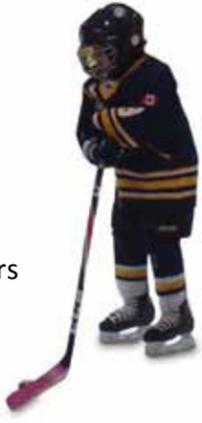


A puck and
a stick bridge
language barriers
Page 6



The Source

forum of diversity

Since 1999

Vol 13 No 33 | November 19–December 10, 2013

www.thelasource.com



Verbatim

Bhangra, saris and palak paneer: a tale of a sari and acceptance

by KRISTY MCGILVRAY

My friend, Aditi, whose family is from Punjab, India invited me to her brother's wedding reception. This was the third wedding reception I had attended in four weeks – wedding season was certainly upon us in Vancouver this summer. Eventually, my boyfriend (who is from New Delhi, India) of five years and I will be married; the when, where and how are still to be determined.

When we entered the hall in Surrey we were met with tasteful and elegant decor, many, many round tables for the over 500 guests to sit at, an open bar, buffet and a dance floor, which was fully equipped with a strong sound system and the lighting capacity of a professional venue. As well, there was an elevated stage directly across from the entrance where the bride and groom were to be seated. The women that attended the event were adorned in elegant, colourful and bejewelled garments of all types with intricate stitch work, and the men were dressed in dashing suits and ties. All involved looked their finest.

The sari I wore to the event was quite simple in comparison to what the other ladies wore, which is more in line with my style for South Asian garments. My boyfriend's mother brought me a gorgeous and simple peacock blue sari from India a couple of years ago. The edges are trimmed with a thin gold and black stripe-like pattern, and the fabric that hangs over my shoulder shows a bold dark purple stripe with the same gold and black striped trim; there are neither beads nor fancy work of any kind on my sari. The top I wore is in the style of a crop top in a gold

See "Verbatim" page 9

Arts on the edge: Surrey and White Rock's creative communities

by ALINA ANGHEL

Surrey is actively investing in its artistic community as its population grows, aiming to become something more than a Vancouver suburb. Between 2012 and 2016, more than \$3 million of city funds will be spent on public art projects according to Surrey's Public Art Plan, while the city will also distribute \$123,000 directly to community arts organizations this year as part of its new Cultural Grants program. Neighbouring White Rock, and its own long-standing but small-

er artistic community, is feeling the effects of Surrey's cultural transformation as well.

Surrey, city of culture

According to Surrey painter Jere-

is the term he uses, and with all the new developments that have sprung up, in his opinion the city has turned to artists in the community for input. Recent years have seen a boom of development

"[Surrey is] growing very rapidly, and as it grows it realizes it has not grown its artistic community, so the city of Surrey is doing a lot to promote its cultural offerings," says Herndl.

“Many artists call White Rock their home and we are very proud to recognize the contribution they make to the well-being of our community.”
Helen Fathers, White Rock city councillor

my Herndl, the city is in the midst of an active transition from a traditional suburb to a city with cultural substance. Rebranding

projects and investment in the arts, with two proposed arts facilities and 54 public art installations.

For Herndl, the artistic community in Surrey is vibrant but could still use help with more

See "Art on the edge" page 6

Also in this issue



Stitching
cloth and time
Page 9

Expressions
of Sufism
Page 10



Reach the growing
Filipino community
in Greater Vancouver

There are now over 130,000 Filipinos in BC
ADVERTISE NOW in our forthcoming
2014 edition of the only Filipino Canadian
Community and Business Directory in BC!

PRINT • MOBILE • ONLINE

1-TIME ADVERTISING
-YEAR MULTIMEDIA
EXPOSURE

Dahong Pilipino
THE FILIPINO CANADIAN COMMUNITY & BUSINESS DIRECTORY

604.737.8074 • dahongpilipino@telus.net
www.dahongpilipino.ca



My Turn

SERGE CORBEIL

The Senate: reform yes, abolition no

The recent heated debate about the Senate has brought this illustrious institution into the light as never before – unfortunately, for the wrong reasons. So much so, in fact, that cries for its abolition have been heard across the country.

preme Court of Canada is presently hearing the government's arguments in matters of Senate reforms.

Who knows what the Court will have to say, but let's concede that there are some Senate-related constitutional requirements

“ This may be an ideal moment to either encourage the abolition of the Senate or to actually deliver on long-promised reforms.

A quote comes to mind when I think about all the fuss around the Senate and its members: “Whether people speak well or ill of me is no matter, as long as they speak about me.” Perfect for the Senate. Even if the attention focused on the ill-fated chamber has done nothing to improve its reputation, there still may exist a silver lining. As never before, Canadians have taken the time to

ready for an upgrade. After all, some of our society's building-blocks date back to 1867. Take, for example, the requirement to hold at least \$4000 in property value in order to become a senator. Quite a sum back in 1867, but hardly the case today. In those days the Senate was for the elite and this requirement was included to keep it that way. It let the well-to-do keep an eye on the



▲ The Red Chamber.

learn about the role of the Senate and its senators.

True, many who have learned now want to see the Senate abolished, pure and simple – around fifty percent of Canadians according to a recent Angus Reid poll. However, forty three per cent of people who answered said that they would be ready to give the Senate a second chance if it were reformed.

In fact, this may be an ideal moment to either encourage the abolition of the Senate or to actually deliver on long-promised reforms. In the middle of the political tempest that has blown up around the Senate, the Su-



▲ Senator Peggy Butts.

other side of Parliament, namely the House of Commons.

So can we really oppose the Harper government's desire to abolish this constitutional clause? The only time this re-

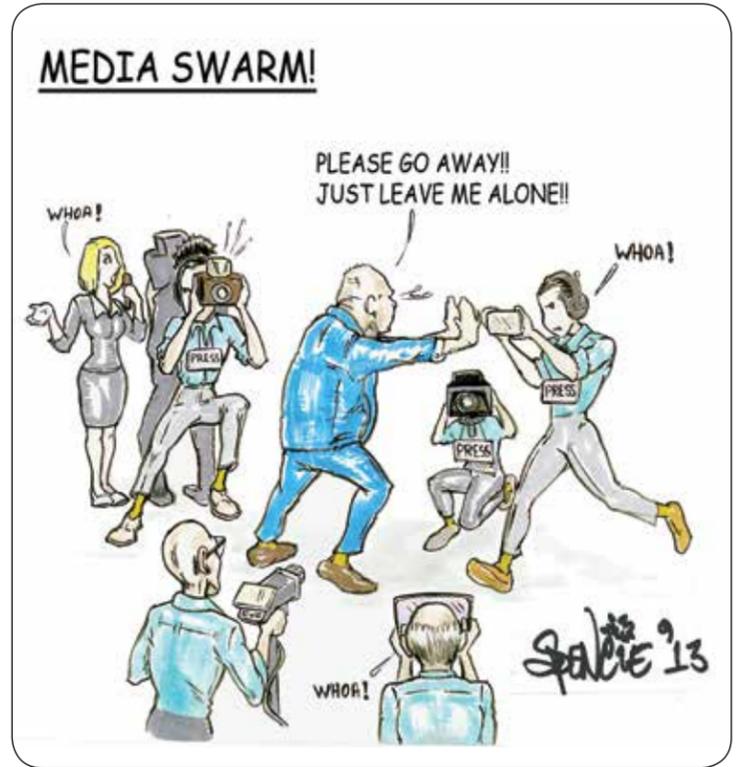
quirement hindered a nomination was in 1997, when Jean Chretien supported the nomination of Sister Peggy Butts to the Senate. Sister Peggy Butts, a catholic nun, had taken a vow a poverty. She, obviously, didn't hold any property. Only after her order ceded her a piece of land was she able to take her seat.

The senatorial selection process should also be modified and raised to modern democratic standards. We can only hope that the recent Senate fracas will bring forth an inquiry from Canadians who will have now taken the time to learn about its role and workings.

I, for one, do not wish to see the Senate abolished but I do believe it is high time for reform. After all, the last time any major changes were made, aside from the senator count being reviewed every so often, was in 1965, when the mandatory retirement age was put at 75. ✍

Translation Monique Kroeger

Spencie's View



the Cinematheque
presents

16th european union film festival

27 films • 27 countries • 14 nights

screenings @ 1131 howe street

nov 22 ... dec 05



18+

eufilmfestival.com



CANADA	POSTES
POST	CANADA
Postage paid	Port payé
Publications Mail	Poste-publications
40047468	

THE SOURCE NEWSPAPER
Mailing Address
 Denman Place PO Box 47020,
 Vancouver BC V6G 3E1
Office
 204-825 Granville St., Vancouver BC
Telephone (604) 682-5545
Email info@thelastsource.com
www.thelastsource.com

Founding Publisher Mamadou Gangué
Associate Publishers Saeed Dyanatkar (Digital),
 Monique Kroeger (Print)
Art Director Laura R. Copes
Editor-in-Chief Julie Hauville
Senior Copy Editor (English) John Dingle
Copy Editors (English) Meagan Kus,
 Debo Odegbile, Amanda Pullishy,
 Melodie Wendel-Cook
Senior Copy Editor (French) Justine Toqué
Copy Editors (French) Alice Dubot,
 Madeleine Barois
Office Assistant Kevin Paré
Website Coordinator Enej Bajgoric
Website Pavel Culajevic, Chelsy Greer,

Luiza Libardi, Dennis Timmers
Social Media Coordinator Laetitia Berthet
Social Media Benoît Bisch
Principal Editorial Content Advisors Mike Lee,
 Samuel Ramos
Graphic Designer Weronika Lewczuk
Photographers Kumiko Aoki, Nikki Blackburn,
 Denis Bouvier, Guillaume Debaene, Alice Dubot,
 Sonja Grgar, Pascal Guillon
Illustrators Joseph Laquerre, Gordon Spence
Writers Gautier Aebischer, Alina Anghel, Kumiko
 Aoki, Benoît Bisch, Nikki Blackburn, Isabelle
 Bloas, Serge Corbeil, Guillaume Debaene, Alice
 Dubot, Sarah Fung, Anne-Laurence Godefroy,

**Robert Groulx, Sonja Grgar, Pascal Guillon, Sylvie
 Guen, Derrick O'Keefe, Ben Kiely, Jessica Li, Kristy
 McGilvray, Tanouja Narraidoo, Don Richardson,
 Anastasia Scherders, Naomi Tse, Noëlle Vannier,
 Pierre Verrière, Robert Zajtmann**
Translation Marie-Noël Campbell,
 Monique Kroeger
Distribution Denis Bouvier, Sepand Dyanatkar,
 Alexandre Gangué, Kevin Paré
LEGALITIES
 The Source shall not be liable for slight changes or
 typographical errors that do not lessen the value

of an advertisement. The Source's liability for
 other errors or omissions in connection to any
 published advertisement is strictly limited to
 the repeat of the advertisement in future pub-
 lications or for the refund of any monies paid
 for the advertisement.
 We welcome appropriate, unsolicited edito-
 rial submissions if accompanied by the author's
 real name, address and telephone number. The
 author should retain the original as we cannot
 return submissions without prior agreement,
 nor does submission guarantee publication.
 For advertising call: (604) 682-5545

literASIAN

A Festival of Pacific Rim Asian Canadian Writing

November 21 - 24, 2013 612 Main Street, Vancouver, BC



literASIAN: A Festival of Pacific Rim Asian Canadian Writing will take place on November 21–24, 2013 at the UBC Learning Exchange, 612 Main Street in Vancouver's historic Chinatown, Vancouver Public Library (350 West Georgia Street), and Pink Pearl Restaurant (1132 E Hastings St Vancouver). The festival will include book launches, workshops, panel discussion, book fair and Chinatown historical tours. We are holding 8 fantastic workshops during with authors from across the country. Sign up today!

Friday, November 22

Writers Beware w/ Terry Watada

Creating Graphic Novel w/ David Wong

Saturday, November 23

The Writer's Task: Turning Knowing into Telling w/ Denise Chong

How to Write Your Past: Chinese Genealogy Research Workshop w/ May Yan-Mountain

Your story or poem as a 'brand': Leveraging literature in new media w/ Ann Shin

How to Succeed in Writing by Kinda-Sorta Trying w/ Terry Woo

Sunday, November 24

The Debut Author and the Business of Mainstream Publishing with Janie Chang

Techniques for Finding the Emotional Core of a Story w/ Julia Lin

Workshops fees start at \$35 and include an Asian Canadian Writers Workshop membership! Sign up at literasian.ricepapermagazine.ca/workshops

Celebration Banquet Dinner

Sun., Nov. 24, 2013, 6 p.m.
Pink Pearl Restaurant
1132 East Hastings St., Vancouver

We will end our fantastic literASIAN weekend with a closing event: Celebration Banquet Dinner – Community Builder Award presentation to Brian Lam and Arsenal Pulp Press. Highlights include a short script reading of Marty Chan's *Banana Boys* directed by Rick Tae with some of Vancouver theatre's brightest Asian Canadian talent; Vancouver's poet Laureate, Evelyn Lau; award winning author Madeleine Thien and Anna Ling Kaye, former UBC Prism Magazine and current *Ricepaper Magazine* editor.

Tickets are \$50 each. A portion of the proceeds will go towards the re-launching of the ACWW Emerging Writers Award. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Asian Canadian literary community, their devoted readers and fans to come together to share a meal. Come and meet your favourite author!

Featuring a 10 course Chinese meal.

Tickets: \$50 each

For tickets and RSVP call
Jim Wong-Chu 604-355-5795
or email jwongchu@shaw.ca



▲ Barangay inauguration.

The Filipino community sees a dream come true

by SARAH FUNG

North Vancouver has a new reason to brag; they now host the new Filipino Community Centre, Barangay North Vancouver. The centre, named after a term that means the smallest administrative partition in the Philippines, is the first one of its kind in Metro Vancouver. The project has been 7 years in the making, guided by the Metro Vancouver Philippine Arts and Culture Exposition Society. It will now settle into a permanent location at 113 West 3rd Street.

The excitement from Kuya Alvin, one of the project's pioneers, cannot be hidden. He is proud that the Centre will be able to reach out even further to the community.

This week, the Centre is actively fundraising for relief aid for the typhoon disaster in the Philippines. But their overall mandate is also community driven. According to the centre's mission, it will serve as a resource for every Filipino seeking to enhance their skills, complete certification programs or find employment that matches their expertise and professional background.

Many Filipino workers find employment in the cleaning, domestic care, and fast food industries, but jobs like these may not be fulfilling or stimulating for those who arrive as highly skilled and trained professionals displaced in a new Canadian context. While some Filipino immigrants may find themselves in jobs far from their passions, two success stories were shared at the Centre last week.

Overcoming tragedy

Maria Mutia had been a licensed midwife prior to her immigration to Canada. Her immigration application was granted in 2005.

"It's hard to go (leave home), but I had to," she recalls.

During the early years, she worked in unfulfilling jobs while waiting for her husband and three sons to join her in Canada. Unfortunately, her husband passed away from a stroke during the wait and she became the sole breadwinner. Life as a single parent with minimal income in a new country was challenging.

As luck would have it, she was introduced to a supervisor of a large building maintenance company, who quickly recognized her potential and determination to succeed and offered her the opportunity to prove herself in the company. She worked her way up the ranks and is, today, the operations manager. She is proud of her work, of being able

to raise her kids alone, and of her sons – one of whom is now studying aeronautics in college.

"[The Barangay will] help those Filipinos who are here right now not working to their respective profession," says Mutia.

Perseverance and possibilities

Similarly, Lourdes Concepcion came to Canada as a civil engineer. She obtained permanent residence in 2001 but was only able to find employment as a domestic worker despite her qualifications. Without relatives or friends in Canada at that time, she also faced social isolation.

Unwilling to accept these jobs as her lot in her work life, she searched for opportunities that would challenge her. That search was tough.

"I didn't give up looking for a good career, but I only got frustrations," recalls Concepcion.

After two years, however, she obtained a life insurance licence with a renowned insurance company. She continued to persevere within the company because of her desire to have a better life in Canada. As a result, she is now the regional vice president of the company. She enjoys her career very much and adds that she is now helping others, including new immigrants, to learn the ba-



▲ Maria Mutia.

sic concepts of financial planning to generate a better income.

"I help them to get whatever they desire to achieve in Canada," she concludes.

Looking forward

The Filipino Community Centre hopes to be able to assist new Filipino immigrants by aligning the passions and expectations of skilled immigrants so that many more of these success stories can be shared. ✍

Barangay NorthVan
113 West 3rd Street,
North Vancouver

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. Le conseil compte aujourd'hui plus de 5 000 élèves, 37 écoles publiques et dessert plus d'une centaine de communautés réparties dans l'ensemble de la province.

- programme d'enseignement public de la maternelle à la 12^e année;
- services à la petite enfance;
- service de transport scolaire;
- programme d'anglais de qualité; haut niveau de réussite scolaire;
- portables pour tous;
- programmes de musique, théâtre, etc.





Left Bank



Don't laugh at Toronto's Ford fiasco – the joke's on us in B.C. too

History repeats itself, Karl Marx wrote, "first as tragedy, then as farce." In Toronto, the Rob and Doug Ford fiasco at City Hall seems to reach a higher level of tragi-farce every day.

The whole mess has become nightly fodder for U.S. late night TV hosts. Rob Ford has become a punchline. But this isn't just about one man. In many ways the joke's on all of us – including here in B.C. After all, Rob Ford's campaign manager Nick Kouvalis was a key part of the team that pulled off Christy Clark's come-from-behind election victory in May.

Kouvalis made sure Clark and the BC Liberals followed the formula that got Ford elected: Focus on one message relentlessly, appealing to the basest self-interest and, win by any means necessary, including all manner of skullduggery and unyielding personal attacks.

Although voters in B.C. probably never heard Kouvalis' name during the election campaign, his methods were clear to see in Clark's campaign. And he isn't shy about his role.

"Nick Kouvalis ... played key roles in the election victories of Toronto Mayor Rob Ford and B.C. Premier Christy Clark," the biography on his political consultancy webpage boasts.

Doug Ford may be brother Rob's enabler-in-chief, but the army of backroom right-wing operatives should all be seen as enablers. Political commentator Andrew Coyne – no progressive, to say the least, but increasingly exacerbated by the amoral right-wingers in government – links the Fords to a wider coarsening of conservative politics.

churn out unethical politicians. The Fords are uncouth and unkempt, but they are very much a product of the larger right-wing political family in Canada. Just look at Harper's finance minister Jim Flaherty, an old family friend and political colleague of Doug Ford Sr. Flaherty was brought to the verge of tears, at a press conference, when asked about the Fords meltdown. Harper himself, who avoids press conferences like the plague, has made no comment whatsoever.

Back in B.C., I have yet to hear Clark refer to the Ford fiasco, but then who knows if anyone's even asked her about the campaign whiz she shares in common with Toronto's beleaguered mayor. The more important point is to consider the larger picture of nasty, dumbed down politics and narrow economics and then to resolve to do better.

The crude methods of Nick Kouvalis only work in a depoliticized society – they sweep in to claim a victory won by decades of neoliberal propaganda. Only a long-term pushback in this battles of ideas can turn things around. First and foremost we must reassert that society is more than corporate interests, and that humans are driven by more than acquisition of money and possessions.

It won't be easy; it never has been easy. The Nick Kouvalis' of the world, and the political monsters they create, will always have more money. But they can only really win if we succumb to cynicism and despair.

The overwhelming opposition in B.C. to the Enbridge pipeline is proof we can make our case and win. Christy Clark is trying



▲ A protest against Rob Ford in front of Toronto city hall.

"The same aggressively dumb, harshly divisive message that has become the playbook for the right generally in this country, in all its contempt for learning, its disdain for facts, its disrespect of convention and debasing of standards. They can try to run away from him now, but they made this monster, and they will own him for years to come," writes Coyne in the Nov. 15 *National Post*.

I would go further, and say that this debasement of politics is linked to the debased ideology of neoliberalism. For more than a generation now, political life has been dominated by the mantra that greed is good. When the private sector is sacrosanct and the public sector under attack, when personal self-interest is lauded and the public good derided or denied altogether – should we really be surprised that vicious and corrupt bullies end up running the show?

In other words, an unethical economic philosophy is bound to

to flip flop on her government's opposition to Enbridge, agreeing to a so-called deal with Alberta's Premier Redford earlier this month. The "agreement" is a sham. It's all theatre so that Clark can look tough, and at some future point claim she has extracted more royalties or cash for B.C. from this destructive mega-project. This effort will fail, because people know the real issues are about our environment, the global climate, and First Nations' rights.

A few thousand people rallied this weekend in Vancouver to remind Clark of the wall of opposition to tar sands pipelines across B.C. So that's one reason for hope that human reason and human decency can still overcome nasty right-wing politics.

Let's hope the Ford implosion in Toronto marks the beginning of a comeback for genuinely progressive politics. Nick Kouvalis' winning streak is no joke, and it's high time we ended it. ✍

"Attracting and retaining the best international talent to fill skills shortages in key occupations is critical to Canada's economic success."

- Hon. Jason Kenney, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Employment and Social Development

Respond to Canada's need for immigrants.

Become a Regulated Immigration Consultant



ICCRC
ACCREDITED
EDUCATIONAL
PROGRAM

Full-time | Part-time | Online

Apply online at www.ashtoncollege.com or contact a program adviser at (604) 899-0803.

Ashton College | Vancouver, BC

604 899 0803 | 1 866 759 6006 | www.ashtoncollege.com

Ashton



Handel's Messiah

presented by

the UBC School of Music

Saturday, November 30th, 2013 | 8:00pm

the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

VANCOUVER -- The UBC School of Music presents *Messiah* by George Frideric Handel (1685-1757). This famous oratorio is by far Handel's best loved and most frequently performed work, and is considered by many to be his greatest masterpiece.

Steeped in tradition, performances of *Messiah* mark the beginning of the festive holiday season around the world.

This stunning performance will feature the award-winning UBC University Singers with the UBC Symphony Orchestra, Choral Union, and soloists from the UBC Opera Ensemble.

A powerful cast of 200 singers are backed by a brilliant, agile, and expressive orchestra to deliver soaring arias, overtures, and dramatic choruses.

Audience members will be invited to stand for the Hallelujah Chorus, as has been customary since the first London performance in 1743. That evening the King stood, and the entire audience was obligated to follow suit. Historians and amateur musicologists enjoy debating whether he was acknowledging the kingly reference in the musical phrase "KING OF KINGS", ...or if perhaps he was simply tired and wanted to stand.

This concert marks the first full performance of *Messiah* in over 15 years. Dr. Graeme Langager -- UBC's vibrant new Director of Choral Activities -- brings his dynamic leadership style to the podium to conduct the 250+ performers.

MESSIAH by Handel

Saturday, November 30, 2013 at 8:00pm

Graeme Langager, conductor the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
6265 Crescent Road, UBC

Tickets

\$27 for Adults | \$20 Seniors | \$15 Students

Available through Ticketmaster (604) 280-3311, www.ticketmaster.ca or in person at the Chan Centre Ticket Office

Interviews and additional information:

Dr. Graeme Langager
Director of Choral Activities
UBC School of Music
604-822-6792
graeme.langager@ubc.ca



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



UBC School of Music
6361 Memorial Rd. Vancouver, BC
www.music.ubc.ca



skilled immigrant infocentre

Looking for work in your field? Make the connection.



Are you a Recent Immigrant looking for work?

The Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre is a free service to help you find the information you need to get a job in your field of education and experience.

The Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre staff will help identify . . .

- Opportunities for employment in your field. We will help you learn where the jobs in your field are in the province.
- Agencies and organizations that can assist in your job search
- Professional associations
- Immigrant services
- Employer organizations

Library staff can also help with customized job search information with a special focus on the needs of trained professionals.

Location

The InfoCentre is located on Level 4 in the Central branch of Vancouver Public Library at 350 West Georgia Street and is open during regular Central library hours. Clients may be asked to book an appointment.



Canada
Funded by the Government of Canada's
Foreign Credential Recognition Program

Canada Post to release stamp marking Komagata Maru incident

by KUMIKO AOKI

The incident that locked out hopeful immigrants to Canada will be remembered through a label that is used everyday across the country: a postage stamp.

Canada Post, the country's primary postal operator, will be releasing a stamp on May 2014 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the *Komagata Maru* in-

that the *Komagata Maru* stamps came about after receiving suggestions to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the incident. Phillips explains the long standing decision-making policy which involves the Canadian Stamp Advisory committee discussing, reviewing, and debating on the subject to give a final recommendation to Canada Post.

After the approval of the board



▲ Passengers on the Komagata Maru.

"We'd like to set an example to communities in the world that Canada is a tolerant place, and we have a respect for diversity," says Phillips.

Remembering the past

Aj Rai, Office Manager and member of the Khalsa Diwan Society, a Sikh society in Van-

couver, said he thinks Canada Post's stamp release of the *Komagata Maru* incident is very good.

"We're very happy and everybody's very excited because this means a lot to the community," Rai says.

Rai points out the release of the stamps will make people more aware of this historical incident, and realize how this form of injustice should never happen again.

Rai also shares what he hopes the younger generation will gain from knowing about this historical incident.

"The younger generation should know what kind of sacrifices were made by the people then, so they can have a better life now," Rai says.

Pall Beesla, a senior assistant treasurer / social media communications at the Khalsa Diwan Society, explains the im-

portance of passing on the story to the youth.

"If we're not continuously remembering or teaching [this history], whether it's my generation or the next generation younger than me, it's possible for any kind of injustice to re-occur in a different form," says Beesla.

Beesla adds Canada's diversity is made stronger by learning from the past and that only through remembering events such as the *Komagata Maru* will Canadians be able to move forward and accept diversity.

"I'm hoping these kinds of life lessons and history lessons will help, encourage and motivate us to be better people and eventually [be] a role model for the world as to how to be accepting of cultural, religious, and different community beliefs and their belief systems," says Beesla. ☞

“ I'm hoping these kinds of life lessons and history lessons will help, encourage and motivate us to be better people.

Pall Beesla, senior assistant treasurer / social media communications at the Khalsa Diwan Society

cident, when a Japanese-owned ship carrying South Asian passengers was denied entry upon arrival in Canadian waters.

A sad moment in Canada's history

On May 23, 1914 the *Komagata Maru*, carrying 376 South Asian passengers of mostly Sikh background, was refused permission to land in Vancouver due to the laws in place to discourage non-white immigrants from entering Canada.

Instead of a journey for a better life, the passengers arriving in Vancouver were denied food and water, and were not allowed to disembark.

After two months of waiting and hoping to be granted entry, the majority of the passengers on board the *Komagata Maru* were forced to leave Vancouver on July 23, 1914. This event led the passengers to face further conflicts after they had landed in Calcutta, India.

Stamps to stories

Jim Phillips, director of stamp services at Canada Post, explains

of directors and the chairman of the board regarding the subject, the designing of the stamps will then take place. The stamp advisory committee will vote among the various designs and give directions to further improve the designs.

"We want to tell a powerful story in a very small [space] and talk about this incident," says Phillips.

By bringing awareness to the *Komagata Maru* incident, Phillips hopes people can see how much Canada has advanced in accepting multiculturalism.



▲ Aj Rai, office manager and member of the Khalsa Diwan Society.

Photo by Kumiko Aoki



Call for Tenders Form

Redesign of la Maison de la Francophonie de Vancouver Website

Published	November 20, 2013	Call for Tenders Region	Vancouver Metro
Closing	December 6, 2013	Budget	\$ 4,000.00

Description of the Notice of Call for Tenders

La Maison de la Francophonie de Vancouver is a non-profit society incorporating as limited partnership. It was founded in 1988 to acquire and operate a building that would serve as a francophone community centre.

The Société would like to identify a web designer who will be responsible for the complete redesign of *la Maison* website. The scope of work involves the following:

- Francophone website including English version;
- Search Engine Optimization (SEO)

For more information or for receiving the Call for Tenders documents, contact us by email:

Name	Call for Tenders Maison de la Francophonie
Address	1555 W 7 th Avenue
City/ Province/ Postal Code	Vancouver/ CB/ V6J 1S1
Email	info@laimaison.bc.ca

Need the skills to find a job? We can help!

Design a fantastic resume and cover letter, fine tune your interview techniques, learn valuable skills to succeed in the Canadian workplace, gain insight into the job market, access special services for skilled works – all at NO COST. The Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society, Vancouver Branch, has been helping immigrants and newcomers to Canada for over 14 years!

Our Group Job Search Workshops are a flexible, 5 module rotating program, running weekly, with 16 sessions each month. This includes basic computer orientation, with instruction on using Word and Excel, and accessing the Internet. Workshops are held within a culturally diverse environment, led by qualified facilitators.

Past and current E.I. recipients are always welcome. Knowledgeable case managers are available to guide you through the process of reaching your career goals.

PICS Vancouver also offers one-on-one employment assistance, paid on-the-job work experience through our Wage Subsidy program, and a one-stop Career Centre with a broad range of job hunting resources. Funding for all programs is provided by the Ministry of Social Development, Employment and Labour Market Services Division.

Please call 604-324-7733, go to www.pics.bc.ca, or visit us at 200-8161 Main Street, Vancouver, to find out how we can best help you.



The community that plays together: eliminating language barriers through sport

by NIKKI BLACKBURN

Hockey wins in the face-off between language barriers and cultural adaptation. Families new to Canadian culture are using the sport to integrate and immerse themselves in the Canadian way of life.

The city of Richmond, according to the 2011 Census, is home to the largest immigrant population in British Columbia: 50 per cent of residents identify themselves as having Chinese background.

Vancouver – like many other areas of the country – is an ever-growing, diverse and multi-ethnic society and so it should come as no surprise interest in the sport has steadily increased over the last few years.

The Richmond Minor Hockey Association (RMHA) realizes hockey has proven to be a popular choice for families new to the culture. This year, the RMHA has taken steps to make their promotional materials more accessible to families in their community for whom English is not their first language.

Embracing diversity within the community

The league – which is entirely volunteer-led – has translated all their promotional posters and basic rules of the game into



▲ Developing puck control at the Richmond Minor Hockey Association.

Chinese. The equipment list has also been translated into both Chinese and Punjabi, and the addition of Google Translate to the league's website has proven a useful tool to help residents new to the sport read the necessary information in a more familiar language.

"With Richmond, we have families here who come from many different parts of the world, and it only seemed logical that – as an association – we should be reaching out to those [in our

community] that don't speak English," says Carolyn Hart, public relations coordinator for the RMHA.

"The translation really helps as parents are able to come to our website and get the information, as opposed to relying on second-hand information, and I think that's really valuable," adds Bapinda Dosanjh, manager of the RMHA's Hockey 3 team.

A family game

Joseph Burrioni, 7, lives and

breathes the sport. When Joseph got his new helmet, he insisted to his mother, Dawn, that he be allowed to sleep in it. Taking up the sport seemed a natural progression for Joseph, now in his fourth season with the RMHA. Joseph's older brother and both parents also play regularly. His father, Michael, is also one of the volunteer parent coaches for the association.

Michael feels the decision to translate necessary information about the Canadian sport

is beneficial for community members.

"It's nice for the families not to have to worry about the language barrier," says Michael. "It makes it easier for them and eliminates any confusion. I find I don't see as many kids having to translate to their parents [these days]."

Michael praised the association's disciplined structure because he believes that playing on a team teaches children to cooperate and work with others, as well as helping them make friends.

Carter Kwan, 7, has been playing with the RMHA for three years. Carter enjoys both the physicality of the sport and the social element of being part of a team. His father, Aaron, admits that all the kids get pretty competitive during practice but says they still manage to have a good time.

"They have a lot of fun, which is the most important thing at their age," says Aaron.

RMHA also offers a one-year Intro to Hockey program for kids new to either the sport or the country. Intro had ten players in 2012, which swelled to forty-five in 2013, partially in response to the translation. ✉

For more information about the RMHA, please visit www.richmondminorhockey.com

► "Art on the edge" from page 1 affordable studios and better access to resources.

Local comedy troupe Bollywood Shenanigans have benefited from the financial support provided to artists in the city through the Surrey Arts Board. The group has been active for the past three years and specializes in Desi SNL-style shows that poke fun at the South Asian community in Canada.



▲ Spotting the invisible in Surrey.

and one of the co-founders of Bollywood Shenanigans.

Artistic communities, large and small

White Rock, with its own separate weather pattern and established artistic vibe, occupies a mystic place in the Lower Mainland.

"Many artists call White Rock their home and we are very proud to recognize the contribution they make to the well-being of our community," says White Rock councillor Helen Fathers.

Some of this small community vibe may be seen in the White Rock Players' Club, a theatre group that dates back to 1944. Now, 350 productions later, it is a White Rock institution, with as many as four generations of families making it out to the yearly Christmas pantomime. The theatre is run completely by volunteers – from the director to the usher – with only one paid em-

ployee and a contracted cleaner. cated, talented people can create, especially from people that have full time jobs and families to give their time so easily and passionately," says Nicole Danish, theatre box office manager for the past four years.

As the cities continue to grow together geographically, new developments will raise issues that affect the artistic communities in each. A new performing arts center has been proposed for South Surrey which would host 6,500 square feet dedicated to the arts and a 350-seat theatre, along with a high-rise building.

"There is no need for another theatre in the area," Danish says. "We do not see how it would make the community better. It will take away from the 'community theatre' feel the White Rock Players' Club represents."

Fathers, though, believes that the new Surrey arts development would be simply another positive addition to the broader area's artistic community. She suggests that since it is already an embedded practice for White Rock residents to support their local artists, community theatres like the White Rock Players' Club will continue to thrive.

Indeed, Surrey's large artistic community and White Rock's smaller one sometimes come together, especially to recognize the excellence to be found in each. The Surrey Civic Treasure Award, which annually honours individuals who have achieved success in their field and embody Surrey's values of arts and heritage, has been awarded to residents of White Rock in previous years. The SASSY Awards, presented by the Semiahmoo Rotary Club, are awarded to Surrey and White Rock youth between the ages of 16 and 21 in categories such as Performing and Visual Arts and Community Service. ✉



▲ Totem poles at East Beach, White Rock.

"We are very excited to bring the best of show to Surrey. It is quite relevant to the South Asian community in Vancouver," says Munish Sharma, writer, actor

ployee and a contracted cleaner. "It amazes me every time I sit in a seat and the lights go down and that curtain goes up what these amazing, creative, dedi-



NEW WORKS
PRESENTS

DANCE ALLSORTS

OUT INNERSPACE DANCE THEATRE / MODUS OPERANDI

Sunday, December 8th, 2 p.m.

The Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre

Pre-sale tickets are available online through www.newworks.ca \$15.00 for adults & seniors, \$5.00 for children under 12.

Pay what you can at the door

Out Innerspace Dance Theatre, in collaboration with Modus Operandi, will present research material and excerpts of works in progress. Artistic Directors David Raymond and Tiffany Tregarthen will share a glimpse into the unique genre-bending character-based contemporary dance style they are known for. This program will also showcase a selection of work from Modus Operandi's aspiring professionals.

www.outinnerspace.ca

musica intima

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

popular holiday choral concert



Vancouver, BC - November 7, 2013 - musica intima's cherished holiday concert returns with a radiant musical setting of the birth of Christ. Come celebrate with musica intima in this time of great anticipation as they sing to give "light for the traveler, light for the still dark night, **light for the Child.**"

The program includes timeless holiday classics such as **Benjamin Britten's** *Jeus, as thou art our saviour*, while bringing Canada's contemporary composers to the forefront. A rare selection of works by **Kristopher Fulton**, **Michael Conway Baker** (BC Hall of Fame, Order of BC) and JUNO-winning **John Burge** speak to creation, rebirth and healing.

Founded in 1992, **musica intima** has become an integral part of Vancouver's cultural fabric. Internationally renowned for their warm and engaging stage presence, impeccable musicianship, and unique perspective on ensemble singing, **musica intima** has earned a reputation as Canada's most exciting vocal ensemble. What makes them truly unique is that the singers rehearse, perform and function as a collective. In rehearsal they self-direct, exchanging ideas freely while exploring their own musical creativity. In performance, they engage audiences with a spontaneity and directness all their own.

"...a stocking stuffed with surprises."
The Georgia Straight

Saturday, December 14, 7:30pm
Knox Presbyterian Church
403 E. Columbia St, New
Westminster

Monday, December 16, 7:30pm
West Vancouver United Church
2062 Esquimalt Ave, West Vancouver
Supported by the West Vancouver Community
Foundation

Friday, December 20, 7:30pm
Christ Church Cathedral
690 Burrard Street, Vancouver
Sponsored by Christ Church Cathedral

Saturday, December 21, 7:30pm
Ryerson United Church
2195 West 45th Ave, Vancouver

Tickets available @ musicaintima.org
or call 604.731.6618

Adults \$35 /Seniors \$30 /
Students \$10
Groups rates available

Fitting in as an international student

by NAOMI TSE

Moving halfway across the world is never easy. For international students who are seeking a better education, more job opportunities or a new cultural experience, adapting to a new environment is the first step to achieving their goals.

According to the UBC Annual Report on Enrolment 2012/2013, 8,440 international students from 154 countries were registered at UBC last year. These students comprised 17 per cent of the student population. Enrolment in undergraduate programs has also increased 14 per cent over the year before.

Adjusting to life in Vancouver

20-year-old Ria Singh is an international student from Indonesia studying business. She wanted to pursue post secondary education abroad because she says the universities in Indonesia are not up to international standards.

"Multiculturalism was one of the biggest benefits of studying here," Chen says. "I learned to see things from a different point of view after working on group projects with many different people."

For Sailesh Daswani, a chemistry honours student, the UBC Jump Start program really helped him adjust to life in Vancouver. The two week orientation program for international students is a mix of workshops and social events as well as outings across Vancouver.

"[The program] really teaches you how to use transit and how to live on residence," says the 21-year-old from Hong Kong.

Overcoming language barriers

According to the Canadian Bureau of International Education, Canada is the 7th most popular destination for international students with students from China, India and Korea representing a large portion of foreign students.

“Multiculturalism was one of the biggest benefits of studying here.

Leo Chen, Taiwanese Grad Student

Coming from an international school in Jakarta, she thought that she was culturally prepared to meet Canadians. However, she realized that there were some major differences in lifestyle. Singh says that in Jakarta, it was the norm to have a maid and a driver but she felt that Canadians would not understand if she revealed that to them.

"My maid was like my best friend but you feel like you have to hide a piece of yourself and contain your identity," she says.

Holly Liu, a 24-year-old Food Market Analyst student from China had always expected to go abroad and found that language was her greatest challenge after arriving in Vancouver.

"The slang used here is different than what I learned in China and the writing style is different too," she says.

The language barrier didn't stop her though. To remedy her language skills, she hired a private tutor to help improve her writing as well as correct her



▲ International students studying in SFU's English Language and Culture Program.

Now that she has been in Canada for a year, she feels more at ease with being herself. She says joining clubs such as the International Student Association has also helped make her feel more at home knowing that there are other people from her home town out there.

Taiwanese graduate Leo Chen says that he found it difficult to have conversations with other Canadians because of cultural differences.

"Guys like to talk about sports and in Canada they like to talk about hockey so if you don't know anything about hockey it is difficult to join in," he says.

On the other hand, amidst the cultural differences, new perspectives can be found.

Liu also states that the education system in North America fosters more opportunities to explore your career path and personal interests.

"There's more experiential learning here [compared to China] and you're not just learning from books," says Liu who had transferred to UBC from Langara College.

Despite difficulties adjusting, one thing that many international students have in common is the desire to remain in Canada after graduation.

"Because you're going to a more renowned university with higher standards, the job opportunities are a lot greater too," says Singh. ☞



Advertise in The Source newspaper
or on The Source website.

604.682.5545 or info@thelastsource.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER AT SURREY'S HERITAGE FACILITIES

SURREY MUSEUM

Unique artifacts, images and interactive displays in a stunning and modern space that highlights Surrey's history. Attractive space for programs, changing feature exhibits, Hooser Textile Centre.

17710-56A Avenue, Surrey
604-592-6956
HOURS:
Tuesdays-Fridays,
9:30am-5:30pm,
Saturdays: 10:00am-5:00pm.
2013 admission sponsored
by Friends Society.
www.surrey.ca/heritage
Twitter: @ASurreyMuseum

EXHIBITIONS

(November and December)

Wind Work, Wind Play: Weathervanes & Whirligigs

This lighthearted exhibit takes a look at over a century of wind powered folk art. Whimsical weathervanes and whirligigs from across Canada are displayed, showing a range of functional weather indicators turned into decorative and in-demand folk art collectibles. From the Canadian Museum of Civilization. On display to December 21.

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

Tea and Tour

Stroll through the Surrey Museum while experienced guides educate and entertain you! After your tour, relax with tea and treats while listening to nostalgic recordings from the 1920s and '30s. Minimum 6, maximum 25. Must pre-book at 604-592-6956. Wednesdays & Thursdays, 1 session \$6.50 (16+yrs)

Weaving: Level 2

Add to your weaving skills as you learn to thread and weave in the Overshot technique. Create a unique and beautiful table runner that will become a family heirloom. Supply fee \$15. Please pre-register at 604-592-6956. Thursday, November 7, 7:00pm-9:00pm. 4 sessions \$48 (16+yrs).

Woven Boa Scarf

Join local weaver, Dale Friend,

for a fun workshop weaving an exotic boa scarf using designer yarns, on the Museum's table looms. Supply fee \$20. Please pre-register at 604-592-6956. Saturday, November 9, 9:30am-4:30pm. 1 session \$50.40 (16+yrs).

Surrey Remembers

Take part in the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph next door, then bring your family next door to the Museum or the Archives for refreshments, videos and "peaceful" crafts. Monday, November 11, 9:30am-12:30pm. All ages, by donation.

Soldier of the Horse

Join local author Robert Mackay to learn about Surrey's connections to World War I Canadian cavalry and the importance of horses during the war. Please pre-register at 604-592-6956. Monday, November 11, 1:00pm-2:00pm. 1 session, by donation (16+yrs).

Discovery Saturday:

Mexican Fiesta

Discover the sounds, tastes and rich culture of Mexico! Create take-home crafts, enjoy tortilla chips and salsa, watch lively Mexican dancing and play games. Saturday, November 16, 1:00pm-4:00pm. All ages, by donation.

Cultural Connections

Meet members from local immigrant organizations in your community as they share their experiences of life in Canada. View and have the opportunity to purchase their handiwork. Saturday, November 23, 2:00pm-3:30pm. All ages, by donation.

HISTORIC STEWART FARM

Tour the charming restored 1894 farmhouse, pole barn and heritage gardens, try old-fashioned crafts, take part in a program or special event, and imagine pioneer life at the turn of the 19th century.

13723 Crescent Road, Surrey
604-592-6956.

HOURS:

Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm,
Saturday, 12noon-4pm
Entrance by donation.

www.surrey.ca/heritage

Twitter: @StewartFarm1

EXHIBITION

Nobody Here But Us Chickens

This exhibit cracks open the history of chickens and the current debate on backyard chicken farming. Learn about breeds, care and chicken coop design. On display to November 9 in Stewart Hall. Open Fridays and Saturdays, 12noon-4:00pm and by appointment.

PROGRAMS

Scottish Afternoon Tea

Discover the Stewart family's Scottish heritage as you explore the charming 1890s farmhouse and grounds with a costumed guide. Then relax while we serve an old-fashioned Scottish tea and baked treats. Must pre-book at 604-592-6956. Fridays, 1:00pm-2:30pm. 1 session \$10 (16yrs+).

Joy of Wreaths

Learn about the history and symbolism of wreaths then create one from a variety of natural local materials. Cost includes supplies. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Saturday, November 16, 10:00am-12noon OR 1:00pm-3:00pm. 1 session \$20 (16yrs+)

Heritage Christmas at the Farm

Get in the holiday spirit with a visit to the Farm. Sample fresh baking, make a decoration and tour the Victorian farmhouse all decked out for a pioneer Christmas. Saturday, November 30 and Saturday, December 7, 12noon-4:00pm. All ages, by donation.

SURREY ARCHIVES

17671 - 56 Avenue, Surrey
Info 604-502-6459
www.surrey.ca/heritage

In Their Own Words - Get a personal introduction to Surrey history through audio clips from our Oral History Collection. Photos and maps will complement anecdotes and impressions shared by some of the city's long-time residents. Must pre-register at 604-502-6459. Saturday, November 9, 11:00am-12noon. 1 session \$10 (16yrs+).

www.surrey.ca/heritage



Vancouver Chamber Choir
JON WASHBURN, CONDUCTOR

20th Annual Interplay

Interactive Workshops for Composers
With Jon Washburn and the Vancouver Chamber Choir



FEBRUARY 7, 2014 SUDBURY, ON
APRIL 8, 2014 VANCOUVER, BC

FUNDATION
SOCAN
FOUNDATION

Application deadline: December 10, 2013

The application brochure is available at
www.vancouverchamberchoir.com/interplay

Jon Washburn and the Vancouver Chamber Choir will deliver the award winning Interplay: Interactive Workshops for Canadian Choral Composers February 7, 2014 in Sudbury, ON and April 8, 2014 in Vancouver, BC.

During this program, composers are allotted individual rehearsal time (usually 30-45 minutes) with the professional chorus and conductor. This time may be used to test completed work and/or try out new concepts. Choir, conductor and composer dialogue about musical and technical features, strengths, flaws, textures, colours, notations and many other aspects of successful choral writing. Each workshop is closely tailored to the needs and interests of the individual composer.

A cross-section of composers, ranging from full professionals to university composition students and representing varied musical styles from avant garde, concert and church music to school and educational repertoire are chosen to participate in the Interplay workshops.

Composers are also welcome to attend the workshops as observers.

There is no charge to composers for this workshop, thanks to the generous support of the SOCAN Foundation.

Jon Washburn founded the Vancouver Chamber Choir in 1971. Under his guidance, the ensemble has become an amazing success story, ranking with the handful of North America's best professional choruses. In addition to touring and a busy season of concerts, broadcasts and recording, the Choir presents five award-winning educational programs.



HORN OF AFRICA EMERGENCY



1 888 664-DEVP

Custom-crafted longevity: Modernize Tailors celebrates a century in business

by SONJA GRGAR

Vancouver's Chinatown has seen its share of change in the course of the past century, but Modernize Tailors has remained the go-to place for a first-class custom-tailored suit throughout the last 100 years. Owner Bill Wong, 91, still works full-time in the tailor shop his father opened in 1913.

The City of Vancouver recently honoured this remarkable centennial by declaring Nov. 3 Modernize Tailors Day. In addition, throughout November, the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden is hosting *Modernize Tailors: 100 Years of Dressing the Modern Man*, an exhibit commemorating the family-run business.

Changing with the times

To walk through the doors of Modernize Tailors is to take a swift breath of history. The shop contains an iron and a button-hole machine that are 80 years old, and the work space conjures the charm of an era when it was unthinkable for kids to attend school without made-to-measure pants.



▲ A collection of Modernize Tailors artifacts dating back to the early 1900's on display at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden.

Yet, the business is keenly aware of modern consumer tastes and has survived due to its owners' uncanny ability to adapt to change. In the last five years, Bill's son Steven has joined the business as well, and worked to augment its online presence.

"In the earlier era, we would serve all levels of the city. It's really a younger generation that's finding us now – our blog has quite a young voice," Steven explains.

Even though we no longer live in an era where custom-made suits – Modernize Tailors' specialty – are the norm for everyday wear, the shop keeps busy with suits made for milestone occasions such as weddings and first job interviews.

"The fashion business is always up and down, but because of the internet, people always seem to find us," says Bill.

Transforming limitations into success

Though starting a business as an immigrant in Vancouver is still not easy, today's newcomers are in an unquestionably better position than Bill's father Kung Lai Wong was a century ago.

Eliza Chang is the program director of Settlement Services at S.U.C.C.E.S.S., a local social service agency. With funding from the B.C. Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. offers a Business Immigrant Integration Support (BIIS) program to newcomers who have been in Canada for less than five years.

"BIIS is [here] to increase business immigrants' knowledge, expand their business network, help further refine a business or an investment, so that immigrants would be able to confidently make informed decisions," says Chang.

In Kung Lai Wong's era, incentives such as BIIS were sadly unimaginable because business

loans to Chinese-Canadians were prohibited because of the Chinese Exclusion Act. Modernize Tailors was started with cash capital earned through hard work and solidarity within the Wong family.

Bill Wong earned an engineering degree in the mid-1940s, but

We use the language of art and education, and people learn a lot here," Steven explains.

History personified

Modernize Tailors: 100 Years of Dressing the Modern Man celebrates the shop's unique place in Chinatown's history. Shayla

"If we do what we love, that's energizing and it keeps us going," he says.

And for his part, Bill is not showing any signs of slowing down. On top of full-time work at the shop, he gardens and practices SunDo Taoist Yoga with Steven, embodying the kind of vitality



▲ Bill Wong with his son Steven Wong at their Modernize Tailors shop.

he says racial discrimination made it impossible for him to find a job in that field. Still, he doesn't regret his alternate career path.

"I have no resentment that I never got to go into engineering. You can do all kinds of things with fabric that you can't do with a piece of wood or steel, and [tailoring] also consists of a lot of art," he says.

His father's emphasis on artistry is one of the things that drew Steven to the business after a career in teaching art.

"There's a long tradition of good craftsmanship, good materials.

Perreault, visitor experience and operations manager at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, says that the exhibit opening – part of the Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival – was a vibrant event whose highlight was Bill Wong reading from his diary, written when he was 14.

"A lot of the time with history, you have all these objects, but the story is missing...but if you've got the diary, then you've got the story of the person," says Perreault.

Steven believes that his father's story is universally inspirational.

that has made Modernize Tailors an enduring sartorial presence in Vancouver. ✂

To contact Modernize Tailors and find out more about the business, visit www.modernizetailors.blogspot.ca. And for more info on *Modernize Tailors: 100 Years of Dressing the Modern Man* exhibit, visit www.vancouverchinesegarden.com/events.

To register for A Stretch With the Tailors, a SunDo Taoist Yoga class taught by Steven Wong at the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, call 604-662-3207.

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

Bernie, First Nations counsellor

HELP SOMEONE YOU KNOW.

CALL 1-800-BANTING



www.diabetes.ca

► Verbatim from page 1

tinged brocade-like fabric that is sleeveless with a scoop back and a tie that runs across the back. I wore the only sari like it, which made me stand out in the crowd. Despite standing out, I felt completely comfortable as it reflected my taste in saris – vivid colour and simplicity.

I received many compliments on my sari both while I was tweaking it in the washroom and through my friend Aditi who told me several people commented to her on its loveliness and how well I wore it. This all made me feel very happy – everyone likes a compliment but my feelings go a bit deeper than this. I experienced a deep sense of acceptance.

I sometimes run into a small racist comment here and there – it just reminds me that I am an outsider, being a Caucasian, which is not something I worry about too much. An example of this is an encounter I had while I attended a friend's BBQ this past summer. One of the South Asian ladies had commented to me, "Oh, is the chicken too spicy for you?" as she noticed I was not eating a

lot of it and assumed I could not handle the spice level. This comment was slightly offensive as I have been in a relationship with a South Asian man for five years, which has included many, many Indian meals (both North and South) and prior to my relationship, I would dine on Indian food with friends. So the reason was not the spice level, it was the fact that I eat in a vegetarian fashion more often than not. This choice was in part influenced by my exposure to the many delicious vegetarian dishes of Indian cuisine.

The fact that I received so many compliments on my sari that night regardless of my ethnic background helped me feel more accepted into the community. I have other ways of gaining acceptance, for example, through my knowledge of the latest Bollywood films, actors and actresses, my experience in a contemporary South Asian dance troupe and other Indian dance styles, as well as learning the Hindi language. My sari, however, gained me a great first impression and allowed me to shift into conversations that show my appreciation, love and curiosity of the culture. ✂

Local visual artist reflects on moments of pause

by ANASTASIA SCHERDERS

In our modern lives we experience a daily chaos that makes it seem difficult – perhaps impossible – to find both the time and space for reflection or meditation.

NikNaz Kahnemoui, a visual storyteller based in Vancouver, is very aware of the hectic schedules in our lives, the pressure to be perfect, and the challenges we experience in creating moments of calm and quiet.

Grounded in Sufi values and strongly influenced by the written word, Kahnemoui's artwork contemplates our continuous search for meaning among the activities of daily life.

"It is mostly poetry and nature that inspire my work, and the experiences of the day-to-day," Kahnemoui says.

Pausing to be present

Last weekend, Kahnemoui exhibited her new collection, *Letting time Breathe*, as part of this year's Eastside Culture Crawl. The collection is inspired by Tara Brach, senior teacher and founder of the Insight Meditation Community of Washington, and her concept of *The Sacred Pause*.

"It's about taking a step back from our everyday activities, taking a pause, and being present in the moment," says Kahnemoui.

After sustaining an injury from a recent accident, Kahnemoui says she experienced a forced pause. The first piece she worked on after her recovery, titled *Before the Calm*, is what she considers to be the darkest piece in the collection, heavily textured with a rich layering of colour.

Rather than illustrating *The Sacred Pause*, Kahnemoui says her latest collection expresses the anguish one goes through to get to that moment of pause. Ironically, she points out, there were times during the creation



▲ Artist NikNaz painting *Survive* at an event called *Anu*.

I had everything covered, I could finally pursue art."

She has studied architecture, business administration, and pursued interdisciplinary studies in communication and gender, sexuality, and women's studies. Although her diverse educational background has never focused on visual art (she has taken a few painting classes at Emily Carr), she has painted throughout her life.

pastels) and she practices as an artist to reflect, learn, and grow.

Presently, Kahnemoui has a shared studio at the Red Door Studio in the Mergatroid Building, where she has the space to focus closely on her creative work.

"I paint to really loud music and Persian music," says Kahnemoui.

Creation as meditation

In sharing her work, Kahnemoui feels that she shares an intimate space with the viewer. According to Kahnemoui, art is about connectivity and reminds us that we are connected.

"I love when someone wants to talk about a piece, when it moves someone, makes someone think that there is more to life," she says.

She hopes that her work helps people move toward these ideas and conversations.

In addition to her work as an artist, Kahnemoui is executive director of Arts Health Network Canada. The mandate of the organization is to promote artistry for better health and quality of life.

"I believe that everyone is born with artistic and creative tendencies," she says.

For Kahnemoui, artistic practice and creativity are integral to a person's well-being.

"Painting is meditation; creation is meditation," says Kahnemoui. ✍

To learn more about NikNaz Kahnemoui's work, please visit www.niknazk.com

For more information on Arts Health Network Canada, please visit: www.artshealthnetwork.ca



▲ Artist NikNaz in studio.

of this collection where busyness in her life and work made it difficult to find those moments of pause, which she sought to explore and represent.

The artistic pursuit

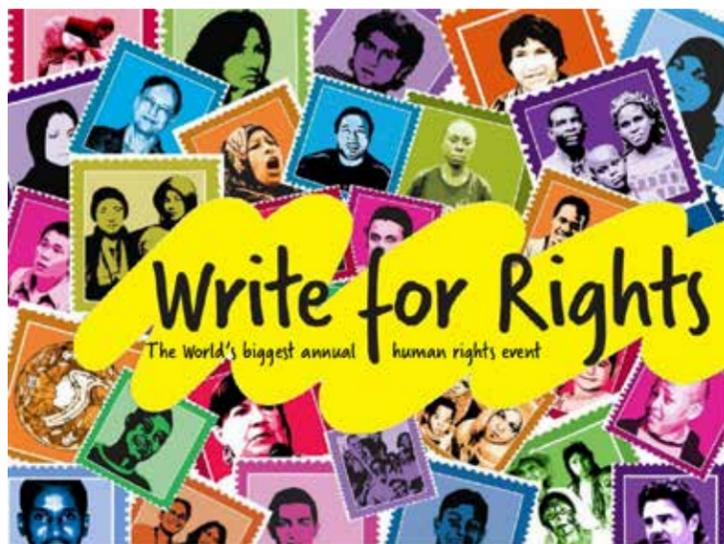
Twenty years ago, Kahnemoui moved to Canada from Iran.

"As an immigrant coming to Canada, I had to be pragmatic," Kahnemoui says, "But when I felt

During her graduate studies, she recalls being so absorbed by her thesis that she felt disembodied.

"I realized that I had to do something other than [academic work]," Kahnemoui says, and she decided to take out her mom's oil paints and begin painting again.

Kahnemoui expresses that art has always been present in her life (she first began painting with



December 10, International Human Rights Day, marks a global day of action for human rights activists to shine a light on injustice occurring all over the world.

Last year across Canada, your efforts helped us mobilize 30 000 participants, 291 organized events, 23 464 actions and 1 incredible day of hope and positive change. Due to your amazing impact, all 12 cases achieved international attention resulting in direct government response, protection against threats and humane treatment for human rights defenders still in prison. One letter, email or action can make a difference but our work is not over yet.

Planning for Write for Rights 2013 is underway and we are counting on you to mobilize and inspire your community to stand up for human rights! Write for Rights events can be held at your school, workplace, place of worship, or at a local coffee shop or community centre.

Over the next couple of weeks, all 7 of the global cases chosen for Write for Rights 2013 will be posted to the website, along with helpful background material including videos and in-depth stories about the cases. You'll also find a couple of online actions that support our priorities for human rights campaigning in Canada.

Sign-up on the website to receive support and resources from the National office, publicize your event and showcase your event online on our across-Canada map!

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



writeathon.ca
[@AmnestyNow](https://twitter.com/AmnestyNow)
[#write4rights](https://hashtagger.com/write4rights)



Don't Miss Vancouver's Newest Musical

Cool Beans, Solo Collective's new show, runs from Nov. 21 to Dec. 1 at Granville Island's Performance Works. All shows are at 8 pm. For more information, please call 604-788-2418. Or book your tickets through vancouveritix.com.

Cool Beans, by Anton Lipovetsky is a musical comedy about love and caffeine in one of Vancouver's hippest coffee shops. Four people, three in their mid-twenties, try to find a way to reconnect after discovering secrets about their past. Starring stage veteran Josh Epstein – who's joined by recent Studio 58 acting grads – Katey Hoffman, Gili Roskies, and Jay Clift – all directed by award-winning Rachel Peake, Cool Beans promises to be one of the hits of the year.

Solo Collective
4220 Windsor Street, Vancouver

Cultural Calendar

November 20–December 9, 2013

by JESSICA LI

As winter and the holiday season approach, the festive spirit of Vancouver is growing stronger. Enjoy a jazz concert or shop locally-made crafts at Make It. If you're feeling particularly jolly, participate in the annual Rogers Santa Claus Parade.

Vancouver Alternative Fashion Week

Nov 22–24
The Centre for Digital Media – The Hangar
577 Great Northern Way,
Vancouver
www.valt.ca

Vancouver is now propelling its fashion community into the future as Vancouver Alternative Fashion Week showcases the works of designers, visual artists, performers, film makers and musical acts. This multi-day event blends music, art, technology, culture and fashion into an interactive and immersive experience of futuristically-themed revelry.



▲ Fashion with a twist.

Jazz Vespers

Every Sunday, 4 p.m.
St. Andrew's-Wesley United Church
1022 Nelson St., Vancouver
604-683-4574
www.standrewswesleychurch.bc.ca

This is where jazz meets the spirit! Spend an hour listening to the area's finest jazz musicians, as well as enjoying a chance to reflect on life's mysteries and beauties through spoken word. Admission is free.



▲ Cheers all around.

Family FUSE Weekend

Nov. 23–24
Vancouver Art Gallery
750 Hornby St., Vancouver
www.vanartgallery.bc.ca

At the fall Family FUSE Weekend at the Vancouver Art Gallery, watch creative and fun performances and participate in hands-on activities the whole family will enjoy. Regular admission rates apply; admission is free for children under 12.

Make It: The Handmade Revolution

Nov. 28–Dec. 1
PNE Forum
2901 E Hastings St., Vancouver
www.makeitproductions.com

Come participate in a one-of-a-kind shopping experience that gives enlightened shoppers the opportunity to buy unique, ethically made goods by top artisans from all over Canada. Music is performed by up-and-coming local musicians and there are always tasty treats to enjoy.

Luminescence at the Vancouver Aquarium

Starting Nov. 28
845 Avison Way, Vancouver
604-659-3474
www.vanaqua.org

Get into the holiday spirit by exploring this celebration of aquat-

ic light. Gaze at a display of 100-plus origami jellyfish, marvel at an electric eel-powered holiday tree and learn how sea creatures create and reflect light. Afterwards, continue the journey to a winter wonderland in Canada's Arctic Gallery and meet Scuba Claus. Admission is \$25 for adults, \$18 for students, youth and seniors, and \$14 for children ages 4 to 12.

4th Annual Vancouver Christmas Market

Nov. 22–Dec. 24
Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza (outside)
650 Hamilton St., Vancouver
604-561-7597
www.vancouverchristmasmarket.com

The Vancouver Christmas Market is back for its 4th year at Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza! This German Christmas village mar-



▲ An arresting underwater world.

ket brings unique holiday shopping experiences, seasonal entertainment and traditional food right to downtown. Vendors from Germany and Canada offer traditional handmade arts and crafts, as well as Bavarian and German-style food and drinks. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for youth and free for children six and under. Pay your admission once and get free entry for the whole season!

Whistler Film Festival

Dec. 4–8
Various locations in Whistler
604-935-8035
www.whistlerfilmfestival.com

Presenting over eighty films and hosting many more filmmaking luminaries, the Whistler Film Festival has become one of Canada's leading film festivals, as well as an emerging force on the international circuit. Come and

find out what's new in Canadian and world cinema.

The King and I

Dec. 4–31
Gateway Theatre
6500 Gilbert Rd., Richmond
www.gatewaytheatre.com

In this classic musical, Anna, an attractive widow, has been hired by the King to teach English and other Western ideas to his many wives and many more children in 19th century Siam. Little do they know they're both about to be schooled. Come enjoy a wonderful family classic, featuring classic songs like "Getting to Know You", "Shall We Dance?" and "Whistle A Happy Tune." You'll be humming along in no time!

Rogers Santa Claus Parade

Dec. 1, starts at 1 p.m.
W Georgia St. at
Broughton St., Vancouver
604-646-3553
www.rogerssantaclausparade.com

Santa's early visit to Vancouver is the perfect kickoff to the holiday season with a downtown Vancouver bash featuring marching bands, dance troupes, and festive floats parading down the city streets. Entertaining over 300,000 spectators each year, the 10th annual televised parade is the Lower Mainland's biggest winter event.



West Coast Flyer Delivery

working for free people since 1996

Contact Steve Bottomley to promote your product or service

604-441-5239 | BottomleySteve@yahoo.ca

Make a change in your life,
discover new horizons with

My French Horizons

French & English Courses Lyon Trip Planning

and...

- ✓ Take French courses by videoconference
- ✓ Meet a native French teacher located in France
- ✓ Choose the schedule, frequency and duration of your course
- ✓ Learn French for conversation, travelling, business, and more...
- ✓ Plan a trip to Lyon, France

CAP Services SA Scop à capital variable SIRET: 402 636 757 00039 RCS LYONB402636757



Lyon, France

Please contact us: www.myfrenchhorizons.com | www.facebook.com/MyFrenchHorizons | cmaury@myfrenchhorizons.com

Street Photography by Denis Bouvier



© 2013 Denis Bouvier | denisbouvier.com

Vatican Mask

▲ Rande Cook, Vatican Mask, 2010. Cedar, acrylic paint, silver. Courtesy of the artist.

Vatican Mask is one work from *Urban Thunderbirds / Ravens in a Material World*, a unique, bold and beautiful exhibition of contemporary First Nations art at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. Presented are new and recent works from four Vancouver Island artists: Coast Salish lessLIE and Dylan Thomas, and Kwakwaka'wakw Rande Cook and Francis Dick. Rande Cook and lessLIE are co-curators.

Through painting, photography, sculpture and mixed media installations, all four artists honour traditional forms and expand them to convey contemporary themes which express the plight of First Na-

tions people. These themes investigate personal stories, community histories and current events. The Idle No More movement is another direct influence on the exhibition.

Vatican Mask was donned by artist Rande Cook while visiting the Vatican in 2010 and this is vividly represented in one of his exhibited photos. Although fearful of reprisals from Vatican security, Rande and his friend Luke Marston wore masks and interviewed each other throughout Saint Peter's Basilica. Like the trickster raven in First Nations Northwest Coast culture who brings fire and light to man, by performing this act, Rande shed light on the

church that had abused his people, especially in the form of supporting the residential schools that tried to wipe out their identity. Doing this in the heart of the Roman Catholic Church was a transformative experience that changed his fear into a courageous act: "I am standing here today with a mask to tell the church that we are alive and strong. We are here forever!"

Urban Thunderbirds / Ravens in a Material World is currently on till January 12, 2014. For more information visit: www.aggv.ca/urbanthunderbirds

Don Richardson

Recipe by Chef Ben Kiely

Chicken Biryani

This recipe is a lighter, healthier and faster version of the classic Indian rice dish. My family really enjoys this because it's a one pot meal so it's not heavy on the washing up, just put it in the middle of the table and enjoy!

Ingredients

- 300 g Basmati rice
- 25 g Butter
- 1 Large onion, finely sliced
- 1 Bay leaf
- 3 Cardamom pods
- 1 Small cinnamon stick
- 1 tsp Turmeric
- 4 Skinless chicken breasts cut into large chunks
- 4 tbsp Indian curry paste
- 85 g Raisins
- 850 mL Chicken stock
- 1 Bunch chopped cilantro and toasted flaked almonds to serve

Method

1. Soak the rice in warm water, then wash in cold until the water runs clear.
2. Heat butter in a saucepan and cook the onions with the bay leaf and other whole spices for 10 minutes
3. Sprinkle in the turmeric, then add chicken and curry paste and cook for 6-8 more minutes
4. Stir the rice into the pan with the raisins, then pour over the stock.
5. Place a tight-fitting lid on the pan and bring to a hard boil, then lower the heat to a minimum and cook the rice for another 5 minutes
6. Turn off the heat and leave for 10 minutes. Stir well, mixing through half the coriander. To serve, scatter over the rest of the coriander and the almonds.



Photo courtesy of Ben Kiely

▲ A whiff of delicious fragrance.



Visit the
Source online

www.thelasource.com

Twitter: @thelasource Facebook: thelasource

Visions Quest Productions
Présente/Présents

En collaboration avec le Centre de la Francophonie

UBC a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Les Soirées du cinéma à UBC
ROCHE PAPIER CISEAUX
Vendredi / Friday Nov. 22 6:30 pm
(with English subt. / Free admission)

Auditorium A-101, Buchanan Block A,
1866 Main Mall, UBC (parking under the Chan Centre)

Patrimoine canadien Canadian Heritage Québec Antenne de Vancouver TELEFILM CANADA ONF ONF BEN BUN BUN 10 RADIO-CANADA Source THE FILM CIRCUIT SFU WOODWARD'S straight CSF FONDÉ FRENCH

rendez-vousvancouver.com / info@rendez-vousvancouver.com / [twitter @cinemavancouver](https://twitter.com/cinemavancouver) / [facebook:Visions Quest Productions](https://facebook.com/VisionsQuestProductions)