

Take a good look.

# The New View

Volume 139

November 2024

## New Winter Experiences

by Samuel Wijaya

This winter season, why not warm yourself up with some new experiences?



If an educational and cultural experience appeals to you, The Black Arts Centre located at 10305 City Pkwy #105 is hosting a new exhibition called “Within The Mould, Against the Grain,” about the “genealogies and emergence of Black culture from within the Continent (Africa) and across the diaspora.” Their opening night will be on Thursday, November 7th at 6PM, and the exhibition will be running until February 21st of 2025.

If you're in search of some entertainment, then don't miss out on the shows you can find at the Surrey Arts Centre. An extraordinary musical performance takes form as the “Coffee Concert: Rythym and Song” featuring Percussiano3, will have solo percussion sessions, piano ensembles, and percussion-piano duets on November 7th. You can also find Canadian singer and songwriter Jill Barber, who will be performing “A Night in Paris with Jill Barber” on November 15th, which includes music from her new album “ENCORE!”.

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If you're looking for some family fun, Surrey SPARK Stages will be presenting "Rat Academy" on November 30th, an award-winning, laugh-out-loud comedy show that's perfect for you and your children aged 8 or older. Don't forget to find these events online and purchase tickets at "[tickets.surrey.ca](https://tickets.surrey.ca)".



When you're in Downtown Surrey this winter, why not treat yourself to a pleasant dining experience nearby, or even buy gift cards to local restaurants as a Christmas present?

At the Civic Hotel where the Black Arts Centre is hosted, you can find Dominion Bar + Kitchen. They proudly serve contemporary Canadian cuisine with locally sourced and fresh ingredients, also acting as a social gathering hub that's perfect for creating memorable experiences. If you're in need of a family oriented restaurant, then also be sure to check out Bozzini's Restaurant on 104 avenue. They serve a variety of Greek, Indian, and Italian food that is sure to satisfy even your pickiest family member.

If you're planning to go to the Surrey Arts Centre, then don't miss out on what you can find in the King George Hub like Ruex Cafe and Bar. They have authentic Australian brunch and a special selection of entrees, appetizers, and handhelds for a dinner to remember. If you're looking for more fun with the family, Ruex is also hosting a "Dinner with Santa" event on November 30, December 8, and December 14, featuring professional photo opportunities with Santa and a kids menu to keep everyone delighted. You can get tickets at: "[dineatruex.com/dinnerwithsanta](https://dineatruex.com/dinnerwithsanta)"



**Suite 330 - 10362 King George Boulevard, Surrey, BC V3T 2W5**

**Phone:** 604-580-2321

**Fax:** 604-580-6321

**[www.downtownsurreybia.com](http://www.downtownsurreybia.com)**

**[Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)**

**Publisher:** DSBIA

**Contributing Writers:** Samuel Wijaya,  
Stella Andrade

**Graphic Design:** Samuel Wijaya

Comments, questions, or story ideas for The New View can be directed to:  
[info@downtownsurreybia.com](mailto:info@downtownsurreybia.com)



# Looking Good

by Samuel Wijaya

Know someone that would love a fresh haircut or a sleek new manicure? As Christmas is coming, why not give them a gift card to one of the many styling businesses in Downtown Surrey?

If you need a nail salon with precision and detail, Theo-Stella Beauty Bar in the King George Hub is a great fit.

Theo-Stella Beauty specializes in Russian manicures, Gel-X nail extensions, and the latest beauty trends to capture the perfect look. They are decorated from head-to-toe with a chic, pink theme, with a professional and friendly atmosphere that's makes a perfect pampering gift.

Maybe the person you have in mind would like something creative and bold done with their nails? If so, then don't miss Adora Nails on Whalley Boulevard. They offer a variety of services like manicures, pedicures, and various nail extensions, and they also have special add-ons like chrome, cat-eye, or even your own requested designs. With a vibrant and modern interior featuring lush plant-themed decor, it's the perfect escape to treat someone to some new nail art or a relaxing pedicure.



If a male haircut or beard line-up experience sounds more appropriate as a gift, then come visit Dr. Fade on King George Boulevard. Dr. Fade is proud to call themselves the epitome of men's styling, and as you would expect from their name, they offer various types of haircuts like mid fades, light fades, taper fades, and beard line-ups. All of this takes place in a luxurious display of white marble floors and stunning lights that will get anyone looking fresh, clean, and professional.

Come to Downtown Surrey to find these stylish and stunning businesses today!



# Feeling Good

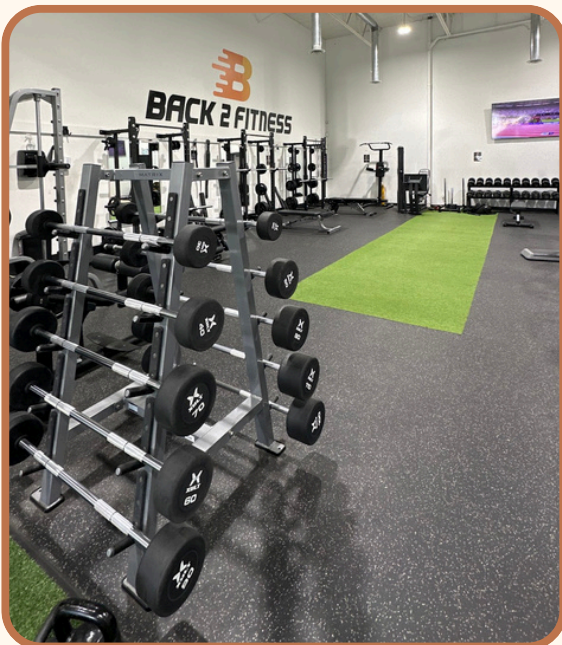
by Samuel Wijaya

Do you know someone who would appreciate a gift card to a local gym? Luckily, there are many gyms in Downtown Surrey that cater to different audiences and various types of workouts. Whether it's someone looking for a beginner-friendly experience, or someone who wants to take their gym routines to the next level, you can gift them the perfect gym experience this Christmas.



If you're looking for a gym with a beginner-friendly environment and various amenities, Planet Fitness in the Dell Shopping Centre checks all the boxes. They brand their 24/7 gym as a "judgement free zone," catering to beginner-friendly audiences by promoting a positive and judgement-free environment. Planet Fitness features various amenities, such as tanning booths, massage chairs, and hydro massages for their "Black Card" members, perfect for those looking for a colorful and friendly environment.

If you want to gift someone an experience with tailored advice and coaching for specific fitness needs and goals, then you should check out Back2Fitness on 104 Avenue. Back2Fitness takes pride in offering personalized training sessions with a team of professional personal trainers, ready to help anyone with their fitness needs. They offer a variety of well-maintained, modern equipment, in a spacious and clean gym area that is perfect for both weight-training and cardio sessions.



If a good balance of amenities, a friendly environment, and the option of personal trainers sounds like a great gift, then consider Club 16 Trevor Linden Fitness inside the Central City Shopping Centre. Club 16 promises a non-intimidating atmosphere, and also offers various amenities including personal trainers and group fitness classes. They also have a private ladies club called "She's Fit!" that features private entrances, lockers, showers and changing booths.

These are just three of the gyms in Downtown Surrey, each catering to different needs, offering various amenities, and ultimately helping anyone exercise and feel good. Check them out today!



# Partying Good

by Samuel Wijaya

Do you know someone who would love a special dining experience? This Christmas, you could give them a gift card to one of the many unique and memorable restaurants in Downtown Surrey.



If a luxury dining experience sounds like the perfect gift, you'll be happy to hear about Skye Avenue Kitchen & Lounge in the Central City plaza. At Skye Avenue, you'll find modern Canadian cuisine in the form of a colorful mix of food, and a diverse election of whiskey and wine. Keep an eye on dishes like their signature soy-glazed salmon, and their special menus like: brunch every weekend from 11am to 3pm, their "Whisky Wednesdays" at 6pm every Wednesday, and their daily 4-6pm happy hour.

Maybe you'd like to gift someone a luxurious restaurant, but with authentic Chinese food? Luckily for you, Neptune Palace Seafood Restaurant can be found right in the Central City Shopping Centre. They serve sophisticated, signature gourmets and various delicacies. At Neptune Palace, you'll find an extensive selection of dim sum, fresh seafood, and popular dishes like peking duck, king crab, and congee, perfect for those in need of a grand, delicious, and memorable dining experience.



Finally, if you like the idea of gifting fresh, exquisite cuisine in a clean and uplifting atmosphere, you should check out Combine Cafe & Bar near the King George Hub. Combine Cafe & Bar prides themselves in using local and sustainable ingredients, and you will find that their menu is shaped around what is in season. They have a dawn and dusk menu, serving breakfast, baked goods, and coffee in the morning, and an array of delicacies in the evening, such as their charcuterie where you can pick your own meats, cheeses, and sides.

With so many options that offer various dining experiences, you're sure to find something perfect in Downtown Surrey to gift to friends and family. Check out these amazing restaurants today!

# November Events

- **November 2 - 16, Bear Creek Lights** — See nature shine with stunning light displays set along beautiful nature trails at Bear Creek Park. 13750 - 88 Avenue | Tickets pricing: Free. Tickets are required for entry.
- **Storytime by Surrey Libraries** — Join Surrey Libraries staff for fun stories and songs for all ages at Bear Creek Lights! Help imaginations grow and build a love of reading. Surrey Libraries will be onsite from 4-8pm Wednesday (Nov 6 & 13) evenings. Session times: 5pm, 5:40pm, 6:20pm, 7pm.
  - Things to know: Drop-in, spaces are limited. Program for ages 2-5, but all ages are welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Meet in the program tent.
- **Rapunzel The Panto** — A community organized event presented by Fraser Valley Musical Theatre. November 20, 2024 - December 1, 2024 Main Stage at Surrey Arts Centre - 13750 88 Avenue Tickets & pricing 23.50+
- **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
- **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**

5 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

6 **Games Night** at the King George Hub at 6:30pm

at Surrey Arts Centre 13750 88 Ave Surrey, BC Child \$16 | Adult \$21 Box Office at 604-501-5566.

8 **Youth Speak Up Forum** is day-long forum provides a platform for youth to express your opinions and ideas to shape the future of the City of Surrey. 8:30am - 3:30pm Surrey City Hall:13450 104 St

11 **Remembrance Day**

12 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

13 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm

16 **Heart to Home Holiday Market** — Shop local and unique pieces at Surrey Art Gallery Association's annual holiday market. 12:00pm - 4:00pm Surrey Art Gallery - 13750 88 Ave

17 **Spaghetti Fun-Raiser** — Lunch at Bozzini's | 12:00 - 2:00pm | Adults \$20, Children (12 & Under) \$10 Silent Auction Fundraiser for the Surrey Christmas Bureau

17 **Heart to Home Holiday Market** — Shop local and unique pieces at Surrey Art Gallery Association's annual holiday market. 12:00pm - 4:00pm Surrey Art Gallery - 13750 88 Ave

19 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

20 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm

23 **Tree Lighting Festival + Marketplace** from 12:00pm - 8:00pm in the Civic Plaza. Free holiday entertainment and activities.

23 **Roots of Resilience: Media Arts Symposium** In partnership with Indian Summer Festival and South Asian Studies Institute, join artists and academics for our annual symposium connected to the exhibition Jagdeep Raina: Ghosts In The Fields. 1:00pm - 4:00pm Surrey Art Gallery - 13750 88 Ave

23 **Family Movie: Encanto** 2-4pm Surrey Library City Centre Branch Free

24 **Tree Lighting Festival + Marketplace** from 12:00pm - 8:00pm in the Civic Plaza. Free holiday entertainment and activities.

26 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

27 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm

29 **Perogy Dinner** 4-7pm at St. Mary's Hall at 108th Avenue & 135A St



# December Events

- **Rapunzel The Panto** — A community organized event presented by Fraser Valley Musical Theatre.
    - November 20, 2024 - December 1, 2024.
    - Main Stage at Surrey Arts Centre - 13750 88 Avenue. Tickets & pricing 23.50+
  - **Knotted: Rapunzel's Story** — Traditional British Panto at it's rambunctious best! A community organized event - presented by Royal Canadian Theatre Company.
    - **Showtimes:**
      - December 20 at 7:30pm - 9:00pm
      - December 21 at 2:00pm - 3:30pm, and 7:30pm - 9:00pm
      - December 26 at 2:00pm - 3:30pm
      - December 27 at 7:30pm - 9:00pm
      - December 28 at 2:00pm - 3:30pm, and 6:30pm - 8:00pm
      - December 29 at 2:00pm - 3:30pm
    - **Location:** Main Stage at Surrey Arts Centre
    - **Tickets & pricing:** \$27.25 - \$37.25. To buy tickets, call Surrey Arts Centre at 604-501-5566.
  - **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
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    - 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 **Make art with friends and family!** Surrey Art Gallery 12:00pm - 4:00pm 13750 88 Ave. Tickets & pricing: Free
  - 3 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
  - 4 **Games Night** at King George Hub at 6:30pm
  - 10 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
  - 11 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
  - 14 **Breakfast with Santa** 9:30am to 11am at Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre. Join your child in playing games and enjoying a variety of tasty breakfast foods with Santa! Price is \$11 per person. Registration required <https://www.surrey.ca/parks-recreation/activities-registration>
  - 17 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
  - 18 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
  - 26 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
  - 27 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm

# Surrey's Tree Lighting Festival

by Stella Andrade

The holiday season is almost here, and to celebrate, the City of Surrey is excited to host its 14th annual Tree Lighting Festival! Featuring one of the biggest trees in Canada standing at 60-feet tall, the tree is scheduled to be illuminated on the 23rd of November by the Surrey Mayor and Council.

Don't miss this highly anticipated event, which attracted over 30,000 attendees last year. There will be plenty of activities for everyone, including live musical performances, rides, food, photo opportunities, and more.



Enjoy a variety of performances across four different stages featuring local musicians and dance groups. Free rides, such as the Ferris Wheel, Barrel of Monkeys, and the Pirate Ship are sure to keep you warm and entertained. Support local vendors at the holiday market, showcasing a wide range of artisanal products. Delight your taste buds at the “Enchanted Eats” pavilion, which offers unique sweets and delicious treats.

Make lasting memories by taking photos in the sparkling light tunnel and beside the over 500-foot “waterfall” of holiday lights. Be sure to keep up with the festival and share your photos on social media for a chance to win gift card giveaways valued between \$100 and \$250 to Guildford Town Centre, as well as \$50 in food bucks for the festival!

If you are bringing children, check out the Kid's Zone in the Surrey City Hall atrium. Enjoy crafts, story time, musical performances, and take pictures with Santa Claus. Make sure to reserve a time to take photos with Santa by visiting the Surrey Tree Lighting Festival's webpage. For those who are unable to book online, a limited number of first come first serve photos ops will be available, so booking in advance is highly recommended. The Downtown Surrey BIA will also be hosting a craft booth, so come by and say hello—we look forward to seeing you there!

Festivities will take place at Surrey Civic Plaza from November 23rd to 24th, from 12 PM to 8 PM on both days. The tree lighting ceremony is scheduled for 6:30 PM on the 23rd, and the tree will remain lit throughout the holiday season until January 2025.

Admission to this event is free on both days.

For more information, visit <https://www.surreytreelighting.ca>.



# Get Ready for Elf on the Shelf

by Samuel Wijaya

From November 18 to December 16, three elves will be hidden every week in various businesses at the King George Hub and the Dell Shopping Centre.

If you find an elf, message us on Instagram or Twitter with a picture of them and you'll be entered into a prize draw for a variety of gift cards!

Each week, the elves will change locations and three winners will be chosen. With the event spanning four weeks, there will be a total of 12 different winners.

The dates are as follows (3 winners drawn every week):

- **Week 1:** Nov 18 - 25
- **Week 2:** Nov 25 - Dec 2
- **Week 3:** Dec 2 - 9
- **Week 4:** Dec 10 - 16

We'll be giving out hints and keeping you updated on Elf on the Shelf via our social medias:

- **Instagram:** [@dtsurrey](#)
- **Twitter:** [@dtsurreybia](#)
- **Facebook:** [DowntownSurreyBIA](#)



This year, elves will be placed in the King George Hub and Dell Shopping Centre. When you're in those areas shopping for Christmas presents or eating at a restaurant, make sure you keep an eye out for the elves and send us pictures of any you find. Come participate for a chance to win free gift cards every week, whilst also supporting your community and the local businesses in Downtown Surrey.

Don't forget to follow our social medias to stay updated on event dates and get special hints for the elf locations. Thank you for participating!



# Gingerbread Village: Sign Up Now, Free Cash Rewards

by Stella Andrade

If building gingerbread houses is one of your holiday traditions, why not take the opportunity to win some big cash while you're at it? Now's your chance to gather your friends, family, colleagues, or even just yourself to submit your gingerbread creation for the 2024 Gingerbread Village contest. Judges will award more than \$10,000 to the best entries in each of the seven entry categories, so there are many prizes to be won. The People's Choice Awards of \$1000 and \$500 will also be given to the creations with the most votes.



Gingerbread Village will be on display from December 6-15 at the Central City Shopping Centre. There will be over 30 entries on display (and more coming in!). Staff will be on-site to help with the voting process, where they will re-direct voters to a link to vote. Voting is done through donations to the Surrey Christmas Bureau, an organization that will help hundreds of families in need this holiday season. Every dollar donated is equivalent to one vote, so voters are encouraged to vote for as many creations as they please. Best of all, the Shopping Centre will match the total amount of money donated through voting to the Surrey Christmas Bureau.



Voters can also earn cash, as the Central City Shopping Centre is giving out two \$250 gift cards in a prize draw. Every dollar donated also counts towards the number of entries voters will have for this draw. So, make sure to take a break from holiday shopping and stop by Gingerbread Village to vote for your favourite creation.

**If you are interested in participating, please fill out the entry form via [this link](#) and forward it to [stella@downtownsurreybia.com](mailto:stella@downtownsurreybia.com). You can also find the entry form on our website, [downtownsurreybia.com](http://downtownsurreybia.com), under the Events tab. Please note that entry to the contest is free.**

**The deadline to register is Friday, November 28, 2024, so don't wait up!**



# Where are our interns now? Featuring: Saije Rusimovici

by Stella Andrade

This month, Saije, one of our past interns who completed two co-op work terms as the communications and marketing intern for the summer and fall semesters last year, gave us the opportunity to catch up.

A communications major at SFU, Saije used her academic knowledge, skills and passion for social media and community engagement to promote the Downtown Surrey community and events on social media and BIA publications. She also organized and attended many of the summer events with other interns, most notably “Movies Under the Stars” and “Gingerbread Village”



Equipped with the freedom to try new things in a unique environment surrounded by other interns, her time at the BIA provided her with new skills, connections, and familiarity with the Downtown Surrey community. Most notably, she gained a passion for community work in the non-profit sector. She cites attending events with the other interns and seeing the community come together as really putting a smile on her face!

Inspired by her work at the BIA, Saije recently took on the role of a community engagement coordinator and adopt-a-family team leader at the Surrey Christmas Bureau for her third co-op work term. In this role, she reaches out to the community through social media and matches low-income families with sponsors to provide Christmas hampers and toys. Things are coming full circle for Saije, as she is once again working with the BIA to promote the annual Gingerbread Village contest.

After completing her last co-op term in December, Saije plans to go back to SFU to finish her degree. Her new experiences and portfolio have inspired her to pursue a career in marketing and communications for local governments or other non-profit organizations. The BIA is looking forward to working with Saije again for the Gingerbread Village Contest in December, and they wish her the best of luck with her future endeavours.

# Where are our interns now? Featuring: Victoria Freinhofer

by Samuel Wijaya

Meet Victoria Freinhofer, the DSBIA's Summer 2019 Special Events Intern.

Victoria organized large-scale events such as Surrey Fest, Long-Long Table, and Movies Under the Stars, and collaborated with the City of Surrey on events such as Canada Day, Fusion Festival, and Indigenous Fest. She says it was "incredibly fulfilling" to witness the various elements of event planning, highlighting skills like communications, site logistics, stakeholder relationships, and sponsorships, that helped her "create a memorable experience for the attendees."



After working at the DSBIA, Victoria returned to Simon Fraser University to complete her Bachelor of Arts in Communications with a minor in Sociology, graduating in December 2019. It was at this time that the COVID-19 pandemic began, completely altering the job market and landscape of work across the province.

Victoria worked in a marketing role and eventually moved into her preferred career path in government, starting as a Corporate Project Coordinator in the CAO Executive Office at Metro Vancouver in January of 2021. She worked in this role for 3 years, experiencing direct involvement with project coordination, meeting facilitation with elected officials, committee coordination, event planning, policy and research, and developing a wide range of communication materials at an executive level.

Victoria was especially passionate about the intergovernmental and stakeholder relations elements of her role, leading her to take the next step in the organization as an Intergovernmental Relations Specialist in the External Relations department in March 2024. This new role has helped Victoria expand her experience in policy coordination, advocacy, research and analysis, and implementing intergovernmental strategies in support of organizational initiatives, in addition to strengthening her existing skill set.

Finally, Victoria reflects on her experiences by saying that "the skills gained as an Events Intern at the DSBIA, such as external relations, speech writing, effective communication, strong coordination, and planning for events have undoubtedly been applicable in the work I undertake now when facilitating collaboration between the different orders of government."