to displays and interpretation signage enable visitors to learn even more about the important agricultural history of the area.

Revitalized garden and lawn areas offer colourful opportunities for reflection and relaxation or, for those who can't quite leave modern life behind for a few hours, plenty of social media photo opportunities. Don't forget those #londonfarm and #richmondbc hashtags.

Especially popular is the upgraded chicken coop—yes, even the free range roosters and hens benefit from the new surroundings—and the new bee apiary used to cultivate honey sold on-site by London Farm Heritage Society. The young and young-at-heart can also sit atop a newly displayed 1923 Fordson tractor, a popular machine that revolutionized farm life from the "father" of the automobile, Henry Ford.

Other upgraded amenities include new benches and picnic areas, and improved wayfinding and paths. On weekends, visitors can check out the farmhouse to learn more about the original owners, the London family, and the gift shop featuring jams and honey produced on the farm.

The London Farm park and gardens are open dawn to dusk, and the historic farmhouse and gift shop is open Fridays to Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Richmond's historic London Farm has undergone a major facelift resulting in an even more welcoming, relaxing, and educational experience for visitors.

Admission is free. The site is operated by the London Heritage Farm Society with support from the City of Richmond. For more information, call 604-271-5220 or visit londonfarm.ca



IT'S TIME FOR

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOPPING

at **Blundell Centre**



BLUNDELL CENTRE

42 stores for stationery and clothing

Located at Blundell & No. 2 Road



Grant McConachie Way

By **MATTHEW CHEUNG**
Reporter

Grant McConachie Way is the main passage to the Vancouver airport. The three-to-six lane expressway connects Richmond to Sea Island Way. It also connects Richmond to Vancouver crossing over the Arthur Laing bridge.

Grant McConachie way was named after George William Grant McConachie. McConachie was born on April 24, 1909, in Hamilton, Ontario and grew up in the Calder area of Edmonton, Alberta. McConachie worked part time for the Canadian National Railways, he studied at the University of Alberta shortly before leaving in his freshman year to take flying lessons from Maurice (Moss) Burbidge.

After acquiring his Private Pilot's Licence in 1929 and Commercial Pilot's Licence in 1930, McConachie acquired his first aircraft and began his piloting career. His first job was flying fish from the northern lakes during the winter months, the remainder of that year was spent barnstorming in the prairies.

Despite many setbacks financially and physically, McConachie co-founded Independent Airways at Edmonton that then turned into United Air Transport in 1933. In 1939, McConachie pioneered the first scheduled airmail and passenger service between Edmonton and Whitehorse called the Yukon Southern Air Transport, earning him the Trans-Canada trophy. His small fleet of bush aircrafts included ski and float planes.

As the government was looking to find a route to the Alaskan border, McConachie was using a route surveyed by Dan McLean from Edmonton to the border. Given the information from McLean's surveys, the Alaska Highway and Canol Pipeline Project were completed earlier.

In 1941, Canadian Pacific Railways bought a few small airlines, which included McConachie's Yukon Southern Transport, he was named Assistant to the President of the CPR. In 1947, McConachie was named President of the Ca-



Screen grab from Google Maps

Grant McConachie Way is the main passage way to the Vancouver Airport

nadian Pacific Airlines (CPA). He started the first air passenger service from Vancouver, British Columbia to other major cities in the Orient. McConachie would assist in the launching of seven more international routes including cities in Mexico, Peru, Argentina, and many more.

McConachie passed away on June 29, 1965, during his business trip to Long Beach, California. He was inducted into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973 and Canadian Business Hall of Fame in 1979. The McConachie peak was named after him and the 810 Grant McConachie Air Cadets in 1971.

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In honour of our soldiers: Robert Samuel Dixon

By **SAMUEL CHENG**
Reporter

In a series of Richmond's 'poppy' street signs in memory of our fallen soldiers, we share the story of Dixon Avenue.

On Dec. 30, 1909, Robert Samuel Dixon was born in Burnaby, B.C. Dixon studied and graduated from Bridgeport Highschool in Richmond in the year of 1927.

Known for being a sports fanatic all his life, Dixon was a well-known local athlete within the city including the New Westminster Salmonbellies. Dixon was named to the Canadian Olympic Team in 1932.

Two years later, Dixon participated in the 1934 British Empire Games representing Canada. He competed in the javelin throw event and came out on top, winning first place over South Africa's Harry Hart with a record of 60.02 meters.

Prior to enlisting with the Royal Canadian Air Force, Dixon took on multiple different jobs, including physical training director with the Vancouver Athletic Club, the Vancouver Police Force and was briefly with the Chinese Air Force during the Sino-Japanese War.

During his time in Shanghai, China, he met his fiancée, Eileen Dudley, who relocated to Richmond with Dixon and moved in with his parents James



Screen grab from Google Maps

A poppy engraved road sign of Dixon Avenue.

Dixon and Mary Hannah Dixon at 471 King Road, Eburne.

Eburne, located in the northeast corner of Sea Island today, was one of the earliest communities in Richmond. It is along the North Arm of the Fraser River, close to the Marpole area and Eburne Bridge.

Eburne was named after Harry Eburne, who was a store owner in the original Eburne community located to the North of the Fraser River, which was later renamed to Marpole in 1916. It was the es-

tablishment of two bridges—Marpole Bridge and Eburne Bridge, that inspired Eburne to build a post office and a general store on the island.

Later on, when war was declared in Canada during the Second World War, Dixon returned to Canada and voluntarily declared his enlistment with the Royal Canadian Air Force in the October of 1939. He was enlisted as a Flight Sergeant, pilot instructor and was stationed at Camp Borden in Ontario.

Dixon was transferred to Winnipeg in the following year and was promoted to Flying Officer, where he spent the majority of his time ferrying planes around the country.

Three months later, Dixon was unfortunately killed during a test flight of a Cessna Crane, also known as Cessna AT-17 Bobcat. It is a twin-engine aircraft designed for training and instructional purposes, bridging the gap between single-engine and multi-engine combat aircraft.

Dixon was ultimately buried at Mountain View Cemetery in Vancouver. On February 4, 1946, the Richmond City Council came together to name the road to Dixon Avenue.

Today, the road can be found nearby Garden City Shopping Centre, located to the south of Blundell Road, in between Garden City Road and Ash Street.

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Photo courtesy Dragon Boat BC

BC's third largest race returns to Imperial Landing, with FreshCo and the Province of B.C. supporting the festival's largest ever programming lineup—and the most teams ever.

FreshCo Richmond Dragon Boat Festival returns to Steveston on Aug. 19

BC's third largest dragon boat race hits Steveston, with FreshCo taking the lead as the new title sponsor of the FreshCo Richmond Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday, Aug. 19 at Imperial Landing Pier in Richmond.

The festival is free to attend and open to the public.

80 teams representing more than 2,000 racers are set to take to the water, with races coming down the Fraser River every 11 minutes running from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m. The festival is the largest race in B.C. outside of Vancouver, with participating teams attending from around B.C. and the U.S.

On top of the racing, the festival is hosting an entirely local cultural program lineup for the community to enjoy on the main stage, including: Indigenous soul pop artist Hayley Wallis and the Bright Futures; the Sun Moon Lake trio experimenting with modern and traditional Chinese instruments; Coastal Wolf Pack presenting Musqueam protocol; and Hon Hsing Athletic Club bringing lion dances to the community.

"This popular summer event has seen so much growth over the past years, and we're so happy to have a community partner in FreshCo to help us bring the event to the next level for our community," said Alexis Gall, Dragon Boat BC's general manager and executive director. "With support from FreshCo and the Province of B.C., we've been able to bring community, culture, and competition together to create an exciting experience for everyone to soak in."

In addition to the festival's water and cultural programs, visitors can expect to enjoy a large craft market, local food trucks including crowd-favourite Lee's Doughnuts, and Richmond's biggest licensed outdoor patio—the entirety of the festival site—serving up local brews by Red Truck Beer and MoBeer.

The festival is supported by partners including FreshCo, the Province of British Columbia, Oddball Workshop and the Oddball Community Grant, Onni Group, the BC Arts Council, and the City of Richmond.

Asphalt Paving Advisory

April 15 to October 31, 2023

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

PROPOSED 2023 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Richmondite joins Tour de Cure for parents

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Reporter

Dennis Soriano, a Richmond local will be participating in his eleventh Tour de Cure on Aug. 26 and 27. Around 2,000 riders will be participating in the event, as they ride 100 kilometres each day from Cloverdale to Hope. Presented by Wheaton Precious Metals, the Tour de Cure is the largest cycling fundraiser in the province. The event begins in Cloverdale, riders will stop at a midway point in Chilliwack, before finishing in Hope.

Biking has always been a hobby that Soriano has enjoyed throughout his childhood. He would always bike around his neighbourhood with family and friends, more recently he decided to use it as an alternate method of transportation to work.

For Dennis, the Tour de Cure is more than just a way for him to fundraise for cancer research. The Tour de Cure was a way for Dennis to give back to the community that supported his mother's fight with cancer. Soriano first started participating in 2012, his mother had been battling cancer and he came across the Tour de Cure as a way to help give back to the community that was helping his mother.

"Because my family had been directly impacted by my mother's battle with cancer, I was immediately drawn to the Tour de Cure. I first heard about the event in 2011 and signed up for my first ride in 2012. After the first ride, I knew I had found a way to give back to the community of medical professionals, researchers, and organizations that help individuals and families affected by cancer," said Soriano.

As the years have gone by, Soriano has continued to participate in cycling events across the province. He has taken part in the Langley Fondo and the BC Randonneurs Pacific Populaire event and will continue to ride in order to help fund cancer research and more.

"Meeting and hearing from so many others who share similar stories of how they, themselves, or their loved ones and families, have had to fight and endure the challenges a cancer diagnosis brings was such an amazing and inspiring experience. This feeling remains each and every year I have taken part in the ride. There are endless amounts of stories you come across every year," said Soriano.

This year, Dennis will be riding for both the community that has helped his mother during her fight with cancer, and in memory of his late father. Last year, Dennis' father, who had been one of his biggest supporters when he first started participating in the Tour de Cure, was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of esophageal cancer. He passed away, only a few weeks later.

"When I set out to fundraise for cancer research to give back to the community that had helped my mom during her bout with cancer, my dad instantly became my biggest supporter. He would actively fundraise for more through his social media, emails to all his friends and colleagues throughout the world, and even via word of mouth when meeting with his friends for

coffee," said Soriano.

In addition to helping fundraise, Dennis' father also did his best to support him throughout the training process. He would often watch his grandchildren for Dennis during long training sessions, pick him up at locations when he encountered an issue with his bike, and always waited at the finish line to cheer Dennis on.

"Outside of fundraising he would offer to watch the kids during long training rides, pick me up at a random location when we couldn't repair an issue with my bike on the road, drop me off at early event starts and be at every finish line to cheer me on as I would cross the finish line. He did it as a way to give back to the community but also because he knew how much the event meant to me," said Soriano.

For families who are currently going through what the Soriano family has gone through, Dennis shares this with word of advice with the readers. "All I can really stress is the importance of moving forward with the healing process and your lives. If anything, continue to move forward in your loved one's memory by carrying on as you know they would do so. Family and friends are key in helping you through it all".

To support Dennis' Tour de Cure fundraising goal, visit tourdecure.ca/participant/2558285/4245

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Photo courtesy Dennis Soriano

Dennis will be riding in his 11th Tour de Cure in memory of his father's legacy.



20TH ANNUAL RICHMOND
**MARITIME
FESTIVAL**
2023 | BRITANNIA SHIPYARDS
AUG 26 & 27 | 11AM-6PM



ART BY:
Udayana Ugo

RICHMONDMARITIMEFESTIVAL.CA |    @FunRichmond #RMF2023



Largest independent moving company in Canada

By FLORENCE GORDON
Contributing Writer

In another Richmond Story, Jim Gordon (JG) sat down with Jeff Pawer (JP) territorial manager of Two Small Men With Big Hearts, whose office is here in Richmond.

JG: *Two Small Men With Big Hearts started over 40 years ago with one single truck. Addison Parfeniuk, chief executive officer and owner said that the company's growth began by using the franchise business model of ownership. He initially joined the firm in Edmonton and later purchased the Edmonton operation with a partner. Parfeniuk continued to buy out additional locations and then bought out his partner. He owns all of the companies in western Canada and oversees the running of the entire operation.*

Today they have 25 offices from Victoria to Ottawa and are the largest independent moving company in Canada. Jeff, let's start with the company name, I've seen the company trucks over the years, how did this come about.

JP: The company was started by two friends about 40 years ago here in Vancouver and although they weren't the biggest individuals in size, they wanted to change the industry with a 'big heart' caring for the customers and the staff, thus the company name.

JG: *There are different models that can be used for companies, for example, head office owns all the franchises or there's franchisees. With your company how is it set up.*

JP: In Western Canada the corporation owns the majority of the franchises and we're just in the process of expanding into Eastern Canada and picking up some franchises there.

JG: *One of the things that we try to do in these segments is to include an educational component. Other than one's health, moving is probably one of the most stressful times in a person's life. We all have gone through this; can you give advice what people should be looking for in a moving company.*

JP: The biggest key to a successful move is to be organized in terms of having your items ready and letting the moving company know if you require packing because a lot of moving companies offer packing services. So, being organized is key, making sure the moving company that you select is insured and bonded and that they will take care of you if something goes wrong.

JG: *Is that something that's easy to research.*

JP: Go on line and check reviews. We get a lot of customer referrals or people will see our truck in a neighbourhood and approach us that way and also someone that you know who has moved is a good resource.

JG: *Since the dawn of time, in business you can't please everybody. How does your company address complaints, unhappy customers because you are dealing with people's memories and*



From one truck to 25 companies.

Photo courtesy Two Small Men With Big Hearts

their possessions.

JP: Our company has an entire after-service department. Once the move is completed, they take over the file good, bad or otherwise. They handle claims if something happens. They have complete autonomy, investigate every claim thoroughly from start to finish, and typically favour the customer and that's how we built our reputation.

JG: *I love when companies that have been around a long time feel strongly about getting involved in the community. Two Small Men With Big Hearts donates 10 per cent of profits back to local organizations. In 2022, you raised one million dollars for local charities and this year, pledged \$200,000 for charities. Let's talk about your company's involvement in this community and other communities.*

JP: I've been in transportation for over 40 years and been involved in a lot of community work. About 2 years ago, I switched gears in my career and one of the reasons I was attracted to Two Small Men With Big Hearts was because of their community work. It really is a corporate culture, that starts with our owner Addison, and goes all the way down to our movers, who are happy to give their time. We have a committee that investigates what we are going to do and how we are going to do it and I'm proud to be part of that committee.

JG: *In regards to fighting fires around the world and how we seem to be helping each other out, something that I didn't know, is that your company moved used firefighter equipment to help first responders in the Philippines how important was that.*

JP: In North America, firefighting equipment has a shelf life of ten years, but in other countries this equipment can be very valuable. We actually had our partners in Winnipeg drive a truck of firefighting equipment out to Vancouver and then we transferred the equipment to a container in Burnaby which was bound for the Philippines.

JG: *For a long time, one of the questions I asked*

during COVID was how a business was affected. I understand your company, your team, were donating moving assistance for those in need and non-profit organizations. Can you talk about 2020 to 2022.

JP: COVID made us incredibly busy. A lot of people were moving because they were now working from home instead of at the office so it could be moving office to home or moving to a home with more space to accommodate these needs. One of the company's core values is safety, so we had all the safety protocols in place. In terms of COVID and going into people's homes, we were being very careful.

JG: *One of the things that's constantly in the news is, people are looking for staff. Is this something that your company faced.*

JP: Staffing is a bit of an issue. Again, our company has been around for so long potential employees recognize the name and the brand and because of our record for community giving, people want to be a part of that. It's a bit of an attraction in that sense, but it is a bit of challenge getting good skilled labour.

JG: *Let's talk about the next few years, plans/expansion.*

JP: We're looking at some of the smaller areas within British Columbia and Western Canada. We just picked up Kamloops because it's a good hub for our long-distance moves. We're also moving east to the Ontario market.

JG: *That's interesting I can see how Kamloops as a hub, will allow you to reach out to the smaller communities in the region. Any last words you'd like to say to our viewers of the Richmond Sentinel.*

JP: I'd just like to say that I'm proud to be part of a company that gives back to the community. I live and work in Richmond so, I'm happy to do that on a local level.

To watch the video interview richmondsentinel.ca/videos

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Photo courtesy Vivian Lago
YELL is focused on establishing young individuals learn about the work world, build a supportive network, and acquire foundations of business.



Youth Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad

By **MINNIE LO**
 Student Writer

YELL (Youth Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad) is an exceptional educational program that was founded by three entrepreneurs with diverse backgrounds in family businesses. Drawing from their own experiences and recognizing the benefits of early exposure to business, the founders established YELL to help young individuals learn about the world of work, build a supportive network, and acquire the foundations of business.

This past academic year, the Richmond program was offered at Richmond Secondary School and was taught by Mr. Garrett Cox. The program has expanded its reach across various locations, including North Vancouver (at Handsworth and Sutherland), West Vancouver, and Surrey. They also have classes at Mulgrave School, Burnaby Mountain Secondary, Vancouver Technical Secondary, and Pinetree Secondary. As well as classes at F.H. Collins Secondary (Whitehorse, Yukon), Ross Sheppard High (Edmonton, Alberta) and Bert Church High (Airdrie, Alberta) and five classes in the Northern British Columbia region.

YELL is an outstanding educational program dedicated to empowering youths with the skills, knowledge, and network they will need to thrive in the future. Its mission is to provide high school students with relevant educational experiences that evolve with the times. YELL bridges the gap by structuring its program to resemble a university course, ensuring students are well-prepared for their academic and professional journeys. Notably, YELL is Canada's first high school entrepreneurship program eligible for university credit. Simon Fraser University made YELL's university

credit opportunity a reality and opened doors for other institutions to follow their innovative leadership in this space. This opportunity allowed YELL to have champions both within the secondary school network and among the post-secondary education world. Through extensive community engagement, YELL offers students a supportive network of teachers, guest speakers, and mentors to guide them in navigating their futures.

The YELL program spans an entire year and is specifically designed for students in grades 10-12. It not only contributes towards high school graduation but also provides the opportunity to earn credits from partner post-secondary institutions for students in good standing. The curriculum covers core concepts of lean entrepreneurship, including design thinking, resiliency training, marketing, financial projections, and the Business Model Canvas. Moreover, YELL students benefit from interacting with inspiring entrepreneurs and business leaders who visit their classes to share stories and offer valuable advice.

A key component of the YELL program is the YELL's Annual Venture Challenge. After learning the concepts from the course, students form groups, identify and test assumptions, pivot their ideas if necessary, and ultimately develop a business venture. To conclude the challenge, classes from across the province come together to compete and present their business ventures to a panel of judges consisting of community members, entrepreneurs, and investors. Through this process, students learn to solve problems collaboratively and communicate effectively with their mentors, who act as guides and liaisons between the teams and the broader entrepreneurship community.

In response to the pandemic and the subse-

quent quarantine measures in May 2020, YELL swiftly transitioned its in-class lessons to an online format. Teachers, speakers, and mentors coordinated virtually, ensuring the program continued seamlessly. The first virtual Venture Challenge was also successfully hosted, allowing students to pitch their business ventures and present to judges who joined from their homes.

YELL has played a significant role in helping students achieve success by providing them with opportunities to discover and cultivate their entrepreneurial skills. Notable alumni, such as Andy Nguyen and Lynne Shi, have attributed their achievements to YELL. Andy, a YELL alumnus from 2019, co-founded BAK'D, a cookie business that sold over 25,000 cookies in 2021. Lynne, a YELL alumnus from 2020, secured a junior-level position immediately after graduating high school, with her networking opportunities through YELL playing a crucial role in her success.

The effectiveness of YELL is evident in its recognition within the business and education industries. The program has received generous financial support from esteemed organizations like the RBC Foundation, Coast Capital Savings, Telus, Mulgrave School, CPA, KPMG, KPU, Road Forward, Cadence Charity Services, MNP, UNBC, and the Ministry of British Columbia.

We thank Amit Sandhu the Co-Founder of YELL Canada and Vivian Lago the Director of National Operations of YELL Canada for providing information. For more information about YELL, individuals can watch the program's explanatory video on YouTube (youtu.be/4TK-Bo9mZU8) or reach out to the YELL team via email at info@yellcanada.org. Additionally, there is a contact form available on the YELL website at yellcanada.org/contact-us/ for further inquiries.

OUR CITY *tonight*

SPOTLIGHT ON FOOD, COCKTAIL, GETAWAY



Photo courtesy Bosa Foods

Bosa Foods

As consumers become more educated about the food they buy, the search has grown for options that are healthier, organically grown, no GMO's, and within budget. We recently found superior options at competitive prices at BOSA Foods, a family business which is about offering authentic traditional products from around the world since 1957. Bosa Foods offers a full-product guide at 2 locations and online. "It's all about the natural ingredients" said president, general manager and director, Victor Benedet.

For more information bosafoods.com



Photo courtesy Our City Tonight

Summer Cocktail

For the next summer cocktail we turn to Sam Batt, Bartender at Italian Kitchen. His cocktail creation 'Sandy Bay Sunset' contains

- .5oz of Fernet Branca,
- 1oz of white Rum,
- 1oz coconut syrup,
- .75 lemon juice, shake & pour over ice,

Top with lemon soda and garnish with two cherries and a sprig of rosemary. For more information glowbalgroup.com



Photo courtesy Semiahmoo Resort & Greenrubino PR

Semiahmoo Resort Golf & Spa

A "staycation" to consider is just a 45 minute drive from Vancouver, near the cozy town of Blaine, Washington. This peaceful resort offers so many things for a couples' weekend, a family or friends getaway, including a world-class golf course, a full-service wellness centre and spa, and beautiful beach views across the bay to White Rock. They offer a superb culinary and wine selection for dining followed by an evening favourite of S'mores around the fire pit.

For more information semiahmoo.com

More than just luxury cars with Drive Motorsports Ltd.

By JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS
Contributors

Continuing our partnership with the Richmond Sentinel, Our City Tonight went on location to Richmond to sit down with Patrick Lee, the director of Drive Motorsports Limited.

OCT: Patrick thank you for having us to this beautiful showroom (for the visual experience go to richmondsentinel.ca/video).

PL: You're welcome Jim, this is a place that we built and expanded over the last couple of years. We want our customer experience to be very unique.

OCT: We're sitting here in the middle of Drive Motorsports' showroom, Patrick you've been here since 2018 but this company grew from your other company established in 2015. Let's start there, with this other company.

PL: In 2015, we started Kings Auto Lease, which is a leasing and finance business that was directed to dealers and clients as well. The office was located just across the street, then in 2018 we created Drive Motorsports with an indoor showroom and with the recent addition, we have doubled the size of the showroom.

OCT: Even though you are located in the heart of Richmond on No. 3 Road, you are tucked away with little drive-by traffic and not that many cars parked outside, so obviously you've done a great job promoting your company and this amazing showroom.

PL: Our showroom is important to us. It gives the experience that's very unique. We do have some cars parked outside but most of the exotic cars are parked in the showroom, the cars are then parked in a storage facility overnight and then returned to our showroom the next day. True, we don't have a lot of drive-by traffic however, once you hear about us, see us, then it's up to us to create a memorable experience so that you will tell your friends.

OCT: Let's talk about the experience because there is so much that you do. We talked earlier



Patrick Lee and Jim Gordon.

Courtesy of Richmond Sentinel

about how people like yourself are re-writing or re-inventing the wheel—what it's like to buy, lease, or sell. We're going to get into some of the brands that you carry in a minute, but first let's talk about the experience that you create for everyone coming into your showroom.

PL: People are going the route of researching technology, but with our customers we find they really want to experience these cars firsthand. They want to sit in the car, smell the aroma of that new leather, drive the car, and test it out on the road. This experience goes far beyond the typical clicking online to buy a car. We provide leasing and financing that is structured specifically for each client. We determine if they want short-term or longer-term financing, it's really tailored based on each and every client's needs. But having said that, the overall experience is really important, and without the positive experience, we won't earn repeat business. The relationships built are far more important than just that one sale.

OCT: The pandemic had an impact on the economy, with Drive Motorsports specializing in a very unique market, was your business affected.

PL: During Covid, quite surprisingly, people were still buying cars. Living in the lower mainland, we are aware that we have a great transit system however, I believe that people still like buying a car, getting in their car and driving to work or, enjoying a drive up to Whistler or heading down south to Seattle. Being in a nice car is a fun experience.

OCT: Let's talk about some of the models and brands that you have here at Drive Motorsports. We can start with this beautiful Aston Martin.

PL: Aston Martin has done a great job, and typically with the Aston Martin we're used to exotic sports vehicles, with this SUV model they came up with this really great addition. The sport SUV can go fast as heck and the drive, and the styling is very unique, you have to personally see the workmanship to appreciate it. Aston Martin has done a really good job with the design and technology.

OCT: I see you also carry the Lamborghini.

PL: Yes, we do have exotic vehicles like Lamborghinis, Ferraris, Mercedes and electric vehicle options. We also have cars that are at a much lower price point as well, so it's not just all exotic vehicles. We can serve clients of all ranges and it's not just cars that we have here in the showroom. We can source vehicles for clients as well, as it's not just about four wheels and a steering wheel, many people are passionate about so much more when it comes to their vehicles, so we do everything we can to search for that special request.

OCT: I just want to touch on something that you mentioned regarding some of the things you do for your customers that includes, helping them find a vehicle even when it's something extremely unique or rare.

PL: We can source classics as they are still very popular. Keep in mind that the market is now very global so we can go beyond Canada. We can reach out to the USA and Europe as well.

OCT: With that said, what does today's economy look like for Drive Motorsports.

PL: Over the last six to nine months, we've seen a little bit of an increase in interest rates, which obviously adds to the cost of the vehicles. Again, we are going to give the best rates that we can for our clients and offer terms that best fits them.

To view the video interview in full go to richmondsentinel.ca/videos richmondsentinel.ca/uploads/editions/210.pdf



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OUR CITY TONIGHT
JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS

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The Sound of Music (1965)

By SAMUEL CHENG
Reporter

Music, comedy, drama, *The Sound of Music* has got them all. Released on March 2, 1965, *The Sound of Music* easily tops the chart in terms of the best musical film of all time.

The classic film was directed by Robert Wise, who is notable for directing *West Side Story* in 1961, *The Sand Pebbles* in 1966 as well as being the film edit of *Citizen Kane* in 1941.

The Sound of Music is based off of a memoir written by Maria Augusta von Trapp, the wife of Georg von Trapp and the mother of their seven children. It is not to be confused with the second oldest daughter—Maria Franziska von Trapp.

The von Trapp Family, also known as the "Trapp Family Singers" was an Austrian singing group that was created by the former Austrian naval commander Georg von Trapp. The couple and their seven children performed as a unit during their active years.

The group gained popularity during the interwar period. They achieved the peak of their fame when they performed in the United States, where they decided to permanently relocate due to the outbreak of World War II in Austria.

In the film, Georg von Trapp was played by



Photo courtesy picryl.com
Maria Augusta von Trapp (front) and five of her children.

Christopher Plumber and Julie Andrews starred as Maria, a woman in the abbey that was studying and training to become a nun.

The opening of the movie starts with Maria casually wandering across a peaceful, green meadow singing. The director, Robert Wise, smartly sets the tone for the movie as well as displaying a strong contrast between Maria's personality and the stereotypical expectations of a nun.

Due to the lack of discipline and order, Mother Abbess sends Maria to be the governess of the von Trapp family. The captain von Trapp raises his children through the means of military style discipline and strict rules following the death of his wife. This results in the seven children becoming rebellious and extremely naughty, which drove the previous governesses crazy.

Unlike the previous governesses, Maria treated the disobedient children with patience, love, and care. Through it all, Maria was able to win the hearts of the children, and ultimately, the captain.

It was not long before the Nazi decided on an Austria Anschluss. They had named von Trapp to be the new naval commander and ordered him to be commissioned immediately. With the help of Mother Abbess and other nuns, the von Trapp family successfully escaped under the

nose of the Nazi Germans using a music festival as a decoy.

The incorporation of the musical element in combination with the traditional filming aspects sparked a new chemical reaction in the musical classic. The soundtracks, the singing actors and actresses were phenomenal in doing their part to perform as well as act, all at the same time.

Films of similar nature would often times forcefully incorporate songs in a scene where it is rather unsuitable. However, *The Sound of Music* had seamlessly merged the songs with the plot of the story. It is almost as if the actors and actresses are merely singing their lines or conversation versus performing with an orchestra.

The soundtrack album was also released in 1965, selling more than 20 million copies worldwide, making it one of the most successful soundtrack albums of all time. It topped the number one spot on the Billboard 200 in the United States in 1965, and it remained on the chart for 238 weeks.

The film nonetheless, was met with an extraordinary amount of success. It was ranked the number one box office film in 1965 after merely four weeks. It raked in 286.2 million of revenue with a measly 8.2 million budget.

Moreover, it collected many accolades and awards along the way. The American Film Institute ranked *The Sound of Music* as the 55th greatest American film of all time and the fourth greatest film musical.

The Sound of Music was tied with *Doctor Zhivago* with five awards, and ten nominations at the 38th Academy Awards in 1965. It brought home best picture, best director, best sound, best film editing and best music, scoring of music, adaptation, or treatment.

At the 23rd Golden Globe Awards 1966, *The Sound of Music* was crowned the best motion picture—comedy or musical, and best actress—comedy or musical as well as scoring a spot in two other nominations.

The Sound of Music is a timeless classic that can be enjoyed and revisited by people of all ages. It serves as one of the predecessors and pioneers of modern musical genre films.

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Two Richmond guys in Amazing Race

By FLORENCE GORDON
Contributing writer

Richmond Sentinel's Aug. 1 publication provided our readers with information on Canada's most-watched summer series, the *Amazing Race* (episodes one to four). The reason we were following the series is because, two young guys from Richmond, Derek Gottenbos and Jaspal Sidhu are competing as a team.

Derek and Jaspal met in Richmond high school and have been inseparable since. Today, at age 28 they have a YouTube channel with a following of two million viewers. How they decided to apply as contenders for the *Amazing Race*, we'll have to wait for their answer to that.

They are constantly performing the challenges with a sense of humour supporting each other in every challenge and they're not easy tasks mentally and physically. They always have a smile on their face and are always joking around but underneath this light-hearted performance they have not had it easy growing up. Derek grew up with a single mom and understands the hardships and sacrifices his mom made to keep the family together. Jaspal's father fell victim to brain cancer so he too understood the sacrifices made including giving up his dream to become a professional soccer player. Their goal, if they successfully win the title of 'Best Duo' will be to use the money to help their families.

In our last publication, the 10 teams travelled and competed in Manitoba and Alberta in episode one, then the next four episodes were in British Co-



Richmond's Derek Gottenbos and Jaspal Sidhu.

Photo courtesy CTV

lumbia. The production company should be commended for showcasing not only the major destinations but the smaller communities too like Smithers B.C. and Uclulet. The photography is breathtaking and since it's a national TV series, hopefully this will bring more tourists to B.C.

We said we'd keep you informed, well in our last publication 7 teams were leaving Sooke BC to take a bus to Victoria where they picked up trucks and drove to Uclulet and Tofino to receive the next clue but first, they must compete in such challenges like diving into icy water searching for a list of articles underwater, taking a fishing vessel up the coast to gather a boatload of Kelp, and if they don't complete the challenge as instructed or quit because they find the challenge to tough they will face a severe penalty or even elimination. Once the judge approves they successfully completed the task they then travel by truck into the forest where they have to perform a dance routine with an instructor, while hanging from a tree by a rope.

Once they have successfully completed this final challenge they are given a clue that instructs them to drive themselves to Long Beach to the next pit stop, where Jon Montgomery awaits their arrival. Derek and Jaspal were the third team to arrive, a team was eliminated and now there are six teams. Next stop Niagara Falls, Ontario.

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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.

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