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# HIGH-SPEED CONNECTIVITY COMING TO NORTH VANCOUVER ISLAND, NORTHERN, CENTRAL COAST

People in more than 400 households will soon have better access to high-speed internet as 11 more rural Vancouver Island, northern and central coast communities get connected.

Projects will serve remote and rural communities, such as Oona River (northern coast), Echo Bay and Health Bay, including Gwayasdums 1 of the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation on Gilford Island (central coast), Firvale (Bella Coola valley) and Oclucie of Nuchatlaht First Nation on Vancouver Island. A total of seven last-mile projects will be built and operated by internet service provider CityWest.

"We're helping people across the province to employment, health care, education and training by partnering with service providers to bring fiservice bre-to-home connectivity to rural, remote and Indigenous com-munities," said Diana munities," said Diana Gibson, Minister of Citizens' Services. "With access to high-speed internet, people living in the north Island, central and northern coast regions will be able to fully participate in the digital world from their homes and communities.'

CityWest, in partnership with Strathcona Regional District, is



also building a new fibre-transport link between Campbell River and Gold River. This project will enhance regional transport capacity, including capacity for the Connected Coast Network, which spans approximately 2,810 kilometres of fibre and landing sites on beaches along coastal B.C., providing improved connectivity for several coastal communities.

"Expanding connectivity means greater access to jobs, education and government services that people rely on," said Tamara Davidson, MLA for North Coast-Haida Gwaii. "With improved access to high-speed internet, people can remain rooted in their home communities, while still accessing the services they need." The Province is invest-

ain rooted in their lion to expand connue communities, tivity in British Colubia. In 2017, the feduces they need."

ing more than \$1 million through the Connecting Communities BC program, administered by the Ministry of Citizens' Services. The Government of Canada is investing more than \$1.25 million through its Universal Broadband Fund and CityWest will contribute more than \$1 million. The First Nations Health Authority will also contribute approximately \$224,000 toward projects in Health Bay (Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis) and Echo Bay on Gilford Island Tsatsisnukwomi and Village on Harbledown Island, both located on the central coast.

Since 2017, the Province has invested \$584 million to expand connectivity in British Columbia. In 2017, the federal government estimated 57% of homes in rural and remote areas and

66% of homes on First Nation reserves in B.C. had access to high-speed internet. As of January 2025, approximately 74% of rural homes and approximately 83% of homes on First Nations reserves had access to high-speed internet.

Quotes:

Buckley Belanger, federal Secretary of State (Rural Development) –

"Access to high-speed internet is about more than just getting online – it's about being able to study, see a doctor virtually, run a business or connect with loved ones. These projects are going to make a real difference for people in rural communities and that's why our government is committed to making sure every household in Canada, no matter where it's located, has the reliable connection it needs."

Spencer Chandra Herbert, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation –

"By connecting rural and First Nations communities to high-speed internet, we also help the voices, ideas and passions of the people of the north Island, and north and central B.C. coast succeed in helping build a more prosperous and resilient B.C. that

stands on its own two feet."

Steve Morissette, parliamentary secretary for rural development -

"High-speed internet service is a game-changer for people living and working in rural and remote areas, enabling people to participate in the digital economy more fully and enjoy the many opportunities and services connectivity brings."

Steve Emery, director, Electoral Area A, Central Coast Regional District -'Reliable high-speed fibre internet in Ocean Falls and Martin Valley will be a game-chang-er. With this new infrastructure, remote work is now possible for residents – opening the door for newcomers and supporting economic opportunities in our region." Karl Bergman, director, Electoral Area C, North Coast Regional District -"This investment is an important step forward in closing the connectivity gap for Oona River and similar remote communities. Reliable internet opens doors to education, health care and economic participation, but it's only part of the solution. We're deeply grateful for this support and we continue to advocate for reliable transportation infrastructure

that ensures our communities are fully connected, both digitally and physically."

Stefan Woloszyn, chief executive officer, City-West -

"These projects are not just about providing internet, it's about enriching lives, fostering inclusion, creating opportunities and driving positive change. We are excited to see these projects moving forward to bridge the digital divide in these communities. We would like to express our thanks to the Province of B.C., the federal government, the First Nations Health Authority and Northern Development Initiative Trust for their vision on ensuring that these communities are able to unlock their connectivity desti-

Ben Campbell, CEO, Northern Development Initiative Trust –

"At Northern Development Initiative Trust, we're committed to strengthening northern B.C.'s rural development and fostering resilient communities. We're pleased to see initiatives that expand connectivity in remote areas, ensuring more British Columbians have access to reliable high-speed internet."







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# ASIAN JOURNAL

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# Ribbon cutting celebrates Flamingo One – A New Community Landmark in Surrey City Centre

Surrey, BC - Today, community members, leaders, and project partners gathered in Surrey City Centre to celebrate the official ribbon cutting of Flamingo One - a 35-storey tower bringing new homes, workplaces, and shops to the heart of the city.

Developed by Tien Sher Group of Companies and built by ITC Construction Group, Flamingo One introduces 375 condominium homes, approximately 50,000 square feet of modern office space, and ground-level commercial shops and services designed to meet the everyday needs of local residents

local residents.
The project is ideally situated within a 10-minute walk of Gateway SkyTrain Station, providing residents and workers with direct access to rapid transit and the broader Metro Vancouver

Today, region. To further support a greener lifestyle, 50% of the parking stalls are equipped with EV chargers, providing convenience for electric vehicle owners while reducing reliance on traditional fuel sources. Together, these features make Flamingo One a forward-looking, sustainable will by community hub.

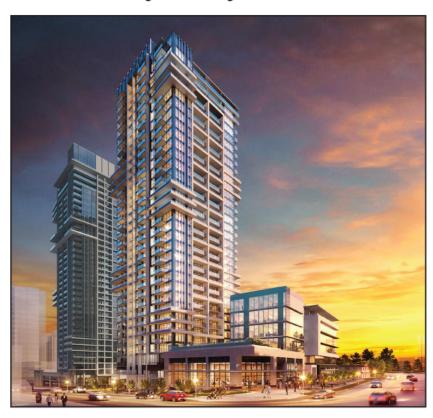
"Flamingo One is about more than just building a tower - it's about creating a complete community where people can live, work, and connect close to home," said Charan Sethi, President of Tien Sher Group. "We are proud to see this vision come to life and deeply grateful to the City of Surrey, ITC Construction, and the many people who helped us reach this milestone."

The event was attended by the Mayor of Surrey, Councilors, Member of Parliament Randeep Sarai, community leaders, and members of the public, reflecting the importance of Flamingo One as a new cornerstone in the revitalization of the historic Whalley district.

Whalley district.
Flamingo One is the first tower in the planned three-tower Flamingo Towers development, which will bring new homes, businesses, and gathering spaces to Surrey's growing downtown.

#### **About Tien Sher Group**

Tien Sher Group is a Richmond-based real estate development company committed to building vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable communities. With a strong track record of neighborhood revitalization, Tien Sher continues to play a key role in helping Surrey City Centre evolve into a thriving, connected downtown.



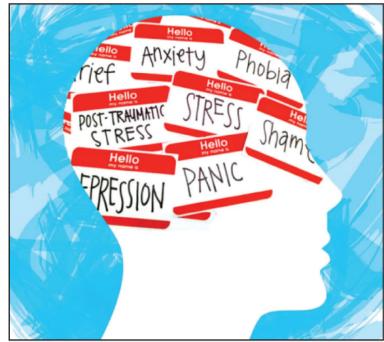
# ONGOING SUPPORT, SERVICES BENEFIT ADULTS WITH MENTAL-HEALTH ISSUES

Adults living with mentalhealth challenges will continue to have access to low- or no-cost counselling services to help them get well.

"When someone takes the courageous step of reaching out for mental-health support, services must be there for them," said Josie Osborne, Minister of Health. "Over the past six years, thousands of people across B.C. have received low- and no-cost counselling, many for the very first time. With this investment, we're ensuring that people can continue to find affordable, lifechanging mental-health care when they need it most."

Since the Province launched low- and no-cost counselling services in 2019, organizations have provided more than 362,000 counselling sessions, with 72,000 people accessing counselling for the first time. Government is investing \$6.7

Government is investing \$6.7 million to continue providing free or low-cost adult mental-health or addictions counselling services. Forty-four community-based organizations in all health authorities in the province, including urban, rural and



Indigenous communities, will receive funding to provide

The Community Action Initiative (CAI), which is a non-profit organization that provides grant and training opportunities for organizations across B.C., administers the funding through the Community

Counselling Fund. Since 2019, the Province has invested more than \$43 million in counselling capacity in communities. The most common needs this year have been trauma, grief and loss, isolation, and economic hardship.

"The Community Action Initiative has been proud to partner with the Province of B.C. to provide grants and capacity building for non-profit organizations that provide counselling services," said Julia Kaisla, executive director, CAI. "As a result, community members from all across the province have gained new skills and supports to move forward in their lives, and in their healing. This has undoubtedly reduced the burden on our health-care system and has enhanced community health and capacity."

Community counselling provides flexibility for counsellors to meet clients through outreach, in-person counselling or through virtual supports. In some community agencies, counsellors connect people to other services and supports, such as housing, employment insurance, addictions treatment or attending appointments with

Providing counselling services is one part of government's work to build a full continuum of mental-health and addictions care that works for everyone. In addition, the Province continues to add and expand care, including early intervention and prevention, treatment and recovery services, supportive and complex-care housing and more.

Ouotes:

Sheila Malcolmson, MLA for Nanaimo-Gabriola Island -

"There's strength in diversity, so we're offering a range of mentalhealth counselling. To meet people where they are, today we're investing in community counselling services in Nanaimo and across B.C. Counsellors will also connect a person to vital housing, employment and addiction treatment to support mental health."

Chief Mike Wyse, Snuneymuxw First Nation -

"We are thankful for our partnership with the Province and the Community Action Initiative, which helps us sustain safe and relevant community mental-health supports that honour our ways of healing."

# New homes underway for youth, mothers in New Westminster

transitioning Youth out of foster care, and young mothers in New Westminster are closer to having a safe, stable place to live as construction starts on a new 89home development in the community.

"Every young person deserves a safe place to call home, especially those transitioning out of foster care, and young mothers," said Chris-tine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. "By providing youth and mothers with stable housing, we're helping them build a strong foundation for the future and empowering them to lead healthy, independent lives.

Located at 1923 and 1927 Marine Way, the project will provide a mix of affordable studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom rental homes, with a primary focus on youth leaving care. Monthly rents will range from approximately \$445 to approximately \$2,550, depending on unit size and the income of residents. These homes will also be open to mothers in challenging life situations, including those who are:



being rechildren; reunited with

at risk of losing their children to the child welfare system;

leaving violence; and former youth in care who are now mothers. Aunt Leah's Foundation, an experienced housing provider for youth and young mothers in the region, will be the owner and operator of this project. Residents will have access to the programs offered at Aunt Leah's Society Outreach Centre, located near the site. These include life skills training, education, access to a food bank, as well as cooking programs.

"It's so important to have an organization like Aunt Leah's lead the way so that more

youth and moms can benefit from stable housing," said Jodie Wickens, Minister of Children and Family Development. "This is part of our government's commitment to support youth as they transition from care into independence and a good future."

These homes are expected to be complete

by summer 2027 and will offer a stable and inclusive environment that will help residents feel safe and supported as they take their next steps and transition to independence.

'We are grateful to the Province of British Columbia for investing in youth in our community," said Jacqueline Dupuis, executive director, Aunt Leah's Properties. 'These homes will help provide to young people a foundation on which to build brighter fu-tures, and this project would not be possible without strong partnerships with government and the community." The Province, through

BC Housing, is providing more than \$14 million to the development through the Community Housing Fund, as well as annual operating funding.

These homes are part of a \$19-billion housing investment by the B.C. government. Since 2017, the B.C. government has more than 93,600 homes delivered or underway throughout the province, including more than 700 homes in New Westminster.

Quotes:

Raj Chouhan, MLA for Burnaby-New Westmin-

'Youth aging out of the care system face unique challenges. Through Building BC, we're investing in purpose-built homes, so that British Columbians, including youth and young mothers at risk of homelessness, have access to the housing they need. Organizations like Aunt Leah's Properties are helping us deliver the kinds of homes that change lives and pre-vent homelessness before it starts."

Jennifer Whiteside, MLA for New Westminster -

"Youth aging out of care and mothers at risk of homelessness deserve to have a stable home and a real chance at success. These new homes will make a lasting difference in New Westminster, providing stable housing for mothers in need, supporting family unification and provid-ing a solid foundation for youth transitioning from foster care. These homes offer them the security and dignity they deserve, to move forward and thrive.'



## Province extends funds for drop-in services to help people in Downtown Eastside

homelessness benefit from continued day-space drop-in services, as the Province extends funding to Watari Counselling and Support Services (Watari) and Aborigi-nal Front Door Society (AFDS).

Many people experi-encing homelessness encing in the Downtown Eastside struggle to get basic comforts that we can take for granted, like a fresh meal or hot shower," said Christine Boyle, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. "Both Watari and AFDS provide core services, providing relief for many vulnerable people, as well as building important community connections, and I'm thrilled to see these services continue."

The Province's funding, which will flow through the City of Vancouver to each organization, is being extended until March 31, 2026. This investment



means people experiencing homelessness in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside will continue to have services they rely on, ensuring there are places for people to go during the day that provide connection and access to supports.

Watari will receive more than \$1.2 million and AFDS will receive approximately \$625,000 from the Province. Additionally, the City of Vancouver is contributing by providing access to the two city-owned spaces where the services operate (320 Alexander St. for Watari and 390 Main St. for AFDS), and \$142,500 in 2025 to support AFDS's storage program at 390 Main St. "Everyone deserves access to safe, welcoming spaces where they can find support, connect

with community and take care of their basic needs," said Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver. "With this funding, we are proud to work with the Province and partners like Watari and Aboriginal Front Door to provide services that vuĺnerable residents can count on and that truly make a difference in péople's lives."

Watari's daytime dropin centre offers laundry and shower facilities as well as kitchen and meal services. AFDS provides storage, wash-room facilities, daytime drop-in services, as well as kitchen and meal services.

"People in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside need support, such as warm meals and washing clothes, helping them when they need it the most," said George Chow, parliamentary secretary for the Downtown Eastside and Chinatown. "We'll continue to work with local

government and community groups to get people the services they need."

Recognizing that ad-dressing homelessness is a shared responsibility, the Province is working closely with the City of Vancouver, community members, Indigenous partners and service providers to respond to the unique needs of the Downtown Eastside community.

The Province is implementing Supporting the Downtown Eastside: Provincial Partnership Plan, which guides co-ordinated action to improve access to housing, health, social and cultural sup-

Since 2017, the Province has more than 93,600 homes delivered or underway, including more than 11,700 homes in Vancouver.

Ouotes:

Heather Scarff, executive director, Watari Counselling and Support Services -

This extension allows us to continue offering culturally safe, low-barrier, wraparound mental-health, addiction food-program and services in the Downtown Eastside, walking alongside those who access them. Together, we are building trust, resilience and connection as we work toward long-term sustainabil-

Chris Livingstone, executive director, Aboriginal Front Door Society -'This funding provides stability for people as it allows us to offer hot meals, coffee and a secure place to store belongings. For people experiencing home-lessness or unstable housing, these services are critical. Without secure storage, people can't attend appointments, access services, or find shelter. This program removes those barriers and opens the door to essential

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# ਸਟ੍ਰੋਕ ਦੇ ਸੰਕੇਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਜਾਣੋ

**ace** ਚਿਹਰਾ: ਕੀ ਚਿਹਰਾ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਢਿਲਕ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ?

rms ਬਾਹਵਾਂ: ਕੀ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀਆਂ ਬਾਹਵਾਂ ਉੱਪਰ ਨੂੰ ਚੁੱਕ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ?

S peech ਗੱਲ-ਬਾਤ: ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਗੱਲ-ਬਾਤ ਅਸਪਸ਼ਟ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ?

ime ਸਮੇਂ: ਸਮੇਂ ਦੀ ਅਹਿਮੀਅਤ ਸਮਝੋ - ਝਟਪਟ 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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## REALTY CLASSIFIEDS

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## Vancouver home sales up almost 3% in August: real estate board



Vancouver-area home sales rose 2.9 per cent in August compared with last year, as the city's real estate board says the market appears to be recovering "albeit somewhat slowly" from the first half of the year.

Greater Vancouver Realtors says home sales in the region totalled 1,959 last month, up from the 1,904 sales recorded in August 2024, but still 19.2 per cent below the 10-year seasonal average. Andrew Lis, the board's director of economics and data analytics, says the data shows sales

in the detached and attached home markets are up by more than 10 per cent from last year, "which suggests buyers shopping in more expensive price points are re-entering the market in a meaningful way." There were 4,225 newly listed properties on the market in August, a 2.8 per cent increase from last year. Total active listings rose 17.6 per cent year-over-year to 16,242.

The composite benchmark price in August was \$1,150,400, down 3.8 per cent from a year earlier and 1.3 per cent lower than July this year.





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> \$2,750,000 \$2,650,000

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Discover this beautiful, bright and spacious 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom townhome in a highly desirable central location. The home features a spacious west-facing sundeck, perfect for soaking in the afternoon sun or enjoying evening relaxation. The double tandem garage offers convenient parking andextra storage. With public transit just steps away on scott road, commuting is a breeze. Families will love the proximity to top-rated schools, ensuringexcellent education options. You'll also find a variety of shopping, dining, and entertainment options nearby, making this home a perfect blend of convenience and comfort

## 45594 MEADOWBROOK DRIVE, CHILLIWACK 1,050,000



Court order sale built in 2019 5 bedrm, 4 bathrm perfect home very desirable location across the street from Meadowbrook park to raise your family ,modern 3 story with 1 bedroom basement suite with separate entrance ,home has amazing finishing w/ top quality kitchen ,stone counter tops, large island luxury spa bathroom, central air condition ,fenced yard, outside BBQ connections ,hi efficiency furnace tank-less water heater ,Embrace the fabulous area with amenities within walking distance to Meadowbrook park .middle/high school shopping transit close access to HWY 1 BEAUTIFUL PLAYGROUND RITR IN FRONT.

### 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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#### 12846 78 Ave Surrey



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101 8655 King **George Blvd. Surrey** 



Price \$829,000 CREEKSIDE VILLAGE. 2 level clean bright CORNER UNIT with 3 beds & 2.5 baths. Tiled entry, sliders to patio. priv. yard. BEAR CREEK PARK nearby.

#### 19536 118B Ave



Two Storey house 5bed 4 full bath, 7500 lot, Asking: 1429K

#### Townhouse for sale



2bed 2bath, 1246 sf, Asking: \$690K

#### **Apartment for Sale**



002-10760 135A Ave Brand new, 2bed 2bath, 800 sf, Asking: \$649K

### 77 15151 **Edmund Drive, Surrey**



Bed+Den, 3 Bath A centrally located unit within walking distance to all banks, restaurants, dollarama, shoppers drug mart. A list of recreation facilities & amenities, including YMCA, Fresh Street Market & Panorama Village Centre, all within walking distance.

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#### 314-7445 120 Street



#### 103 13725 72A AVENUE



#### 13930 77 Ave Surrey BC



#### 124 13725 72A AVENUE



#### 314-7445 120 Street



#### #11 16357 15 AVE, SURREY



#34 9088 HOLT RD, SURREY



11826 87 AVE, **DELTA** 



#22 12730 66 AVE SURREY

#202 7445

SOLD



#138 13898 64 AVE 120 ST, DELTA **SURREY** 



6139 142 ST

**SURREY** 

#201 13893 74 AVE SURREY



13343 STAMFORD PLACE

SURREY

SOLD



10014 120 ST SURREY

14071 59A AVE.

**SURREY** 



#### 14948 62 AVE SURREY



11700 85B AVE DELTA





#100 5888 144 ST SURREY



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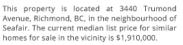
Over half an acre of prime development land next to Cap-It and other major anchors. The current use is non-conforming motel and 9 units are rented for great holding income. The property is M2 zoned for building permit for the development of your choice with very few restrictions. See City of Chilliwack M2 zoning permit guidelines.

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Builders own home! Very Rarely on the Market this Gorgeous 6 Bed 5.5 Bath home with Coach House is not to be missed. Main home consists of 5 Bedrooms and 4.5 Bath Custom designed for the Owner/Builder. High Ceilings in the Living and Dining with beautiful wainscotting and custom woodworking throughout the home, all counter are either European stone & marble, imported tiles, custom cabinetry in the gourmet kitchen. Backyard built for entertaining with a covered patio. Huge Bonus on this home is the legal COACH HOUSE 1 Bedroom Suite with a separate laundry. Location is Key on the west side of Richmond but a very central location. A stones throw from all Levels of Schools, transit, shopping, doctors and the hospital. School Catchment: Blundell Elementary school and Stevenston London HS.

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 10320 Railway Avenue, Richmond, BC, in the neighbourhood of Steveston North.



This property is located at 10226 Railway Avenue, Richmond, BC, in the neighborhood of Steveston North.



This property is located at 10220 Railway Avenue, Richmond, BC, in the neighbourhood of Steveston North.



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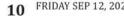
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# 2025 Hyundai Ioniq 5N – High Performance EV Rocks!

Review by Veeno Dewan

The All Electric Ioniq 5 is already one impressive Electric Vehicle and has won numerous global awards for its design excellence. For 2025 Hyundai has introduced high-performance version called the Hyundai Ioniq 5 N. The "N" signifying modifications from the N performance division of the company. The N is amplified with the cars aggressive body kit, scary -looking front bumper, massive 21-inch wheels and unique N touches like the larger diffuser, a big spoiler, and screaming performance. Buyers also gain performance sports tires, larger uprated brakes, and a host of engineering technology and enhancements.

All Ioniq 5 Ns come with a dual electric motor setup and a new 84-kWh battery coupled to an all-wheel drive configuration that makes 601 horsepower. Hit the "N Grin Boost" button feature and horsepower temporarily amps up to a maximum of 641. Both electric motors are hooked up to a reprogrammed multi-speed automatic transmission has a driver selected simulated gearshift feature when you pull the steering-wheelmounted paddles. Finally, the N trim can deliver a blistering o-100 km/h time of 3.4 seconds with the N Grin Boost mode button activated.

As for Electric Driving



range, the Hyundai Ioniq 5 N has a driving range of over 400 km. which is down from the Long-Range Ioniq 5's stellar 488 km plus range. Note, the Hyundai 5 N is not a cheap proposition for all the performance additions. Canadian pricing is \$78,199 plus \$1,950 destination and PDI.

Interior -wise. the Hyundai Ioniq 5 N interior is dominated by sleek twin 12.3-inch infotainment dash screens as standard. The N gains sport Alcantara seats, which are heated, cooled, and aggressively bolstered to hold you in place during high-speed cornering. There is also a special steering wheel featuring integrated buttons for drive drive regenerative modes, braking levels, and the N Grin Boost feature. With a 740-litre trunk versatility and practicality remain a

high point. On the road the numbers speak for themselves. Zero to 100 km/h in a scant 3.4 seconds! As fast or faster than the Tesla Model 3 Performance model, the Ford Mustang Mach-E GT, and the Kia EV6 GT. It comes close to Porsche Taycan numbers in acceleration as well. Driving the Hyundai Ioniq 5 N is a complete blast, there is lightning quick acceleration off the line due to the instant torque and straightperformance line exhilarating. Handling is balanced and controllable. Play with the custom mode settings and you have amazing control over how you can dial in driving dynamics,

from steering feel to suspension parameters. The highlight when you activate the enigmatic "N Grin enigmatic "N Grin Boost" button on the steering wheel which unleashes a rocket -like 40 extra horsepower for that shove in the back acceleration kick for 10 seconds. The extra

have both hands on the steering wheel firmly when that power kicks in! Such is the focus on performance by Hyundai in the N that

power is instant as

torque increases to 568.

You really do need to

there is even a virtual digital tachometer, estimating traditional engine speed rpm instead of displaying revolutions of the twin electric motors.

If you want to play drift king-the available "drift mode" allows you to perform more dramatic tail out cornering that is as good as the real thing. Note, the driverselectable N e-shift and Active Sound+ programs are designed to audially simulate the visceral shifting of a highperformance gearbox. The very realistic sound effects sound quite realistic with simulated upshifts, downshifts and even some exhaust pops and growls! I kind of liked it actually! It

can be turned off as well.

The N's all-wheel-drive system allows drivers the ability to distribute the bulk of that power to the front or rear wheels as desired. Four different modes (Eco, Normal, Sport, and N) adjust the steering weight, damping, and sensitivity throttle parameters. There are also Endurance and Sprint modes to either preserve the Ioniq 5 N's battery range or unleash maximum

power. The best thing about the N version is that on the road in everyday driving, the Ioniq 5 N remains comfortable, and as nice to drive as a standard Ioniq 5. It's true Jekyll and Hyde nature only revealed when the driver

chooses.

The 2025 Hyundai Ioniq 5 N is by no means cheap. However, the N version is the one to get if you want super car -like performance but not at super car prices. It certainly looks the part and delivers warp speed like acceleration, performance engineering, aggressive styling and practicality, but above all fun. Lucky buyers will not be disappointed! Highly recommended.

2025 Hyundai Ioniq 5 N Priced from: \$78,199 plus \$1,950 destination, and PDI.

More info at www. hyundai.ca.



ASIANJOURNAL.CA

# Construction starts on Cranbrook long-term care home

Construction is beginning on a new and expanded long-term care facility in Cranbrook.

When complete, the new Dr. F.W. Green Memorial Home will more than double the number of long-term beds at the home to help meet the growing needs of seniors in the region.

"This project is about supporting people - creating good local jobs today and ensuring seniors in Cranbrook have access to the care they need close to home," said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure. "By expanding long-term care and strengthening partnerships with local communities, we're investing in a healthier, more connected future for everyone."

The new five-storey home at 1700 4 St. S. will replace the existing 70-year-old Dr. F.W. Green Memorial Home. The number of long-term care beds will increase from 60 to 150, and will include three hospice beds.

The new design will offer a home-like environment where seniors can live with dignity and families can feel confident their loved ones are supported.

Construction will take place in two phases. In Phase 1, space for the first 66 new beds will be built. Phase 1 is expected to open in 2027, allowing current residents to move into the new home. Phase



2, which will include an additional 84 beds, is scheduled for completion in 2030. Phase will include space for a child care facility, creating a vibrant, multi-generational hub for the communi-

"Replacing the care home in Cranbrook and more than doubling the space for people who need care is wonderful news for the community," said Josie Osborne, Minister of Health. "The new and modernized Dr. F.W. Green Memorial Home will provide seniors with greater privacy, more supports and enhanced amenities that meet today's standards of care. With welcoming community spaces and comfortable areas for friends and loved ones to visit, this home will also help strengthen social connections and improve quality of life for residents."

A key feature of this project is the partnership with Ktunaxa Nation, which is guiding cultural integration and supporting the incorporation of traditional knowledge and language. From landscaping with native plants to creating spaces that honour culture and connection, this collaboration is helping ensure the new home reflects the values and needs of the community.

"This new home will mean more seniors can stay close to their loved ones, receive the care they need, and live with dignity in a safe and welcoming environment," said Sylvia Weir, interim president and CEO, Interior Health. "Residents and their families will enjoy a modhealth-care ernized environment where

they are supported by compassionate teams in a space that honours connection, culture and community.'

The Dr. F.W. Green Memorial Home is part of the Province's plan to improve care for seniors throughout the province. The B.C. gov-ernment has invested approximately \$3.5 billion over the past five years to improve care for seniors, including investments in primary care, home health, long-term care, assisted living and respite services.

Quotes:

Steve Morissette, MLA Kootenay-Monashee and parliamentary secretary for rural development -

"The new Dr. F.W. Green Memorial Home will provide modern, compassionate primarily for seniors across the East Kootenay and Columbia Valley regions. This investment strengthens our commitment to supporting seniors in rural areas, while creating good local jobs for the future."

Brittny Anderson, MLA for Kootenay Central -This is a meaningful investment in the health and well-being of our community. The new Dr. F.W. Green Memorial Home will not only provide better care for seniors closer to home, but also create jobs and spaces that bring people together strengthening Cranbrook and area for generations to come."

Dr. Todd Loewen, senior medical director, East Kootenay, Interior Health -

'Not only does this improve quality of elderly care by positively impacting the healthcare journey throughout one's lifespan, the new, additional longterm care spaces will take significant pressure off our acute care system, allowing it to appropriately focus on what it is designed to do. Thus, we very much appreciate this commitment that will positively impact all health services in the region."

Kathryn Teneese, chair, Ktunaxa Nation Council -

'This project expands the Nation relationship with Interior Health to include avenues for potential contracting and business opportunities for Ktunaxa businesses. As well, Ktunaxa language and culture will be evident throughout the building, making it welcoming and beautiful.'

David Wilks, board chair, Kootenay East Regional Hospital District -

'We are proud to contribute \$92 million -40% of the funding - toward this long-awaited project and we are excited to see construction now underway. This milestone brings us closer to a new longterm care home for our region; a place where seniors can live with dignity, comfort and connection, and where families have peace of mind knowing their loved ones are supported in a safe and vibrant space."

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# Rebels

(PG)\*\*\*

#### Second Chance!

All bets are off in the action-packed 11 Rebels. And the fix may be in. Let's find out for sure as we Journey back into Feudal Japan for the latest Well go USA effort sure to please those into Sabre rattling. Get in on the fun as this new action-packed extravagan-za is now out on digital, 4K, Blu-ray and DVD. Why you may be even able to catch it on local streaming services across B.C. in Japanese with English subtitles.

People deserve a second chance. Even criminals. Said to be based on true events 11 Rebels recounts the efforts of the Japanese government to recruit some hardened criminals to help protect a town and hold a fortress. Say, doesn't this plot seem vaguely familiar to that of the 1967 Classic The Dirty Dozen. But I digress.

Keen observers may note the title of

this film is Eleven Rebels but just ten men leave prison for this perilous journey. Pay attention to what happens later as the men find themselves up against a formidable army bent on taking over the town and capturing the fortress. Just how this rag tag team of undisciplined cons try to regain their freedom is compelling and highly engaging.

It's a fight to the finish as the battle for control and survival never lets up. With smoke surprises along the way director Shiraisi Kayuza promises and delivers a blood soaked tragedy full of double crosses, heroic last-stands and countless blood tipped swordplay in this over the top drama that never lets up.





## KARISHMA SHARMA HOSPITALISED FOR HEAD INJURY AFTER TRAIN MISHAP IN MUMBAI

Bollywood actor Karishma Sharma was hospitalised after a frightening incident involving a local train in Mumbai. On Thursday, Sharma took to Instagram Stories to inform her well-wishers that she sustained injuries after a train jumped as it was speeding

The mishap occurred while she was en route to a shoot in Churchgate. "I was wearing a sari and decided to take the local train. As soon as I boarded, it began to speed up and I realised my friends couldn't make it. Out of panic,

I jumped but I lost balance, fell on my back and hit my head," she wrote. Following the fall, Karishma revealed that she was left with multiple bruises. "My head is swollen, I've injured my back and the doctors have advised an MRI. I've been kept under observation to make sure the head injury isn't serious," she added. Despite her injuries, she expressed gratitude for the sup-port, writing, "Please keep me in your prayers for a speedy recovery. Your love means so much.



**AAMIR KHAN REVEALS THE REASON FOR HIS** WEIGHT GAIN: "NO, IT'S NOT FOR A ROLE. ... However, the truth is not that cre-

ative. When I touched base with Aamir, he shocked me by revealing that the reason for his weight gain is medication for a health condition. Says Aamir, "No, no, the weight gain is not for a role. Actually, you know, I have been having these migraines for some time and for that I need to be on a steroid treatment. And that steroid treatment causes me to put on weight; I can't help it. In fact, I've started my diet and workout because I need to get back into shape for, you know, whatever my next film is.

So is Aamir cured of his condition? "No, because, you know, they're not able to figure out why it's happening. The steroid is taking the headaches away. But I can't keep taking steroids. In fact, I have an appointment the day after with the doctor. So, that's the reason for the weight thing. They're very good doctors, but sometimes, you know, it's difficult to diagnose exactly why it's happening. I understand it's complicated. At least they're not sending me on the wrong path. They're just still figuring out exactly what's wrong.'

## Province adds training seats for nurse practitioners throughout B.C.

The Province has added 65 nurse practitioner (NP) training seats to three post-secondary institutions, making training accessible in five regions throughout the province and supporting the growth of B.C.'s health-care workforce.

"When you or someone in your family needs care, you shouldn't have to wait, travel far or worry about whether your needs can be met," said Jessie Sunner, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills. "That's why we're expanding núrse practitioner training across B.C., so more people can get timely, per-sonalized care right in their own communities. We're making sure more families have trusted providers nearby and ready to help when and where they're needed most." Covernment is adding 65 new seats to NP programs throughout B.C.: 30 seats at the University of British Columbia (UBC); 20 seats at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC); and 15 seats at the University of Victoria (UVic). Government will provide \$4.7 million in annual, ongoing funding for the 65 new seats. To further support the expansions, government also provided \$4.1 million to UNBC and \$17.5 million to UBC for facility renovations. These seat expansions have increased the number of people training to be nurse practitioners in B.C. to 165 per year. In September 2025,

UBC moved its 30 new seats from the main Vancouver campus to a newly renovated space in Surrey. This move means that a NP program is now accessible to students in the Fraser region, in addition to the Lower Mainland, northern B.C., Vancouver Island and



the southern Interior. 'Nurse practitioners play a vital role in our primary-care teams, helping people get the care they need in their communities without long waits or long travel," said Josie Osborne, Minister of Health. "By expanding training opportunities around our province, we're not just creating more seats in class-rooms, we're building a stronger, more connected health-care workforce that will support people and families for years to come.

In addition, as part of Budget 2021, govern-ment helped launch a new 15-seat nurse practitioner program at Thompson Rivers University (TRU), which opened in May 2023, and a new program stream at UVic for prospective nurse practitioners who already have a master of nursing degree. Government committed to providing just over \$1 million in ongoing annual funding for the new NP program at TRU and the new post-degree NP program stream at UVic.

"The expansion of the NP program into Sur-

rey provides me with Health are working the opportunity to not only learn from, but also to engage with the community that I hope to practise in. It's a consideration that played a large role in my decision to further my studies at UBC," said Alexandra Jude, a second-year student in UBC's NP program. "The ability to be closer to homé allows for a sustainable and enschool-life joyable balance as I raise my young family. I know that future students will benefit greatly from this expanded option as well.

In 2018, the Province launched its primary-care strategy to increase patient attachment and access to quality, team-based person-centred primary-care services throughout the province. As both primary-care acute-care providers, training more nurse practitioners will help increase B.C.'s net-work of care and will address gaps in underserved populations, such as those in rural or remote areas.

Ministry Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills and the Ministry of together to ensure B.C. has the healthcare professionals the province needs, because supporting B.C.'s health workforce is one of government's highest priorities.

Ouotes: Elizabeth Saewyc, director, school of nursing, UBC -

"Thanks to the Government of British Columbia's investment in this significant program expansion, UBC's school of nursing now hosts the largest nurse practitioner program in Canada, admitting 60 students each year. This growth not only helps fill an urgent need for more primary-care providers across the province, but it also expands UBC's program in Sur-rey, adding classes to the clinical placements already taking place in the Fraser Health region, closer to where many students live and plan to work."

Catharine Schiller, chair, school of nursing, UNBC -

UNBC's nurse practitioner program has grown to welcome more students,

each new graduate will expand access to high-quality, patient-centred across British Columbia. This growth is particularly meaning-ful in northern and rural communities, where many graduates choose to practise. Their presence helps ensure residents can receive timely health services close to home while strengthening the province's overall health system."

Lenora Marcellus, director, school of nursing, UVic-

"This fall, UVic is welcoming our second increased cohort of 50 nurse practitioner students into our graduate program under the university's new faculty of health. Next June, 50 NP students will graduate from the program and go on to offer much-needed primary health care to up to 50,000 people in B.C. The seat expansion at UVic will make a real difference to communities across the province that are struggling with access to health care."

Rani Srivastava, dean of nursing, TRU -"Thanks to the fund-

ing from the B.C. government, TRU is proud to support the valuable training provided through our master of nursing-nurse practitioner program. This pivotal funding underscores our commitment to advancing health-care tion and ensuring the preparation of skilled nurses and nurse practitioners. These professionals are crucial for delivering independent and team-based health-care services, significantly enhancing primary, acute and community care across British Columbia."

Quick Facts:

practitioners Nurse have a background in nursing and complete master's level clinical training to act as the 'most responsible provider," similar to physicians.

Nurse practitioners often work as part of a primary-care net-work, which can include family doctors, registered nurses, pharmacists, social workers, midwives, mental-health profes-sionals, Indigenous and community providers, and others.

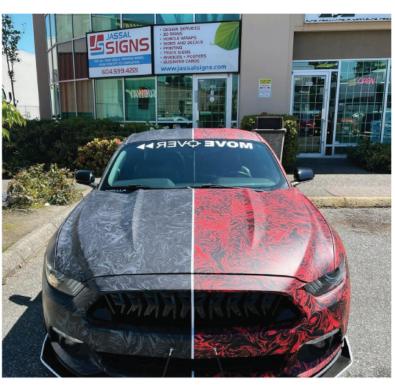
Nurse practitioners also work in acute care at hospitals or in specialized outpatient set-

tings. According to 2024 Labour Market Outlook, nurse practitioner will be a "high-opportunity occupation," mean-ing that nurse practitioners are forecast to have higher demand, higher wages and more opportunities over the next decade compared to other occupations. Government has also added 362 registered nursing seats, 40 registered psychiatric nursing seats and 180 licenced practical nurse seats at 17 public post-secondary institutions.



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