

THE NEW VIEW

TAKE A GOOD LOOK

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Our New Board Directors



The Board of Directors at the Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association (DSBIA) is dedicated to fulfilling our shared vision of establishing a safe, inviting, and livable Downtown Surrey. Our board is made up of local business and property owners, all working together to drive positive development in Downtown Surrey's community and economic landscape. At our most recent Annual General Meeting, we were pleased to elect new directors to the DSBIA board,

enhancing our team with the addition of Sunny Aulja, Homayoun Rad, and Kanwar Dhamrait. Their expertise and commitment are set to support our ongoing projects and initiatives.

We are happy to welcome Sunny Aulja as a new board director at the Downtown Surrey BIA. Recognized as a leading lawyer in corporate law by the Best Lawyers in Canada Directory, Sunny has dedicated seven years to the Surrey legal scene with

Hamilton and Duncan, and he has recently rejoined Farris LLP as a partner. His extensive involvement in community business organizations and his commitment to fostering a positive business environment in Surrey make him an invaluable asset to our association. Sunny's passion for working with the local business community is poised to significantly contribute to our mission of building a thriving community where businesses can flourish.

Homayoun Rad brings over 18 years of progressive experience from working with international award-winning companies in Canada, the UK, and Iran on a variety of architectural projects, including commercial and residential complexes. Currently serving as the Lead Architect at Aplin Martin in Surrey, a multidisciplinary firm known for its project management analysis and design services, he holds a Master of Architecture (MArch) in Project Management from the AIBC.

Homayoun's extensive work and involvement in Surrey's development and community landscape position him as a key contributor to the Downtown Surrey BIA's efforts.

Kanwar Dhamrait, CEO of Oviedo Group, leads a fully integrated project development and construction company based in Surrey. With over 25 years of experience in property development both within Surrey and beyond, Kanwar is committed to creating developments that the community can be proud of. Holding a Master of Engineering (MEng) from Punjab Engineering College and a structural engineering certificate from the Vancouver Structural Engineering Group, Kanwar has been instrumental in significant projects in Surrey. His latest works include a pivotal project in Downtown Surrey and a luxurious residential multi-tower development near the Gateway Skytrain Station. Kanwar's passion for Surrey and his extensive experience are set to play a crucial role in transforming the urban community of Surrey.



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DSBIA AGM Recap

New Directors, Appreciation, and a Glimpse into the Future



Recently the DSBIA held their Annual General Meeting (AGM), at the Civic Hotel. The event was a great success, featuring key updates, important decisions, and a glimpse into the future by Andrew Ramlo.

Shirley Samujh-Dayal, the Chair of the DSBIA, welcomed members and guests, setting the stage for a productive and engaging meeting. Elizabeth Model, CEO, then took the floor to kick off the proceedings. After reaching quorum, the agenda was adopted, and the minutes from the previous year were approved.

David Pel, a long-time member of the Finance committee and past treasurer, presented the audited financial statements and the proposed budget for 2024. We are pleased to report that both motions were successfully carried, reflecting the financial health and strategic planning of the DSBIA.

The Nominations Chair, Sonny Janda, presented the proposed slate for Directors for 2024-2026. The roster included Directors standing for re-election: Brad Howard, Melanie Adamczewski, Michael Johanson, Soleman Hashmi, Harp Khela, and Nissar Dalal. New faces as first-term Directors include Sunny Aujla, Homayoun Rad, and Kanwar Dhamrait.

The membership approved the slate, ushering in a diverse and experienced group of individuals to guide the DSBIA in the coming years. A special moment during the AGM was the acknowledgment of Michael Nielsen of Sprite Multimedia, past-chair, and long-time Board member.

Having completed eight continuous years on the Board, Michael is taking a well-deserved break in accordance with the DSBIA Bylaws. A token of appreciation was presented to Michael by Shirley Samujh-Dayal, expressing gratitude for his dedication and contributions over the years.

Shirley Samujh-Dayal received heartfelt thanks from Chris Gardner, who presented her with a lovely bouquet of flowers and a gift. Shirley had completed her two-year term as the Chair of the DSBIA and chose not to run for another term as Director.

The meeting concluded with a tasty buffet provided by the Civic Hotel's catering staff. Finishing off the day, Andrew Remlo of the Rennie Group delivered an insightful presentation, offering a glimpse into the future demographics of the Greater Vancouver area, with a particular focus on the City of Surrey.

Final Cut Barbershop

By Farrel Ermono



Located in the heart of the Downtown Surrey Area, Final Cut Barbershop has been serving clients since 2019, establishing itself as a premier destination for high-quality barber services. The shop specializes in a variety of offerings, including beard maintenance, beard trims, buzz cuts, fade cuts, and hot towel shaves, all performed by skilled barbers with a passion for their craft.

The owner, a devoted barber, is known for his meticulous attention to detail, ensuring each service is performed with care. His approachable demeanor, coupled with a keen ability to meet customers' expectations, has made Final Cut Barbershop a community favorite.

The shop's interior is both clean and spacious, creating a welcoming atmosphere for all who enter. The team of barbers at Final Cut is not only passionate about their work but also highly trusted for their expertise and skills. Notably, their fade cuts come highly recommended, as evidenced by handful positive online reviews.

Final Cut Barbershop is not just about providing a quality haircut; it's an experience that enhances your confidence and leaves you smiling wider every time you glance in the mirror. The consistency in the quality of haircuts and personalized service has garnered a loyal customer base. The barbers take the time to know their clients, ensuring that each haircut is tailored to fit individual styles and expectations.

Beyond haircuts, the barbers at Final Cut are knowledgeable about hair care products and are always ready to offer valuable advice on maintaining healthy hair.

Conveniently situated within walking distance from the King George SkyTrain station at 9655 King George Blvd, Unit 190, Surrey, Final Cut Barbershop is open Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 am to 7 pm. Whether you're in need of a fresh cut or looking for expert beard care, Final Cut Barbershop promises an unmatched grooming experience.



PainPRO Clinic

By Farrel Ermono

Located in Downtown Surrey, PainPro Clinic is dedicated to providing healthcare services aimed at pain relief, injury recovery, and enhancing movement performance. The clinic offers a range of services, including Registered Massage Therapy, Physiotherapy, Chiropractic care, Medical Doctor Telemedicine, Clinical Pilates, and Registered Clinical Counselling.

PainPro's treatment philosophy is rooted in evidence-informed, natural, and non-invasive interventions that address pain and dysfunction in the body's soft tissues and joints. Their Primary Care Team is proficient in managing over 70 musculoskeletal conditions, ensuring comprehensive care for patients.

Appointments can be conveniently booked online through their website, allowing patients to select from a variety of services such as massage therapy, physiotherapy, chiropractic care, and more. The website also provides detailed bios of each practitioner, offering insights into their specializations and experience, aiding patients in making informed choices.



Furthermore, PainPro offers specialized services for employers aimed at maintaining a healthy and pain-free workforce. This includes same-day appointments that begin promptly to minimize workday interruptions. Additionally, for businesses facing challenges in allowing staff to leave the office for appointments, PainPro is equipped to facilitate onsite access to their healthcare services.

PainPro Clinic is located at 10366 136A Street, Suite 104, Surrey, BC, and operates Monday to Friday from 7 am to 9 pm, and Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm, providing flexible scheduling options for all.

Georgetown Dental

By Farrel Ermono

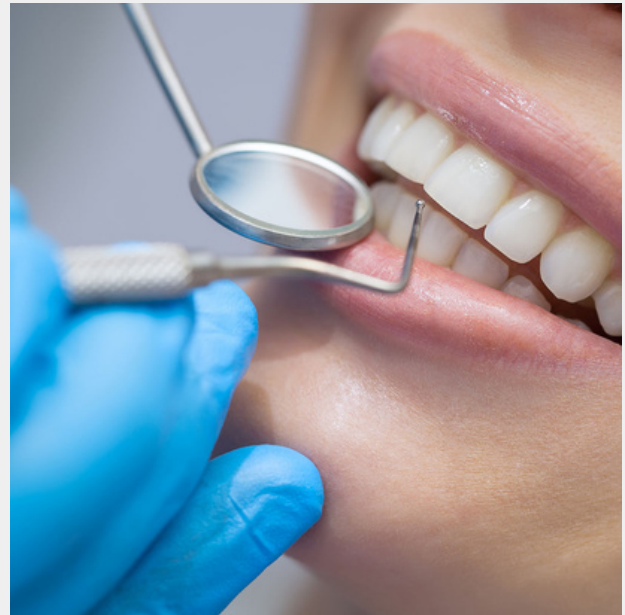


At Georgetown Dental, they embrace the latest technological advancements, including laser dentistry, to enhance their range of cosmetic dental procedures. Whether individuals are seeking fillings, teeth whitening, or more, the team in Surrey is ready to assist. They encourage scheduling an appointment today to experience the cutting-edge in dental care.

Georgetown Dental aims to provide patients of all ages with the brightest smiles in modern cosmetic dentistry. Effective dental treatments have become more accessible and affordable than ever. Their services span from dental bonding to porcelain veneers, covering a wide array of cosmetic needs. They are ready to discuss options for addressing concerns such as replacing missing teeth, whitening and evening tone, adjusting size, shape, and alignment, filling gaps, and upgrading old treatments to new, aesthetically pleasing alternatives.

Dental bonding is a standout service offered, perfect for addressing stains that bleaching can't fix, without the need for veneers or crowns. It's an economical cosmetic solution that swiftly corrects various dental imperfections, including gaps, spots, stains, and chipped teeth. Additionally, for those interested in straightening their teeth discreetly, Georgetown Dental provides Invisalign—an ideal solution offering the beauty of a straight smile with the convenience of removable aligners, a significant benefit over traditional braces.

Located at Unit 106-13668 102A Ave, Surrey, British Columbia, Georgetown Dental is geared up to welcome visitors. The clinic is open for appointments on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and accepts walk-ins on Thursday and Friday. They invite everyone to book a visit or simply walk in to start their journey to a more beautiful smile with Georgetown Dental.



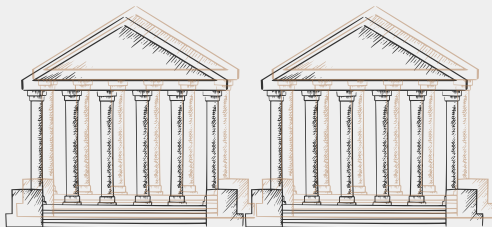
Surrey Law Firms Merge

By Farrel Ermono

Two well-known law firms in Surrey, Hamilton Duncan and Peterson Stark Scott, were set to merge in February. This move brings together a wealth of experience and community service, marking a significant step for both firms. Hamilton Duncan, with its extensive history in the Fraser Valley, is known as one of the area's largest law firms. Peterson Stark Scott brings its own legacy since 1972, offering a wide range of legal services from business and estate planning to family law.

Greg Palm, the managing partner at Hamilton Duncan, announced the merger, highlighting it as the largest in the firm's recent history. He mentioned that this strategic move comes at an ideal time. Hamilton Duncan has been looking to expand by bringing on board lawyers with strong connections to the Surrey community. Meanwhile, Peterson Stark Scott sought a larger platform that could offer a broader range of services to its clients while staying in Surrey. The merger fulfills these objectives for both firms.

Starting February 1st, the team from Peterson Stark Scott, including all six lawyers and the majority of its staff, will integrate with Hamilton Duncan. They will operate from Hamilton Duncan's office located in the Gateway tower on 108 Avenue, working under the Hamilton Duncan name. This unification not only signifies growth but also a commitment to providing comprehensive legal support to the Surrey community.



John Peterson, a founding partner of Peterson Stark Scott, shared his thoughts on the merger. He emphasized the importance of evolving to meet clients' changing needs while maintaining a firm that values strong, personal relationships and a commitment to the local community. Peterson expressed his satisfaction with the merger, stating that Hamilton Duncan's similar values and dedication to the Surrey area made it an ideal partner.

As Hamilton Duncan celebrates its 65th year and Peterson Stark Scott continues its decades-long service, this merger represents more than just a combination of two firms. It's about enhancing the capacity to serve the Surrey community and beyond, offering a broader spectrum of legal services and reinforcing a shared commitment to client relationships and community involvement. Both firms are excited about the possibilities this partnership brings and look forward to continuing their legacy of legal excellence together.

Party for the Planet

By Hannah Gill



Surrey is gearing up for its most anticipated environmental celebration, Party for the Planet, returning to Civic Plaza on Saturday, April 27th, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. This year, the event is hosting its 13th annual celebration of BC's largest Earth Day Event, which draw over 10,000 attendees last year.

This year's lineup includes a craft station hosted by the Downtown Surrey BIA offering fun Earth Day crafts. As well, the Sustainable Marketplace is back and has been expanded to offer a greater variety of options for environmentally conscious consumers. For those with a green thumb, Surrey Parks is hosting a plant sale featuring a variety of native greenery at an affordable price. Alongside the sale, make sure you check out the plant giveaway for your chance to take home some free greenery for your home!



For interactive fun, the event offers plenty of exhibits and workshops including e-bike demonstrations, a rock climbing wall, and an immersive ocean experience in the Ocean Wise Sea Dome. There will also be great entertainment spanning across three stages hosting exciting live performances and dance battles. On the West side of Civic Plaza along University Drive, attendees can find food trucks offering a variety of delicious food selections including vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free options.

Due to limited parking available, attendees are encouraged to take public transit as the Surrey Central bus loop and SkyTrain station are conveniently located nearby. For those cycling, there will be a monitored bike valet service by the library on University Drive.

Party for the Planet provides a unique blend of fun, education, and engagement, making it the perfect event for anyone looking to celebrate Earth Day! For more information visit partyfortheplanet.ca and keep an eye on their social media for more updates.

March Community Calendar

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.

Craft 'N' Yarn Tuesdays 6-8:30pm City Centre Branch Join us for a casual crafting session. Bring your current project to work on in the company of others. Crafters of all kinds, abilities, and ages welcome. City Centre Branch 10350 University Drive, Surrey, British Columbia V3T 4B8

Family Fun Saturdays 2-4pm This program is for children of all ages and their caregivers. Join us for KEVA® Planks and board games for the whole family.

Storytime Corner City Centre Branch 10350 University Drive, Surrey, British Columbia V3T 4B8 Room: Contact 604-598-7426

Family LEGO® Club Saturday 2-4pm City Centre Branch 10350 University Drive, Surrey, British Columbia V3T 4B8 Room 120 Contact 604-598-7426

- 5** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 6** | **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 8** | **SFU - Share the Vibe - Community Mixer/Fundraiser** 6:30pm. SEE Building Tickets \$125
- 10** | **Family Art Party** 11am - 3pm Surrey Art Gallery - 13750 88 Ave Free
- 12** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 13** | **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 13** | **Climate Conversations** 6:30-7:30pm City Centre Library 10350 University Drive
- 15** | **Surrey Steps Up** 5pm - 9pm YOUTH Surrey City Hall, 13450 104 Ave, Surrey, BC V3T 1V8 Free
- 19** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 20** | **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

April Community Calendar

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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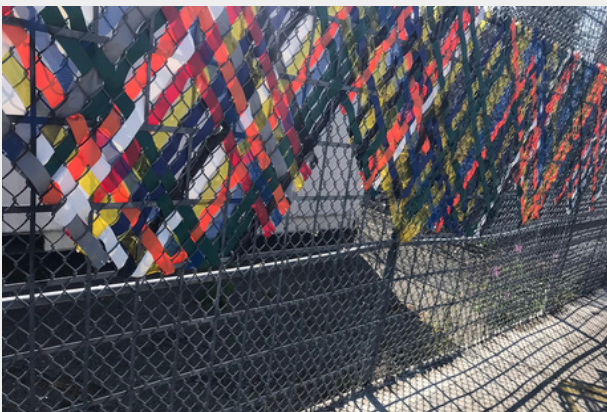
- 2** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 3** | **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 6** | **A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings** A thrilling piece of theatrical magic for children and adults to share! 4 - 4:45pm or 7 - 7:45pm Studio Theatre at Surrey Arts Centre 13750 88 Avenue, Surrey, BC Tickets Child \$16 | Adult \$21
- 9** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 10** | **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 16** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 17** | **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 23** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm
- 24** | **LA Bingo** Wednesdays at Whalley Legion from 1-3pm
- 27** | **Party for the Planet** Civic Plaza. Plant sale, displays and more! 11am-7pm.
- 30** | **Karaoke** at Whalley Legion 7-11pm

Catching Up with Past Interns

By Hannah Gill

Downtown Surrey BIA was thrilled to reconnect with Maja Lampa, our Community Engagement Intern from the Summer of 2019! Maja's time at Downtown Surrey BIA was nothing short of impactful as she took on a variety of event planning, project management, and placemaking initiatives. Her transformation of the chain link fences along Surrey's 135A Street was particularly impactful, fostering community engagement through vibrant art installations. It showcased three installations using marine vinyl weaving, formline and graffiti designs by Indigenous artist KC Hall, and painted wood strips in partnership with the Surrey Library Teen Art Drop-In.

Five years later, Maja has bridged a long-time love for environmental issues with her passion for engagement. Her current role is with Transport Canada's Oceans Protection Plan Branch as a Program Policy Officer in the Pacific Region. Her internship was crucial to enhancing her skills in relationship-building, public speaking, and project management, all of which have been instrumental to her current engagement-focused role on the West Coast. Her internship also taught her to embrace the unknown, seize opportunities with confidence, and explore new experiences, regardless of their familiarity.



Since graduating from SFU with honours in political science, Maja has been working towards her IAP2 Global Certificate in p2/Engagement, a certification focused on frameworks of public participation and engagement. Additionally, Maja is enthusiastic about her hobby of weaving and is eager to continue pursuing the Master Weavers Program run by the Guild of Canadian Weavers.

Reflecting back, Maja cherishes the camaraderie among the interns and the meaningful interactions she had with the local community. Through social media, she is able to remain connected to her fellow interns and finds great joy in witnessing their success. Looking ahead, Maja sees herself continuing work in project development and hopes to continue to contribute to the West Coast communities that raised her through both work and personal endeavors. The DSBIA is so grateful to have had Maja on the team and wishes her ongoing success in her future pursuits!



Catching Up with Past Interns

By Hannah Gill



Amid the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association (DSBIA) welcomed Priyanka Krishna to the team as the Community Engagement intern. From Summer 2020-2021, Priyanka navigated the complexities of the pandemic during her internship with creativity and passion.

During her time at the DSBIA, Priyanka was involved in many community events, beautification projects, and most notably, a Community Conversations project. This initiative, which she created and hosted, was an inclusive online meeting space designed to hold important discussions with the community on social justice issues. The project drew in people from across the lower mainland, including students, teachers, influential community members, and guest speakers. Priyanka created a transformative space to encourage community engagement, amplify voices, and educate through the lived experiences of others.

Recently, Priyanka has started a new position as a Constituency Support Manager where she supports 57 MLA offices across British Columbia, focusing on areas such as onboarding, safety, and outreach. For Priyanka, the DSBIA was foundational to her development of strong interpersonal skills and a passion for community engagement. Particularly, it was the Community Conversations project that has been a critical asset in her toolkit, allowing her to seamlessly integrate her passions and determination into the governmental landscape. Looking ahead, Priyanka envisions a future where she continues to pursue her passion for JEDI work, focused on Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, as a private consultant helping organizations develop safe and equitable workplaces.

Reminiscing on her internship, Priyanka cherishes many events including Movie Musical Night at Civic Plaza, pop-up art initiatives, and the Christmas shop local campaign. As Priyanka moves forward in her journey, she carries with her the invaluable lessons learned at DSBIA: to embrace discomfort as a space for growth and to chase after new ideas with confidence. The DSBIA was so fortunate to have Priyanka on the team, and wishes her the best of luck in all that comes her way!

