



# The New View

[take a good look](#)

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## Welcome to the board!

### Meet Downtown Surrey BIA's New Directors: Experts in Action for Community Growth

By Saije Rusimovici

The Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association (BIA) has welcomed six new directors to its board, including Kristin Bishop, Sonia Parmar, Lutz Sprecher, Maury Dubuque, Kirk Fisher, and Stephen Dooley.

Kristin Bishop is the General Manager at Civic Hotel, Autograph Collection, in Surrey City Centre. She brings over 20 years of experience in the tourism and hospitality industry, with a strong background in sales and marketing. Kristin has held positions on the boards of Discover Surrey, the Surrey Hotel and Motel Association, the Tsawwassen Business Improvement Association, and Tourism Delta.



Stephan Dooley SFU



Sonia Parmar/ LinkedIn



Kirk Fisher/ LinkedIn



Kristen Bishop/LinkedIn



Lutz Sprecher/LinkedIn



Maury Dubuque/LinkedIn

Sonia Parmar is a partner at David Pel & Company, a local accounting office in downtown Surrey. She specializes in Corporate and Personal Estate and Succession Planning and ensures clients meet their reporting needs. Sonia is actively involved in community initiatives and foundations, including the Surrey Community Cares Foundation. She is also pursuing her TEP designation as a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners.

Lutz Sprecher is the owner and president of Whalley Optical and a Licensed Optician. He brings board experience from his previous roles in Strata Corporation and the Dispensing Opticians Association of BC. Lutz is involved with the Fraser Valley Executive Association and the Royal Canadian Legion, Whalley Branch 229.

Maury Dubuque is the Assistant Vice President at Blackwood Partners Management Corporation, Western Canada. With over three decades of experience in the commercial real estate industry, Maury is a leading authority on the commercial office market in Metro Vancouver. He excels in building collaborative team cultures and providing superior client service.

Kirk Fisher is the Executive VP of the Lark Group of Companies and the CEO of HealthTech Connex (HTC) division. He has an engineering degree from the University of British Columbia and an MBA from Simon Fraser University. The Lark Group of Companies, founded by Mr. Larry Fisher and Ms. Joy Fisher, has been actively involved in Surrey's development and business community for over 50 years. Kirk's responsibilities include overseeing the development, construction, and facility management division of the group, as well as leading initiatives related to health and technology.

Stephen Dooley is the Executive Director of the SFU Surrey campus. He supports the day-to-day operations of the campus and works closely with community partners, such as the Surrey Poverty Reduction Coalition, Local Immigration Partnership, and Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee. Steve is committed to service leadership and enjoys spending time with his family and participating in curling.

These new directors bring a diverse range of expertise and experiences to the Downtown Surrey BIA board, contributing to the organization's efforts in promoting and improving downtown Surrey.

## The New View

Take a good look



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# Welcome Baskets

Tracey Gravel, the Office Coordinator of the Downtown Surrey BIA, along with the assistance of student interns over the past two years, has undertaken a heartwarming initiative of creating Welcome Baskets for new homeowners at King George Hub and residents moving into "The Line," a new rental high-rise. These thoughtful baskets have been filled with an assortment of local items, aiming to provide an inviting welcome to the community.

Among the items included in the baskets are beautifully crafted candles or glassware made by Studio 73. Located in Surrey and supported by the Community Living Society, Studio 73 is a creative space where a group of talented glass artists come together to produce stunning glassware, decorative pieces, and wearable art. These artists, supported by a team of professionals, are highly skilled in various techniques of glass molding and fusing, bringing their original designs to life.

The Welcome Baskets have also featured locally sourced items, such as honey and soap from the Honeybee Centre, a trusted supplier known for their quality products. Additionally, resin coasters from a local artisan and herb planters from 99 Nursery and Florist have been included, adding a touch of nature and beauty to the baskets.

To further enhance the experience for new residents, a variety of gift cards to local businesses within King George Hub were included, allowing them to explore and support the vibrant community they now call home.

While the Downtown Surrey BIA took the lead on assembling the Welcome Baskets, the funding for this gesture came from PCI Developments. Their generous support extended a special welcome to new residents, creating a sense of belonging and community from the moment they arrive.

The impact of these Welcome Baskets has reached beyond the local community, capturing the attention of social media users as far as Brazil. The popularity of these thoughtful gestures among the new residents has resulted in the baskets trending on social media platforms, generating positive attention, and showcasing the warm hospitality of Surrey to a global audience.

# Juice Box Heroes

Ryley Patterson and Chloe Gravel-Fallis are not your average kids. From a young age, they showed a remarkable dedication to helping others through fundraising efforts. Their journey began when Ryley, just two years old, started donating toys to the Surrey Christmas Bureau. By the time she turned five, Ryley, with the help of her best friend Chloe, organized an Annual Spaghetti Dinner as a "funraiser" to collect toys and funds for the bureau, simply because "kids like toys and toys are fun."

Their first event was a success, gathering four boxes of toys and over \$1500. Inspired by their achievement, the dynamic duo decided to raise funds for a new playground at Bolivar Park by selling hot dogs and lemonade outside Save-On Foods. But they didn't stop there. Ryley and Chloe teamed up with their cousin Aubrey Leeson, who was just two and a half years old at the time, to sell SunRype Juice at local events such as Canada Day, Fusion Festival, and Movies Under the Stars.

Their efforts yielded great results, as they donated over \$800 to the Centre for Child Development in their first year of selling juice. Over time, more cousins joined their fundraising team, including Sienna Swartz-Lahue, Chase Swartz-Lahue, Kaydence Swartz-Lahue, Alexander Patterson, Bella Patterson, Delilah Patterson, and Hunter Patterson. This year, the team of young philanthropists, now aged between three and thirteen and a half, continues to make a difference alongside Ryley, Chloe, and Aubrey.

For Chase, this fundraiser holds a special place in his heart. As a preschooler, he received rehabilitative care at the Centre for Child Development, making their cause even more meaningful. The children's dedication to their mission is evident as they eagerly await the start of each summer to begin selling juice once again. Thanks to SunRype's support, they have already raised over \$4000 and have accumulated a total of over \$20,000 for various organizations, including the Surrey Christmas Bureau, Surrey Food Bank, the Centre for Child Development, the YMCA, and the playground at Bolivar Heights.



Ryley, Chloe, and their team of Juice Box Heroes serve as an inspiration to us all, reminding us that small acts of kindness and determination can create a significant impact. Their unwavering commitment to helping others demonstrates the power of community and the potential within young hearts.

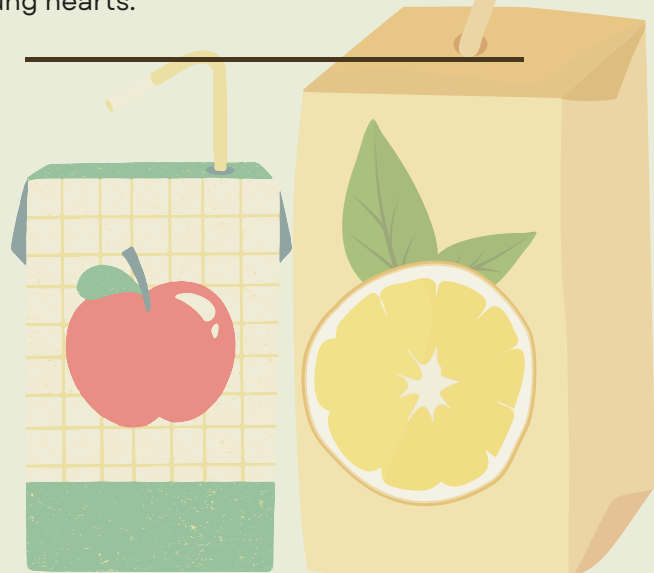






PHOTO: Phoenix Drug & Alcohol Recovery and Education Society/ Phoenix Society Website

# A warm welcome to a new leader

## Justine Patterson brings clinical and leadership experience to Phoenix Drug & Alcohol Recovery and Education Society

By Saije Rusimovici

Phoenix Society welcomes new CEO Justine Patterson to their non-profit organization. The passionate advocate and leader holds three post-secondary degrees, including a Master of Clinical Psychology. She began her career in Queensland, Australia as a psychologist. Upon arriving in Vancouver, Patterson became the Clinical Director of the Elizabeth Fry Society. She has also worked as the Executive Director of Knowledge, Partnerships, and Innovations, at BC Mental Health and Substance Use Service, as well as the Executive Director of the Overdose Emergency Response and Prevention Centre at the Ministry of Health and Addictions. Her background in psychology paired with her expertise in mental health and substance abuse services makes her an ideal fit for this position, having worked in the sector both provincially and internationally. With experience in public, private, and non-profit sectors, Patterson has both the credentials and hands-on experience that will make her an outstanding CEO. Not only will having her in this role strengthen the initiatives of Phoenix Society but the downtown Surrey community as a whole. Phoenix Society is an important organization that greatly impacts the lives of people in the downtown Surrey community, providing resources and opportunities for many. We welcome Justine into the community and look forward to watch the organization grow and thrive under her leadership.



# Get ready for Fusion Festival

## Surrey Fusion Festival: A Harmonious Celebration of Cultures, Music, and Food!

By Saije Rusimovici

With over 50 pavilions representing various cultures, you'll have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the traditions, music, dance, and authentic cuisine of different countries at Surrey Fusion Festival 2023. Each pavilion offers a unique experience, enabling you to explore and appreciate the cultural tapestry that makes Surrey a truly remarkable place. In addition to the cultural experiences, performances, and food, the Fusion Festival offers a host of family-friendly activities, including interactive workshops, art installations, and a vibrant Kids World zone. Children can enjoy face painting, games, and crafts, while adults can partake in informative workshops and demonstrations. Surrey Fusion Festival is a true testament to the city's rich diversity and its commitment to fostering harmony among its residents. This year, the festival promises to be bigger and better, with an impressive lineup of activities and performances that will leave you inspired and entertained.

Join us at Surrey Fusion Festival as we come together to celebrate diversity, promote cultural understanding, and embrace the spirit of unity. This weekend of multicultural festivities is an opportunity for us all to appreciate the unique contributions of different cultures while forging connections and friendships that transcend boundaries. Don't miss out on this enriching experience – we look forward to seeing you there!





PHOTO: Surrey Fusion Festival / Facebook

# Fusion Fest Headliners

## Fusion Fest 2023: Dance Around the World in a Spectacular Cultural Extravaganza

By Shenae Meerkerk

Join us at Holland Park on July 22nd and 23rd for the 16th Annual Fusion Fest, an exciting free festival you won't want to miss! This year's theme is "Dance around the world," and there will be 50 cultural pavilions, each offering a unique experience. With a lineup of renowned artists and performers, there's something for everyone.

Prepare yourself for an incredible musical journey with headliners DJ Shub, an Indigenous DJ and producer known as the 'Godfather of PowWowStep', and Gurnam Bhullar, a Punjabi singer, lyricist, and actor. In addition, we are delighted to welcome Jessie, Ikky, Wesli, and Don Amero along with many more amazing performers. There will be eight stages so be sure to plan what performances you want to see ahead of time.

But Fusion Fest isn't just about dance and music. Check out the Surrey youth showdown cooking competition, where talented young chefs will battle it out. You can also participate in interactive sessions with pavilion organizers, who will teach you how to prepare authentic cultural recipes.

Immerse yourself in the rich traditions of Indigenous cultures through traditional cultural sharing, contemporary performances, located in the Indigenous village. Additionally, explore the Indigenous market, where you'll find a variety of unique crafts and products.

Don't forget to bring your little ones to Kids World and Toddler Town, hosted by the Downtown Surrey BIA, where they can enjoy crafts, face painting, and more all for free! The two-day festival will also feature amusement rides, dance battles, and dance workshops so come ready to move.

Mark your calendars for Fusion Fest at Holland Park on July 22nd and 23rd, from 11 am to 10 pm. for an array of cultural experiences, delicious food, and captivating performances!



PHOTO: Raunak Indian Cuisine / UberEats

# Raunak

## Indian Delights Unleashed: Unraveling the Magic of an Exquisite Indian Dining Experience

By Meera Patel

Are you craving something delicious and vegetarian? Look no further! Raunak Indian Cuisine has 100% veggie takeout options that are sure to tantalize your taste buds. Meaning “light” or “brightness,” Raunak’s ambience is true to its name. The restaurant’s regal decor makes every customer feel as though they are royalty. Enjoy a hearty meal in a beautiful atmosphere surrounded by family and friends. Raunak Indian Cuisine is a family-run Indian restaurant located in the heart of Whalley. The menu, while being entirely vegetarian, offers a wide variety of dishes that are sure to satisfy your every craving.

Well-known for their Indian-style street food, Raunak’s samosas, chaat papdi, gol gappe, and pakore are some of the best in the city. In addition to traditional Indian cuisine like shahi paneer, channa masala, and veggie buttered chicken, Raunak also has a selection of unique fusion dishes. Be sure to try the spicy paneer nuggets – they are outstanding! Raunak’s daily specials include veggie thali including aal, paneer, sabzi rice, naan, and a dessert for only \$14.99. Wanting to try something off the fusion menu? Raunak offers a paneer or veggie burger, fries, and pop combo for only \$13.99! The Raunak menu truly has something for everyone to enjoy!

Raunak Indian Cuisine is conveniently located near Gateway Skytrain Station at 13569 King George Blvd and is open daily from 10:00a.m.–10:00p.m. Just like its name, Raunak Indian Cuisine brings light into the heart of Surrey and its people.





PHOTO: Taqueria Jalisco Restaurant / Facebook

# Taqueria Jalisco Restaurant

## Taco Tales: Exploring the Artistry of Taqueria Jalisco Restaurant's Tantalizing Creations

By Anika Richards

Looking for a taste of authentic Mexican cuisine? Since 2006, Taqueria Jalisco has proudly served the city of Surrey. While fresh, handmade tacos and hot soup are crowd pleasers on any occasion, don't pass up the opportunity to taste some of their signature dishes.

**Molcajete El Jalisco:** Birria (beef stew soup) served with 3 birria tacos dorados topped with onions, cilantro, lime, and dried chile de árbol. Served with 4 corn tortillas.

**Mega Quesabirria:** Pan-fried flour tortilla filled with cheese, served alongside birria soup and a side of consomé. Taqueria Jalisco is famous for their birria, which is said on social media to be the best in Surrey.

Take-out is available by phone, UberEats, and SkipTheDishes, though dining-in completely elevates the Taqueria Jalisco experience. Enjoy a complimentary portion of chips and salsa while you wait for your meal to be served, nestled comfortably in a cozy booth. The red-brick interior is a perfect backdrop to take Instagram-worthy shots of the delicious food.

Taqueria Jalisco is without a doubt a must stop within Surrey to satisfy your cravings for Mexican Cuisine. Located at 10675 King George Blvd, Surrey, BC V3T 2X6, the restaurant is open from 10:00a.m. – 8:00p.m. Monday–Friday. Don't forget to check out their website and social media!

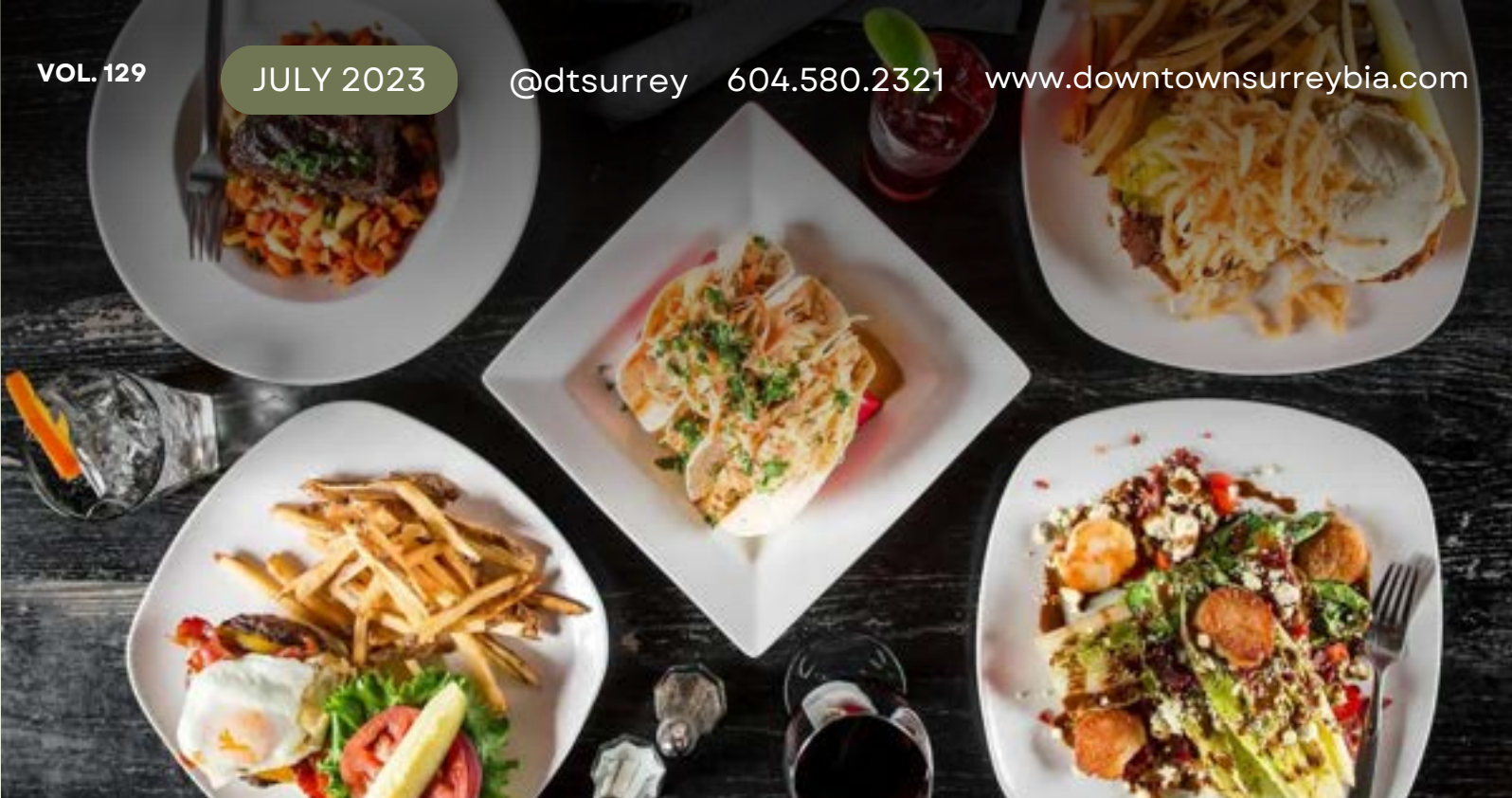


PHOTO: Alebi African Cuisine / UberEats

# Alebi African Cuisine

## Taste of Africa: Indulging in the Authentic Flavours of Alebi Cuisine

By Saije Rusimovici

This hidden gem is the ideal spot to discover delicious African flavours. At 10694 135a Street in Surrey, an unforgettable dining experience awaits. Ambient decor transports guests to the heart of Africa. A warm and vibrant space, the dining room creates an atmosphere that celebrates the continent's rich heritage. Whether you're dining casually with friends or celebrating a special occasion, Alebi African Cuisine is the perfect local spot to come together over a good meal. From the moment you enter restaurant, you'll be captivated by flavours, aromas, and cultural richness. Prepare to be enchanted by the array of mouthwatering dishes that showcase the rich flavours, aromatic spices, and vibrant colours that define African cuisine. From fragrant stews to succulent grilled meats and hearty vegetarian options, there's something to satisfy every palate.

One standout dish you cannot miss is the Jollof Rice. Bursting with flavours, this aromatic rice dish cooked with an assortment of spices, vegetables, and protein options is a beloved West African classic. For those seeking a meaty delight, the Suya skewers are a must-try. These tender and flavourful grilled meat skewers are marinated in a unique blend of spices that will leave you craving more. Other decadent dishes include fried plantains, traditional banga soup, and African yam fries.

Treat yourself to the authentic flavours, warm hospitality, and vibrant ambiance that make this restaurant truly exceptional. Gather your loved ones, indulge in the diverse range of dishes, and let Alebi African Cuisine be your gateway to the incredible world of African cuisine.





PHOTO: Rice and Noodle / UberEats

# Rice and Noodle

## Satisfy Your Cravings: Indulge in the Flavors of Rice and Noodle

By Alex Masse

A new restaurant in King George Hub, The Rice and Noodle is already a top-notch choice for eating out if you're looking for healthy Asian cuisine. The restaurant is sleek in design, its combination of open space and tasteful wall art making it feel both roomy and cozy, simultaneously casual and chic. The space also offers a clear view of the kitchen, living up to the restaurant's tagline: "Real food made in front of you."

An especially fun aspect of the menu is the three-step, mix-and-match structure customers can give their order. The first step is choosing with a base—this is where the titular rice and noodles come in, alongside a delicious variety of options for curry, stirfry, soup, and more—and after that, choosing a protein, be it meat, mixed vegetables, or tofu.

Finally, customers can set their level of spice, on a scale of 1 to 10. The result is a variety of colourful combinations, for all kinds of tastebuds. Besides this, the portions are incredibly generous—you're absolutely getting your money's worth. Additionally, if you don't have the time for a full meal, they offer a selection of delicious sides. When eating in, both chopsticks and forks are available for use, and water is self-serve. Plus, the staff are happy to help if you have any questions.

Rice and Noodle is a great spot for a lunch break in Downtown Surrey, right by the Skytrain, at 13639 George Junction, Unit 105, where it's open from 11 AM to 9:30 PM. There are also locations in Vancouver and Burnaby, as well as the options for ordering online, on a number of delivery services—find out more at their website. Enjoy a meal from a great new local chain!

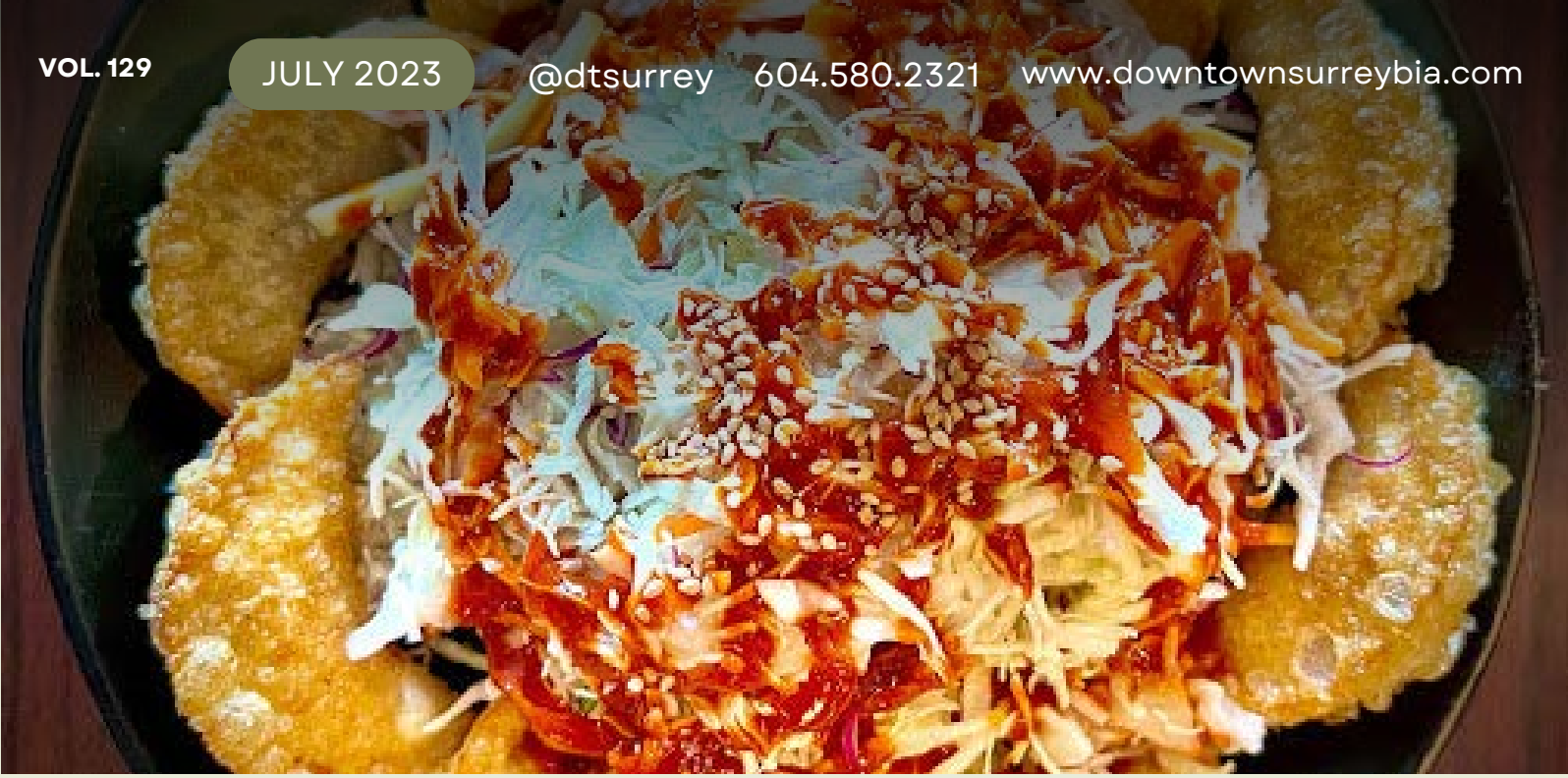


PHOTO: Thereze Garana / Google reviews

# DONI Korean Restaurant

## Savour the Flavours: Exploring DONI Korean Restaurant's Culinary Delights!

By Travis Nguyen

Nestled in the corner of a strip mall, a small Korean restaurant can be found. Considered a hidden gem, you can find some of the best authentic Korean cuisines in the downtown Surrey area at DONI. DONI is a quaint restaurant located along King George Boulevard. The moment you step through its doors, you're embraced by a cozy and inviting atmosphere that feels like a home away from home. Upon entering the restaurant, customers are greeted with the staff's friendly acknowledgement, instantly creating a welcoming environment for Koreans and non-Koreans alike. With an interior adorned with wooden accents, DONI exudes an authentic and warm ambiance with a simplistic nature. The interior, just like the staff, is modest and humbling, with wooden furnishings and warm yellow walls. It has an aesthetic that is reminiscent of the quaint restaurants in the streets of Korea.

The aroma of sizzling meat and the fragrant seasonings of the many wonderful dishes fill the air as you walk into the restaurant. Many guests have noted that the dishes capture the feelings of homemade comfort. DONI is famous for not only its authentic Korean dishes but for its dumplings as well. They offer their delicious mandoo dumplings as steamed or deep-fried. Their dumplings are filled with pork, or if you are looking for a bit of a kick, they can be filled with kimchi instead. The popular choices for many guests are the mandoo combos which include the dumplings and their handmade noodle soup. Of course, DONI also has some wonderful Korean dishes in their street food, barbeque, and hotpot. At DONI, expect a restaurant that will transport you to the streets of Korea and evoke feelings of home as you indulge in their feel-good dishes.



# Community Calendar

## July

**Babytime Wednesdays** | 10:00 am - 10:30 am | City Centre Branch This program is for babies 0-1 and their caregiver. Join us for songs, stories, rhymes and bounces to help your baby develop speech and language skills. After a 30 minute storytime, there will be a social time for babies and their caregivers! 604.598.7427 or surreylibraries.ca

**Game Nights every Wednesday** | 6pm-7pm at the King George Hub. Play games and meet new people!

**Family Storytime Fridays** | 10:00 am - 10:30 am | City Centre Branch This program is for children of all ages and their caregivers. Join us for fun stories and songs for the whole family! Help imaginations grow and build a love of reading

**Mini Meat Draws and 50/50 Draws** Every Saturday and Sunday tickets on sale at 5pm at Whalley Legion #102 - 10626 City Parkway, Surrey.

**Live Bands at Whalley Legion** every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening at Whalley Legion

- 1 Eid Fest at Holland Park
- 5 Sounds of Summer at Civic Plaza
- 8 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am am to 3 pm. Free entertainment!  
Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey
- 8 BC Halal Food Festival at Holland Park
- 9 BC Halal Food Festival at Holland Park
- 11 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 15 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am to 3 pm. Free entertainment!  
Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey
- 15 Family Summer Art Party from 11am-3pm Surrey Art Gallery - 13750 88 Ave
- 15 Ghana Fest Enjoy cultural performances, drumming, delicious Ghanaian food and entertainment. 12pm - 9pm 13750 88 Ave, Surrey,
- 15 Surrey Latin Festival 1-9pm Surrey Civic Plaza 13450 104 Avenue
- 15 Community Picnic at Forsythe Park 5:30-7:30pm
- 16 Surrey Latin Festival 1-9pm Surrey Civic Plaza 13450 104 Avenue
- 18 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 22 Fusion Fest at Holland Park from 11am-10pm Food - Music - Culture - Dance - Fun! Free admission.
- 22 Surrey Fiesta Extravaganza at Civic Plaza
- 22 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am am to 3 pm. Free entertainment!  
Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey
- 22 we? ʔayəm kʷs niʔət ʔiməx Plant Walk Meaning “we walk slowly” in hə́ŋdəmíəh, join šxʷne:m Deanna Miller from ǵíćéy Katzie First Nation as she leads a plant walking tour at Bear Creek Park
- 23 Fusion Fest at Holland Park from 11am-10pm Food - Music - Culture - Dance - Fun! Free admission.
- 25 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 25 Surrey Voices: Indonesian Night - Cultural performance by Dr. Surtrisno Hartana from SFU at King George Hub from 6:30PM-8PM
- 29 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am am to 3 pm. Free entertainment!  
Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey

# Community Calendar

## August

**Babytime Wednesdays** | 10:00 am - 10:30 am | City Centre Branch This program is for babies 0-1 and their caregiver. Join us for songs, stories, rhymes and help your baby develop speech and language skills. After a 30 minute storytime, there will be a social time for babies and their caregivers.! 604.598.7427 or surreylibraries.ca

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**Live Bands at Whalley Legion** every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening at Whalley Legion

1 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

1 Surrey Voices: Japanese Day- Lorene Oikawa and the National Association of Japanese Canadians brings origami and storytelling to King George Hub from 12:00PM-1:30PM

2 Sounds of Summer at Civic Plaza

5 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am am to 3 pm. Free entertainment! Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey

5 Movies Under the Stars at Holland Park Fun starts at 6pm, movie starts at dusk. Bring a chair or blanket. Movie: Turning Red

6 Jamaica Day Festival at Holland Park

8 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

12 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am to 3 pm. Free entertainment! Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey

12 Movies Under the Stars at Holland Park Fun starts at 6pm, movie starts at dusk. Bring a chair or blanket. Movie: Puss in Boots: The Last Wish

15 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

19 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am am to 3 pm. Free entertainment! Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey

19 Movies Under the Stars at Holland Park Fun starts at 6pm, movie starts at dusk. Bring a chair or blanket. Movie: The Super Mario Bros. Movie

19 JR's Battle of the Brews at Civic Plaza

22 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

23 Sounds of Summer at Holland Park

26 Surrey Urban Farmers Market at Royal Kwantlen Park Saturdays from 10am am to 3 pm. Free entertainment! Shop local. 13035 104 Ave, Surrey

29 Karaoke at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

30 Sounds of Summer at Civic Plaza





# Game Nights

## Game Night Extravaganza: Join Us at King George Hub!

By Rowan Koenig

Are you ready for an evening of excitement, laughter, and friendly competition? Look no further than the Board Game Night at King George Hub, where the joy of board games brings neighbors and board game enthusiasts together. Due to the overwhelming success of our first week, we are thrilled to announce that the event will now be a weekly occurrence, taking place every Wednesday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm!

Board Game Night is the perfect opportunity to unwind and destress after a long day. Step into our cozy space, relax to the soothing sounds of unique music, and let the world outside fade away as you immerse yourself in the captivating world of board games. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a complete beginner, our experts are here to guide you, explain the rules, and provide an exciting challenge for everyone.

We're delighted to expand our game selection to cater to the diverse community in Surrey. Experience the allure of ancient classics like GO, chess, backgammon, and mancala, which have stood the test of time and continue to captivate players across the globe.

In addition to these timeless classics, we've introduced new additions such as Catan and Reversi to our collection. Catan, a modern classic, has sold millions of copies worldwide, making it the perfect gateway into the realm of more complex board games. We've carefully selected games that are easy to learn within minutes but offer incredible depth, allowing players to discover new strategies and master their skills over time.

Beyond the thrill of competition, board games provide a wonderful opportunity to slow down and connect with loved ones. In our fast-paced world, taking the time to gather around a board game allows you to build stronger bonds with family and friends. Share laughter, strategize together, and create cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

So mark your calendars and join us every Wednesday at King George Hub for an unforgettable evening of board games, camaraderie, and relaxation. Whether you're seeking an escape from the daily grind or simply looking to meet new friends, Board Game Night is the place to be. Let's roll the dice, make new connections, and let the joy of board games fill our hearts!



# Safety Meeting

The Downtown Surrey BIA is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of the community, and to further this goal, they will be hosting a follow-up Safety Meeting on July 13th from 8-9am. The meeting will take place at the Chuck Baily Recreation Centre, located at 13458 107a Ave in Surrey. This event is a continuation of the previous meeting held on March 28, building upon the valuable discussions and insights shared by attendees. Coffee, tea, muffins, and fruit will be provided.

During the initial Downtown Surrey BIA Community Safety Meeting in March, guest speakers including Deputy Chief of Surrey Fire Services, Jason Cairney, Staff Sergeant Nigel Pronger of the Surrey RCMP, City of Surrey Senior Social Planner, Aileen Murphy, and Councillor Rob Stutt, Chair of the Public Safety Committee, provided their expertise and perspectives on safety issues in the community.

The meeting served as a platform for first responders, City of Surrey representatives, and business and property owners to come together and address safety concerns. The primary focus of the discussions was the growing concern surrounding fires in the area. Property owners had the opportunity to express their specific concerns directly to first responders, who, in turn, provided valuable advice on preventive measures. Suggestions included ensuring that properties are free from potential fire-starting materials, such as crates and tires, and taking steps to eliminate or secure access to exterior electrical outlets.

By facilitating these meaningful discussions and promoting collaboration among stakeholders, the Downtown Surrey BIA aims to enhance safety measures in the community. The follow-up Safety Meeting on July 13th will provide an opportunity to review progress, share updates, and continue working towards a safer environment for all residents, businesses, and property owners in Downtown Surrey.





# Surrey Voices

## Community and Culture: Learn about the diversity in your community

By Shenae Meerkerk

Join us on Tuesday, July 25 for one of our Surrey Voices events at the King George Junction from 6:30-8pm. Experience the rich Indonesian culture and witness a captivating Javanese gamelan music performance - a traditional Indonesian percussive instrument ensemble. Come immerse yourself in the enchanting world of Indonesian shadow wayang puppets, which are used to narrate stories in both theatrical and musical performances. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in an interactive workshop where you can learn some of these skills.

This event will feature Dr. Sutrisno Hartana, a professor from Simon Fraser University, who will both perform and teach. Shadow Wayang employs intricately carved leather puppets, illuminated from above to create striking shadows against a white screen. Observing the performance, you'll be able to appreciate the skillful movements of the puppeteer on one side, while witnessing the unfolding story through the play of shadows on the other side.

Surrey Voices is a series of events that help people learn about the cultures of their neighbours and friends by providing a mini glimpse into a different culture each night. We want to promote cultural engagement and understanding as the City of Surrey has a diverse population. We would love to see you at this event so be sure to mark it in your calendar.

Stay tuned to learn about our future Surrey Voices Events and follow our Instagram @dtsurrey to get updates on our other events and to learn more about your local Surrey Community.

# Shredathon Recap



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for the recent Shredathon event. Despite facing some unforeseen challenges, we are grateful for your patience and understanding throughout the day.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to each and every individual who generously donated to the Surrey Food Bank. Your contributions will make a significant difference in supporting our community and those in need. Together, we can make a positive impact and help alleviate hunger in Surrey. A special thanks to the Surrey Crime Prevention team that came out to support us during this event.

Stay tuned for future events and initiatives as we continue to work hand in hand to make Surrey a better place for everyone.

# Community Clean Up Recap

This year's Downtown Surrey Community Cleanup was a huge success due to the amazing volunteers that attended. In total, there were 30 individuals who showed up to make their downtown community a nicer place. Phoenix Society, Surrey Urban Mission, Pacific Community Resources Society, and SFU all did amazing work, and had a great time while doing it.

The event ended with free pizza and pop in Civic Plaza, which gave time for all participants to meet one another and forge connections from across communities. Events such as this are essential in maintaining and improving Surrey's social fabric as it transitions from a suburban community to downtown core. Thanks again to all the participating organizations for making the event run so smoothly. We hope to see all participants again next year, and anyone else interested is welcome to join us!

