

Greek community
opens their heart
and soul
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Photo by Lester Chung

Verbatim

Cultural riches

by KATRINA TRASK

I was born in Vancouver, and both sides of my family date back four generations from Great Britain. Being born in Vancouver, I was fortunate to have experienced multiculturalism from birth. I grew up next to South Asian neighbours who taught my mother how to make Indian food and gave us customary gifts for my birthday and Christmas. My other neighbours included East Asians, Africans and a Bulgarian family. In my local playground, there were children of many nationalities whom I would regularly play with.

Every week, beginning when I was just a toddler in a high chair, my family would go to our favourite Indian restaurant on Fraser Street. My family also had a favourite Chinese restaurant in our neighbourhood that served authentic Schezwan cuisine. As I got older I also experienced Chinese culture through many excursions to Chinatown as well as celebrating Chinese New Year at my elementary school.

One memorable experience for me occurred in sixth grade



Photo par Richard Masoner

A smorgasbord of different cultural cuisines.

when I went to the birthday party of an immigrant classmate from Taiwan, where I was exposed to Taiwanese food and art. Years later, I was lucky enough to participate in an authentic Japanese tea ceremony at UBC during my undergraduate years. I

See "Verbatim" page 8

New Canadians and integration: 21st century's challenges and successes

by SIMON YEE

As Canada prepares to celebrate its national holiday, the country finds itself no longer one of the top five countries in terms of policies that promote immigrant integration, according to the latest report by European think-tank Migration Policy Group.

Yet policy is only one part of the story, says Alden Habacon, director of UBC's Intercultural Understanding Strategy Development. The way Canadians sup-

port and treat newcomers, who in turn give back to their adopted homeland, makes a huge difference.

"Policy doesn't tell how people live and interact with each other," Habacon says. "What's just as important is how policy is implemented on the social level. The most important question is: what does it mean to be a good neighbour?"

Policy: on paper versus on the ground

The Migration Policy Group's report uses 167 policy indicators to

assess nations in several areas of immigration policy, such as labour market mobility, access to education and healthcare, anti-discrimination laws and political participation. The previous edition of the report, published in 2011, ranked Canada 3rd behind Sweden and Portugal. This year's shows Canada falling to 6th place, losing points due to delays and greater restrictions to citizenship and family reunification.

"My concern is it goes to the core of our Canadian identity. Canada is built by immigrants.

When we are not as welcoming to our newcomers, we are denying our own identity," said Ryerson professor Harald Bauder to Toronto Star last month.

But despite Canada's slide, Habacon thinks that Canada is still nevertheless a global leader in being inclusive compared to other countries.

"The report is meaningful as it validates our feelings that Canadian policy is becoming more closed, but at the same time, it doesn't measure the social climate," Habacon says.

See "Immigration" page 6

Also in this issue

Cantonese opera connects Guangzhou to Vancouver
Page 8



Well-known folk tale put to dance
Page 9



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Community Profile



Photo by Rania Hatzioannou

From Broadway to Boundary: Summer festivities in the Greek community

by NICOLE ALIVOJVODIC

“Live a Day the Greek Way!” – Originally a weekend event in 1987, the annual Vancouver Greek Summerfest has become a 10-day event over two weekends run solely by volunteers.

But what is the “Greek Way?”

“The ‘Greek Way’ is one of *filotimo*,” says Rania Hatzioannou, who works behind the scenes of the summer festival as well as in public relations and social media. *Filotimo*, a Greek work that has no exact English translation, relates closely to the sentiment of sharing.

While food and eating are always found at the heart of Greek culture, fellow volunteer Vivian Ready, on the organizing committee for the festival, contends that there is much more to the “Greek Way.”

“It is not just about sharing our food, but also our time, our memories, our respect.”

“One Big Fat Greek Community”

The first enclave of Greek immigrants in Vancouver is known



Photo by Nicole Alivojvodic

▲ Christos Argyroudis in the kitchen at Olympia Pizza.

as “Greektown” or “Greek West Broadway” in Kitsilano on the West Side of Vancouver.

Marking this territory is the high concentration of Greek restaurants and other Greek-owned businesses in the area, the heart of which is considered to be at West Broadway and Trutch. This corner is home to Olympia Pizza, a restaurant owned by six brothers from the island of Evia, Greece who now call Vancouver home, bringing rich cultural history to the heart of Greektown.

Hatzioannou explains that as the city of Vancouver and its suburbs saw an influx of immigrants in the late 20th century, more Greeks began to settle on the East side, finding the trek to the West side onerous.

“We are best described as siblings from the same parents,” Hatzioannou suggests, with Greek West Broadway being the older sibling and the East Vancouver Greeks being the younger one. “One big community with more than one place to gather, worship and celebrate our Hellenic roots.”

With three Greek churches spread across the lower mainland, Ready also believes in the unity of all of Vancouver’s Greek population.

“We are ALL one big fat Greek community.”

Maintaining Greek roots

Born and raised in Vancouver, Ready loves being part of a Greek community.

“It’s all about the food, and dance and music. I would have probably lost my Greek identity if it wasn’t for being a part of the community.”

Hatzioannou on the other hand, born in Cyprus, an island country located in the Eastern Mediterranean, to a Greek mother and Cypriot father, finds in the Greek community of Vancouver a family.

“I have only a handful of relatives in Canada, so the Greek community here is an extension of that.”

Also connecting with his Greek roots in Vancouver is Christos Argyroudis, cook and close friend of the owners at Olympia Pizza. He emigrated from Athens to Vancouver with his wife and kids nearly 20 years ago.

“Being so far away from home, it’s great to have the Greek community here,” says Argyroudis. “We have a great church and community centre and even Greek schools! It really seems like a lot of care has been put into building the community and making it into what it is today.”

Vancouver’s Greek summer

Although Metro Vancouver is home to around 15,000 people identifying as Greek, the Greek population seems to be dwindling with 25 percent fewer Greek-born residents than five years ago according to a chart created by *The Vancouver Sun*’s, Chad Skelton.

Vancouver’s Greek summer festivals aim to restore a sense of Greek identity as well as sharing the “Greek Way” with the rest of Metro Vancouver’s communities.

The festivities begin with Kitsilano’s Greek Day on Broadway taking place Sunday, June 28 from 11 a.m.–9 p.m. West Broadway will be shut down to cars from Blenheim to MacDonald so that local businesses and restaurants can bring their food and goods onto the street for all to enjoy.

The Vancouver Greek Summerfest takes place at 4641 Boundary Road, from July 2nd to 12th, 2015.

Both events are family friendly and free to the public.

“The ‘Greek Way’ is about enjoying life, and sharing what you have with others,” says Ready.

For more information, please visit www.greekday.com, www.vancouvergreeksummerfest.com and www.canada.greekreporter.com/2013/06/24/greek-population-shrinks-in-metro-vancouver



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Postcard

Explore Quebec and learn French

It's been a whirlwind of a journey so far! When I signed up to participate in L'École d'été de français, a five week intensive French immersion program at the University of Sherbrooke, my greatest ambition was to improve my French language skills, but I quickly realized that this was only one part of a greater experience. From nightly activities to weekend getaways, there is never a dull moment here.

The program's most important rule is to communicate in French at all times or risk being expelled. Undoubtedly challenging, but surprisingly fun, this requirement immediately creates common ground between me and my fellow students. Our competencies range from beginner to advanced, and many of us struggle to communicate with each other, often resorting to miming or adding a French accent to an English word. We witness each other persevere and improve everyday – there's truly nothing quite like it.



▲ Katy Thompson in Sherbrooke.

and Heritage Centre, located in the borough of Lennoxville. Housed in a Georgian-style heritage home that was built in 1862, the centre exhibits a mixture of historic and contemporary artworks and offers tea time in the picturesque garden. Although I spoke French during my visit, the experience felt very English, and the house's history is a testament to the mixture of French and English heritage present in the area.

I also had the chance to take a day trip to Montreal, which is undoubtedly more cosmopolitan than Sherbrooke. Upon arrival, my first mission was to find poutine because that's just what you do when you're a tourist in Montreal. I went on to spend the afternoon ambling about Old Montreal, where I watched animated street performers, admired the Parisian-esque architecture and climbed up the Montreal clock tower located at the Old Port of Montreal, which boasts tremendous views if you can stomach ascending a narrow spiral staircase to the summit. In the evening, I attended Les FrancoFolies de Montreal, an annual program that offers free concerts performed by French-Canadian musicians. Listening to the calming folk-jazz tunes under a starlit night was the perfect way to end my day in Montreal.

Having lived in British Columbia my whole life, it is sometimes difficult for me to identify with the other provinces. Although I find myself proud to be from B.C., I take equal pride in being Canadian, which is an identity that all students in the Explore program share, no matter their



▲ A scene at les FrancoFolies de Montréal.

My French class recently visited downtown Sherbrooke. The city has an eclectic vibe, with large murals and street-lined cafés. During our afternoon there, we indulged in cappuccino-flavoured ice cream by Lac des Nations and sipped white wine at Siboire, a microbrewery located in the town's old train station. We also visited Uplands Cultural

province of origin. We each bring with us fragments of a longer story and diverse ideas of what it means to be Canadian. Most amazing is that together we are discovering a place and a language that both enrich and integrate our individual Canadian experiences.

KATY THOMPSON



Maitreya Loving Kindness Tour

Exhibition of the Buddha's Ancient & Sacred Relics Comes to Vancouver

Maitreya Loving Kindness Tour, a free to attend public exhibition of ancient and sacred relics of the historical Buddha Shakyamuni and 44 other Buddhist masters from India, Tibet & China is currently touring the world.

"People are deeply moved when they come in contact with the relics... there are so many stories. This is definitely one method for bringing people to enlightenment. The relics have incredible benefit to the world...people want them very much...and there is greater and greater benefit now...." - Lama Zopa Rinpoche, Spiritual Director, Maitreya Loving Kindness Tour



In all there are 3,000 relics in this collection including those offered to the tour by His Holiness the Dalai Lama which are more than 2,600 years old, a collection from the Sakya Reliquary in Tibet and also from Meiktila Museum in Burma. Most of the relics in this collection resemble multi colored pearl-like crystals that in Tibetan are called 'ringse' and in Sanskrit they are known as 'Sarira.' It is believed that relics embody the master's spiritual qualities of compassion and wisdom and are deliberately produced by the master at his death. The crystal relics were found among the cremation ashes of these masters.

The tour was founded by Lama Zopa Rinpoche in 2001. The Tour has visited 68 countries and 2.5 million people have viewed the relics to date.

Venue: Thrangun Monastery, 8140 No.5 Road, Richmond www.thrangumonastery.org

When: Friday, August 7: 11am to 6pm; Saturday, August 8: 11am to 6pm; Sunday, August 9: 11am to 5pm

The Old Courthouse, 43 Renfrew Road, London SE11 4NA, England, United Kingdom

www.MaitreyaLovingKindnessTour.com

Left Bank 

DERRICK O'KEEFE



Photo courtesy of Province of British Columbia

Christy Clark can run but she can't hide from health firings scandal

These days, Christy Clark and the B.C. Liberals are acting like a government with a lot to hide.

Let's pick up where we left off last time. Following revelations that the B.C. government misled the public about the supposed RCMP investigation into the health researchers who were fired back in 2012, pressure on the government has been steadily rising this month. Demands for a full public inquiry are proliferating.

Sensing the government's vulnerability, after an embarrassing series of evasions and quasi-apologies from Premier Clark, the Opposition NDP and leader John Horgan have pressed the issue.

And now the mainstream media has turned up the heat.

In a rare front page editorial last week, *The Vancouver Sun* went in hard: "Enough of the obfuscating, weaseling, dissimulation, doubletalk, verbal subterfuge, stonewalling and other distasteful conduct that hangs like a miasma over the shameful events surrounding the precipitous sacking of eight ministry of health employees in 2012."

This tone is quite remarkable, coming as it does from a Postmedia newspaper that always endorses the B.C. Liberals at election time. The fact that they put this scathing editorial on the front of the paper signals they mean business.

Vaughn Palmer, the Sun's senior correspondent covering provincial politics, has been leading the charge for the past

way to get to the bottom of the 2012 firings is to get the current and former B.C. Liberal government Health Ministers before an inquiry: "Put them all under oath and let the chips fall where they may."

When the editors and senior writers at Postmedia are taking the gloves off like this, you know the government is in trouble.

In my last column, I wondered when a scandal would finally stick to this government, which has been in power for over 14 years. The health ministry firings are now unquestionably sticking to Christy Clark, Teflon Premier no more.

Can the government scrub off the stain from this scandal, and why have they been acting like they have so much to hide?

After *The Sun* editorial made the rounds, Health Minister Terry Lake, for the first time, sounded as if the door to a full public inquiry had been cracked open. When asked if an inquiry was needed, he responded, "I'm not ruling anything out." In subsequent interviews over the weekend it sounded like more would be forthcoming in the next days from Minister Lake.

NDP leader Horgan summed up the emerging consensus: "No government has the right to withhold information from the citizens that elect it. That is the key to this whole thing. The media gets it, the public gets it, the only people who apparently need to think about it a bit longer are B.C. Liberals."

What would an inquiry uncover? Well, for one thing it would force people in authority to testify. In a government so lacking in transparency – remember they were just called out by a whistleblower for wantonly deleting potentially sensitive emails – it is essential that those in positions of power be compelled to answer questions under oath.

A full public inquiry of the proper scope would also be able to follow the money, including the big donations in recent years from pharmaceutical companies to the governing B.C. Liberals.

As I've argued before, an inquiry is overdue, and it is the bare minimum required in this matter.

Let's remember that PhD co-op student Roderick MacIsaac took his own life after he was among those fired in 2012.

Why were he and his colleagues fired in the first place? What did the Premier know and when did she know it? Why did the government mislead the public for years about a so-called RCMP investigation? What, if any, role did corporate influence have on the decisions that led to the 2012 firings?

A man is dead. His family deserves answers. And the people of B.C. deserve answers too. 

Who is typically Canadian?

How stereotypes influence our communication

by SANDRA ZIMMERMANN

Within Vancouver's diverse society, Chinese Canadians form one of the largest ethnic groups. With the participation of self-identified Chinese and white Canadians in the Vancouver area, two researchers at the University of British Columbia have conducted a study, "Expectations and Speech Intelligibility," that examines how people's expectations and racial stereotypes influence the way people communicate.

Molly Babel is the study's lead author and assistant professor in the department of linguistics at UBC. She points out that the diversity of Vancouver was important to the study.

"The University of British Columbia was a great place to conduct this study because of the large number of internationals here," Babel says.

Expectations can be misleading

Babel and Jamie Russell, the co-author and an undergraduate student at the time of the study, selected 12 native speakers of Canadian English from Richmond to take part in the study. Six of the participants self-identified as white and six self-identified as Chinese.

Participants, who were all born and raised in Richmond, and between the ages of 17 and 25, recorded short sentences with noise in the background. The sentences were then played to 40 listeners from the university community (all native English speakers between 10 and 41 with diverse cultural backgrounds). Either a photo of the speaker or an image of three crosses was paired with each sentence.

When listeners saw the speakers' photos, they considered the Chinese Canadians harder to understand than the white Canadians. When they were not aware of the speakers' ethnic background, they considered the English of Chinese and white Canadians similarly intelligible. Ba-

paired with the image of the crosses. Chinese Canadians' voices were generally rated as more accented than white Canadians' voices.

However, listeners' expectations and biases had a significant impact, too. The voices of the white Canadians were rated less accented and more native-like when listeners saw the speakers' photos and were aware of their ethnicity. Listeners perceived Chinese Canadian candidates to have a slightly stronger foreign accent when they saw their photos.

The study will continue

One of the biggest challenges for the researchers was deciding how to test and talk about these issues in the context of Canada.

"Most work along these lines had been done in the United States, which has different cultural and social dynamics than Canada," says Babel.

Nevertheless, Babel says they want to resume the study.

"We plan to pair white participants, who aren't native speakers of English, with Asian native speakers of English and examine how long it will take for listeners' expectations to adjust."

The researchers assume that listeners will most likely consider the Asian participants to speak less native-like. As in the first part of the study, which they started in 2013, they will ask listeners to transcribe sentences among noise. They then plan to reduce the noise slowly to figure out at which point listeners realize that their expectations do not match reality.

Babel also organizes the Speech in Context Lab, a research group that studies speech perception and expectations and focuses on spoken language. She has been with UBC since 2009. Originally from Minnesota, she received her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. 

To read more about the study, please visit www.news.ubc.ca/2015/05/26/how-racial-stereotypes-impact-the-way-we-communicate/



▲ Participants were shown either a photo of the speaker or of three crosses.

Babel says that people often think of a white person when thinking of a typical Canadian.

"That is not a fair portrayal of modern day Canada," Babel adds. "This stereotypical thinking can get us into trouble."

Listeners also rated how strong of a foreign accent each of the 12 participants had. They had to evaluate two sentences: one paired with the candidate's photo, one



▲ UBC Researchers Molly Babel and Jamie Russell.

Photo courtesy of Jamie Russell

Photos courtesy of UBC



▲ The June 17 cover of The Vancouver Sun featured a rare editorial.

few weeks on this issue. Palmer, the unofficial "dean" of the legislative press corps in Victoria, has repeatedly excoriated Clark and her ministers for their evasions – in one article he literally called the Premier out for "BS." He recently wrote that the only

"Traditions are a big part of my culture. Unfortunately, so is diabetes."

Bernie, First Nations counsellor

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Front gardens and Seaside cluster included on Heritage Vancouver Garden Tour June 27 & 28

16 private gardens on display to raise awareness, funds to conserve heritage in Vancouver

Some of Vancouver's most delightful private gardens will be open June 27 and 28 to raise funds for the Heritage Vancouver Society. From a charming seaside cluster that includes intimate townhouse strata personal use gardens or "PUG"s surrounding the historic Ells House, as well as a seafront garden, to a large formal garden inspired by a French Chateau, and stunning riverfront retreats, there is something to inspire all tastes and interests.

"This year as well as some larger estate-style gardens, we have a selection of small front courtyard gardens with creative plant selections and outdoor entertaining areas. It is interesting to see what can be done with a small space. The owners tell us a benefit of a front garden is meeting neighbours and passers-by – creating a real sense of community," says Penny Noble, Heritage Vancouver Board member and garden tour organizer. "This ties in with comments on Vancouver's Heritage Action Plan. When asked what heritage means, many people have said it is not just about the buildings but about neighborhood character and community," she adds.

"This is a great outing, a chance to explore diverse neighborhoods in Vancouver, as well as 16 exceptional gardens," says Noble. "Protecting our heritage in Vancouver is vitally important and often overlooked. We risk losing not only our heritage buildings, but landscapes, and even entire neighborhoods. Funds from this garden tour help our efforts," she adds. This past year the Society organized a series of talks on the new Heritage Action Plan, thanks to proceeds from the tour.

"People have very generously opened their gardens and those attending the tour are in for quite a treat, visiting exceptional gardens they would not normally get to see," Noble says.

A limited number of tickets are available for \$35.00, and can be purchased online until June 19, or after that (and now) at a variety of garden centres listed at www.heritagevancouver.org/garden-tour-2015.html

Tickets are for sale at:
Southlands Nursery
Gardenworks
MapleLeaf Garden Centre
Figaro's Garden
David Hunters Garden Centre
Hewers Home Hardware and Garden Centre
Art Knapp (Hornby St.)

Do sweat it:
Youth sports against gang life

by CARL DENSEM

A new initiative, co-founded by a Top 25 Under 25 award winner, targets youth crime in Vancouver by encouraging participation in sports.

In the Spring 2015 Surrey RCMP Crime Prevention Newsletter, local authorities touted the power of community engagement programs: "the most effective way to manage crime in your neighbourhood is before it starts."

That is where Kids Play comes in. Started in Jan. 2015, the non-profit organizes sports tournaments, conferences and other projects for youths



▲ Kiran Toor, founder of Kids Play.

throughout Vancouver, helped by a 100-strong volunteer force.

Volunteer state of mind

Kiran Toor, 20, is the founder and VP of Operations Management. She has volunteered in local and

ment in gangs by inspiring youth to be active, make positive choices and excel.

Toor believes sports not only keep children off the streets, but also instil valuable life lessons such as discipline, responsibility,

board positions and public appearances.

The sports activities and talks are what make up Kids Play's targeted approach to risk factors associated with youth crime. To reduce the chances

"I have an ambition for volunteering and helping organizations that work towards the betterment of society.

Kiran Toor, winner of Top 25 Under 25 Award

international organizations since high school, helping to raise more than \$100,000 for various causes. Toor was recently awarded the prestigious Surrey Board of Trade's Top 25 Under 25 for her dedication to the community.

"I have an ambition for volunteering and helping organizations that work towards the betterment of society," Toor says.

A Surrey local, Toor will transfer to Simon Fraser University this fall to complete her Bachelor of Arts degree. In the future, she says she wants to continue to give back to the community by balancing her time between a fulfilling career and volunteer work.

Why sports?

Since 2010, B.C.'s Ministry of Justice has partnered with the B.C. Lions to prevent youth involve-

self-confidence, sacrifice and accountability.

"Once a habit is attained, it is hard to let go of," Toor says.

According to Toor, over 1,500 children have taken part in activities, including wrestling and weightlifting competitions, three-on-three soccer tournaments, and youth gang violence and anti-racism forums.

Kal Dosanjh, Kids Play's co-founder and CEO, plays a big part in trying to prevent youth gang involvement. Dosanjh is a veteran of law enforcement, having filled several positions in key departments, and began the Police Athletic League Youth Soccer Tournament for Downtown Eastside inner-city youth. Dosanjh has his own fitness show, *Desi Beasts*, and takes an active role in the community through speaking engagements,

of juveniles slipping into mischief, Toor says Kids Play tries to make the focus on positive peer interactions, opportunities to develop problem solving skills and adult support.

Onwards and outwards

For Toor, and Kids Play, this is only the beginning. Upcoming events include tournaments for three-on-three indoor basketball, field hockey and cricket, a large scale drugs and gang conference and a track and field meet.

From a starting team of just four members, Kids Play has expanded quickly, and plans are in place to grow the number of children, programs, sponsors and much-needed volunteers. ✂

For more information, please visit www.kidsplayfoundation.com.

FIFA Women's World Cup

The 'beautiful' game in a beautiful city

by ALISON CHIANG

B.C. Place is at full capacity – 52,193 spectators – and there's an overwhelming colour theme: a sea of red, white and blue visible from every corner of the stadium. Yet in one of the upper-bowl sections, a small but energetic crowd of green-clad, drumming fans are making their voices heard. Welcome to the FIFA Women's World Cup: USA vs. Nigeria, where everyone is cheering loud and proud.

"We love Vancouver, it's awesome and this is such a great experience," say three women, dressed in USA colours from head to toe. Stacey Atwater, Samantha Kephart and Elizabeth Rivas are from Southern California and traveled to Vancouver to watch their country in action at the biggest international competition in women's soccer.

The three women came up to Vancouver just for this game and are pleasantly surprised to find many of their compatriots have also made the trip.

"I notice there's a lot of USA fans; it's nice to know how many people show up to a game out[side] of the country," says Atwater, 20.

Atwater and her friends also recognize it's not only their country on the world stage.

"I guess Americans are just super aggressive about our sports...in a good way. We just get into it and Canadians are there, supporting us, they don't

mind us cheering at restaurants," says Atwater.

Rivas adds to her friend's sentiments about Canadian hospitality.

"Everyone's been so respectful- [the Canadian team] is playing too and [they're] letting us walk around and take over," says Rivas, 21.

A hard-fought contest

Nigerian fans had travelled even farther to watch their team in action, including Senator Anosike Emmanuel, who was visiting Vancouver for the first time

After the match, which ended 1-0 in favour of the USA, Emmanuel pays tribute to the performance of the Nigerian squad against the heavily-favoured Americans.

"Even with this, the (Nigerian) girls played very, very well. I wasn't expecting them to play the way they played. It was very close. I expected 5-0 for the Americans," says Emmanuel.

He appreciated the difficulty the Nigerian team faced playing in front of what seemed like a home crowd for the Americans.

"If you were in the field, you would feel intimidated...it looked like it was America playing America in America, and not even in Canada," says Emmanuel.

Alongside Emmanuel, Bola Asaju, another Nigerian fan who had flown from Nigeria to Vancouver to watch and support her country, offers her thoughts on the game.



▲ Team USA Fans: Stacey Atwater, Samantha Kephart and Elizabeth Rivas.

"It was amazing; both teams played very well," says Asaju.

A place for women

Asaju also noted that the World Cup is more than winning and losing but about progress.

"It shows that we, women, are coming up, in every sector. Before [people] believed sport is for men but now women are making it," she says.

As three women who are fans of the 'beautiful game,' Atwater, Kephart and Rivas recognize the importance of a level playing field.

"It's awesome to see the support the women's game has gotten, especially since it's always been about the men, and the women are finally getting recognized," says Rivas.

But Kephart, 22, says the field the best female soccer players

are playing on is still a topic of discussion.

"I think both men and women need to be treated equally – the women have to play on the turf field while the men don't? Making sure everything is equal will bring out better support as well," Kephart.

The three friends say support for soccer players, female or male, starts at the grassroots level.

"A lot of club teams have sponsors for kids who can't afford it, so more sponsors would be awesome," says Atwater, who plays soccer at the collegiate level.

Rivas adds starting off at a young age is also an advantage.

"Targeting the youth is important too because the next generation is going to make sure it's a level playing field; [this would be] helpful," says Rivas. ✂

Grow pride and choi at workshop

by MARIAM BALDEH

Locally grown Asian vegetables have been a part of Vancouver diets for more than a century.

Continuing this legacy, Grow Pride & Choi, a series of workshops hosted by Hua Foundation and the Fresh Roots Urban Farm Society, teaches beginners and gardening enthusiasts how to grow choi in their own backyards or balconies using traditional Chinese techniques.

According to Megan Lau, Hua Foundation's associate director and workshop organizer, the workshop will be very hands-on.

"We all come together in an outdoor classroom setting where there's a chalkboard and people can ask all their gardening-related questions, [whether] it's about the easiest crops to grow or about bugs," she says.

The participants split off into groups to learn and engage in different activities ranging from planting seeds to harvesting. The harvested vegetables are used to make a lunch at the end of the workshop, Lau says.

Following the first workshop in April, a second will be held June 27 at David Thompson Secondary School with space for up



▲ Students learning hands-on how to grow choi.

to 30 participants, double the quota of the first edition. The registration fee of \$15 includes lunch, goods to take home, and an individual copy of "Sprouting Choi" - a comprehensive guide to growing your own vegetables in the Lower Mainland.

A growing foundation

According to Lau, the workshop

is just one of several initiatives run by the foundation, which was launched in November 2013 by Simon Fraser University grads Claudia Li and Kevin Huang.

"[The foundation] is about really celebrating Chinese culture, connecting people young and old to their heritage, [finding solutions] for environmental sustainability and just not compromising on the change we want to see in the world," Lau says.

One of the successful initiatives she pointed to was a partnership with an independent grocer in Chinatown last summer.

"We want to make responsible and conscious choices about what we eat, but we didn't know where or how all the food in Chinatown was grown, so we were uncomfortable about eating it," says Lau. "By working together with the grocer, we discovered that a lot of

their produce is actually locally grown around Richmond and Burnaby - it just wasn't marketed that way and there were a lot of language barriers."

To overcome these barriers, the partners worked together to create signage that facilitated better communication.

Lau also pointed out that there is more widely circulated information about mainstream produce than certain types of Asian vegetables.

"You could go to Whole Foods for example, and they can tell you when things like eggplants or arugula or blueberries are in season, but you don't really know when Bak Choi [Chinese cabbage] or Gai Lan [Chinese broccoli] is in season," she explains.

To promote more robust conversations around these locally grown Asian vegetables, Hua

Foundation compiled and distributed a one-page Seasonal Choi guide to the Vancouver Public Library, Farmer's Market, Fresh Roots and various other locations. The guide is also easily accessible on their website.

"We wanted to show the range of things that can be grown in the Lower Mainland and when they are in season. [So] we just compiled the information and made it available in English, Cantonese and Mandarin, which has been really helpful for some organizations who serve really diverse populations," Lau says.

Long history in B.C.

Lau adds that Chinese immigrants from farming villages in southern China have been growing food in the Lower Mainland since the 1800s. Following the completion of the Pacific railway, they turned to farming as a new vocation and created market gardens to supply grocery stores and restaurants across B.C., she says.

"They were so successful that they reportedly produced 90 per cent of B.C.'s vegetables in 1921," Lau says.

However, this success was curtailed by the discriminatory Vegetable Marketing Act which prevented Chinese farmers from selling or marketing their produce without provincial approval.

Nonetheless, Chinese farmers have not diverted from this tradition, and in learning how to grow your own choi and supporting the production of healthy, sustainable locally-grown foods, this legacy will continue to live on. ☞

Grow Pride & Choi workshop
David Thompson Secondary School
June 27, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
For more information, visit
www.huafoundation.org



▲ Finishing off the workshop with a lunch made from the local harvest.

► "Immigration" from page 1

Although Portugal ranked higher than Canada in both the 2011 and 2015 editions of the report, Habacon recalled an anecdote about how Portuguese scholars at an immigration conference in Portugal considered second and third generation Portuguese-born to still be immigrants, and not Portuguese. It was only in 2006 that citizenship was legally extended to Portuguese citizens of ethnic descent in that country.

Habacon thought the difference between Canadian and Portuguese attitudes towards immigrants was striking since it could create feelings of exclusion that are not easily captured on paper.

"No matter how many generations you've lived in Portugal, you'd never be considered Portuguese. Within one generation of living in Canada, you would be Canadian. And within two, you

could forget where you came from!" says Habacon.

Resources and obstacles

Government initiatives across Metro Vancouver aim to smooth the transition for newcomers by creating more inclusive workplaces, promoting civic engagement and improving settlement services like employment, healthcare and language training.

But perhaps just as important are addressing the intangible barriers and challenges newcomers continue to face: learning soft skills and building social capital. Plenty of newcomers come to Canada equipped with technical skills, but lacking the less tangible assets - street smarts, workplace savvy, cultural etiquette, a network of social relationships - needed to find and keep employment.

"When employers ask newcomers whether they have 'Canadian' work experience what that means

is do you have the soft skills - the cultural know-how to get along with everybody to be a good fit," says Habacon. "And where can they get this from? There are a lot more English language programs than there are Canadian soft skill programs."

In addition, with the growing number of visible minority Canadians, there is an emerging kind of integration challenge for newcomers: a perceived tension between Canadian born and raised and newer Canadians of the same ethnic group. On paper, it seems that these ethnic Canadian communities ought to form a natural connection between newcomers and multi-generational Canadians. But Habacon sees the reality isn't quite as simple as that.

"The way that Canadian born students have explained it to me is that they've spent their whole youth disassociating themselves from the immigrant stereotype

that to associate with newcomers would feel like a step backwards," says Habacon.

Habacon thinks finding ways to overcome these many social barriers is the ongoing challenge for 21st century Canadian immigration integrative thinking.

Giving back to the community

One group of newcomers has tried to learn the intangibles while at the same time giving back to their new community.

In 2014, Leon Luo and Sumi Li founded Young Artists in Action (YAA), a youth philanthropy project dedicated to helping young artists showcase their work, as a way of honing their artistic skills, making connections with fellow young artists and donating the proceeds of their art to charity.

"The purpose of our very first art exhibition was to exchange youths' different perspectives of arts, serving as a mean of com-

munication between young artists," says Luo who immigrated in 2011.

After hosting a few art exhibitions at UBC, Luo, along with fellow artist Li, decided to make YAA a long-term project.

They approached MOSAIC for assistance, who were happy to help the pair with their presentation and logistical skills to apply for grants at the Vancouver Foundation and secure space at Emily Carr University for their exhibition, the proceeds from which will support the David Suzuki Foundation. Last May, they hosted Burgeon, an art exhibition which raised over \$2000.

"I was impressed by these youth's talents, vision, as well as their strong sense of giving back to the community," says Khim Tan, a senior manager at MOSAIC Settlement Services. "We are so fortunate to have these newcomers with bountiful talents who make Metro Vancouver their new homes." ☞



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▲ Second World War Veteran George Chow visits the Britannia Shipyards exhibit.

Exhibition explores victories of Chinese Canadians

by KATRINA TRASK

One War, Two Victories, a traveling exhibit by the Chinese Canadian Museum Society sheds light on the trials, tribulations and triumphs of Chinese Canadians on behalf of Allied forces during the Second World War. The exhibit is currently on display at Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site in Richmond.

According to Brooke Lees, the site's heritage coordinator, the Britannia Shipyards displays Steveston's maritime history as well as the history of B.C.'s multi-ethnic community.

"The Britannia Shipyards showcases the cultural mosaic of the Steveston area from 1880–1942

of racism that discouraged the recruitment of non-whites.

"After being treated like a second-class citizen when I was a youth, I was now treated like an equal in the army. You have your uniform, you're in it together, you eat together, you sleep in the same room together. We were just brothers, that's what it amounts to," says Chow.

A larger story of veterans and the Chinese community

Catherine Clement, the curator of the Chinese Canadian Military museum, says that the exhibition tells of the struggles and changes experienced by Chinese Canadians and brings to light the doubts and fears of the Chinese community in deciding to serve their country.

“The exhibit explores the courage and hardship endured by Chinese men and women during the Second World War.

Brooke Lees, Britannia Shipyards heritage coordinator

with 12 buildings that explore life and work on the waterfront," says Lees.

The Chinese Canadian Museum thought the site was a natural choice, given its already existing inclusion of Chinese Canadian history.

"The exhibit is being displayed in the Chinese Bunkhouse, which also houses other exhibitions on the early Chinese immigration to B.C.," says Lees.

Lees further explains that the exhibition's title refers to the Chinese Canadians' military victory achieved overseas as well as the victory achieved at home.

"The exhibit explores the courage and hardship endured by Chinese men and women during the Second World War in an effort to gain respect and full Canadian citizenship," says Lees.

Unique Chinese-Canadian experiences

Veteran George Chow, 93, is one of many Chinese Canadians who had to endure hardship to gain equality.

"My three sisters were separated. They were in China for about 12 years, but then my oldest sister and my next oldest sister came back [to Canada] in 1939," says Chow. "My youngest sister couldn't come back because she was born in China."

However, with Chow being sworn in at Victoria's Bay Street Armory in 1940, he gained equality by being the only ethnic Chinese Canadian to be a Bofors gunner in the 16th Light Anti-Aircraft Battalion, which was a unique feat considering the long history

"When the war was declared, the Chinese Canadian community had this really big debate. There were those who said, 'We should go and serve because if we do this, we will prove our loyalty to Canada and we can win the right to be full citizens.' And others said, 'Why would we bother to fight for a country that's treated us this way?'" says Clement.

Lees believes that this exhibit is important as it examines the overlooked contribution of Chinese Canadians in the war effort, and it inspires perseverance in the face of hardship. She also says that it emphasizes the importance of justice.

"Justice is an important contemporary consideration, and the exhibit's war time recollections effectively communicate that it is always worth fighting for a just cause," says Lees.

On the other hand, Chow argues that the exhibit is important in educating the public not only about the part of Chinese Canadians in Second World War, but also about the contribution of all Canadians.

"I got a veteran's plate and this guy asked me – he's a grown man – he says, 'What does veteran mean?' I think he was really ignorant about the whole fact," says Chow. "He didn't know what veteran meant. He didn't know that word." ☞

One War, Two Victories is on display until Sept. 30. For more info, visit www.ccmms.ca or www.richmond.ca/culture/sites/britannia.htm

Nostalgia for 1950s vintage objects inspires artist

by CLAUDIA BOS

Hosted by the Kimoto Gallery, Lori Motokado will have her first solo show of watercolours on paper. Created with muted colours and very fine brushwork, her works have an endearing quality. Photographs are copied with endless patience and loving care, each telling a story of longing for a time when the things we used were made to last. Motokado's work harks back to the quality of mass-produced items of the 1950s.

Lori Motokado's parents were of Japanese descent and suffered much loss and injustice in internment camps during the Second World War. However, Motokado was born into a new generation of Japanese Canadians well after and grew up in the B.C. interior. After her father passed away, the belongings he left behind inspired her to paint them and reflect on their value.

The Source: Why do you have this fascination with old things?

Lori Motokado: I have always been fascinated by history, and I have a degree in history from Simon Fraser University. I am an avid reader and the past is so full of stories.

T.S.: Does the title of your show, "Natural Obsolescence," have something to do with being obsolete?

L.M.: Most certainly, the title refers to how the natural aging of everyday objects is a process that increases their value. For instance, shaving brushes become so meaningful in the way they wear down slowly from use. When they break beyond repair, they become obsolete by "natural obsolescence." But what happens nowadays is that objects are produced with the intention of becoming obsolete in a short time. I recently could not repair my fridge because a small spare part was not available anymore. I had to purchase a whole new fridge; think of the waste of resources!

T.S.: How did this theme come about?

L.M.: When my father passed away about 10 years ago, I went to Kamloops to empty his apartment. It was only a small one

bedroom apartment, but I had to ship everything I was keeping, and the cost of shipment goes by weight. It made me think twice about what I really valued the most in his possessions.

T.S.: What is your background in art?

L.M.: My mother put me in oil paint classes at age nine, but later on my health was affected by the chemicals in the oil paints, so I switched over to watercolours. I am self-taught in that technique.

T.S.: Do you always paint your own subjects?

L.M.: In the beginning, yes, but as this theme evolved, I started skimming garage sales and thrift stores for items that have stories attached to them. Each piece takes about 40–80 hours to paint, so I spend quite a bit of time pondering with them. To me, it is a form of meditation.

T.S.: It is your intention to sell your art works. How do you feel about that?

L.M.: One time, at a group show, I had a painting up titled *My Father's Night Stand*. I noticed that a visitor stood still at that painting and stayed there for a



▲ Artist Lori Motokado.



▲ 5 o'clock Shadow by Lori Motokado.

while. Then she burst into tears, grabbed my business card and ran off. Later she called me and apologized. The painting had struck a chord with her because that night stand was exactly like her father's, with the coins and pocket knife on it. She bought it. I do hope some people will find a similar connection to the new work. ☞

From June 25–July 18, the Kimoto Gallery will show new works by Lori Motokado. For more information: www.kimotogallery.com

► "Verbatim" from page 1

also shared a love of Chinese and Japanese culture with my mother – the ubiquitous presence of ethnic shops in Vancouver ensured that we could indulge in that love.

I don't think I appreciated the multiculturalism of Vancouver growing up, but now, as an adult, I do appreciate the global microcosm that makes the city unique. This global microcosm has made Canada a more welcoming place for immigrants, as anyone from around the world can maintain their own culture while also adopting Canadian values and beliefs. It has also made immigrants more open to other cultures in a way that could not be accomplished in their home countries.

For myself, it has made me more curious about other cultures, so much so that I am currently teaching myself to speak

Chinese and Japanese. The best part is that I do not have to go to China and Japan to experience the cultures: I can go to Chinatown or Old Japantown in Vancouver. That is another part of the uniqueness of Vancouver's multiculturalism, the variety of cultures and languages that are in our own backyard. I believe that I would be less tolerant and open minded towards other ethnicities and cultures if I didn't grow up in a multicultural city like Vancouver.

Sadly, some established Canadians may feel overwhelmed by our new immigrants, as I have read in online complaints about specific immigrant groups. However, it should be remembered that Canada is a nation of immigrants. Canada needs new immigrants to maintain our services for our growing retiring population and to support our social programs. Some Canadians also believe that there are ethnic

enclaves, which are both geographic and social in nature. However, we must remember that everyone in Canada was an immigrant at one point and they tend to move to areas that are similar to their homeland. For example, people from London, England would naturally want to move to urban centres, specifically an English neighbourhood like North Vancouver. Similarly, when Asians immigrate to Canada, they feel more comfortable in the larger cities and tend to seek out familiarity, like Chinatown. As their kids grow up, they may marry spouses of European descent and choose to live elsewhere.

In short, my experience with multiculturalism has been positive. Our recent immigrants are going to contribute to society by strengthening our country economically and enriching us culturally. ☞

Celebrating 30 Years of twinning for sister cities Vancouver and Guangzhou

by FLORENCE HWANG

Copacetic relationships strengthen the bond both economically and culturally between countries, and June 2015 marks the 30th anniversary of the sister city relationships between Guangzhou and Vancouver. The “Guangzhou Week” will feature a series of activities in Vancouver. The Guangzhou Cantonese Opera and the Vancouver Cantonese Opera will put on three performances at the end of the month in Vancouver to commemorate the occasion.

“We are keen on strengthening our relationship with China because of our proximity, and because of the people in our city who have come from Guangzhou,” says Raymond Louie, Vancouver’s acting mayor.

The Friendship Society

The Friendship Society, a non-profit organization, was incorporated in 1985 before the signing of the twinning agreement between Vancouver and Guangzhou.

Their objective: to act as a bridge for trade and commerce; cultural and educational exchanges; sports competition; scientific and technological forums; and medical training and research.

For example, the B.C. Children’s Hospital donated equip-



▲ Cantonese opera performer.

ment to the Guangzhou hospital. Because of this donation, the hospital was able to undertake delicate surgeries. There have also been exchanges between schools.

The Society provides support for missions of the Premier and the Vancouver Mayor in their visits to Guangzhou. Assistance is also provided when the Govern-

nor of Guangdong or the Mayor of Guangzhou visits Vancouver or British Columbia, says William Ma, president of the Vancouver-Guangzhou Friendship Society.

“The Vancouver-Guangzhou Friendship Society has worked over 30 years in bridging the City to City relationship, coordinating exchanges annually,” says Ma. “In 2015, we are celebrating the Sister City relationship of 30-year anniversary. We will be conducting cultural exchanges and performances.”

To celebrate this milestone, the Guangzhou Municipal Government will send a delegation. The mayor of Guangzhou, Chen Jianhua, is scheduled to come to Vancouver in June.

“As a follow up exchange program, Mayor Gregor Robertson will go to Guangzhou in November,” says Louie.

Background on Guangzhou Cantonese Opera Troupe

Guangzhou is the original birthplace of the Cantonese Opera. The Guangzhou Cantonese Opera Troupe combines traditional and modern cultural elements. The opera has an extensive and profound history.

“It is enjoyed by both young and old, and appeals to refined and popular tastes,” says Ma, who, with his wife, studied under a famous Chinese Opera teacher from Guangzhou.

In June 2001, the Guangzhou Cantonese Opera Troupe, for-

merly the Guangzhou Cantonese No.1 Troupe, reorganized to form a new Troupe. Over the next decade, this group of artists developed a unique style; and fame at home and abroad earned them the title as the number one Chinese Cantonese Opera Troupe.

“In 2012, we celebrated the Sister City 27th Anniversary with the Cantonese Opera Troupe in Vancouver. There were 40 artists, for three performances, in front of a full house,” says Ma. “In 2015, we invited over 45 artists. There are new faces, who will perform different shows, for the fans and local community.”

The main actors and actresses who will join the troupe for their Canadian tour are Li Junsheng, renowned Cantonese opera leading actor, and Chen Yunhong, renowned Cantonese opera leading actress.

“These three performances will be performed by all professional artists: to show the local fans the natural and original performance skills,” says Ma. “The Opera Troupe are renowned in Guangzhou, even in whole China. All of them are outstanding artists who are the respected high class performers.”

The troupe has toured many countries, including: the United States, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, and Macau. ☞

For more information, visit www.vancanopera.com

Iranian door knockers: an entrance to a beautiful and unique cultural past

by DANIELLE TAN

Knocking on the door in other parts of the world can be a pleasurable experience as the visitor beholds and traces the intricate designs on a door knocker. Alireza Jahanpanah, architect and photographer, has researched and photographed door knockers in Iran for 25 years. Jahanpanah’s Iranian Door Knockers project is on display (June 10 – July 4) at Deep Cove’s Seymour Art Gallery. The display shows a selection from 2,500 photographs, a short documentary film and two antique Iranian door knockers.

His presentation was read by a relative on Sunday June 14 at 2pm at Seymour Art Gallery, followed by a screening of the documentary film about the project and a reception with Iranian music by Nava Art Centre.

“What I’ve tried to show in these photographs is the simple, vibrant, aesthetic talents of local people which are rapidly fading away with the passage of time,” says Jahanpanah in a prepared statement. “I also wanted to reveal a unique hidden cultural identity of door-knockers as a nation’s indigenous relics, and the small part they play in our cultural and historical heritage.”

Iranian door knockers are relics of the past. No blacksmith of Iran can make them today. Instead, these artifacts from a rich

cultural past are being preserved in Jahanpanah’s photographs.

Destiny knocks

Born in Tehran, Iran, Jahanpanah worked for over 20 years as an architect designing residential spaces in Iran, and as a project manager for custom-made exhibition projects in the Middle East and Europe.

While studying architecture, Jahanpanah was fascinated by his country’s historical and indigenous architectural designs.

“When I saw old buildings, as an architecture student, it felt as if their creators had used specific, efficient models intimately connected to the universe and nature; and in harmony with human essence,” he says in his artist statement.

Jahanpanah spent six years travelling across rural and urban areas in Iran in search of basic, indigenous examples of living spaces which he then mapped, photographed and researched extensively.

“As I passed through urban and rural architectural spaces, door knockers, a tiny part of a building, which can be touched by hands to create a sound that sends a simple message from the outside in, began to capture my interest as a poetic expression of people, architecture, culture and history,” explains Jahanpanah.

Jahanpanah studied door knockers in 20 Iranian cities and towns. With his wife Irandokht



▲ Door knocker for female use in Isfahan, Iran.

Pirsaraee’s help, the research became a detailed analysis of the door knockers’ shapes and designs.

Unique identities

When Jahanpanah came across door knockers, he noticed, as a small part of the entrance, they hold deep cultural values.

“Iranian door knockers hold in themselves many tales about the house, the owner, architecture, culture and the life of a city during a certain historical era,” he explains.

The door knockers, some of which are about 350 years old, are made out of iron for their repeated use and longevity. Jahanpanah explains how producing designs on iron, while it is hot, is

exhausting. Through heavy hammering, the general shape of the door knocker is formed and the artisan would use tools such as files and mandrels to produce unique shapes and designs.

“The result is the creation of a specific identity for each door-knocker,” says Jahanpanah. “The complexity and attraction of these patterns were directly related to the skills of blacksmiths and the development of the craft within those cities.”

In his research, Jahanpanah sought to identify the door knockers’ forging methods and characteristics as well as the artisan’s artistic signature.

Door knockers are also made specifically for each gender to produce a distinctive sound, enabling the inhabitants to identify whether their visitor is male or female.

Men’s door-knockers are called “hammers” while women’s door-knockers are called “rings.” Each would produce a distinct sound, heralding the gender of the visitor and greeting the house’s inhabitants with a clear and characteristic echo.

“This is an example of how organic factors in old buildings and the spaces built by humans situated us in harmony with the universe, and could make life in its details creative, rich and pleasurable,” explains Jahanpanah. ☞

For more information, visit www.seymourartgallery.com

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The film traces the history of Holocaust survivors and their attempt to reach Mandate Palestine from Bakar, Yugoslavia, in December 1946 on board a small clandestine ship with the code name: "Rafiach". This vessel, holding nearly 800 souls, sank off Syrna, a tiny barren Greek island.

Passengers were saved some days later by two British destroyers due to the amazing courage of one of its Jewish leaders, Avraham Lichovsky - Z'L.

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MOSAIC is a multilingual non-profit organization dedicated to addressing issues that affect immigrants and refugees in the course of their settlement and integration into Canadian society.

Weaver Woman: A contemporary Kabuki

by NAOMI TSE

The 27th annual Dancing on the Edge Festival will take place from July 2 to 11 at various venues in Vancouver. The festival features contemporary dance performances from over 20 dance companies. Colleen Lanki, artistic director of TomoeArts, is set to debut her performance of *Weaver Woman*, a retelling of a classic Chinese folk tale through contemporary Kabuki techniques.

Lanki studied theatre at York University and then decided to travel to Japan for six months to teach English and watch theatre. Little did she know that she would live there for seven years. While in Japan, Lanki met her instructor, master dancer Fujima Yuko, who taught her the art of Kabuki, a classical Japanese dance. After completing graduate school in Hawaii, Lanki came back to Vancouver and started her company.

"We [TomoeArts] produce, teach and present Japanese arts, mainly Noh and Kabuki," explains Lanki. "We use aesthetics and contemporary forms of Kabuki techniques, motifs and movement patterns."

The inspiration behind the performance came 10 years ago when Lanki met Miseli Jeon, a PhD student at the University

ing on," says Lanki, who also choreographed the dance.

Lanki says that in the story the details of the husband are vague and left to the imagination of the readers.

"We are not sure if he's dead or if he's the man she sees crossing the plank everyday," says Lanki.

A culturally influenced performance

Lanki and actor-playwright Maki Yi both play the role of The Woman: Yi verbally expresses The Woman's thoughts and Lanki physically expresses her memories and dreams. Yi, a Korean native, speaks both English and Korean in her role.

"We treat the language musically so it is not a loss if you don't understand Korean or Chinese," says Lanki. "You wouldn't lose the energy of the story because of the language."

"The show is layered with different cultural elements, which make it all the more rich," says Yi.

As an actor and playwright from a visual minority, Yi is particularly in tune with creating works that focus on culture, finding one's own identity and challenging perceptions.

"I had the opposite experience of Colleen," says Yi. "I went to Japan for three years and then moved to Canada."

After studying theatre at the University of Regina and work-



▲ *The Woman* (Colleen Lanki) and *The Man* (Matthew Romantini).



▲ Lanki and Yi jointly play the role of *The Woman* in *Weaver Woman*.

of British Columbia who translated *Weaver Women*, a short story written by Korean feminist O-Chonghui in the 70s.

Lanki says the *Weaver Woman* is a retelling of the well known Chinese folk tale of the cowherd and weaver girl who fall in love. They anger the Gods by not doing their jobs anymore and are separated by the Milky Way. From then on, they are allowed to meet only on the seventh day of the seventh month of each year.

"In the retelling, the woman waits for her husband to come home, but he never does, and readers never know what is go-

ing in various places, she met Lanki, who was looking for a stage manager at the time. The two have worked together ever since to make *Weaver Woman* a reality.

The dance is set against a backdrop of Japanese watercolour painting and calligraphy by Etsu Essence Inoue, and includes German-inspired costumes by Ines Ortner and Chinese music composed and sung by Lan Tung. Tung, who also plays the erhu, sings in Chinese at various parts in the performance and has selected and rearranged traditional and folk music based on the *Weaver Woman* story. She was also commissioned to compose new music for the performance.

Dancer-actor Matthew Romantini joins them on stage in the role of The Man.

"We would really like to tour this at other venues or take it to Korea," says Lanki when asked about her future plans. ✍

Weaver Woman, at the Scotiabank Dance Centre from July 3–5. For tickets and information, please visit www.dancingontheedge.org.

Greek festivities with Yannis Sahamis

by AUDREY TUNG

Bouzouki instrumentalist Yannis Sahamis will share his Greek heritage with audience members at the Vancouver Greek Summerfest, July 2–12.

At the event, which takes place at 4641 Boundary Road, Sahamis will perform as a member of a 3-piece band that also includes a drummer and a guitarist. They will be performing instrumental Greek music, followed by audience requests.

Bouzouki

The bouzouki is a traditional instrument that was brought to Greece by ethnic Greek immi-

grants from Turkey in the early 20th century before quickly becoming a fixture in Greek music. It has 8 strings arranged in 4 pairs, with a tuning scheme similar to that of a guitar, but a whole tone lower.

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“ [Bouzouki] was so much more interesting, exciting, and challenging [compared to the guitar].”

Yannis Sahamis, Bouzouki player

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▲ Yannis Sahamis with his bouzouki.

when I got my hands on a bouzouki I knew that's what I wanted to do. It was so much more interesting, exciting, and challenging [compared to the guitar]. I moved to North America from Greece when I was 16 to 17, and I've been performing the bouzouki for more than 20 years – ever since I was 19,” he says.

An ancient legacy of song and dance

Greek music largely revolves around dance traditions, which vary by region.

“There are many different

es. In Greece today, you can still see lots of people at the tavernas singing and dancing after their meal. It's a wonderful thing to see,” says Sahamis.

At the Vancouver Greek Summerfest, Sahamis hopes to see audience members dancing along to his music. ✉

Vancouver Greek Summerfest July 2–12, open daily at 12 noon 4641 Boundary Rd., Vancouver vancouvergreeksummerfest.com See the festival website for the dates and times that Yannis Sahamis is performing.

Le français au CSF, c'est bien plus qu'une langue !

Inscrivez votre enfant dans une des écoles publiques du CSF !

Depuis sa création en 1995, le Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique offre des programmes et des services éducatifs valorisant le plein épanouissement et l'identité culturelle des apprenantes et apprenants francophones de la province.

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ECOLE DU MONDE

csf.bc.ca

On Canada Day Celebrate 50 Years of our National Flag



Get creative Pemberton!

The Pemberton Arts Council wants to see your inspirational version of the Canadian Flag. Whether it's in dried leaves, macaroni, fabric, paint, photos, paper, metal, wood or anything wild.

Drop off your creation at the Community Centre, June 15–30 and PACC will put together a gallery show of “Flag Art” for community viewing on Canada

Day, July 1st, 11:00–3:00. Every person who drops off a submission receives an entry into a draw prize.



HORN OF AFRICA EMERGENCY



1 888 664-DEVP

Volunteer with The Source

WRITERS/JOURNALISTS

The Source is searching for outstanding writers to join its English writing team. We're looking for aspiring journalists or reporters who have what it takes to seek out and produce articles with multicultural twists. If you have an interest in the arts, we want to hear from you.

CARTOONIST

The Source is currently looking for a cartoonist for the English section to replace our regular “Spencie's View” feature. Candidates should have previous experience creating politically-oriented cartoons and knowledge of British Columbian/Canadian politics and current events.

Send your resume and samples of your previous work to: info@thelastsource.com monique.kroeger@gmail.com

STRETCH



**KIDS
YOGA
THIS
SUMMER
AT STRETCH**

**BY REGISTRATION
starting June 1st**

JULY
3 TO 5 YEARS OLD **TOTS YOGA**
8 SESSIONS TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 8:45AM-9:45AM
5 TO 8 YEARS OLD **KIDS YOGA**
8 SESSIONS TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 3:45PM-4:45PM
9 TO 13 YEARS OLD **TWEENS YOGA**
4 SESSIONS WEDNESDAYS 3:45PM-4:45PM

AUGUST
3 TO 5 YEARS OLD **TOTS YOGA**
8 SESSIONS TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 8:45AM-9:45AM
5 TO 8 YEARS OLD **KIDS YOGA**
8 SESSIONS TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 3:45PM-4:45PM
9 TO 13 YEARS OLD **TWEENS YOGA**
4 SESSIONS WEDNESDAYS 3:45PM-4:45PM

More Info and Register
www.stretchvancouver.com/events

**FREE CLASSES!
1 of 2 This Friday!!!**



SUMMER OF WANDERLUST

at Stretch!

Come celebrate the return of summer with 2 pre-festival activities. Join us, Chris Dugan, DJ Emerson and DJ Blenda for 2 evenings of awesome yoga!

What: Funky Flow

When: Friday June 5th and Friday June 26th at 5:30pm

Where: Stretch

by donations

all proceeds going to the arts program of the
Tsawwassen First Nation Youth Centre

Cultural Calendar

June 23–July 7, 2015

by SALENA TRAN

School's out and it's time to celebrate with fun events all around the city! These cultural events range from festivals to poetry nights. Grab a few friends, or go with the family and enjoy the sunshine. Join in on the fun going on around the Lower Mainland and take in the summer.

Saint-Jean Baptiste Day Celebration

June 24, 11–4 p.m.
Canada Place
999 Canada Pl., Vancouver
www.canadaplace.ca

This celebration is all things francophone! This event embraces French Canadian culture, heritage and so much more. With children's entertainment and performances, this is fun for the whole family. Learn more about what makes this culture so unique. Admission is free for everyone.

East Side Pride

June 27, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Grandview Park
1657 Charles St., Vancouver
www.vancouverpride.ca/events/east-side-pride

This exciting event hosted by the Vancouver Pride Society offers a chance for the public to learn more about the groups that are involved in the LGBTQ+ community. Performances by local bands, serenades by some of the East Side's top drag performers and so much more.

SHIAMAK Summer Funk 2015 – Rise of the Champions

June 27, 6–8 p.m.
Bell Performing Arts Centre
6250 144 St., Surrey
www.bellperformingartscentre.com
(604) 507-6355

Come to the annual student showcase, and watch students perform their hard work! Watch as teams work together, and compete for the ultimate prize. This dance performance is unique and gives students an opportunity to perform in a professional setting. Enjoy the glitz and glam of creative props and costumes.

MOMIJI Japanese Festival

June 27, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Vancouver Japanese United Church
4010 Victoria Dr., Vancouver
www.momijischool.com

The Momiji Japanese Festival is hosted by Momiji Preschool. This exciting event offers fun and games for the kids! Peruse the flea market with items that can be purchased while chowing down on a great Japanese lunch with tons of sweets and foods.

2015 Newton Community Festival

June 27, 11–4 p.m.
Newton Wave Pool
13730 72 Ave., Surrey
www.newtonbia.com/newton-community-festival

Join other families at the Newton Community Festival, which brings together people from all over the community. Enjoy live entertainment, food and craft

vendors, or check out the community and business displays. This fun-filled event helps bring together a community and puts on a great day that the whole family can enjoy!

eatART Powers the Vancouver Art Gallery

June 28, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Vancouver Art Gallery
750 Hornby St., Vancouver
www.eatart.org

Come on down and enjoy this unique experience and watch as eatART powers the Vancouver Art Gallery. Teams of four or eight will ride for 45 minutes to raise funds for eatART, and the cycling teams will be generating power needed for the sound stage to work at the same time! Whether you volunteer as a team member and help power the stage or attend the beer garden, this is a summer experience you won't want to miss!

Ships to Shore Steveston 2015

June 29–July 1, 12 noon–7 p.m.
Imperial Landing & Britannia Shipyards
5180 Westwater Dr., Richmond
www.richmond.ca/discover/events/ShipstoShore.htm

Climb aboard more than 20 historic and unique vessels at this weekend-long festival! Boarding of all the ships is free, and there are more things to see such as roving pirates, wooden boat shows and dragon boat demonstrations. With food vendors and much more, the event doesn't stop until the Canada Day fireworks appear!

Canada Day – It's a Party!

July 1, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Burnaby Village Museum & Carousel
6501 Deer Lake Ave., Burnaby
www.burnabyvillagemuseum.ca
(604) 297-4565

Hosted by the Burnaby Village Museum & Carousel, this Canada Day celebration is for all! There's multicultural family entertainment that includes musicians, displays, demonstrations and of course, carousel rides! The festivities include live children's entertainers, and a parade!

Canada Day Fireworks Party!

July 1, 8 p.m.
FlyOver Canada
201–999 Canada Pl., Vancouver
www.flyovercanada.com
(604) 620-8455

Join FlyOver Canada while they celebrate Canada's birthday in their special and unique way! Enjoy burgers, poutine and drinks served by Vera's Burger Shack. There will be live music all day and unlimited access to the ride! End the day off with the best view of the Canada Day Fireworks display over Coal Harbor from FlyOver Canada's flight deck.

East Van Summer Jam 2015

July 4, 12 noon–9:30 p.m.
Strathcona Park
857 Malkin Ave., Vancouver
www.eastvansummerjam.com
(778) 986-4209

The East Van Summer Jam (EVSJ) prides itself on celebrating East Vancouver arts and culture. EVSJ dedicates 100% of its profits to sustainability projects and music programs for at-risk youth. Kids attend the festival free of charge! With food vendors, musical performances and a 19+ beer garden, this event has something for everyone. Celebrate East Vancouver culture and have a good time knowing that your money is going towards a good cause.

MEC Vancouver Paddlefest

July 4, 9–5 p.m.
Jericho Sailing Centre
1300 Discovery St., Vancouver
www.events.mec.ca

Are you an avid kayaker? Have you always wanted to test your canoe or rowing skills? If so, this is the event for you! This year's Paddlefest is back for more fun in the sun! Go for a test paddle, participate in hands-on clinics and browse exhibitor's booths. This fun event has live music, entertainment, food vendors and fun kids' activities!

Latin Film Night at the Cinematheque

July 7, 7–10:30 p.m.
The Cinematheque
1131 Howe St., Vancouver
www.latincover.ca

Vancouver Latin American Film Festival and Latincover work to present to the public two films: Lion's Heart and The False Prophet. These two films are in Spanish with English subtitles, so all can enjoy! Celebrate Latin film and enjoy popcorn while doing so!

Teen Angst

July 7, 8–10 p.m.
Cottage Bistro
4468 Main St., Vancouver
www.sarabynoe.com



▲ Teen Angst, a comedic reading series.

This hilarious show is brought to you by Sarah Bynoe and everyday people, like you. Teen Angst is a comedic reading series that allows people to share their embarrassing poems, diaries, journals and writings from their teen years. Everyone has those years where they felt they could do no wrong, but looking back on them now can feel embarrassing. Teen Angst combines embarrassment, teen years and all things in between in this hilarious show.

Breaking the Paddle

Perseverance, the painting featured in the photo, was one of many artworks at the June 13 festival: Toast the Coast Before the Coast is Toast. It was held at Jericho Beach to celebrate our beautiful coastline beaches and keep them free of oil spills. The event was sponsored by Greenpeace along with about 24 partner organizations. It was free for all ages and featured artists, musicians, and many activities. There was a major presence of indigenous people especially the Coast Salish. The event took place on unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. It was estimated nearly 5000 people attended throughout the day.

Marissa Nahanee, the painter of *Perseverance*, is from the Squamish and Nisga'a Nations. Only 28 years old, for the past 20 years, she has been a member of the Chinook SongCatchers as a singer, dancer, choreographer, storyteller, model and public speaker.

She is passionate about the ability to live of the land, and fears that it is threatened by the possibility of an oil spill. On a recent trip from Haida Gwaii, she was bringing live sea urchins to family members in Vancouver. This required changing the seawater at several stops along the way. Upon reaching Vancouver, it was impossible to change the water because of the recent oil spill in English Bay. This was a devastating experience. Indigenous people who live downstream from the Tar Sands have already experienced a change in their way of life. They claim the flora and fauna they depend on for food has become toxic and there has been a rise in the incidence of cancer among their people.

Perseverance was painted on site. The human face represents Mother Earth as she reflects on the changes that have occurred over time. We can see a pipeline and spill on the right under her face.

Perseverance was certainly the force behind a lot of the speeches and musical entertainment. Sut'lut Antone of the Squamish Nation did the opening speech. She had previously been arrested on Burnaby Mountain during the peaceful protest there when Kinder Morgan crews were test drilling for an underground pipeline. She told of the custom in her culture of "breaking the paddle" which was done when people lost faith and trust in their leader. She stated she was symbolically "breaking the paddle" with Christy Clark and her support of fracking to extract liquid natural gas. This pollutes fresh water and causes large amounts of methane gas to escape creating a serious impact on climate change. Ms. Antone also "broke the paddle" with Bernard Valcourt, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, and all those who sign on with oil and pipeline companies like Kinder Morgan, Shell Oil (who has approval to begin drilling for oil in the Arctic), and Enbridge (who wants to build a pipeline from the Tar Sands to Kitimat.) Of course, all the tar sands oil extraction and pipelines would increase tanker traffic along B.C.'s coast, greatly increasing the risk of an oil spill. The Government of the Day represented by PM Harper which supports expansion of the Tar Sands and pipelines did not escape criticism. She stated Bill C-51 "won't keep this mom quiet."

Another initial speaker was rapper Christy Charles from the Musqueam Nation. She spoke of the importance of knowing her own language to understand her customs and her people's knowledge of the past, and spoke eloquently of her people's close relationship to nature. She stated that in the past there were 51 salmon streams in the Jericho Beach area and now there was only one left on the Musqueam reserve. Her people were able to examine a salmon and tell you what river it came from. Now through over fishing, global warming and habitat pollution, salmon stocks are diminishing. A major oil spill would create



a disaster in the fishing industry that would be nearly impossible to recover from.

Tsleil Waututh Nation Sundance Chief Rueben George, spoke passionately of his people's resistance to the Kinder Morgan pipeline. Tsleil Waututh Nation is located in North Vancouver along the shores of the Burrard Inlet just across from the terminus of Kinder's Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline. They have launched a legal challenge against further development of the Kinder Morgan pipeline. Their laws mandate them in the form of a sacred trust to act as stewards for the land, air and water that nourishes them, and they will not allow Kinder Morgan to jeopardize their territory. This is the first legal challenge by a First Nation against the new pipeline and tanker proposal, and it may cause significant delay and uncertainty to the project. The Tsleil Waututh have certainly "broken the paddle" with the federal Crown and the National Energy Board who they feel are "running roughshod over their Aboriginal Title and Rights." They have stated that the process to review

Kinder Morgan's proposed pipeline expansion and tanker project was designed without First Nations consultation or public participation.

It certainly helped that Jane Fonda, famous actress and activist, participated for the duration of the festival from 4 pm till dusk. She has been standing up for indigenous rights since 1970. She has pledged to fight for the environment for her remaining days fuelled by Canadian Naomi Klein's book, *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*. The book explores a do or die scenario between becoming active against "big oil" or seeing life jeopardized on this planet. As Jane Fonda expressed it, continued oil development is for the enrichment of the few to the detriment of us all. She described the Arctic ice as the earth's air conditioner. Shell drilling in the Arctic will contribute to ice melt and global warming along with all the pollution that will be caused in that pristine environment. Jobs, says Fonda, can easily be created through investment in renewable energy rather than the exploitation of oil. She feels we

must mobilize our efforts with indigenous peoples and signal our opposition with our vote in the next federal election. Jane was joined in her efforts by Canadian actress Rachel McAdams and Melina Laboucan-Massimo of the Lubicon Cree First Nation, a climate and energy campaigner with Greenpeace Canada.

An apt ending to the festival was the candle-lit launching of a beautiful salmon lantern designed by Roy Henry Vickers on a make-shift float. It was put together from 100% recycled materials by Uproot collective; this emphasized the no-waste environmental theme of the event. All the power used during Toast the Coast was generated by solar panels.

People tied their wishes to the float and sent it out to sea as members of the Squamish Nation drummed and sang. The inspiring event gave hope that by "breaking the paddle" with environmentally irresponsible leaders and companies, we can mobilize for a greener world.

Don Richardson

Recipe by Jen dela Luna

Ginger Beef

Tasked with the assignment of Canadian food with a twist, my first thoughts went to how to put a fusion spin on classic favourites like poutine or butter tarts or a Nanaimo bar... but I quickly realized that this dish was ready and waiting to be rediscovered... and so I pass this on to you today.

Though it is inspired by a (very dry, very ginger-y) Northern Chinese dish, ginger beef as we are familiar with it today was actually a Canadian creation. It is credited to a Chinese chef who had settled in Calgary, Alberta, making it there for the first time a few decades ago... and now it's embraced across the country as a classic itself.

With its short (and fairly affordable) list of ingredients as well as the ability to be tweaked and personalized to every taste, ginger beef is a perfect meal, whether it's for dinner or leftovers the next day. (In fact, the longer it sits in its

sauce, the richer it becomes). Enjoy!

Ingredients

- 1 lb top sirloin or flank steak, cut against the grain into thin strips or "sticks"

Batter ingredients

- 1-1 1/4 cup corn starch
- 1/5-1/4 cup flour (cake or all purpose, not bread flour)
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup (approx.) water
- To taste cracked black pepper and a few dashes of chili oil
- Oil for frying

Sauce ingredients

- 4-5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2-3 chunks ginger, peeled and cut into strips (or julienne)
- 1 red bell pepper, cut into strips (or julienne)
- 1 green bell pepper, cut into strips (or julienne)
- 1 medium onion, cut into strips
- 2 tbsp oil
- 1/2 cup dark soy sauce

- 1/2 cup water
- 1 tbsp shaoxing (or cooking wine of your choice)
- 1 tbsp vinegar, white or apple cider
- 1/4-1/2 cup sugar (to your

taste, depending on how sweet you like it - you can also do a combo of brown and white sugars for a more caramelized note)

- 1 tsp sesame oil



▲ Ginger beef served over fried rice.

- To taste chili peppers, crushed

Method

1. Sauté the vegetables in the oil until lightly browned and crisp.
2. Add in the rest of the sauce ingredients and bring to a boil. After 2-3 minutes, remove from the heat and set aside, allowing the flavours to marry.
3. Whisk together the batter ingredients until thoroughly combined. Adjust (with water) how runny or thick you want the batter - and thus the crispy coating of your beef - to be.
4. Deep fry the beef in batches until golden brown and crisp.
5. Toss the beef in the sauce and serve immediately with white or fried rice (or noodles!). Alternatively, let the sauce permeate the beef for an hour or two on low heat, then serve.