

Take a good look.

The New View

Volume 138

October 2024

Bird Bikeshare is Now in Surrey

by Samuel Wijaya



Ever wondered what exactly those bright blue bikes with “Bird” written on them are?

On April 27th of 2024, the City of Surrey launched a new program for electric bike sharing. This program is a two-year pilot, launched in North Surrey with the intention of positively impacting the environment by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and vehicle reliance.

This project is operated by [Bird Canada](#), a Canadian company on a mission to provide eco-friendly transportation for all, providing cleaner air, safer streets, and reducing traffic.

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Throughout the City Centre and Guildford Town Centre areas, there are 300 electric Bird bikes available for rental.

Users can rent these bikes through the Bird Canada app, available on both [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices.

Riding a Bird bike costs \$1.15 to start, and an additional \$0.38 per minute of use. There are also Ride passes for multi and single-day use, with more details on the app.

To end your trip, you need to park your Bird bike in a designated parking area called a Bird Nest.

Users can view the operating area and designated parking spots (Bird Nests) by using the app.

It should also be noted that Bird bikes cannot be taken outside of their operating areas. Each bike is equipped with a GPS, and will automatically slow down and alert you if you're outside of their intended operating area. Bird bikes will also indicate when they've been parked properly.

Surrey's two year pilot project with Bird Canada only features electric bikes and not electric scooters, due to legal restrictions. Given that other cities in B.C. have Bird scooter programs, it's possible that an electric scooter program could be launched in the future.

Regardless of whether you're biking or scootering, it's important to be safe on the road. Each Bird bike is equipped with a helmet, which B.C. law requires cyclists to wear.

Bird encourages you to download the Bird Canada App and try riding their bicycles today. You could use them for getting to work, running some errands, or even just an enjoyable ride.



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Honouring Bruce Ralston and Welcoming New Leadership in Surrey City Centre

As we prepare to thank Bruce Ralston, our long-serving MLA for Surrey-Whalley, for 20 years of outstanding service, we reflect on the tremendous impact he has had on our community. Bruce's dedication to public service, his tireless work on behalf of Surrey residents, and his commitment to the issues that matter most will not be forgotten as he steps into his well-earned retirement.

But this is more than a farewell to Bruce—it's also the beginning of a new chapter for our riding. The area will now be represented under a new name, Surrey City Centre, as it continues to evolve with the growth and dynamism of this vibrant part of the city.



Four candidates are vying to replace Bruce Ralston as MLA: Ryan Abbott (Communist Party), Colin Boyd (Green Party), Amna Shah (NDP Party), and Zeeshan Wahla (BC Conservatives). Three of these candidates will be participating in the Downtown Surrey BIA All Candidates' Meeting on October 3, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Civic Hotel. This is a key opportunity for residents to hear directly from the candidates and ask questions about the future of Surrey City Centre. As of the writing of this article, the Communist Party Candidate, Ryan Abbott, has not confirmed attendance. However, he may attend. Come out and meet him.

Meet the Candidates that will be at the meeting:

Colin Boyd (BC Green Party)

Colin Boyd, a lifelong resident of Surrey, brings a unique blend of data-driven decision-making and community involvement. With a Bachelor of Science in Pure Mathematics from Simon Fraser University and a Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics from BCIT, Colin's background in business analytics allows him to design sustainable, evidence-based solutions for the challenges facing British Columbia. His work in local retail, particularly in retrofitting homes with energy-efficient solutions, demonstrates his commitment to environmental sustainability. Colin is focused on housing affordability, expanding healthcare access, and promoting a sustainable future.



Amna Shah (NDP)

Amna Shah has called Surrey home for nearly 20 years and is deeply invested in the community. With experience in BC's Ministry of Housing, where she helped shape affordable housing policies, Amna is committed to ensuring that families have access to safe, affordable homes. She also serves on the board of the Surrey Food Bank, where she has expanded services to help families access nutritious food. Her priorities include expanding transit, improving healthcare services, and strengthening education—issues that she is well-prepared to tackle with her track record of getting things done.



Zeeshan Wahla (BC Conservatives)

Zeeshan Wahla, a Professional Engineer (P. Eng.) with an extensive background in engineering and planning, has been a Surrey resident since 2007. As a successful entrepreneur, Zeeshan is focused on addressing the economic challenges facing the province, including housing affordability and rising gas prices. He is a strong advocate for parental choice in education and supports policies that will empower small and medium-sized businesses. Zeeshan's commitment to his family and community is central to his vision for a better British Columbia.



As we look ahead to the provincial election on October 19, the choice of who will represent us in Victoria is in your hands. We encourage you to get involved, ask questions, and make your voice heard by voting for the candidate who best represents your vision for Surrey City Centre.

Join us on October 3 to hear from the candidates and engage in shaping the future of our community.

Get Ready for Gingerbread Village

by Stella Andrade

Can you imagine a world where all your favourite storybook characters exist simultaneously? Well, now's your chance! On behalf of the Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association, we are excited to invite you to participate in our annual "Gingerbread Village" contest, where the goal is to create a village of gingerbread houses based around this year's theme, "my favourite storybook".



Gingerbread Village will be on display at the Central City Shopping Centre from December 6th to 15. People will get to vote for their favourite creations by donation to the Surrey Christmas Bureau, which supports over 2000 local families in need during the holiday season by providing groceries, toys, and other miscellaneous gifts. A panel of judges will be awarding over \$10,000 in cash prizes to the most creative creations in each category. The top two houses with the most votes will also have the potential to win the "People's Choice Award" with cash prizes of \$500 and \$1000 each.

The competition is open to everyone, so gather your colleagues, students, friends, family, and fellow gingerbread enthusiasts to join in the fun to celebrate the magic of storytelling this holiday season!

Competition categories are as follows:

- Schools
 - Elementary School (primary, grades k-3)
 - Elementary School (intermediate, grades 4-7)
 - High School (grades 8-12)
- Charities
- Non-profits, service clubs, community groups, and sports teams
- Open: anybody over 19
- Open: anybody under 19



For more details on how to enter and to check category eligibility, please contact: stella@downtownsurreybia.com

Note:

The deadline to enter is November 28, 2024.

Entry forms are available on the Downtown Surrey BIA website: www.downtownsurreybia.com

October Events

- **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**
 - The Woman in Black October 2024 The Woman in Black is a dramatic thriller adapted for the stage by Stephen Mallatratt, from the best-selling novella by Susan Hill. Surrey Arts Centre: October 24 7:30pm, October 25 7:30pm, October 26 2:00pm, October 26 7:30pm, October 27 2:00pm

- 1 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 2 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 3 **All Candidates Meeting at Civic Hotel** for candidates running in Surrey City Centre 6:30-8pm
Info: 604.580.2321
- 5 **By A Thread** An aerial circus performance that will sweep you off your feet! 4-5pm Main Stage at Surrey Arts Centre 13750 88 Ave Surrey, BC Child \$16 | Adult \$21 Box Office at 604-501-5566.
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- 15 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 16 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 18 **Jafelin & Flor de Caña present FLAMENCUBANA!** This concert blends Latin, Cuban, and Spanish music with the fiery passion of Flamenco. 8:00pm - 10:00pm Surrey Centre Stage - 13450 104th Avenue - Tickets & pricing \$49-\$69
- 22 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 23 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 26 **Film Screening and Conversation with Anushay Malik** View the film A Time to Rise about farmworkers in the early 1980s in British Columbia. 2:00pm - 4:00pm Surrey Art Gallery - 13750 88 Ave. Free.
- 29 **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 30 **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 31 **Halloween** fun and trick or treating at Central City Shopping Centre from 4-6pm

November Events

- **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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- 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
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- 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

New in Central City: Chaiiwala

by Samuel Wijaya



There's a new Chaiiwala in Central City that can be found near the food court! You can see their white logo and icon sticking out on the left picture, with the food court in the background.

Chaiiwala is a UK-based cafe, with over 67 locations throughout the UK. They have started expanding to Canada with locations in Ontario, Alberta, and now here in British Columbia. They are well known for their all-day breakfast, Indian street snacks, various desserts, and their karak chahi!

Karak chahi roughly translates to the term “strong tea”, and it is made of black tea, milk, and spices such as cardamom and ginger. Chaiiwala has a variety of cold drinks such as milkshakes, lemonades, iced frappes and chahis, and hot drinks like chahi, tea, and coffee.

As enticing the chahi from Chaiiwala looks, don't miss out on their food options! Their all-day breakfast features big breakfast combos, roti wraps, and their staple Halwa Puri and Strawberry Lassi Shake. Additionally, they have many Indian street snacks like Pani Puri Poppers, and Butter Chicken rolls. Some of these options also cater to those looking for vegan, vegetarian, or gluten-free foods.

Finally, you can complete your meal and a drink with some delicious dessert. Chaiiwala has various cakes, sundaes, and more. I would recommend trying Gulab Jamun, which are fried dough balls soaked in a sweet sugar syrup. They look like Timbits, and are very sweet and tasty!

As seen in the pictures, Chaiiwala does a wonderful job with their decor. A stunning array of lights, signs, and pictures are beautifully placed on the walls and ceilings, creating a relaxing yet uplifting atmosphere for you to enjoy. Check it out today at the Central City shopping centre!

New in Central City: Surrey Indian Bites

by Samuel Wijaya

There's a new restaurant in the Central City food court called Surrey Indian Bites! You can find them opposite from the Dollarama and beside the KFC, close to the parkade exit.

Surrey Indian Bites was created from the passion of a family who spent years travelling across India and wanted to create a restaurant to celebrate India's authentic flavor and culture, and their dream is to share the rich culinary traditions of India with the local Surrey community.

Their menu reflects this passion, featuring various classic Indian dishes such as biryani, creamy butter chicken, and their signature house specials: fish pakora, a classic buffet-style dish, and gulab jamun.

As seen on the picture to the right, you can order a bowl for \$9.99, or a thali that is served with rice, naan, and a dessert for various prices. A thali is an Indian-style meal that features various dishes, and you can choose what dishes to order with their buffet-style options.

Surrey Indian Bites also has halal meat available, in addition to an amazing variety of food options. Some fan favourites are their street foods like samosas, papri chaat, pakoras, their various chole breakfast specials, main dishes like curry and biryani, and desserts like ras malai, chocolate lava cake, and my personal favourite, gulab jamun.

They also offer a tiffin service: Tiffin is a part of Indian culture, and roughly translates to the phrase, "a light meal". A tiffin service is essentially a specialized catering service that consists of meals packaged and delivered to customers.

If you want to learn more about their tiffin, or check out their amazing authentic Indian cuisine, be sure to visit Surrey Indian Bites at the Central City food court!

