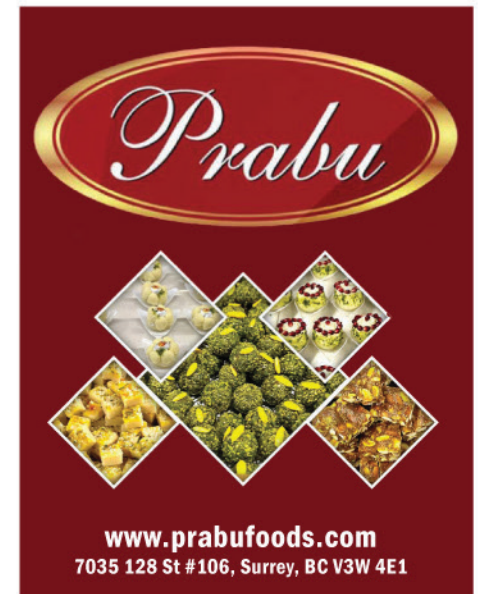


ASIAN JOURNAL

Volume: 17, Issue: 31 | Ph: 604-312-5678 | Email: connect@asianjournal.ca, www.asianjournal.ca



EXPANDED, STREAMLINED HPV VACCINE PROGRAM PROTECTS MORE PEOPLE AGAINST CANCERS

The Province is broadening access to the free, publicly funded human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine and simplifying the immunization schedule, ensuring more people in B.C. have the protection they need against HPV-related cancers.

"The HPV vaccine is a powerful tool to protect health and prevent cancer," said Josie Osborne, Minister of Health. "By expanding free access and making it easier for people to get immunized, we're taking another meaningful step forward in our 10-year Cancer Action Plan - reducing cancer rates and improving health outcomes for people across British Columbia."

Following guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization and provincial immunization experts, the government is streamlining the immunization process for HPV.

Starting Thursday, July 31, 2025, the HPV vaccine schedule will shift from two doses to one dose for people age nine to 20. People 21 and older will be eligible for a two-dose series, with six-months between doses. Individuals who are immunocompromised will continue to need a three-dose series.

With this change, the Province is expanding eligibility for B.C.'s publicly funded HPV immunization program to include all people 19 to 26, plus people 27 to 45 who are living with HIV or who self-identify as belonging to the gay, bisexual, questioning, Two-Spirit, transgender and non-binary communities.

Those who have undergone post-colposcopy treatments on or after July 31, 2025, are eligible to get the vac-



cine at any age. A colposcopy is a procedure to check for abnormal areas on the cervix and vagina.

The HPV vaccine will continue to be offered through voluntary, school-based immunization clinics starting with students in Grade 6 and through multi-grade catch-up clinics, as well as in some community pharmacies for those who may have missed their dose. Other eligible people can get the vaccine from some

pharmacies, sexually transmitted infection clinics, public-health units, primary-care providers or a community-health nurse. People living in First Nation communities can contact their community health centre or nursing station to book an appointment.

"B.C.'s community pharmacists are proud to be an accessible provider of vaccines for British Columbians living in communities, large and

small," said pharmacist Colleen Hogg, chair of the BC Pharmacy Association. "Pharmacists are one of the top immunizers and are there for patients when they need us."

This initiative is a part of B.C.'s 10-year Cancer Action Plan to better prevent, detect and treat cancers, and to deliver improved care for people facing cancer now, while preparing for growing needs of the future.



Chal Chaliye
SABZI MANDI
Chal Chaliye ...

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ASIAN JOURNAL

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ICBC: ONE-IN-FOUR B.C. DRIVERS SURVEYED ADMITS TO NODDING OFF

In a new Ipsos survey, one-in-four (24%) B.C. drivers admitted to momentarily nodding off while driving in the past year. Half of all drivers (52%) surveyed also shared that they've driven while tired or drowsy in the past year. With the B.C. Day long weekend fast approaching, ICBC is warning drivers to watch out for an often-overlooked summer danger: fatigue. Long drives and hot weather can be a dangerous combination leading to fatigue and serious, preventable crashes.

Police data shows that 71% more people are injured or killed in fatigue related crashes in July and August in B.C. compared to the rest of the year.* We're asking drivers to make



sure they get enough sleep before a long drive, take breaks, and avoid driving if you're feeling tired or drowsy. "It's alarming that so many drivers on our

roads have been tired enough that they've nodded off or fallen asleep," said Kathleen Nadalin, ICBC road safety manager. "Consider how you feel

before getting behind the wheel. If you're tired to begin with, you shouldn't be driving. If you're feeling rested, keep in mind that hot summer weather can be draining, especially on long drives, so plan to take a break every two hours to keep your energy levels up and switch drivers if you can."

Among drivers who reported driving while fatigued in the past year, 68% cited lack of sleep the night before as a factor, while 53% of respondents pointed to driving too long without a break, and 48% attributed it to the time of day they travelled. Among those who cited lack of sleep as a factor, 38% had slept four hours or less the night before, and

46% had slept five to seven hours. Among those who cited long drives as a factor, 46% had been driving three hours or more without a break.

"Fatigue slows your reaction time and when driving at highway speeds, even a slight reduction can significantly increase your risk of crashing," said Nadalin. "If you notice any signs of fatigue like not remembering the last few minutes of driving, struggling to stay focused or blurred vision, the safest choice is to pull over when safe and take a nap."

More survey results are available in a summary pdf. To help prevent driver fatigue-related crashes, we've invested approximately

\$2.7 million in new shoulder and centreline rumble strips on B.C. highways since 2016 in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit. These safety upgrades are funded through our road improvement program. Rumble strips alert drowsy or distracted drivers if their vehicle drifts from their lane. We also invest in median and roadside barriers to prevent vehicles from veering off the road or into oncoming traffic, especially on high-speed highways and rural roads.

This summer, our road safety team has also been visiting BC Ferries' terminals around long weekends to connect with travelers and keep road safety top of mind.

ISLAND SENIORS LEFT BEHIND: ADVOCATE'S REPORT EXPOSES LONG-TERM CARE CRISIS IN ISLAND HEALTH

COMOX, BC: A damning new report from the Office of the Seniors Advocate confirms what families across BC have long feared: the long-term care system is collapsing, and nowhere is the situation more dire than under Island Health.

Brennan Day, MLA for Courtenay-Comox and the Official Opposition Critic for Seniors' Health, is calling it a "full-blown system breakdown driven by government neglect." "Since 2017, the NDP has overpromised and underdelivered," said Day. "Nowhere is that more obvious than here in Island Health, where wait times for long-term care have nearly quadrupled. They've had eight years. Seniors can't wait any longer."

Key findings from the Seniors Advocate's report include: Vancouver Island median wait times for long-term care have increased from 60 days to 230 days, among the worst in the

province.

Waitlists have tripled across B.C. since 2016, with Island Health making up a significant portion of the growth.

Of the 5,000 care beds promised by the NDP since 2020, only 380 have been built, with most construction delayed until at least 2028.

Public home support per capita has declined by 10%, and 60% of seniors admitted to care received no publicly funded home support while they waited.

Despite repeated warnings and recommendations from the Seniors Advocate, the NDP government has failed to deliver on alternatives like assisted living and respite care. The consequences are now rippling across the health system.

"Seniors aren't getting the support they need at home, so they end up in emergency rooms instead, and our hospitals are buckling under the pressure," said Day.

According to the report, 95% of seniors entering care had a caregiver, most often a spouse or adult child, yet 60% of those caregivers reported distress. Access to adult day programs remains worse than it was before the pandemic, and respite services continue to be underfunded.

"This is a regional failure with provincial roots," said Day. "You can't blame demographics when you've had eight years to plan and refused to act. The so-called 'grey wave' didn't come out of nowhere, it's been building for years, and this government still wasn't ready."

Day is calling for an immediate, targeted action plan for Island Health, including:

Emergency investment in home support services.

Expansion of publicly subsidized assisted living

Fast-tracked construction of long-term care beds in the hardest-hit communities

RCMP ARREST IMPAIRED DRIVER WHO WAS MORE THAN FOUR TIMES THE LEGAL LIMIT

Friday evening at approximately 11:00 p.m. White Rock RCMP received a 9-1-1 call advising of a dangerous and possibly impaired driver in the 14000 block of North Bluff Road. Police responded quickly and located the vehicle shortly after receiving the call.

A 50-year-old male from White Rock was arrested for impaired driving and is facing charges after providing breath samples that were over four times the legal limit.

This was an extremely dangerous situation. Said Constable Chantal Sears, it is a miracle this driver didn't cause a serious collision.

RCMP thanked the vigilant caller who

reported the incident and emphasized the crucial role the public plays in helping keep roads safe.

We continue to remove impaired drivers from our roads on a weekly basis, despite the availability of safe and sober transportation options in our community, added Constable Chantal Sears. It is both disappointing and alarming that this criminal behaviour persists.

The male was released from custody after having his drivers licence suspended with a court date scheduled in November.

White Rock RCMP urge anyone who suspects an impaired driver to call 9-1-1 immediately.

Surrey's Housing Action Plan delivers over 9,500 net new homes so far



Surrey, B.C. – After 18 months, the City of Surrey is reporting significant progress in achieving its goals in the Housing Action Plan. Halfway through the second year, the City has implemented over 30 process improvements and issued permits for over 9,500 net new housing units. These improvements were focused on reducing timelines, streamlining approval processes, and updating by-laws and policies to support a growing city.

“From exceeding the provincial housing targets, to implementing process improvements, the City is delivering on our commitment to increasing the housing supply,” said Mayor Brenda Locke. “I would like to thank the federal government and CMHC for their continued support as we work together to offer di-

verse and affordable housing options in Surrey. We’re dedicated to building a city for everyone – where you can live, work, learn, and thrive.”

In the remaining months, several improvements are expected to be introduced to Council to meet the deliverables outlined in the Housing Action Plan, including:

- Update policies for application scope and requirements
- Explore further opportunities to increase reliance on qualified professionals and reduce the scope of reviews by the City such as geotechnical reviews. Create new zones for six-storey mid-rise and mixed-use buildings as well as townhouses

- Establish an approach for pre-approved plans including accessory dwelling units

- Update the Official Community Plan (OCP) to include

“15-minute neighbourhood” policies

“Our government is committed to giving local governments the support they need to drive housing supply and bring down housing costs. Surrey joins more than 200 municipalities across Canada in cutting red tape and fast-tracking housing. It’s an example of what’s possible when governments work together. It’s also another step forward in our bold, ambitious plan to build Canada strong,” said the Honourable Randeep Sarai, Parliamentary Secretary of State, International Development, and Member of Parliament for Surrey Centre, on behalf of the Honourable Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development Canada.

Surrey Council to vote on \$15.9M contract for major road projects

Surrey, B.C. – At Monday’s Regular Council Meeting, Surrey City Council will consider a combined contract award for improvements to 192 Street, from 16 Avenue to 28 Avenue in Campbell Heights, and the first phase of preloading for the 72 Avenue extension between 152 Street and Highway 15. The \$15.9M combined contract will help advance these major road projects to reduce congestion and support the city’s growth and economy.

“I’m thrilled that we’re moving ahead on the latest phase of the 72 Avenue Corridor Project, which is the largest municipal road investment in B.C.’s history,” said Mayor Brenda Locke. “Transforming 72 Avenue into a continuous east-west route from 120 Street to 196 Street will ease congestion and improve neighbourhood and regional connectivity. Council’s focus on improvements to 192 Street further reflects our commitment to building infrastructure that supports local businesses, creates jobs, and drives our regional economy. I also want to thank our staff for finding efficiencies in combining these contracts and for helping us build faster and reduce overall project costs.”

Combining the contracts creates economies of scale, as sand and gravel excavated from the 192 Street roadwork can be reused as preload material for the 72 Avenue extension between 152 Street and Bear Creek.

The 192 Street improvements from 16 Avenue to 28 Avenue are expected to be complete by summer 2026 and will include:

- additional travel lanes;
- improved traffic movements at intersections;
- integrated cycling-walking pathways; and
- installation of a new feeder watermain between 16 Avenue and 20 Avenue.

This contract includes preloading of the 72 Avenue extension between 152 Street and Bear Creek to prepare the site for future construction. Preloading east of Bear Creek will occur in 2026 as part of a separate contract following permitting and approvals. Construction of the 72 Avenue extension from 152 Street and Highway 15 will occur in multiple phases and will include:

- two travel lanes in each direction;
- improved agricultural ditches; and
- wide road shoulders to allow oversized farm vehicles to use the road without impeding other vehicles.

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Surrey completes 152 Street upgrade with Nicomekl Bridge twinning

Surrey, B.C. – Surrey City Council, along with project partners, celebrated the completion of the Nicomekl River Bridge twinning — the final milestone in the \$44.4-million 152 Street Upgrades project. This milestone marks the official opening of the new two-lane northbound bridge and completes the widening of 152 Street from two to four lanes between the Nicomekl and Serpentine rivers. The upgraded corridor also includes a multi-use path for walking and cycling, improved transit shelters, and a raised road for better flood protection. Together, these improvements enhance public safety, reduce congestion, and support the efficient movement of people, goods, and services along this key north-south route. “The completion of the Nicomekl River Bridge twinning will improve safety, connectivity, and traffic flow along this critical corridor that links Surrey’s communities to each other and the greater region,” said Ernie Klassen, Member of Parliament for South Surrey-White Rock and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries on behalf of the



Honourable Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development Canada. “This project reflects our commitment to building resilient infrastructure that serves our communities today and for generations to come.” “The new bridge brings much-needed capacity to a vital corridor that serves over 30,000 trips a day — whether by drivers, transit riders, or commercial vehicles,” said Mayor Brenda Locke. “This investment in our critical infrastructure will help

ease congestion, support the movement of goods, and meet the growing transportation needs of our city. Raising the road also makes 152 Street stronger and more resilient against extreme weather events. I want to thank the Government of Canada and TransLink for partnering with us to make this important project a reality.” This important project will improve road safety, congestion, goods movement, and provide more multi-modal travel options for Surrey residents,” said TransLink CEO Kevin Quinn. “Through

our Local Government Funding Programs, TransLink is proud to support these vital transportation and infrastructure upgrades along 152 Street.” The 152 Street Upgrades project is part of the first phase of implementation of Surrey’s award-winning Coastal Flood Adaptation Strategy (CFAS) to build community resilience to coastal flooding and sea level rise. The project is funded in part by TransLink and the Government of Canada’s Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

New fire hall in Fleetwood added to Surrey’s major capital projects

Surrey, B.C. – Surrey is moving forward with its ambitious capital program, with planning and early work underway on a range of new facilities across the city. A new replacement fire hall in Fleetwood is the latest addition to the City’s major capital projects, reflecting a long-term commitment to supporting growth and public safety. Fire Hall No. 6, located at 152 Street and Fraser Highway, is being demolished to make way for future development along the Surrey-Langley SkyTrain line. The \$30-million replacement is scheduled to begin design work in 2026, with construction expected to start in 2027 and be completed in 2028. “Surrey continues to move forward on key capital projects that will strengthen our community and improve the services people rely on every day,” Mayor Brenda Locke said. “We’re setting the stage for spaces and facilities that will serve our residents for years to come. Our commitment is to build a city where everyone feels safe, connected, and proud to call home.”

Learn the signs of stroke

- F** **ace** is it drooping?
- A** **rms** can you raise both?
- S** **peech** is it slurred or jumbled?
- T** **ime** to call 9-1-1 right away.

Act **F A S T**. Lifesaving treatment begins the second you call 9-1-1.

heartandstroke.ca/punjabi



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ਸਟ੍ਰੋਕ ਦੇ ਸੰਕੇਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਜਾਣੋ

- F** **ace** ਚਿਹਰਾ: ਕੀ ਚਿਹਰਾ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਢਿਲਕ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ?
- A** **rms** ਬਾਹਵਾਂ: ਕੀ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਬਾਹਵਾਂ ਉੱਪਰ ਨੂੰ ਚੁੱਕ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ?
- S** **peech** ਗੱਲ-ਬਾਤ: ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਗੱਲ-ਬਾਤ ਅਸਪਸ਼ਟ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ?
- T** **ime** ਸਮੇਂ: ਸਮੇਂ ਦੀ ਅਹਿਮੀਅਤ ਸਮਝੋ - ਬਟਪਟ 9-1-1 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

F A S T ਕਿਰਿਆ ਕਰੋ। ਜੀਵਨ ਨੂੰ ਬਚਾਉਣ ਵਾਲਾ ਇਲਾਜ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਦੁਆਰਾ 9-1-1 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਸਕਿੰਟ ਨਾਲ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ।

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Vancouver real estate prices decline, still highest in country: report

By Dean Recksiedler

The latest report on real estate around the country has come up with a familiar result — it's expensive to buy in Vancouver.

Century 21 released a report this week, looking at 50 communities around Canada which found, on a dollar-per-square-foot basis, Vancouver was number one.

A detached home in Vancouver's West End was calculated at an average of \$1,110 per square foot. The average condo in the downtown area is worth \$1,206 per square foot, according to the report.

Despite the high prices, the real estate company says B.C. is seeing the effects of "uncertain buyers" as both prices and total sales drop.

Condos downtown have seen a 4.59 per cent decrease from the previous year, and homes in the West End have seen a 4.39 per cent decrease.

Real estate agent Rhiannon Foster says the price varies from city to city around the region — even if in close proximity.

"An area like North Vancouver hasn't seen much in terms of price decline at all. And, in fact, their sales are still actually quite strong. It's very unlike most of the other markets and especially unlike West Vancouver, which is right beside it, which is, at best, sucking wind," she told 1130 NewsRadio.

Not surprisingly, she says the price per square foot drops dramatically as you move away from major centres like Vancouver and Kelowna.

"Living down in the Lower Mainland, your price per square foot is going to be much higher than somewhere like in Kitimat, which is a little bit further to get to, and is probably not the first destination for most people when they're moving to the province."



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Court Order Sale. Property is sold as is where is. This 5 bedroom 4 bathroom split-level home is very well maintained in a family oriented neighbourhood. Quiet Street with tons of privacy, the generous kitchen boasts granite countertops and spacious island, while large windows flood the space with natural light. Private 2 car garage. Very well maintained. Located in a GREAT LOCATION with easy access to major highways, shopping, and schools. Measurements approx. buyer to verify if important. School Catchment: Madaugh Elementary & Echolsalish Secondary. For more information please call. (30811618)

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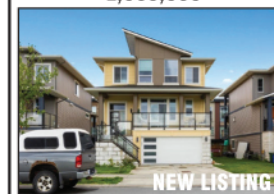
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COURT ORDER SALE

11132 PATRICIA DRIVE, DELTA \$1,340,000



Court Order Sale. This 5 bedroom 3 bathroom split-level home is very well maintained in a family oriented neighborhood. Quiet Street with tons of privacy, very easily convert downstairs into a suite (Kitchen and separate entry already downstairs). Home gets tons of natural light and has had a few updates throughout the years: new floors, kitchen cabinets, deck in the backyard. Quick access to Alex Fraser Bridge to get Richmond and New Westminster & Highway 17 to get to Langley & Surrounding areas.

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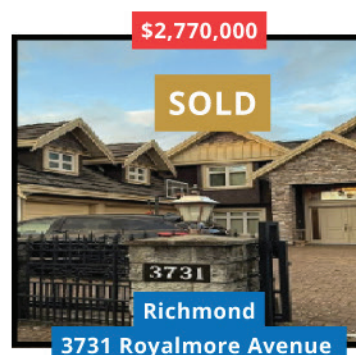
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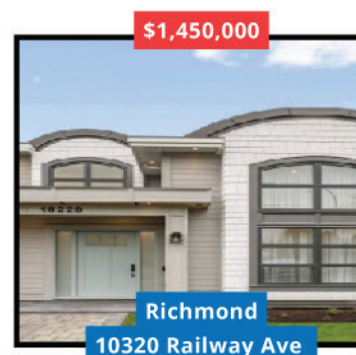
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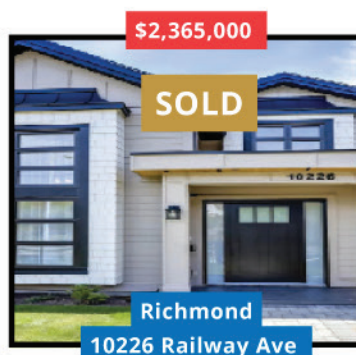
A True Show Home that is absolutely stunning and totally remodeled with all high end finishing's to perfection. This home is located in a very desirable and prime family Neighborhood.



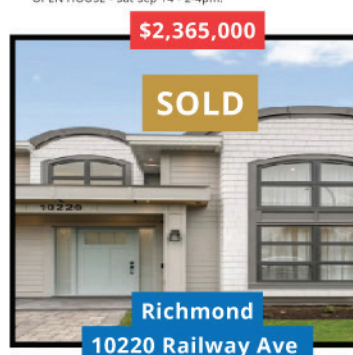
This property is located at 3440 Trumond Avenue, Richmond, BC, in the neighbourhood of Seafair. The current median list price for similar homes for sale in the vicinity is \$1,910,000.



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The New, Fully Electric Volvo EX90: New Era for Volvo

Auto review by Veenoo Dewan.

A true seven-seater, all-electric SUV that further raises standards the Volvo EX90 is a premium European luxury vehicle equipped with technology and highly optimized safety, efficiency and design. In terms of styling, the new EX90 has a less radical, understated body design that suits the larger proportions well. The cabin matches with a smart upscale look highlighted by sleek wool-blend textile material or Nordico, a synthetic leather, upholstery on the seats. The EX90 arrives with twin motors and all-wheel drive powered by a 111kWh battery and two permanent magnet electric motors delivering 370 kW (496 hp) and 671 lb. ft. of torque. The EX90 delivers up to 495 kms of pure electric driving range on a single charge. Acceleration is rated at 0-100 km/h in 4.9 seconds, which is pretty quick for a SUV of this size and weight. The Volvo EX90's battery uses a 400-volt architecture and has a maximum charge rate of 250-kilowatts. When plugged into the appropriate DC fast charger it can be charged from 10 to 80% in 30 minutes.

The EX90 cabin is a cut above - understated, yet sophisticated. It is typical "Scandi Chic" with eco-friendly recyclable material and a neat fastidious carefully engineered ergonomic design.



Naturally, the front seats are pure Volvo, with - the most comfortable seats around. The Volvo EX90 has a slew of sophisticated safety technology with State-of-the-art sensors like cameras, radars and lidar. A 14.5-inch infotainment system offers Google built-in. Google apps and services including hands-free help from Google Assistant, Google Maps navigation and apps on Google Play. When it comes to pricing, the seven-seat 2025 Volvo EX90 starts at \$110,000 for the Plus

version (As tested) and rises to \$115,600 for the EX90 Ultra. Equipment levels are fairly high and there are lots of options and high end features you can specify. There is also the EX90 Ultra six-seater option for \$116,200. All prices add delivery taxes and PDE plus options. The cabin technology is all new, Volvo's next-generation multimedia system, comprises a free-standing, 14.5-inch portrait-oriented touchscreen. There are few if any tactile hard buttons for the controls - almost everything is operated via the

touchscreen.

In terms of interior space, the EX90 offers ample head and legroom and a roomy, wide middle row that can actually accommodate three adults. A child seat booster is built right into the centre seat position. - a typical thoughtful and safety conscious touch from Volvo. The third row as expected will be tighter, but decent enough for adults on short trips. Cargo space is generous with 324-litres of cargo space behind the third row and 1,029L with it powered folded flat. Dropping the middle

row opens up 2,107L. The load floor is flat and there's a 72L storage compartment under the rear floor and a 49L front trunk (frunk.). Active safety aids include: forward collision mitigation, run-off road mitigation, rear collision warning, blind spot monitoring with rear cross-traffic alert and lane keep assist to pedestrian, cyclist and scooter detection with steering assist and Pilot Assist with steering. To sum up, the seven-seater new EX90 delivers an all-electric option to those who

need it. It has all the Volvo attributes, including a premium cabin, opulent comfortable cabin and first-rate safety. Negatives are few- it is expensive in the upmarket version; the lack of hard controls takes some getting used to and that's about it. Excellent in every way and highly recommended.

2025 Volvo EX90 Plus - priced from \$110,000. All prices add delivery taxes and PDE plus options. More info at www.volvo.ca

B.C., Haisla Nation take action to power Cedar LNG with renewable electricity

A new \$200-million contribution agreement between the Government of B.C. and Haisla Nation will support building the infrastructure needed to ensure the Cedar LNG facility runs on clean, B.C. energy – making it one of the lowest emitting facilities of its kind. “By supporting Haisla Nation to power Cedar LNG with clean B.C. electricity, we’re taking another step in building a stronger economy that’s less exposed to reckless decisions made in the White House,” said Premier David Eby. “As the world’s first Indigenous majority-owned LNG facility, Cedar LNG will create more good jobs that support families and give young people a future in local communities and throughout the North, all while generating revenue for the things we all count on, like better health care and good schools across the province.” The agreement will support Haisla Nation in building a new 287-kilovolt transmission line, a new substation, new distribution lines and nearshore electrification – infrastructure the project requires to run on clean B.C. electricity. This stands in contrast with many high-



er-emitting facilities around the world, which are powered by natural gas. The contribution agreement provides \$200 million to support the electrification of Cedar LNG, complementing the \$200 million in federal support for the facility announced this year. “Our vision for Cedar LNG was always predicated on being able to source the cleanest power option to ensure our project delivers LNG with the lowest possible carbon footprint,” said Elected Chief Maureen Nyce, Haisla Nation. “We are grateful to the

provincial government for supporting our Nation’s goal of sustainably advancing development in our territory on our own terms and in accordance with our values. In doing so, this government is working toward its objective of reducing B.C.’s overall carbon footprint. When Indigenous communities lead projects as owners, as is the case with Cedar LNG, we are able to ensure that these projects are developed in the most environmentally responsible manner, while generating revenues that enable us to protect our way of life and

build long-term prosperity.” Through strong partnerships and strategic investments, the Province is deepening relationships with First Nations and helping diversify B.C.’s international trade. The Province will continue to engage with First Nations and other key partners to ensure that economic development projects uphold world-class environmental standards and benefit all people in British Columbia. “Cedar LNG is a model for how LNG projects can be developed through innovation and collaboration with First

Nations, while also creating good jobs and addressing climate change,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions. “Through this agreement, we are continuing to support economic reconciliation, while creating a more energy-independent province, which is urgently needed during the current global and political climates.”

Quick Facts:

- The Cedar LNG project is a floating liquefied natural gas terminal that will be located near Kitimat within the territory of Haisla Nation and led by Haisla Nation.
- Haisla Nation has partnered with Pembina Pipeline Corporation on the project.
- As many as 500 people will be employed at Cedar LNG during peak construction periods.
- When operational, approximately 100 people will be employed full time.
- Cedar LNG is scheduled to be operational in late 2028.

Classrooms under construction will add nearly 1,500 student spaces

Construction is underway for new classrooms at seven schools across B.C., creating nearly 1,500 additional student spaces to support rapidly growing communities.

“Communities across the province are growing, and with that comes the urgent need for more schools and more classroom space,” said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure. “We’re building schools faster than we ever

have before, and we’re doing it with smart solutions that get students into safe, modern classrooms right in their neighbourhood.”

New K-12 classrooms are breaking ground this summer in:

- Chilliwack;
- Delta;
- Fort St. John;
- Richmond;
- North Vancouver; and

- Maple Ridge.

“Every dollar we invest in education is an investment in our future,” said Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care. “With modern learning environments, students are better equipped to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.” The Province has invested approximately \$119 million in these classrooms to support

growing school districts.

“The new addition to Westview Elementary supports a healthy and vibrant learning community,” said Linda Munro, chair, North Vancouver school board. “We are excited by the innovative approach to building that will add more space and modern classrooms to better meet students’ needs.”

Since 2017, the Province has invested more than \$6

billion in school construction and renovation, creating nearly 43,000 new student spaces and more than 39,000 seismically safe seats in B.C. schools. As the province grows, government is committed to working with both school districts and municipalities to provide all students with safe, modern and inspiring places to learn.

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(PG)**

Truth or Consequences?

Racism is a plague. A country like South Africa has known the pain hatred based on colour or religion can cause. Too bad its current leaders haven't learned that lesson. Thankfully a new film *Don't Let's go to the Dogs Tonight* sheds some light on Rhodesia's troubled past. Currently showing across B.C. courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics and Mongrel Media maybe new lessons can be learned. Perhaps. Told in English through the bright eyes of a "privileged" eight year old girl the film is set at a tumultuous time for all concerned. Especially the Whites. You see change in the air with the rise of black leadership hopeful Robert Mugabe and his election to the presidency of the newly formed

Zimbabwe in 1980. Throughout this period of time you can see the division and friction between the racial communities and young Bobo has a front row seat. Lexi Venter is terrific as the little girl trying to make sense of it all. First time director Embeth Davidtz (Schindler's List) cowrote this story based on the memoirs of Alexandra Fullers and does a pretty good job here. All the characters are well-rounded and you can sense the urgency as the white farming community are scared witless. All in all a good effort by one and all though this period piece may test your comfort level. Still you can cut the tension with a knife.

Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight



NASEERUDDIN SHAH WRAPS UP PERIOD SAGA MADE IN INDIA, BASED ON RATAN TATA

Almighty Motion Picture has completed production on its drama series *Made in India - A Titan Story*, which explores the origins of one of India's well-known consumer brands and the people who helped build it. The series, produced by Almighty Motion Picture, is based on the book *Titan: Inside India's Most Successful Consumer Brand* by Vinay Kamath. It traces the journey of Titan from its beginnings within the Tata Group to becoming a well-known name in the Indian consumer market, highlighting the roles of J. R. D. Tata and Xerxes Desai along the way.

Legendary actor Naseeruddin Shah leads the cast as J. R. D. Tata, with Jim Sarbh portraying Xerxes Desai, Titan's pioneering managing director. The ensemble also includes Vaibhav Tatwawadi, Lakshvir Saran, Kaveri Seth, Namita Dubey and Paresh Ganatra. Filmed on detailed sets and real locations in Mumbai, Lonavala, and Bangalore, the series also features rare access to the Titan Manufacturing Plant in Hosur and the Bombay House, the Tata Group's headquarters. The project was made with official permission and support from the Titan Board to maintain historical and brand accuracy.

South Asian Seniors - Filing Income Tax Returns Free - From March 15th 2025 to April 30th 2025

APNI South Asian Community Response Networks Surrey, can help you to file your Income Tax Returns for the year 2024 free of cost, through the community volunteer program of Canada Revenue Agency, from March 15th 2025 to April 30th 2025. If you are living in Surrey / Delta, the eligibility Criteria are as follows 1. Single individual with annual income limit up to \$ 42,000 or less. 2. Couples with annual income up to \$57,000 or less, add \$ 2500 for additional members. Interest income not over \$ 1,000.00 and this income will be included as total eligibility. With no investment income, no rental income, no business income or partnership income, no self-employed income and no capital gain or loss, not for deceased person, not if Bankruptcy filed in the Tax year or the year before and also not for Foreign Property or Foreign income. Sin# card and Govt. issued photo identity, All T4 & T5 Slips, Medical or disability receipts & Last year's Notice of Assessment will be required to prove the documents. Please contact Surendra Handa, Coordinator APNI South Asian Community Response Networks Surrey BC, Tel. 604 - 507 - 9945 for further information.

Province, Powell River work together to address homelessness

More support is on the way for people experiencing homelessness as the Province and the City of Powell River partner on a new temporary shelter.

"We're focused on bringing people indoors, keeping people safe and building strong communities where no one is left behind," said Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. "Addressing homelessness is a complex challenge, but the work we're doing is starting to make real progress. We're helping people move indoors so they can access the supports that help stabilize their lives."

The Province, through BC Housing, the City of Powell River and Lift Community Services, are working together to support people sheltering outdoors and in encampments, prioritizing their health and safety.

A proposed new 40-bed temporary shelter at 7104 Barnet St. will replace the 20-bed emergency shelter at 4746 Joyce Ave. that closed in March, doubling available shelter capacity in the community. The shelter will be operated by Lift and will offer 24/7 staffing, meals, laundry, showers and storage, as well as connections to housing and support services. It will also have security measures in place, including fenced grounds,



controlled access, security cameras and lighting. If approved by city council, it is expected to open this winter as the Province works to deliver more housing options in the community.

In addition, in response to the toxic-drug crisis, the qathet overdose prevention service, previously at 4752 Joyce Ave., will also be located at the temporary shelter site. Funded by Vancouver Coastal Health and operated by Lift, the site will

provide life-saving services, including a stand-alone trailer, outdoor inhalation support and a peer-recovery navigator to connect people with recovery services.

"This response reflects the collaboration we need to address complex challenges like homelessness," said Ron Woznow, mayor of Powell River. "The Province, through BC Housing, is leading the delivery and funding of the shel-

ter, Vancouver Coastal Health is providing funding for vital health services, Lift Community Services will operate the site and the city will provide the land. Together, we will provide opportunities for Powell River residents to have the accommodation and medical support they require."

This initiative reflects a shared commitment between the Province and the city to intensify efforts and bring more resources, helping people who are sheltering outdoors transition into safe, indoor spaces. The commitment supports a more co-ordinated response to homelessness and encampments, focusing on outreach and the rapid delivery of temporary housing so people can access support as quickly as possible.

Building on progress made in Abbotsford, Campbell River, Chilliwack, Duncan, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Prince George, Vancouver, and Victoria, Powell River will be the first of a second group of local governments partnering with the Province to put in place homeless and encampment responses and temporary housing solutions.

This work is part of the Province's Belonging in B.C. plan to help prevent homelessness and bring more people indoors quickly. Since 2017, the

Province has more than 93,250 homes delivered or underway, including more than 230 homes in Powell River.

Quotes:

Randene Neill, MLA for Powell River-Sunshine Coast –

"These new shelter spaces will offer safety, dignity and a path toward stability for people experiencing homelessness. I'm proud to see Powell River taking action to ensure everyone has access to the supports they need in the community they call home."

Jeremy Valeriotte, MLA for West Vancouver-Sea to Sky, and interim BC Green leader –

"Smaller communities in B.C. are often underserved when it comes to appropriate housing options, which only compounds economic and social challenges. We're pleased to see the Province supporting Powell River through the HEART and HEARTH fund to advance housing models that meet local needs. We're hopeful that more communities will gain access to these funds to support those most at risk of homelessness."

Kim Markel, executive director, Lift Community Services –

"We're very grateful for the collaborative action being taken to provide

vital, life-saving services in qathet. Everyone, no matter their life circumstances, has a right to shelter and health care, and we're proud to be part of the team providing these services to community members."

Quick Facts:

The Province, through BC Housing, is providing \$4.6 million toward construction of the shelter through the Homeless Encampment Action Response Temporary Housing (HEARTH) program and \$1.6 million in annual operating funding. The City of Powell River will lease the land for the project to BC Housing.

Vancouver Coastal Health is funding the relocation and operation of the overdose prevention service.

The Province, through BC Housing, Lift Community Services and the city, are also partnering to implement Powell River Homeless Encampment Action Response Teams (HEART), a multidisciplinary outreach partnership that includes local governments, Indigenous partners, health-care agencies and non-profit organizations.

The program is designed to rapidly respond to encampments of people sheltering outdoors, assess their needs and better support people to move indoors.

Long-term repairs set to begin on North Beach rockslide

A major step toward long-term stabilization of the slope beside Highway 97 between Callan Road and Okanagan Lake Provincial Park is underway, ensuring the reliability of the highway for Okanagan residents and visitors.

A \$23.2-million contract has been awarded to Emil Anderson Construction Inc. to complete the next phase of work. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2025 and finish in spring 2027.

Long-term stabilization work will return the highway to its original four-lane configuration. This includes building a retaining wall and catchment area at the base of the slope, along with a concrete wall next to the highway for add-



ed reinforcement. Additional rock anchors will also be installed to secure the slope, followed by repairs to the road's surface and drainage improvements.

This work will provide lasting sup-

port for the hillside and help prevent rockfall impacts, ensuring the ongoing safety and reliability of this key transportation corridor. This investment builds on extensive geotechnical work following the

rockslide in August 2023, which deposited significant rock and debris onto the highway and forced an immediate closure.

Between October 2023 and June 2024, crews removed unstable rock through controlled blasting, easing pressure on the slope. By fall 2024, more than 100 rock anchors were installed as part of Phase 1 of stabilization efforts.

Any impacts to Highway 97 traffic during construction will be communicated via traffic advisories and posted to Drive BC: <https://www.drivebc.ca/>

Drivers are asked to use caution through the area, obey posted speed limits and follow the directions of traffic-control personnel.



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ਤਾਜ਼ੇ ਫਲ ਫਰੂਟ, ਤਾਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਸਬਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਫ ਸੁਥਰੀ ਭਾਰਤੀ ਗਰੋਸਰੀ ਲਈ ਹਮੇਸ਼ਾਂ ਸਬਜ਼ੀ ਮੰਡੀ ਨੂੰ ਯਾਦ ਰੱਖੋ

SALES DATES: Fri. August 01, 2025 - Wed. August 06, 2025



American Express accepted at three locations. Prices in effect while quantities last and are subject to change without notice. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Photos are for illustrative purposes only and may not depict actual sale items.



STORES OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

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NEWTON 80th AVENUE: 13208 80th Ave., Surrey
NEWTON EXCHANGE: 101-13753 72 Ave., Surrey
NEWTON EAST: 15299 68th Ave., Surrey
ABBOTSFORD: 31831 S. Fraser Way, Abbotsford

604-590-2400
778-565-7880
604-581-2400
604-598-8006
604-864-9193

BURNABY: 7565 6th Street, Burnaby
RICHMOND: 9371 No 5 Rd, Richmond
NEWTON 64 AVE: 140- 6350 120 st, Surrey
LANGLEY: #50 - 20150 Langley Bypass, Langley
ABBOTSFORD: 2777 Gladwin Road, Abbotsford

604-553-6603
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Prices in effect at the above listed store locations only.